ASSOCIATARBORETU

Association, Inc. [PBH], a non-profit affiliate member clubs and societies.

POTOMAC

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[301]

CIRCULATION:

Springfield,

VR 22152, [703] 569-9378.

VOL 17 NO 9 SEPTEMBER 1987

Newsletter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1987 SYMPOSIUM POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION 1987 SYMPOSIUM

Topic:

Ronsai on the Rocks

Time:

Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11

Location

Crown Plaza Holiday Inn. Rockville, MD (convenient to Twinbrook Metro Station)

Admission Full registration \$55.00

(see registration form)

****** ATTENTION ALL PBA MEMBERS *******

In an effort to encourage more PBA Members, both novice and advanced, to participate in this exciting annual event we offering two new features:

FREE 1988 MEMBERSHIP TO ALL PBA MEMBERS WHO REGISTER FOR THE SYMPOSIUM

A receipt for the full \$55.00 registration entitles all PBA members to a <u>free</u> individual PBA membership for 1988. Simply present the your club treasurer for credit. This represents a Potomac Bonsai Association Presents



LECTURES, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

SAIKEI

ROOT OVER ROCK

ROCK CARVING

ROCK PLANTINGS

by

William Valavanis

Dorothy Young

Bill Merritt Steve Pilarcik Mike Ramina

Richard Meszler

Arschel Morell

October 9,10,11

Holiday Inn, Crowne Plaza — Rockville, MD For more information and registration, contact:

> Howard Herrington P.O. Box 5414 McLean, VA 22103-5414 .

substantial discount on an already modest registration fee for an outstanding bonsai weekend.

AN ORIENTATION SEMINAR

for

NEWER PBA MEMBERS

WHO REGISTER FOR THE SYMPOSIUM

An informal pre-symposium seminar devoted to the theme of rock plantings, will be presented in the weekend before the symposium by a prominent bonsai lecturer and artist, Dr. Richard Meszler. The seminar is directed specifically to newer members of the PBA who have registered for the symposium. It is intended to provide sufficient background and orientation so that less experienced members can fully appreciate and enjoy all aspects of the complete program to be presented by the following week.

Beginner's Introduction to Bonsai on the Rocks. Theme:

Lecturer: Dr. Richard Meszler

1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Sunday, October 4 Time:

Location: Crown Plaza Holiday Inn, Rockville, MD.

(convenient to Twinbrook Metro Station)

Admission: Free to all fully registered symposium participants.

********* ATTENTION ALL PBA MEMBERS ************

3 September BROOKSIDE 7:30 p.m. PRE-SHOW REFINEMENT AND GET-Thursday TOGETHER. Meeting will be at the home of Dave Hockstein, 312 Kimblewick Drive, between New Hampshire and Georgia Avenue off of Randolph Road, telephone 622-2883. Bring trees for refinement. Refreshments wil be provided.

8 September NATIONAL ARBORETUM 1:00 p.m. BONSAI REFINEMENT WORKSHOP, Tuesday Robert Dreschler, Curator of the National Bonsai

Collection, will conduct a Bonsai Refinement Workshop in which he will assist individuals in repotting or refinement of their own bonsai plants, according to seasonal requirements. Participants msut bring their own bonsai plant, bonsai tools, wire, container and soil if repotting is planned. The Arboretum will provide no supplies or equipment.

Advance Registration is Required, and enrollment is limited to five (5) persons. To register, please phone the Education Department at 475-4857. A fee of \$12.00 sent in advance to the Education Department, will be charged. All checks should be made out to Friends of the National Arboretum and sent to the Arboretum education Department, 3501 New York Avenue, N.E. Washington, DC. 20002.

Bonsai Refinement Workshops will be held on the second Tuesday of each month. PREREQUISITE: ABBEGINNING BONSAI CLASS.

12 September BROOKSIDE (301) 926-5954: 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday EVERY MEMBER SHOW at Wheaton Plaza, University

Boulevard and Viers Mill Road. Bring trees by

9:09 a.m. Volunteers are needed for monitors and demonstrations,telephone Dave Garvin at 926-5954.

17 September BROOKSIDE (301) 381-6549: Argyle Community Center,
Thursday Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD. 7:00 p.m. BEGINNERS' CORNER. 7:30 p.m. Chuck Bird will be with
us to discuss PROPAGATION TECHNIQUES. Chuck propagates a wide
variety of plants for bonsai: Junipers, Maples, and
his specially Kingsville boxwoods.

19 September NORTHERN VIRGINIA (703) 920-8361. Green Spring
Saturday Horticulture Center at 10:00 a.m. Marion Gyllenswan will give a lecture and demonstration of root over rock in the morning and conduct a helping hand workshop in the afternoon. Call Fay Manes at 941-2044 for details.

20 September BALTIMORE (301) 235-5336: OUTDOOR WORKSHOP at Sunday 1823 Cromwood Road (Edith Reider) 655-7728 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Major theme will be "Refining for the Fall Show". Bring your lunch and any bonsai you would like to show in the Fall Show in October to this meeting for tips on getting your trees ready for the show. Everyone should plan to show at least one tree. Beltway exit N, left onto Joppa Road, right into Cromwood Road.

23 September GREEN SPRING HORTICULTURE CENTER: F(703)642-5173.

Wednesday INTRODUCTION TO BONSAI lecture demonstration.

Fee is \$35.00. For info phone the above number.

24 September GREEN SPRING HORTICULTURE CENTER: (703)642-5173.

Thursday CREATE A BONSAI. Ten persons from the 23 Sept. class listed above will be eligible to create a bonsai. Fee is \$35.00. For info phone the above number.

26 September KIYOMIZU (301) 423-8230: WORKSHOP. Check for details Saturday with Joan Stephens at the above telephone number.

26 September WOLF TRAP NURSERY, 9439 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA OVERWINTERING BONSAI. Free class with 1 hour lecture

from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours of questions and answers. During this time the guest speaker and staff will be glad to assist customers with pruning, wiring, potting, etc, Due to limited space, phone reservations are advised, -(703)759-4244.

Wednesday
Come to the National Arboretum for an illuminated viewing of the National Bonsai Collection. The Collection, a bicentennial gift from the Nippon Bonsai Association of Japan to the people of the United States will be on view. In addition, the Japanese Barden will be open and recent additions to the National Collection will be on view_including 'Goshin', a gift from the American Bonsai Master John Y. Naka and also two bonsai presented to President Reagan by the King of Morocco. Bob Dreschler, Curator of the collection will be on hand to greet visitors.

Admission is free, however please call 475-4857 and let the Arborretum Arboretum know you will be attending. Light refreshments will be served. Please enter through the R Stree entrance which is located off Bladensburg Road.

Saturday

CRAFT FAIR. Interested in bonsai chrysanthemums?

See the display by the Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society and find out about sources for bonsai mum material.

9, 10, 11, October; PBA FALL SYMPOSIUM!!!

13 October NATIONAL ARBORETUM 1:00 p.m. BONSAI REFINEMENT

Tuesday WORKSHOP. See 2 September listing; - same info applies.

25 October BALTIMORE (301) 235-5336: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.,

Sunday Cylburn Arboretum; 4915 Greenspring Avenue. Set-up

starts at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is expected to help set up, be in attendance and show at least one tree.

The following bit of advice comes from the Spring 1987, as Volume XVII Number2, issue of FLORIDA BONSAI published by the Bonsai Societies of Florida, INC. It appeared in annarticle by Jeffery Keets of the Gainesville Bonsai Society, Gainesville, FL., with the title "THE PRICE IS RIGHT".

...., John Naka's grandfather gave him a short poem-like statement on how to learn Bonsai

"one must plant a lot one must grow a lot one must prune a lot one must pinch a lot one must see a lot one must hear a lot one must kill a lot."

THE NATIONAL BONSAI FOUNDATION

DEDICATED TO CREATING A MUSEUM OF THE WORLD'S TREES THROUGH THE ART OF BONSAI AT THE U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

P.O. Box 32377, Washington, D.C. 20007

MEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTH AMERICAN BONSAI PAVILION AT U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM NAMED FOR JOHN Y. NAKA

The National Bonsai Foundation has named the North American Pavilion of The National Bonsai Museum for John Y. Naka of Los Angeles, California. This pavilion is the second unit of the museum located on the grounds of the United States National Arboretum, a world center of horticultural science, in Washington, D. C.

"John Naka is the patron saint of Bonsai in America," said Frederic L. Ballard, President of the Foundation. "He is admired as an artist, revered as a statesman, and loved as a friend throughout this country, Japan and in many other countries worldwide. He is the recipient of many awards for his achievements, including the Emperor of Japan's Award, 'The Fifth Order of the Rising Sun'. We are proud to have his name on the new pavilion."

When completed the National Bonsai Museum will be comprised of the National Arboretum's existing Japanese Collection, the gift of 53 magnificent Bonsai trees from Japan on the occasion of our nation's 200th anniversary; a North American Pavilion, the most representative masterpieces of Bonsai created in North America to be housed in the Naka Pavilion; a Chinese Pavilion to house world-class examples of the Chinese art of Penjing; and eventually examples of Bonsai from other parts of the world.

(more)



John Naka
With his
"Goshin"
First Resident
in the new
American
Bonsai Pavilion
March 1984

"In 1983 John Naka gave a gift of Bonsai, possibly his finest creation, to begin the North American Collection," said Dr. Henry M. Cathey, Director of the U. S. National Arboretum. "The gift called Goshin, 'Protector of the Spirit', is a grouping of 11 junipers, a plant for each member of his family. It is now most appropriate that the first of America's Bonsai Masters be honored with the pavilion to show the artistry of the North American Bonsai community. We invite people everywhere to join in this venture to honor John Naka and to create a world-class museum for the continuation of our 'green mission for peace'."

John Naka was born in Fort Lupton, Colorado in 1914. At eight years of age he moved to Japan with his parents to care for an aging grandfather who introduced him to the art of Bonsai. When he was 21 he returned to Colorado as a farmer. After World War II, he moved to Los Angeles where he introduced the art of Bonsai for the first time since the War to great public acclaim. He was persuaded to teach the art and some of his students are now accredited instructors and masters in their own right. His books and writings published in Japanese and English have been translated into several European languages. Over the years John Naka's influence and reputation as the premier U.S. Bonsai Master grew. He has served as advisor to U.S. Government agencies and has appeared widely on television to teach and lecture on the art of Bonsai and its cultural roots. His awards from this country, Japan and other countries are too numerous to mention, but his achievements in promoting friendship and understanding through Bonsai are legend.

The National Bonsai Foundation, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization established in 1982 for the purpose of creating a museum of the world's trees through the art of Bonsai at the U.S. National Arboretum. The Foundation has developed a program for comparative bonsai collections, exhibits, education, research, and exchanges and will provide a setting for peaceful intercultural exchange. The Foundation is committed to building, endowing and overseeing this program and will work with the United States National Arboretum to achieve this goal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Ann Orlando Executive Director The National Bonsai Foundation, Inc. (202) 785-4847

7/27/87

AND NOW ''EMBALMED'' TREES

(Editor's note: The following was sent by Dennis Hamel and is from the publication American Forests, the $July/August\ 1987\ edition)$

Preserved in a lifelike state they're the latest thing in interior landscaping.

by HERBERT E. McLEAN

The rough edges of a new day haven't quite smoothed as I swing off I-5 after a 30 minute run from Seattle. It's 8:00 a.m. as I pull into a spot in a tidy industrial park in Auburn, Washington, walk past ranks of blue-green firs and hemlocks, and enter a business-office type room. Suddenly and unexpectedly, my senses are piqued — what is that familiar pungence? I recognize it as eucalyptus — one of the many species. Another earthy smell drifts softly to my nostrils — Port Orford cedar, I am told.

As I wander farther into the carpeted showroom (no landscape nursery, this), I am surrounded by trees and shrubs in fresh green, autumn brown, rust. Bottle brushes and guavas. Palms with their wind-frayed ends. Sawtooth oak, English holly, Oregon grape, Junipers, Salal, Lavender, purple and white flowers. Even Christmas wreathes. All of them gathered before me like so many hosts in a receiving line - literally resurrected.

Well. sort of.

Here at Weyerhaeuser Company's Specialty Plants business, I have just had my first experience with a product so new it hasn't been named. The

"Dead but Alive," the Seattle Times terms them.
"Embalmed Plants." Insight magazine describes them.

Whatever you call them at this stage of their scientifically extended existence, these "mummified" trees and other plants have captured heavy media and customer interest, and Weyerhaeuser is off and running with a decidedly new wrinkle in the interior landscape business.



Dead as a mackerel, this bonsai juniper lives on.

A creative name is promised shortly, but prospective customers aren't waiting for the final choice. Hotels, florists, architects, natural history museums, zoos, and even mail-order houses and department stores see interesting possibilities - decorative. full-size trees and plants that don't need watering. Or fertilizer. Or spraying. Or even planting or transplanting. Trees that do not suffer from attacks by fungus, beetles. spiders, or other predators of the ,indoor or outdoor jungle. The first deliveries have just recently been made to customers that include Seattle's striking new Columia Center, an airline at SeaTac International Airport, and a major new office building in Chicago. These and other potential users will no doubt welcome a deliverance from the too-common, too-touchy ficus trees and the relatively few other species hardy enough to survive the Great American Interior.

I asked Steve Barger, Specialty Plant general manager, about this so-called "embalming" business.

"Do you use formaldehyde?" I asked, in light of recent cautions against breathing urea formaldehyde gas indoors,

"No formaldehyde;" he replied. "In fact, no toxic chemicals. It's a proprietary formulation that we purchased from a Swedish firm. We're making refinements."

Barger was willing to tell me that the preservation was an Minternal Urprocess, and that certain species must be preserved during certain seasons. But he obviously didn't want to venture further down the path.

As I wandered in and out around the trees and shrubs, I felt the urge to pull gently on a couple of leaves. They were surprisingly supple - they stayed right where they belonged.

For lifelikeness on a scale of one to 10, I gave the array a nine rating - only because the greens were a bit blue here and there, the reds just a tad bright. But I learned that Weyerhaeuser can put a fall color on a green tree - no problem.

And the fragrance I smelled?

"That's residual eucalyptus oil and cedar scent. It probably won't be there permanently," Barger explained.

What about cost? The trees designed for indoor use only, will run at least three times what you'd pay for comparable outdoor nursery stock. For example, a small preserved juniper might cost \$75 - \$100, and a spreading oak around \$1,000. But Barger expects indoor maintenance costs will be a fraction of those for living varieties.

There is almost certainly an enormous market for this unique new "forest product." But as I leave the showroom and behold the great, green Cascades on this clear, golden morning, I am struck by the thought that not even Weyerhaeuser could ever duplicate, or replicate, those magnificent creations that now refresh my soul.

And that feels just fine. AF

CHRYSANTHEMUM BONSAI

(Part 1 of 2 Parts)



Three trunk chrysanthemum bonsai on a rock.

Preface: The following article has been adapted from a Japanese article by Mo Gyougen titled titled "BONSAI CHRYSANTHEMUM". Autumn is indeed chrysanthemum viewing time in Japan, and throughout the country one can find exquisite public exhibitons showing off chrysanthemums of every variety, - trained to various shapes of which the cascade style seems to be the most popular. However, the blooms on those mums are for the most part, large in size in contrast to the much smaller flowers found on the mums used for bonsai.

The Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society lists the following 12 varieties of mums as suitable for bonsai.

Akita - a tiny yellow anemone Benikagami - small red single blooms. Chidor - small white single blooms. Fuyo - small pink anemone Hatsume - small yellow anemone Shizuka - small anemone Heyward Harry - Lavender pink

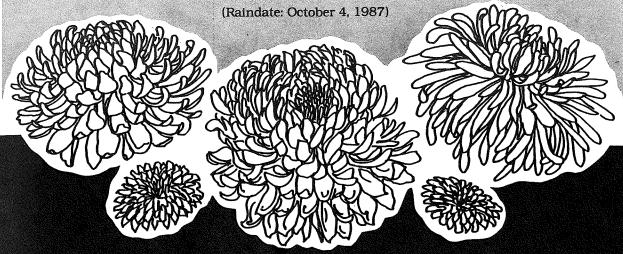
Maiko - rose lavender anemone
Megumi - gold and yellow anemone
Orange Grove - bright orange anemone
Pink Daphne - small pink daisy
Thistle Hill - violet red anemone
For further information about the
mums, you could telephone Barbara
Vaughan, (703) 549-0130 or come
to the Fall Mum Festival & Craft
Fair advertised on the next page.

The procedures described herein for creating a chrysanthemum bonsai on a rock can also be adapted to creating other species of plant material into bonsai on the rocks.

Fall Mum Festival & Craft Fair

Green Spring Farm Park and Horticulture Center Saturday, October 3, 1987

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Enjoy the sights, sounds and sweet smells of the "country" at Green Spring Farm Park

Festivities will include:

- Bluegrass & Concert Band Music
- Chrysanthemum Sales
- Wildflower Sales sponsored by the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society
- Craft Sales by talented local artists
- Farmers' Produce Sales
- Specialty Food Sales
- Plant Clinic and Plant Advice
- Scarecrow Making
- And much more!

FREE ADMISSION

Green Spring Farm Park and Horticulture Center is located at 4603 Green Spring Road in Annandale and may be reached by taking Beltway Exit 6-E (Little River Turnpike, Route 236) east three miles to left at Green Spring Road to the park entrance on the right.

For more information call 642-5173.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

POTTING OF SAPLING (First 10 days of November)



Choose one were sprouts emerge from the roots



Remove the sapling from the container and let the soil fall freely from the roots.



Set the stone in "work" soil and place some muck on the top, center of the stone.



Set the sapling so that the roots hug the stone.



Press the "work" soil onto the roots and put moss on the surface of the soil.

PLEAURES OF BONSAI MUMS

Most good and mediocre bonsai are developed from trees: and shrubs as starter material whereas bonsai chrysanthemums are started from flowering plant material and developed to look like other bonsai.

When one begins to scrutinize bonsai chrysanthemums or "Giku" (the translation of the Japanese article's name for them) one will be surprised to see that even though the shape or style may be inferior, the display of blossoms more than compensates for the poor styling. As the Gikn ages and continues to make flowers, over the years, the texture of the trunk and branches appears withered and parched to give the impression of age. Also where the roots are spread over stone, they will grow fatter to give an added impression of longevity that can be enjoyed.

By using wire to gradually bend the branches, a bonsai Giku with the appearance of age will be created that one can appreciate. As the soil recedes from around a bonsai on the rock planting, the roots are exposed to wind, sun, water and rain and their otherwise naturall appearance of woody tissue is converted into a muscular look.

This article describes an interesting way to develop a bonsai Glku by the month of May of the year after the sapling was procured.

The author of the article from which this was adapted, feels that from all the different tree shapes that one can create, the most pleasing is two branches arranged in two-trunk style where the union of the two is at the root-line. In what follows, this style will be developed.

"STONE-ATTACHED" - PROCEDURE

Procurement of Seedling At Blossoming Time

NOVEMBER After Procurement , Planting of Mum

After Procurement

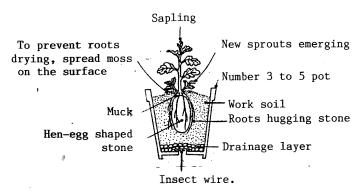
Sometime between the last ten days of October and the first ten days of November in various parks and botanical gardens and the like, chrysanthemum exhibitions are opened. Botanical gardens offer for sale mums that they have grown. Other sources for mums are nursery companies and those even have mail-order businesses. The purchase price varies according to the species selected and the chosen company. Japanese prices were estimated by the author to range from 300 to 500 yen.

*WHAT IS A GOOD PROCUREMENT?: The most important feature to look for in the mum that is to be purchased is that there are new sprouts firmly attached to the mum. It is important that there is a large amount of sprouts since these are important in the development of the trunk. Other desirable features are that the leaves themselves are thick and have good color and luster.

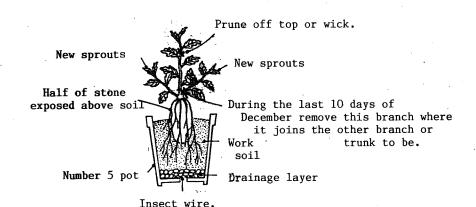
Planting of the Mum

Expedite planting the newly procured mum into a number 3 (about 3 inches diameter) common clay pot.

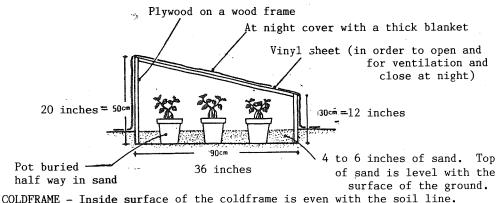
First of all, limit the amoun t of old soil that gets into the pot by allowing the old soil to fall from the roots of the mum before it is potted. A smooth stone has been selected which has the shape of a hen's egg, the closer in size to a hen's egg - the better. Stand the stone upright and anchor it in some of the "work" soil covering the lower part of the pot. (See the end of this paragraph for the make-up of the "work" soil.) The Japanese article also uses Keto which appears to be similar to muck in this country. Much is made from sieved organic peat and, depending on one's preference, is made by mixing it dry with other fillers such as 6 parts peat to 4 parts sphagnum moss or using it as is. Then water is slowly added as the muck is kneaded until



POTTING COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER



REPOTTED PLANT, DONE DURING THE MID TEN DAYS OF DECEMBER



The buried pots will be heated from the ground and thus a uniform

the muck reaches a pliable, claylike consistency. Place a small quantity of thermuck on top of the stone. Next carefully set the roots over the stone being careful not to injure them in the process. The roots should hug the stone. Pot the roots over the stone in "work" soil which appears to be equivalent to , in this country, 4 parts Turface, 4 parts leaf mold, 1 part Cran-I-Grits, and 1 part charcoal. (Note: One source of charcoal is pet shops where it is sold for use in aquarium filters.)

Ordinarily at the time a flower dries up it is removed. Hence, remove any buds that may be on the plant in order to conserve the energy in the plant for the making of new leaves.

DECEMBER Repotting, Wintering

Repotting

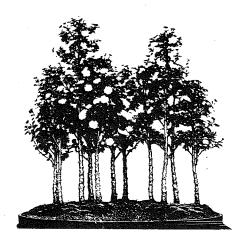
The plant that was procured in November, quickly grows. In the 10 days in the middle of December, replant the bonsai. The roots should be limited by the pot size,— a number 4 or 5 (4 or 5 inches in diameter) is to be used. When repotted, one—half of the stone now extends above the soil line of the pot.

At this time remove about one-third of the trunk length from the top of efathermiddle trunk.

Wintering

After transplanting, place the bonsai undercoder in a cold-frame to keep them warm. In the afternoons around 3:00 p.m. be diligent in covering the coldframe with a blanket to hold in and sustain the heat in the coldframe during the night. Remove the blanket around 8:00 a.m. Please heed the following warning:- Ordinarily by mid-day the temperature in the coldframe can rise as high as 30° C (86° F) or higher. By mid-day ventilate the coldframe so that temperatures between 15° and 20° C (59° to 68° F) can be sustained. It is good to control the temperature in the coldframe well-into March.

(This is the end of Part 1. Part 2 will appear in the next PBA Newsletter.



Chrysanthemum forest

range of temperatures can be maintained.



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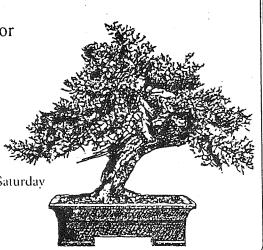
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