



BONSAI SOCIETY OF GREATER HARTFORD

Volume 2008 Issue 11

December 2008 Newsletter

All regular meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month from 6:30PM -9:30PM.

Annual Holiday Party Monday December 20

This year we are going to try something different for our annual holiday. We have reserved a room at the Butterfly Chinese Restaurant, located at 831 Farmington Ave in West Hartford, CT. The date will be December 15 at 6:00pm, meal will be served at 6:15pm. The menu will be soup, appetizer and a selection of eight different entrees all served family style.

Anyone wishing to go will need to **reserve a spot and pre-pay**. For more info contact Geof at gdholmes86@msn.com or 413-229-8874 to reserve a spot.

We will also have our annual fund raising auction. Anyone bringing a potted plant is requested to bring it in a plastic bag as this is a public restaurant

This and That

At last months meeting for those that missed it Geof gave a great presentation on Bonsai vs. trees in the wild. It was very interesting to see the collection of pictures from the bonsai trees to the trees actually growing in the wild. There were some cool tropical that Geof had taken on his trips to the Keys and David Cauldle has some real nice pictures from the Rockies

Our next big project is the Ct Flower Show at the end of February. Anyone wishing to get involved is asked to get in contact with Geof or Diana. The January program might be getting some landscapes together. The theme for this years show is "America the Beautiful" and Geof is gathering ideas to go along with this theme.

This is also a good time of the year to look for some real good sales for some bonsai material at discount prices

At the annual holiday party we will be holding the elections fro next year. We are still looking for someone that would be interested in being the Secretary. The main duty of this office is to attend the Board of Directors meetings and take the notes.

2008 Schedule

- Nov 4 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Nov 17 — Club Meeting Program TBD
- Dec 2 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Dec 15 — Annual Holiday Party @ Butterfly Chinese Restaurant, 931 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Ct

2009 Schedule

- Jan 6 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Jan 19 — Regular Meeting 6:30pm Program TBD
- Feb 3 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- Feb 16 — Regular Meeting 6:30pm Program TBD
- Feb 19th—22nd Connecticut Flower Show
- March 3 — Board Meeting 7:00PM Location TBD
- March 16 — Regular Meeting 6:30pm Program TBD
- April 17th --19th Mid- Atlantic Bonsai Exhibition
- June 11-14 — American Bonsai Learning Seminars Boise, Idaho

Snacks & Refreshments		
December 15, 2008	Annual Holiday Party	
Jan 2009	Linn Ward	Dave B.
February 2009	Yulia	Jose Warden
March 2009	Con C	Jose Amat

Meeting Cancellation Notices

In case of inclement weather check WFSB, Channel 3 for cancellation of a regular schedule meeting. Dianna will also send out e-mail to all those on GHBS e-mail list.

Ramblings from Todd

Merry December everyone!

Tis' the season and I'm already broke, still not finished with shopping and not wrapped. Bad Todd! I'm usually more organized than this. For years when I had the Christmas Tree Farm, all my gifts were purchased and wrapped before Thanksgiving so December was free for selling trees every weekend. Things have changed, and this year I'm back selling trees at my brother's place in Woodstock Valley, so now I'm truly behind the eight ball. Regardless, somehow, it will all get done.

Completely unrelated to Bonsai, I wanted to share a tip I recently learned. I was getting less than hot showers each morning and went about insulating all my hot water pipes. A hundred bucks and a sore back later, that helped but was not the complete answer. Then I read a tip for keeping my hot water heater running more efficiently and to add longevity to the unit. Regardless of what fuel fires your water tank, it is still constantly refilling with water. That water, whether city or well, has fine sediments and they can build up in the bottom of the tank. This layer insulates the water from the burners and reduces your heater's efficiency. Simply open up a tap in your kitchen or bathroom sink and then empty a bucket full of water out of the bottom drain on your heater. This will drain off the sediment and give you cheaper, hotter water.

Now turn your thermostat on the heater down to about 115 degrees and you just saved more money! 115 will feel like heaven each morning! Getting these sediments out, which can be corrosive, adds to the longevity of the tank. The burners working less hard adds to burner longevity. So simple and so effective. The article recommended once a month, but I'll bet once a quarter or even twice a year would do it. FYI. It works!

It's a big bad recession folks! The government has only recently admitted what we've known for a while now. It's going to be a long, cold, expensive Winter, so warm your body with hotter, cheaper water and warm your soul by coming out and partying with your friends! The more the merrier! An old adage, but you know this to be true.

If Lily and I don't see you at the party, have a safe and healthy Holiday and a Happy New Year! T

