



Buffalo Bonsai Society Newsletter

January 2012 Newsletter

This month's meeting will be held on
Wednesday, January 18th @ 7pm
Menne Nursery & Garden Artistry
3100 Niagara Falls Boulevard
Amherst, NY 14228
716.693.4444
<http://www.mennenursery.com/>

President's Corner

On behalf of the board, I would like to wish you all a most Happy New Year. Our trees are all tucked in for the long cold winter ahead with a few tropical's to keep us company and give us something to play with. After the holidays and during stay-at-home days, it is a great time to sharpen tools, sort out wire and all the other things we have a hard time finding the time to do during the spring/summer. It also keeps you planning for spring and doing something bonsai.

The new board will also keep busy. The board for 2012-13 will include Lin Oldenburg, Neil Jaeger, Wendy Williams, Paul Pearson and we are welcoming Travis Schmitt.

Plantasia in on thanks to our committee volunteers: Ed McKee, Rich Groblewski, Bob Melnyk and Bob Maxwell. Be sure to offer your assistance when the time comes to man the booth. -Wendy Williams

The new board officers are:

Wendy Williams – president
Paul Pearson – treasurer
Neil Jaeger – secretary
Lin Oldenburg – director
Travis Schmitt – director



The 2012 BBS Board

this month:

Basic Wiring with Art Skolnik

Mr. Skolnik is returning to the Buffalo Bonsai Society this month after a very short hiatus...since he was here in November sharing his knowledge of the basic bonsai styles and tree care.



Art Skolnik

This time, he will be demonstrating wiring using a model tree that he made of wooden dowels. Several years ago, Art demonstrated his wiring skills for our club. That was a memorable meeting for several reasons. We learned a lot about wiring bonsai, asked tons of questions (and got great answers) and had a great time doing so.

For people new to bonsai, this is a meeting that you simply don't want to miss. Art's wiring demonstration is highly informative. He details the guidelines for wiring in a simple and efficient manner that you will definitely learn from. Even if you have seen this demonstration before, it is worth the visit to renew your own knowledge and skills.

This one is guaranteed to please!

refreshments

January: Carey Leibring

February: Ed McKee

March: Marcia Richmond

April: Abe Sosnowski

Workshop Presented by Bill Valavanis

March 25, 2012 at 1pm

We have a wonderful opportunity to travel to Rochester for a hands-on workshop presented by Bill Valavanis. Bill is a very informative and interesting speaker and teacher of the art of Bonsai and he has offered our club this incredible opportunity.

Classical Bonsai- The Basics

After an educational and stimulating Powerpoint program on the history, culture, care and styles of classical bonsai, Wm. N. Valavanis will present a short, but thorough demonstration on the basic techniques for creating a bonsai. A workshop will follow where each participant will create a Sargent juniper (Shimpaku) bonsai. Specially pre-trained container grown

plants in one-gallon pots will be provided for each person.

Registration fee per person is \$75 which includes instruction, handouts, Sargent juniper and soil. Each participant will require wire, tools and containers; however these can be purchased here. There is a 10 person minimum for this workshop with a maximum number of 15. There will be an assistant, therefore each participant will have much individual instruction. There are no other fees.

Space is limited so please contact Lin Oldenburg at songarden4@gmail.com or by phone (716) 523-7944 as soon as possible. Payment of the registration fee will guarantee your spot. We will set up carpools for anyone interested. This is an invaluable opportunity for all and is well worth to cost. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Enjoying the holiday party

last month: **BBS Holiday Party**

A wonderful time was had by all those who joined us for our Holiday Dinner Party at May Jen's. It was a nice time to enjoy each other's company, share a great meal... the platters of food just kept coming with one more flavorful than the last, and some fun and laughs during our spirited gift exchange... steal...exchange.

We also honored Bob Maxwell as "Member of the Year" and had some fun acknowledging Travis Schmitt with a "Newbie" award and Betty White with a "Years of Service" award. Each received a framed certificate and a gift.

The Board commandeered Robert Taylor into making us all origami ornaments as dinner favors. We thank him and enjoyed watching people choose the one they wanted.

And thus, we ended another great year for the Buffalo Bonsai Society. Thank you all for being a part of our club and contributing in the many varied ways that keep us alive, active, productive and enjoying promoting the art of bonsai in the Buffalo area.



**Bob Maxwell receives recognition as
"Member of the Year"**



**Betty White, "Years of Service Award" recipient
And Travis Schmitt, the "Newbie Award" winner**



A fantastic find in the gift exchange

Membership Dues

BBS memberships renew every January. Please be sure to fill out a membership form and get your check in to Paul Pearson for this year. Thank you!

Make checks payable to:
Buffalo Bonsai Society

2012 Monthly Meetings

January ... Wiring with Art Skolnik

February ... Bonsai First Aid/Fertilizer; Erin Hickey and Wendy Williams

March ... Conifer Needle Plucking; Mike Coppola

April ... Battle of the Bonsai

May ... Tools, Tool Care and Inside a Bonsai Toolkit with Roy Wixon

June ... Styling Part Two; Hank Miller

July ... Club picnic

August ... Ask the Experts Discussion

September ... Club auction

October ... Round Table Discussion

November ... Lava Rock Workshop; Ed McKee

December ... Holiday party

2012 Events

Plantasia-Taste of Spring - March 22-March 25, 2012

Third US National Bonsai Exhibition – June 9-10, 2012

Fair and Expo Center, Rochester, New York

BBS Annual Member Show

Erie County Fair