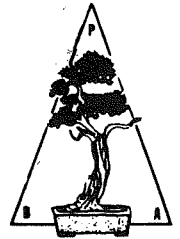


# PBA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 3

March 1978



## TREE OF THE MONTH

*Leucaena leucacephala*

by Walter Schmidt

How would you feel to have Bonsai in your possession for ten years and not knowing its name? Well, this is just the case with some we own.

To begin with, on a trip to the Hawaiian Islands in 1967, strolling through a park in Honolulu I noticed a broad, umbrella-shaped tree with thousands of seedpods hanging from its feathery branches. I recognized it as belonging to the LEGUMINOSAE family and took it for granted that it is a Mimosa. With pods laying all around, I stuck one in my pocket. This was May and at home I planted the seeds, of which only two germinated, and grew very rapidly so that in two years they had grown to about half a foot and about that wide, with a heavy trunk and nice surface roots. But we did not know anything about Bonsai then! One day we had a long-time friend visiting us, touring the garden and greenhouse she looked at the "Hawaiian mimosa" (That is what we called it for lack of another name) and exclaimed, "oh, you are growing Bonsai, we have just formed a club." That's when we joined the P.B.A., and thanks to meetings, workshops and association with other members I learned the principles of the hobby, and all know once that bug has stung you will be afflicted for life, and to think that I started this at seventy!

On the first exhibit of the P.B.A. at the National Arboretum, and in subsequent years these little trees found a niche and were admired by the visitors.

What bothered me all these years is that I did not know the true name of these - our first Bonsai - and at the Arboretum I could not learn their identity. I went to the Agricultural Research where I was told that it would have to bloom for identification. So, I left one of the trees untrimmed and in 1976 it produced a white, round flower, the size of a marble, then I knew that it could not be a Mimosa as all these have yellow flowers. I took the tree to the same place again, and was informed that it only could be identified by the seeds. That bloom soon dropped. 1977 in September it bloomed again and with fingers crossed I waited. It wasn't in vain, and by December the branch had a flat, translucent pod 3" long, 1" wide with nine seeds clearly visible. So, the Bonsai took another trip, and this time it was identified as Lead Tree or Leucaena leucacephala. But that was all the man at the research station could tell me. Unfortunately, the pod soon shriveled before the seed ripened.

Leafing through many books in libraries and shops, I learned that of about 50 species *L. glauca*, called Horsetamarind, and *Acacia Koa* are also native to Hawaii. Species native to the U.S. are: *L. retusa*, *L. greggii* & *L. pulverulenta*. There are other species of *Leucaena* in the Bahamas, Central & South America as well as through tropical Asia and Polynesia.

The Lead Tree, like many of its relatives *O Acacia*, *Mimosa*, *Albizzia*, *Calliandra*, *O grow* rather flat-topped, and the former seems to even resent being trained to an apex. I tried it but the branch died. I let them grow naturally in this respect as they would in their habitat, they look good this way. (One would not train a *Zelkova* or a *Taxodium* as a cascade).

All the training can be done by clipping the undesired growth, and the trunk develops a buttress and the flat surface roots come naturally. It grows a dense, fibrous mass of roots which necessitates trimming and repotting at least twice a year. Before this procedure, watering is stopped and the tree rested till it drops some of the leaves. Kept in semi-shade for a while, watered and the foliage sprayed frequently it will soon resume vigorous growth and I use no other soil mixture than for most Bonsai. Little fertilizing is needed, else the twigs grow too fast, thin and long. The trunk is warty with rough protuberances which tend to produce sprouts which must be rubbed off. *Leucaena* grows best around 70°F. and

## PBA NEWSLETTER PAGE 2

will stand as low as 45°F. without injury, provided it is kept from draft. Like many other plants of the leguminosae family, it shows turgic reaction in the petioles through the influence of light and temperature, so at sunset the leaflets fold and droop and open again at dawn. This phenomenon is explained in that the water-pressure in the cells recedes when darkness and cooler temperatures set in.

I do not know of anyone else owning a Lead Tree, but would like to hear from the lucky person who possesses one of these fine trees.

--- Walter Schmidt

## PBA Election

The Board Directors at their meeting of February 2, 1978 voted to submit an amendment providing a change to the Board by adding the immediate or next available past president to the Board. The proposed amendment will be submitted for vote at the annual meeting. Two-thirds vote is required for passage.

Amend the Constitution, Article VI Board of Directors as follows:

In Section 1 after the words "... Elected Officers ..." insert "a Past President."

Add sentence to Section 2 "The immediate past president shall be the principal designee for Past President Director; however, should the immediate past president not be available, the next most recent past president shall be designated."

--- Harvey Everett

At the same Board meeting, the Board of Directors, serving as the nominating committee, nominated the following candidates for 1978 PBA officers:

President - Cliff Pottberg - Baltimore Bonsai Club  
1st Vice President - Molly Hersh - Brookside Gardens Bonsai Club  
Educational Vice President - Mary Houlton - Brookside Gardens Club  
Secretary - Jules Koetsch - Northern Virginia Bonsai Society  
Treasurer - Vivki Ballantyne - Annapolis Bonsai Club

Remember that in order to vote, you must have paid your dues by March 31. Club treasurers will forward to the election tellers of all members on the rolls as of that date.

## Bonsai Festival '78

Yuji Yoshimura and Wallace B. Stone will present a bonsai exhibition and sale Friday through Sunday, June 2, 3, and 4 at the nursery of World Bonsai Service, Route 209, Ellenville, N.Y. The Festival will feature the work of five bonsai artists: Marion Gyllenswan, Chase Rosade, Wallace Stone, William Valavanis, and Yuji Yoshimura. Demonstrations will take place the course of events.

The climax of the Festival will be an auction on Sunday June 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., during which over 300 pieces will be sold, including over 200 from the Yoshimura collection alone. A special attraction of the auction will be raffle of two fine trees:

Tree no. 1: Alberta spruce (*Picea glauca*) - height 40", container 28"x20"x2½", created in 1960 by Yuji Yoshimura from a field-grown tree, 18 years of training by Yuji Yoshimura has produced the magnificent Formal Upright bonsai.

Tree no. 2: Satsuki azalea - height 21", trunk diameter 9", container 11"x15"x3"; flowers red. Imported from Japan by W.B. Stone in 1974, this field-grown tree has been trained in the Informal Upright style.

Raffle tickets for these trees are \$1.00 each, or six for \$5.00 and may be purchased by mail. Write, Bonsai Festival '78, c/o World Bonsai Service, P.O. Box 127, Ellenville, N.Y. 12428.

For further information, call: 914-647-6332 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon  
or: 914-623-2157 evenings

## President's Message

It's All Coming Together

I am gratified by the fine cooperation and progress we are achieving in the preparation for the Flower Show. For example, on several recent week-ends workers have converged on Stadler House at the Brookside Gardens Botanical Gardens and constructed six of the display tables we are going to use. At the first construction meeting some 10 people (and 2 little people - the younger Ballantynes) carried armloads of pre-cut lumber, Masonite, plywood, glue, nails, tools, etc. into the house and set to work. Under the able direction of Bruce Ballantyne we soon set up a rather efficient assembly line. In a remarkably short time all the fronts, backs, and sides of all six benches were completed. It looks like they even fit together. Good planning, Bruce.

Throughout this activity was a comfortable spirit of cooperation and willingness to do the job. This factor is a major dividend to come from our commitment to the Flower Show. Nearly every PBA member is involved in some way in the preparations. If we can only keep the momentum going, beyond the completion of the Flower Show and into other PBA activities, we will have reached a new stage of maturation and will have more successful symposia, workshops, shows, etc.

As you can see elsewhere in this Newsletter, the nominating committee has formulated a list of candidates for the next term of office. This is only one nomination for each office. If you want to run for an office, or put somebody else in the running, the procedure is simple and the competition welcome. Let's keep the momentum going and our involvement in PBA alive.

--- Richard Meszler

## Naka Tour

John Naka has announced his 1978 Japan Bonsai Tour, scheduled to depart May 29, 1978. One of the first highlights will be a visit to the Satsuki Bonsai exhibition in Tokyo on June 1st. The tour will include both Bonsai activities and sight-seeing of the beauty of Japan - the scenic and historic, the familiar and unfamiliar Japan.

The tour is limited and reservations should be made now. For information contact: Kokusai Travel, 321 E. Second St., Suite 101, Los Angeles, California 90012

## Snips and Slips

In last month's Snips and Slips I wrote about killing my buttonwood, despite carefully caring for it in an aquarium. Since that time I have several people ask me how I killed - with stupidity. My azalea had just finished blooming and I was giving it its first drink of Miracid of the year and got carried away and put some on my buttonwood. Buttonwood, of course, grows in LIMestone and doesn't like acid. Naturally, it turned up its toes and died, teaching me (I hope) not to careless and unthinking with my trees.

--- Mary Houlton

To Walter Schmidt:

In answer to your request for information on sources for seed or small plants of Zelkova, Yeddo Spruce, and trident maple, Mellinger's, 2310 West South Range, North Lima, Ohio 44452, carries a large inventory of seedlings of all varieties and is a mail-order nursery. They will be glad to furnish a catalog to you on request.

Within the Brookside Gardens Club, however, Lloyd Nichols of Boyds, Maryland does a great deal of propagating from seed and does carry both trident maple and Yeddo Spruce seedlings. You can call him at 301-972-3358. He is listed in the Maryland phone book.

--- Mary Houlton

SWEET GUM

I am not liquid  
I am not amber  
Please spell me right  
I'm LIQUIDAMBER!

--- Walter Schmidt

Some Spring Advise

"When you take your bonsai out of winter storage there are a few points to remember. If you stored your trees under glass or plastic, be careful how you re-expose them to ultra-violet filled daylight.

Do it very slowly to give the cells time to rearrange themselves within the foliage. Trees kept in shady locations also require a gradual adjustment to bright light.

At the same time, keep them out of strong winds. And don't put those covers and boxes, etc., too far out of your reach....there are still frosty nights to come."

--- Gisela Reichert

reprinted from Toronto  
Bonsai Society Journal

## CLUB CALENDAR

- March 8  
Wednesday      John Naka - critique 7:00 p.m. Tree critique with John Naka. Northern Virginia Bonsai Society. NOVABONSO
- March 17  
Friday            Slide show of the John Naka Japan Tour and annual meeting.  
7:30 p.m. Brookside Gardens Nature Center. Slide show and comments by Bob Sitnick - the who was there. BROOKSIDE
- March 18  
Saturday        Brooklyn Botanic Garden film on Bonsai and workshop. 1:30 p.m.  
Announcement of date for collecting trip for late March/early April. National Arboretum. WASHINGTON BONSAI CLUB
- March 19  
Sunday          Repotting workshop and beginners' styling workshop. 2:00 p.m.  
Clearwater Nature Center. KIYOMIZU
- March 19  
Sunday          Plant pathology. Air layering on Japanese maple in-ground at  
Sylburn by Cliff Pottberg. 3:00 p.m. Sylburn Park. BALTIMORE
- April 8  
Saturday        Collecting trip. Collecting trip to Eastern Shore. 9:00 a.m.  
Meet at MacDonalds, Route 50/301 near Bay Bridge. Bring shovels, plastic bags, pruners, etc. Wear sturdy boots and gloves. Bring lunch and drink. For information, call Vicki Balalntyne 301-647-3224 or Joyce Pelletier 262-8578. ANNAPOLIS
- April 8  
Saturday        General potting workshop and prepping for PBA Show. 1:00 p.m.  
National Arboretum. WASHINGTON BONSAI CLUB
- April 16  
Sunday          Bonsai Exhibit. Norfolk, Virginia. By the Virginia Bonsai  
Society in the Norfolk Botanical Gardens (Rotunda).
- April 18  
Tuesday        John Naka. 7:30 p.m. Brookside Gardens Nature Center. Bonsai  
critique and reception/party. All PBAers welcome. Details in  
next Newsletter. BROOKSIDE GARDENS BONSAI CLUB
- April 23  
Sunday          Wiring and styling workshop and annual meeting. 3:00 p.m.  
Sylburn Park. BALTIMORE

# PBA DUES ARE DUE BY MARCH 31

## Snips and Slips

For comments and contributions call:

Washington area

Mary Houlton 345-3606

Mary Fox 524-6636

Baltimore

Barbara Bogash 922-9310

Annapolis

Vicki Ballantyne 647-3224



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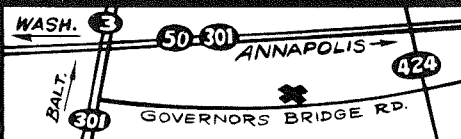
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REQUEST YOUR PRESENCE AT THE  
INTERNATIONAL BONSAI CONVENTIONS  
HILTON HOTEL, PORTLAND OREGON  
WEDNESDAY JULY 19 THROUGH SUNDAY JULY 23, 1978

## I.B.C. '78

### WELCOME TO BONSAI COUNTRY

FROM HIGH DESERT WASTELANDS TO VERDANT RAIN FORESTS -  
FROM DRAMATIC ROCK-RIVER CANYONS TO TEMPERATE VALLEYS -  
FROM UNSPOILED OCEAN BEACHES TO SNOW CLAD MOUNTAINS -  
ALL THIS AND MORE IS "BONSAI COUNTRY".

- THE COLUMBIA RIVER:** Wide and Beautiful.  
Cutting through the Cascade Mountains to form a magnificent gorge.  
Granting us beauty, recreation, sustenance and energy.  
Providing the inspiration for Bonsai Country.
- MT. HOOD:** Crown Jewel of the Oregon Cascades.  
Dominating the Skyline, tempering the weather.  
Supplying us with the rare collectible materials for Bonsai Country.
- PORTLAND:** Infinitely livable, undeniably beautiful.  
Capturing the pulse of today while retaining the charm of yesterday.  
Offering a city of Roses, Parks, Fountains and Forests.  
Home of the Bonsai Society of Portland, and heart of Bonsai Country.
- HILTON HOTEL:** Downtown Portland.  
Accommodating Convention Visitors around the clock.  
Supplying meeting rooms, exhibit areas, tour packages and a market place.  
Furnishing eating establishments and watering holes.  
SITE OF IBC '78 - HEADQUARTERS FOR BONSAI COUNTRY.
- IBC '78 PORTLAND:** JULY 19-23  
Joining artists and students, experts and neophytes,  
to form a cohesive program providing a total experience in Bonsai Country.

### IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE AND PLEASURE THAT WE PRESENT OUR GUEST ARTISTS

**TOSHIO KAWAMOTO** - In Japan, the name Kawamoto is synonymous with Bonsai and Saikei. Toshio Kawamoto, like his father before him, is an acknowledged master. This multi-talented man has been called an artist, creator and designer combined in one. Since his last visit to the United States in 1972, many people have anxiously anticipated the opportunity to witness his Bonsai-Saikei artistry. As usual, Kawamoto San will be ably assisted by his long time associate Tom Yamamoto. We are most pleased to announce there will be two Kawamoto demonstrations.

**JOHN NAKA** - It is hard to think of a California Juniper without thinking of John Naka. In fact, it is hard to think of Bonsai without thinking of John. In addition to his Bonsai abilities, he is an extraordinary oil painter and his endeavors in the various arts make him an ideal instructor in the discipline of Bonsai.

**TOSHIO SABUROMARU** - Tosh Saburomaru is widely regarded as a teacher and mentor to many of us. His instructions and explanations have helped educate Americans in the art of Bonsai. Tosh's group plantings reflect his wide experience in horticulture and landscape design.

**DAN ROBINSON** - Dan is a resident of the Northwest and an avid collector of our native trees. In the Seattle area he has proven himself both an outstanding landscape designer and a Bonsai specialist. We are most excited about his work with native materials. At IBC '78, he will discuss styling and survival of collected plants. It's hard to imagine that a man this young can have acquired so much expertise.

For the entertainment of those not attending the morning workshops, we present the following: Ikebana Demonstrations, Sumi Brush Painting, Tips on Pot Making and Bonsai Photography.

Saturday morning will be "On Your Own in Downtown Portland". A map of downtown Portland and a schedule of current happenings will be in your registration packet. Some things of interest: a visit to Old Town with all of its unique shops - the Saturday Market under the Burnside Bridge - nearby Washington Park with the International Rose Test Garden, the Japanese Garden, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the Forestry Center and the Portland Zoo.

### IBC '78 PORTLAND PROGRAM WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

- MORNING - Kick Off Breakfast  
Workshops:  
(A) Beginning Bonsai - Tim Boyle  
(B) Group Plantings - Herb Gustafson  
(C) Beginning Bonsai - Lucille Roberts
- Lectures and Demonstrations:  
Ikebana Demonstration - Ms. Henjyoji and Ms. Zurcher  
Sumi Brush Painting - Wing K. Leong  
Tips on Pot Making - Sharon Muth
- Bonsai Exhibit Opens
- LUNCH - Included in Registration
- AFTERNOON - Demonstration: T. Kawamoto (Bonsai), Assisted by T. Yamamoto
- EVENING - Get Acquainted Reception and Auction (Pavillion Terrace)

### THURSDAY, JULY 20

- MORNING - Lecture:  
Native Bonsai - Dan Robinson
- AFTERNOON - Demonstration: John Naka
- LUNCH - Included in Registration
- EVENING - On Your Own

### FRIDAY, JULY 21

- MORNING - Workshops:  
(D) Intermediate Bonsai - Marqueritte Drake  
(E) Advanced Bonsai - Herb Gustafson  
(F) Intermediate Bonsai - Taki Nagasawa
- Lectures and Demonstrations:  
Ikebana Demonstration - Ms. Henjyoji and Ms. Zurcher  
Sumi Brush Painting - Wing K. Leong  
Bonsai Photography - Ethel Hauser
- LUNCH - Included in Registration (Another Auction)
- AFTERNOON - Demonstration: Toshio Saburomaru
- EVENING - Japan Night (Including Japanese Classic Folk Dancing and Movie)

### SATURDAY, JULY 22

- MORNING - See Portland On Your Own
- LUNCH - On Your Own
- AFTERNOON - Demonstration: T. Kawamoto (Saikei), Assisted by T. Yamamoto
- EVENING - Banquet, Auction, Dancing

### SUNDAY, JULY 23

- MORNING - "See You In New York Brunch" and remaining auction if necessary.



## REGISTRATION IBC '78

COMPLETE REGISTRATION INCLUDES: all lectures, demonstrations and auctions, Wednesday Kick Off Breakfast, Wednesday Lunch, Complimentary Cocktails at the Wednesday Evening Get Acquainted Reception, Thursday and Friday Lunches, Saturday Banquet and Sunday Brunch.

INDIVIDUAL before May 1st	No. ___ @ \$115.00	\$ _____
INDIVIDUAL after May 1st	No. ___ @ \$125.00	\$ _____
FAMILY (2 - couple from same household) before May 1st	No. ___ @ \$220.00	\$ _____
FAMILY (2 - couple from same household) after May 1st	No. ___ @ \$240.00	\$ _____

### REGISTRATION OPTIONS

WORKSHOPS (Materials furnished, bring your own tools) WORKSHOPS LIMITED TO FIRST 12.

Workshop (A) Beginning Bonsai - Tim Boyle	No. ___ @ \$ 25.00	\$ _____
Workshop (B) Group Plantings - Herb Gustafson	No. ___ @ \$ 45.00	\$ _____
Workshop (C) Beginning Bonsai - Lucille Roberts	No. ___ @ \$ 25.00	\$ _____
Workshop (D) Intermediate Bonsai - Marqueritte Drake	No. ___ @ \$ 30.00	\$ _____
Workshop (E) Advanced Bonsai - Herb Gustafson	No. ___ @ \$ 45.00	\$ _____
Workshop (F) Intermediate Bonsai - Taki Nagasawa	No. ___ @ \$ 30.00	\$ _____

MEETINGS, LECTURES, DEMONSTRATIONS No. \_\_\_ @ \$ 60.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MEALS ONLY (EXCLUDING BANQUET) No. \_\_\_ @ \$ 40.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BANQUET ONLY No. \_\_\_ @ \$ 25.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your checks payable to IBC '78 PORTLAND and send it with this registration form completed on both sides to:

GERRI CHANLER  
IBC '78 PORTLAND  
REGISTRATION CHAIRMAN  
6708 S.W. BANCROFT WAY  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97225

TOURS: All tours will be arranged by GRAY LINE TOURS. Gray Line Maintains an office in your Convention Hotel, The Portland Hilton. Each club will receive tour information. This is your chance to visit the Pacific Northwest. If you wish to extend your visit to include other places, write to Gray Line for information. Remember, the King Tut Exhibit will be in Seattle from July 17, '78-November 15, '78. Mention IBC '78 PORTLAND in your correspondence for special rates and services.

CONTACT:  
NANCY KNEISEL  
GRAY LINE OF PORTLAND, OREGON  
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- ( ) Home Club/Society Name \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Bonsai Clubs International
- ( ) American Bonsai Society
- ( ) Other (Specify)

Confirmations will be made separately, one from the Registration Committee and one from the hotel. A charge of \$10.00 will be made for any cancellation postmarked after May 1, 1978. A charge of \$5.00 will be made for any cancellation postmarked before May 1, 1978. No post-dated checks will be accepted.

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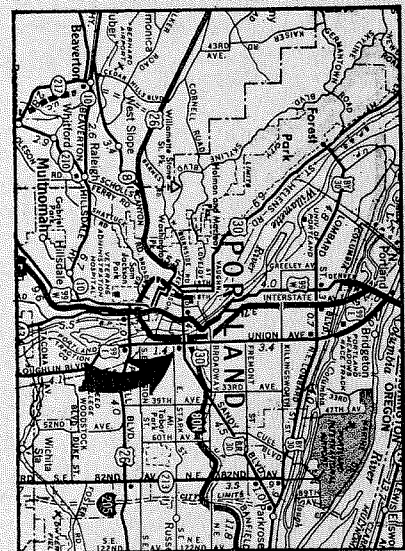
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Parlor with two connecting bedrooms		
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All rates plus 5% City Tax.		
<b>IF RATE REQUESTED IS NOT AVAILABLE, NEXT AVAILABLE RATE WILL BE CONFIRMED.</b>		
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Check-in time is 2:00 p.m. or later. Earlier occupancy is on an availability basis only.		
RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO OPENING DATE OF MEETING.		



## *Croton Hill Farms, inc.*

...wishes to welcome the Potomac Bonsai Association back to its ads.

> here are some good products we think you may want to try:

HYDROGEL (What! You haven't heard about Hydrogel?)

MASAKUNI's new plastic bonsai-watering hose-nozzle

OSMOCOTE 3-4 month fertilizer

BASIC - H (What!! You haven't heard about Basic-H either??)

as usual, Croton Hill Farms has its normal large stock of pots, tools, and plant materials, as well as more fantastic Buttonwoods and Baldcypress we've just brought up from Florida.

we want to be your

## **EVERYTHING FOR BONSAI**

company.

---

We would also like to take some of this space to announce Cliff Pottberg's spring classes and workshops.

Beginner-intermediate classes:

Smithsonian - 10 wks starts Tues. April 11 @7:00PM

Rockville - 10 wks starts Mon. April 10 @7:00PM

and somewhere, not yet definite, in Baltimore

Advanced classes:

2 courses: 3 hr sessions, both on Saturday,  
1@ 9AM, 1@ 1PM, both start March 11, both at the Woodrow  
Wilson library in Falls Church. 5 wks there, last wk @CHF

> and announcing a limited series of open advanced workshops held  
by Cliff Pottberg on Sundays at Croton Hill Farms this spring

March 26

April 2

April 9

April 16

May 7

These workshops are held from 1PM on; they cost only \$10 apiece; they will be limited to 10 students each week. You may reserve a space in any or all of them, and you may bring plants to work on (bonsai or raw material), or, of course, buy them there.

And there's no limit: we'll work on as many plants as you like and that there's time for.

For more information, or directions, or reservations, call

Cliff Pottberg, at 301-366-8844 or 301-472-2664