

August  
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# Billboard

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Upstate NY



President's Message - see page 2

Bring your own Trees July meeting

Bring Your Own Tree sessions are so valuable for our members. Even when we religiously attend Bill's workshops in the spring and the fall, many members have more trees than they can get through during those sessions. We are very fortunate to have some experienced bonsai artists who volunteer their valuable time and their excellent advice to help our newer members with their trees. We all know that "two heads are better than one", but in these workshops, many folks were fortunate to have "three heads" offering advice, careful consideration, stories of similar trees and artistic confusion.



## NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday August 23 at 7 p.m.  
Club Meeting & Bring your own Tree**

Our August meeting is a second wonderful opportunity to get some helpful thoughts and advice for the development of some of your trees. Bring one or two trees to each session and get lots of input from several members. No repotting at this session, but you should bring wire and tools so you can immediately implement some of the ideas.

Since we now pay for the Lodge for an entire day, whether we use it or not, we're going to try to use it., just like we did in July. For those of you who can make the time, we'll start our first session in August at 1:30 and work until 4.

### Brighton Town Lodge at Buckland Park

*The Brighton Town Lodge is at 1341 Westfall Road, Rochester, NY near the corner of Westfall and Clinton. Our new Refreshment Manager, Marti Macinski will provide coffee, individual drinks and treats., and will be calling some of you to help with set up and take down. Don't wait - you can volunteer by sending an email to: [billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org](mailto:billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org).*

## 2022 Programs:

- August 23 - 7 pm Bring your own Tree, with a workshop session in the afternoon from 1:30 - 4
- September 10 & 11 - International Bonsai Arboretum Open House, with Suiseki display of BSUNY club members stones
- September 27 - 7 pm David Easterbrook, with workshop in the afternoon from 1 - 4
- October 25 - 7 pm TBD
- November 15 - 7 pm Design Studio: please bring a tree for advice from our experts
- December 13 - pm Holiday party and Auction  
*see page 3 for dates for 2023, and for some more info about the upcoming events*

## President's message

Greetings Friends,

The Suiseki Study Group just met for another Tanseki ( stone collecting adventure) in what I refer to as "Nature's Cathedral". The weather was perfect, the collecting conditions were as well and the camaraderie was wonderful. Perhaps a few of us will bring a few favorites to show and discuss at our next meeting.

Speaking of, another 2 session open workshop is coming up soon and a great opportunity to catch up on summer work and get a great idea or two.

Our Fantastic and Dedicated Board met for hours to plan for the year and as always you won't be disappointed! One of the foundations of our Club is to encourage participation and to share talents for the benefit of the Club, we want and need members to take a personal interest and ownership in the Bonsai Society of Upstate New York. We have a large and multi talented membership that contributes and currently WE need a person with computer background and knowledge to help with our website! Please let us know if you can help with this mission or if you have other ideas on how to contribute your self.

Next Year is our 50th and with your help will be our BEST YET!!!

Mark

## Tanseki Outing becomes a great tradition



Our club has a tradition of a Tanseki outing in the summer. This is a unique opportunity to walk in a stream (which is considered fun!), look for significant stones that have meaning, drink in the clean air and sunshine of "Nature's Cathedral" and share camaraderie with fellow club members. Milt Kilpatrick said it best in his comment on Les Allen's post on Facebook: "Great day, great companions & lots of fun! And some new stones just waiting for a new diaza. Weather couldn't have been any better!" The pictures are just a small sample of the beautiful scenery and some of the Suiseki collected.



## Dues update and clarification

At our Board meeting, we reviewed our membership list, and realized that we need to make sure you all understand the current status of dues. Prior to the pandemic, dues were billed and paid in September, and were good for the year from September 1 through August 31. During the pandemic, we changed the timing, and moved to match the dues to the calendar year. So starting in 2021, dues were due by January 31, for the 2021 calendar year, and that will hold going forward. IF you did not pay dues in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, and want to be current for 2022, all you need to do is pay the 2022 dues. (\$30 for an individual, \$35 for a family). Then, in December we will send a dues notice for 2023, and those dues will be due by January 31, 2023. If you are not sure of your dues paid status, send an email to our treasurer, Diane Koretz: [treasurer@bonsaisocietyofupstatny.org](mailto:treasurer@bonsaisocietyofupstatny.org) and she can let you know where you stand.

What are your dues used for? We pay for many of the speaker,s including their transportation and often the workshop material. The coffee, tea, drinks and snacks you enjoy at meetings are covered by dues. And the expense of putting on our club show comes out of our treasury, so your dues support those as well. We hope this encourages you to stay current with your dues!

## Planning for your trees' care in your absence

Many of us know to think about finding someone to water our trees when we are gone for a day or two. A family member, a neighbor, another club member nearby - these are all good options for a short time away. It takes more effort to make plans for an extended time away - such as a work trip, a vacation, family travel or the like. Do you have a clear idea of how you will make sure your trees stay in good shape for these longer periods of time?

Waiting until the last minute can be risky. First, you will probably want to provide more training to make sure the caretaker knows about fertilizer needs, and you might want to make sure that they know to look for signs of pests and disease. Obviously, you might want to have these instructions in writing, with pictures of pests and diseases that you have seen in your trees in the recent past.

BUT - have you thought about unplanned absences - for a day or a few, a week or more, an unexpected illness, or even the ultimate catastrophe of your death? Many of us joke about it, and our family members know to "Call Bill Valavanis right away", but have we really made a good plan? If you are really laid up, and your closest family members and usual tree backup caretakers are spending their time devoted to YOUR care, who will be thinking about the trees? Is your plan in writing? Is it clear what you want for the trees - give them all away, spread them around to your heirs, sell them to help fund your estate or medical expenses? And if you do hope they will be sold to raise funds, how will they be cared for in the meantime so as to preserve their highest value?

We hope to have a program devoted to this topic over the next year, but thought we would throw the idea out to Club members to get you all thinking.

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### 2023 Program dates:

- January 24 - 7 pm Harvey Carapella, Cascade Bonsai
  - February 28 - 7 pm
  - March 28 - 7 pm Bill Valavanis
  - April 25 - 7 pm
  - May 21 - 9 - 5 Club Show at Golisano Autism Center: 50th Anniversary Club Show!!!
  - June 27- 7 pm Club Picnic and Auction
  - July 25 - 7 pm Field Trip to Dwarf Conifer Garden
  - August 22 - 7 pm Bring your own Tree
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## SHOHIN BONSAI FEATURE OF THE MONTH



### Shohin Bonsai, Cherry

I feel the pot is a little too big and heavy looking for the thickness of the trunk. The rhythmic twists and turns of the flowing trunk is a positive feature and offsets the fact that the trunk doesn't have good taper in the upper trunk. The Pink flowers are clearly the focal point creating a pleasant textured mass. Red and Green are direct complimentary colors creating a dramatic visual contrast. In this case the Pink of the flowers is in the Red family and the Blue Green of the pot is in the Green family creating a Split Complimentary color combination. It also creates a dramatic visual contrast, but not quite as dramatic as a Direct Complimentary color combination. The style of this tree is Slanting, because if you draw a straight line down from the apex to the base of the tree, the apex of the tree is just beyond the rootball.

Harvey Carapella

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Please submit any ideas for the Billboard to Marti & Tom. If you have ideas for the BillBoard, please email Marti & Tom: [billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org](mailto:billboard@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org)



### **New FREE Bimonthly International BONSAI OnLine Magazine**

After publishing International BONSAI for 42 years and producing 164 issues, Bill Valavanis has decided to suspend the printed edition and start producing the magazine in a FREE digital bimonthly format in order to expand his educational offerings. International BONSAI OnLine will continue with the high standards of quality introduced to English language bonsai magazines, and continues to be the first and only professional bonsai magazine published in the United States. In the first month of publication over 16,000 people have viewed the magazine and over and over 1,300 have subscribed. Check it out, and subscribe FREE too! [www.internationalbonsaionline.com](http://www.internationalbonsaionline.com)