



Saturday October 11, 2025. 1pm
SUNY Erie Community College North Campus
6205 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221
STEM Building

President's Corner

Hello,

Hope everyone is doing well.



Our next meeting, Sean Smith will be our demonstrator and it will be a great time.

The Buffalo Bonsai was represented at the Erie county Fair this past August. Demo was done on fusing truck with Ficus. Many people stopped and asked questions about the trees and our club.



Speaking of fused trunk, the club held a fused trunk workshop in August. Old and new faces were able to take home a tree after the workshop.

For those who were able to make it to the Bonsai Nationals I am sure you enjoyed it. I noticed some differences from the previous exhibition in the presentation of the trees. There were more pots having texture opposed to the traditional smooth surfaced pot. Along with pots that had multi colors or shades of the same pot. Let's refer to them as nontraditional pots. Granted these are custom pots but in all of the non traditional pots on display not one of them over powered the tree. I found that very interesting considering for the most part when telling a potter what you would like is somewhat abstract. It was nice to see displays at the U. S. Nationals doing something new and adventurous but still maintaining an organic feel.

Pretty safe to say summer is over and pretty soon it will be time to set our trees up for winter. For those that have tropicals you should already have them inside. The problems with keeping their trees outside is while rated for our plant hardness zone some do not do well. Why? Bonsai trees are smaller than what is growing in the woods or your landscaping. This means the bark is not as thick, leaves are not as thick and thus more reactionary to cold (or high temperature days in the summer) we sometimes lose sight of this. For this reason, we cannot just leave bonsai trees outside and expect they will survive the winter. At the very least they need to be protected from the wind. This could be as simple as placing them in an area that does not get the wind whipping thru. Protection from the wind goes a long way especially when you consider in the winter we can get a real feel temperature of 20 -40 below zero because of the wind. Consideration must be given to where outside you are going to keep your trees. Critters can also cause problems. I think keeping trees on the ground is never a good idea as it makes for an easy food source. Last year I had a Scots pine outside next to the

house. In never gave a thought to fencing it off because animals do eat pines. I did not consider that the needles on my Scots pine are smaller than the needles of a non-bonsai tree. I am sure you have figured out what happened... The deer stripped all the needles off the tree and needless to say the tree never recovered. The tree was not on the ground but nothing was done to protect it from the deer and it cost me the tree. Just because your trees have gone dormant it does not mean you do to when it comes to you caring for your trees.

Over the years' pots get mineral deposits on them from watering. The cheapest way to get rid of it is to soak the pot in plain old white vinegar. Yes, there are other products you can purchase specifically to remove mineral deposits but white vinegar is far cheaper. After soaking them for 48 hours you should be able to take a scotch brite pad and remove what is left, if any is. You can also use white vinegar to remove rust from metal, just soak the object for 48 hours.

Scott

SPECIAL UPDATE

Those who remember Bob Taylor from Olean, his wife is planning on selling the remainder of his pot collection (around 300 of various sizes). We will have more information at the meeting. Mrs. Taylor will have some weekend dates to come and see the collection. Bob also had a large bonsai book collection that will be for sale.

Christine will be wearing an updated embroidered club shirt. You can have your very own in the color of your choice. See her for more information.

2025 BBS Monthly Agenda:

November 8th Les Allen Sueiki
December 13th at 12:00 Ilio DiPaolo's

2025 Board Members

Scott Russo- President

Paul Pearson- Treasurer

Bill Barker- Board

Sandy McDougal- Board

Jerry Rucker- Board

Christine Wilkolaski - Board

716-662-9429 membership