

# Billboard

Newsletter of The Bonsai Society of Upstate New York



## Paradise Found

the garden of Jim Ecker

We are fortunate to have this opportunity to visit Jim Ecker's one-acre garden paradise featuring hundreds of Hostas, Japanese Primroses, Grasses, Lilies, magnificent Trees, Giant Solomon's Seal, Astilbies, Hollies, hardy Ferns, Japanese Maples and Conifers. The gardening style tends to be a free-form "cottage garden" that you will find enjoyable to meander as well as inspiring.

As bonsai enthusiasts we are familiar with the miniature hosta varieties used as accessory plants, now come to see the big ones.

You will be accompanied on your tour by the sound of a trickling waterfall, with a pond built into a rock formation and patio. *Paradise Found* is a very natural peaceful garden with container plants, garden ornaments, pottery, annuals, frogs, fish and sitting areas. Twenty five years in the making and always changing. Hostas will be available for purchase.



### NEXT MEETING

**July 27, 2010 - 7:00 PM**

At the home and gardens of  
**Frank Mule & Jim Ecker**  
25 Sutter's Run,  
Rochester NY 14624

This Billboard brought to you by:

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## 2010 Programs

- **July 27:** Hosta Garden Tour
- **July 31-Aug 1:** Road trip to US National Arboretum in Washington, DC
- **August 24:** Open Workshop
- **September 13:** Ryan Neil Demonstration (Monday), Oregon

## June Highlights

*Tom Friday*

Bonsai master **Kunio Kobayashi** from Japan presented a very educational and entertaining demonstration at our June meeting. During the presentation, viewed by over 100 members, guests, and foreign visitors, he designed, pruned and wired two great trees. The first was a **Shimpaku juniper** (cascade style) and the second was an **American larch** (formal upright style). He explained and answered questions as he worked through his former apprentice **Peter Warren** from England. Peter studied with him for over four years in Japan. Both trees were completely finished in a couple of hours. The American larch was raffled off and won by Theresa Imburgia. The future masterpiece bonsai, Shimpaku juniper, was auctioned off and went to Ron Maggio. We look forward to seeing both trees in one of our future exhibitions. The Society appreciates everyone who purchased tickets for the raffle and took part in the auction.

Thank you **Mr. Kobayashi** for your unique, interesting, and very informative presentation.



### Bonsai Road Trip

The bus is currently full, 31 passengers. We have a waiting list in case of unexpected cancellations. Please email to: [secretary@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org](mailto:secretary@bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org) if you are interested in adding your name to the wait list. Any opening will be offered to Bonsai Society members first. This promises to be another **great Bonsai adventure!**



# A Thank You! and a report of the 2nd US National Bonsai Exhibition 2010

Over 225 beautiful bonsai masterpieces were gathered at the Monroe Community Hospital Auditorium for display at the **2010 2<sup>nd</sup> US National Bonsai Exhibition** on June 12-13, 2010. There were 95 exhibitors from 27 states who brought their trees, some from as far as Seattle, WA, San Francisco, CA and San Juan, PR. Members of our society had the opportunity to see world class bonsai, right in their own home town, watch three dynamic demonstrations by world famous artists and visit a very large and diversified sales area with vendors from across the United States. Friends from around the world were made during the weekend, as well as new bonsai were added to our member's collections which will hopefully be displayed in our future spring exhibitions.

Three of our members won awards: **Harvey Carapella, Will Hebert, and Marc Arpag**. Photos of these trees will be included in the August issue of Billboard.

Other Bonsai Society of Upstate New York members who had bonsai selected for the National Bonsai Exhibition include: **Doug McDade, Jon Robbins, Will & Millette Hebert, Ron Maggio, Rick Marriott, Jerome Cushman, Karen Proctor, Bob Pfromm, Dave Steele, Bob Blankfield, and Joe Noga**. I'm proud of all of our members who shared their bonsai on display. I am especially proud of Harvey, Will and Marc who were selected by the three foreign bonsai judges to receive their distinguished awards for their excellent bonsai.

**Marc's Eastern White Cedar** was also selected at our spring exhibition last year as the Member's Choice Award and was used as this year's logo bonsai for the posters.

Personally, I'd like to thank **The Bonsai Society of Upstate New York** for their financial support as a Supporting Organization and visiting the National Bonsai Exhibition. Many of our society members were on the committee and helped to set up the exhibition, answer questions and even take down the displays.

A hearty thank you to all members for your support for the American bonsai community and attendance at the National Bonsai Exhibition. I look forward to bringing another 200 world class bonsai to Rochester in June 2012.

*Bill Valavanis*



**Maggie Brooks**, Monroe County Manager; **Rob Kempinski**, Executive Vice-President of Bonsai Clubs International (BCI); **Pauline Muth**, Past President of American Bonsai Society (ABS); **Farrand Bloch**, Holland; **Kunio Kobayashi**, Japan; **Solita Rosade**, Past President; World Bonsai Friendship Federation (WBBF); **Marco Invernizzi**, Italy; **Ron Maggio**, Publicity chair; **William N. Valavanis**, Producer; **Harvey Carapella**, President Bonsai Society of Upstate New York.

## Our Website is Great !

Our website has several big changes since Irma Abu-Jumah took charge as a webmaster. Anyone who has visited the site recently will attest that the changes are big but also very good.

She says: "I am very happy with the web page results and this challenge helps me keep improving my skills. This is my second volunteer website work; I am also webmaster of the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood Association [www.UMHN.com](http://www.UMHN.com). Constant contact with several neighborhoods associations and promoting the Bonsai Club events among them is a plus in this fun work."

- Starting with the name, the acquisition of [www.bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org](http://www.bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org) included the use of commercial server space to allow us to have unlimited pages, photos, and data. This means we have the liberty to add as many pictures and information needed without worrying about the speed of site when seen in the internet.



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*Our Website is Great !...*

- Our new website address has been shared with most of the American and International Bonsai Societies; it is now part of the link page of several sites around the world and we continue working on that.
- Another big change is the re-design of the **page structure** while keeping the same knowing look. We have a different page organization scheme that allows visitors to find information faster and easier.
- The **Links** page has been increased considerably and it keep growing as we add more and more interesting places to visit: from bonsai societies to artist pages and vendors from all over the world. As a result, our website is also part of the link page of several associations around the globe.
- Our **Archive** now allows our visitors to read Billboard issues from 2004 to date.
- A great new addition is the **Photo Gallery** which offers big and clear pictures of our events and trees.
- In process is our **Library Online**. A complete illustrated list of all books we offer in our Club Library. Members will soon be able to read the book synopsis and request books or videos online. Great news for the back of Nick Montanaro our librarian.
- Last but not least is our **Contact Page**, it includes the information and e-mail address needed to contact the right person for your question.



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