

# 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)

## November Club Date

*Sunday November 24*

✦ *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 November 24 at DJH Bonsai. We 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 with discussion of winter care and storage. Bring trees to work on or just join in the sharing of help and ideas. 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.



## Sign up now! MHBS Holiday Party

Our Holiday Party is less than a month away on Saturday December 7th! We'll celebrate the season at McGreivey's, 91 Broad St., Waterford where festivities will begin at noon with a cash bar social hour, and lunch starting around 1p.

MBHS is pleased to cover the cost of the holiday party for all paid club members and one guest. All you have to do is sign up! You'll enjoy a nice lunch (selected from a limited menu) and dessert. There is a cash bar for cocktails.

We'll also hold auctions to raise funds for club programs and events throughout the year.

- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Silent auction: donate a bonsai tree in any stage of development. Have a minimum opening bid amount in mind to provide on the bid sheet.
- ✦ Our silent auction will also offer several special items donated to the club by Alan Tallman. These include six Nick Lenz pots (limit one per family), a wire safe, turntable stand, and a Dremel tool with accessories.

**All members are invited but you must sign up to attend.**

Please contact Lori Hodgetts at 518-369-7243 or via email to let her know how many will attend. Deadline is December 2.

We hope you'll join us, especially our newer club members!



Candids from last year's holiday party

## Looking Ahead

### December 7 Holiday Party

Club holiday party at [McGreivey's](#) in Waterford with fund-raising live and silent auctions.

The party is free to club members and one guest. Please register now with Lori H. See [page 1](#) 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

**April 26-27** - Mark Arpag Saturday full-day and Sunday half-day workshops. Sunday demo and raffle.

**May 18** - TBD

**NEW! Late May/Early-Mid June** - Annual MHBS Club Show & Exhibition. Exact dates TBD.

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

**July 27** - TBD

**August 31** - TBD

**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

## October Workshop



Here's some pics from our October club meeting, luncheon, and BYOT workshop. We also conducted a silent auction for the second group of bonsai pots donated by Alan Tallman.



## October 27 Club Meeting

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August minutes were approved and Treasurer report provided.

Review of upcoming activities: November 24 is a BYOT workshop focusing on winter care and storage. February 23 we meet at Faddegons for a BYOT workshop. Mark Arpag visits April 26-27 and Young Choe visits June 21-22. Activities Director Jon is working on additional dates for visiting artists.

The Club Show & Exhibition next year will be in late May/early June to avoid conflict with the US National/ABS Learning Seminars. Jon will contact Saratoga Library for possible dates.

Outreach Director Guy reports the website is updated for fall. Online payments working well. He also advised members on spotting phishing emails.

Nominating committee will have a slate of nominees to present November 24.

Holiday party is confirmed for Saturday December 7 at McGreivey's in Waterford, starting at noon. Members should email Lori to reserve their spot. Significant items from the Alan Tallman donation will be on silent auction at the holiday party; those proceeds will be split with the donor. Patricia is working on the Honorary Lifetime Member plaque vendor.

Any emails distributed to all club members will now be sent through the Communications Director.

## October 14 Executive Board Meeting

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Minutes from July approved and treasurer report given.

Oversight Committee recommendations have been implemented with club stand inventory taken and documented in club's Google Drive. Documents for the 2024 audit have also been posted in the drive.

Discussion of moving the Club Show & Exhibition for 2025 to late May or early/mid June to avoid conflict with the US Nationals and ABS Learning Seminars in September. Jon will contact Saratoga Library about available dates.

Presentation of trees for the exhibition was discussed: members will be encouraged to have their trees "show ready" and to take advantage of BYOT workshops to prepare trees for exhibition. The idea of show awards was discussed and a Peoples' Choice award will be voted on by show attendees. Also discussed was a greater delineation between traditional displays and trees that are in training. It was decided that accent plant, suiseki, and pot displays should continue to be part of the show.

It was decided that the Communications Director should be the sole source of emails sent to all club members to help avoid phishing/scams, using the updated club member email list.

The board voted to bestow an Honorary Lifetime Membership to Alan Tallman.

A number of items donated by Alan, including Nick Lenz pottery, a turntable stand, wire safe, and Dremel drill kit will be in the silent auction at the holiday party. The proceeds will be split 80/20 between Alan and the club. An invitation to the party has been extended to Alan and guest.

## Bonsai Calendar by Dave Hodgetts

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Fall pine work can be completed, and once deciduous species have lost their leaves, directional silhouette pruning can be performed.

This month my pesticide regimen includes the application of a granular systemic (Thiophanate methyl) fungicide and Bonide Systemic Insect Control 941 spray.

Now is the time to prepare for winter storage, the main goal being to protect trees from damaging cold and desiccating winds. It is worth repeating that the USDA plant hardiness zones apply to plants and trees growing in the ground, where their roots are relatively well insulated, and the temperatures quoted represent the safe zone within which the upper elements of the plant will not sustain damage. The temperatures at which root damage is likely to occur are not part of the equation and are almost always significantly higher than those required to damage the upper parts of the tree. This problem is exacerbated when the roots are surrounded by a small amount of growing medium in a bonsai pot.

"Root kill" temperatures differ with species of course, and exceptionally hardy trees such as American Larch and Eastern White Cedar can simply be placed on the ground under the benches and out of the wind. For the other temperate species an unheated shed, garage or cold frame can be helpful, with a good general guideline being to prevent the roots from dropping below 23°F. In our area this means additional heat may be required. Weak, recently grafted or heavily worked trees should be kept frost free.

Having said that, too much heat is also problematic, as to maintain their vigor temperate trees require a dormant period typically amounting to 40 days at temperatures between 33 and 40°F. Interestingly, research has shown that time spent below 32°F does not count towards this period.

A storage situation in which the temperature rises above freezing each day, only to drop below freezing at night, leads to repeated free-thaw cycles which can also cause root damage. Some form of ventilation on sunny days may therefore be required.

Although pines can photosynthesize in winter, they do not require sunlight and they, like dormant deciduous trees, can be stored in the dark. In fact, bright sunlight is to be avoided when the trees are frozen, as the needles can burn when they transpire water faster than their roots can supply it.

Rodents can be especially problematic in winter and I find it necessary to set multiple traps. Any form of poison is to be avoided as it can pass up the food chain if the poisoned animal is subsequently taken by a predator.

## Volunteer Needs

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- ♦ 2-3 more volunteers are needed for the 2025 MABS Spring Festival registration responsibilities. This group will prepare/update the registration form, prepare individual registration packets, and help manage the registration table at the festival.

Mid Atlantic Bonsai Societies is also looking for a new Secretary and a Treasurer.

- ♦ We are looking for 2 volunteers to conduct the 2024 audit, due March 31, 2025. If you can balance a checkbook, you have the skills needed for the Oversight Committee. This is just a 3-month commitment.

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 Heather Eisenstadt and Dillon Engelmann.

[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			