

THE TWIG

[MHBS site](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

Meetings & Activities

March

3/30 10:000 pm @ DJH
MABS Festival prep 12:00
pm Meeting
Lunch
Continued prep

April

4/11 - 12 MABS Festival
4/26 Mark Arpag Workshop
Full day
4/27 Mark Arpag Workshop
1/2 day
12:00 pm meeting
demo and raffle

May

5/18 Frank Mahalic
details to come
Club show prep

June

6/14 -15 Club Show
@ Saratoga Springs Library
details to come
6/21 Young Choe Workshop
1/2 day
6/22 Young Choe Workshop
1/2 day
12:00 pm meeting
Demo & Raffle

Up and coming It take a village...

Our March 30th meeting at DJH will focus on display preparation for the club submission to the MABS Spring Festival exhibition.

Submissions will be built from the ground up at this meeting, so all club members are encouraged to bring trees of any size that will be ready for display. Trees should be in their show pot and mossed or ready to be mossed. We'd like to have 20+ trees to choose from!

Trees aren't the only part of display... please bring any display stands, jita, scrolls, accents and other accessories for consideration.

You do not need to be going to the MABS Spring Festival to have pieces in the show or to participate in this activity.

If you have potential show trees (etc) but are unable to attend the March 30th workshop, you could arrange drop off & pickup of your potential trees ahead of the meeting. You should have a completed tree information form at that time. You are in charge of your own drop off & pickup arrangements. The trees chosen to represent MHBS in the club display will be determined by member consensus at the meeting.

We do not often get the opportunity to put our display brains to use, so come with ideas and be ready to share! This is a very interactive activity that requires the participation of the group, democracy in action! We hope to see you there.

**Meetings & Activities
2025 continued...**

July

7/27 12:00 pm Meeting
@ DJH

August

8/31 12:00 pm Meeting
@ DJH

September

9/12- 13 ABS learning seminars
Rochester, NY

9/14-15 9th National
Bonsai Exposition
Rochester, NY

9/27 Jon Romano Workshop
Full Day

9/28 Jon Romano Workshop
1/2 Day
12:00 pm meeting
demo & raffle

October

10/26 12:00 pm Meeting
@ DJH

November

TBD 12:00 pm Meeting
@ DJH

December

Holiday Party TBD

MABS

Mid Atlantic Bonsai Society Spring Festival

April 11th - April 13th

Holiday Inn Grantville-Hershey, 604
Station Rd, Grantville Pa. 17028

The Mid Atlantic Bonsai society is a coalition of Northeast bonsai Clubs. The Annual Spring Festival is a wonderful way to build ties with other people in the bonsai community expand your knowledge, and allows access to great material in the vending halls.

This years festival will be hosting Guest Artists Peter Chan, Mark Fields and David Easterbrook for lecture, demonstration, workshops and critique. The Festival also boasts a wonderful exhibition from submissions of the member clubs.

Additionally many of our own very talented artists and crafts people will be vending at this years festival:

Gail Fiato - Fiato ArtsWood-fired
bonsai pottery

Dave Hodgetts - DJH Bonsai

Josh Jeram - Josh Jeram Pottery

Jon Stewart - JM Stewart Guitar
and Fine woodworking

**You can still register online
here: [https://
midatlanticbonsai.org/
digitalreg.htm](https://midatlanticbonsai.org/digitalreg.htm)**



Peter Chan



Mark Fields



David Easterbrook

March 16th, 2025



Thank you to all our friends old and new for joining us at Faddegon's nursery for the February 2025 meeting! It was great to be surrounded by greenery as we endured the last bit of winter.

If you have ideas for other community partners who may be interested in hosting MHBS for a meeting, or activity email Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society, mohawkhudsonbonsai@gmail.com



Bonsai by Month

March Indoors

On sunny days the temperature in the greenhouse can get quite high, vent excess heat as needed. Nighttime temperatures below freezing outdoors are still common, monitor the greenhouse and maintain a minimum of 40 degrees F. The repotting of temperate species is completed, heavily root pruned trees receiving a transplanting fluid soak and root hormone. For trees actively growing, fertilization continues, the amount and frequency based on the tree's growth cycle and level of development/refinement. Flowering/fruiting trees receive superphosphate in addition. Tropicals must wait until their summer "dormancy" period for repotting. Pruning of deciduous, broad-leaved evergreen and tropical trees continues, as needed, to improve ramification. Likewise, as needed, pesticide and fungicides are applied, with appropriate safety measures.

March Outdoors

The first of March signifies the beginning of the horticulturist's Spring, although it is typically a month of indecision in the Northeast. We want our trees to benefit from the increasing temperatures and hours of daylight, but not to experience hard freezes at night or periods of sustained daytime cold. This requires careful monitoring of the weather forecast and for many of us, the chore of moving the trees outside during clement weather and back inside as needed. Hardy species can often be left out, as they will tolerate light frosts. However, exposure to temperatures below 28-30 F should still be avoided. (Remember, trees in pots are not as hardy as those in the ground.)

Although treated against pests and disease before being placed in storage, emerging trees should undergo spraying and root drenching/soaking with Daconil, or similar, to start the growing season. Benches/growing areas not sanitized at the end of last season should be treated now. It is wise to establish a pesticide and fungicide regimen for the coming year, mark your calendar and obtain, or confirm you have, the required chemicals.

Buds start to swell, signaling the start of repotting time for those trees that require it. It is now that the pairing of pots and trees planned/debated over the winter comes to fruition and that a tree's position in its pot or planting angle/inclination can be perfected. Newly potted trees and, as their buds break, those with tender new foliage, must be protected from frost.

Once actively growing, fertilization begins, the type, amount and frequency based on the tree's growth cycle and its' stage of development/refinement.

An appraisal of your trees will reveal those (regardless of their level of development) potentially suitable for the MHBS annual exhibition, because you are going to exhibit this year, aren't you?

MHBS Club Meeting - 23 February 2025

Club Meeting and open BYOT at Faddegon's.

Meeting minutes

Club members voted unanimously to approve meeting minutes for January.

Treasurer's report - Balance \$14,448.35. No bills outstanding

Activities - Our next meeting is to select trees and work out displays for the April MABS Exhibition. The meeting date is March 30 from noon-4:00p at DJH Bonsai.

Our April events are workshops and demo with Mark Arpag on April 26-27.

In May, Frank Mihalic returns for workshops and demo on May 18.

Outreach- No report. Website updated and current.

Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Society Spring Festival - Registration is open and MHBS members are encouraged to register ASAP. Workshops are filled, but a couple critiques are still open. If attending, please consider bringing donations for silent auctions.

Join other club members for a fun event with a great tree exhibit, workshops to observe (for a fee), a great vendor area and a Saturday night banquet.

Volunteer Needs - Oversight: Short term need for 2 people. Report due March 31.

2025 Club Show & Exhibition committee.

New Business

The Essential Bonsai Book by our January zoom presenter is now available for pre-sale.

Reviewed January Executive Board discussions. At our June Club Exhibition and Show, we will institute new People's Choice and Club Choice awards. Help is available to learn how to watch Zoom presentations in the future. We are considering starting to offer "formal" tree evaluations at club meetings. More details to follow.

Dan Bee is trying to find venues for Wednesday Night Bonsai meet-ups. Contact Dan if you have any suggested places for us to meet Danny.bravo.cso@gmail.com

Next meeting March 30 at from noon-4:00p at DJH Bonsai.

Submitted by Nancy Castillo

Our Mission

Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society

Founded in 1968, we are the Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society. Our purpose is to generate interest in and educate the public about the art of Bonsai, as well as to , offer education for all skill levels, provide opportunities to practice the art, and form friendships with other enthusiasts.

Membership is open to all, dues are \$45 for an individual and \$60 for a household. You can pay your 2025 dues from the Membership Online Payment page of our [website](#).

We meet on the last Sunday of each month, at 12:00 pm January through November (See calendar for dates) at DJH Bonsai in Feura Bush, NY (unless otherwise indicated in the TWIG).

Meetings are social gatherings as well as educational opportunities and typically consist of the club meeting, potluck snacks and then an activity. Activities vary and may include BYOT (bring your own tree) workshops, member led tutorials, critique and display help as well as season and species specific instruction.

The club also hosts many Guest artists through the year. Visits typically include a full-day workshop on Saturday, a half-day workshop on Sunday morning, followed by the club meeting, luncheon, a demonstration on a donated tree by the artist and raffling of the finished material. Workshop and/or material fees may apply. If you have any suggestions for club activities please reach out to Jonathan Stewart our Activities Director.

[MHBS Constitution and By-laws](#) , Social Media and 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 in the TWIG, on social media and our online sites. Send pictures and videos via email to mohawkhudsonbonsai@gmail.com

Odds and Ends

Volunteers Needed

♦ 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.

♦ We are looking for 2 volunteers to conduct the 2024 club 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.

MHBS EXECUTIVE BOARD & CONTACT INFORMATION				
Position	Name	Phone	Email	Term
President	Bill Papura	207-408-3909	billpapura@yahoo.com	2025
Vice President	Dan Bee (they/them)	339-204-1312	danny.bravo.cso@gmail.com	2027
Secretary	Nancy Castillo	518-321-6913	twocat106@gmail.com	2027
Treasurer	Lori Hodgetts 1793 Tarrytown Rd Feura Bush NY 12067	518-369-7243	LHodgetts46@gmail.com	2026
Activities Director	Jonathan Stewart	518-879-9789	stewarjm192@gmail.com	2027
Communications Director	Arika Adams	518-813-0695	arikaadams@gmail.com	2026
Webmaster & Outreach Director	Guy Pastena	518-227-0198	MHBS.outreach@gmail.com	2026
Immediate Past President	Tom Kiszkiel	845-687-9115	kisclove00@gmail.com	
MABS Directors MHBS reps	Bill Papura & Dan Bee			