

NIPPON VISITOR, John Hinds, PEA Director, pauses to admire a massive Sargent's Juniper (Juniperus chinensis sargentii) in the grounds of Kofu-en, the Yoehimura Bonsai Nursery in Tokyo. John took in several bonsai nurseries and shops during his 10-day trip in February. (Photo courtesy John Hinds)

## Hreha New PBA Prexy

The newly elected PBA Board of Directors (see page 3) met at 11:30 a.m. April 27 in initial session. Primary order of business was selection of 1974-75 PBA Officers.

John Hreha was selected as President. John Hinds (BGB) became First Vice-President, Richard Meszler (BBC) Educational VP, and Joyce Pelletier (ABC) Secretary. Molly Hersh remains Treasurer.

(Full report in Special Show Issue next month - Ed.)



BONSAI ON COLUMBIA MALL. PBA Founding Member Bill Craig mans the exhibit which preceded the April 9 meeting of Columbia residents interested in bonsai. They plan a May meeting to discuss possibility of forming a new club. (Photo by Oliver)

## Columbia Group Meets

Fifteen persons with a desire to learn more about bonsai gathered in Columbia, Md. on April 9. PBAers Bill Craig, Jim Oliver, and Dan Turner were instrumental in setting the session up.

The evening's program consisted of a showing of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden film "Bonsai" and a discussion on forming a bonsai club. Although no final decision was reached, it was agreed to meet again on May 7 at a site to be announced. The question of a formal club and a name will be taken up at that time.

Also in the group's future plans are a demonstration by PBA Founding Member Dottie Warren and weekend workshops.



Potomac Bonsai Association

c/o National Arboretum 24th & R Streets, NE Washington, D.C. 20018

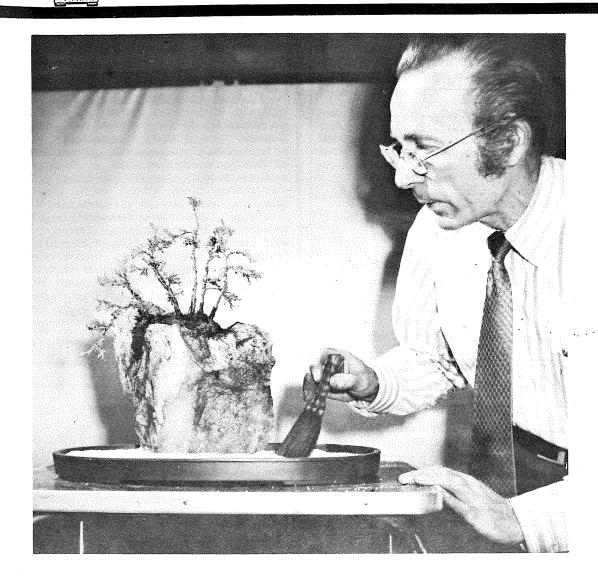
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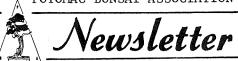


Volume 4 Number 5

May 1974



POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION



Published solely in the interests of the POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION, a nonprofit organization, and its affiliate member clubs and societies, under the authority of its Board of Directors.

#### POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION

c/o National Arboretum 24th & R Streets, NE Washington, D.C. 20018

#### Officers for 1974-75

John Hreha......President
John Hinds......First Vice-President
Richard Meszler.....Ed. Vice President
Joyce Pelletier.....Secretary
Molly Hersh......Treasurer

Member, American Bonsai Society Member, Bonsai Clubs International

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JAMES R. NEWTON, Editor (703) 256-3623

CLIFTON POTTBERG, Education Editor (301) 366-8844

## Potomac Bonsai Association

ANNAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB
BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB
BROOKSIDE GARDENS BONSAI
NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY

#### the cover

HONORARY PBA MEMBER E. Felton Jones does a final sweeping of the rock planting of Blaauw Junipers (Juniperus chinensis blauuwi) at PBA meeting April 12. His styling magic followed Annual Association Business Meeting. (Photo by Newton)

#### president's message

## Thanks, PBA!

First of all, I wish to thank the Board of Directors for giving me the opportungity to serve as President of PBA for the coming year. I pledge to work closely with the other newly elected officers toward one goal. That is to further the aims and desires of all our affiliated clubs.

I also wish to thank those who were instrumental in working with me to form the new Brookside Gardens Bonsai, namely, Molly Hersh, Milt Kidd, and the officers and Directors - Anne Edwards, John Hinds, Mary Ishino, and Keith Kaneshiro.

To all the clubs I want to say I am at your disposal for any kind of help whatsoever. Very shortly I hope to be able to meet with Educational Vice-Presidents of PBA and each individual club to coordinate monthly program schedules, exchange ideas, and expand on the educational opportunities of our members.

If your club has some ideas with regard to club or PBA activities, I hope you will communicate them to me for consideration. Only by knowing how you feel can PBA react to your needs and desires. Drop me a line or give me a call.

JOHN HREHA President

Got ideas, hints, suggestions about our activities? Don't keep them to yourself. Call the Newsletter editor!

#### ADVERTIZING RATES -

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reduction)	\$ 1.75
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For further information, write Newsletter editorial office, address shown on page 2, or call Editor, 703-256-3623

## Annual Meeting Hot; Felton Superb

Felton Jones' five-tree rock planting (see cover) was the climax of a tumultuous PBA Annual Meeting held at Brookside Nature Center on April 12. Trees (Juniperus chinensis sargentii Shimpaku) and angular granite rock were provided by Croton Hill Farms.

Discussing the types of rock planting styles, Felton made frequent use of the blackboard to illustrate his points as the planting progressed. Basic wiring and pruning readied the three-year-old plants for transformation from mere pot plants to a charming forest grove atop a jutting promontory in the mountains.

However, Felton was quick to point out that by no stretch of the imagination can the trees be called bonsai yet. That will take several years and much training. In the meantime, we have a planting that can give great enjoyment and teach a great deal.

Business-wise, the meeting resolved, after lengthy and occasionally heated debate, that additional changes are needed to the PBA constitution and by-laws. Proposed changes were taken individually; all but two passed. Those rejected by the membership dealt with one class of membership and affiliate prorata dues to PBA. A BGB-proposed amendment setting a

#### PBA-

#### Potomac Bonsai Association

Now that Brookside Gardens Bonsai is established as a separate operating group PBA will hold only business meetings as called by the President or as authorized by the PBA Constitution.

May 31	Sponsors of Bonsai Demonstra-
0 5	tion by Chase Rosade, New Hope.
	Pa.; Brookside Nature Center,
	7:30 p.m.

Jun 2

Sponsors of Bonsai Workshop conducted by Chase Rosade, National Arboretum, 10 a.m.; cost \$12.50 per student, furnish own tree and materials; make reservations with Molly Hersh, 301-589-3725, or Dave Flipse, 703-281-4524

prorata share of \$5 per member per year was accepted.

A major change accepted was to increase the number and selection method of PBA Directors. As passed, each affiliate club will elect (or appoint) a Regional Director from its membership. These, plus four At-Large Directors, elected at the Annual PBA Business Meeting will constitute the full Board of Directors of the Association. The four At-Large Directors elected April 12 are:

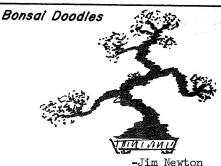
Milton Kidd, BGB	
John Hinds, BGB	year
Molly Hersh, BGB	****
David Flipse, NOVABONSOC 2	years

Each club has 60 days from the meeting date to select its Regional Director.

PBA TREASURER'S REPORT	April 12, 197
BALANCE ON HAND (Feb. 15)	\$468.23
Receipts	
Dues	\$ 10.00
Newsletter ads	18.90
NOVABONSOC prorate	58.00
BBG Bonsai School	420.00
Expenditures	
Newsletter expenses	\$ 54.12
BCI (gift subscription)	4.50
Film rental (BBG)	15.00
Snyder Printing	100.20
Croton Hill Farms (school)	405.00
BALANCE ON HAND (Apr. 12)	\$306.31

Detailed accounting of PBA receipts and expenditures may be obtained from the Treasurer.

Molly Hersh



### PRA Auction Set June 9

PBA will conduct an auction, open to the public and PBA members, at Capper's Nursery on Sunday, June 9. Proceeds realized will go to support publication of the PBA Newsletter. Starting time will be 12:3- p.m.

Members are urged to donate bonsai and bonsai materials for sale, or to submit such items on consignment. Twenty percent of the sale price will be charged for consignment sales. Minimum bids may be set on consignment materials

PBA Secretary John Hinds is providing a large sampling of bonsai pots and chrysanthemum stones obtained from Don Sanborn of the Sanborn Shopping Service in Tokyo. John made this consignment arrangement during his recent trip to Japan. Minimum bid on all items will be the certified wholesale price of the more than 40 pots and 11 chrysanthemum stones. A number of the pots are handmade, of excellent quality, many with the maker's name incised. Most are small and medium size (because of the weight problem in shipping back), but provide an admirable sampling from several different potteries catering to bonsai needs. Also offered will be two burl wood bonsai rafts.

Additionally, PBA Member Friar Jerry Hovanek's pottery, donated after his program last month, will be auctioned.

PBA affiliate members who wish to participate with donations or consignments should contact their club's pick - up points:

- Joyce Pelletier BBC - Cliff Pottberg BGB - Molly Hersh Columbia - Bill Craig NOVABONSOC - Jim Newton

Volunteers to help handle auction items during the selling period are asked to contact John Hinds, 301-292-2914. tioneer will be Jim Newton.

#### ·Dues Due—

## Bonsai Thieves Caught

Fifty bonsai, none over 18 inches in height. were stolen from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden in February. An alert bonsai dealer in Manhattan's flower district. a member of the Bonsai Society of Greater New York, recognized samples offered for sale to him by two youths.

The dealer, Murray Levine, contacted Frank Okamura, the Garden's resident bonsai expert, and the police. Six plainclothes detectives staked out the Avenue of the Americas shop of Mr. Levine and on February 8 arrested two youths delivering some 47 bonsai for an agreed-upon \$800 cash. Later, two alleged female accomplices were apprehended and 7 more trees were recovered from their apartment.

The plants were returned to the Garden and immediately tended by Mr. Okamura. None had suffered any apparent damage.

The vouths were charged with burglary.

PBA members at her shop

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### **BBC Notes**

PBA NEWSLETTER

The Baltimore Bonsai Club program on mosses, postponed from the originally scheduled March meeting, has been reset for May 18

Dr. Elmer Worthley, plant taxonomist at the University of Maryland and President

BBC-

Baltimore

(R) = Regular meetings, held at Cylburn Park Mansion, Cylburn Park, Baltimore, at 3 p. m.

May 18

(R) Lecture on Mosses by Dr. Elmer Worthley, President of Maryland Horticultural Society: problem tree session; Tree-of-Month: San Jose Juniper

Jun 1

(R) Bonsai Workshop by Chase Rosade; \$12.50, furnish your own tree and materials; make reservations with Cliff Pottberg, 301-472-2664

ABC-

Annapolis

(R) = Regular meetings, held at the Main Library, West St., Annapolis (downtown), the second Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Sites of other meetings specified below.

May 10

(R) To be announced

Bonsai Workshop by Chase Rosade, held in conjunction with BBC meeting; Cylburn Park, 3 p.m.; furnish your own tree and

CHRIS and VERA YIP

materials; \$12.50; make reservations with Cliff Pottberg;

301-472-2664

of the Horticultural Society of Maryland. will discuss various aspects of mosses. including how to distinguish them from their relatives, such as Liverworts. A unique feature of the program will be the Doctor's attempt to identify mosses that members are urged to bring in. Without a microscope, such on-the-spot identification is not always possible, but Dr. Worthlev is confident he can identify many for the audience.

Tree-of-the-Month discussion will be on San Jose Junipers (Juniperus chinensis San Jose) in various stages of development. Members with San Jose bonsai are asked to bring them to this meeting.

At the all-day workshop held April 20 at President Richard Meszler's home, BBC members held their annual meeting, which included the election of four Directors: Richard Meszler, Cliff Pottberg, Michele Hecht, and Katherine Johnson. In other personnel actions, Richard Meszler was selected as the BBC Regional Director to PBA, and John Duke was named to fill the unexpired Director's term of Bill Snyder.

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## tree of the month\_\_\_\_\_ Flowering Quince

by CLIFF POTTBERG

The Flowering Quince (Chaenomeles) is a material often used for bonsai. It is justly favored because among other things it has a long, showy blooming period and is very easy to cultivate.

In fact, Chaenomeles belong on listings of plants that are good for a beginner to use. It roots very readily, so large cuttings thicker than a finger can be made from it; pruned branches need merely be stuck in soil to produce an abundance of started material. It also buds back with great frequency, so new branches or whole branch systems can be created, starting with just the trunk. With any sort of pruning, the branches, buds, and suckers can become so numerous that they must be removed just to maintain the health of the tree. This forces attention, but also speeds the time necessary to create a bonsai.

The readiness of Chaenomeles is such that one can create a good bonsai merely by pruning, with no wiring. It thus becomes a fine piece of material for a relative novice to specialize in (see article "Specialize For Fun," July 1973 Newsletter).

Chaenomeles can also be used in a wide variety of bonsai styles, such as anything from upright to cascade, in landscapes or rock plantings, and as seasonal plantings. About the only styles to be avoided are those which are typical of conifers or other specific trees: broom, split-trunk, or driftwood, for example.

The leaves are small serrated ovals with pointed buds, much in scale for bonsai, and several species and varieties fruit as well as flower. The flowers are bright, showy affairs and not too large, perhaps an inch across. Many flowers appear on the tree for several weeks; the blooming season lasts from late March to early May, depending on variety. There are many colors to choose from: red. scarlet, and crimson through several

pinks, orange, and salmon, to whites and yellows. There even is a delightful variety available called Toyo-nishiki that bears white, pink, and red blossoms, sometimes on the same branch. Other good varieties are: rubra (crimson), nivalis (white), pink lady, cameo (salmon pink). aurea (creamy yellow), and red chief; many others are available as well. Needless to say, a pot must be chosen carefully so that its color will harmonize with the flowers of the tree.

There is some confusion among nurserymen as to nomenclature of the Chaenomeles species, and with so much hybrizization having taken place, it is best (for bonsai purposes) to speak only in terms of variety. All Chaenomeles respond to treatment similarly, and it is pointless not to take advantage of the large amount of varietal cultivation available. Additionally, if you see a flowering Quince listed merely by species name in most nurseries, chances are it is a varietal form anyway. The original species are just as good for bonsai, so it does not matter. The species are: C. lagenaria (a large bush), C. japonica (a small bush), and C. sinensis (a small tree).

Chaenomeles requires full sun, but is not choosy as to soil or other conditions of growth. It even will tolerate much pollution and a heavy clay soil, but will thrive best in a moist well-drained soil that is slightly acid and has plenty of humus to aid the vigorous flowering.

Aphids and scale enjoy Flowering Quince as much as we humans. So do soil pests such as nematodes, which must be guarded against with diligence.

Some literature suggests repotting in (see FLOWERING QUINCE..., page 8)

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## Va. Club Programs June Show, July Workshop

Members of the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society will present a small exhibit of bonsai at the Gulf Branch Nature Center on Military Road in Arlington on Saturday May 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Nature Center is the regular meeting place of the Virginia group, and the exhibit is planned as a means of introducing other Center visitors to the bonsai art. Ruth Lamanna is chairman of the informal showing. Trees will be provided by Ruth, Bob Roland, Jim Newton, and others to be selected. The event will move indoors from the patio in the event that inclement weather intervenes.

The June 2 Chase Rosade Workshop being held at the National Arboretum (see last month's Newsletter) will take the place of the regularly scheduled second Saturday time. Members wishing to make reser-

#### NOVABONSOC-

Northern Virginia

(R) = Regular meetings, held at the Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Rd., Arlington, Va., (Note change of time and day of meetings, which will be on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m.)

Mav 11

(R) Bonsai Exhibit, Gulf Branch Nature Center (see article this issue), 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Jun 2

Bonsai Workshop conducted by Chase Rosade; bring own tree, materials: National Arboretum, 10 a.m.; takes place of regular second Saturday meeting date

vations for this workshop should contact Dave Flipse, 703-281-4524. Cost is set at \$12.50 per student. Observers will be asked to make a small donation to help defray PBA costs.

## Identification Keys

To the uninitiated plant names may seem like gibberish. Actually, they are not, but are descriptive or attributive labels expressed in a code which is easy to follow once you have the key words. Here in this new series we present some of the most useful keys.

#### PLANT PARTS\*

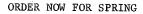
andrus	-	stamen	pes	-		foot
anthus	-	flower	petalus	-		petal
carpus	_	fruit	podus	-	foot,	stalk
caulis			phyllus	-		leaf
florus	-	flower	rhyzus	-		root
folius	_	leaf	sepalus	-		sepal
lobus	-	lobe	spinus	-		spine
squamus - scale						

(NEXT: Keys to color designations.)

\*Portions underlined are letters or syllables carrying the real key meanings (the roots); endings may change, but the root meanings do not.

"...Bonsai are planted in philosophy, shaped by art, grown with love. Without some grasp of the intangible artistic process, the bare technique of making bonsai amounts to nothing."

Claude Chidamian



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Chase Rosade Here May 31

#### BGB

Brookside Gardens Bonsai

(R) = Regular meetings, held at Brookside Nature Center, 1500 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, Md., on the third Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Chase Rosade Bonsai Demonstra-May 31 tion: Brookside Nature Center, 7:30 p.m.: takes place of regular third Friday meeting date

Bonsai Workshop conducted by Jun 2 Chase Rosade; bring own tree, materials; National Arboretum, 10 a.m.; make reservations with Molly Hersh, 301-589-3725

## Work With Rejects

Brookside Gardens Bonsai programs for June and July will include an opportunity for members who had trees rejected for inclusion in the PBA Spring Show to work on the reasons for the rejection.

Trees not selected will be reviewed by other members attending. Changes suggested will be aimed at preparing the tree for entry in next year's exhibition.

When repotting, the bonsai soil mixture should be dry, since wet soil cannot be easily shifted about around the roots, and tends to pack too tightly.

#### 26 Take Course

A series of four bonsai classes, sponsored by Brookside Botanical Gardens and taught by PBA President Cliff Pottberg, was held last month at the Capitol View-Homewood Recreation Center in Kensington, Md. Cliff was assisted by PBA members Dottie Warren, Jim Newton and John Hreha.

An introductory session on April 1 oncluded a showing of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden film, "Bonsai," and a general discussion of bonsai basic philosophy and styles. The April 8 session covered basic pruning, styling, and wiring. On April 15 students styled their first tree. a San Jose Juniper (Juniperus chinensis San Jose), and the following Monday, April 22 potted the tree. This final session also covered soils, fertilizing, and keeping the tree alive.

#### FLOWERING QUINCE...

(Continued from page 6)

the cool part of the fall when these soil pests are less active to protect the tree roots from their ravages, but with care and modern pesticide treatment available, early spring would still seem the best time to repot.

In any case, insect pests are not such a problem that they seriously detract from this plant's huge potential for development into bonsai.

#### Brooklyn Botanic Garden PLANT SALE

May 8 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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May 9

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The Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11225

Openings still exist for the workshops to be conducted June 1 and 2 by Chase Rosade. Following a free Friday evening (May 31) demonstration at Brookside Nature Center. Chase will hold one or two workshops in the Baltimore/Annapolis area on Saturday, June 1. The following day, Sunday, June 2, he will conduct one or two workshops at the National Arboretum for the Washington metropolitan area.

Workshop cost is \$12.50 per person, and each attendee must bring his own tree and materials. These workshops are not designed to develop untrained trees from

scratch, but rather to provide the opportunity for members with started bonsai to receive an expert's help with the details of shaping, styling, and designing which will lead to a more than just good tree.

ABC and BBC members should make reservations with Cliff Pottberg, 301-472-2664 or 366-8844. BGB and NOVABONSOC members should call Molly Hersh, 301-589-3725, or Dave Flipse, 703-281-4524.

Do not fertilize bonsai for at least three weeks after transplanting.

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## Programs Galore In NBC '74

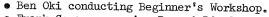


The 1974 National Bonsai Convention is shaping up to be one of outstanding activities. The July 11 through 14 conclave will feature a wide range of programs in support of the theme: CALIFORNIA - WINDOW TO JAPAN. Highlights include:

• John Naka creating a unique yoseue (a group planting), with

the same program on two successive days so no one will miss it.

- Khan Komai demonstrating his skill on Satsuki Azalea.
- Robert Watson lecturing and displaying Suiseki.
- Melba Tucker doing a Juniper Saikei.
- Tours taking attendees to San Gabriel Bonsai Nursery, Komai Bonsai Nursery, and Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery; also, viewing Japanese Garden of Huntington Library and Los Angeles County Arboretum.
- Panel discussion presenting regional views on bonsai problems by John Naka, Keith Scott, Chase Rosade, and Ed Potter.
- Slide program demonstrating every aspect of the California Juniper; also, the private collection of slides of the California Museum of Science and Industry, scene of the annual California Bonsai Society Bonsai Show.
- Dr. David Andrews and Chock Caccese auctioning a host of donated bonsai and associated items.



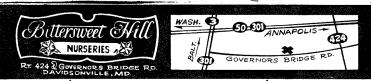
- Frank Goya overseeing Bonsai Display of some 100 trees of the California Society.
- Madam Kansumo Fujima and her Japanese dancers entertaining attendees.
- Shopping and browsing in the Bonsai Bazaar

PBA members wishing to take advantage of group rate air fare to Pasadena should contact their Club President or PBA Director for further details and expression of desire.

Reservation blanks are included in the most recent issues of ABS Journal, Bonsai (BCI's magazine), and Bonsai Bulletin (publication of the Bonsai Society of New York).



"No. Incompatibility with the owner is not sufficient grounds to return a bonsai."



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Have you ever wondered if there are great Bonsai, comparable to those of Japan, in the United States? Well, rest assured that there are many great trees in our country, especially along the west coast where there are a number of growers of Japanese descent. Now we are getting it all together. We will be coming out with a journal about these great Bonsai... the people and the techniques behind these trees.

In July, the National Bonsai Convention will be held in the Los Angeles Area. Materials will be gathered and photographed before and during this Convention to be incorporated into a comprehensive Bonsai journal. The digest will feature more than seventy full-color plates of the best trees in the country. There will be a description of each tree, which will include the botanical classification, how propagated, type of soil mixture, fertilizer, and kind of pot. BONSAI GEMS will have articles on chokkan style and advanced techniques for creation of a forest, as well as tricks of the trade. Other interesting articles -- written by experts -- will cover the art of suiseki, saikei, and the gathering of native trees for Bonsai.

Whether or not you plan to attend the Convention, this digest will be invaluable to all interested in Bonsai, advanced or beginner. To order your copy of this limited edition, please complete the form below and mail with your remittance.

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