

POTOMAC
BONSAI
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

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TRIDENT MAPLE by Mary Holmes

The Trident maple (*Acer buergerianum*) is one of the most versatile of all trees to use as bonsai. It is also one of the classical species. Kaede, as it is known to the Japanese, lends itself willingly to single-specimen bonsai, to multiple trunk style, forest plantings and root-over-rock. It grows rapidly and happily in a pot and has a high tolerance for nearly any well-drained soil.

Discovered in China by western taxonomists at the turn of the century, the trident maple is typical of oriental maple species, though it is the most strong-looking and masculine of them. In nature it rarely reaches 25 feet in height, with about an equal branch spread. In the United States kaede grows well from Boston to Atlanta, west through the Great Plains. It also does well along the entire West Coast. Although the books tell you it shouldn't grow in Florida, bonsai enthusiasts down there do have them. I should imagine they loved the dormant spell they got in Miami this winter.

The name trident comes from the shape of the leaves which, as one might suspect, grow in the shape of a trident, - $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches naturally. The leaves will reduce nicely on a trident maple bonsai to about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and turn bright yellow, orange or red in the fall. Young tridents can be leaf-pruned when the foliage has hardened by June, though there is no reason to do this to a tree which is still developing in style and maturity, and even after maturity only if it is to be shown or sold. I have found that the constant pruning and pinching necessary to keep this species in bounds serves very nicely to reduce the leaf size.

Kaede develops two very nice traits as it matures. First is an exfoliating, or peeling bark. Second is a buttressed root system which seems to form almost a solid apron of roots (called zabari or "turtle back" by the Japanese). This is because trident's roots tend to self-graft, and the process can be encouraged by mounding soil up around the trunk, completely covering the roots.

Repotting should be done from the end of February to the end of March, before the buds come out, but just as they are beginning to swell. I have found that repotting can also be done from mid June to mid July if the tree is also pruned

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drastically, or defoliated, and then protected. For young trees, repotting should be done yearly in a mixture of 3-2-5 parts soil, fine sand and coarse sand respectively. As the tree reaches maturity at about 25 years, the coarse sand should be reduced, and the tree repotted only every two to three years.

Because it's a fast-grower, trident maples tend to develop bushy crowns at the expense of lower branches. Upper branches will quickly grow larger than lower ones unless they are kept constantly well pruned. It is a good idea to do your initial spring-pruning-after-spring growth on lower branches first and several days later prune back the upper branches. (Let shoots grow to about eight inches, then cut back to the first or second nodule - longer than that if you are trying to get a lower branch to fatten up.) This gives lower branches a chance to recover and be growing normally again while the upper ones play catch-up. Throughout the season the tree must be watched for rapid crown growth, and constantly thinned back to keep branches in proportion.

Trident maples will tolerate a great deal more water than most other trees, but the amount of water it receives must be constant. If it is watered heavily in the spring, it must continue to be watered heavily throughout the season. Most sources say tridents like full sun and most bonsai people say give maples partial shade in mid summer. My yard gets full sun all day long in the summer and my tridents love it, so I don't listen to the bonsai experts on that subject.

Bonsai sources recommend heavy pruning just prior to retiring to winter storage and again I differ because my personal preference is for doing it mid June to mid July. (Probably because that is the time of year I acquired my tridents, thought they needed work NOW, and took a chance, that I discovered it be be the best time for me.) I've cut back trunks and removed heavy branches at this time and found even large cuts starting to heal over almost immediately. It's the time of season for trunk and branch growth to really get going and I've had wounds as much as an inch in diameter healed over by fall. I should mention, however, that really drastic pruning has been accompanied by repotting at the same time, though heavy pruning has not always.

Wiring should begin in May, or in July and August. Kaede's bark damages easily, so raffia-wrapped wire is best, particularly for heavy branches. It has been emphasized several times already, this tree grows FAST. Wiring should be left on no longer than 4 to 6 weeks and checked constantly after 2 to 3 weeks to make sure it is not cutting into the bark. If the wire is starting to get snug and the branch has not yet taken the desired shape, still remove the old wire, then rewire carefully to avoid old wire marks.

As I mentioned in the first paragraph, one of the many styles trident maple lends itself to is root-over-rock. There can be no doubt as to the veracity of this statement for anyone who has seen that prime example in the National Collection. The roots have become the living part of the rock, molded into it and so much a part of it that the two could not be separated without the destruction of both. The roots have flattened out, as they should whenever root-over-rock is done properly. This style should be started with a seedling so that small roots can be shaped to the contours of the rock. At the rate kaede grows, it should be only a matter of a few years before the style is well developed.

--- Mary Holmes

Collecting Roundup 1981

naiku
(says who?)

Geese flying north
Daffodils

Soon collecting time

Collected Thoughts

All of us are collectors of one kind or another. My mother, bless her, collects nick nacks. She also likes to give nick nacks. A pleading for no more is usually good for about a year before Santa Claus gets cute again. To be fair, her nick nacks are always nice, often humorous and, for someone who did not inherit her interest, usually useless. My complaints, though, can be brought up short by a reminder that collecting trees in pots is another form of collecting nick nacks, but not too short because she also collects trees in pots. This is all digression, however, and it's time to get on with the point of this article.

Collecting, as it applies to bonsai, is more than just acquiring trees in pots, thereby having a "collection." Collecting is an active (sometimes very active) verb, not a passive one. In good old English-language tradition, subjects and objects in sentences are often understood and frequently esoteric. To say "I'm going collecting Saturday" is meaningless to someone who's not a bonsai nut, or connected with a bonsai nut. To the aficionado it means "I'm going to put a bunch of digging and pruning tools in the car, go out in the woods, and dig up some trees for my bonsai collection on Saturday."

Collecting, for the bona fide bonsai nut, is more than just a cheap way of adding to his collection. It is a pleasure, an addiction, and a real passion. Part of appreciating bonsai for what it is is appreciating nature - the outdoors, the fresh air and, most importantly, the love of trees as they grow in nature. The beech grove in a 20" pot will remind us of walks we have taken in such forests, the old twisted pine of a vacation in the mountains. Everyone who gets seriously into bonsai identifies with the trees as he has experienced them in nature, and loves to get back into nature to re-experience them.

What to take on this expedition? My basic philosophy is to be burdened with the least amount of junk as possible - the fewer tools I have to carry, the more trees I can carry. Basic usually is a shovel. I say usually because there are circumstances in which a shovel is as handy as training wheels on a 280Z. Collecting in an area scattered with rocks is no place for a shovel, but under normal circumstances it is a very useful and necessary tool. The size and shape of the blade is of less importance than the fact that it must be STURDY. Prying a 100 pounds of root ball out of the ground with a shovel with a broken handle is enough to make one give the whole thing up. I recommend the short-handled variety with about three feet of handle with a grip on the end as opposed to the pumpkin-patch variety with a five foot handle. Bitter experience has taught me the occurrence of breakage rises in geometric proportion to the length of the

handle. Knowing the type of terrain you will be collecting in (mountainous outcroppings or hardwood forests) will help you decide what/if shovel to take.

A pruning saw is a must. No matter what terrain you are in, you can always find good use for a pruning saw. My favorite is the collapsible kind with about a 12" curved blade. It will cut trees back to stump and then cut the heavy roots during the digging operation. Sometimes it is the only thing handy enough to cut the tap root when you can only feel it but not see it. I may take along a small bow saw if I know I'm going after really big stuff, but the pruning saw is indispensable.

Pruning shears are also handy, as are branch cutters. Neither item is large and both can be easily managed in a knapsack, but if you want to take only one make it the pruning shears. Part of the concept of growing bonsai is that the foliage mass balances the root mass of the tree. As you are going to be severing part of the root mass in your digging operation, you will need to remove some of the branches, or shorten them, to bring things back into proportion. While it is not absolutely necessary to achieve this balance at the collecting site, it is more convenient because the tree will be less bulky and easier to handle. I like to remove what I know are unnecessary branches before I dig, but often leave stubs several inches long as handles to help carry the tree. These can be removed completely once the tree's home.

The last essential item is a supply of garbage bags or some burlap and twine. Once the tree is out of the ground the roots must be protected from further damage and from drying out. By garbage bags I mean large lawn-sized trash bags. Far oftener than I care to admit I've taken waste-can sized bags only to find, once I've dug up the tree, that the bag won't fit over the roots to protect them. Each collector has his favorite root-wrap and mine is the ubiquitous plastic trash bag. They are easy to carry, envelop the root ball completely (if you remembered to bring the large size) and keep soil from being lost while retaining moisture around the root ball. If you're not too many hours away from the collecting site, keeping the soil tight around the root ball is not that critical, provided the soil is kept moist. If you are collecting in the Rockies and have to ship trees home, a compact and intact root ball is essential and trees should have their rootball tightly packed in moist burlap, with, perhaps, a plastic covering.

Other tools many collectors take along include: root loppers, crowbar, gardening claws, a wheel barrow or garden cart. A crowbar is almost essential in rocky terrain but useless in the woods. A wheel barrow is very handy in accessible territory and a definite liability in the mountains. Again, know what kind of terrain you'll be going into and use your common sense. Root loppers are very good for cutting roots up to two inches thick, though the same job can be accomplished with a pruning saw and a bit more effort. A trowel is a must in my collecting knapsack because I prefer to work with it rather than the larger shovel for delicate digging around fine roots. Gardening claws are also handy for exposing roots, and I found on one expedition on rock-strewn soil that they were handier than any shovel. Whatever tools you decide to take, make sure they are clean and sharp. Dull tools make the job much harder, and a good clean cut is much better for the survival chance of the tree than a jagged, crushed one.

The problem, once your gear is selected and packed and you've arrived at the collecting site, is what to collect and how to collect it. What to collect is largely a matter of personal preference unless you are at a spot where there is only one kind of tree. Then the problem is to decide what size tree you want and then to find a good specimen. Though I know it's not true, it has always amused

me to think that the size of the trees collected is inversely proportional to the size of the person collecting it. I have seen persons of all sizes collect trees of all sizes, but I'm not jumbo size and tend to take rather large trees and have seen enough big, strapping lumberjack type people with a look of rapture on their face over a 5" gem they looked for and found to support my amusement, if not my theory.

Once a suitable tree is located the problem becomes that of getting it out of the ground. Before doing anything else check for roots. First is large surface roots that will give your tree a look of stability. Here's where the garden claws come in handy if the roots are not readily seen. If they're there, then look for fine feeder roots. Take the shovel or trowel, or whatever is easiest, and search for these fine roots close to the trunk. About 18" out from the trunk is the farthest you should have to go to find them and still have a collectable tree. If only heavy roots are found and no fine ones, look for another tree - this one's uncollectable. Fine roots are absolutely essential for the survival of the tree and unless you are prepared to take 16 feet of root to get fine roots, give it up. (Sand and rock outcroppings are, by the way, notorious for producing glorious but uncollectable trees. The roots have to go forever to find water and the tree has very little need for fine roots near the trunk.)

As I stated previously I prefer to remove unnecessary branches and do preliminary pruning on a tree before I start to dig. If I can't decide which side is front I opt for John Naka's method of choosing the back (i.e. pick the least desirable viewing side) and work from there. By doing trimming and cutting before digging, I have a tree still firmly anchored in the ground which isn't going to wiggle and flop around while I'm trying to work. Cut off or cut back to stub branches which are obviously unnecessary to the overall design as you see it - heavy branches at the top, branches growing straight up and from awkward places, etc. The rest can be pruned back and their fate decided upon later.

If you're lucky the next step is the easiest - the actual digging. Again start about 18" from the trunk and simply dig a trench around the tree with the shovel. If it's a small tree you can start with a smaller root ball. Remember though, that a tree collected with an 18" radius root ball will be a 36" plus root ball diameter root ball when it's out of the ground. Start larger, though, because you can always cut back while you can never add to. Dig down until you no longer encounter roots, then undercut the tree. If it is a species that has a taproot that will have to be cut. Never cut the taproot if you find that you have sparser roots than you thought you had. Leave the tree in the ground for a year and come back the following year. Chances are you will find that the side roots have developed fine roots and the tree can be safely taken, but don't ever take a tree now that can't survive now.

Once the tree is out of the ground get the root ball covered as soon as possible, then get it home as soon as possible. You're supposed to have done your homework before this and have a container ready and soil all mixed before you ever go out into the field. Get the tree into the ground (if you want to develop the trunk further and have the space to do so) immediately, or into the container you have had ready to receive it. I myself prefer to do my potting/repotting on the kitchen floor (having no one to yell at me for messing things up and only myself to clean things up when I'm done). My only problem is 120 pounds of four-footed fir who has a tendency to be both a klutz and a nuisance at the same time. Once roots are examined, cut back if necessary, and further pruning done, the tree is potted, watered and set outside to grow. I have experimented with both a fine and a coarse soil mix with newly collected trees and found that

a finer mix, with a lot of sharp material, works best for me. Though a well-drained soil is important, too well drained a soil won't promote good growth. I do like to use a starting solution mixed with the first watering (like Superthrive or Start) but NEVER, NEVER give a newly collected or newly repotted tree fertilizer.

From this point on the tree should be watered regularly but sparingly (keeping it on the dry side for the first year). There are arguments pro and con for fertilizing the first year of its "captivity" but I would prefer to give a fertilizer to promote root growth (such as bone meal) - and sparingly - to a fertilizer to promote foliage growth (such as bloodmeal).

Happy collecting - and WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

--- Mary Holmes

Collecting By The Handful

(This article was started last Spring soon after returning from the collecting trip described.)

For many months, I waited for this scheduled collecting trip to the Monogahela National Forest and adjoining areas in the wilds of West Virginia. The trip leader had described the collecting as almost perfect and the scenic wonders as spectacular. The first contingent left Baltimore early Friday afternoon, armed with necessary permits, letters of entry, cabin reservations, collecting tools, food, etc. As we drove closer to the Maryland/West Virginia line, the topography began to change. It was apparent that we were going higher into the Allegheny Mountains. The maples, beech, birch, and other deciduous trees, dogwood, service berry, and redbud were abundant, as were pine, fir, spruce, rhododendron, mountain laurel, and a silvery gray deciduous tree which we could not identify from a distance but which we later found out to be hawthorn. I had thought that the trees would thin out as we approached the higher elevations, but the high water table helps to maintain good growing conditions. We arrived at the lodge late in the afternoon, picked up the keys to the cabins and, after a problem with our trailer, deposited our gear in the cabin, and took off for a side trip to the Dolly Sods Wilderness area. As had been indicated by the trip leader, the views from the top of Dolly Sods were spectacular, the rock outcroppings fantastic and the naturally windswept trees with the graduated stumps raising on the windward side and the perfect horizontal branching on the lee side, a sight to behold, a tree designer's paradise. I would like someday to do a saikei using the Dolly Sods peak as a model. That rock strewn landscape will remain with me a long time. (We returned to this peak later in the week end in order that all members of the party could feast on the view.)

After a pleasant evening meal in the lodge we visited with the other members of our party and turned in early because we planned to start collecting early the next day. The next morning was rather dreary and gray with rain predicted (the best collecting weather). After a leisurely breakfast we set out for Spruce Knob and the adjoining Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area where we had a limited permit to collect. We walked into the area to find snow fields and

cranberry bogs in a direct line with areas where we wanted to collect. It was tough going for a period of time, some of the ladies even turned back. At one time I found myself up to my hips in a snow bank. Everyone else had crossed this snow bank with no problem, but as you know, I'm no light weight and down I went. A few nice trees were collected, including mountain laurel, blueberry witch hazel, and several dwarf red spruce. A number of good slabs of rock were also collected in this area. Contained in this area is an uncollectable naturally cascading spruce. Uncollectable because it is growing down the face of a sheer cliff hundreds of feet from the valley floor. Our vantage points were above and to the side, just below the main below the main cascading branch. Much discussion was held because some members of our group felt that the tree was not one tree but two trees growing together. The point is moot, because (1) we will never find out due to the inaccessability of the tree, and (2) it's just plain beautiful. Who cares if it's one tree or two trees, the creation is one of perfection. I regret that, because of the vantage point and the wrong lens, I was unable to get a picture of this tree. Maybe next time.

About lunch time, as the rain came, we regrouped for the drive to another collecting site, this time on private land. This property is a coal field which is no longer worked. The collecting in this area was more satisfactory as collectable trees were in more abundance. There were many 5 to 6 inch red spruce which were growing in shallow humus which were collectable by just pulling from the ground by the hand full. Many larger spruce, up to ten feet, could be topped and lifted from the humus pocket on large flat rocks. The root balls were flat and fibrous with no tap root at all.

At one time I was walking on an old logging road with the trip leader when he discovered a huge spruce which had long ago been felled by a storm or a bulldozer, and there growing on the rocks imbedded in the roots of this fallen giant was a natural grove of seedling red spruce. This grove was collected by just lifting the two hands full of humus surrounding the roots and placing the whole mass in a plastic bag. They were later planted on a rock in almost the same position as when collected. Later the same day your author collected a handful of spruce which were growing in a grove on a flat rock. These trees were also planted on a rock. The addition of a few rocks changed a simple grove into an instant saikei with stone outcroppings and a stream bed. This area was also a paradise for rock collectors. There were lots of slabs and other rock for planting.

We later moved into an area where we collected maples and some fantastic hawthorn. While doing this I managed to sink up to my hips in a bog. After 10 hours in the field we returned to camp to prepare for supper at the lodge and a bit of merry making. The next morning we were at it again, collecting 3 to 6 inch red spruce and not thinking of the potting chores facing us when we arrived back home.

This article was written to let my PBA friends know that there are fantastic sites for collecting native material right in our own backyard. They require a bit of letter writing, making telephone calls, etc., but it's well worth the effort. Ask Christine - she suffered two black eyes, the result of a fall in the woods on this trip.

--- Arschel Morell

SNIPS and Slips

GETTING A HANDLE ON THINGS

I am becoming an advocate of wooden boxes as training pots for my collected trees. They're easy to make, can be made to the right size, and absorb some water and re release it back into the soil, besides being sturdy. I have discovered in myself a somewhat unfortunate tendency toward collecting trees which turn out to be larger once I get them home than they did in the field, and they require a rather large box which is definitely heavy once it's filled with soil and tree. One way to minimize the problem of handling all this bulk is to attach screen-door or drawer handles to the box. This makes it much easier to pick up the box or, if it's a two-man bonsai, your helper will appreciate not having his fingers crushed. Do buy good quality handles. The cheap kind available in the supermarket aren't strong enough for the job and will break at the worst possible moment. You will also have to purchase longer and stronger screws than those which come with the handles. The ones provided are too short and will pull out. Get ones at least 3/4 of an inch long.

WATERED DOWN

This suggestion comes from Dr. David Andrews, whose theory it is that we tend to overwater newly collected trees. With the plentiful supply of water and nutrients equal to that which we give our older-established trees, the newly collected tree may not be induced to put out as many new roots for survival as it might under more "adverse" conditions. The tree will do better if not fed at all the first year, watered more sparingly, and not repotted until the second spring unless you know it is rootbound. I prefer to use a moisture meter to keep an eye on the wetness of the soil, frequently water smaller trees by hand, and often put one of those ubiquitous plastic garbage bags over the soil of a newly collected tree during the rainy season to keep the soil from getting too drenched.

RECYCLED WOOD

This suggestion came from Keith Scott several years ago and is well worth repeating. Fireplace ashes are a marvelous soil neutralizer to use on junipers, which dislike the high acidity of the soil we have in this area. Instead of cleaning out that fireplace and throwing away the ashes save a bag of it to put on your junipers. I use a teaspoonfull or two at a time and take a pointed chopstick to work it slightly into the top of the soil. It's amazing how a gray-looking juniper will turn lush green in just a week. You might even try using it as a soil additive in your repotting mix. I'm going to try a different twist this year since I seem to have an abundant supply of Mt. St. Helens volcanic ash left over. We'll see if it works just as well or better

--- Mary Holmes

WELCOME DR. CATHEY

It has been announced that Dr. Henry M. (Marc) Cathey has been appointed Director of the U.S. National Arboretum. Dr. Cathey is with the floriculture and ornamental horticulture division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is currently on leave on leave of absence at Ohio State. He is also the author of the USDA's booklet on Bonsai. Dr. Cathey is expected to assume his new duties in mid-June.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RANDOM THOUGHTS ON A WINTER NIGHT

The winter so far has been too cold for these old bones, and besides I didn't get to Florida this winter. I guess it's just as well. I heard that the over night low in Tampa recently was 28 - lower than the over night low in Anchorage, Alaska. That's COLD!!!!!!!

I look forward to spring and repotting, and refining, and rethinking, and restyling, and re..... Renewed my subscription to Florida Bonsai, don't know why I let it lapse. It's a good primer for indoor Bonsai.

Spent some time in the Orchid room doing Bonsai for Cylburn Market Day. It's a real joy to have the facility to give new Bonsai an early spring and keep my hand in. Anyone can do this. It just takes a little care. The outdoor species should have six to eight weeks of dormancy after which they can be placed in an unheated garage or basement for a week or two, being careful to water them after they thaw. They can then be brought into your living area, a bright window, under lights, etc. and can be worked on as if it were spring. It has worked for me. Let's hear from those of you out there who have tried a similar scheme to have trees to work on all year.

It seems that I am always asking for help, but I guess that's what the job's all about. The Newsletter is in big trouble. The editors have advised me and the board that unless some help is forthcoming in the way of contributions such as articles, club news, Tree-of-the-Month articles, calendar events, typing help, and lay out assistance, we may miss some issues of this Newsletter. Each club should take the responsibility to supply the Newsletter with one article a month and the offer of some help. (Call Mary to find out what is needed.) Remember, we can use club news, a book review, review of a slide program, a tree of the month, Snips and Slips, or any tips you can offer. Please help save the Newsletter.....

Until next time - happy trees

Arschel

PBA Ballot and Constitutional Changes

President: Arschel Morell

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Proposed PBA By-law changes:

Articles 3, sect. a & e: The amount due to PBA by the member clubs for individual member's dues will be determined by the PBA Board and reviewed periodically by the Board.

Article 2, sect. 6: PBA members in good-standing will be allowed to vote in PBA Elections by ballot at the Annual Show on the day of the Annual Meeting. Election tellers will be responsible for the security of the ballot box.

Stolen Trees ! *\$&¢!!

On January 26, 1981 a number of Bonsai trees and pots were stolen from Bernard M. Caperton of 611 Preston Place, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903. He has asked PBA to publish a list and description of the stolen trees. If anyone should see any of these, please contact him.

<u>Type and Description:</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Plant Value</u>	<u>Pot Val.</u>	<u>Pot</u>
Rhododendron, miniature, yellow, 5 years	15x12"	\$50.00	\$10.00	Blue
Rhododendron, miniature, yellow, 5 years	15x12"	50.00	10.00	Blue ?
Cherry, weeping, umbrella shape, 1963	36x24"	150.00	50.00	Blue
Azalia, deep red, 1973	18x12"	35.00	10.00	Blue
Azalia, lavender, small flowers, straight, 1970	36x24"	75.00	40.00	Blue
Rhododendron, miniature, lavender, 1975-6	5x5"	35.00	5.00	Brown
Maple, red, Japanese, finger leaf, 1970	15x12"	150.00	10.00	Blue
Laurel, 1977	12x9"	35.00	10.00	Brown
Yew, low spreading, 1965	5x9"	50.00	5.00	Brown
Yew, large trunk and limbs, 1970	7x12"	60.00	15.00	Brown
Yew, large trunk and limbs, 1970	7x12"	60.00	15.00	Brown
Azalia, white and pink, 1975	18x12"	50.00	10.00	Blue
Nandina and walking ferns, ferns since 1970	12x12"	35.00	25.00	
Maple, Japanese, red, 1963	20x12"	75.00	10.00	B
Pine, Japanese, mugho, 1970	12x24"	125.00	15.00	Brown
Pine, American, dwarf, white, 1977	20x20"	125.00	40.00	Blue
Pine, American, spruce, 1965	12x15"	<u>100.00</u>	<u>10.00</u>	Brown
		1,285.00	290.00	

Total loss: \$1,575.00

Upcoming Bonsai Events (That We Know Of)

Philadelphia Flower Show: March 8-15, Philadelphia Civic Center, 34th St. and Civic Center Blvd. Hours are Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. One of the best flower and bonsai shows on the East Coast.

Florafest II Plant and Garden Show: March 26-29 at the U.S. Botanic Garden. PBA will join area garden clubs and organizations for a flower and bonsai exhibit.

Bonsai Symposium: March 29 (Sunday) Presented by Bonsai Society of Greater New York. See details elsewhere in this issue.

PBA Annual Show and Annual Meeting: April 25-26 at the U.S. National Arboretum. The PBA Annual Show will take place in the auditorium of the Administration Building of the National Arboretum, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Annual Meeting will be held there Saturday night. Two sub-committees are being formed and volunteers are needed to plan, assemble and man the exhibits. Call Dave Dambowic (703) 323-8749.

ABS Symposium: June 4-7 in Boulder, Colorado. American Bonsai Society annual symposium. Details and registration forms will be in subsequent PBA Newsletter.

BCI Convention: July 9-12 in Atlanta, Georgia. Bonsai Clubs International annual convention. See enclosed brochure and registration form for details.

Bonsai Symposium: September 12-13 at the Holiday Inn-Airport, Rochester, N.Y. International Bonsai will host a symposium on fruiting bonsai. Guest speakers include: Chase Rosade, Marion Gyllenswan, Dr. David Andrews, Jerry Stowell, Keith Scott, Doris Fronig, Bill Valavanis, etc. Details and registration forms we hope to have for you in subsequent PBA Newsletter.

PBA Symposium: October 24-25 at the Bethesda Marriott Hotel. Theme this year: maples - particularly trident maples. Room rates will be \$49 per day single or double occupancy. Much, much more to follow in subsequent Newsletters.

ABS Symposium: June 24-27, 1982. The ABS '82 Symposium will be held at the University of Maryland Adult Education Center. Dates are firm and plans going ahead at a great rate. Exciting demonstrations, unique trips and a large bazaar are only a part of the festivities. There will, of course, be much more to follow in subsequent Newsletters.

Late Bulletin:

Bonsai Show: May 30 (Saturday). Richmond Bonsai Club. Bonair Library, 9103 Rattlesnake Drive, Richmond, Virginia

CLUB CALENDAR

- March 14
Saturday Are your plants getting potted properly? Gulf Branch Nature Center. 10:00 a.m. Dave Dambowic will present a program on choosing the right pot for a tree. Bring unusual of interesting pots - with or without a tree in it. Also, plants for discussion, critique, etc. NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY
- March 15 Collecting trip. Meet at the site. For information call Chuck Bird 292-3167; Joan Stephens 423-8230 (hm.) 299-8660 (off.) Note change in meeting date. KIYOMIZU
- March 17 Repotting demonstration and workshop. St. Margaret's Church. 7:30 p.m. Repotting demonstration by Mary Holmes. Workshop to follow, led by experienced members of the club. ANNAPOLIS
- March 19
Thursday Advice on collecting bonsai. Also slide show of Japanese gardens. National Audubon Society, main building. 7:30 p.m. John Hreha will discuss preparations for, and care of collected trees. This is in anticipation of a joint collecting trip with the Annapolis Club on Sat. 4 Apr. (See calendar below) The collecting site is fantastic - sp is John's advice - so do not miss either the meeting or the trip. After the discussion Dave Garvin will present slides of his trip to Japan. Raffle. Election of executive board. Tree-of-the-month: Pyracantha. BROOKSIDE
- March 21
Saturday Collecting trip. Meet at site, 10:00 a.m. Directions: I395 south, exit Thornbury (Rt. 600). Right on 600 for 5.1 miles west to 738. Left for 7.7 miles. After passing Waller's Baptist Church on left, turn right on Rt. 605 for 2.5 miles to end of 605. Turn right on 622 for 1.2 miles. At intersection of 601, turn left for .10 miles, turn right on 622 for .10 miles. Lakeside Woods. On the left is the place. WASHINGTON
- April 4
Saturday Collecting trip. Meet 10:00 a.m. Mr. Foto, in front of the A&P, Patuxant Shopping Center, Crofton, Maryland. Directions: Rt. 50 (John Hanson Hwy.) About 10 miles outside the Beltway, take Rt. 3 north (toward Baltimore). About 3 miles, turn right onto Rt. 450 East (Widow Brown's Restaurant is on the corner). Shopping center is on the right. ANNAPOLIS and BROOKSIDE combined.
- April 5
Sunday Repotting session. Clearwater Nature Center. 2:00 p.m. KIYOMIZU

No Report from:
Baltimore

For Information call:
Dave Bogash 922-9310

Shoen Bonsai



SHOEN BONSAI & JAPANESE GARDEN
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