

# 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)

## October Club Date

*Sunday October 27*

♦ *BYOT Open Workshop*

**Noon: Brunch & Club Meeting  
 followed by open workshop  
 Noon-2p: Bonsai pot silent auction**

**LOCATION:** DJH Bonsai

Our next club date is Sunday October 27 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 friend!

More of the bonsai pots donated by Alan Tallman will be offered in a silent auction that will run from noon - 2pm.

Bring a luncheon item to share for our brunch. You can bring bonsai material, cuttings, pots, etc. for the sale table. 20% of the sale proceeds will benefit the club.



Bonsai pots from September's silent auction

## 2024 MHBS Club Show & Exhibition

Our 2024 Club Show & Exhibition was held last month at the Saratoga Springs Public Library. This annual event is our best opportunity to fulfill one of our club's purposes—to generate interest in and educate the public about the art of Bonsai.

The highlight was the bonsai exhibition, where 11 club members displayed 30 beautiful, refined bonsai trees. In addition to the tree exhibition, a number of new areas were introduced to the show this year. The Development & Training area showcased young trees and trees in development, helping to illustrate the many steps in the development process. Ten gorgeous kusamono graced the Accent & Companion Plant display and a variety of bonsai pots and suiseki were also shown. Dave Hodgetts conducted demonstrations both days, and a sale table let visitors go home with pre-bonsai, nursery material, and accents that were donated by club members.

The event was nicely laid out in our new space at the library allowing our many visitors to comfortably take in all the displays. The downtown Saratoga Springs location was great for walk-in visitors - we estimate that over 100 guests took in the show.

Thank you to the show committee of Jon Stewart, Lori Hodgetts, and Sandy Kiszkiel. And thanks also to the many club members who assisted in set-up and tear down, greeted visitors, answered questions, or donated to the sales table. And of course, our biggest thanks go to everyone who contributed to the displays, whether in the exhibition area or in any of the new areas of development trees, kusamono, suiseki, or bonsai pots. What a wonderful way to share our hobby with the public!



*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*

## 2024 Club Exhibition Trees



Tom & Sandy Kiszkiel

Brazilian Raintree

Over the next few pages you will find an exhibition tree by each of our eleven participating club members. Many displayed more than one tree. There were 30 trees exhibited in total in 24 displays. We recognize and applaud those who elegantly represented MHBS in our 2024 Club Exhibition.

Nancy Castillo ~ Rob Gordon ~ Brandon Herwick

Dave Hodgetts ~ Sandy Kiszkiel ~ Tom Kiszkiel

Bill Papura ~ Guy Pastena ~ David Payton

Jon Staples ~ Jon Stewart



*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*



Top: Japanese Elm  
Bottom: Boxwood

As you admire the bonsai trees on these pages, we encourage all club members to take some time now to mentally (or physically) walk through your collection to earmark trees that could be exhibited in our 2025 club exhibition (and perhaps for the MABS exhibition in April 2025 as well) .

Preparing trees to exhibit is a months long (even years long) process so it is never too early to work on your trees with an exhibition in mind. Feel free to talk with any of these exhibiting club members to discuss their experiences in bringing their trees to show condition.

You may also find useful information in an [article by Jonas Dupuich](#) which provides a timeline for getting trees ready to exhibit.

*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*



Jon Stewart,  
Brandon  
Herwick,  
Nancy  
Castillo



Sandy & Tom  
Kiszkiel

Top: (clockwise) Kishu Juniper, Chojubai, Desmodium, Korean Hornbeam  
Bottom: Potentilla



*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*

Jon  
Staples



Dave  
Hodgetts

Top: Japanese Black Pine  
Bottom: Colorado Spruce

*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*



Brandon  
Herwick

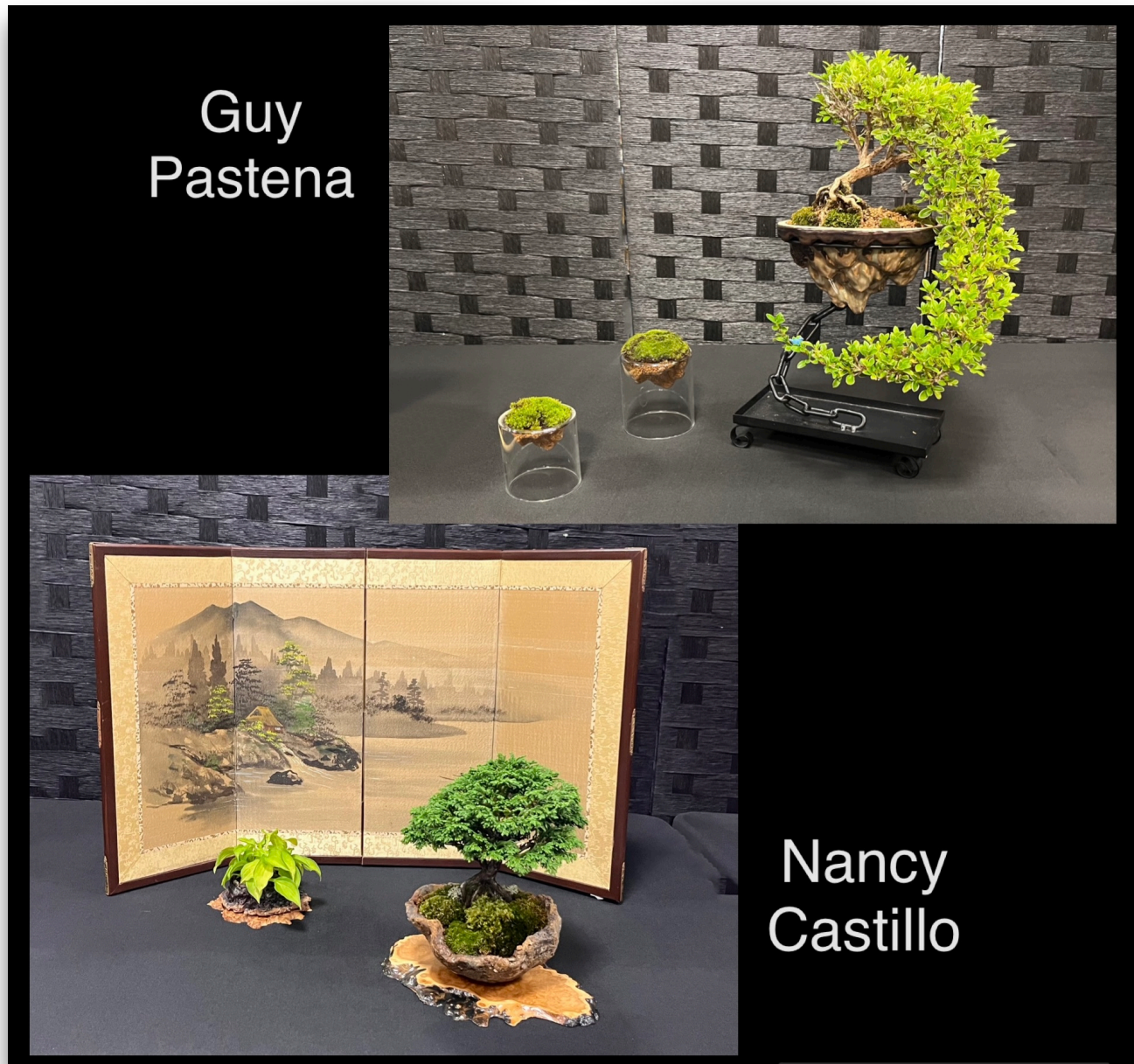
Rob  
Gordon



Top: Juniper  
Bottom: Eastern White Cedar



*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*



Top: Snow Rose  
Bottom: Sawara Cypress

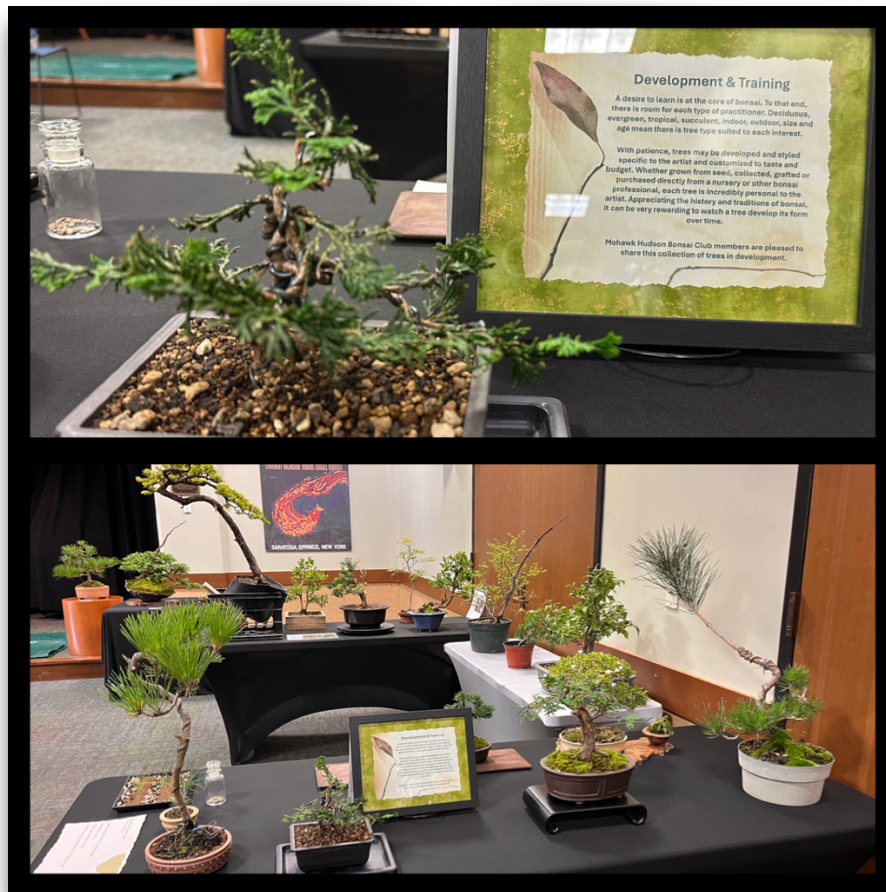
*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*



Scenes from the show & exhibition floor



## Club Show & Exhibition (con't)



**Contributors to the Development & Training display**

Arika Adams ~ Daniel Bee ~ Nancy Castillo ~ Dave Hodgetts  
Tara Hopkins-Papura ~ Bill Papura ~ Jon Stewart ~ Patricia Tatich



**Contributors to the Accent & Companion Plant display**

Tara Hopkins-Papura ~ Sandy Kiszkiel ~ Tom Kiszkiel  
Jon Stewart ~ Patricia Tatich



*Club Show & Exhibition (con't)*



**Contributors to the Pottery and Suiseki displays**

Rob Gordon ~ Dave Hodgetts ~ Bill Papura ~ Jon Stewart



**Bonsai Demonstrations**

Dave Hodgetts



## Looking Ahead

### November 24

BYOT open workshop with discussion of winter tree care. Bonsai pot silent auction.

### **NEW! December 7 Holiday Party**

Club holiday party at McGreivey's in Waterford with fund-raising live and silent auctions, including 6 Nick Lenz pots.

The party is free to club members and one guest. Early registration encouraged and appreciated. See page 12 for more details.

## 2025

**January 26** - TBD

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

**March 30** - TBD

**April 11-13** - MABS Spring Festival, Grantville PA

**NEW! April 27** - Mark Arpag Saturday and Sunday workshops. Sunday demo.

**May 18** - TBD

**June 21 & 22** - Young Choe half-day workshops Saturday and Sunday. Demo on Sunday afternoon.

**July 27** - TBD

**August 31** - TBD

**NEW! September 12-13** - ABS Learning Seminars, Doubletree Hotel, Rochester NY.

**September 13-14** - 9th U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition, Total Sports Experience, Rochester NY.

**September 28** - TBD

**October 26** - TBD

## September Activity

Our September luncheon featured Tara's delicious chili (thank you Tara!!) and lots of other goodies followed by a productive club meeting and then a BYOT open workshop.

We also had a silent auction selling the first batch of bonsai pots that were generously donated by Alan Tallman.



## September 29 Club Meeting

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Welcome to guest John. August minutes were approved and Treasurer report provided.

Reviewed Club Show & Exhibition. Discussed how to increase participation. Approved motion to donate \$200 to the library in appreciation. Thank you to committee members Sandy, Lori, and Jon. October and November meetings are BYOT open workshops. Discussed potential guest artists for 2025.

New website post on Club show. No update from Nominating Committee or MABS Registration Committee.

Holiday party will be at noon on Saturday Dec 7 at McGreivey's in Waterford. The club will cover the cost of the holiday party for paid club members. Registration is open.

Tom K. made motion to give each 2024 club officer a recognition gift of a bonsai pot from the Tallman donation. Motion approved. Will use "golden ticket" approach to administer. Dave H. made motion to bestow an Honorary Lifetime membership to Alan Tallman in appreciation of his large donation of bonsai pots to the club. Motion approved. Patricia T. motioned to create a plaque to hang at DJH recognizing our club's Honorary Lifetime Members. Motion approved. Patricia will research plaque options.

Dan B. will pick-up boxwoods for \$165 if interested. DJH will bring some in as well. Thanks to Jon for the last Wednesday Night Bonsai. Sandy, Tom, Noel, David, Carl, and Patricia make up a group who are working to gather club historical items for safekeeping.

## MHBS Holiday Party

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Our annual holiday party will be Saturday December 7 at McGreivey's, 91 Broad St., Waterford. Festivities begin at noon with a cash bar social hour, and lunch will start around 1p.

**Good news!** The club will cover the cost of the holiday party for paid club members and one guest! This includes lunch (selected from a limited menu) and dessert. There is a cash bar for cocktails.

Our holiday party is a significant fund-raising event for the club. These funds help pay for club programs and events throughout the year.

- ✦ For the live mystery auction, bring gift-wrapped bonsai items like pots, books, supplies, tools, etc. with the minimum bid written on the outside of the package.
- ✦ For the silent auction, please consider donating a bonsai tree in any stage of development. Please have a minimum opening bid amount in mind to provide on the bid sheet.
- ✦ Have you always dreamed of owning a Nick Lenz pot? We will have SIX Nick Lenz pots included in the silent auction! These are from the pots donated to the club by Alan Tallman. What a great chance to add one of these rare Lenz pots to your collection! Limit one per family.

You must sign up to attend the party and **you could really help us plan by signing up early!!** Please contact Lori Hodgetts by phone at 518-369-7243 or [via email](#) to let her know how many will attend.

Please join us for it is sure to be a fun-filled afternoon! And we'd like to extend a special invite to our new club members—our party is a great way for everyone to get to know each other better!



## Bonsai Calendar by Dave Hodgetts

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Daylight hours shorten and temperatures drop. In response to the decrease in light, deciduous species slow and then stop producing chlorophyll. The residual green pigmented chlorophyll is then broken down into smaller molecules and reabsorbed by the tree, revealing the yellow and orange carotenoids, which were present but masked. Simultaneously, the veins within the leaves, which conducted the passage of sap, become occluded and trapped sugars undergo chemical changes that produce new pigments of pink, red and purple, the anthocyanins. Depending on the species, the leaves then either drop (abscission) or persist (marcescence). Oak and Beech for example, typically retain a high percentage of their leaves and many theories have arisen to explain why. No definitive answer has been accepted, however. A Seneca legend suggests the oak keeps its leaves simply in defiance of winter.

Evergreens continue to photosynthesize, although at a slower rate, and water demands decrease as growth slows prior to winter dormancy. As discussed last month, no fertilization is required at this point.

At DJH prophylactic insecticide is not applied in October but is available for use, should a problem appear. Fungicide application continues and Mancozeb is applied if tip blight on Juniper, Thuja or Chamaecyparis species becomes apparent. Cedar-Apple rust galls may also appear on Junipers around this time and should be removed.

As mentioned last month, Taxus/Yew in development can 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 to 2.0 inches of each branch tip is left in place and the majority of the inner "needles" (more from the strong branches and less from the weak) are removed, being careful not to damage any existing buds. This process, coupled with the use of relatively high nitrogen ( $N > 10$ ) feed throughout the active growing season, will result in impressive back budding and increased foliage volume next year. The technique should not be applied on consecutive years.

Mid-September through October is good time for scion grafting on pines and the best time to perform wedge cuts, heavy wiring and bending on pine species. These trees will then require additional protection from cold winter temperatures.

Tropicals, unhappy when the temperature goes below 40 F, will need appropriate protection and lighting.

## Volunteer Needs

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We are currently seeking volunteers in the following areas:

- ✦ The Nominating Committee is 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.

Welcome to our newest members Anthony DeLorenzo and Penny Ploughman.

[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. We encourage club members to share pictures or videos that can be posted to our online sites. Send pictures and videos via [email to Brandon Herwick](#). If posted, for your security, your name will not be displayed 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			