

# SPRING 2009 STUDENT NEWSLETTER



## **Bonsai Inspiration, Instruction, Plants & Supplies**

### **Spring is coming!**

Come study and create your own classical bonsai masterpieces with the assistance of Wm. N. Valavanis. Everything you need for your bonsai creation, maintenance and appreciation is here.

Many new plants from around the world have arrived including: Japanese maple, Buttercup Winterhazel, Magnolia Anne, Amethyst Falls Wisteria, Dawn Redwood, Deciduous Holly, Japanese Hornbeam, Dwarf Crape Myrtle, Chinese Fringe Tree and several cultivars of Flowering Crabapple.

Established bonsai from Japan, Korea and the United States are also available if you want to add to your bonsai collection or to begin training more advanced material.

A wide selection of containers, tools, books and accessories are available to enhance your bonsai experience. Come see and select from our new and interesting plants which have shapes suitable for creating beautiful bonsai. You will enjoy and remember your visit to the International Bonsai Arboretum.

## **INTERNATIONAL BONSAI ARBORETUM**

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*Open By Appointment Only*

## **Open Bonsai Workshops**

**\$35 PER SESSION**

The 2009 Open Bonsai Workshops will be held on Friday and Saturday afternoons and are limited to students who have taken or are currently taking one of my Introductory Bonsai Courses. Here you will receive individual instruction on how to create bonsai with dynamic classical design or how to improve your established specimens. Bring your bonsai in for their "annual check-up".

Out-of-town students who have had bonsai experience are also invited to attend these valuable bonsai workshops. Each workshop is limited to provide you with the experience of my 45 plus years of intensive bonsai study.

During the Open Bonsai Workshops students are encouraged to bring their developing trees for critique, training or transplanting. A wide selection of plant material, containers and supplies are also available. A 20% discount is offered on nursery stock purchases during the Open Workshops.

Early spring is the best time to create and transplant bonsai in our area. Remember to work on your bonsai *before* they leaf out, usually when it is still cold outside. Please bring your own soil or purchase it during the workshops.

Students also learn from watching others working on their bonsai during these workshops. Since there is no formal program, a full three hours can be spent refining your bonsai or to create new bonsai.

Registrations will be accepted by phone, please register early. If you must cancel, please let me know at least one week prior to your scheduled workshop.

### **FRIDAY SESSIONS**

1:00 – 4:00 PM

March 20

April 3

April 24

March 27

April 10

May 1

### **SATURDAY SESSIONS**

1:00 – 4:00 PM

March 21

April 4

April 18

March 28

April 11

April 25

May 2

### **ALL DAY SATURDAY SESSIONS**

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM & 1:00 – 4:00 PM

April 4

April 25

April 11

May 2

**\$65 PER SESSION**

## Intermediate Bonsai Seminars

These Seminars are designed for students who want to take a comprehensive class on a specific topic. These classes are only offered in spring and begin with a lecture/demonstration on the scheduled topic followed by a workshop where students will be assisted in creating their own bonsai. Students currently enrolled in the Introductory Bonsai Course and out-of-town students are welcome to register for these classes.

**Maple Bonsai- March 21 - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**\$175 Includes all material**

A slide program on the beauty and diversity of maple bonsai will be first presented. Seven to ten year old Trident maples will be used for this special workshop. The roots are excellent on these container grown trees. Registration fee includes the Trident Maple and instruction. Please bring your own tools, wire, container and soil.



### All Day Bonsai Workshops

**\$65 ALL DAY**

April 4, April 11, April 25, May 2  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM & 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Having trouble scheduling time to work and enjoy your collection? Save time and traveling expenses by devoting an entire day to your hobby. Here is your opportunity to devote all day to a large specimen or continue your bonsai creating, shaping and repotting during four special All Day Open Workshops. Larger size bonsai as well as smaller specimens may often take long periods of time to refine or reshape which typically is not available during afternoon workshops. Start *and* finish your project all in one day.

Complete the fine wiring you have wanted to do or prepare your trees for the show. This is an excellent opportunity for out of town students! Register for both morning and afternoon sessions and make a fun and complete day. Bring your lunch or order pizza and break bread with friends as you discuss your bonsai.

**Forest Bonsai- March 28 - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**\$90 Includes all material**

Learn the theory and technique of creating your own forest. A slide program and demonstration will begin the comprehensive seminar. Registration fee includes Korean Hornbeam or Japanese Snowbell seedlings, plastic training container, soil and instruction. Please bring your own tools, wire and *necessary* moss groundcover.



### New Items & News!

#### **Bare-Root Seedlings Still Available-**

Perfect for forests and growing-on to larger size. Each bundle has been graded to provide varying trunk diameters and heights. Many rare and beautiful specimens with small twigs. Call for our complete Bare-Root Seedling Catalog.

5 Korean Hornbeam	\$30	5 Amethyst Falls Wisteria	\$35
5 Japanese Hornbeam	\$30	3 Deciduous Holly	\$25
5 Dwarf Stewartia	\$45	10 Trident Maple	\$30

#### **Bonsai Soil Now Available-**

A professional bonsai soil mix is now available in very limited quantities as are Japanese imported Akadama and Kanuma soils.

#### **Nursery Stock Discount-**

In the past, many students have waited until the Open House Sale to purchase plant material. Unfortunately, at that time spring is over and so are classes. Open Workshop participants will be given a 20% discount on all nursery stock purchased during the Open Workshops.

#### **Tool Discount-**

A 20% discount will be offered on tool sales during all classes and workshops to participants.

#### **Get Your Bonsai Tools Sharpened-**

Sharp tools are necessary for making the correct pruning cuts for bonsai. Japanese garden designer, Dennis Burns, is now repairing and sharpening bonsai tools. Drop them off at class for expert repair and sharpening.



## INTRODUCTORY BONSAI COURSE

\$85 REGISTRATION

Two sections of my popular Introductory Bonsai Course will be offered this spring on Monday or Wednesday evenings. Many students repeat this course as a "refresher" since new information is always presented. Classes meet from 7:00 - 10:00 PM. Phone for a reservation form, or if you would like one for a friend. Register early, limited space.

	Mondays	Wednesdays	Plants
I	March 23	March 25	Larch/Juniper
II	March 30	April 1	Japanese Maple
III	April 6	April 8	Azalea
IV	April 20	April 22	Dwarf Juniper
V	April 27	April 29	Shohin Bonsai

## PINE BONSAI SEMINAR

SATURDAY JUNE 6  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

\$250 REGISTRATION



Attend an educational seminar on Pine bonsai. This special seminar will start with a slide program explaining the diversity and beauty of Pine bonsai. Different styles will be illustrated as well the training techniques used for creating distinctive Pine bonsai of several different species.

A relaxing workshop will follow where each participant will prune, wire and shape special Japanese black pines which were originally grown in seven gallon containers and trained for bonsai from the beginning. The broomstick-size trunks have movement and branches in the right location for establishing great shape. These specimens have been potted in imported Korean Mica pots for establishing a vigorous and healthy root system with mycorrhizae, an extra added benefit for Pines.

The registration fee for this seminar includes instruction, potted Japanese black pine specimen. Bring your own tools and wire or purchase them at the seminar. Register early for this very special Pine Bonsai Seminar which is limited in size.



## 2009 BONSAI SYMPOSIUM

September 10-13, 2009

Nobuichi Urushibata ● Peter Warren ● Julian Adams  
Harvey Carapella ● Sean Smith ● Suthin Sukolosovisit  
Erik Wigert ● Jack Wikle ● Wm. N. Valavanis

### 12 Outstanding Workshops:

Japanese Red Pine ● Japanese Five-needle Pine  
Hong Kong Orchid Tree ● Japanese Black Pine  
Princess persimmon ● Shimpaku Juniper And more...

### NORTH AMERICA'S LARGEST SHOHIN BONSAI EXHIBIT

Love shohin bonsai? Want to develop your skills quickly? Learn more and make more bonsai friends in one weekend than you thought possible! Registration Includes Lecture/ Demos, Exhibits, Luncheon, Banquet & Bonsai Auction

ASK FOR REGISTRATION FORMS



## U.S. NATIONAL BONSAI EXHIBITION COMMEMORATIVE ALBUM

\$65

Last October the successful First U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition was held in Rochester, NY. Some of the finest bonsai from 27 states, Canada and Puerto Rico were distinctively displayed side by side showing the diversity of artistic interpretations. Over 1,100 people enjoyed seeing the beauty and diversity of 194 bonsai. Every specimen in the exhibition was professionally photographed for a Commemorative Exhibition Album which was compiled a few months ago and is now being printed. This limited edition, 192 page full color book contains all the displayed bonsai as well as candid photos from the exhibition.

Order your Commemorative Exhibition Album now so you will not be disappointed when they sell out. You might even want to get several of the artists who displayed their bonsai to autograph the album to make it extra special!

## GardenScape 2009

GREATER ROCHESTERS FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

March 12-15

Start your spring season with a visit to GardenScape 2009 which will be held at the Dome Arena in Rochester, NY. I will be displaying a large bonsai garden. The Bonsai Society of Upstate New York will also be exhibiting fine-quality bonsai.

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### 37th ANNIVERSARY UPSTATE NEW YORK BONSAI EXHIBITION

May 16-17

The Bonsai Society of Upstate New York is sponsoring its Annual Exhibition at Monroe Community Hospital on the corner of E. Henrietta & Westfall Roads from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Plan to participate. Learn from the free lecture demonstrations by bonsai artist Sean Smith. A sales area with vendors from across the Northeast will have material for sale.

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### 2009 INTERNATIONAL BONSAI SPRING OPEN HOUSE

May 16-17

Double your pleasure during the exhibition weekend and visit our bonsai studio, greenhouses and garden during our open house from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. A 20% discount will be offered on purchases. We look forward to greeting you.

Dear Friends,

February 14, 2009

Think Spring! I'm more than ready for spring and eager to begin a new bonsai training season. As many of you know our home burned down in late January and I'd like to thank all our friends from around the world for their thoughts, prayers, encouraging notes and gifts. They are all appreciated very much. Due to the construction of our new home and office trailer in the driveway, parking will be tight this spring. Please try to park in the driveway and if space is not available please be sure to park off the road. Sign up early for classes since they are limited in size and number. Also be sure to cancel early if you cannot attend so others can take your place.

The summer workshops have not yet been scheduled because of the construction, but please let me know if you are interested.

Over 5,000 seedlings have arrived and although many have been shipped across the country, we still have an excellent selection.

New plant material, tools, supplies and containers are arriving for your inspection and bonsai projects.

Please send me your e-mail address so you will receive future educational announcements.

I look forward to seeing you this spring. We are still prepared to serve all your educational bonsai needs. Good luck with your bonsai!

*Bill*



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