

THE TWIG

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Next Club Date

Create Displays for the MABS Spring Festival Club Exhibit

Sunday March 24

Noon: Club Meeting and Brunch

1pm: Create MABS Displays

LOCATION: [DJH Bonsai](#)

The 2024 MABS Spring Festival is coming up April 19-21. Our club will bring four displays for the exhibit, including a collaborative display of 4-6 shohin and/or mame trees in the club's display stand.

Our March 24 workshop will be used to work together to select the trees, stands, jitas, and accents for our displays.

All club members are encouraged to bring trees of any size that could be ready to display by mid-April to put in the mix. We'd like to have 20+ trees to choose from!

Trees don't have to be mossed or even in their show pot at this time (but bring the intended pot along). It is also not imperative that you are going to MABS (though we really wish you would!)

Also bring display tables, jitas, and accents that could be loaned to the club for the weekend display.

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February Activity & Club Meeting

February Open Workshop at Faddegon's

Our meeting and activity last month was held in the peaceful setting of greenhouse three of Faddegon's Nursery in Latham.

After our club meeting adjourned, club members began work on various projects that they brought to the BYOT workshop.

Trees were repotted, styled and worked in different ways to move their designs forward. In addition, non-members who attended were given advice and help from club members on their trees.

Club member David Goscinski brought some small items, like mame pots and suiseki, that were donated to the club and raffled to club members at the end of the workshop.

It was a wonderful atmosphere of fun and group mentoring, in the warmth and sun of the greenhouse that Faddegon's so generously provided for our use.

We hope you enjoy the picture collage from the day found on [page 2](#).

Thanks to Jon Stewart for the workshop recap!



February Open Workshop at Faddegon's (con't)



Looking Ahead

April 19-21

Join fellow club members and other bonsai friends at the MidAtlantic Bonsai Society Spring Festival in Harrisburg-Hershey PA. [Registration is open](#). Early bird rates apply until March 15!

April 28

BYOT Open workshop

May 9-12

[ABS Learning Seminars](#), Grand Rapids MI.

May 18-19

Note dates! [Frank Mihalic](#) returns for a Saturday full-day workshop and a Sunday morning half-day workshop. The club meeting and luncheon at noon Sunday will be followed by a demonstration by Frank and raffle of the demo tree.

June 30

BYOT Open Workshop: Focus on Pines. June is a good time to work on pines! Time for hands-on work as well as group discussion.

July 27-28

Mark Arpag is here for his annual visit. He will conduct a full-day workshop on Saturday and a Sunday morning half-day workshop. The club meeting and luncheon at noon Sunday will be followed by a demonstration by Mark and raffle of the demo tree.

August 24-25 - New!

Saturday field trip to [New England Bonsai Garden](#) and workshop with John Romano. Field trip show & tell on Sunday.

February Club Meeting

January meeting minutes were approved as is and Treasurer report provided. Our new bank account has been opened.

We return to DJH Bonsai in March to put together our club displays for the MABS Spring Festival. April will be a BYOT workshop, followed by Frank Mihalic's 2-day visit May 18-19 (Saturday full day, Sunday half day, limited to 8 participants/day). June is a BYOT workshop; in July Mark Arpag returns, and a field trip to New England Bonsai Gardens in August.

The by-law amendment introduced last month to require a committee to review our by-laws every three years was unanimously passed.

Members are encouraged to attend the MABS Spring Festival April 19-21. Registration is open.

Reminder to submit the Activities survey to Nancy Castillo as soon as possible.

Next Club Date March 24 (con't)

We will have a luncheon to start the day so please bring a food item to share. A sale table will also be available if you have trees, nursery stock, cuttings, accents, pots, or other items to sell. Be sure to price your item and put your name on it. 20% of the sale proceeds will benefit the club.

Even if you don't have any trees to bring for the MABS display, these sessions provide a great opportunity to learn more about bonsai display.

In advance of the meeting, you might enjoy reading this article by Jonas Dupuich entitled "[Anatomy of a shohin display](#)". It will give you an idea of the many complex considerations in putting together a shohin display highlighting multiple trees.

"A lot of this complexity arises from the convention of providing contrast in a display. Displaying different species together is one of many forms of possible contrast. A list of the most basic forms of contrast in a shohin display might include:

1. Different species
2. Different styles
3. Different pot colors
4. Different pot shapes
5. Different stands"

This is why we need many trees to consider as we put together our display! We hope you'll bring some trees but encourage you to attend even if you're not bringing any.

MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival

The 2024 MABS Spring Festival is just over one month away, on Friday April 19 to Sunday April 21 at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey, 604 Station Rd., Grantville PA.

This year's guest artists are Boon Manakitivipart, Sergio Cuan, and Rafael Torres. These international artists conduct small group workshops and critiques as well as multiple demonstrations. The demo trees are raffled at the end of the demonstrations.

There is an extensive vendor area that is a great place to shop for trees and bonsai supplies. The Saturday evening banquet offers a chance to dine with bonsai friends and bid on auction items. We'll try to get a table at the banquet together for club members.

The club exhibit area displays trees from each MABS affiliate club, with each club asked to display three to four items. As we did last year, in addition to stand-alone trees, our club display will include our shohin

MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies
39th Annual
Spring Bonsai Festival
April 19-21, 2024
Holiday Inn Harrisburg (Hershey Area) I-81, PA

Featuring Artists:

Rafa Torres
Palma de Mallorca, Spain

Boon Manakitivipart
Sacramento, CA, USA

Sergio Cuan
New Jersey, USA

Exhibition - Raffles - Demonstrations - Workshops - Auctions - Vendors
www.midatlanticbonsai.org [@midatlanticbonsai](https://www.facebook.com/midatlanticbonsai)

display stand purchased from Pauline's estate. All MHBS club members are encouraged to bring trees of all sizes for display consideration to our MABS display workshop on March 24. This will allow us the greatest choice of trees, accents, and stands to strongly represent our club at the exhibit.



Our club shohin display at the 2023 MABS Spring Festival

What might not be known is that our club benefits financially from the after-expenses proceeds of the festival, according to how many club members attend. These proceeds are one of our largest sources of revenue each year and help finance club activities throughout the year.

Registration for the Spring Festival is open

and an Early Bird Discount is available until March 15. There are currently nine MHBS members registered.

Don't miss this fun and educational bonsai weekend! Check out the agenda and [register soon on the MABS website](#).



Our own Dave Hodgetts assisting Will Baddeley on stage during Will's demonstration last year.

The Trophy Bonsai Show and the Luis Vallejo Collection

A contingent of MHBS club members recently returned from a trip to Europe which included attending The Trophy Bonsai Show, the largest bonsai show in Europe, and a tour of the bonsai collection of Luis Vallejo. The trip was organized by Frank Mihalic (who will conduct two workshops here in May) and included stops in Brugge and Genk in Belgium as well as Venice and Madrid.

Travelers included David and Noel Payton, Dave and Lori Hodgetts, Myron Muth and Tari Lee Sykes, Dede and Russ Bennett, Nancy Castillo, and past member Inge Zimmerman. We also met up at the show with Rob Gordon and Diana Markham, who were also touring Europe.

We hope you enjoy these pictures from The Trophy and from Luis Vallejo's collection.



The Luis Vallejo Collection, Madrid



New Members

The Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society and its members would like to welcome the newest members of our club. We all look forward to seeing you at club meetings, getting to know you, and enjoying the art of bonsai together!

- The Christopher Claps household
- Adriano Manocchia
- Dave & Jeff Goscinski
- John Kearney

Bonsai Calendar by Dave Hodgetts

March Indoors

On sunny days, the temperature in the greenhouse can get quite high so vent excess heat as needed. Outdoor nighttime temperatures below freezing are still common—monitor the greenhouse and maintain a minimum of 40°F.

The repotting of temperate species is complete and heavily root-pruned trees should receive 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 should also receive superphosphate. 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, pesticide and fungicides are applied as needed, 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 inclement 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?

Volunteers Needed

To succeed and grow, our club relies on the active participation of members in many volunteer capacities. We believe all our members possess skills and capabilities that could be put to good use running the many facets of our club. We are currently seeking the following volunteers:

- ✦ Help plan our 2024 Club Show this fall. Also, if you have contacts and/or ideas for a potential location for the club show, we'd love to hear about them.

If you can help, please contact [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 at 12:00 noon, January through October (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	billpapura@yahoo.com	2025
Vice President	Dave Hodgetts	518-380-4508	djhodgetts@aol.com	2024
Secretary	Vera Rabovsky		Vera.rabovsky@gmail.com	2025
Treasurer	Lori Hodgetts 1793 Tarrytown Rd Feura Bush NY 12067	518-369-7243	LHodgetts46@gmail.com	2026
Activities Director	Jon Stewart	518-879-9789	stewarjm192@gmail.com	2024
Communications Director	Nancy Castillo	518-321-6913	twocat106@gmail.com	2025
Webmaster & Outreach Director	Guy Pastena	518-227-0722	MHBS.outreach@gmail.com	2026
Immediate Past President	Tom Kiszkiel	845 687-9115	kiszclove00@aol.com	
MABS Directors representing MHBS	Bill Papura and Dave Hodgetts			8