

IVY BONSAI, developed by Walter Schmidt include collected *Hedera helix cordata*, left, and *conglomerata*, right, collected 1970. In the center are two *H. h. cordata* Ivies grown from cuttings: an informal upright, upper, and on-rock, lower. (Story page 5) (Photo by Schmidt)

IVY...

(From page 5)

copper tone in freezing temperatures.

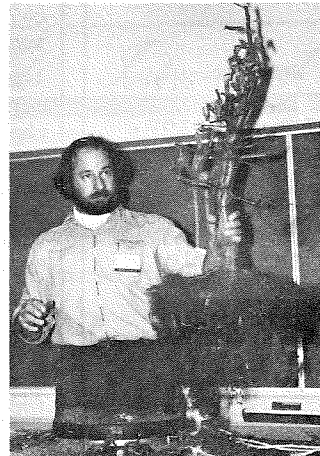
Watch Ivies closely for aphids, scale, and mealy bugs. A monthly application of Malathion will keep them away.

SYMPOSIUM WRAP-UP

Headliners performed amazing feats at the Nov. 8 conclave: Marion Gyllenswan, upper right, produced a rock planting of Pine (*Pinus* sp.); Keith Scott, lower right, worked a Juniper (*procumbens*) cascade; and Chase Rosade transformed a 10-foot American Hornbeam (*Carpinus* sp.) from this this!

All 90+ attendees agreed the first PBA Symposium was a success. Hopes are high that it will become an annual affair, perhaps to include the PBA Annual Meeting.

(Photos by Hinds)



TO:

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Potomac Bonsai Association

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

SEASON'S GREETINGS



LINOLEUM BLOCK BONSAI by 

Volume 5, Number 12

December 1975



PBA Newsletter

Potomac

Bonsai

Association

The Cover

LINOLEUM BLOCK BONSAI by R. Monroe League, Northern Virginia Bonsai Society, was created as Christmas card design, and possibly for personalized book plates. The process is one many may remember from high school art class: sketch tree or trace from photo; transfer to linoleum; carve away what is not wanted; roll with oil-based ink on raised design; press paper and block together. Tools and all materials are readily available at art or hobby supply stores. The resulting print is worth framing.

This design is based on a tree picture in the 1974 BONSAI GEMS book and is a Prostrate Juniper (*Juniperus prostrata*) in the moyogi style, about 20 inches high developed from 5-gallon nursery stock, in training for 12 years, trained by owner Richard S. Harrington.

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POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

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

PETER ABRESCH, President

POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION

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Cleaning Clay Pots

Terracotta pots, often used as bonsai training containers, can become encrusted with dirt, fertilizer, water salts, or algae growths. They can be restored to more sightly condition quite easily.

First, soak the grimy pots in a pail of boiling water for an hour or so.

Second, scrape encrustations off with a putty knife.

Third, finish as needed with a coarse cleaning pad.

Fourth, wash the pots again. Now they will be clean, attractive, and ready for use.

EXERCISE THE LIMB

Too - thin branches can sometimes be helped to thicken by exercise.

Gently push a branch up and down, or move it in a circular motion, for just a few seconds at a time throughout the growing season. Soon the bruising of the branch cells will produce a thickening.

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Don't Bug Me!

HOMEMADE INSECTICIDES

(This is the second in a 5-part series on measures that can be taken to help keep pests away from bonsai growing areas without resorting to dangerous insecticides. The series is based in part on a Johnny Horizon Program Information Sheet (No. 8) published by the Interior Dept. in January 1975 - Ed.)

Common plant oils, foodstuffs, and other household items can be quite effective in treating insect infestations. They can be used as sprays, dusts, bait, or as rinses and baths.

To make a spray from plant oils, chop or grind plant (try the blender - Ed.) and add equal part of water. Strain if necessary. Mix with emulsifiers such as fish oil and liquid soap. As the oil tends to separate out, use the spraying solution as soon as possible.

• A strong SOAP AND WATER solution sprayed on infected foliage will rid the tree of aphids and mites.

• GARLIC OIL spray is effective against some flies, aphids thirps, and other flying insects. Onion and chive solutions also are effective.

• TABLE SALT on slugs is lethal.

• LOCAL WEEDS that are resistant to the infestation at hand often can be made into effective insecticides. Ask a local organic gardner for advice of types of plants to use.

• Shallow saucers of BEER sunk to soil level lure slugs and snails to death.

• CORIANDER and AINSE OIL emulsified can be used to kill aphids and mites.

• HOT PEPPER spray works well on ants, spiders, and caterpillars.

• WOOD ASHES strewn at the base of trees in the ground, or as borders in a ground area, ward off slugs.

• DENATURED ALCOHOL will rid plants of mealy bugs.

(Next: Biological Control)

Notice of PBA Annual Meeting

Place: Information Center
National Arboretum
24th & R Sts, NE
Washington, D.C.

Date: December 7, 1975

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Agenda: Constitution
amendments

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book review

KAMUTI

A New Way in Bonsai, Willi E. Bollmann, Faber & Faber, Ltd., London, 1974, \$ 3.50

Reviewed by JIM NEWTON
Northern Virginia Bonsai Society

Kamuti means "small tree" in Shona, the language of Mashonaland in Rhodesia, Africa. It is a system the author developed to dwarf the foliage and branch formation of any tree without limiting the roots at all, a major principle in the traditional Japanese nanization process.

Traditionally, bonsai dwarfing encourages growth once in a growing cycle. Then new shoots are stopped by pinching and pruning back. The primary shaping technique is wiring. Many experienced growers cut development time by grafting.

Mr. Bollmann's technique is a system of growing miniature trees in a natural way. All training is done while the plant is young. It is grown under perfect and naturally healthy conditions, and built up from bottom to top, step by step, adjusted to the natural habit of growth. Thus, exact but miniature replicas can be produced in three to four years. Shape is tailored to the grower's wishes, and leaves are reduced considerably, in scale with the rest of the tree, not always the case with traditional bonsai methods. Any

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species can be so treated. Moreover, since all pruning is done on green shoots no scars are left. Other advantages of the Kamuti technique are:

- Tree will be established before reaching maturity, an ideal way of attaining dwarf characteristics.
- Dwarfing does not rely on root pruning. Roots are cut only to plant the tree in a small container.
- Trunk, main branches, twigs thicken in relation to each other, harmoniously, as in nature.

Starting with a young seedling in its first year of growth, structure is built progressively up by degrees over four growing seasons, as shown in diagrammatic sketches shown on page 6.

Step-by-step details are well illustrated by both clay models of progressive build-up and photographs of miniatures actually developed by the author. Even the mighty Baobab (*Adansonia digitata*), whose mature trunk girth can go 30 feet or more, has been raised as a dwarf 10 inches high in five years.

(To page 6)

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December 1975

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If you move, hold up feeding your bonsai for about six weeks to allow them time to adjust to new surroundings.

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Quiet colors - dark brown, gray, black, dark wine red or mauve purple, and dark blue are symbolic of the earth and rocks in nature, and therefore the most practical colors to select for bonsai pots.

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JAMES A HARRISON
16005 Woodview Terr
Laurel, Md 20810

MR & MRS GRAHAM HOULTON
5711 Seminole St
Berwyn Heights, Md 20740

MR & MRS JOSEPH KLEIN
Dorsey Rd
Harmans, Md 21077

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BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB

meets Cylburn Park Mansion, Cylburn Park, Baltimore, Md., 3d Saturday,
3 p.m.; for info call Cliff Pottberg, 301-472-2664

ERIC BELGRAD
2704 Sulgrave Ave
Baltimore, Md 21215

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7906 Dunhill Village
Baltimore, Md 21207

Ms ANNA CARRIGAN
1505 Taylor Ave
Baltimore, Md 21234

KIRK CYLUS
Ms ESTER CYLUS
813 Judy Ln
Pikesville, Md 21208

Ms VIRGINIA DICKINSON
5505 Boxhill Ln
Baltimore, Md 21210

JAMES DUKE
Greensprings Ave
Owings Mill, Md 21117

MR & MRS JOHN DUKE
205 Upnor Rd
Baltimore, Md 21212

DAVID GARDNER
118 Hawthorne Ave
Pikesville, Md 21208

DR CARL GREEN
1144 Pinch Valley Rd
Westminster, Md 21157

RONALD J GREIWE
3450 Carriage Hill Cir
Randallstown, Md 21133

MRS WILLIAM F HALLSTEAD, III
519 Wyngate Rd
Lutherville, Md 21093

MRS STEPHEN HECHT
5800 Green Spring Ave
Baltimore, Md 21209

Ms ELSIE M HEIM
8821 Old Harford Rd
Baltimore, Md 21234

MR & MRS NORMAN HIGH
210 Chatsworth Ave
Reisterstown, Md 21136

NARCISO F INOCENCIO
4236 Four Mill Rd
Baltimore, Md 21236

MRS JOHN KENDALL
3630 Eastwood Dr
Baltimore, Md 21206

H J KISINGER, JR
1008 Cedarcroft Rd
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STEPHEN S KNIPP
6012 Lakehurst Dr
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Timonium, Md 21093

Ms CHERRY L KOONTZ
305 E Limestone Valley Dr
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Ms HELEN LAUENSTEIN
9059 Rexis Ave
Perry Hill, Md 21128

MR & MRS ALFONSO A MADRING, JR
110 King Charles Cir
Baltimore, Md 21237

RICHARD MESZLER
211 Conewood Ave
Reisterstown, Md 21136

TAEKO NAGAOKA
Ms BARBARA BORG
601 E Seminary Ave
Towson, Md 21204

Ms HELEN E NOVAK
4026 Raymonn Ave
Baltimore, Md 21213

DAVID OSCHRIN
8001 Liberty Rd
Baltimore, Md 21207

Ms JUDY PIAZZA
4513 Shamrock Ave
Baltimore, Md 21206

MR & MRS CLIFTON POTTEBERG
4412 Colmar Garden Dr
Baltimore, Md 21211

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Baltimore Bonsai Club - continued

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Baltimore, Md 21214

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1823 Cromwood Rd
Baltimore, Md 21234

MR & MRS MacKENZIE ROBERTSON
306 Edgevale Rd
Baltimore, Md 21210

MRS HOWARD ROSS
17 W Seminary Ave
Lutherville, Md 21093

DR LLOYD E ROZEBOOM
3635 Campfield Rd
Baltimore, Md 21207

MRS STEWART SEARS
98 Padonia Rd, #203
Timonium, Md 21093

MR & MRS FRANK SIMMONDS
6614 Laurel Dr
Baltimore, Md 21207

MR & MRS STEWART B STEVENS
1612 Landon Rd
Towson, Md 21204

Ms EDNA J SWENSSON
101 Charmuth Rd
Timonium, Md 21093

MR & MRS VOLKER J VOGEL
10915 Huntcliff Dr
Owings Mill, Md 21117

Ms RUTH WALSH
38 Bangerd Ave
Perry Hall, Md 21128

MRS W GORDON YATES
4 Winterberry Ct
Glen Arm, Md 21057

BROOKSIDE GARDENS BONSAI

meets Brookside Nature Center, 1500 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, Md.,
3d Friday, 7:30 p.m.; for info call Molly Hersh, 301-589-3725

MR & MRS JAMES P AREND
818 Heron Dr
Silver Spring, Md 20901

MR & MRS WILLIAM G BEEBE
6123 Landover Rd
Cheverly, Md 20785

MR & MRS RALPH L BENSON
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MR & MRS HERBERT G BLECKER
13125 Clifton Rd
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JOSEPH W BLOCH
10400 Rodney Rd
Silver Spring, Md 20903

DR. ROBERT BRAINARD
2401 Calvert St, NW
Washington, DC 20008

MRS LOUISE BRANSTEAD
7549 Spring Lake Dr, #C-1
Bethesda, Md 20034

DR ROBERT J BYRNE
410 Irwin St
Silver Spring, Md 20901

MRS RAMON CARLSTON
3240 Gleneagles Dr
Silver Spring, Md 20906

Ms SALLY CHILDS
4515 Strathmore Ave
Garrett Park, Md 20766

MRS PAULINE M CHRISTENSEN
3215 S Leisure World Blvd
Silver Spring, Md 20906

ARTHUR R COCHEL
12005 Blaketon St
Upper Marlboro, Md 20870

MRS E W COOKE
8829 Copenhaver Dr
Potomac, Md 20854

MRS W R deLASHMUTT
5480 Wisconsin Ave, NW, #906
Chevy Chase, Md 20015

more

WASHINGTON BONSAI CLUB

meets various locations, 4th Sunday, 2 p.m.; for info call
Austin T. Graves, Jr., 202-833-1935

Ms MARY CHES APPLEWHITE
20007 Hayden Rd
Avondale, Md 20018

MRS ANN ARMSTRONG
2100 Porter Rd
Silver Spring, Md 20910

JOSEPH W BAKER
3032 S Abingdon St
Arlington, Va 22206

MRS LONIS C BALLARD
1929 Tulip St, NW
Washington, DC 20012

JOHN P BECKLEY
153 T St, NW
Washington, DC 20001

BYRON CAMPBELL
WILLIAM CAMPBELL
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Washington, DC 20015

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Washington, DC 20016

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Washington, DC 20008

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Washington, DC 20007

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Riverdale, Md 20840

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2500 Q St, NW
Washington, DC 20007

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6124 Overlea Rd
Bethesda, Md 20016

MR & MRS AUSTIN T GRAVES, JR
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Fairfax, Va 22030

Ms RUTH L HODGES
2500 Q St, NW, #119
Washington, DC 20007

MR & MRS ARTHUR L JENKE
1900 S Eads St
Arlington, Va 22202

MR & MRS HERMAN KATZ
4201 Cathedral Ave
Washington, DC 20016

Ms GARRINE P LANEY
2248 Brightseat Rd, #301
Landover, Md 20785

CARTER J LEINWAND
120 S Courthouse Rd, #2
Arlington, Va 22204

BENEDICT W LOHR
9525 Friars Rd
Bethesda, Md 20034

MR & MRS GILES MARTIN
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MR & MRS LARRY B MARTON
PH 8W, 4620 N Park Ave
Chevy Chase, Md 20015

MISS FRANCES MAY
1200 S Courthouse Rd, #402
Arlington, Va 22204

Ms C J McCHRISTAL
4808 30th St, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Ms DOROTHY M MILLER
1224 46th St, SE
Washington, DC 20019

MRS HUGH MILLER JR
HUGH MILLER III
2105 N Troy St
Arlington, Va 22201

Ms KATHLEEN A PADDACK
3357 Stephenson Pl, NW
Washington, DC 20015

more

Small Compost Mixing

Many bonsaiists who mix their own soil include compost as one ingredient, along with loam and sand. Compost serves as the "leafmold" listed in some Japanese bonsai soil formulae. Those who have an outdoor compost heap have a ready-made supply.

Bonsaiists who do not maintain a compost heap need not despair. They can make a small amount of compost easily and keep it on hand to use as needed. Here's how:

- In an old pan or other container place scraps of animal and vegetable scraps (garbage); sawdust, leaves, grass trimmings are good, too.

- Add two or so cupfuls of soil, to provide bacteria for decomposing the organic materials.

- Add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of plant food containing at least 15-20% nitrogen.

- Mix all the above together thoroughly.

- Moisten with water and stir until the mixture is completely moist.

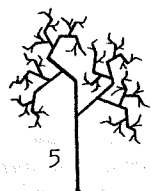
- Fill plastic bags, tie shut, and set in a spot where temperature is about 70°. In 3-4 months the mixture will be decomposed and ready for use. Mixing now will make the compost ready for use just about in time for spring use next year.

If you have lots of leaves, use them. As leaves are gathered, add a shovelfull of soil and a pint of lawn fertilizer to each bag. Add a little water if leaves are dry, and tie bags shut. When the entire mass has become loose, mellow, and fluffy, it is ready for use.

KAMUTI...

(From page 4)

Alternate Structure



5



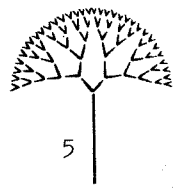
1

2

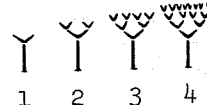
3

4

Simple Fork Structure



5



1

2


3

4

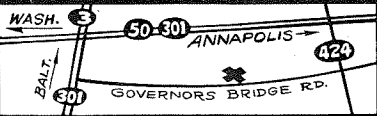
- 1 = main branches
- 2 = laterals, first degree
- 3 = laterals, second degree
- 4 = laterals, third degree
- 5 = laterals, fourth degree

Mr. Bollmann rounds out his exposition of Kamuti with much information about tree growth characteristics, design principles, routine care and cultivation, and display and competitive exhibition topics. While Kamuti is not likely, in my opinion, to supplant traditional bonsai methods, it offers fascinating spin-off possibilities which can be very applicable to some aspects of the manization art, including development of Mame bonsai. For that reason alone, KAMUTI was well worth reading.

Coming... Bonsai Clubs International 1976 JULY 7 - 11 1976



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PBA Affiliate Club Activity Schedule

4	Laurel - Lecture/Demonstration on Ivy, by Walter Schmidt, City Hall, Room 113, 7 p.m. (see Walter's article on Ivy, this issue, page 5)
9	Columbia - Social Hour at Bill Craig's home, 9435 Old Man Ct, to dedicate new greenhouse and toast the season, 8 p.m.
12	Annapolis - Christmas Dinner with Baltimore Bonsai Club, Gi-An's Hibachi, 609 Melvin Ave., Annapolis, open menu starting at \$6 per person, 6:30 p.m.; call Vicki Ballantine by Dec. 5 for reservations, 647-3224; (see story below)
12	Baltimore - Christmas Dinner with Annapolis Bonsai Club (see above and below)
13	Northern Virginia - Christmas Banquet, Inn of the Eight Imortals, 7-Corners, 7 p.m.; \$10 per person, includes chance at door prize; call Bud Ricucci, 323-1221, or Dave Flipse, 281-4524, for reservations (see story below)
13	Reston - No regular meeting; members invited to join Northern Virginia Bonsai Society for Christmas Banquet (see above and below)
	Brookside - No meeting this month; look for interesting program in January on Mosses.
	Kiyomizu - No meeting this month; Merry Xmas, All!
	Washington - No meeting this month; Season's Greetings to All Bonsaiists!

Dec. Socials Planned

Members of the Columbia Bonsai Club are invited to Bill Craig's home, 9435 Old

Man Ct., Columbia, on Dec. 9 to welcome the season and to help dedicate Bill's new 12' x 20' greenhouse.

Annapolis and Baltimore Bonsai Clubs are having a Christmas Dinner at Gi-An's Hibachi in Annapolis on Dec. 12. An open menu, starting at \$6 per person, includes soup, rice, tea, Shrimp Tempura, and other oriental dishes. Since there is a limit of 40 set, reservations will be on a first-come-first-served basis, and may be made by calling Vicki Ballantine at 647-3224. Slides of the National Arboretum Bonsai Collection will be shown.

Northern Virginia Bonsai Society members will gather Dec. 13 at the Inn of the Eight Imortals, 7-Corners, to partake of an Xmas Banquet. Reston Bonsai Club members have been invited to join them. A select menu choice will be available at \$10 per person, which charge includes all food plus tax and gratuities. It also makes everyone attending eligible to be the lucky winner of a door prize, a bonsai stand. Reservations may be made by calling Bud Ricucci, 323-1221, or Dave Flipse, 281-4524.

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