

Long Island Bonsai Society

Summer Picnic & Auction,

Monday, September 8, 2014

7:30 Early Workshop - Homemade Fertilizer Cakes - Brian Friebach

8 pm Main Program - Jack Sustic - Chinese Juniper

Long Island Bonsai Society
PO Box 308
Malvern, NY 11565



Juniper can be developed into wonderful bonsai – with the passage of time and an artistic vision a truly beautiful specimen can be created.

Our August meeting...

Our August meeting was the summer mer picnic and auction. Each year we have loads of wonderful things to tempt our bidders and this year was an exceptional one.

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was an exceptional one – sadly some of the abundance of items was a result

of the death of two bonsai artists. We had such an abundance of items to auction that it was decided to hold

some over for our Holiday Party and winter auction.

WHAT A TEAM By Francine Any party and auction where the minimum of 40 people are expected takes planning and people to do the work. Chris Forino ordered and delivered the food, Tom O'Connor brought the beer, Ceil and Joe Gomez brought cake, coffee and soda. They also, with the help of Hal Johnson set an attractive table for the event.

This year, one of our much loved and generous long time member Martin Haber died early this summer leaving his bonsai collection, pots and tools to the Long Island Bonsai Society. Much work needed to be done; Tom, Jim and Francine washed the bonsai pots. John K., Chris, Tom, Jim and Chris transported the pots to our meeting room and set them up for the auction with the help of Brian. Ceil set up and ran the Silent Auction with the help of Marion. Joe and Ceil also took care of publicity for the event. Liz manned the table to welcome participants. After a delicious lunch, our Auctioneers Tom, Joe and Jim were assisted by Fred worked very hard conducting the auction. There was material donated by our membership, by Linda Brezen and by the family of Martin Haber. Thank you all!! Our members were generous in their bidding for top quality items. During the auction, our recording team, Dee, Linda, Francine, Camille and Martha kept track of all the transactions. Our treasurer,

Jim put it all together recording money taken money spent, reimbursements where appropriate and finally made a happy trip to the bank Tom, Chris and Chris did the final clean up and stored the remaining auction items for our December 8th party and auction. One of the many strengths of our club is the willingness of our members to step forward to work for the common good. The money earned at our auctions contributes heavily toward our lecturer's costs. As needed, volunteer to help make your club as strong and as special as possible.



Elias was the winning bidder on this mugo pine – it has great potential

David purchased a very small pot and was asked what could you do with that little thing. Well look at what David produced. Great creativity David and a beautiful companion plant.



September's Meeting..

Brian will give an early program on how to make fertilizer cakes which are rather costly to purchase – and generally rather aromatic. Let's see what Brian has to say that might convince you to give them a try.

The main program will be given by Jack Sustic who has been the curator of the Bonsai and Penjing Museum at the National Arboretum since 2002. Jack has been involved with bonsai since 1987 so he has lots of knowledge to share with us as he talks about and works on a Chinese Juniper which will be auctioned off at the end of his demonstration.



Jack got his start on bonsai at an early age during a trip with his father to several islands of Japan where on one he collected an Ezo Spruce which started his interest in bonsai. Jack is a third generation bonsai artist. Jack had the dream of donating that tree to the National Arboretum but trade restrictions was not going to make that a reality until Jack thought of a roundabout

way to accomplish this goal by giving the tree to the Prime Minister of Japan who then presented the tree to President Clinton as a gift which promptly found a home in the National Arboretum. As curator, Jack can still work on the Spruce that started his love of bonsai.

Jack has been a lecturer at our meetings before and is a delightful speaker.

Hope you will be able to attend our meeting.

Please remember that guests are always welcome. Who knows they might just become addicted to bonsai too.

Hard to believe Labor Day has come and gone. Our summer weather was for the most part ideal – not excessively hot, with drying winds to tax our bonsai in their small growing pots. Most mornings left plenty of dew to moisten the foliage and refresh the moss coverings. Makes you wonder whether Mother Nature will be as benevolent come fall and winter. Spring and fall are busy times for bonsai hobbyists. Fall signals the end of most bonsai growing activity. Our deciduous trees now get ready to put on a spectacular show with a blaze of intense color. These changes may only last for a short period of time, but the show is dramatic and the colors can vary from year to year depending of the growing

conditions and the weather. As we enter late autumn and the weather grows colder and brings frosts which will induce our trees into dormancy – their rest period and thankfully ours too. But before you can begin your rest period there are some chores to be taken care of.

Generally you should withhold nitrogen (nitrogen stimulates new growth – which we do not want at this time of year) in your late summer early fall feedings as trees get ready to enter dormancy. A sprinkling of bone meal on the soil surface of all trees, particularly pines and flowering bonsai, seems to be beneficial.

It might be nice to take some photos of your bonsai when their leaves are in full color – share them with me and I'll include them in our Newsletter.

Trunks and branches can thicken dramatically, so be sure to be on the lookout for wires that might be biting in and scaring the bark. Remove the wire if necessary and yes unfortunately you will need to rewire the branch again if it moved out of the position you wired it in.

Start preparing your winter storage area now - most of our members provide some sort of protection for their trees whether it is in a greenhouse, cold frame, or just on the North side of a structure that will block the sun and

wind. Most of our trees need some protection during the winter months and winter can sneak up on us fast.

It is good idea to take the time to thin out pine needles to enable next year's buds, which are forming, to receive maximum light and air circulation.

Remove excessive berries and fruit from flowering bonsai as these tend to drain the tree's resources and energy. Generally it is a good idea to limit the amount of fruit or flowers that are allowed to develop.

Use an old toothbrush or similar item to carefully brush off moss and lichen from trunks and surface roots as these are good safe hideouts for unwanted pests. The moss will re-grow quickly when spring comes around – lichen re-growth is a bit trickier. *(I personally like both on my trees)*

Clean up the pots, remove weeds and dispose of fallen leaves and debris which are also places that harbor pests.

Now is the time to take hardwood cuttings for spring propagation. Collect seeds from trees and store safely till proper planting time. Those seeds that need stratification (cold period) can be planted when the weather stays cold (40°)

Once your fall chores are done you can sit back, put your feet up and let nature provide for your trees until late winter, or early spring comes back and potting begins in

earnest. No one said this was a lazy person's hobby.

I don't want to rush the days by but time has a way of rushing on past so just as reminder, our club will be seeking some new members to join the board – new blood is always a vital component to any organization. Our club belongs to each member, and each member should be willing to help in some way – big or small - whether it is by bringing in a new member, volunteering to do the refreshment, give an early workshop, or become the

EDITOR OF THIS NEWS-LETTER.

Please say yes when asked to help out – we are all busy but without those willing members our club will not be able to continue.

Sorry for repeating the above public service announcement for the hundredth time but it is time for me to move on, and let some new ideas be expressed in our Newsletter. Each editor has had in the past free rein – there is no formula to follow so don't feel it has to be like the newsletter I have been doing.



Just a few of the trees and plant material that was offered for auction.

There was a tremendous array of pots – some quite old – valuable pots that are no longer available on the retail market .

The Bonsai Society of Greater New York is holding a Yoshimura Competition on Saturday, November 1st from Noon until 5:00 pm and Sunday, November 2nd 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. The event will be held at Suburban Water Gardens, 211 Burrs Lane, Dix Hills, NY 631-643-3500.

Award presentation will take place at 4:00 pm on Sunday. You may obtain additional information about entering this competition by contacting John Capobianco at jecapobiano@yahoo.com or phone him at 516 263-2717.

On Saturday, October 19, the club is having a special workshop with Pauline Muth – choices of materials are: Mugo Pine, Wild Potentilla (flowers), or Cotonaster (produces berries in the fall). Held at Planting Fields, at 10 am.

Space is limited to a maximum of 10 participants so call Francine at 516 593-1855 to reserve your spot

Do you have any plans for Saturday, September 12th and Sunday the 13th? If not consider going to ROCHESTER, New York for bill Valavanis' Fourth U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition which has received rave reviews for the three previous exhibitions and this one will be no exception I am sure. Included this year will be 50 Suiseki (stones) formally displayed along with 200 high quality bonsai. Most will be exhibit scrolls or companion ites to complete the formal display for bonsai.

In addition, demonstrations will be on-going throughout both days and topics will focus on Ikebana, Chinese brush painting, Japanese viewing stones, bonsai creation and bonsai refinement. With admission at \$15.00 for one day or \$20.00 it is the bargain of a lifetime. There will be over 100 vendor tables providing all things bonsai – touted as the largest vendor display in the country featuring the following vendors:

Adams' Bonsai, Julian Adams, Virginia
American Bonsai, Cullen Mairacher, Fl
Tony Alario, Connecticut
Bjorvala Bonsai Studio, Bjorn Bjorholm, Tennessee
Bonsai Berkshire, Geoff Holmes, Mass
Bonsai By Fields, Mark Fields, Indiana
Bonsai Unearthed, Owen Reich, Tenn
Bonsai Vision, Jim Gollmer, Nevada
Bonsai West, Michael Levin, Mass
Brussel's Bonsai, Brussel Martin, Miss
Cedar Bog Bonsai, Mitch Boatman, Ohio
Alice Chen, New York
Custom Oriental Woodcraft, Sean Smith, Pennsylvania
Deer Meadow Bonsai, Jim Gremel, Cal
Eagleville Bonsai, Jack Hoover, R.I.
Giorgi Studio, Dave & Rob Giorgi, Ohio
Golden Arrow Bonsai, Andy Smith, South Dakota

Kaede Bonsai, Matt Ouwinga, Maryland
Knittle Studio, David Knittle, Vermont
Lang Bonsai Containers, Ron Lang, Pa
Mc2 Pottery, Charles Smith, Tennessee
Meco Bonsai, Roger Lehman, Pa
Miniature-Bonsai, Dave Paris, New York
Mulberry Creek Herbs, Mark Langan, Ohio
Stacy Muse, Florida
Natures Way, Jim Doyle, Pennsylvania
Nitju Clayworks, Ross Adams, Pa
Osiga, Yen Huang, Maryland
PFM Bonsai, Pauline Muth, New York
Stacy Muse, Florida
Quiet Spirit Arts, John Bierley, Maryland
Reflections In Water, Karen Proctor,

NY
Royal Bonsai Garden, Suthin
Sukosolvisit, Mass
Sanctuary Bonsai, Todd Hansen, Conn
Sara Rayners Pottery, Sara Rayner, Minn
Satsuki Bonsai, David Kreutz, Missouri
Stands & Stones, Mark Rhyme, Florida
Tandamiti Bonsai, Hank Miller, New York
Michele Villeneuve, Quebec, Canada
Vons Gardens, John Kirby, Connecticut
Wildwood Gardens, Frank Mihalic, Ohio
Roy Wixson, New York
International Bonsai, Wm. N. Valavanis, New York

Additional information http://www.internationalbonsai.com/store/1708315/National_Exhibition/index.html

This is one opportunities you should take advantage of it if at all possible.

We have indoor greenhouse facilities for winter storage for both tropical and hardy plants.

We also carry hard to find specimen plants for your garden.

All Club Members are entitled to a **10% Discount** on all bonsai related purchases.

Suburban Bonsai

**211 Burrs Lane • Dix Hills • NY 11746
631-643-3500 • Fax 631-643-3399**



We are always interested in purchasing interesting and finished bonsai plants.

We are located on several acres and carry a complete line of Bonsai Containers, Tools – Wire, Soil Mixes, etc. including finished and pre-finished tropical and hardy bonsai plants.

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