



Saturday July 13, 1pm  
SUNY Erie Community College North Campus  
6205 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221  
STEM Building

## President's Corner

Greetings members,

First off I would like to say I am appreciative of all who expressed get well wishes. I am slowly feeling better. Thank you to everyone who helped set up and take down and spent time at the show. Especially those who displayed trees. This was probably the best attendance we have had to date with 2025 should be better. Because every year the trees of members have keep getting better.



Twenty- Twenty- four had not been very kind to the Bonsai community in New York State. In May, we lost our very own Hank Miller. And the Rochester Club in July

lost Ron Maggio. Hank was not only a great stylist and wealth of information. He was a great friend. One of the kindest and calm person I knew. For anyone who had the opportunity to have Hank help them with a tree you know exactly what I am talking about. And what type of person he was.

While many people are familiar with Ron in coming to Buffalo to do a Suiseki demonstration. Ron was very knowledgeable and eager to help people understand suiseki and get them involved. To say Ron was a good guy sounds a little shallow. When



you got to talk to Ron you quickly found out he was a funny and genuelly likeable individual. While many knew Ron for Suiseki. Ron was also a Bonsai artist. Not to mention the biggest Buffalo Bills Fan I know.

I know it is still early as summer goes. And we have already had one wicked heat blast. We are probably due for at least one more before the end of summer. While tropical trees tend to fair trees in the high heat the northern hemisphere trees do not.

While a tree you may have in your Bonsai collection is no different than the same species that is growing in your landscaping or your neighbors. There are some differences. Your Bonsai tree does not have the same thickness in bark or in its leaves as the one in the landscaping. These differences are why when it gets very hot the Bonsai tree should signs of heat stress and for the most part those in landscaping do not. There is nothing wrong with pulling your trees back or erecting shade cloth, a canopy, to protect the trees from the high heat when they are in direct sunlight. Or move them out of direct sunlight is another option. The little bit of time that it would take to do one of these things. Is far less time than what would take the tree to recover from the heat damage?

This year there seems to be a lot on the internet on how to get rid of insects quickly and naturally. Many of these natural ways involve creating a spray with water that has things in it like cayenne pepper, garlic and other ingredients that tend to create a burning sensation when ingested. I myself have never tried any of these but it does seem reasonable that they would work. Before you start searching recipes and mixing up, one of these natural insecticides keep in mind the majority of

people does this are doing it on normal size material and not Bonsai. Remember how we just got done talking about thickness of what is in your Bosai collection s compared to your landscape. Natural insecticides are a reminder as to why. If you're going to use some of these insecticides you read about on the internet. You may want to consider reducing the quantity of ingredients you are using to create a gallon of spray. And working your way back up to what the author is recommending as full strength. Just because something is natural does not mean it will not have a negative effect on things.

Our July meeting, we have Terry Monroe from the Pittsburg Club coming to do a demonstration of deciduous material. I hope you can attend his demo. Terry is both knowledgeable and funny.

Thanks to Jerry, Christine, Henry, Joanne, Annette, Patrick, Duncan, Patricia and Sandy for helping out at the Botans Art in the Garden.

Next month there is no meeting but we have our picnic. Save the date August 10<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at Don Matta home. Please sign up at the meeting so we know how many members and family are coming and what side dish you plan on making.

Scott

## Events & Information:

### *Tree of the Month*



Serissa, Jerry Rucker, N. Tonawanda

## **2024 BBS Monthly Agenda:**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> Botanical Gardens 5-8pm community night**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Erie County Fair demo 12<sup>th</sup> 4pm display during the fair**

**August 10, Club Picnic & Annual Auction**

**September 14, Penjing**

**September 21<sup>st</sup> Reinstein Woods Fall Festival**

**October 12, Mark Arpag**

**November 3 Japanese Culture Day**

**November 9, Sean Smith Tanuki**

**December 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party**

## **2024 Board Members**

Scott Russo- President

Paul Pearson- Treasurer

Bill Barker- Board

Henry Jarzab

Sandy McDougal- Board

Jerry Rucker- Board

Christine Wilkolaski - Board

716-662-9429 membership