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POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION
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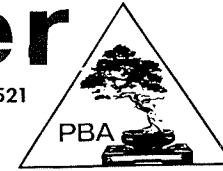
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POTOMAC
BONSAI
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

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VOL 16 NO 2 FEBRUARY 1986

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8 February NORTHERN VIRGINIA (703) 644-4822: Green Springs Horticultural Center
Saturday at 10:00 a.m. ANNUAL SOIL MIX. Bill Merritt will give a talk and update on bonsai soils. Come prepared to ask questions and maybe answer some. Bonsai soil will be available at cost. Bring containers.

16 February BALTIMORE (301) 669-1487: Cylburn Nature Center. 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.
Sunday BEGINNERS' WORKSHOP, everyone is invited. 2:30 to 2:40 p.m. Coffee. 2:40 to 3:50 p.m. CREATING AND MAINTAINING BONSAI FROM TROPICAL MATERIAL by Helen Lauenstein, Barbara Bogash and Richard Meszler. 3:50 to 4:00 p.m. Coffee. 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. PROBLEM TRESS - RAFFLE.

27 February BROOKSIDE (301) 871-5768: Argyle Community Center. 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Thursday BEGINNERS' CORNER. 7:30 p.m. SUISEKI - This we hope to be able to bring Vince Covelto, our local suiseki expert, to lecture to us on this closely related to bonsai subject. Do to Vince's busy and unpredictable travel schedule we may have to supply an alternate speaker. The alternate that we have in mind is also an equally fascinating speaker and should we have to, the alternate will be rescheduled.

8 March NORTHERN VIRGINIA (703) 644-4822: Green Springs Horticultural Center
Saturday at 10:00 a.m. MATHEMATICS OF BONSAI - John Simpson will describe how mathematics such as the "Golden Section of Division" and Fibonacci numbers sequence relate to achieving proportion, balance and asymmetry (or symmetry as you may prefer to put it) in styling bonsai. This will be followed by a styling clinic. Bring trees for initial or refinement styling. Workshop - styling, potting, wiring.

For information on the following club activities telephone the numbers listed below:
ANNAPOLIS (301) 263-3995 ; BOWIE (301) 496-5195 work, home 262-9633;
KIYOMIZU (301) 423-8230 ; WASHINGTON (202) 232-6126.

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CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN
SUITE 1507, 250 EAST FIRST STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
TELEPHONE 624.9305

October 7, 1985

Mr. John Yoshio Naka
P.O. Box 78211
Los Angeles, California 90016


Dear Mr. Naka,

Under instructions from my home Ministry, I am pleased to inform you that in an official communication received today, the Japanese Government has decided to confer upon you the Fifth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun, the Order to be officially dated November 3, 1985.

In accordance with our usual procedure, your formal acceptance in writing of this Award, addressed to me, will be appreciated.

Warmest congratulations to you!

Sincerely yours,


Taizo Watanabe
Consul General

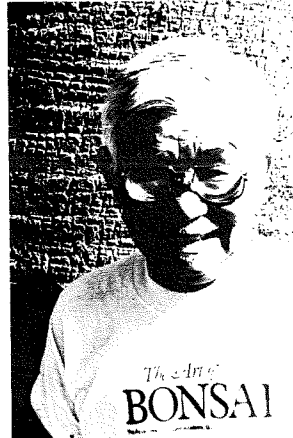
NAKA HONORED BY EMPEROR

On Thursday, November 14, 1985, America's foremost bonsai master, John Yoshio Naka, was honored in a ceremony at the Consulate of Japan in Los Angeles.

With family and close friends watching, Naka-sensei was awarded the Fifth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun from Hirohito, Emperor of Japan, by the Consul General.

Naka-san was singled out for this most prestigious award in recognition of his contribution to the art of bonsai and of the spread of appreciation and interest in this aspect of Japanese culture throughout much of the western world.

The California Bonsai Society is in the process of planning for a celebration banquet honoring Naka on February 1, 1986. Richard Ota, executive vice president of CBS, has extended a cordial invitation to all bonsai organizations to join them in marking this auspicious event.



BONSAI, The JOURNAL of the AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETY, Winter 1985, Volume 19, Number 4, contained the above news item concerning Naka-sensei.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

N A K A - S E N S E I

from all of us in the Potomac Bonsai Association.

KINGSVILLE BOXWOOD

Foreword: *Buxus microphylla* variation *compacta* variation Kingsville Dwarf, reference a, is a cultivar of Littleleaf Box, *Buxus microphylla*. The true littleleaf box of Japan has leaves about an inch long and is low in habit. Kingsville Boxwood has much smaller leaves and was developed from a sport on *Buxus microphylla*. Reference a. defines "sport" as: "A shoot usually arising from a single bud, different in character from the typical growth of the plant that produced it. The difference is usually in a single characteristic, as a branch with double flowers - on a plant producing all single flowers. Sports must be propagated asexually to retain their variation." In other words, to propagate the Kingsville boxwood, cuttings or air-layering are the propagation methods that are usually used.

A search of literature revealed three articles on the subject of using Kingsville boxwood for bonsai. Having read Colonel John Hinds' article "THE LITTLE KING OF AMERICAN BONSAI" which first appeared in the Golden State Bonsai Federation September 1983 issue and then reprinted in the Puget Sound Bonsai Quarterly of October 31, 1983, I asked John for permission to reprint it in the PBA Newsletter which he very kindly gave. The second article to be reproduced is "KINGSVILLE BOXWOOD" from the Alabama Bonsai Society and which appeared in Bonsai Clubs International, Vol. XXI No. 7 of September, 1982. It contains some information concerning styling possibilities for Kingsville boxwood. The third article by Albert J. Sgro, "KINGSVILLE DWARF BOXWOOD", appeared in the Bonsai Bulletin, Winter 1978, Vol. 16/No. 4 and is reprinted with the permission of The Bonsai Society of Greater New York. It provided some excellent photographs of Kingsville boxwood styled as bonsai along with the author's experience in initially styling a Kingsville boxwood. All three articles are reprinted in their entirety to indicate differences where they exist as well as information not found in the others.

Reference a. WYMAN'S GARDENING ENCYCLOPEDIA, by Donald Wyman, Macmillan Pub. Co., Inc.

THE LITTLE KING OF AMERICAN BONSAI

by John Hinds

The North American continent has perhaps the world's greatest resource of native plants and trees suitable for bonsai. From the forests of Canada to the sun drenched keys of the Gulf of Mexico there are literally hundreds of plants which are either proven or potential bonsai subjects. And each year brings news of experienced bonsai enthusiasts who have successfully containerized and trained new materials.

Hard experience by these experts also leads them to conclude that, with relatively few exceptions, bonsai hobbyists are best off with regionally native trees or with the handful of non-regional but well proven materials such as the black pine, the ubiquitous juniper family and the elms and maples. Those popular materials, however, still cannot satisfy the special need that a great many people have for an indoor/outdoor bonsai material that looks, really looks, like a small tree. The Kingsville boxwood (*Buxus microphylla* var. *compacta* var. "Kingsville Dwarf") is such a tree.

It has many characteristics which commend it to both novice and master. It adapts to indoor and outdoor living and requires a minimum of aesthetic mainten-

ance (i.e. it does not need to be constantly pinched and pruned as does the usual beginner's juniper).

The Kingsville Dwarf is also a slow grower and is virtually disease free. When kept in open shade, its rich green color remains all year round, and even a very young Kingsville has an old look about it. As a final blessing for all of us who at one time or another have cut-off the wrong branch, the "Little King" buds back readily on old wood. Such a little gem must have at least a few shortcomings you say? It does but they can be lived with easily. The Kingsville's old wood is brittle and hard to retrain. The plant is also rather tolerant of being allowed to dry out, and it does not especially like shallow pots.

HISTORY

The Kingsville boxwood is truly a North American plant. It was discovered in 1912 by Mr. Sam Appleby who lived north of Baltimore, Maryland. It was a sport on Buxus microphylla. Mr. Appleby propagated the sport for nine years until his death in 1923. There were 10 Kingsvilles in that year which were acquired by Mr. Henry Hohman. In that same year Mr. Hohman opened his world famous Kingsville Nursery which was named for the nearby town.

Henry Hohman named the boxwood's sport the Kingsville, and throughout his long and distinguished career as a nurseryman and world renowned plant propagator, the Kingsville remained his special horticultural pet.

The "Little King" proved to be a commercial disappointment for Mr. Hohman until well into the 1960s when the bonsai world discovered this special boxwood. By the early 1970s his nursery was empty of mature Kingsvilles except for perhaps half a dozen plants remaining of the original ten.

In 1975 Mr. Hohman was asked to donate one of the original ten Kingsville to the U.S. National Arboretum for inclusion in the still dreamed of collection of American bonsai. When the Hohman Kingsville is eventually placed on public display, it will honor a man who was unique in American horticulture.

On a warm afternoon in the late summer of 1975 a small group of East Coast bonsai people accompanied by Dr. John Creech, then Director of the Arboretum, and Mr. Sylvester "Skip" March, who is still the Arboretum's Chief of Propagation, to the Kingsville Nursery.

Mr. Yuji Yoshimura, the Japanese bonsai master who resides in New York State, studied each of the old Kingsville as Mr. Hohman pointed them out. After more than 50 years growth they had trunk diameters in the three inch range. Not one of the trees came close to being a good, natural bonsai. Mr. Yoshimura, however, chose the best, and it was dug-up, wrapped in burlap, and moved back to Washington, DC.

The next day Mr. Yoshimura styled the Kingsville before members of the Potomac Bonsai Association. He noted then that the styling had to be severe to overcome the fundamental design defects of the tree. He pruned the tree for design perfection in the distant future.

The Hohman Kingsville still has some years to go before it will fulfill the anticipated pattern. Mr. Yoshimura knew when he styled it that the tree had time on its side. Boxwoods are well known for their longevity. There are specimens in the Maryland and Virginia countryside which were planted more than 300 years ago.

For those who would like to add a mature Kingsville to their bonsai collection there are two clues to search areas. The first is vague but offers some possibilities of success: Years ago a few owners of estates in the Maryland and Virginia countrysides added plantings of Kingsville box to their formal gardens. There is no specific advice on how to approach these owners! The second location of a rather large Kingsville collection is specific. It is located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC, the current residence of a rather well known California personality. In the East Garden of the White House grounds

is a low hedge of squared-off, single trunk Kingsville. The hedge itself is doubtless sacrosanct even to the non-bonsai-practicing resident. But if you really had his ear, you could whisper that the horticultural staff maintains spare plants for overnight replacement in case of the unexpected demise of a "Little King".

If someone should acquire one of the spare White House Kingsvilles, I will share with them the story of how the "Little Kings" were almost "repossessed" after they had been in residence for only 90 days.

GROWTH PATTERNS

Although it is not an apparent growth characteristic in young Kingsville boxwoods, this plant has a natural inclination to grow broader than tall. This characteristic is quite evident in most older Kingsvilles, those over twenty years old. Vertical growth can be encouraged easily by pruning the lateral branches and wiring up the trunk leader.

The growth rate of established plants is about one-half to three-quarters of an inch a year, but they grow at a faster rate during the first five years. At an early age the bark develops a textured, grey appearance that contrasts well with the tiny, dark green leaves.

While the above ground growth rate is slow, the action underground is nothing short of remarkable. The fine, fibrous root system grows at a rate out of all proportion to the slow rate topside. Fertilizing often seems not to affect the topside growth, but it does contribute to the root growth. Frequent fertilizing means more frequent repotting.

Repeated experiments have shown that the "Little King" does not like life in a shallow pot. It is suggested that the aesthetic "rule" that a "bonsai should never be potted in a pot which is deeper than the diameter of the trunk", be ignored. The true bonsai lover will find no pleasure in the contemplation of a tree which died for the sake of a rule which ignores good horticultural practice.

LIFE INDOORS

If kept indoors, the Kingsville should not be subjected to a hot, dry atmosphere. It seems to do best in a temperature range of 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit during the winter. It should be placed on - not in - a bed of damp gravel sufficiently large enough to allow the rising moisture to pass through the entire leaf system.

LIGHT

Open shade is the best practice for a healthy and rich green leafed Kingsville. Direct sunlight over an extended period of time will cause the Kingsville to lose leaf color. If it is exposed to the afternoon sun through the summer, by fall the chlorophyll in the leaves will have broken down and been replaced by carotene. Carotene is an isomeric hydrocarbon which is yellow/orange in color. Fortunately, this transformation process seems to have no long lasting effects - unless it further reduces the growth rate. Extended time in open shade will correct the color condition.

REPOTTING

Repot young Kingsvilles on a yearly basis if the pot is rather on the small side. Personally, I pot the Kingsville up in a larger than needed pot and go two or three years between repottings. But then I tend to be a rather lazy bonsai person - which may explain my long love affair with "Little King".

The easiest repotting technique is simply to remove the tree from the pot, trim off the excess root pad on the bottom of the root ball, and then cut a pie-shaped wedge out of the root system that is about one-sixth of the total root area. Place fresh drainage gravel in the bottom of the pot, replace the tree in the pot, and fill the pie-shaped area with fresh potting soil. The following year take a similar-sized cut from the opposite side. Repeat the cutting

process, removing soil from a different section in succeeding years.

Have no fears about repotting ANYTIME during the growing season. I leave my "Little Kings" for the last of my annual repotting schedule for I am generally far behind schedule, and they don't mind the wait.

SOIL MIX

Use a mixture which drains well. My experience has shown that a proportion of at least one-third decomposed granite or sharp sand is most beneficial to the fibrous root system which seems to need a good deal of air space. My mix is thirds of decomposed granite, top soil, and decomposed steer manure mixed with rough sawdust.

FERTILIZING

One should almost totally curb the instinct to fertilize the Kingsville. This material has two reactions to fertilization: first acceleration of the root growth rate and second, stimulation of reversions.

A reversion is an attempt to revert back to the genetic parent, Buxus microphylla. A reversion is immediately recognizable. It is a fast growing branch which has longer internodes and leaves that are longer and more pointed. This growth should be pruned away immediately. If left untouched, it will quite literally revert the "Little King" back to its genetic parent. Fortunately, reversions are not all that common and it is not something that will afflict every plant.

The traditional fertilizer for boxwood landscape plantings in the Middle Atlantic States is bonemeal mixed with the planting soil and then scattered over the surface soil in early September. There appears to be little scientific basis for this traditional practice. However, bonemeal is a slow releaser of low strength nitrogen and certain other elements and certainly is not going to do harm.

A foliar feeding of a weak solution of Rapidgro fertilizer once or twice a season does seem to enrich the leaf color. Use one teaspoon per gallon of water and resist with all your might that strange American compulsive belief that "if a little is good, a lot has to be better". It isn't, at least with "Little King".

WINTER PROTECTION

If you live in an area in which winter protection is needed for plants, you should consider the scheme followed by Mr. Robert Dreschler, Curator of the U.S. Arboretum National Bonsai Collection. Mr. Dreschler, who is a trained horticulturist, maintains the bonsai collection within a winter temperature range of 28 to 32 degrees Fahrenheit. He also keeps the humidity high surrounding the trees by blowing air across open pans of water with circulating fans.

I have Kingsvilles which have survived overnight temperatures on two separate occasions of five and six degrees above zero Fahrenheit. None of the trees showed any apparent ill-effects except for a few telltale dead leaves, but such temperatures over two or more consecutive nights would doubtless be most serious.

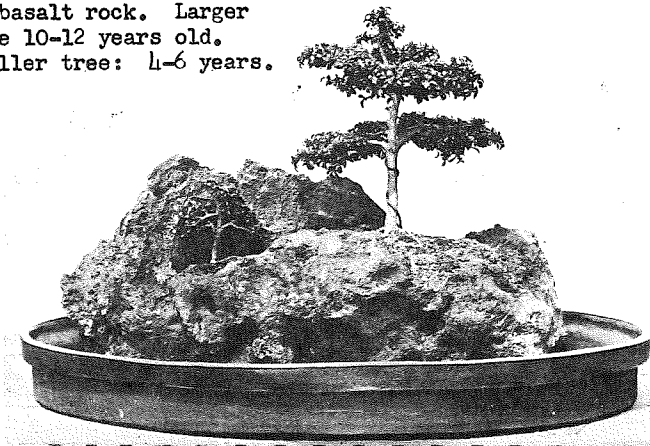
The Fuji Nursery at 13170 Glen Oaks Blvd, in Sylmar, California, has a magnificent, large try planting which contains old Kingsville. Shig and Roy Nagatoshi, the nursery owners, have a limited stock of Kingsville plants in four inch containers. Once you see their large Kingsville planting, your life may be forever changed. You may have become so enamored of the "Little King" that you may become a political worker with the ultimate goal of acquiring one of the old plants in residence at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue! Some non-bonsai people might consider wanting to become President in order to gratify a bonsai dream a rather radical action, but then, they simply do not understand the inner workings of the dedicated bonsai person



Left and below:
Kingsville Boxwood
developed and photo-
graphed by John Hinds

Left: Approximately
20 year old tree,
trained 7 years. Over-
potted to encourage
maximum healing of prun-
ing scars.

Below: Two tree planting
on basalt rock. Larger
tree 10-12 years old.
Smaller tree: 4-6 years.



Above: Kingsville Boxwood group developed by
Sandy Planting

(Copyright 1983 by Col. John Hinds)

JOHN HINDS is a retired U.S. Air Force Colonel now residing on the West Coast when he isn't travelling. He was president of Bonsai Clubs International from 1978 through 1980, and also president and one of the founders of the Potomac Bonsai Association. His bonsai specialty is the Kingsville boxwood, - a material he has been working with extensively for the past ten years.

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KINGSVILLE BOXWOOD

We had several large Kingsville Boxwood Bonsai and also some smaller ones in the show last week. Several of the newer members were quite interested in these and were eager to obtain some. The members who own large ones were fortunate enough to have gotten some that my niece sent down on a bus from Virginia. The smaller ones can be bought from Brussels or ordered from the Bonsai Farm or from Keith Scott in Ohio or purchased from Brother Paul at the Monestary in Conyers, GA. Kingsville Boxwood (*Buxux microphylla nana compacta*) was developed in Maryland by Henry Holman of Kingsville Nurseries (North of Baltimore). This plant is compact with very tiny leaves, a nice thick trunk with a rough bark and shallow root system. The small leaves range from 1/4 inch to 3/8 inch in size being medium to dark green in color. When the new growth starts the tree is absolutely beautiful with the light green new growth contrasting with the dark green older leaves. One can make instant bonsai with any size of this boxwood due to its frequent branching. This boxwood adapts to many styles of Bonsai. It rarely makes a formal upright, but it is good for single or multiple trunk style, semi-cascade or cascade, rock and landscape plantings. Any regular Bonsai soil mix will do for potting. Full sun is best but can do very well with partial shade. (Editor's note: my experience has indicated that full-sun should be avoided, - that is a full day in the sun.) Cuttings root very easily but grow very slowly. Mature cuttings can be taken and wintered over in coarse sand. If potted too deep the plants usually develop higher roots instead of dying as most plants would. You may want to try this deliberately so as to obtain clump and multiple trunk styles.

Kingsville is good for Mame and Saikei plantings. Grows well in plantins in lava rock.

In caring for your established bonsai in the winter they can winter outdoors if well-watered and mulched. The leaves will bronze a little in extreme cold but this does not damage the tree. This is one Bonsai that can be kept indoors in a cool room away from heat and sunny south windows. Indoors it is good to water the tree once a week by submerging the pot in a pan of water until thoroughly soaked. If tree is moist do not water. The tree can be placed outdoors in late March or early April. Repot and root prune in May. Top and leaf pruning can be done all summer and the cuttings rooted in wet, coarse sand.

A good potting mixture is 1/3 each coarse sand, peat and potting soil. Fertilize every month with any water soluble fertilizer half strength and every two months during winter if kept indoors.

From Alabama Bonsai Society
Birmingham, Alabama, U.S.A.

KINGSVILLE DWARF BOX

By Albert J. Sgro

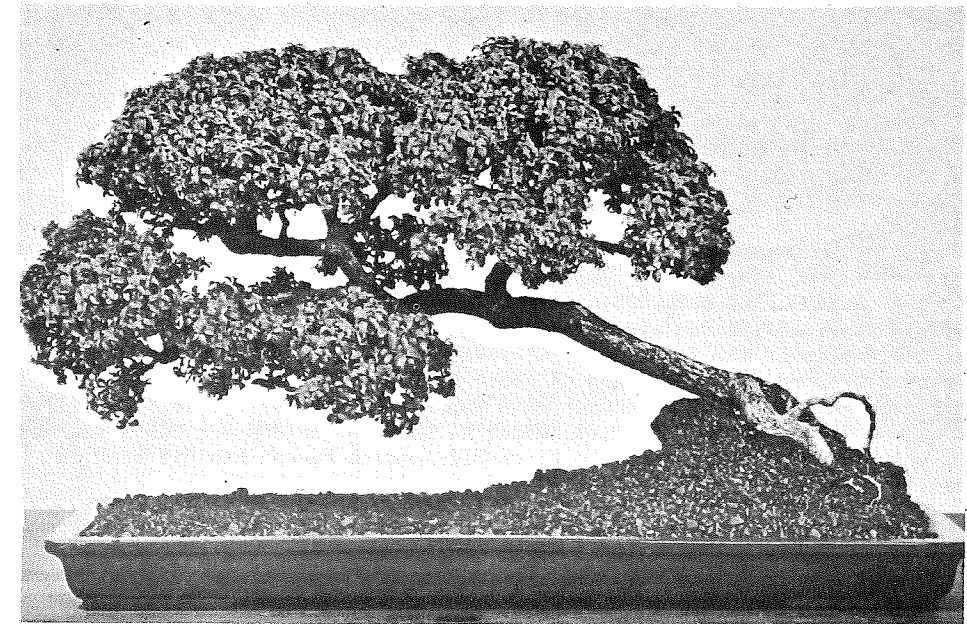
The Kingsville dwarf box is a broad-leaf evergreen shrub which is excellent for bonsai training. The plant can be enjoyed all year around because it is evergreen, although the foliage does change color in winter. The slight change of winter foliage color to a light bronze makes the seasonal appreciation greater due to the contrast of the container color.



Kingsville dwarf box, Buxux microphylla 'Nana Compacta', exhibited at the First Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit.

The Kingsville dwarf box, *Buxux microphylla 'Nana Compacta'*, was developed and introduced by the late Henry Hohman of Kingsville Nurseries in Kingsville, Maryland. This cultivar forms a dense rounded twiggy shrub with very tiny leaves each being 1/4 inch to 3/8 inch in size. It's resistant to most diseases and is not difficult to maintain once shaped, it does not require much trimming as do other evergreens and is an eye catching bonsai in most any style.

I acquired my Kingsville dwarf box from Keith Scott, Keith Scott's Dwarf Tree Nursery, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, four years ago. It was grown in a five gallon plastic container and was extremely dense and multi-trunked. All trunks originated from the same root system at the same level. This afforded me the opportunity to trim with flexibility

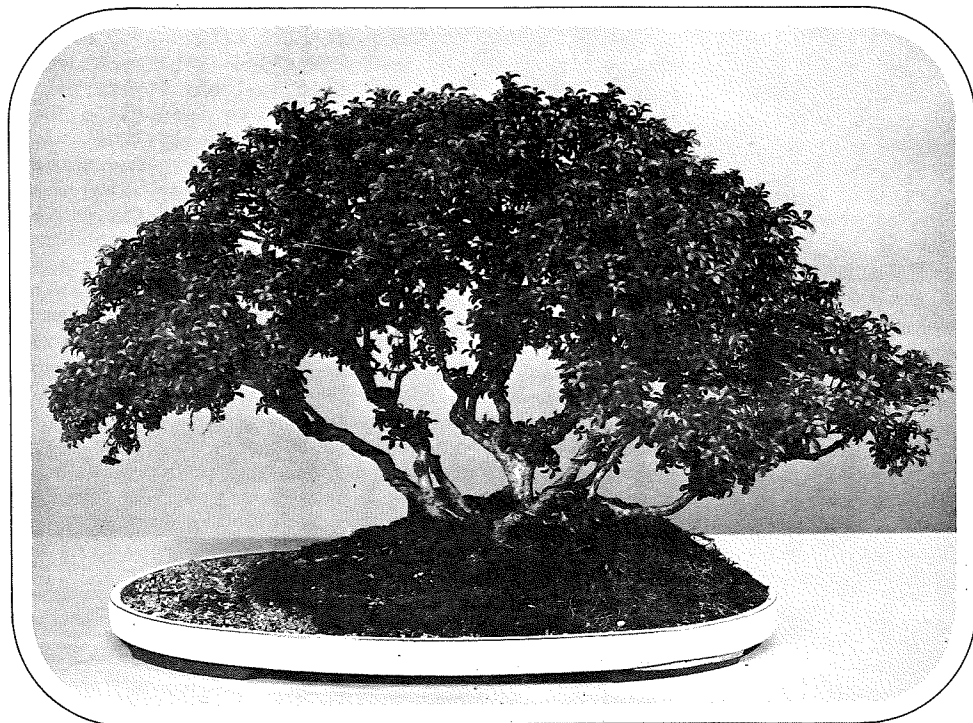


Kingsville dwarf box, Buxux microphylla 'Nana Compacta', slanting style. This bonsai was exhibited at the 1977 International Bonsai Convention held in Chicago, Illinois. Photo by Peter Voynovich.

as to the final outcome.

In the late spring of 1974, I removed one-half of the branches and reduced the root ball considerably, and potted the tree in a container 1½ inches deep. The following spring, I reduced the root ball again and repotted the Kingsville dwarf box in a ¾ inch deep oval container (as shown) which I consider appropriate for this lacy branch grove bonsai.

I keep this boxwood outdoors, from late spring to mid-November, in a semi-sunny location because the container is shallow. It is watered one to two times a day to keep it from drying out. Trimming of the new shoots is done whenever they appear to elongate and spoil the outline of the branches. Wiring must be done with care because the wood of the box is very brittle. In the winter, the box is kept in an enclosed unheated porch where the temperature is maintained between 37° to 45°F.



Kingsville dwarf box, *Buxus microphylla* 'Nana Compacta', multiple trunk style in the collection of Albert J. Sgro, Cleveland, Ohio. This excellent bonsai was created from nursery stock and is about four years in training. It is planted in a white glazed 'Tokoname' ware Japanese container. This Kingsville dwarf was exhibited and won several awards in both the 1978 Great Lakes Regional Bonsai Show in Cleveland and in the First Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit held in Chicago.

Photo by Peter Voynovich

About the author: At the time of the writing of the above article, Albert J. Sgro was an architect in the Greater Cleveland, Ohio, area. Both he and his wife are quite active bonsai fanciers and have even travelled to Japan to see the bonsai. As past president of the Cleveland Bonsai Club, he remains a leading figure in midwest bonsai. His family travels extensively to exhibit his beautiful bonsai. Al is a past director of the American Bonsai Society.

BOXWOOD POSTSCRIPT

Buxus harlandii is a familiar species for bonsai in the Orient. Harlands box or *Buxus harlandii* is a native to China and is one of the smallest of the evergreen box species with leaves that vary from ½ to 1¼ inches long and 1/8 to 3/4 inches wide. One might suspect that its habits and care closely resemble that for Kingsville box. Reference a cited previously lists Harlands box as being hardy outdoors to Zone 7 which places the Washington, D.C., area at the northernmost edge of the winter hardiness zone. However, Kingsville box is hardy in Zones 5 to 6 which means that it can winter outside in places further north of our area.

"BONSAI für die WOHNUNG" by Paul Lesniewicz gives a very concise account of how to care for *Buxus harlandii* as an indoor plant. However, the information seems to support that contained in the previous articles:

Indoor Location Indoors for the entire year, keep the plant in a bright, cool north, east or west facing window, - no south facing window. From May through September the plant can be kept outside in partial shade. In the winter the ideal temperature for the plant to hibernate is 50° to 60° Fahrenheit and it also possible to let the temperature be as high as 68° Fahrenheit.

Watering In the summer water heavily and then let the plant dry to about 30% moisture, - check by the weight of the potted plant, - then repeat the watering. This bears out the recommendation that Kingsville be watered by placing the pot in a pan or tub of water approximately once per week and let the soil be thoroughly soaked. Winter: warm spot - as in summer, cool spot - less.

Fertilizing From spring until autumn fertilize with liquid fertilizer once every 3 weeks. In the winter if the plant is in a cool location, do not fertilize. If it is in a warm location, fertilize every 6 weeks.

pH *Buxus* is listed as preferring an acid condition of 5.0 to 6.0 pH.

Repotting Every two years for a mature plant accompanied with root pruning. For a newly started bonsai repot to a smaller pot after one year in a training pot.

Soil This is always a subjective topic. Lesniewicz recommends 2 parts loam or mulch, 1 part soil and 2 parts sand. Janet Henley in the October 1979, Vol. XVIII No.8, issue of *Bonsai International* under the title "JOHN'S BOXWOOD MIX" converts John Naka's recommendation in his book *BONSAI TECHNIQUES* of 1 part mulch, 1 part soil and 1 part medium and 1 part small sand into 1 part mulch, 1 part surface, and Gran-I-Grit mixed as ½ part medium and ½ part small, plus 1 part soil. Medium grit is that which is retained on a screen that has 8 openings per linear inch and small is 16 openings per linear inch.

Pruning Branches can be pruned anytime. It is good practice when working with new growth to let the plant build itself up by not pruning the new growth until 6 leaf-pairs have developed on a stem and then cutting back to let 3 remain.

Wiring Can be done any time of the year.

Insect Pests Reference a lists the boxwood leaf minor as a pest. It is a tiny orange midge fly which produces orange maggots in blisterlike mines on the underside of leaves. Eggs are laid in early summer and maggots live 10-11 months in mines in leaves. Spray with Malathion once in midsummer. Also listed are boxwood psyllids or jumping plant lice which suck the sap and cause cupped leaves. Spray in late spring or early summer with Malathion. Lastly spider mites which bronze the leaves and reduce vitality are controlled by spraying with Kelthane.

Diseases Canker or blight causes die-back of twigs and cracks in the bark in late summer. Cut out and burn infested twigs and spray with Bordeaux Mixture

or Ferbam, both are fungicides.

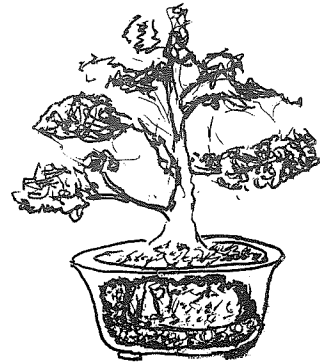
A Kingsville boxwood when first obtained may look like a completely leaf enclosed plant as shown in this sketch. →



Because the plant has a large number of branches, it usually is not difficult to select those which are to remain so that the tree will look like this after the initial radical branch pruning.

However, it may be desirable to save the larger branches as starters for new boxwood bonsai.

Pot the tree by pruning the roots so that the root-ball will easily fit into the proportionately over-size training pot. Put in a drainage layer of large pellets and then the tree and then the potting soil.



At this time no pruning has been done prior to the potting. Small diameter branches which are no thicker than about 1/8 inch in diameter can be treated as cuttings, the cut ends dipped in a rooting media such as Rootone and planted in soil to root. Cut these branches so that they are about 2 inches long or less. Remove all leaves except for a few at the ends of the cutting. Immediately after cutting put the stems in a container of lukewarm water to which a small amount of sugar has been added to invigorate the branches. Leave them in the solution for one hour.

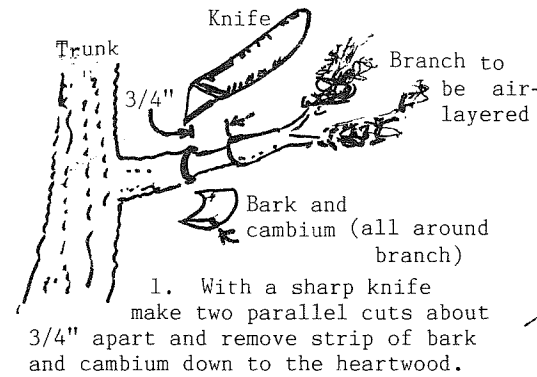
A 3-inches deep wooden box or shallow tray should have been prepared with clean sand and peat moss mixed together. The container should have adequate drainage. The soil mix should be thoroughly wet so that a chopstick will easily make holes that are 1 inch deep and about 2 inches apart.

The ends of each cutting are re-cut at a 45-degree angle, and the wet end is dipped into a hormone-fungicide powder (Rootone F). The cutting is then set into the hole that was made above. The cuttings can be placed in holes so that they lie at a 45-degree angle to the surface of the soil, - note the 45-degree cut end should be facing down in the hole. Firm the soil back around the cutting. When all the cuttings have been planted in the container or flat, a final sprinkling with a fine spray will further firm up the soil around the cuttings.

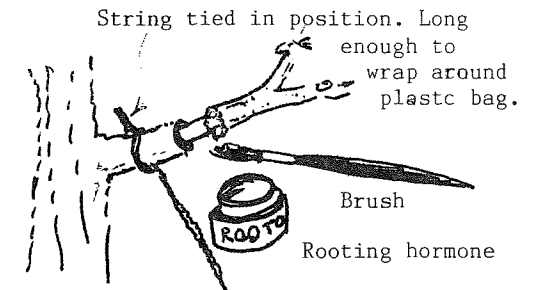
Protect the cuttings from bright sun for 10 days to two weeks. Then put them in partial shade. A cutting may take a year before it is ready to train and pot. Keep the soil moist but not wet and mist often. After 3 months apply a weak fertilizer twice a month. According to the article written by Carl Whitcomb, Associate Professor of Horticulture at the Oklahoma State University for the April 1979 issue of 'Ornamentals South' titled PROPAGATING WOODY PLANTS FROM CUTTINGS, The ideal time to take cuttings of Buxus is in September with the next best times of October and November. Rooting time is given as 6 to 8 weeks. This may lead one into a quandary as to whether to do the initial potting of the Kingsville boxwood in late spring or in September. My suggestion is to do the initial styling and potting in May since this is also the time to do any air-layering. The cuttings may not root as well but it would be more

desirable to try and root as many of the branches that are 3/16 of an inch or more in diameter by air-layering, - those branches which are to be removed to initially define the tree's future growth pattern and style.

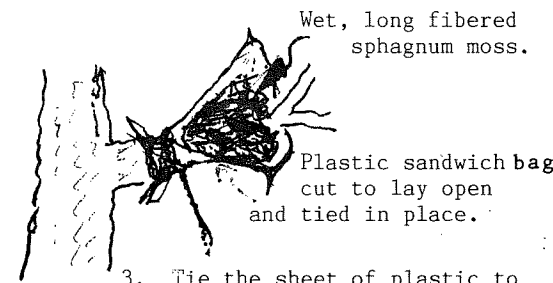
AIR-LAYERING



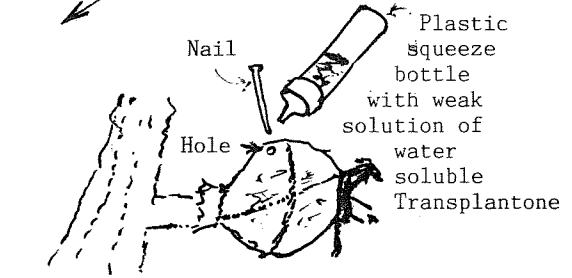
1. With a sharp knife make two parallel cuts about 3/4" apart and remove strip of bark and cambium down to the heartwood.



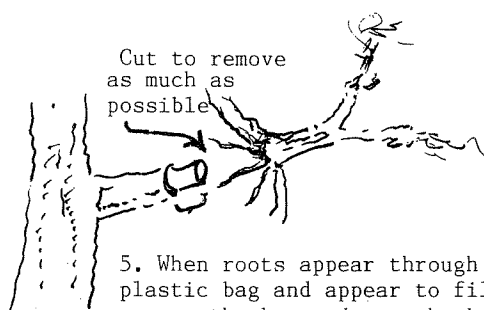
2. Tie on a length of string. Wet the outer part and brush on a rooting hormone. (Rootone F).



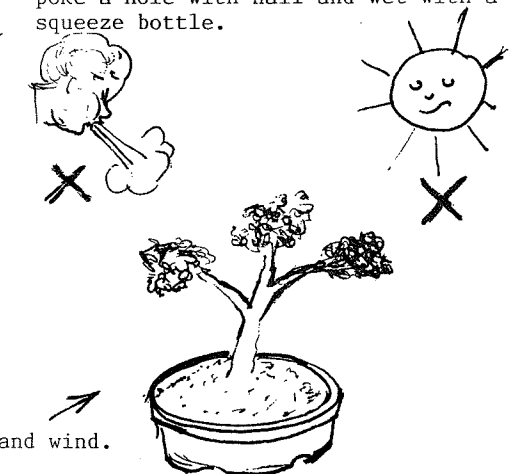
3. Tie the sheet of plastic to the branch. Pack wet, long fibered sphagnum moss around the exposed area and bring the plastic around to



4. cover the moss and tie it securely so that it is as air-tight as possible. After 3 to 4 weeks if moss looks dry, poke a hole with nail and wet with a squeeze bottle.



5. When roots appear through the plastic bag and appear to fill it, remove the bag and cut the branch as far up as possible to eliminate any stub, but not damage the tender roots.



6. Pot the branch and keep it out of sun and wind.

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

U. S. NATIONAL PROGRAMS

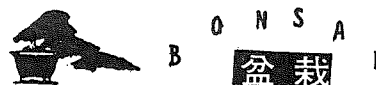
The succeeding page is an announcement of one of the excellent monthly lecture series programs at the U. S. National Arboretum. Note that four subjects will be covered and Dr. Marc Cathy, Arboretum Director, will complete the program with a question and answer session. The best part is that it's FREE! Mary Ann Jarvis of the Arboretum's staff is going to provide the Newsletter with an early mailing which will enable the timely publication of forthcoming events at the Arboretum which may be of interest to the Newsletter readers.

Robert Dreschler, Curator of the National Bonsai Collection, conducts a monthly Bonsai Refinement Workshop in which he assists individuals in repotting or refinement of their own bonsai plant, according to seasonal requirements. Participants must bring their own bonsai plant, bonsai tools, wire, container and soil if repotting is planned. The Arboretum does not provide supplies or equipment.

There is no charge for the Bonsai Refinement Workshop which is held in the Bonsai Workroom adjacent to the National Bonsai Collection. The workshops are limited to (5) persons, and advance registration is required. To register, please phone the Arboretum Education Department at 475-4857. Bonsai Refinement Workshops will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, and start at 1:00 p.m. Current schedule shows one for February 11th and the next for March 11.

PREREQUISITE: A BEGINNING BONSAI CLASS

INTRODUCTION TO BONSAI - A U. S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School Class will begin on April 8th and run for four weeks ending April 29th. It will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the National Arboretum. The classes will cover all the aspects of bonsai including demonstrations and hands-on workshops. For further information telephone the U.S.D.A. Graduate School at 447-5885. Fee is \$35.



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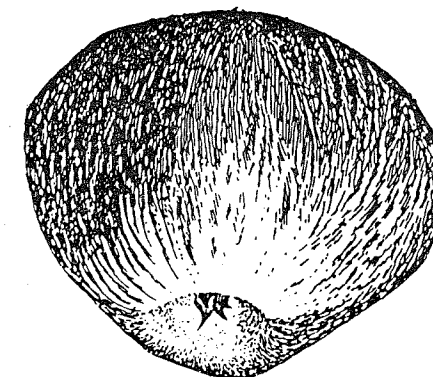
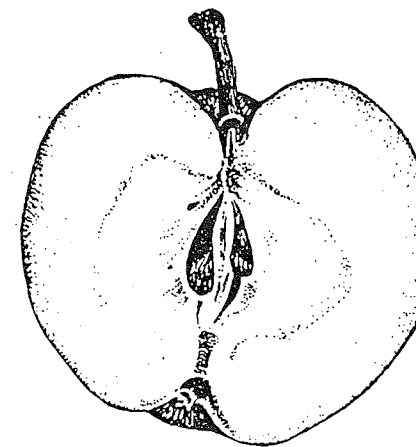
AT THE U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM
WASHINGTON, DC

You are invited to attend a program titled
LIVING LEGENDS ABOUT NATURE'S WAYS

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 1986
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1986

Join the staff of the U.S. National Arboretum
in the Administration Building at 1:30p.m. for
DEMONSTRATIONS/LECTURES on:

- The Story of Apple Blossoms
Dr. Miklos Faust, Chief
Fruit Laboratory,
Beltsville, Maryland
- The Story of Tilias
Peter Mazzeo
Botanist
- The Story of Catalpas
Barry Yinger
Asian Plant Collections
- The Story of Pears
Susan Bentz
Horticulturist



The Arboretum is easily accessible from the beltway and downtown Washington. It is bounded on the west by Bladensburg Road, on the north by New York Avenue and on the south by M Street, N.E. Follow signs to enter from the gate at 3501 New York Avenue, N.E. Follow signs to the Auditorium in the Administration Building. Ample free parking is available. To reach the Arboretum by Public Transportation from Central Washington take metrorail or bus No. 42 to Stadium Armory Station; then change to bus B-2, B-4, or B-5 to intersection of Bladensburg Road and R Street. Walk east on R Street 300 yards to the R Street gate.

A beverage will be provided by the Friends of the National Arboretum at 3p.m. A question and answer session will complete the visit.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service
U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002

November 11, 1985

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies

(For more information, contact Henry C. Lodge, (201) 863-6862)

COMING IN APRIL - MID-ATLANTIC SPRING FESTIVAL

The third annual symposium of the Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Societies will be staged on April 12th and 13th at the Ramada Inn, North Haven, CT. A group of stellar bonsai masters and experts will be on hand with demonstrations, lectures, and workshops during the two day event.


The Mid-Atlantic Bonsai group consists of bonsai societies serving the mid-Atlantic area. Participating in the event are the following societies:

- Bergen (NJ) Bonsai Society
- Bonsai Society of Greater New York
- Great Swamp (NJ) Bonsai Society
- Hartford Bonsai Society
- Long Island Bonsai Society
- Pennsylvania Bonsai Society
- Yama Ki Bonsai Society

An impressive program has been assembled consisting of the following: Robert Dreschler, Washington, D.C., Curator of the U. S. National Arboretum's bonsai collection, who will bring us up to date on the status of the National Collection. Lectures and demonstrations are scheduled by each of the following: Yuji Yoshimura, Chase Rosade, Marion Gyllenswan, Jim Barrett and Dr. David Andrews.

Workshops will be available on Sunday by Yuji Yoshimura and Jim Barrett. Registration fee for the two days is \$75, plus lodging, or \$50 for Saturday only and \$25 for Sunday only.

Watch for more details. Reservation forms for the symposium and the Ramada Inn will be available shortly. Meanwhile, mark your calendar, April 12th and 13th, 1986.



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THE MID-ATLANTIC BONSAI SOCIETIES PRESENT

The third Annual Symposium featuring the skills and talents of

- **Yuji Yoshimura**
- **Chase Rosade**
- **Marion Gyllenswan**
- **Jim Barrett**
- **Dr. David Andrews**
- **Robert Dreschler**
- **Yoshimura and Barrett Workshops**

Seldom do we see assembled at a regional symposium such an array of talent to sharpen your bonsai skills, present new techniques, provide inspiration for your future styling. Plan now to attend.

Dates: April 12th and 13th, 1986
 Place: Ramada Inn, North Haven, CT
 Cost: Full registration, \$75, plus lodging.
 Saturday only, \$50; Sunday only, \$35.

Watch for reservation forms. For more information write:
Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Symposium, Box 1060, Secaucus, NJ 07094

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bergen (NJ) Bonsai Society | Bonsai Society of Greater New York |
| Great Swamp (NJ) Bonsai Society | Long Island Bonsai Society |
| Hartford Bonsai Society | Pennsylvania Bonsai Society |
| Yama Ki Bonsai Society | |



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Foundation Inc.

cordially invite you to attend

A Gala Celebration
on July 8, 1986 at

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Laughlin, Chairman 1886 N.B.F. Gala, 1411 32nd Street, N.W.,
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WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS:

Dan Robinson	Mary Madison	Chase Rosade
Doris Froning	Vaughn Banting	Marion Gyllenswan

For More Information, Contact:

Molly Hersh or Josephine Finneyfrock
102 Devon Court • Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 589-3725

United Airlines has been selected as the official carrier for IBC '86. They will offer a 30% discount to all those attending the convention using their airline.
Call toll free 800/521-4041, Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time.
Be sure to mention the IBC '86 Convention account number: 576F