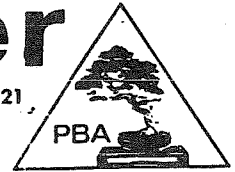


Newsletter

ISSN 0160-9521



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DUES ARE DUE!!!

MEMBERS: Pay dues to your local club treasurer.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: Please send \$6.50 to:
Cy Mill, 9229 Arlington Blvd, Apt 160, Fairfax, VA 22031

Note: Those members of PBA who paid full registration to attend the 1988 PBA Annual Symposium, will be given free membership in PBA for 1989, - this year. Your local club treasurer will be provided with a list of those eligible for the latter.

Editor's Note: You may have noticed that this issue of the Newsletter bears the dates May/June 1989 at the top of this page. Due to various circumstances I can get this Newsletter out approximately one-month after the April issue, but I will not be able to put another one together until mid-June '89. Hence I'm combining the May and June Newsletters into this issue. Advertisers will get an extra issue free of charge. I am sorry for this occurrence and hope that you will find the information in this issue and the next compensation for foregoing the June issue.

Jules Koetsch

PBA NEWSLETTER

Published by the Potomac Bonsai Association, Inc. (PBA), a non-profit organization, in the interests of its affiliate member clubs and societies.

CIRCULATION

Over 400 internationally on a monthly basis.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

PBA membership includes 12 monthly Newsletters covered by part of the annual membership dues. Corresponding membership: \$6.50 for 12 monthly Newsletters. Make checks payable to the Potomac Bonsai Association and mail to Cy Mill, 9229 Arlington Blvd, Apt. 160, Fairfax, VA 22031.

ADVERTISING RATES

Monthly rates: 1/4 page - \$5.00; 1/2 page - \$10.00; full-page - \$15.00
20% rate reduction for advertisements that run for 3 or more months.

ADVERTISEMENTS and/or ARTICLES Send to the editor.

EDITOR

J. F. Koetsch, 6709 Caneel Ct., Springfield, VA 22152; (703) 569-9378.

SUBSCRIPTION & CIRCULATION Cy Mill (703) 352-9009.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

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PBA KEY EVENTS MAY, JUNE

The following events are listed ahead of other activities to emphasize that those events are noteworthy for all PBA members.

27 May Saturday

The BEHNKE NURSERIES Co., 11300 Baltimore Ave. (U.S. 1)
2 miles north of exit 25A Capitol Beltway, Beltsville, MD

PBA ANNUAL AUCTION

10:00 a.m. to ?

3 June Saturday

PBA BEGINNERS' WORKSHOP

1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

U.S. National Arboretum
Auditorium

(See article in this Newsletter.)

20 May Saturday

BALTIMORE (301) 825-0863. Ladew Topiary Gardens in Harford County at 1:00 p.m. It will be the normally scheduled meeting -

NOTE THE CHANGE OF DAY FROM SUNDAY TO SATURDAY

20 May Saturday

WASHINGTON (202) 583-2676. National Arboretum at 2:00 p.m. WORKSHOP - hopefully working with children interested in bonsai.

25 May Thursday

BROOKSIDE (301) 381-6549. Argyle Community Center on Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. 7:00 p.m. BEGINNERS' CORNER. 7:30 p.m. - THREE-RING CIRCUS CRITIQUE. This is an informal meeting where you can get advice on that "problem" tree! Hear what people visualize for your tree and what they have in mind for their trees. Some Russian Olives & some Red Cedars collected last November will be discussed and "initiated" and might be raffled off under special conditions yet to be established - please bring to meeting!

BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB hope to get together a group of

interested people for a tour of Chase Rosade's Bonsai Studio and a tour of Jerry Stowell's private collection. Anyone interested call Leslie McCleary, (301) 825-0863 (H), or (301) 328-7492 (W) before May 31st.

10 June Saturday

NORTHERN VIRGINIA (703) 591-0864. 10:00 a.m.

Location to be announced. Beginners who attended the PBA Beginners' Workshop should bring those trees to this meeting along with any tools, soil, pots, and wire that they have to work on trees. Other members bring trees to work on. Meeting agenda; GENERAL WORKSHOP. Also bring lunch. Refreshments will be provided.

17 June Saturday

WASHINGTON (202) 583-0863. National Arboretum at 2:00 p.m. For new members, bring trees from the Beginners' Workshop. Otherwise, there will be planning for the club's 189-90 program, - so if members have any preferences, plan to be there!

22 June Thursday

BROOKSIDE (301) 381-6549. Argyle Community Center on Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. 7:00 p.m. BEGINNERS' CORNER. 7:30 p.m.: NEW MEMBERS' WORKSHOP - styling of trees from the PBA New Member Orientation. All members are urged to attend to meet and help the new members.

8 July Saturday

BROOKSIDE Picnic at Janet Lanman's place, 9120 Burdette Rd. Starts at 12:00 noon. Bring your own "brown bag" or basket. Drinks will be provided. Directions will be mailed to Brookside members or call Dave Cuddington (301) 381-6549 or Janet on 365-7621

8 July Saturday

NORTHERN VIRGINIA (703) 591-0864. Greenspring Horticulture Center at 10:00 a.m. Morning: PROPAGATION. Afternoon: IVY WORKSHOP. Tree: Unusual Bonsai.

PBA BEGINNERS' WORKSHOP

3 June 1989, Saturday

FREEFREE.....FREE.....FREE.....FREE.....FREE.....FREE.....FREE

INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP FOR NEW PBA MEMBERS.

PBA Member Clubs: Educational Vice Presidents Please Read!!!!

!;00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Administration Building, U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Avenue, N.E. Washington, DC.

PBA is continuing the annual program for new members. A free, one day only, workshop is again being offered to welcome new members of PBA who have joined for the first time.* A modest starter tree and the Sunset book "BONSAI CULTURE and CARE of MINIATURE TREES" to initiate beginners into the "mysteries" of creating their own bonsai will be provided free of charge to each eligible attendee.

The philosophy of the program is that a senior teacher will present the artistic background and advise the participants on the styling of trees. It is expected that a representative from each member club of PBA, hopefully the Educational Vice President, will be present to assist the lecturer. Students will not work on plants at this session. Rather, each club is expected to schedule their own follow-up workshop, whereat new members will be assisted in the initial styling of the tree (so-called "plastic surgery" which sets the basic shape of the tree) as well as when and how to prune, wire, pot and fertilize.

*NOTE: This workshop will be offered on a one-time only basis to new members. As such, the program is specifically designed as an introduction to bonsai and is not meant to be a substitute for a full-fledged beginners' course.

THE
NATIONAL
BONSAI
FOUNDATION
INC.

3501 New York Ave. N.E.,
Washington, DC 20002

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

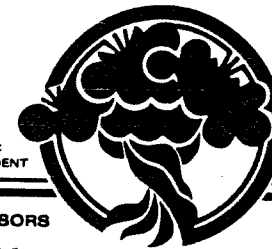
The National Bonsai Foundation is making PROGRESS. That means more activity for the organization that cannot always be handled by the Executive Director and the few board members living in the Washington area.

We would be most appreciative of volunteer help in several areas. For example, more events will be taking place, more mailings to be sent out (the latter not glamorous but fun if done in a group),

With a good roster of names you would not be called often. Please if you are interested in helping during this exciting time on a project most important to us all, call Ruth Lamanna, 525-8669, indicating your preference as to type of activity and if you are available daytime.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Golden State Bonsai Association
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Potomac Bonsai Association's 15th Annual Symposium
The Informal and More Natural Styles in Bonsai
September 16th - 17th

U.S. National Arboretum, N.E., Washington, D.C.

Lecture/Demos Workshops Vendors & Raffles

Registration limited to 150 persons

PBA Members: \$80

Non-members: \$95

Guest Speakers:

David Andrews, New York

Dan Robinson, Washington

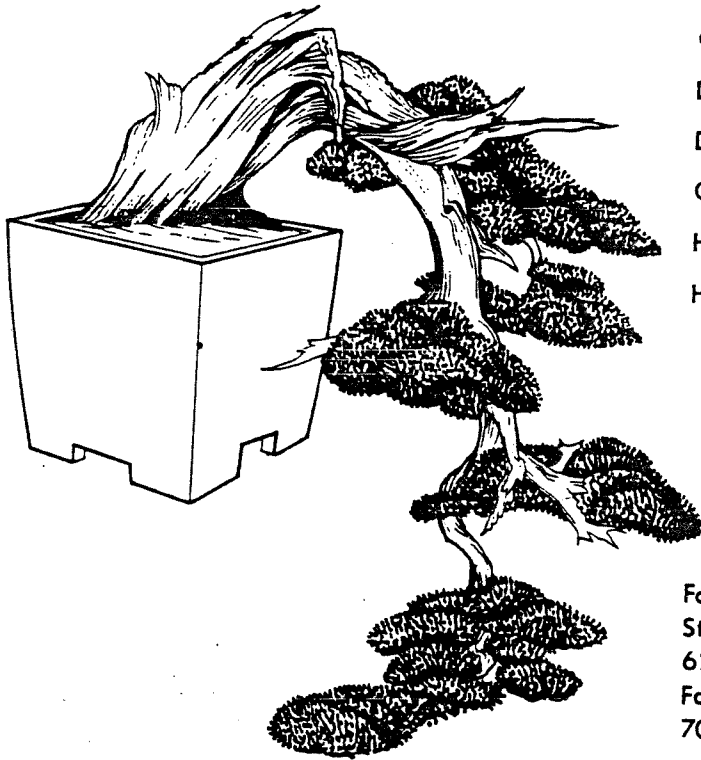
Chase Rosade, Pennsylvania

Harold Sasaki, Colorado

Harry Tomlinson, England

For information contact:

Steve diGirolamo
6249 Lakeview Drive
Falls Church, Va. 22041
703-354-4939



PBA 15TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM
GUEST SPEAKERS



DAN ROBINSON is most familiar to those who know him from before as the man with the chainsaw who likes to sculpture deadwood into bonsai.

Dan began his interests in plants during his youth by collecting barrel cactus in the desert and by pruning his grandfather's fruit trees. Dan's study of bonsai began in earnest during his collegiate years at the University of Washington. His major in forestry and his major in

dendrology furthered his interests in tree shapes and forms. On weekends he and his uncle roamed the Cascade Mountains where Dan first came in contact with naturally dwarfed trees.

It was during those trips that Dan met an elderly bonsai grower and was introduced to members of the Seattle Men's Bonsai Group. Those people aided his youthful enthusiasm with inspiration and direction.

Today, Dan is one of the new breed of bonsai artists in the United States. He is a leader in this country in art of sculpting deadwood on bonsai using power tools. As one of the best collectors of bonsai, he has perfected certain root enhancement techniques that greatly increase the survival rate of trees. As a bonsai artist that relies on observations of ancient trees in the wild, his respect for the traditional Japanese methods is tempered by his own

unique creativity and refinement talents allowing him to capture the magic of American bonsai.



CHASE ROSADE is one of the East Coast's bonsai talents and is well known in the Washington, DC, area. Chase is a graduate of Delaware Valley College, with a degree in Ornamental Horticulture. Chase, after marrying, took an extended trip to Japan where he discovered the world of bonsai. It was in Japan that Chase became an apprentice of the bonsai master, Kyozo Yoshida. It was then that Chase learned of the Japanese methods of training apprentices. He

spent 8 to 20 hours a day watering, mixing soils, wiring and doing all the other painstaking bonsai techniques.

Chase Rosade is the proud owner of the Rosade Bonsai Studio, Box 303, Ely Road, RD-1, New Hope, Pennsylvania. Either singly or in groups, bonsai enthusiasts from this area have visited the Rosade Bonsai Studio in the picturesque setting of New Hope. There one can find a full line of tools, bonsai pots, both starter and finished bonsai plant material, soil, books and anything else that is bonsai related. Chase schedules bonsai classes on a yearly basis, and one can obtain a schedule by writing to the above address.

The Rosade Bonsai Studio is an annual exhibitor at the prestigious Philadelphia Flower Show.



HAROLD SASAKI was born and lived in Hawaii before he moved to the Denver, Colorado, area. While in Hawaii, around 1955, he started into bonsai by starting bonsai from seeds and using locally grown material.

After settling in Colorado, Mr. Sasaki started working with Ponderosa pine and is now one of the foremost authorities on Ponderosa pine. Mr. Sasaki is past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society and has been a member of that club for sixteen years. Harold has also served as a director of the American Bonsai Society.

Since 1978, Mr. Sasaki has conducted bonsai classes at the Denver Botanic Gardens and has served as bonsai instructor with the Jefferson County Adult Education Program.

A professional wholesale and retail grower in the Denver area since 1977, Mr. Sasaki also specializes in native specimen trees for the yard or patio.



Dr. DAVID ANDREWS is a renowned New York City surgeon who transfers his skills in the operating room to the bonsai workbench.

Dr. Andrews, who began his bonsai studies in 1951 when he attended a course at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, is a successful and well-known orthopedic surgeon.

Dr. Andrews has been a long-time student of Yuji Yoshimura and John Naka and is an exceedingly proficient bonsai artist. Dr. Andrews skill is hard to pin down to any specific

style,- he does so well with all of them.

Dr. Andrews is truly an animated speaker. Those who have never seen Dr. Andrews in action as well as those who have can count on being entertained with a line of patter spiced with humorous anecdotes.

PBA ANNUAL MEETING

As scheduled, on Saturday night, the 29th of April 1989, the PBA Annual Meeting was held in the basement classroom of the U.S. National Arboretum commencing at 5:30 p.m. The old, regular attendees were quite surprised at the large turnout.

Members of the PBA Board for 1988 - 89 gave their reports. Jerry Antel, the PBA Treasurer, gave a very interesting accounting of where PBA funds were spent for the '88-'89 timeframe against income from various sources. The accounting showed a significant danger sign in that more went out than was taken in during the accounting period. The new PBA Board will have to take a hard look at an approach to balancing the books for the '89 to '90 period. PBA at that time still had funds in the bank but at the rate things have gone in the past, this will soon disappear.

It is a known fact that over the past years the money received from dues and corresponding members alone did not cover the costs of printing and mailing the PBA Newsletter. To offset that, the PBA Board is also going to review various ways of reducing apparent money gap in that respect.

The new PBA Board, unanimously voted in, consists of:

President: Bob Sitnick
First Vice President: Russ Kinerson
Educational Vice President: Chris Yeapanis
Secretary: Julie Walker
Treasurer: Jerry Antel, Jr.

Grateful acknowledgements were given to the outgoing PBA Board members:- Fred Mies, Bill Spencer, Jim Sullivan and Molly Hersh for all their efforts, often overlooked and seldom rewarded except through the knowledge of jobs well-done. Jim Sullivan gratefully acknowledged the assistance given by all those who helped put on the PBA Annual Spring Show this year.

After the official part of the meeting ended, those present enjoyed a dinner of Chinese food.

Jules Koetsch

NISHIKIGI *BUNJIN STYLE*

EUONYMUS

The April '89 issue of the PBA Newsletter's article on *Euonymus alatus* by Cliff Pottberg gave an in depth account of the characteristics of this plant material for bonsai. This article describes how to create a bonsai from *Euonymus* or *Nishikigi*, - the Japanese name for the species. The following is adapted from the Japanese article on *Nishikigi* by Mōuma Bunai which appeared in the book "Deciduous Bonsai- How to Create Them with Illustrations". Although the title of that article described *Bunjin* as the style covered therein, the article covered the other aspects of how to create and care for a *Euonymus* bonsai from the day it is collected or grown from seed.



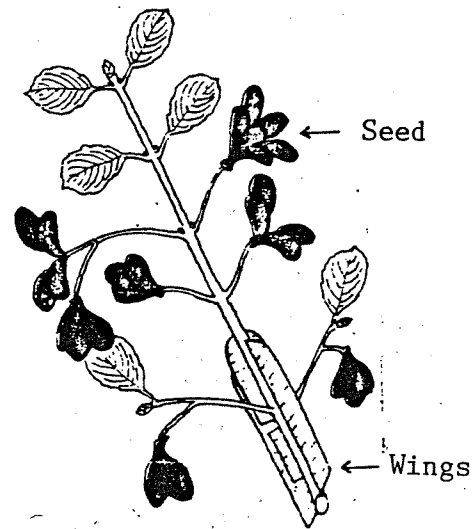
Euonymus as a *Bunjin*.

The *Euonymus* is a deciduous, low growing tree that, in Japan, grows in the fields and mountains of Hokkaido, Honshū, and Shikoku. The *Euonymus* has a reputation for its leaves turning red in Autumn and decorating the mountains with a red brocade pattern.

The *Euonymus alatus* resembles the Spindletree and they bear interesting seeds. Also the older branches are distinguished by a rigid, corkbark quality.

Note that if the plants are just one year old and

are replanted shortly thereafter, the roots will not have developed sufficiently to probably survive the next winter in spite of the fact that the plants have been fertilized and given the proper care during the prior months.



Characteristics of Euonymus

The pebbles are spread on top of the surface of the growing bed so that the seedling trunks establish bends or crooks. (Also birds will be thwarted from eating the seeds.)

BEGIN FERTILIZING June 10th to 20th

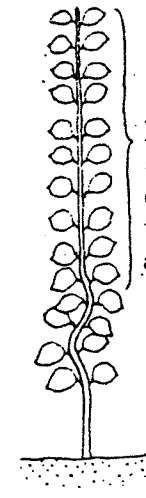
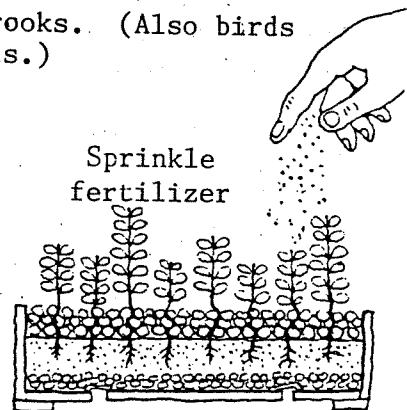
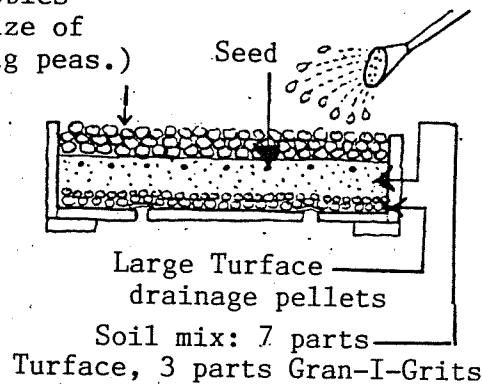
Spread powdered fertilizer once per month over the surface of the seed bed. Stop fertilizing at the end of October.

COLLECTING or GROWING FROM

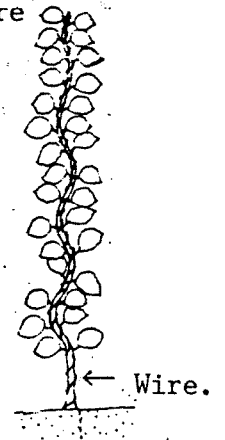
SEED: The seeds are gathered in the Autumn and sown between March 10th and 20th of the next year. The seedlings are allowed to mature for 2 to 3 years in the starting bed.

SOWING SEEDS - March 10 - 20

Small pebbles (Size of big peas.)



The sapling trees are allowed to mature for 2 years before potting them individually. During that period the trunk should be wired so that the excessive straight-line of the trunk can be altered to a sinuous one -----.



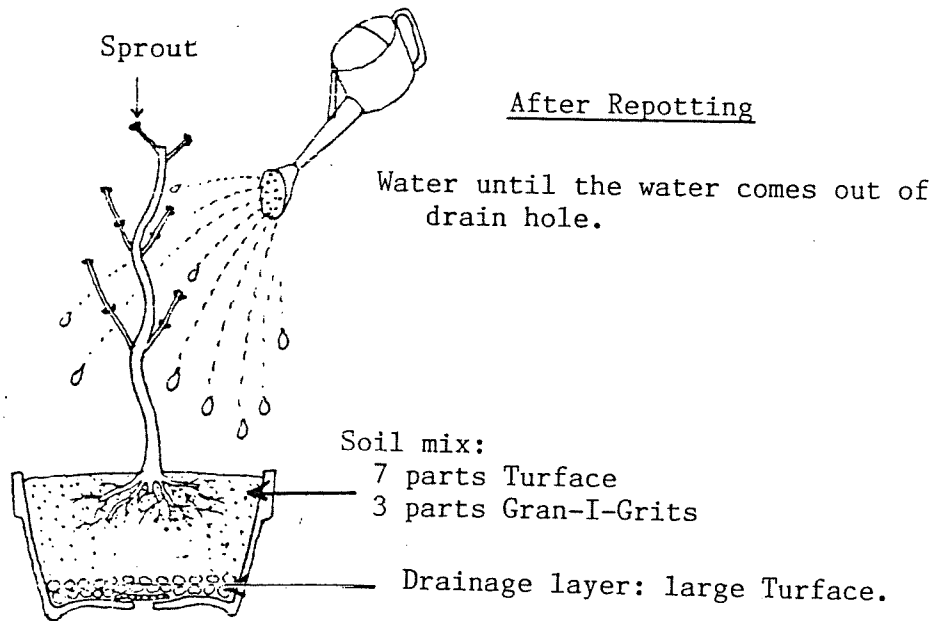
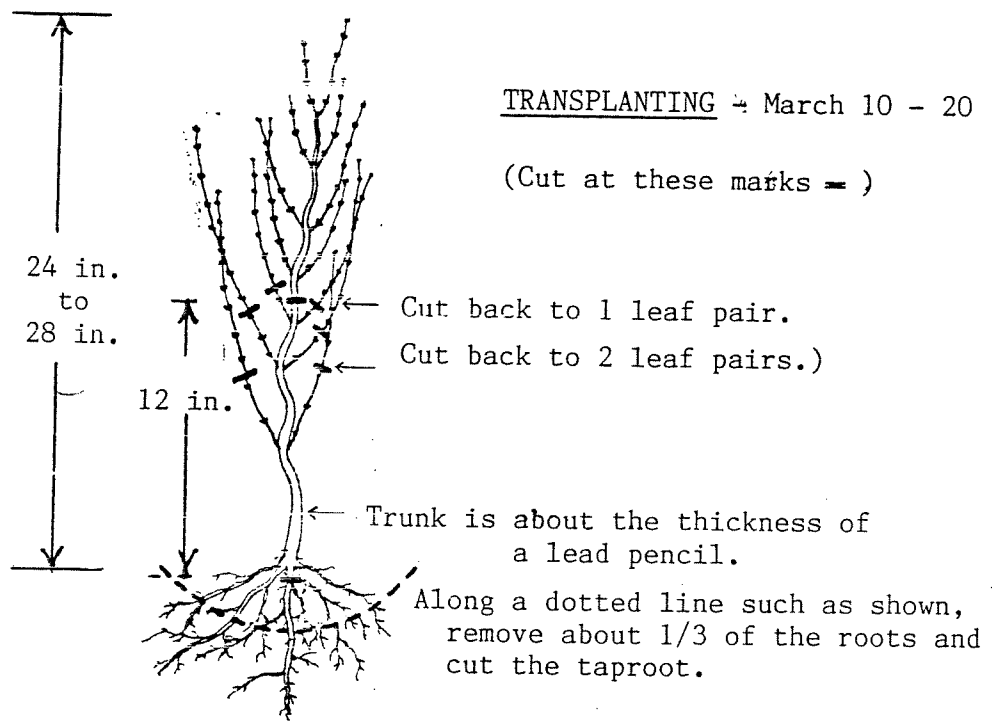
The Euonymus which are collected in the mountains or at roadsides in rural areas should have trunks of about the thickness of a lead pencil. One might consider tagging them before snowfall covers them so that they can be dug-up ideally before the new growth or sprouts pop out. The sapling can be potted in a 6-inch diameter pot. Once leaves appear, they can be removed and when the second groups of leaves come out, that is an indication that the roots are growing. One can then begin fertilizing but during the first year after the sapling was collected, the fertilizer should be applied to encourage root growth and not topside growth, - i.e. use a higher phosphorous to nitrogen ratio fertilizer and use it sparingly.

THIRD YEAR

Those trees grown from seed which survive to the 3rd year and those collected trees which survive to the second year are ready for pruning and repotting in a March 10th to 20th timeframe. A pot that has some depth is recommended to help encourage root development. Pruning is done so that 1 and 2 leaf pairs are left. The repotted plant is returned to its winter cold frame or similar protection. NOTE! On the Schedule of Events at the conclusion of this article, the plants have spent their first and second winters also under some protection such as a cold frame or unheated polyhouse.

TRANSPLANTING - March 10 - 20

(Cut at these marks =)



After Repotting

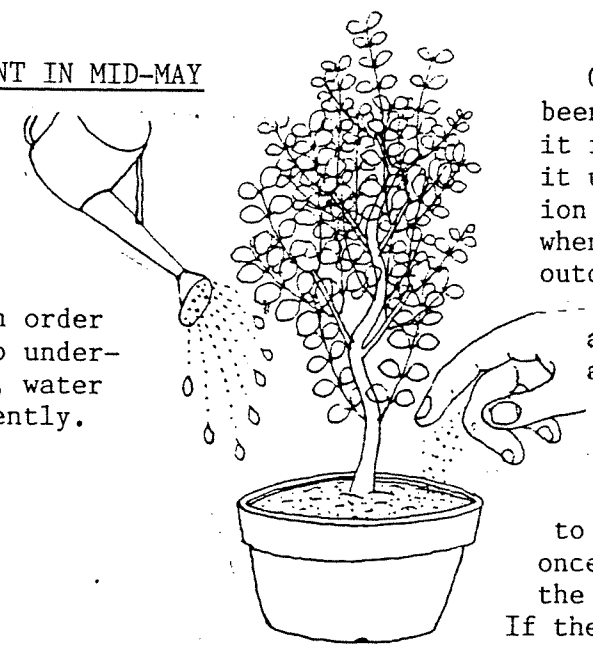
Water until the water comes out of drain hole.

Soil mix:
7 parts Turface
3 parts Gran-I-Grits

Drainage layer: large Turface.

PLANT IN MID-MAY

In order not to under-water, water frequently.



Once the plant has been repotted, water it frequently and keep it under winter protection until April 10 to 20 when it can be placed outdoors on a bench.

Protect it from any evening frosts and from strong winds.

Apply a dry, powdered fertilizer to the top of the soil once every month until the end of October.

If the powder causes a fungus on top of the soil, use fertilizer balls, - 3 to 4 to a pot.

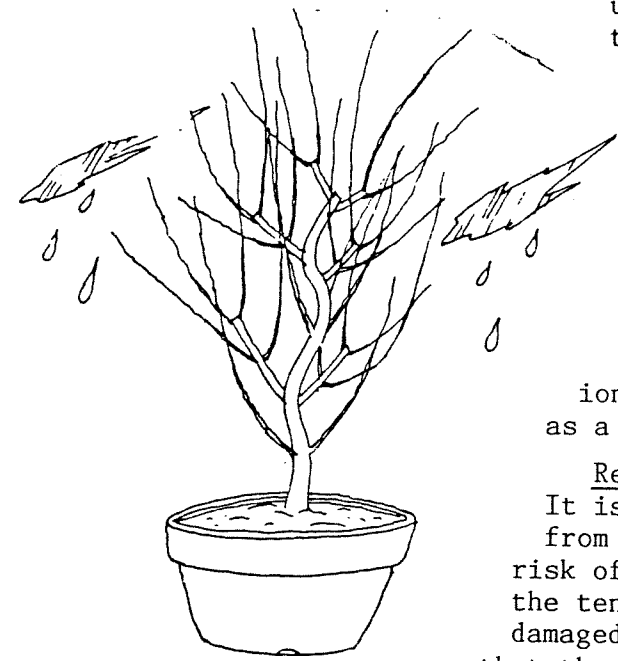
WINTER PROTECTION - CARE
December

Expose the plant to a strong frost 2 to 3 times before putting it in a cold frame or a polyhouse.

Although the Euonymus is winter hardy, it is well to provide some winter protection for the small saplings such as a cold frame or polyhouse.

Removal from Winter Protection

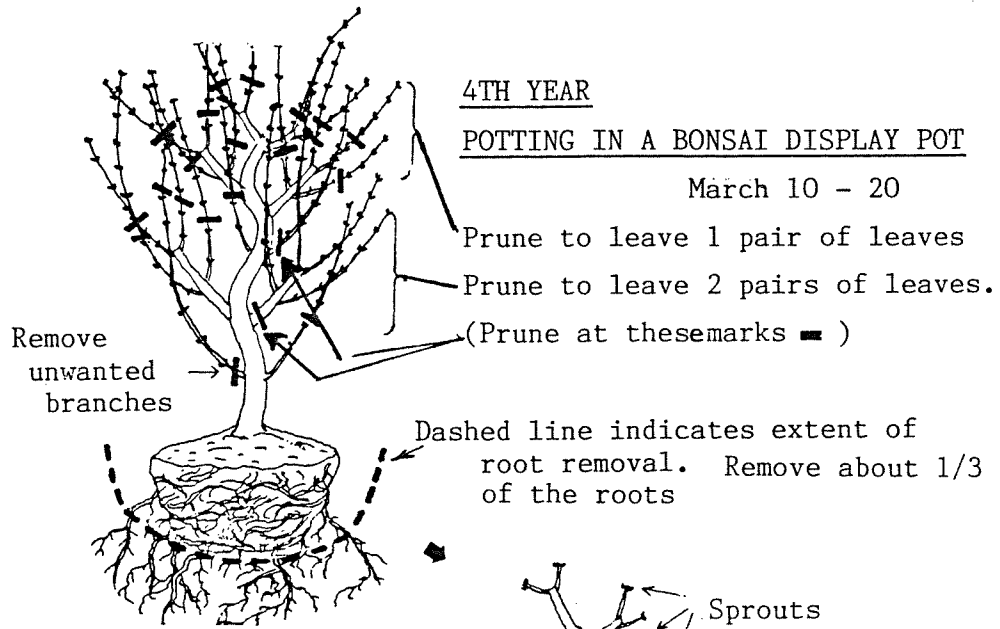
It is well not to remove the plant from winter protection until the risk of frost has passed. Otherwise the tender, young leaves will be damaged. It is also recommended that the plant be removed to an outdoor shelf on a rainy day.



4TH YEAR

POTTING IN A BONSAI DISPLAY POT

March 10 - 20



Dashed line indicates extent of root removal. Remove about 1/3 of the roots

Sprouts

Water thoroughly after repotting

REPOTTED PLANT

It is returned to winter protection and after about 20 days, - April 1 to 10, it can be placed outdoors on

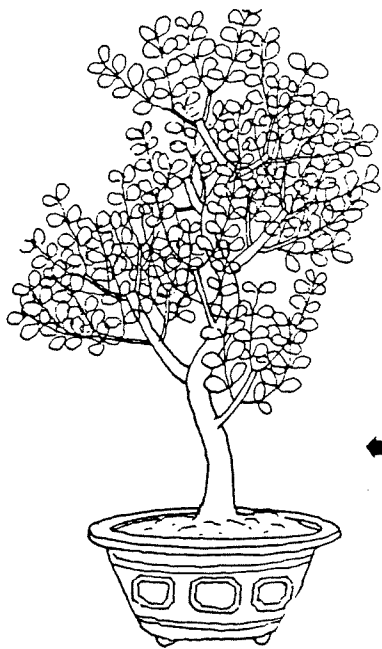
Potting mix:

- 7 parts Surface
- 3 parts Gran-I-Grits

Drainage layer; Large Surface.

a bench. Protect against frost and strong winds.

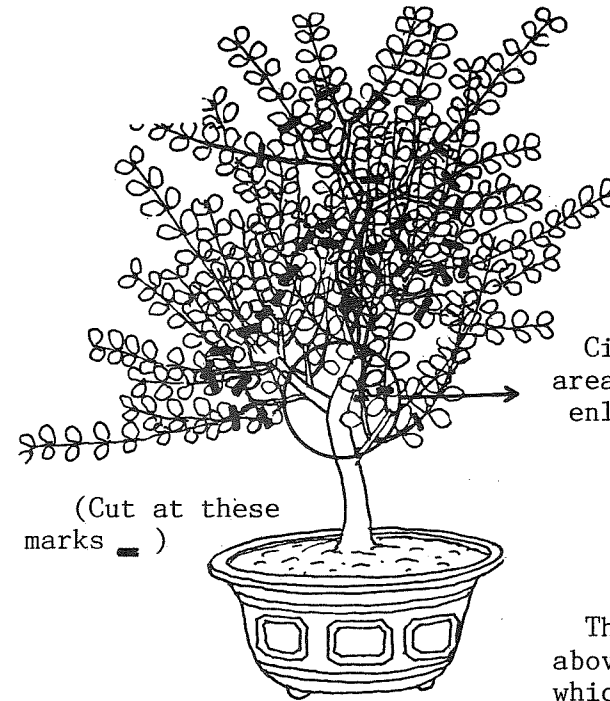
GROWTH BY JUNE



PRUNING AND WIRING

June 10 - 20

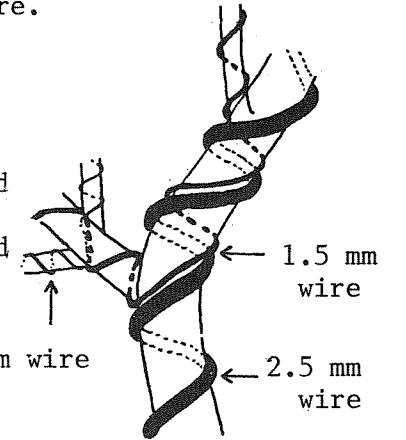
The branches are pruned to 1 or 2 leaf pairs as before.



(Cut at these marks -)

Circled area enlarged

1 mm wire

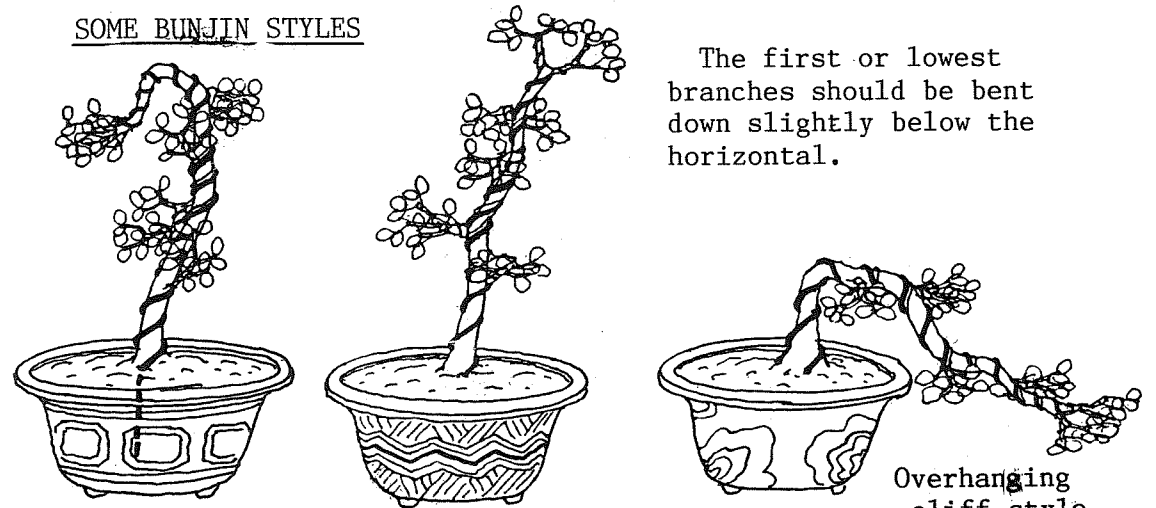


1.5 mm wire

2.5 mm wire

The recommended wire sizes above are for copper wire which should be paper-wrapped. Aluminum wire without the paper wrapping can be used but it should be somewhat larger in diameter to have the holding power equivalent to the copper wire.

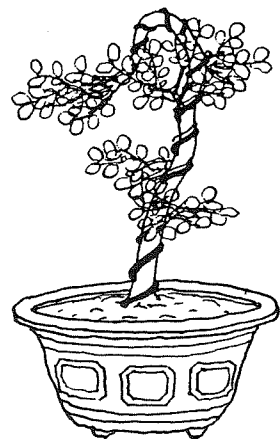
SOME BUNJIN STYLES



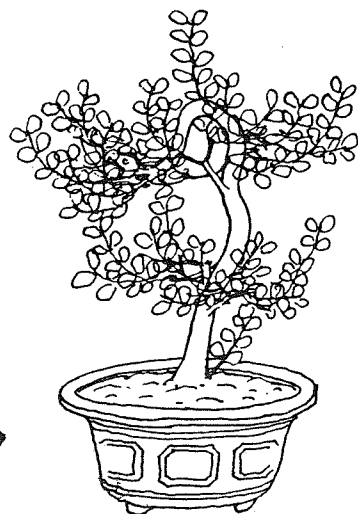
The first or lowest branches should be bent down slightly below the horizontal.

Overhanging cliff style

4th YEAR - continued



Above is the appearance of the growth in mid-July.



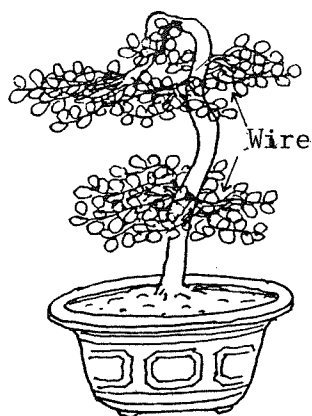
In August, about 60 days after wiring, remove the wire from the trunk. In about another 30 to 40 days, remove the wire from the branches and rewire them. This is sometime by the end of September 10th. Wire should be applied to the new growth to maintain the basic shape.

No matter what, remember that the wire should be removed as soon as a small part of the wire against the tree's bark is no longer visible and seems to have imbedded itself in the bark.

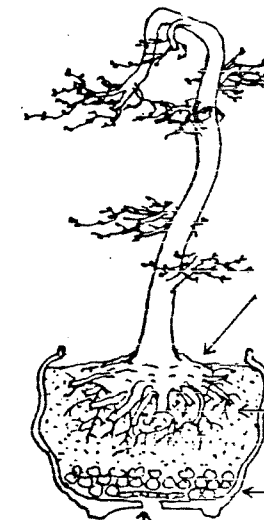
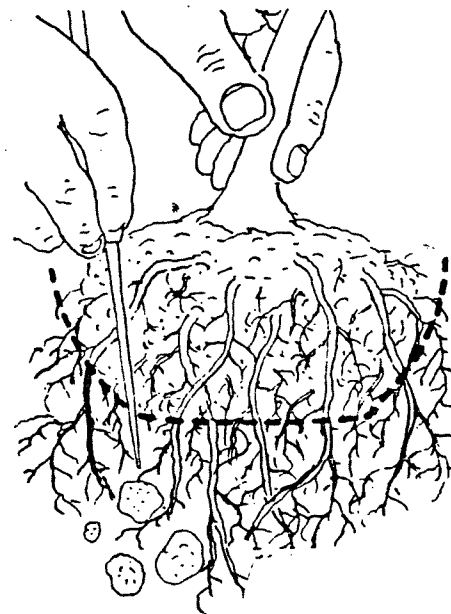
At the same time the branches are rewired, unwanted sprouts are plucked off.

The branches should be wired so that they are slightly down from the horizontal.

It is recommended that a twin-trunk bonsai of Euonymus be avoided and the unwanted trunk should be amputated. This will avoid problems with the growth of the branches.



5th YEAR AND YEARS THEREAFTER - CARE



Choose pot to harmonize with the tree.

Between March 20 and 30 the tree is removed from the cold frame.

Repotting is done as shown here, every 2nd or 3rd year.

Fill in the spaces between the roots with soil. Soil mix; 7 parts Surface, 3 parts Gran-I-Grits.

Drainage layer: Large Turface.

Remove the roots along the dashed line on the left, - roughly the edge of the container the plant was in. Then remove about 1/2 to 2/3's of the soil. Further trim the roots so that there is some space between them and the sides of the pot.

Wiring is done in June and pruning is done to keep the basic shape of the tree.

The following Schedule indicates the various times to carry out certain operations to make an Euonymous bonsai.

EUONYMUS BONSAI

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

<u>Time</u>	<u>Action</u>
FIRST YEAR	
Mar. 10 - 20	Sow seeds and water them.
Apr. 1 - 10	Remove seeds/growing bed from winter protection and place outdoors on a shelf.

ANONYMUS BONSAI
SCHEDULE of EVENTS (continued)

Time	Action
Jun. 10 - 20	Begin fertilizing once per month.
Oct. 20 - 31	Stop fertilizing.
Dec. 10 - 20	Provide winter protection.
SECOND YEAR	
Mar. 10 - 20	Start watering more often
Apr. 1 - 10	Remove from winter protection. Begin fertilizing once per month.
Oct. 20 - 31	No more fertilizing for the winter.
Dec. 20 - 30	Provide winter protection.
THIRD YEAR	
Mar. 10 - 20	Prepare pot and repot. Water thoroughly right after repotting.
Apr. 1 - 10	Place outdoors on a bench.
May 1 - 10	Begin fertilizing once per month.
Oct. 20 - 31	No more fertilizing for the winter.
Dec. 1 - 10	Provide winter protection.
FOURTH YEAR	
Mar. 1 - 20	Pot in a bonsai display pot. Water thoroughly right after repotting.
Apr. 1 - 10	Place outdoors on a bench. Begin fertilizing once per month.
Jun. 10 - 20	Prune. Wire.
Aug. Jul., Aug., Sep. 10	Remove wire from trunk. Pluck sprouts and rewire branches and bend them.
Oct. 20 - 31	No more fertilizing for the winter.
Dec. 10 - 20	Provide winter protection.
FIFTH YEAR	
Mar. 20 - 31	Prune and start watering more often.
Apr. 1 - 10	Place outdoors on a bench. Begin fertilizing once per month.
Jun. 10 - 20	Prune and wire.
Aug. Jul., Aug., Sep. 10	Start removing wire and rewiring branches. Pluck sprouts and bend branches.
Oct. 20 - 31	No more fertilizing for the winter.
Dec. 10 - 20	Provide winter protection.

A collection of brass tacks tips and briefings on styling, care and culture

THIRD PRINTING
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- Why winter is the best time to amputate heavy branches (see page 102, *Winter Protection*).
- Tricks to make bonsai look "old" (see page 13, *Birth of a Bonsai*).
- What to do if a drainage screen becomes dislodged (see page 44, *Screen Nightmare*).
- A labor-saving way to screen soil (see page 53, *Soil Construction*).
- How to avoid juvenile growth (see page 70, *Species Specifics*).
- How to implant lichen on trunks (see page 83, *Moss & Lichen*).
- How to mend a broken pot (see page 81, *Containers*).

- How to change soil in a group planting without taking it apart (see page 43, *Birth of a Bonsai*).
- How to save a cracked branch (see page 70, *The Wiring Ritual*).
- How to add soil to a potted bonsai without disturbing the soil surface (see page 58, *Soil Construction*).

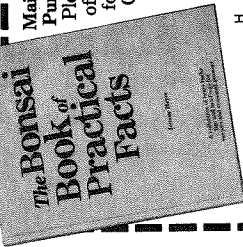
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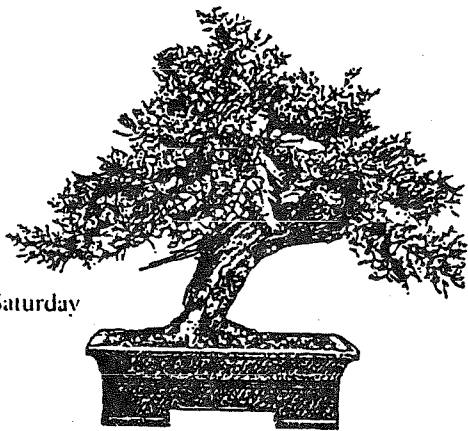
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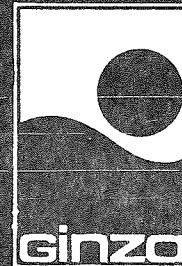
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