

THE TWIG

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Meetings & Activities

May

5/17

@DJH Bonsai

Frank Mihalic

Workshop 9am - 5 pm

Registration open now

5/19

Club show prep with Frank

June

6/14 -15

Club Show

@ Saratoga Springs Library

details to come

6/21 - 22

@DJH Bonsai

Young Choe Workshop

Saturday -

Workshop #1 9am - 12pm

Workshop #2 1 pm - 4pm

Sunday - Club meeting @ 12 pm

followed by a demonstration and presentation.

Registration will open first week of June

July

7/27

@DJH Bonsai

12:00 pm Meeting

Up and coming... Frank Mihalic

Visiting from Wildwood Gardens in Chardon, OH MHBS welcomes Frank Mihalic as our visiting artist in May! Frank is a Bonsai Artist, sculptor and jewelry maker.



Saturday is a full day workshop 9am-5pm for \$100. Workshops are open to 8 spots of which, **5 are still available** see the link below for registration or email Lori Hodgetts Lhodgetts46@gmail.com

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Meetings & Activities 2025 continued...

August

8/31

@DJH Bonsai

12:00 pm Meeting

September

9/12-13

ABS learning seminars

Rochester, NY

9/14-15

9th National

Bonsai Exposition

Rochester, NY

9/27

@DJH Bonsai

Jon Romano Workshop

Full Day

9/28

@DJH Bonsai

Jon Romano Workshop

1/2 Day

12:00 pm meeting

demo & raffle

October

10/26

@DJH Bonsai

12:00 pm Meeting

November

TBD

December

Holiday Party TBD

CLUB EXHIBITION PREP!

Sunday morning, May 18th at 10 am will be devoted to club show prep, with Frank's guidance. The show itself will once again be at the Saratoga Springs Public Library.

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. Take the opportunity to use our Club materials to put together displays of your own for the show. While this is not a formal critique it is often nice to have an extra set of eyes as you make final decisions regarding tree and display prep.

Feel free to bring any display stands, jita, scrolls, accents and other accessories for consideration. Remember, there will be a section for trees in training/development. Displays of pots, kusamono, and suiseki are also welcome.

The show will be open to the public Saturday 6/14 10am-4:30pm and Sunday 6/15 12pm-3pm.

Exhibition set up and tree drop off will be Friday 1pm-4:45pm and Saturday 9am-10am; tear down Sunday 6/16 4pm-5pm, you **MUST** have your materials out of the library by 4:00pm.

The Mohawk Hudson
Bonsai Society
presents:

2025 BONSAI SHOW & EXHIBITION

**The Saratoga Springs Library
Harry Dutcher Community Room**
Saturday, June 14th 10am to 4:30pm
Sunday, June 15th 12pm to 3pm

Club show featuring member
trees on exhibit

Meet society members

Demonstrations

www.mohawkhudsonbonsai.org
mohawkhudsonbonsai@gmail.com
Find us on Instagram and Facebook!

MOSS

With all the rain we have been having it shouldn't be hard to find some beautiful specimens of this pillow green non-vascular plant out in the wild. Collecting moss can be a fun excuse to get out on a trail, scour your backyard or clean your roof. Not necessarily as physically demanding as yamadori, but no less important - the humble yet complex moss is a staple of the bonsai tradition and necessary to many elements of the art form including top dressing for show ready trees!



Take advantage of this humidity and venture to find some of your own squishy green stuff! If you don't use it to dress your trees for the club show, you can hold on to it for our June club activity. Kusamono expert Young Choe will be our visiting artist the 3rd weekend of June. Use the next few weeks to get your hands dirty and bring some beautiful native material to the workshops we have scheduled. Get ready to create some kusamono masterpieces!

Registration will open early in June, email announcement to follow.

There will be 2 workshops on Saturday, June 21st

Workshop #1 9am - 12pm up to 8 participants

Workshop #2 1 pm - 4pm up to 8 participants

Club Meeting Sunday @ 12 followed by a demonstration and presentation with a focus on kusamono paring with Bonsai.

Trees and friends

Bring out the power tools! We had 2 very well attended worksop days with Mark Arpag, where MANY great trees were snipped, wired, potted and . Sunday's demonstration tree was a unique triple trunk Douglas Fir from Bonsai West in Littleton MA. The interesting specimen was repotted in a Japanese pot and styled with abundant dead wood. New club member Sue won the tree but graciously gifted it to Jonathan Stewart, who was very happy to take it back to Saratoga.



May 12th 2025



Bonsai by Month by Dave Hodgetts

May Indoors

High temperatures on sunny days require maximum ventilation in the greenhouse, for the benefit of both the plants and humans. Vigorous growth continues, as does fertilization and pruning to manage internode length and foliage size and build ramification.

Temperate trees can be moved outdoors once the daytime temperatures are above 40° F, but to avoid having to repeatedly move them in and out due to the risk of frost, many don't put them out until the nights are completely frost-free. In Zone 4-5 this is sometimes not until Memorial weekend.

When the trees are moved outdoors, avoid placing them in full sun, as the leaves are likely to burn. Some leaf loss is almost inevitable, resulting in a form of defoliation, which weakens the tree. Species, such as trident maples, tolerate this well, but Japanese maples and hornbeams can be less forgiving. Developing tropical trees can stay in the greenhouse for that extra boost of heat and humidity.

Watch for wire damage on rapidly growing trees and continue to monitor for pests and disease. Clean the greenhouse as you empty it, in preparation for any propagation you may be planning later in the growing season.

May Outdoors

Late spring, and most repotting and new planting are finished. Desiccation can be a problem for new, fragile roots and tender foliage, especially on warm, windy days. Shade from both sun and wind, and careful monitoring of soil moisture are required for newly planted/repotted trees. Too much water increases the potential for root rot.

This is also a busy time for fungi and insects, and systemic treatments can be highly beneficial. Topical products require foliage to be absorbed, but granular products can be applied to the soil surface prior to the emergence of foliage, making the chemicals readily available for absorption by the waking root system and getting a jump on the problem. I typically apply the fungicide first, followed 2 weeks later by the pesticide. Once the foliage has emerged, topical products can be applied, and I keep a variety on hand for specific pests. I once thought treating "as needed" (to minimize my and the trees' chemical exposure) would suffice, but have come to realize that preemptive treatment, especially against pine needle cast and juniper blight, are necessary in my garden.

Fertilization continues, as determined by each tree's developmental status.

Now is a good time to review your species-specific pruning plans so that you don't miss any important windows of opportunity. (I let my spruce buds get away from me last year. They won't do that again!) Lastly, rapid growth on recently wired trees can quickly lead to scarring and should be carefully monitored.

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

♦ Please remember, current membership is required to register for workshops. You can pay online [here](#), or contact our treasurer Lori Hodgetts LHodgetts46@gmail.com

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			