

# THE TWIG

<https://mohawkhudsonbonsai.org> | <https://www.facebook.com/MohawkHudsonBonsai/>  
[https://www.instagram.com/Mohawk\\_Hudson\\_Bonsai\\_Society](https://www.instagram.com/Mohawk_Hudson_Bonsai_Society)

## September Club Date

*Sunday September 29*

♦ *BYOT Open Workshop*

**Noon: Brunch & Club Meeting  
followed by open workshop**

**LOCATION:** DJH Bonsai

Our next club date is Sunday September 29th at DJH Bonsai. We'll start at 12 noon with our brunch/social followed by a club meeting.

After the club meeting, we'll have time to work on our own trees during a BYOT open workshop. Besides the regular sharing of help and ideas, we'll have a group discussion about fall care for our trees. This is a free workshop.

Bring a luncheon item to share for our brunch. 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.

Hope to see you in two weeks. Bring some friends!



We'll talk about fall tree care at our BYOT workshop.

## 2024 MHBS Club Show & Exhibition

We had a successful and well attended Club Show & Exhibition last weekend at the Saratoga Springs Public Library.

Full coverage of the event and pictures of all exhibition trees will be in the October Twig.



Beautiful Potentilla cascade  
by Sandy & Tom. Stand by Jon Stewart.



Visitors enjoying their time at the show

## Looking Ahead

### October 27

BYOT open workshop.

### November 24

BYOT open 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.

## 2025

**January 26** - TBD

**February 23** - BYOT open workshop at Faddegón's.

**March 30** - TBD

**April 11th-13th** - MABS Spring Festival

**April 27** - TBD

**May 18** - TBD

**June 21 & 22** - Young Choe Saturday and Sunday half-day workshops and Sunday demo.

**July 27** - TBD

**August 31** - TBD

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

**September 28** - TBD

**October 26** - TBD

**November 16** - TBD

**December 7** - Holiday Party

## August Activities

We had a couple of fun club activities at the end of August starting with a field trip to New England Bonsai Gardens for a John Romano workshop. The next day, after our brunch and club meeting, we worked on preparing our trees and displays for the upcoming club exhibition.

### *Workshop with John Romano*

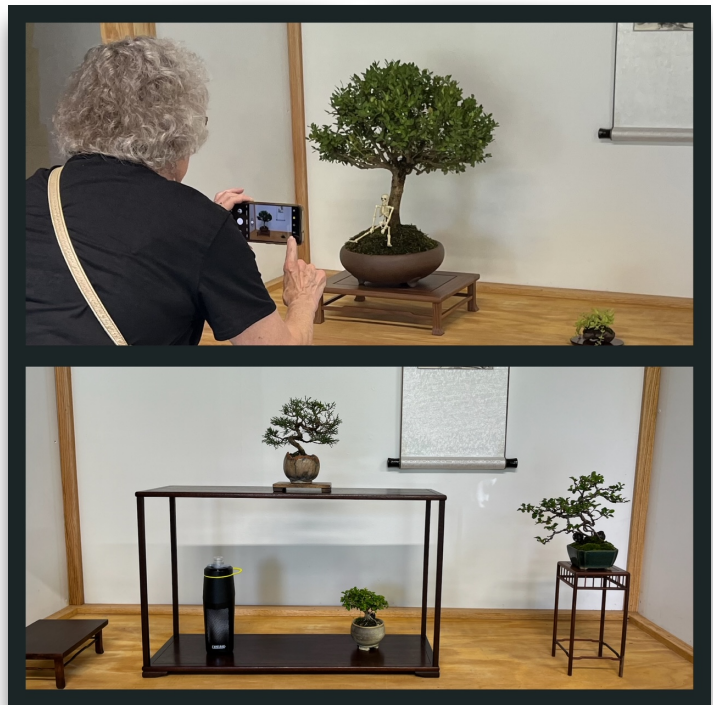
Six members made the trip to Bellingham MA for a walk through the wonderful NEBG greenhouses and to work with John Romano in a shohin workshop. Japanese black pines and shimpaku junipers had been set aside for our club as workshop materials. All of them were in nursery pots and had been wired to create twisty trunks. It was a pleasure to work with John Romano, who did an excellent job rotating around the group so that he would spend a good amount of quality time with each participant. Some of us also made purchases using the discount offered by NEBG.

Enjoy this collage from our visit and workshop. We hope to be able to invite John to visit our club in the future to conduct a demonstration and hold workshops!



## August Activities (con't)

### Club Exhibition Prep



Clockwise from top left: Jon's pot display was a team effort.  
Noel photographing David's display.  
A collaborative shohin display by Jon, Brandon, and Nancy in progress.  
Nancy sought out input on the details of her display.

### August 25 Club Meeting

Dave Hodgetts presided in Bill's absence. June and July minutes were approved. Treasurer report provided.

Review of upcoming activities: Club Show September 14-15 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. There will be a section for trees in training/development. Displays of pots, kusamono, and suiseki are welcome. Lori distributed show posters for members to display. Discussed security at the show. Thank you to committee members Sandy, Lori, and Jon.

September, October, and November meetings are all BYOT open workshops. Young Choe has been confirmed for June 21-22, 2025 kusamono workshops and demonstration. We recently received a generous donation of more bonsai pots; they will be made available to club members in silent auctions in the next few months. Bill will send a letter of acknowledgment to donor Alan Tallman.

Holiday party still TBD. The club will cover the cost of the holiday party for paid club members.

The Nominating Committee has been established with Arika, Daniel, and Patricia. Openings include Vice President, Activities, and Secretary. The slate will be presented in November and voted on in December.

Bill, Dorothy and Josh have volunteered for the 2025 MABS registration duties though more volunteers are still needed.

Jon Stewart hosted a Wednesday Night Bonsai on August 14 - thank you Jon!

## Bonsai Calendar by Dave Hodgetts

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The shade cloth is removed in September as the risk of sunburn on delicate foliage and of root damage due to high pot temperatures diminishes.

Watering continues as needed, with demand tending to decrease with the temperature.

Routine NPK pellet fertilization and kelp foliar feeding continue until mid-September (approximately one month before the average first frost date, October 12th @ DJH). Applying feed after this is simply wasteful, as the trees will not utilize it during dormancy.

The theory that giving nitrogen late in the growing season stimulates growth that would not have time to harden off before the frost came, killing that growth and possibly endangering the entire tree, has been debunked. In fact, new late growth on deciduous species results from pruning too late, which is why we typically make the last cut back on these species in July. Giving nitrogen, as part of a balanced feeding regimen, late in the season does not induce new growth and is beneficial, as it helps prepare the tree for spring.

At DJH no prophylactic fungicide this month, but Mancozeb is applied, if necessary, for tip blight on Juniper, Thuja or Chamaecyparis. Tip blight often presents once the temperatures drop into the 45-50°F range. Cedar-Apple rust galls may also appear on junipers around this time and should be removed. Malathion spray is applied as a prophylactic insecticide.

Taxus/Yew in development should undergo old needle removal in late September/early October, as the temperature drops and the old, inner foliage begins to yellow. The foliage on the last 1.5-2.0" of each branch tip is left in place and old inner "needles" are removed, being careful not to damage any existing buds. This process, coupled with the use of relatively high nitrogen (N >10) feed, will result in impressive back budding and increased foliage volume next year.

Mid-September through October is good time for scion grafting on pines and the best time to perform wedge cuts, heavy wiring/bending on pine species.

## Volunteer Needs

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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			5