



TREE OF THE MONTH

Osmanthus

by Joyce Pelletier



Walking to the library in College Park the other evening, I suddenly encountered a wonderful, sweet aroma. Investigating, I found the source of the fragrance - a hedge of *Osmanthus*, covered with tiny white blossoms almost hidden by the leaves. It's unusual to find a shrub blooming out-of-doors in December in Maryland, so it made quite an impression. Doing a little research, I found to my surprise that several species of *Osmanthus* have long been used as indoor houseplants. My next thought, naturally, was that perhaps it would make a good indoor bonsai. (At this time of year, when all your bonsai are "heeled in" and mulched in the garden for winter protection, wouldn't it be nice to have at least one bonsai to enjoy indoors?) Doing a bit more research, I found that I didn't have such an original thought after all, because several people have written on the use of *Osmanthus fragrans* as a bonsai. Lynn R. Perry (Alstadt) supplies the most information on the subject in her book *Bonsai: Trees and Shrubs*, providing a detailed maintenance schedule. She cautions that *Osmanthus fragrans* is very hard to wire, and that paper-wrapped wires should be used. She additionally advises against heavy fertilization just before flowering, because it may cause the flowers to abscise (drop).

Osmanthus is a semi-tropical shrub or tree. Its northern limitations are around Washington, D.C. (Zone 8). It is very popular in Southern gardens, usually placed near a walkway so the fragrance may be enjoyed by passersby. In Northern areas they are grown in cool greenhouses.

The Family: The genus *Osmanthus* is a member of the Oleaceae family. Commonly referred to as the "olive" family, or sometimes as the "ash" or "lilac" family. Oleaceae includes some of the more important groups of garden shrubs and trees.

The Genus: *Osmanthus*, while not a true olive, is called "sweet olive" or "tea olive." It is also known as *Siphonosmanthus*. The members of this genus are evergreen shrubs or small trees. Of the 30 or 40 species known, most come from East Asia, with a few from North America, Hawaii, and New Caledonia.

All *Osmanthus* leaves are opposite, and most are spiny-toothed and holly-shaped. It is often mistaken for *Ilex* (holly) which has alternate leaves. Flowers of the *Osmanthus* are usually white and very fragrant, but inconspicuous, borne in terminal clusters or in leaf axils. It is the marvelous scent for which *Osmanthus* is best known.

Osmanthus will grow in full sun or light shade, but if grown in light shade it will do better if the soil is somewhat dry. Ideally, the soil should be loamy, evenly moist but well drained, and supplemented with sharp sand, and peat moss or leaf mold. When in containers, they should be kept potbound to encourage flower production. They need good air circulation.

Osmanthus are usually propagated in late summer by cuttings of half-ripe wood, treated with hormones, and grown under glass. Seeds are seldom used since they are hard to obtain, and require two years to germinate.

The Species: The following Osmanthus species have been found to be suitable for indoor culture:

O. delavayi (sweet olive) is a shrub, 6'-10' tall, with arching, downy branches. Leaves are dark green, glossy, leathery, small ($\frac{1}{2}$ "-1"), short stalked and finely toothed. Fruit is rounded and blue-black. It is hardy through Zone 8 (south of Washington, D.C.) and is also called Siphonosmanthus delavayi.

O. fragrans (fragrant olive or sweet olive) is a slow-growing small tree to 30', with wiry twigs and holly-shaped, stiff, leathery, olive green leaves, finely toothed, and 2"-4" long. It is probably the most fragrant of all the species. It is hardy only through Zone 8, and prefers a cool, moist atmosphere indoors in sun or partial shade. It has long been used as a houseplant, and is valued for its sweet-smelling flowers in late winter and early spring. It blooms when the plant is still quite young. It prefers a soil more than normally acidic.

O. ilicifolius (holly osmanthus) is a dense, evergreen shrub of rounded habit, 15'-20' tall. It has glossy green, leathery, holly-like leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ "-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, deeply indented at the margins, with spiny teeth. It has fragrant, white, axillary flowers from fall to spring, which would not be noticed hidden among the leaves if it were not for its wonderful scent. It is a tough decorator plant which prefers a cool location, and tolerates dry air. O. ilicifolius is sometimes called O. heterophyllus or O. aquifolium. It has several horticultural forms, mostly with golden, variegated, or purplish foliage. It thrives in sun or shade, and in either acid or alkaline soil. Like the holly, when permitted to grow tall and naturally, it tends to lose its prickles. This doesn't happen when the shrub is clipped. It is hardy through Zone 7, and survived last winter's harsh cold quite well in this area.

O. ilicifolius 'Variegatus' (false holly) is a slow-growing, very attractive, dense, evergreen shrub resembling variegated holly. However, it survives better indoors than does holly. Stems are wiry, with spiny, glossy, leathery leaves, $1\frac{1}{2}$ "-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in size. Leaf color is green to bluish gray-green, edged and variegated with creamy-white markings. This striking plant prefers a cooler location. It is also known as O. heterophyllus 'Variegatus.'

Osmanthus prefers a cooler indoor temperature (40°-45° F at night to 60° F in the daytime). The plants should be given as bright a light as possible, or full sun, but they can be maintained with only 500 to 2000 foot candles during a 16-hour period. O. ilioifolius 'Variegatus' prefers diffuse sunlight, and can tolerate as little as 100 to 1000 foot candles for a 16-hour period. These Osmanthus species also tolerate dry air quite well. The soil should be kept evenly moist, but not dry.

O. fragrans has been used and recommended as bonsai, but I think any of these species, styled as bonsai, would do well and would be all the more welcome because they can live indoors (unlike traditional bonsai which can only be brought in for occasional display).

Although I found no reference to the use of O. delavayi as a bonsai, I feel that it might be the most suitable since it has the smallest leaves. Additionally, the leaves are finely toothed, not spiny, and the arching stems should be flexible, making it a much more comfortable plant to wire, with less danger of branch breakage.

For an unusual bonsai, with interesting leaves and delightful flowers in the middle of winter, why not consider adding Osmanthus to your collection.

--- Joyce Pelletier ---

Nominating Committee for PBA

With the annual PBA elections coming up, nominations will be open for all PBA officers: President, First Vice-President, Educational Vice-President, Secretary, and treasurer.

The Board members will serve as the nomination committee. They are: Peter Arbresch, Bruce Ballantyne, Vicki Ballantyne, David Bogash, Molly Hersh, John Hinds, Mary Houlton, Milton Kidd, Richard Meszler, Joyce Pelletier, Donald Perusse, Tory Pottberg, and Harvey Everett, chairman.

--- Harvey Everett

President's Message

HAPPY NEW YEAR! THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

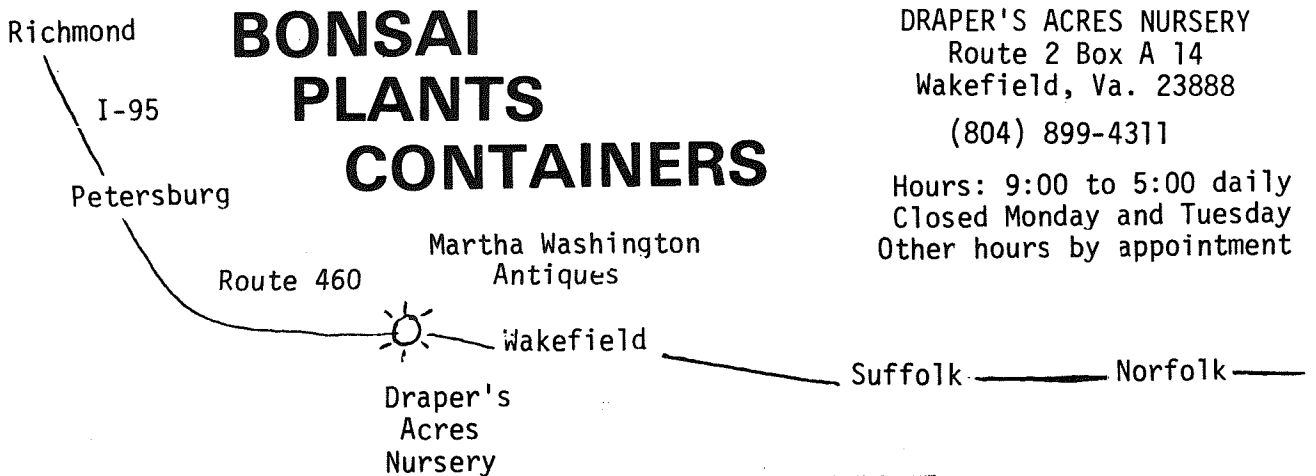
The new year is here and it promises to be an exciting one for the bonsaiologists of PBA. The newest event on the horizon is the Flower Show at the Washington Armory. We have been invited to have a bonsai display in the International Section of the Show. This will be a rather prestigious horticultural event and an excellent opportunity for us to demonstrate our expertise and attract new members.

A great deal of effort is required to carry out, successfully, a display of this magnitude. Many PBA members have already indicated they will help. I hope every member will participate in our effort to make this a superior bonsai exhibit. Your club representative and Cliff Pottberg have the information as to what type of help is required and when we need it. We have already started preparations. March first is not very far off.

Of course, we also need bonsai to display. If you have any bonsai you would like to have considered to be put in the Show, or know of any you think ought to be displayed, please contact me (weekdays (301) 528-7492, evenings & weekends (301) 833-9559).

During the coming year we again have opportunities for the growth, development, and naturation of our bonsai interests. The Flower Show, John Naka's classes, the Arboretum Show and the Fourth Annual PBA Symposium are all activities that benefit us as bonsaiologists. Now is the time to get involved and help to maximize these benefits. Elections are coming up. Consider running for office. Encourage others to do the same. We have the opportunities, but we need active members to take advantage of them and to get the job done.

--- Richard Meszler ---



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Flash of white
 Through winter garden
 A mockingbird

--- Dave Porterfield ---

Flower Show Features

For those who don't yet know, the coming spring will herald the resumption of the Flower Show at the D.C. Armory, as it used to be held before 1971. We, PBA, will have an extensive bonsai exhibit there.

The Flower Show at the Armory was as well known, as interesting, and as non-commercial as the Philadelphia Flower Show. And it will be again. Once again many of the best landscaping and nursery firms around Washington will have specious garden displays. Once again all our major horticultural institutions will present exhibitions. And many embassies will be represented. There will be a limited area for sales of horticultural items. There will be frequent demonstrations of horticultural crafts including bonsai. In fact, since John Naka will be in town then, negotiations are proceeding to have him present one of the bonsai demonstrations. Many other activities which are planned add to the excitement of this show.


The PBA exhibition of trees will be similar to the exhibit that the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society annually sponsors in Philadelphia. Twenty or thirty of the best bonsai in PBA will be displayed; there will be an educational section and a small Japanese garden with more bonsai. For those bonsaiists wishing tickets, we will have them available at a substantial discount; members who help will receive tickets at an even greater discount; and members who are also willing to help man the exhibit will be given exhibitor's passes, allowing them free access to the show.

Obviously our participation is heavy. Delightfully, our exhibit will be partly funded by the Flower Show, so our financial burden will be moderate. But we need help from as many members as possible. While we already have over 40 volunteers, there is room for many more. Construction, setting up and afterwards thearing down the exhibit, manning the exhibit, publicity and transportation are the major areas of effort.

If you would like to join in, you can call anyone of there people:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Bruce or Vicki Ballantyne | 301-647-3224 |
| Harvey Everett | 301-933-0483 |
| Molly Hersh | 301-589-3725 |
| Mary Houlton | 301-345-3606 |
| Jules Koetsch | 703-569-9378 |
| Allen Johnson | 202-396-6261 |
| Richard Meszler | 301-833-9559 |
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--- Cliff Pottberg



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 Vicki Ballantyne 647-3224

ALL WASHED UP

Barbara Bogash of the Baltimore Bonsai Club regularly puts her bonsai pots in the dishwasher. She says it works very well and is pleased with the results.

Jo Finneyfrock of the Brookside Gardens Club reports that she also has tried washing pots in the dishwasher, but says that she finds it will not remove heavily encrusted calcium deposits.

TRIMMING OVERSIZE BUTTWOOD LEAVES

During a visit with John Naka, I noticed that the leaves of his buttonwood were nearly the same size. I asked John how he achieved leaf uniformity. He merely said that he trimmed them. Upon return home, I thoughtlessly trimmed some large leaves with a straight cross cut which was very unattractive. I then retrimmed the leaves to their normal shape. It was with much satisfaction that a number of Bonsai friends did not detect the altered leaves. Truthfully, the edges do brown, but the leaves drop only when new leaves are coming in. However, try this process with caution on your buttonwood.

--- Harvey Everett ---

MORE ON THE FRIENDLY FUNGUS

Mycorrhiza may be better than fertilizer for bonsai. I have known about the need for an association of mycorrhiza and pines, a variety of other trees, orchids, etc. for many years. That is why it is desirable to include some native soil when potting collected trees. So, when I found a big mat is what appeared to be mycorrhiza among the roots of a newly blown-over Virginia Pine, I decided to try it on my bonsai. I broke up the mat and suspended the mycorrhiza in water and then watered my pines with it. It worked! The pines seemed to double their growth rate and showed increased vigor and health. I am convinced that the inoculation of my bonsai "Delight" with mycorrhiza helped it become established as a bonsai and shortened the training time by about a year.

Now, every time I repot my pines, I save the soil and root prunings, mix them thoroughly in a small amount of water and use this for the first watering of the newly repotted tree. You can usually see the white, cotton-like mycorrhiza on the roots of well rooted, potted pines. I believe it would be a good idea to take some of the soil from established pines and add it to that of newly collected trees. The establishment of a good mycorrhizal culture in the soil may be just the boost a tree needs to survive transplanting.

--- Dr. Richard Meszler ---

DON'T HAVE DIRTY SOIL

"Soil sterilization has gone electronic! Put two quarts of damp soil in a glass loaf pan and bake for eight minutes IN YOUR MICROWAVE OVEN! Stir and bake another seven minutes, then cool in the pan. Presto! No insects or disease bacteria. Old soil can also be sterilized this way for reuse..."

--- from Bonsai Magazine ---

Snips and Slips


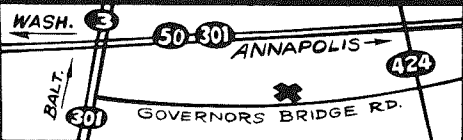
HOW TO FOOL A FIG, or BEEF UP YOUR BUTTONWOOD

In order to accelerate the growth of aerial roots in ficus, (a) carefully insert the aerial root as far as it will go into a soda straw, (b) fill the soda straw with 1/3 peat moss, 1/3 sand, and 1/3 manure, (c) anchor the lower end of the straw in the pot. Water the straw with an eye dropper frequently, (d) observe to be sure that the root has traveled all the way down to the pot. It could take from one to three months, (e) then cut both sides of the straw lengthwise with a safety razor and remove the straw, leaving the root free.

A spray of sea water twice a week on buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus*) will give you the following results: (a) smaller, thicker leaves, (b) better chances of getting blossoms to mature into larger, stronger fruits that will not drop easily.

If part of the spray goes to the pot, it will not hurt the plant. If sea water is not available, you could make your own by dissolving, in water, rock salt obtained by evaporation near the sea. This is the salt we use to produce brine when making ice cream at home.

--- F. L. Collazo ---
Ponce, Puerto Rico
from Florida Bonsai

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On the Rocks

This article appeared in the February 1962 issue of Better Homes & Gardens. It concerns a recipe for making "rocks" of one bonsai enthusiast in San Francisco.

Materials: $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups fresh dry cement, $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups sharp sand, and 1 cup each of charcoal, sawdust, peat moss, perlite, and powdered limestone. You'll also need a 10-inch saucer, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep; plus two $3/8$ -inch dowels, 10 inches long - one thrust through a medium-size potatoe.

Mix dry ingredients in a clean container. Add water slowly until mix is doughy. Place a sheet of plastic film on a flat surface, lay other dowel on it, and mold wet mix (about 8 inches wide, 6 inches tall) over it. Then push potatoe into top for planting pocket.

Let the mound cure 8-10 days, then remove dowels and scoop out potatoe with a spoon. The holes made by the dowels will allow water to drain. For planting soil use a mix of half leaf mold or compost and half sand. Be sure the soil mix is moist before using. The rock will be much more attractive if live moss is placed on it.

Set cured rock in the saucer (or bonsai tray, ed.), add a bit of soil mix to the planting pocket, spread the tree roots, then sift soil mix around them. Keep adding soil, firming it with the dowel. Use trees native to your area. Grow them outdoors - they resent dry indoor heat. Be sure to protect them from wind and heavy snow.

--- submitted by Vicki Ballantyne

Random Notes on the 1978 ABS Convention in Japan

One of the first events at the 1977 American Bonsai Society Convention in Japan was a visit to a Japanese Bonsai auction. We saw on display a host of outstanding Bonsai which were to be auctioned off the next day. There were literally dozens of plants of the quality of those in the National Collection. For many of the ABS members who had never seen the National Collection or plants of that quality, it was an exciting and mind boggling experience. I never did find out what prices they ultimately sold for, but there were many Bonsai of the quality of one we saw elsewhere which we were told had been bought for \$40,000.

This auction was open only to professional Bonsai growers. Many of them purchased for resale, others were buying for specific clients. We were told that wealthy Japanese businessmen purchase Bonsai just as some men buy race horses, yachts, etc. Some purchase them as an investment, much like buying a Picasso painting.

The obvious difference is that you do not have to worry about a Picasso painting dying if you overfertilize it or give it too much or too little water. They solve this problem by having the Bonsai cared for by a professional Bonsai grower. He cares for the plants and produces them for the client upon request, at special times, such as when they are blooming, when they are in fall colors, etc.

The Japanese Bonsai auction was not run in the American style by an auctioneer calling for oral bids. This is a silent auction, but once again not American style. Each bidder simply threw into a box his top bid and name. The bids were then reviewed and the highest bidder got the plant. On reflection, perhaps this produces higher prices for the seller than the American style auction, since each bidder must submit his top bid if he really wants the plant.

Later in the trip we encountered the other end of the Bonsai spectrum, i.e. the "cheapies" which are on sale at bus stops, train stations, and many other places. For approximately \$15.00 you could buy a Japanese Black Pine with a trunk about one inch in diameter, and a pot that would cost you more than \$15.00 in the United States. For the same price you could buy a forest of 20 or 25 Japanese Maples, once again with a pot worth more than that in our country.

Although I had secured a Department of Agriculture permit to import some Bonsai, I did not attempt it because I was told that extremely few of them survive the bare rooting, spraying, etc. In any event, the importation of Japanese Black Pine or Japanese Maples is absolutely prohibited.

On the trip we were privileged to visit a great number of Bonsai nurseries and private collections which are not available to the normal tourist. It is impossible to describe in words the sensation of seeing row after row of top quality Bonsai, each one better than the other. Roll after roll of camera film was consumed while members went from plant to plant taking pictures. Many people who had carefully taken an "overabundance" of film with them on the trip found themselves purchasing more film before it was half over.

Then there was the 1000 year old Bonsai. I didn't find out its age until we had left the nursery. I then regretted I hadn't taken a picture because I thought it was not particularly well styled!

One of the things which struck me was the almost complete absence of Bonsai in the cascade styles (full or semi). I recalled that someone had asked why the National Bonsai Collection did not contain any cascades. The answer given at that time was that the Japanese did not give us any. Perhaps a more accurate answer is that the Japanese don't really make many Bonsai in the cascade styles. This is another one of those questions which remained unanswerable as a result of my inability to speak Japanese.

Our trip also included a visit to the Masakuni tool factory, a plant making Bonsai pottery, and many normal tourist spots such as the Great Buddha in Kamakura, Temples and Japanese Gardens. For each of us it opened new insights into Japan in general and Bonsai in particular, and generated a host of memories we will savor all of our lives.

--- John Simpson ---

NAKA School

Plans are set for the Naka School to be held at the National Arboretum March 4-7. John will conduct two classes: (a) an advanced class on Saturday March 4 and Monday night March 6, and (b) an intermediate class on Sunday March 5 and Tuesday night March 7. On both Saturday and Sunday mornings he will give a styling demonstration which will be open to all PBA members free of charge. The trees he styles in these demonstrations will be raffled at the time. Even if you can't attend one of the classes, come and see a Master at work and take a chance on winning a Naka-styled tree. Demonstrations will start at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the classroom downstairs in the administration building.

Advanced Class: Those wishing to register for this class should have basic bonsai skills such as branch placement, wiring, knowledge of bonsai styles, etc., plus some knowledge of advanced styling techniques such as forest planting, root-over-rock, etc. They should be able to work on their own with a minimal amount of guidance from Naka-san.

Intermediate Class: Those registering for the intermediate class should also have basic bonsai skills and be able to do their own wiring and pruning, but feel they need more guidance from John in styling their trees.

Students should provide their own trees and bonsai tools. Bring as many trees as you wish or feel you can style to the classes. Trees should have had some basic styling already done. **DO NOT BRING TREES STRAIGHT FROM THE NURSERY AND EXPECT TO HAVE THEM STYLED FOR YOU!** Wire will be available should you run out or find that you do not have the right size. There are no plans to do any repotting, though should you wish to try a style which requires repotting, such as forest planting or root-over-rock, there is no objection. You will need to provide your own soil and containers, however.

• Cost of the School will be \$40 per person for two sessions. Weekend sessions will be from 1:30-4:45 p.m., and 7:30-9:45 p.m. on weeknights. Classes will be limited to 10 persons per class on a first-come, first-served basis. **REGISTER EARLY.**

Observers are welcome at all of the sessions at a cost of \$2 per person per session. It should be mentioned, however, that observers are just that. Comments, kibbitzing and conversation are not welcome.

If you have any questions, call me at (301) 345-3606.

--- Mary Houlton

Mary Houlton
 5711 Seminole Street
 Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740

Please accept my registration for ___ person(s) for the Naka School on March 4-7, 1978. I wish to register for the ___ Advanced Class ___ Intermediate Class, and enclose my check in the amount of \$ ____ (made out to Potomac Bonsai Association).

(Name) _____
 (Address) _____

 (Phone #) _____
 (Club affiliation) _____

Birds and Bees

Except that there were no bees visible (but a number of grass hoppers) the current "show" at the Freer Gallery in the Smithsonian complex in Washington, D.C. is a delectable display of plants and animals in Japanese art. Four rooms are devoted to scrolls, screens, and ceramics depicting nature in the way only the Japanese can do it. A screen showing two geese landing on a beach is breathtaking. There is a small netsuke of an octopus trying to get into a jar that is so maniacal that you must laugh. Puppies clustering under a bucket in a snowstorm makes you want to hug them. You can feel the water the turtles are swimming in. I could go on, but then you should go and discover for yourself the orchids, frogs, monkeys and pine trees in charming array. The show is through February.

--- Tory Pottberg

Washington Club News

November meeting: More than 70 guests attended the open house and Bonsai demonstration at the National Arboretum sponsored by the Washington, D.C. Bonsai Society on Saturday November 19th. After Mr. Johnson, the President, welcomed the group, simultaneous demonstrations of three different bonsai styles were presented by Vicki Ballantyne, Arschel Morrell and Cliff Pottberg. Tory Pottberg offered a running commentary on the styling as it was executed. There was active participation by guests who asked many questions throughout the session.

Members of the D.C. Club displayed their bonsai-in-training. Guests were surprised that beginners could achieve results like those on exhibit in relatively short time.

The meeting ended with refreshments and a drawing for one of the trees styled at this meeting. A number of new members joined the Club on this occasion.

December meeting: Due to illness, Bill Merritt was unable to make his presentation on use and care of bonsai tools as scheduled for the December 17th meeting. His lecture/ demonstration will be rescheduled.

In Bill's absence Joyce Pelletier and Cliff Pottberg pinch hit admirably. Joyce gave a review of the five basic bonsai styles and illustrated her presentation with a display of Japanese calendars featuring classic styles and variations.

Cliff spoke briefly on use of bonsai tools. Then he displayed and explained construction of a beautiful sai-kei recently created by one of his advanced classes. Cliff completed his presentation with styling of a San Jose juniper in the Mame mode and an Alberta spruce in the broom style.

A brief sharing of Christmas refreshments closed the meeting.

--- Vincent J. Duminuco

NAKA School

Hinds Sight

Welcome Home! Peter Arbresch has returned from an extended business trip in Africa. Peter is a past president of PBA.

On a recent visit with Chuck and Ginnie Bird, Ginnie remarked that one of their bonsai pots had become encrusted with salts. "It sure has effloresced," Chuck agreed. The word sent us to the dictionary which says: effloresced L. efflorescere, to begin, to bloom. 1, to burst forth: bloom. 2, a, to change to a powder from loss of water of crystallization, b, to form or become covered with a powdery crust (bricks may be effloresced owing to the deposition of soluble salts). Those west Texas colonels sure are smart.

The Birds now must have "the" winter bonsai show place in PBA. They recently installed eight foot high panes of plate glass to enclose the U shaped space on the back of their lovely Tantallion, Maryland home. Now through the floor to ceiling thermal pane glass in their master bedroom, living room and kitchen they can view their winter protected trees. Excellent ventilation is provided by a set of floor to ceiling jalousie windows and a jalousie door. The jalousies are simply closed by Ginnie and Chuck when they want to work in their new cold room. They have found that the temperature in the new room runs only about 6 to 7 degrees warmer than outdoors. Chuck Bird is President of Kiyonizu Bonsai Society.

Harvey Everett, that stalwart worker for PBA and Brookside is now also hard at work on special assignment for Bonsai Clubs International. Recall that Harvey did yeoman service on the revision of PBA's By Laws; he is now doing an evaluation of the BCI By Laws which will go to BCI's Vice President Tom Heitkamp of Cincinnati, Ohio.

John and Alice Naka returned to their Los Angeles home on December third after four great weeks in Japan. The first three weeks, they and Ben Oki, guided 62 enthusiasts on a very successful bonsai tour.

The Naka's report the group was most congenial and that everywhere they went the Japanese made a special effort for them. "Nearly everywhere we were entertained." John reports. "There were lunches and receptions and bonsai shows put on especially for us."

Don't despair if you missed this one. At least three more Naka tours are in the mill. Leaving May 31, 1978 will be a tour to cover the satsuki show in Ueno Park, the northeast of Japan. Hong Kong and Taipei. Not only Taipei has excellent bonsai but also the best and least expensive bonsai stands. The stands are being made by Japanese craftsmen on Taipei.

October 22, 1978 will be the starting date for a tour which will be especially for the bonsai enthusiasts of Australia. Yanks will also be most welcome. Not that thour will be a double cultural experience.

Then in the winter of 1979 there is going to be a shorter tour to cover the Sakufu-ten show in the Dai Maru department store and the Japanese Bonsai Association show in Ueno Park. The Ueno Park Show has been on for fifty plus years. The Sakufu-ten show is new. It is the show of the best trees owned by the Japanses bonsai people. The third show is this month. The trees in this show are absolute masterpieces. John H. Hinds.

CLUB CALENDAR

- January 12
(Thursday) B.C.I. Film presentation on Chinese Bonsai. 7:30 p.m. Annapolis Library (West Street). Bring trees for critique. ANNAPOLIS
- January 15
(Sunday) Kumuti - pruning trees by Len Gallant. 3:00 p.m. Sylburn Park. Further report on Kumuti by Len Gallant. Also pots, trays, etc. by Tory Pottberg. Tree of the month - indoor bonsai. Bring trees for critique or to share. BALTIMORE.
- January 14
(Saturday) Swap information session. 10-12 a.m. Gulf Branch Nature Center, Military Rd. & 36th Rd., Arlington, Va. Potpourri: bonsai tools, types, care, sharpening. Bring tools for sharpening. Gadgets and inventors corner for growing, pruning, tools, etc. Discuss pet innovations, new twists to old techniques. Sources of information: books, periodicals - what are available, beginner to expert. Where to look or order. Catalogs: ordering plants, bonsai equipment by mail. Slides of John Naka's 1977 Japan tour, with running commentary by one who was there - Bob Sitnick. NOVABONSOC.
- January 20
(Friday) Grafting workshop. 7:30 p.m. Brookside Gardens Nature Center. Brian Campbell will give a demonstration and conduct a workshop on grafting using Japanese maples. Each attendee will have opportunity to try simple grafting of scion to understock. Materials provided. All PBAers welcome. BROOKSIDE.
- January 21
(Saturday) Film and workshop. 1:30 p.m. National Arboretum. Brooklyn Botanic Garden film on bonsai will be shown. After the film, a workshop will be held featuring Hollywood juniper. Bring own pruners and wire cutters. WASHINGTON BONSAI CLUB.
- January 22
(Sunday) Topic to be announced. 2:00 p.m. Clearwater Nature Center, Louis Cosca Regional Park. KIYOMIZU.
- February 9
(Thursday) Soils: how to mix them, what to use. 7:30 p.m. Annapolis Library (West Street). Talk on soils by Joyce Pelletier. Bring trees for critique. ANNAPOLIS.
- February 11
(Saturday) Kumuti pruning technique. 10-12 a.m. Gulf Branch Nature Center. Len Gallant of the Baltimore Bonsai Club will present Kumuti technique for creating bonsai and share his own experiences to expand the technique. NOVABONSOC.
- February 17
(Friday) Indoor bonsai panel discussion. 7:30 p.m. Brookside Gardens Nature Center. Panel discussion on indoor bonsai, with live examples. Bring trees for critique. BROOKSIDE.
- February 19
(Sunday) Care and sharpening of tools/fig workshop. 3:00 p.m. Sylburn Park. Discussion on care and sharpening of tools. Fig workshop will depend on availability of material. Bring trees for critique. BALTIMORE.
- February 18
(Saturday) Indoor bonsai workshop. 2:00 p.m. National Arboretum. A workshop featuring indoor material. WASHINGTON BONSAI CLUB.
- February 26
(Sunday) Topic to be announced. 2:00 p.m. Clearwater Nature Center. KIYOMIZU.