

# PBA NEWSLETTER

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## TREE OF THE MONTH

### *Pinus Virginiana*

by H. William Merritt

(Virginia Pine, Scrub Pine, Jersey Pine, Poverty Pine, Spruce Pine)

A new dimension is added to the pleasure of bonsai when local native plant materials are used. Among the advantages are:

- Plentiful sources of supply in the wild from field trips.
- Acclimation to local weather conditions and seasons.
- Adjustment to available soils.

*Pinus virginiana* offers all these advantages since it grows abundantly throughout the Potomac area. It is found from sea level to elevations of about 3,000 feet in a climate that is classed as humid--35 to 45 or 50 inches of rainfall fairly well distributed throughout the year. The scrub pine matures in 50 to 100 years, seldom lives longer than 150 years, but may reach 200 years.

Description and Styling. Young trees are roughly pyramidal in form and frequently grow in dense stands. As it matures, branches become long and horizontal or hang in twisted whorls. *P. virginiana* is distinguished from all other two-needle pines by its purplish young wood with a glaucous, grayish green, covering. The needles are stiff, divergently twisted, sharp pointed and are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches long. Confining a scrub pine in a bonsai pot with well-drained soil can shorten the needles to  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length.

The naturally drooping branches make the Virginia pine well suited for formal and informal upright and slanted bonsai styles, as well as wind-swept and cascade styles. The branches on young trees are supple and are easily shaped by wiring. However, the bark is thin and can be easily damaged. On mature trees, the bark develops shallow fissures with flat scaly ridges and turns dark brown. It is smoother than the bark of any associated pines. Mature scrub pines develop a flat-topped, open and scraggly crown which can be imitated in bonsai through pinching and pruning.

Shaping. As with other pines, new buds should be pinched back in the spring when they start to form candles. To control growth, the largest candles should be removed. Depending on the shape desired, the remaining candles should be removed or pinched back, leaving just a few needle clusters. This process may encourage existing buds along the stem to develop and produce new shoots. *P. virginiana* will not produce adventitious (spontaneous) shoots.

Growth. The Virginia pine is intolerant of shade. It has a basic photosynthetic limitation that causes it to die when heavily shaded. However, under full sunlight and long days, internodal length can be increased and cycles of bud formation can be accelerated. This characteristic, coupled with attention to pinching and pruning, can help produce dense clusters of needles.

Virginia pine seedlings are more tolerant of low soil moisture than most pines. They remain alive and grow under quite dry conditions. To stay healthy, especially where the soil is virtually sterile, supplementary nutrition should be supplied. Regular fertilizers, which furnish adequate levels of calcium, magnesium, potassium, nitrogen and phosphorous, should be satisfactory.

Soils. Virginia pine will survive in almost any soil--from heavy clayey land, on virgin soil and on impoverished abandoned farm land. While these pines may grow on poor, light sandy soils, they thrive best in clay, loam or sandy loam. Virginia pine generally tolerates soil acidities ranging from a pH of 4.6 to 7.9.

For bonsai, in order to keep these pines from becoming leggy, the soil should be at least half coarse sand with the balance mostly a well-drained loam. Since it is less tolerant of wet conditions than most other pines, the bonsai soil should contain little, if any, peat or humus.

Diseases. The scrub pine has few serious enemies, except mankind. At times, insects damage cones severely and thus reduce seed yields. The cone insect that does the most damage is a beetle (*Conophorus virginianae*) specific to the Virginia pine. The less damaging cone moth (*Laspeyresia toreuta*) attacks Virginia pine, but usually destroys only a few seeds in each cone. Other Insects That cause significant damage to Virginia pine are the southern pine beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis*), the Nantucket tip moth (*Rhyacionia frustrana*), and the pine sawfly (*Neodiprion pratte pratti*). Damage is cyclic--with buildups from infestation which reaches a peak in an area, then declines. Close scrutiny for signs of infestation, pinching off infected parts, and preventative spraying can reduce damage.

Collecting. Virginia pines can be collected either in the spring (best in late March or early April) or in the fall (October). Though this pine normally has shallow roots, the poor soil conditions in which it is found results in long woody roots with few hair roots. Special care is needed to retrieve enough roots with soil intact to enable the tree to survive. The roots and as much soil as possible should be wrapped and protected until the tree can be transplanted. It should be placed in a tub, or in the ground, with its customary soil, but with new bonsai soil worked carefully around the roots. The tree should be cared for in this condition for at least a year to insure that the rootage is healthy enough to start bonsai training. If the tree survives, it can provide considerable pleasure for many years. If it doesn't, there are plenty more *Pinus Virginiana* with which to try again.

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# BONSAI CARE

a simple guide for owners

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**DAVID E. FLIPSE**

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... think **BIG**

# a bonsai experience

This article inaugurates my bonsai writing career. I have decided to write occasional articles for PBA on my, admittedly novice, bonsai experiences as a means of having fun. Sort of a busman's holiday, for I am a writer. And a new member of the Baltimore Bonsai Club. Of course I don't live near Baltimore, but I joined it because it is not near me and because Mr. Morell of the Baltimore Bonsai Club has graciously consented to type and send these reports to your editor to further maintain my anonymity.

I apologize for having to remain anonymous, but it is necessary in order to maintain your trust in what I write. Not that I am a child pornographer or any such thing. But how many of you would read this with an open mind if you knew it were written by Senator George McGovern? Or, for those would would, how many would accept it if I turned out to be Richard Nixon? Of course, I am not they, but enough. I'm sure you understand.

My article this month deals with a collecting trip I went on sometime ago to the lands of a sand and gravel mining company. Believe me, it was the pits. It was rainy and cold, and the mushy sand clay made walking miserable. My friend Mess said it was good weather for the trees, but I don't see it. I prefer hard dry packed soil when hiking and comfortably warm sunny weather. Let the trees fend for themselves.

Anyway the whole trip was very unlucky for me. Trees I would pass right by would be passed on the other side by someone else, and naturally the front (and the good line of trunk) would be on their side, so only they would see it. Sproots did this to me once; so did Mayo, and so did Vapo-rub, who is married to Sproots. Come to think of it, Vapo-rub wound up with an awful lot of good plants. I suspect her of cheating by going all the way around the plant and studying to make sure there was or was not a good line and enough branches.

At one point in the afternoon, Blotch, who was an attractive and talented out-of-town bonsai visitor, Twinkletoes, a.k.a. Tenderheel, and I were walking together when Twinkletoes came across a Rigida Pine, extremely contorted from lying in a motorcycle path. He called us over, pointed out how interesting the tree was and mentioned he wasn't sure what he'd do with it.

Instantly I set my genius mentality to work to show him and Blotch up. "It's an interesting challenge," I said, thinking fast, and looking for the line. "It really has beautiful potential. Do you see it, Blotch?"

Blotch looked quizzical and said nothing. So I turned and said to Twinkletoes "What would you do with it?"

Obviously taking his cue from Blotch, he replied, "I think I'd leave it in the ground." Nobody likes a smarthead.

By this time, knowing the best line for the front wasn't on their side I deduced it might be on my side, so I looked again, and sure enough, there, indeed, was a very pretty shape.

To prove my wisdom and to satisfy my constantly charitable need to help the peons, I pointed out the line to them, and then said sagely: "This proves an interesting lesson. Very often our subconscious mind sees beauty, lines and grace, that our less powerful conscious mind must struggle with for some time to see and understand. You knew there was beauty in this tree when you first saw it, Twinkletoes, but you couldn't pinpoint it. Obviously, then, it would be valuable, when a tree looks good, to take it and worry about what to do with it later. In all probability it will turn out to be a fine bonsai eventually. You should take this tree home and study it. Even that study will enhance your bonsai education."

To my everlasting chagrin, he said "That's a good idea, I think I will," and he unlimbered his shovel and started to dig.

You can begin to see why I didn't like the afternoon. I eventually dug a couple of small not-so-good pines and went home. Trust my rotten luck, I caught a cold and then the pines died. I can't understand it, either. It wasn't more than a week or two before I potted them up, and I used a good rich potting soil, and watered and fertilized them heavily immediately afterwards.

I am an incurable optimist though. I know there'll be a next time to out-smart them all. With my marvelous brain I know I'll have the best bonsai collection in the area within a year or two, so I can afford to be gracious, modest and patient in the meantime.

A\*D\*O\*L\*F G\*U\*S\*T\*A\*V D\*A\*M\*M\*E\*R\*E\*R B\*U\*S\*C\*H

(Ed. note: A.G.D. Busch is a new contributor to our Newsletter)

## **NEVER ASK A LADY HER AGE**

Western culture is caught up in a youth cult. Billions of dollars are spent each year on cosmetics to make us look young. Last year's styles won't do because we have to show we're "with it." How come, then, that our bonsai are not "with it" unless they are old?

An acquaintance who had recently been on a bonsai tour of Japan remarked at having seen a tree in a private collection which he found later was purported to be 2000 years old. He did not have a picture of it, however, because the tree had not impressed him when he saw it. "I'd have paid more attention to it, though, if I'd known at the time how old it was!" Why? Invariably if two bonsai are placed side-by-side, one good the other only so-so, the one known to be old will get the interested attention even though it may be the so-so tree.

Many of us know sixty year old people who could pass for far younger. Some of us also know twenty year olds who look far older. What then is the advantage of chronological age? A good bonsai, we learn, is supposed to look old, to look matured, venerable, maybe even battle scarred. We jin apexes, wire branches down, create sabamiki and otherwise scar the trunks, all to create an illusion of age. If this illusion is successful, and in the process a good bonsai has been created, who cares how old it is? It is the artist's skill in working with good bonsai stock that is important.

The Japanese have an ability most westerners don't. They can appreciate and enjoy a tree for what it is now. Each stage of a bonsai's development has its own special beauty, and the Japanese appreciate its growth and potential as much as they do its old age. The western bonsaiist has as much to learn from the Japanese with regard to their attitude toward bonsai as he does from their skill in creating bonsai.

I have heard the argument that a tree shouldn't be considered a bonsai until it is at least twenty years old. Suppose you don't know how old a tree is? Do you have to wait for twenty years before you can be sure it's a bonsai? A naturally dwarfed collected tree can only have its age guesstimated. You could be as much as a hundred years off (it might be twenty or a hundred and twenty). If you must know the age, cut off the trunk and count the rings. You won't have a bonsai, but you will know how old it was.

Old age alone will not make a good bonsai, not youth a bad one. Ask my age or that of my trees and you're likely to get the same answer - "How old do you think we are?" (Or, "None of your business!")

--- Mary Houlton

*Joy To The World*

# Snips and Slips

## HOT STUFF

Cliff Pottberg has come up with a new (to me) method for making it too hot for rabbits (mice, squirrels, rats, cats, and what-ever else) to chew on your precious bonsai while they are in winter storage. He mixes a gallon of anti-transpirant (use the kind which contains Pinolenè, not pinene - read the label) and adds a "dash" (a few tablespoons) of Tabasco sauce or Louisiana hot sauce to the brew. It seems not to hurt the tree (glad I'm not a tree), but those a-gnawing little creatures won't touch it.

## ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN

Collecting trips are through now  
And your bonsai put away.  
You wonder what you'll do now  
Until that warm spring day.

For once old Santa's come and gone  
And the New Year welcomed in  
The winter days get to you  
And you take it on the chin.

Three long months to go  
Before the chaos starts.  
Cold gray days of ice and snow  
To be faced with heavy hearts.

But think of all the plusses,  
For now your life's at ease.  
No pruning, potting, fusses -  
Forget about your trees.

The winter blues will soon enough  
Yield to a warm spring day.  
And so much for your leisure  
It too has blown away.

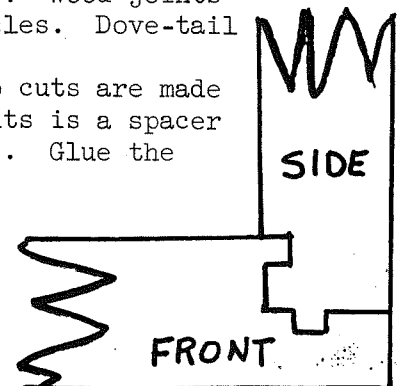
--- Mary Houlton

## BOXED IN

If you have access to a power saw table, preferably with dado cutters, you can make wood pots with no-nail, self-locking, and neat-looking joints. Wood joints fastened with nails or screws warp or shrink after wet and dry cycles. Dove-tail joints expose alternating grain ends and require precise fitting.

A dado cut joint is simple to make with nominal skills. Two cuts are made on the front and back pieces, and three on the side pieces (two cuts is a spacer is used between cutters). The cuts should be at least 1/8" x 1/8". Glue the joints at assembly.

Vertical sides are recommended. Two opposite slanting sides are possible, but four slanting sides require considerable skill to lay out and cut. However, the effect of a tapered pot can be achieved easily by bevelling the top inside and bottom outside. The addition of a lip adds to the illusion of a tapered pot. Insert a bottom; round the edges, and groove to suit; and add feet.



--- Harvey Everett

# Book Nook

The Beginner's Guide to American Bonsai. Jerald P. Stowell, Kodansha International Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, 1978, \$12.95.

This is a fine looking book. Print is large and clear. Photos are sharp and the 15 color plates are beautiful. The few sketches are clearly delineated, and charts are simple enough to follow readily. These are characteristics of a good book. But in the final analysis, it's what the reader comes away with that determines the true value of the book.

I found The Beginner's Guide as an easy reading book. Consuming it tasted good, but left me still hungry. Looking for the reason, I've decided it's because Mr. Stowell's banquet table is spread with a great variety of goodies, but not enough of any one to assuage the appetite.

In order to cover everything about bonsai, he so broad-brushes principles and techniques that many novices will find too little in the way of definitive instructions. Too many questions are not answered. Read aloud before an audience of people not previously exposed to the living art form, Mr. Stowell's book would be a superior introductory session in a multi-session course in beginning bonsai. Perhaps that's what he intended.

But I hark back to the frustrations I encountered as a beginner who wanted to know the how and why of bonsai in an order that I could follow. The brief-burst coverage in The Beginner's Guide only hints, it doesn't explain enough to satisfy such a hunger.

For example, his "Selecting the Style" - the least tangible aspect of bonsai for the beginner - is discussed in a 15-line section followed by equally brief passages about the five basic bonsai styles. To some newcomers this kind of recurring brevity may whet the appetite for further research. But I've found it discourages more would-be beginners because the very simplicity of his presentation makes it hard for a beginner to integrate the large number of separate aspects into a logical continuity he or she can personally relate to and which will help their hands-on development of a first bonsai.

In short, Mr. Stowell's organization of material demonstrates his expertise, but he talks, he doesn't explain, about bonsai methods and techniques. He lectures but doesn't teach, at least not on a how-to comprehension level for beginners.

The most important contribution of this book to bonsai literature is the author's development of specific recommendations for regional treatment of plant materials as bonsai. Dividing North America into five regions, Mr. Stowell discusses general temperature variations, protective measures needed, and plants naturally hardy in each region.

Still, the regions are vast and contain so many microenvironments within their imaginary boundaries that a beginner is more likely to be confused than satisfied if he or she tries to translate the information to his or her own first attempt at bonsai. These regional ecological variations are more likely to interest the serious bonsaiists expanding horizons beyond the beginning stage.

Conspicuous by its absence is any mention of indoor bonsai. Yet, no treatment of American bonsai can ignore the millions of potential bonsaiists who live in high rises, condominiums, and apartment complexes. They, too, share the suburbanite's feeling for growing plants, and they, too, find bonsai a fascinating field to explore. More and more their demands for knowledge about and instructions in bonsai that will flourish with either limited outside space or none at all are being heard.

Perhaps the real contribution to an ancient art form that we western-world-bonsaiists can make is adaptation of bonsai to the total American scene. That will have to include indoor bonsai.

Mr. Stowell's title is thus somewhat misleading. He treats bonsai with selected American plant material. But, despite a high quality effort, he only partially covers development of American Bonsai.

## Club News

### BBC Scores With 7th Annual Show

The 29th of October was a glorious fall Sunday at the Cylburn Wildflower Preserve and Garden Center. The trees were at their peak and fall flowers were in full Fall splendor. The real jewel, however, was inside the mansion, scaffolded due to restoration efforts, and looking for the world like a Halloween haunted house, it housed the 7th annual Baltimore Bonsai Club show. The largest ever held in Baltimore club history, the show contained 67 trees in four divisions and two educational displays. The divisions, invitational, judged, open, and hobbyist, contained many excellent trees, proving again that Bonsai is growing in the Baltimore area.

In the judged section first prize was awarded to Al Kash's informal upright San Jose Juniper, 2nd prize to Barbara Bogash's Kingsville Boxwood grove, and 3rd prize to a broom style ilex crenata "Heller" designed and executed by Al Kash. The open division contained a number of trees which promise to fill the judged division within the next year or so.

The hit of the show was an educational display developed by Helen Lauenstein. This exhibit identified 28 different trees from around the world which are useful as Bonsai material. The trees, many of them from Helen's collection, were displayed in Bonsai pots (Mame) and were tagged to show the country of origin and a description of the tree in its natural habitat.


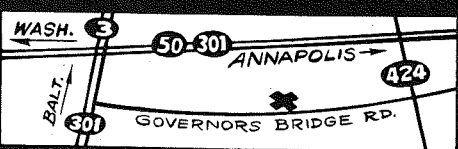
Co-chairpersons Gina and Joe Sennello along with committee members Helen Lauenstein, Judy Piazza, and Terry Gilbert did an outstanding job and our thanks go out to them.

The most thanks go to the members of The BBC who shared their trees and allowed them to be shown.

--- Arschel Morell

### BONSAIISTS FROM DOWN-UNDER

PBA, and especially the Brookside Gardens Bonsai Club were pleased to welcome Australian bonsai enthusiasts Zillah Willmott (BCI director) and Dick Spencer to their October meeting. Mrs. Willmott and Mr. Spencer were touring the States on a business tour and mixing as much bonsai into the trip as they could. We enjoyed having them, wish they could have stayed longer, and hope they will return to see us again soon.

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Dwarf Rhododendrons

Japanese Maples, all sizes and varieties

Dwarf Pomegranate

Cotoneasters

Secondary Planting Materials

Dwarf Conifers

Azaleas

13 varieties of Junipers

We now have seedling Bristlecone Pine,

Small Pots & Bonsai Dishes

Japanese Black Pine for growing on - for Bonsai

**PEACE ON EARTH**

# CLUB CALENDAR

- December 9  
Saturday Styling critique by Cliff Pottberg. 10 a.m. Gulf Branch Nature Center. Bring trees - from those still to be styled (in the rough) to those well under way. Cliff will also comment on material heretofore neglected/overlooked for bonsai, as well as on fertilizers and chemicals from a nurseryman/bonsaiist point of View. NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY.
- December 12  
Tuesday Annual Christmas party at the Oriental Gardens in Parole. 7:00 p.m. bar, 8:00 p.m. dinner. Chinese and Vietnam food. I've heard its very good from those who have eaten there. Call Vicki Ballantyne (301) 647-3224 or Fern Jacobi at (301) 798-0409 for reservations, directions, and menu. All PBA members welcome. ANNAPOLIS.
- December 15  
Friday Christmas Party. 7:30 p.m. Library, Brookside Botanic Gardens. Cookies & egg nog following meeting. Program will consist of showing members' photographic slides of interesting trees growing "in the field" or in a garden. Pictures to be shown are of trees from here & from distant lands. We seek contributions to make the evening as varied as possible. BROOKSIDE
- December 16  
Saturday If meeting held at National Arboretum, it will be a program on bonsai soils; otherwise, a Christmas bonsai banquet. Call Jim Cubie (347-5800 day hours only) for final information. WASHINGTON
- No formal meeting for BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB. Holiday celebration with the Annapolis Club at the Oriental Gardens. Contact Arschel Morell if details not received through the mail by Dec. 5.
- January 13  
Saturday Chinese bonsai slides, pruning program. 10 a.m. Gulf Branch Nature Center. NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY
- January 19  
Friday Program by Jerry Stowell. 7:30 p.m. Brookside Nature Center. Jerry will discuss plant physiology and creating bonsai from seedlings. All PBA members welcome. BROOKSIDE
- January 20  
Saturday Dr. Peter Mazzeo will give talk on identification of bonsai-type material. 2 p.m. National Arboretum. WASHINGTON
- January 21  
Sunday Open meeting - indoor bonsai. 3 p.m. Cylburn Park. Bring your favorite indoor trees to discuss and share. BALTIMORE

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**



POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION

Constitution and By-Laws

CONSTITUTION

Article I, Name

The name of this organization shall be the Potomac Bonsai Association, hereinafter referred to as the PBA, a non-profit organization.

Article II, Purpose

The purpose for which the PBA is formed and is to be operated is exclusively for educational objectives to be promoted by it as follows:

- A. To develop the interest of the American public in Bonsai and related arts.
- B. To serve as a focal point and headquarters for affiliated organizations of Bonsai enthusiasts.
- C. To interest and train various and sundry persons in engaging in Bonsai arts.
- D. To hold periodic meetings, symposia, workshops and/or conventions in furtherance of its educational purposes.
- E. To provide a reference service, both literary and personal, to alleviate members' Bonsai problems and to increase members' enjoyment of and expertise in the art of Bonsai.
- F. To hold, sponsor and promote such functions as may be necessary for fund raising purposes but only incidental to and in furtherance of its educational purposes.
- G. To further the art of Bonsai by education and research.
- H. To invest and reinvest the principal and income for such property, real, personal or mixed, and in such manner as it shall deem advisable; provided, however, that the members shall not invest the property in such a manner as to violate Section 504 (a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as now in force or afterwards amended. No principal or income, however, shall be loaned directly or indirectly to any member or to anyone else, corporate or otherwise, who has at any time made a contribution to the PBA, nor to anyone except on the basis of an adequate interest charge and with adequate security.
- I. To employ a bank or trust company as keeper of any funds or securities and to delegate to it such powers as the members deem appropriate.
- J. No part of the net earnings of the PBA shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the PBA shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein. No substantial part of the activities of the PBA shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the PBA shall not participate in, or intervene in, (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the PBA

shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law), or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

K. The objects and powers specified in these Articles except where expressly limited, be in no wise limited or restrained by interference from the terms of any other clauses in any other part of these Articles, but the objects and powers specified in each of the clauses of these Articles shall be regarded as independent and separate purposes of the PBA, but only incidental to and in furtherance of its educational purposes.

L. In the event of the dissolution of the PBA, all assets remaining after the payments of bills, expenses, liquidation costs, and attorneys fee, shall be turned over to such organization or organizations organized for educational purposes as shall at that time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law) as its Board may determine.

#### Article III, Address

A. The post office address of the principal office of the PBA shall be determined by the PBA Board of Directors.

#### Article IV

A. The PBA shall be without capital stock and will not be operated for profit. None of the net income of the PBA shall inure to the benefit of any of its members.

#### Article V, Officers

Section 1. The officers of PBA shall consist of the following: President, First Vice President, Educational Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each of the officers shall be elected by mail from the total membership of PBA as prescribed by the By-Laws.

Section 2. Elected officers shall hold office for one year commencing from the annual meeting or until their successors are elected.

Section 3. The President, First Vice President and Educational Vice President shall not be eligible to serve for more than two consecutive elected terms in the same office.

#### Article VI, Board of Directors

Section 1. The governing body of PBA between meetings shall be the Board of Directors, consisting of the Elected Officers, a Past President and one Regional Director from and elected by each affiliate club. The PBA officers shall serve as the officers of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. One Regional Director shall be designated by each affiliate club for the year following the annual meeting of PBA.

Section 3. The duties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors shall be to implement the Purpose of PBA, Article II, to certify new Bonsai Clubs to have met the qualifications for affiliation with PBA, to conduct the business of PBA, to publish the Newsletter and to report Board activities to the membership at meetings and in the Newsletter.

#### Article VII, Powers

The following provisions are hereby adopted for the purpose of defining, limiting and regulating the powers of the PBA and of its members and Directors:

Section 1. At any meeting of the Directors and/or members of the PBA, the votes required to take, or authorize any action, shall be a majority of the votes then and there cast at such meeting plus valid proxies as provided for by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. No Director or officer shall be disqualified from voting or acting in behalf of the PBA, in contracting with any other corporation in which he may be a Director, officer or stockholder, nor shall any Director of the PBA be disqualified from voting or acting on its behalf by reason of any personal interest.

#### Article VIII, Duration

The duration of the PBA shall be perpetual.

#### Article IX, Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members at the annual meeting, after at least thirty (30) days' notice of the nature of the proposed amendment. Any PBA member may propose an amendment by providing the Secretary with a statement of the nature thereof at least forty-five (45) days before the annual meeting. The Secretary shall then include such statement in the notice of meeting.

BY-LAWS

Article I, Membership

A. Membership in the PBA shall be open to any person upon application and payment of requisite dues, and shall continue from year to year as long as dues are paid. Membership shall be divided into the following classes:

1. Founding. A member on the PBA rolls as of the date on which these By-Laws shall have been adopted by a majority of such members.

2. Regular. A member in good standing of any affiliate organization which has met the dues requirements as outlined in Article III of these By-Laws.

3. Corresponding. A member outside the environs of PBA affiliate organizations, but who wishes to participate in PBA programs on a corresponding basis and who meets the dues requirements as outlined in Article III of these By-Laws.

4. Honorary. Membership conferred by the majority of the Board of Directors on an individual in recognition of outstanding service in, or a significant contribution to the PBA and the art of Bonsai. Honorary membership shall be for a period not to exceed five (5) years, unless extended by a majority of the Board of Directors. In any case, there shall be no more than fifteen (15) honorary members in existence at any one time. Affiliate organizations may confer honorary membership on individuals, but affiliate organizations shall then be responsible for the PBA dues of that member as outlined in Article III of these By-Laws.

B. Any Bonsai Club or Society formed from PBA members, or which applies for an affiliation and is certified in the PBA and has met the dues requirements of Article III of these By-Laws, shall be considered to be an affiliate organization.

C. Industrial membership may be granted to any commercial concern within the Northern Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia area upon application and payment of requisite dues.

D. The PBA Board of Directors may establish different classes of membership with different dues and different privileges, but shall not establish any other standards as criteria for membership in any PBA affiliate club or society.

E. Any Honorary, Regular, Corresponding or Industrial membership shall be terminated upon non-payment of requisite dues.

Article II, Voting and Elections

Section 1. Each dues paying member shall be entitled to one vote for the election of PBA officers and shall be entitled to one vote on all other business coming before any PBA meeting.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall elect a committee to nominate officers no later than 15 January. A notice of officers to be nominated, the nomination procedures and election procedures shall be published in the February Newsletter of PBA.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each office and report their nominations in the March Newsletter and to the Secretary and President of each club. Additional nominations supported by at least 3 PBA members may be submitted to the chairman of the nominating committee and shall appear on...

the ballot if submitted or posted no later than 22 March. The Nominating Committee shall prepare the list of all nominees and it shall be reported in the April Newsletter.

Section 4. The President shall appoint a committee of three Tellers who shall prepare the official ballot. The ballot shall list all nominees previously reported and a space for a write-in vote for each office. Preferential ballots may be provided if appropriate.

Section 5. The Secretary shall provide the committee of Tellers with the official roll of PBA members who are entitled to vote as of the closing date of 31 March.

Section 6. Voting shall take place at the Annual Meeting. The voting shall be limited to members in good standing attending the meeting.

Section 7. A majority of ballots cast shall be required to elect. The preferential vote shall be employed to determine the elected candidate should any candidate fail to receive a majority of initial votes. The Tellers shall report the results of the election.

#### Article III, Dues

A. The PBA Board of Directors shall fix the amount of dues and the percentage of the prorata share to be paid to each PBA affiliate club or society. Upon adoption of these By-Laws, member dues shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per annum for a single membership and two dollars (\$2.00) per annum for each additional membership in the same household, payable in advance for one calendar year, January 1 through December 31.

B. Honorary members of the PBA shall pay no dues. However, the PBA dues for an honorary member of an affiliate organization shall be the same as outlined above.

C. Dues for industrial membership in PBA shall be set by the Board of Directors.

D. Dues for corresponding members of PBA shall be set by the Board of Directors.

E. Per capita dues to PBA shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per member per year.

#### Article IV, Meetings

A. An annual meeting of the PBA individual and club members shall be held within one year after the preceeding annual meeting, at the time and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors. The business of the annual meeting shall include the election of the Directors and submission of annual reports by the president, the treasurer and Chairpersons of any standing committees subsequently provided for.

B. Special meetings of PBA members may be held at anytime upon the call of the president or a majority of the Board of Directors or by a majority of any one kind of membership. The business of a special meeting shall be confined to the matter stated in the notice of the meeting.

C. At least thirty days' notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be given to all PBA members. At least fourteen days' notice shall be given for special meetings. Notices shall include the purpose of all special meetings and any special matter to be transacted at the annual meeting.

D. At all meetings of PBA members, a quorum shall consist of one-third of the membership or nine members, whichever is smaller, and, if a quorum is present, the act of a majority of the members voting at the meeting shall be the official act of the PBA. A member's right to vote must be exercised in person unless the Board of Directors shall have made advance provision for voting by proxy in respect to any particular matter.

E. Meetings of individual PBA affiliate clubs or societies shall be held in conformance with the Constitution and By-Laws of each such club or society, and business to be conducted at any such meeting shall be at the discretion of duly elected officers.

#### Article V, Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall hold at least one regular meeting each year, which shall be an organization meeting, at the earliest convenient date following the elections of new Regional Directors. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chairman or upon the request of three Directors. At least ten days' notice of all Board meetings must be given.

Section 2. The Directors may appoint an executive committee of the Board of Directors which shall be authorized to exercise all powers of the Board between meetings of the Board. The president shall be ex-officio member of the executive committee, if formed.

#### Article VI, Officers

Section 1. The officers shall be responsible for executing the policies and carrying out the programs established by the Board of Directors, within the financial limitations determined by the Directors.

Section 2. Duties of the officers shall be as follows:

2.1 The President shall oversee or monitor all PBA activities. He shall appoint such individual members, or establish such committees of members, as he deems necessary to accomplish PBA goals and objectives, such appointments to run until completion of the task assigned or at the discretion of the president.

2.2 The First Vice-President shall have such duties and powers as usually pertain to the office of Vice-President and also such powers and duties as from time to time shall be conferred by the Board. In the absence of the president and first vice-president, the Board may appoint a president pro tem,

2.3 The Educational Vice-President shall execute programs established by the Board of Directors which are educational in nature, that is, programs implemented for the express purpose of increasing members' knowledge, experience or familiarity in any phase of Bonsai art. His duties shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

a. Developing new programs, and improvements to or evaluations of existing programs, and presenting the results to the Board of Directors for consideration.

b. Preparing, causing to be prepared or procuring such educational aids as books, pamphlets, equipment, supplies and expert guest lecturers/speakers, demonstrators, within approved budgetary limits, as may be necessary to achieve assigned responsibilities. He may appoint temporary committees, as needed, without the approval of the president, to assist in general or specific aspects of educational programs.

c. Developing methods and procedures to provide member services such as: lending library; telephone help clinics; speakers bureau; Bonsai bibliography; and such other personal and program aids as may be directed or developed within budgetary limits.

d. Developing and implementing the PBA schedule of monthly activities and events, including: topics for discussion, workshop periods, visiting speakers, demonstrations, exhibitions, and field trips.

e. He shall be chairperson of the standing educational committee.

2.4 The Secretary shall keep a record of each PBA meeting; answer all correspondence; maintain rosters and rolls of members; send out notices; arrange for publication, as necessary, of educational materials; prepare and publish, within budgetary limitations, a periodic PBA newsletter or journal; direct the visitor host and speakers bureau programs; and perform such other duties as the Board of Directors and the president shall assign. Assistants may be assigned, with approval of the president, to help monitor and accomplish secretarial duties.

2.5 The Treasurer shall collect dues; maintain the PBA financial records, arrange for an annual audit of PBA books; pay all just and due bills; prepare, in close coordination with the Directors and officers, an annual budget for consideration by the membership at the annual PBA meeting; maintain custody and accountability for all PBA-owned property, equipment, supplies and other assets; develop and arrange, with approval of the Board of Directors, for fund-raising activities and events, including but not limited to, raffles of donated trees, sales of PBA brochures/pamphlets/trees/tools/etc.; and perform such other duties as the Board of Directors and the president may assign.

#### Article VII, Committees

A. The Educational Committee and any other standing committees subsequently provided for by the Board of Directors, shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at its annual organizational meeting, to serve until the next annual meeting, and the duties of each chairperson and his assistants shall be subsequently provided for by the Board of Directors.

#### Article VIII, Parliamentary Authority

A. The rules contained in the most recent edition of "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the PBA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rules of order the members of the PBA may adopt.

#### Article IX, Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by two-thirds of the members voting at any meeting, after at least thirty days notice of the nature of the proposed amendment. Any three members of PBA may propose an amendment by providing the Secretary with a statement thereof at least sixty days before the meeting. The Secretary shall then include the statement in the notice of the meeting.