

# THE TWIG

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[https://www.instagram.com/Mohawk\\_Hudson\\_Bonsai\\_Society](https://www.instagram.com/Mohawk_Hudson_Bonsai_Society)

## August Club Dates

*Saturday August 24*

♦ *New England Bonsai Gardens  
Field Trip & Workshop*

**Garden tour and half day workshop**

**LOCATION:** New England Bonsai  
Gardens

*Sunday August 25*

♦ *Preparation Workshop for  
Club Exhibition*

**10a–4p: Preparation workshop for  
exhibition trees and displays**

**Noon: Club Meeting & Brunch**

**LOCATION:** DJH Bonsai

What a busy and varied weekend we have planned for the last weekend in August!! On Saturday, pre-registered club members will take a field trip to New England Bonsai Gardens to tour the greenhouses and participate in an afternoon workshop with John Romano. Workshop cost is \$200 (\$50 artist fee plus \$150 for either a shohin juniper or shohin Japanese Black Pine to work on), plus travel expenses.

There are still openings for this workshop, so if you are interested, please see page 7 for more details and how to register.

*Continued on page 2*

## 2024 MHBS Club Show & Exhibition

Our 2024 Club Show & Exhibition is coming up fast and we need you and your bonsai trees!

After a number of fine shows in Albany, this year we move to the Saratoga Springs Public Library. One of the goals of our club is “To generate interest in and educate the public about the art of Bonsai” and we hope that Saratoga Springs is the perfect location to help accomplish that goal.

The show is open to the public Saturday September 14 from 10a-5p and Sunday September 15 from 12p-4p. We will be in the Harry Dutcher Community Room of the Saratoga Springs Public Library which is located at 49 Henry St.

### *We Need You for a Fun & Successful Show!*

We rely on the active participation of club members to present a successful show. We will need volunteers to help with set-up, tear down and clean-up, to welcome and engage with visitors and answer questions, and to help run the show. And of course we will need members to display their bonsai trees so we can present a wonderful bonsai exhibition for the public and other club members to enjoy.

### **Show Your Trees**

All club members are encouraged to display one or more of your trees. The exhibition will show a range of bonsai trees,

*Continued on page 2*



*August Club Dates (con't)*

On Sunday August 25 from 10a-4p, we will hold an open workshop to help members prepare for the September Club Show and Exhibition. Get the time and assistance to help prepare your trees for exhibition and to create your tree display.

DJH Studio will open at 10a for the workshop. The club meeting and luncheon will start noon and the workshop will continue after the club meeting. Bring a luncheon item to share.

As always, we'll have a sale table for bonsai material, cuttings, pots, etc. Mark your sale item with your name and the price. 20% of the sale proceeds will benefit the club.

For the workshop, bring your exhibition trees to work on final preparations. This would be a good time to clean the trunk, treat deadwood, pull leaves and needles, touch up pruning or wiring, moss work and more.

Bring your own display elements if you have them though some club-owned tables, jitas, accents, etc. will be available to borrow for the show. Guidance from experienced club members will be available as needed to help you create a beautiful display.

We welcome all club members to participate in the exhibition by showing one or more of your trees, whether it is fully refined or still in development. We will also be selecting four mame or shohin sized trees to be included in our club's collaborative shohin display.

If you haven't exhibited bonsai trees before, we believe you will find it so satisfying to go through the steps of preparing your tree to look its very best and to see just how beautiful your tree can become.

*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*

from refined trees to those still in development. Our club workshop on August 25th will be devoted to helping you prepare your exhibition trees and your display. See workshop details in the column to the left.

**Demonstrate Bonsai Techniques**

Any member who wants to work on one or more of their own bonsai trees during the club show are invited to do so in our demonstration area. Seeing club members work on their bonsai trees is a great way to stimulate discussion with visitors, increase their interest in our hobby and potentially recruit new club members.

**Spread the Word**

You can help spread the word about the show and exhibition by hanging a show poster, by sharing information about the show on social media, and of course, by inviting your friends and family to attend. See the last page of this publication for a full page poster for you to print and hang.

**Donate Bonsai Items for Sale**

We need donations of bonsai items for the sale table. Donate bonsai trees, nursery stock, pots, books, accents, etc. 100% of proceeds to the club. Please price the item in advance.

*Show Details*

The show will be open to the public on Saturday from 10a to 5p and on Sunday from noon to 4p.

Tree drop-off and set-up will be Friday afternoon from 4p to 6p and for 1 hour before the show opens on Saturday. Tear down and clean-up will be Sunday from 4p to 5p.

We are currently researching our parking options during the show and for tree drop-off and pick-up. Once obtained, we will share that information in an email in advance of the show.

Jon Stewart, Lori Hodgetts, and Sandy Kiszkiel are coordinating the show and exhibition. Please contact them if you are able to assist with any aspect of the show.

## July Mark Arpag Visit

Mark Arpag workshops and demonstrations have always been very popular and well-attended and his visit in July was no exception. Both workshops were almost filled and attendees walked away thrilled with their transformed bonsai trees and the personalized, valuable instruction they received from Mark.

Mark is admittedly on a "spruce kick" and he displayed for us a variety of gorgeous spruce bonsai trees from his collection, seen on [page 5](#).

His demonstration tree was a Colorado Blue Spruce which was won in the raffle by Mette Harder.



Before and after of Jon's Red Spruce



Mark working with Saturday workshop attendees  
Bill, Arika, Nancy, Patricia and Jon



*July Mark Arpag Visit (con't)*

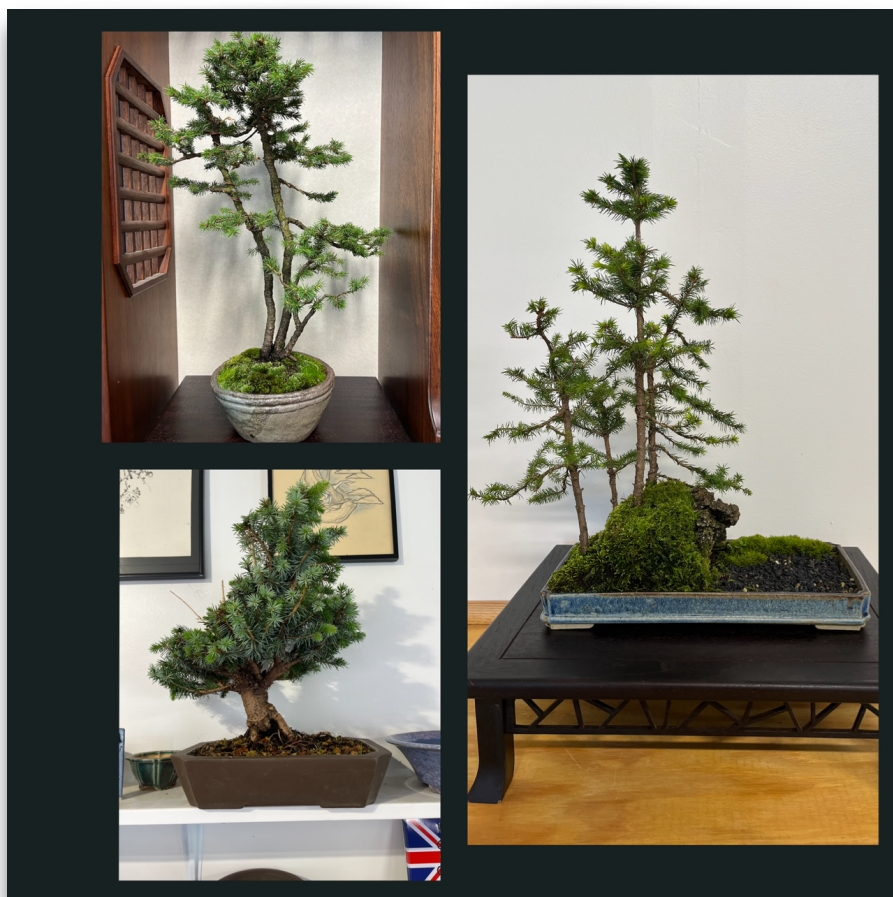


Members Rob, Mette, JoAnn and Tom enjoying Mark's Sunday half-day workshop



Mark's demonstration tree 'before'  
and a nice 'after' shot with raffle winner Mette.

*July Mark Arpag Visit (con't)*



A sampling of spruces from Mark's collection.  
Red Spruce, Dwarf Sitka Spruce, Ezo Spruce, and Birds Nest Spruces



## Looking Ahead

### August 14

NEW! Wednesday Night Bonsai hosted by Jon Stewart.

Starts at 3p at 96 Meadowbrook Rd, Saratoga Springs. Details on page 7.

### September 14-15

MHBS Club Show & Exhibition at the Saratoga Springs Public Library.

Friday 4-6p - tree drop-off/set-up

Saturday 9-10a - last time for tree drop-off/set-up

Saturday 10a-5p - Show open

Sunday Noon-4p - Show open

Sunday 4-5p - Remove trees, tear down and clean up

See details on page 1.

### September 29

Open BYOT workshop with fall care discussion.

### October 27

Open BYOT workshop.

### November 24

BYOT workshop with wintering your trees discussion.

### December 7 or 8 (to be determined)

Club holiday brunch with fund-raising live and silent auctions.

Exact date and location to be announced soon. No charge to attend for club members.

## July 28 Club Meeting

June minutes were unavailable and will be considered next meeting. Treasurer report provided.

Review of upcoming activities: Saturday August 24 field trip to New England Bonsai Garden for half-day workshop with John Romano. Sunday August 25 workshop for club show preparations. September 14-15 club show at the Saratoga Springs Public Library. Open to public Saturday 10a-5p and Sunday 12p-4p. Set up Friday 4p-6p and Saturday 9a-10a; tear down Sunday 4p-5p.

We are in urgent need of volunteers for the Nominating Committee which must be formed by September. Also still need 1-2 people to join Bill P. and Josh for 2025 MABS registration. Lori volunteered to again coordinate our Holiday Party. Hoping for party December 7 or 8 at same place as last year (McGreivy's in Waterford).

An Executive Board meeting was held July 23. Guest artist workshop registrations will now open the first day of the workshop month. Full refund for cancellations up until the week of the event; 50% refund the week of the event. Recommendations of the Oversight Committee were approved. The board voted to cover the cost of the 2024 Holiday Party. 2025 guest artist workshop fees were set at \$100 for full-day and \$50 for half-day; to be reviewed annually. A \$500 Hospitality Fund was established for club meal supplies.

## Executive Board Meeting July 23

April minutes were unavailable and will be considered next meeting. Treasurer report provided.

Advance registration for 2025 events will open the first of the month of the event. Will revisit at end of 2025.

Oversight Committee recommendations endorsed and are in progress. 2025 calendar forthcoming for review. Reviewed club's P&L Statement for 6/30/24. Set a minimum for club's bank account. Agreed to cover all costs of the 2024 holiday party for paid members. Will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Reviewed Jonas Dupuich's article on "What are your club's goals?"

Discussed 2024 Club show.

Created a Hospitality Fund of \$500 to cover costs related to meals at workshops. To be reviewed annually.

## Looking Ahead 2025

Mark your calendars now with these 2025 MHBS dates. Details to be determined.

January 26th  
 February 23rd  
 March 30th  
 April 27th  
 May 18th  
 June 29th  
 July 27th  
 August 31st  
 September 28th  
 October 26th  
 November 16th  
 December 7th Holiday Party

### Other 2025 bonsai events:



April 11th-13th: MABS Spring Festival

September 13th-14th: 9th U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition



MHBS member Julian Sherpersky and his Best Accent award at 2024 MABS

## August Field Trip Workshop

On Saturday August 24, we have the opportunity to learn from bonsai artist John Romano during a half-day shohin workshop at New England Bonsai Gardens. John has been teaching bonsai classes and private students at NEBG since 2000.

New England Bonsai in Bellingham, MA features eight greenhouses and an extensive bonsai garden shop. They are recognized as one of the nation's largest, most beautiful and comprehensive bonsai nurseries.

There are 2 open workshop spots still available. The workshop cost is \$50 plus \$150 for the cost of material, payable on the day of the workshop (cash, check or PayPay). Attendees will choose from an assortment of shohin-sized junipers and Japanese black pines that have been selected especially for us.

NEBG has also generously offered a 10% discount on purchases made that day from the greenhouses or bonsai shop.

The workshop with John will begin around noon and run until about 3-4p. Attendees should bring their own tools and supplies including wire, and also pack their own lunch, snacks, and beverages.

**Register now for the remaining workshop spots by contacting Jon Stewart via email or by phone at 518-879-9789. Deadline is August 17.**

## Wednesday Night Bonsai

Many of us will fondly recall "Monday Night Bonsai" hosted by Pauline and Myron Muth at PFM Bonsai. It was an unstructured and relaxed affair where participants worked on trees and shared food, drink, and conversation.

Jon Stewart has generously extended an invitation to club members to a Wednesday Night Bonsai this coming Wednesday, August 14 starting at 3p. It will be at his parents' home at 96 Meadowbrook Rd. in Saratoga Springs.

There will be the opportunity to work on trees with pizza and wings around 5-6p. Seltzer and water provided, otherwise BYOB (donations appreciated to cover food costs). Please RSVP to Jon by Tuesday August 13 by email or phone or text at 518-879-9789.

## Bonsai Calendar by Pauline Muth

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### *August Outdoors*

Change fertilizer to increase phosphate and potash. Watch for heat damage. I prevent the overheating of small pots by keeping them in a damp terragreen bed during the summer.

Wire new growth that is not in line with your designs. Remove wire that is no longer necessary.

Lime sulfur again

Note from the editor: Frost can come as early as Labor Day here (only 3 weeks away)!! What are your plans for your tropicals?

## Club President's Appeal for Volunteers

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"The continued success of the Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society is entirely dependent on the dynamic engagement of its membership. I encourage fellow members to seek opportunities to actively participate in our club functions, management, and governance."

Club vacancies become "absorbed by the remaining board members. In essence, without volunteers to step up and serve on committees and on the board, there will be a diminishing number of members assuming more and more responsibilities, which is not sustainable. Volunteering for club roles simply requires a willingness to listen, learn, and contribute."

Thank you to Arika Adams, Patricia Tatich and Daniel Bee for volunteering for the Nominating Committee.

We are currently seeking volunteers in the following areas:

- ✦ The Nominating Committee will be soliciting volunteers to serve as Vice President (term ends 2027), Secretary (term ends 2025), and Activities Director (term ends 2027).
- ✦ 2-3 more volunteers are needed for the 2025 MABS Spring Festival registration responsibilities. Our goal is to have a committee named by November 1. This group will prepare/update the registration form, prepare individual registration packets, and help manage the registration table at the festival.

If you can help, please contact club President Bill Papura. Thanks so much for considering these opportunities!



## The Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society

We are the Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society and our purpose is to generate interest in and educate the public about the art of Bonsai as well as to increase Club members' enjoyment of the hobby, offer education for all skill levels, provide opportunities to practice the art, and form friendships with other enthusiasts. MHBS was founded in 1968 - we celebrate our 56th anniversary in 2024!

We welcome to our membership anyone expressing interest in the art of Bonsai and the stated purposes of the Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society. 2024 membership dues are \$45 for an individual and \$60 for a household. You can pay your 2024 dues from the [Membership Online Payment](#) page of our website.

We meet on the last Sunday of each month, January through November (dates may vary with holidays), usually at DJH Bonsai in Feura Bush, NY (Albany area). Guest artist visits typically include a full-day workshop on Saturday, a half-day workshop on Sunday morning, followed by the club meeting and luncheon and a guest artist demo and raffle. Workshop and/or material fees may apply.

[MHBS Constitution and By-laws](#)

## The Twig and Club Social Media

All links in the Twig are live and can be followed to the resource listed (websites, social media accounts, email addresses, etc.). Your feedback, suggestions, and contributions are always welcome.

Links to our website and social media accounts are located on page one of the Twig. To keep those accounts active and interesting, we encourage club members to share pictures or videos that can be posted to our online sites. Please send them via [email to Brandon Herwick](#). For your security, on public sites your name will not be displayed with the tree image unless you request.

## MHBS Officers 2024

Position	Name	Phone	Email	Term Ends
President	Bill Papura	207-408-3909	<a href="mailto:billpapura@yahoo.com">billpapura@yahoo.com</a>	2025
Vice President	Dave Hodgetts	518-380-4508	<a href="mailto:djhodgetts@aol.com">djhodgetts@aol.com</a>	2024
Secretary	Open			2025
Treasurer	Lori Hodgetts 1793 Tarrytown Rd Feura Bush NY 12067	518-369-7243	<a href="mailto:LHodgetts46@gmail.com">LHodgetts46@gmail.com</a>	2026
Activities Director	Jon Stewart	518-879-9789	<a href="mailto:stewarjm192@gmail.com">stewarjm192@gmail.com</a>	2024
Communications Director	Nancy Castillo	518-321-6913	<a href="mailto:twocat106@gmail.com">twocat106@gmail.com</a>	2025
Webmaster & Outreach Director	Guy Pastena	518-227-0722	<a href="mailto:MHBS.outreach@gmail.com">MHBS.outreach@gmail.com</a>	2026
Immediate Past President	Tom Kiszkiel	845 687-9115	<a href="mailto:kiszclove00@aol.com">kiszclove00@aol.com</a>	
MABS Directors representing MHBS	Bill Papura and Dave Hodgetts			9



Learn more  
about The  
MHBS at:



The Mohawk  
Hudson Bonsai  
Society (MHBS)  
presents:

# Bonsai Club Show & Exhibition 2024

Harry Dutcher Community Room at The Saratoga Springs Library  
49 Henry St, Saratoga Springs, NY

Saturday Sept 14th, 10am-5pm

Sunday Sept 15th, 12-4pm

Demonstrations

Meet other bonsai enthusiasts

Bring bonsai trees for consultation

Exhibition featuring society member trees

