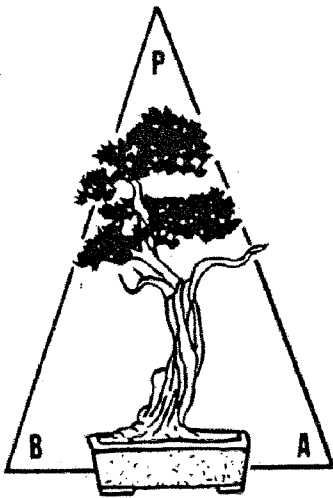
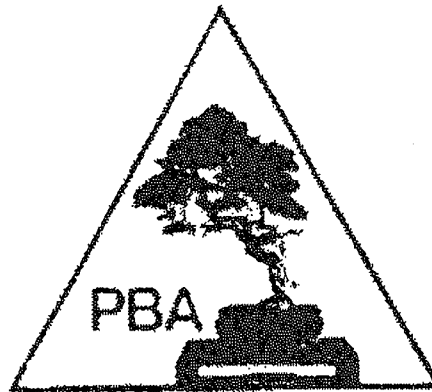


**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY  
 POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION**



PBA's First Logo from 1971

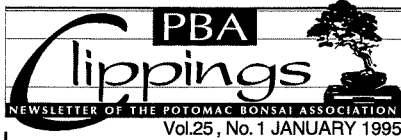


PBA'S Logo from 1971 Until Now

**25 GLORIOUS YEARS WITH  
 PBA AND MANY MORE TO  
 FOLLOW**

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PBA Member Clubs/Societies: Annual subscription is included in the membership dues paid to the PBA Club or Society of your choice. Telephone numbers of points of contact for information about any member club or society and its annual dues, are listed on the last page of this newsletter.

**Non-Member Subscriptions:**

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Please send ad/articles to the editor: J. F. Koetsch, 6709 Caneel Ct., Springfield, VA 22152; (703) 569-9378.

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## From the Editor

HAPPY NEW YEAR one and all and thanks to all who helped in one way or another with the '94 PBA Clippings.

With the start of a new year, it seemed appropriate to reinstitute "TREE of the MONTH" articles. These have been absent from the PBA Newsletter/Clippings for about 15 years due mainly to lack of any "American get up and go" as the colonel in the play Teahouse of the August moon put it. Terry Adkins proved that there was plenty of "get up and go" when within less than a week's time he put together the Tree of the Month article in this issue.

Terry's article is hopefully the first in a non-ending series of Tree of the Month

Here's the pitch; what is requested is that PBA members take a little time and compose an article or articles about one or more of their bonsai. With almost twelve member clubs in PBA one Tree of the Month article from each club would be one short of rounding out the year. PBA members who have more than one bonsai that they would like to see in Tree of the Month are not to be discouraged from submitting as many as they wish. Where privacy is desired owner's name will not be mentioned.

What does a Tree of the Month article entail? Briefly, it's a biography of the bonsai including details on as much of the following items as, possible and any other appropriate subject matter:

- 1) A good photograph first and foremost
- 2) When, how obtained. The usual: nursery, collected, grown from seed, cuttings, etc. John Y. Naka says that if you haven't got an interesting story about your bonsai's origin, make one up. Keith Scott in response to that suggestion commented that his bonsai was stolen from a monastery by Siamese dancing girls.
- 3) Training technique - how long, etc.
- 4) Potting, repotting - time of year, amount of root removed and the like.
- 5) Potting soil used.
- 6) Pot or slab - source, color, when put into display pot.
- 7) Watering schedule.
- 8) Fertilizing - when, what?
- 9) Where located - outdoors, indoors, full sun, filtered light, etc.
- 10) Wintering - steps taken and care during winter like watering, wiring?, pruning, etc.
- 11) Any other tidbits of information.

Please note that one is not obligated to respond to all of the above.

In some instance you may want the readers to respond with a suggestion as to how to improve your bonsai such as whether to foreshorten or remove a branch, or is the pot appropriate?

Meeting location and club contact number for additional information is as listed unless otherwise noted in calendar listing. A member of any one club is eligible to participate in any PBA or PBA member club event.

**Baltimore Bonsai Club**

Cyburn Arboretum  
3rd Sunday, 1 PM  
(410) 668-1868

**Bowie Bonsai Club**

Bowie Community Center  
Last Monday, 7 PM  
(301) 350-3586  
(202) 667-1016

**Brookside Bonsai Society**

North Chevy Chase Recreational Center  
3rd Thursday, 7 PM  
(301) 365-7621

**Chesapeake Bonsai Club**

Paca Garden, Annapolis, MD  
2nd Tuesday, 7:30 PM  
(301) 261-8131

**Greater Philadelphia Bonsai Society**

Pennypack Watershed, Willow Grove, PA  
4th Thursday, eve.  
(215) 663-1678

**Kiyomizu Bonsai Club**

Clearwater Nature Center, Clinton, MD  
3rd Saturday, 2 PM  
(301) 645-3519

**Lancaster Bonsai Club**

Lancaster Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, PA  
2nd or 3rd Wednesday, 7 PM  
(717) 394-0845

**Mei-Hwa Penjing Society**

Bowie Community Center  
2nd Sunday, 1 PM  
(301) 390-6687

**Northern Virginia Bonsai Society**

Green Springs Park  
2nd Saturday, 10 AM  
(202) 554-3045

**Richmond Bonsai Society**

Imperial Plaza, 1717 Bellevue Ave.  
4th Monday, 7 PM  
(804) 353-6674

**Washington Bonsai Club**

U.S. National Arboretum  
3rd Saturday, 2 PM  
(202) 296-2441

*Organizations sponsoring regular events of interest to PBA members:*

U.S. Botanical Gardens  
(202) 226-4082

U.S. National Arboretum  
(202) 475-4857

**JANUARY**

Saturday 14

Northern Bonsai Society  
MEETING AT GREEN SPRING FARM PARK at 10:00 am.  
WELCOME HOME party.  
EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND!!!

Thursday 19

Brookside Bonsai Society  
7:00 Beginners corner.  
7:30 Paul Wildisan on tool care & sharpening.

Saturday 21

Drop-in workshop with Paul Wildisan at the home of Janet Lanham. 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM. Contact Brookside club contact for information.

Saturday 21

Washington Bonsai Club  
Dan Chiplis will be speaking on wiring the tree at 2:00 pm

Monday 23

Richmond Bonsai Society  
Video and Slides of the National Collection at 7:00 PM.

7:30 Richard Meszler on Virginia Pines.

Saturday 18

Washington Bonsai Club  
Bill Merritt on the correct soil for Bonsai.

Sunday 19

Baltimore Bonsai Club  
NO CALENDAR

Thursday 23

Greater Philadelphia Bonsai Society  
Discussion on propagation techniques and grafting. There will also be a seed give-away.

Monday 27

Richmond Bonsai Society  
Bill Valavanis on "Deciduous Bonsai Planting"

Lancaster Bonsai Club

NO CALENDAR

**ETCETERA**

February 17-19

The Atlanta Bonsai Society is hosting its Second Annual Conference at the Holiday-Perimeter/Dunwoody. The featured speakers will be Roy Nogatoshi, Joe Harris III, Bill Valavanis, Rodney Clemons, Jim Doyle, Tom Dimig, and Chen Shue.

February 23-26

Maymont's Spring Flower Show, in the Richmond Centre, Richmond Virginia. There will be members of the Richmond Bonsai Society members exhibiting trees.

**FEBRUARY**

Saturday 11

Northern Virginia Bonsai Society  
NO CALENDAR

Sunday 12

Mei-Hwa Penjing Society  
NO CALENDAR

Tuesday 14

Chesapeake Bonsai Club  
NO CALENDAR

Thursday 16

Brookside Bonsai Society  
7:00 Beginner's Corner

## TIPS ON JANUARY CARE

Now that winter has us fully in its grip and the bonsai have been bedded down and undergoing a winter's nap or are they? There are some who feel that conifers, especially the pines, don't sleep that soundly and don't mind an occasional weak solution of fertilizer. You're on your own with that one. The paramount thing to do is keep an eye on whether or not the bonsai are not drying out from lack of watering. Believe it or not there have been people naive enough to put their plants in winter storage and think that they will survive with no further attention until Spring breaks through. It's hard to get geared up to go out to the poly-house or the outside area where the bonsai are wintering when the weather is cold. It still should be an every day affair. One caution to observe when storing bonsai in a poly-house, glasshouse, or cold frame - the surface of the soil in the pot may appear damp but the sub-soil may be dry. This is due to the fact that the moisture in the enclosure settles on top of the soil camouflaging what the conditions are inside the pot. Good for moss but not the plan. By the way, have you removed all the moss from the surfaces of the soil? Remember, leaving it in place will invite root rot. Watering needs:

Conifers and deciduous plants may need water every day. Flowering bonsai such as Crab apple, Crepe myrtle, Forsythia, Quince and fruit bearing such as Holly may only need water every other day.

Needle junipers and Sub-alpine fir - mist every day.

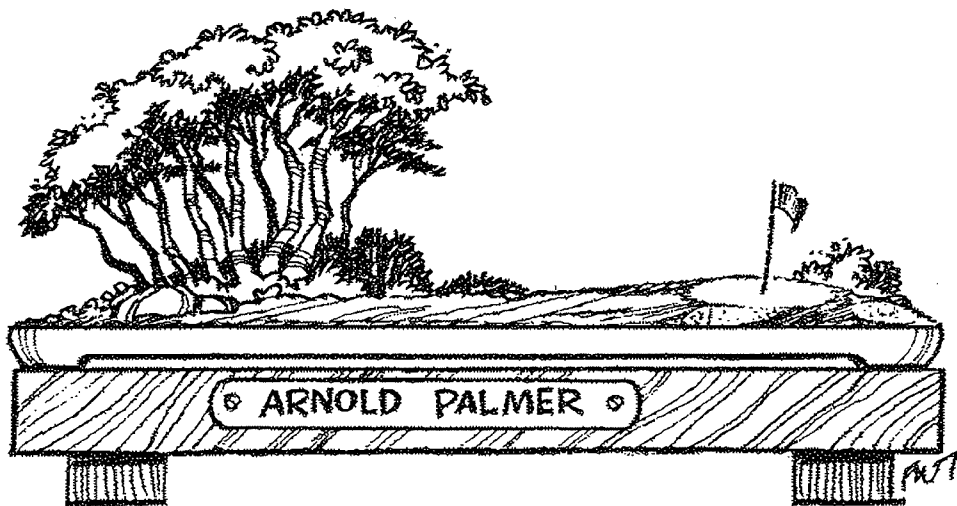
Pruning - no you haven't escaped this task.

This is a good time to refine your deciduous trees since the leaves are not obscuring the branches **PRUNE ALL MAPLES BEFORE MARCH** otherwise you will have to wait 2 months. If pruned in the above interval when the sap is flowing, a maple may literally "bleed to death."

White pines can have branches removed during this month.

Black pines can have their 2 year or older needles removed and needles on the ends of sprouts can be reduced in number to 2 or 3 fascicles or needle pairs for the upper section, 5 to 7 for the mid-section and 9 to 11 for the lower section of the pine.

## CELEBRITY BONSAI BENCH



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## VINES AS BONSAI CONTINUES

Last month we an overview and plus an article from Walter Schmitt on vines as bonsai. This month we are going to cover vines taken from cuttings and nursery stock. So now, the saga of vines as bonsai continues.

### CUTTINGS:

According to reference 1 "Boston " Ivy is native to Japan and central China. The leaves are 3 lobed and a lustrous green which changes to brilliant scarlet in the Fall. Its fruits are blue, are mostly hidden by foliage and very much sought by the birds. What follows was adapted from a chapter on Tsuta, the Japanese name for Boston Ivy, which appeared in the 1974 booklet "Illustrated Directions for the Preparation of Deciduous Plants for Bonsai" (in Japanese). The propagation of Tsuta (Boston-Ivy) is relatively simple. In the Spring between March 20th to 30th, cut from a mature Tsuta pieces which are 6 cm (2 1/2 inches) in length and about the thickness of your little finger. Plant the cuttings on a slant in a growing soil mixture of 7 parts red clay and 3 parts Paulowina tree sand contained in a wooden box. Place the cuttings 10 cm (4 inches) apart with 1-part in the soil and 2-parts exposed. The cuttings can be cut either with a diagonal or right-angle cut. However, leaves emerge from the cuttings in June and to enhance the survival rate (about one-half of the cuttings will take) do not remove too many leaves. Having completed the planting of the cuttings, water the soil until the water flows from the openings in the bottom of the box and place the cuttings so that they have one-half-a-day shade until the roots have sprouted, usually one-month. Insure that the cuttings are well-watered. After root growth has started, around April 20th

to 30th, leaves will emerge. Then place the cuttings on a shelf in a sunny location. Continue to supply sufficient water throughout the growing period. If one desires, apply rape-seed fertilizer powder once during the September 20th to 30th timeframe and again during October 20th to 31st. Dust the powder between the rows of cuttings.

### 2ND YEAR TRANSPLANTING, LEAF CLIPPING, PRUNING

#### Transplanting:

Transplanting for the first time should be done between March 10th to 20th. This is about the time sprouts begin to show some life. Prune away one-third of the root system. Because the Tsuta grows rapidly, the potting should be done within the above timeframe. The color of the pot should harmonize with the leaves when in the Autumn, they have turned to crimson from bright green. The customary pot employed is one with glazed, white finish. For a small to intermediate size bonsai, a round pot of 10 cm (4 inches) diameter is suggested. Do not place the mixture of potting soil (7 parts red clay and 3 parts paulowina tree sand) in the pot until a drainage layer of red clay pellets has been placed in the bottom of the pot. Having completed the potting, apply water until it flows from the bottom of the pot and place it in a shady spot for a one-month interval.

#### April-May Management

After potting and tree has been in the shade for a

month, sprouts will start to emerge during April 20th to 31st. When this happens, move the plant to a sunny spot on a shelf. During April 20th to 30th and again during May 20th to 31st apply a thin dusting of rape-seed fertilizer around the edge of the pot.

#### Leaf Clipping

During the period of June 20th to 30th, the energy in the plant is high and leaf clipping should be done. All leaves and stems should be clipped.

#### Pruning

From July 20th to 31st to September 20th to 30th during a 2-month interval, the flourishing growth of branches is gradually removed. Prune so that in every instance, 2-segments remain,-see the illustration.

#### September 20th to 30th Until December 10th to 20th.

Pruning has been terminated. During September 20th to 30th and October 20th to 31st again make weak applications of powered rape-seed fertilizer. Of course continue to water twice-a-day during the above months using tap water. In November you will have a pleasure of viewing the leaves which have turned to crimson. During December 10th to 20th after having been exposed to a good frost, place the plant in a greenhouse or cold-frame.

### 3RD YEAR MANAGEMENT

Continued from previous page

Repot the tree from the first time. Refer to the illustration.

Repeat the 2nd year operations during  
*continued on next page*

## Editorial continued from page 2 OFFICER'S CORNER

There's a lot of good bonsai/Penjing among the PBA community and it's time to show them off. One of the primary objectives of PBA is to educate people in the art of bonsai. A Tree of the Month article will go a long way in doing that! Bonsai is a never ending endeavor - not only is there no end to care and restyling of a growing plant but there are infinite ways of representing any species of plant as a bonsai. If you've become blasé to what may be mundane instructions on how to fashion a bonsai turn your attention to what others have done to style a species of plant life into a bonsai. Your Tree of the Month article should do just that if the nitty-gritty details are old hat. They won't be to most of us neophytes. Thanks for bearing with me on this topic and please inundate PBA Clippings with articles.

### REMINDER CALENDARS ARE NEEDED:

Did anyone notice all the NO CALENDARS listed?

Please have the person in charge of handling your clubs calendar and/or newsletter to send a copy to: Beth Potratz, 1101 Pekay St SW, Vienna, VA 22180. So that she can input your clubs calendar into The Clippings 'Calendar of Events. Inquiring minds want to know!

during the 3rd and subsequent years.

The following illustrations found on pages 7 and 9 give a complete overview of what should be done at time of year and stage in the ivy's growth.

**Nurser Stock:** This source of material was used for the Boston Ivy plants which Hal Mahoney used in the workshop last July sponsored by the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society. Judith Wise provided the following details. Mahoney brought with him stock that was approximately 5 years old and had been allowed to grow up a stake to a height of 6 to 7 feet. The caliper was one-half to an inch and grown in a gallon container.

We cut the ivy back to about 3 inches and potted it in a small 3 to 4 inch diameter pot. Once the ivy budded out and produced new leaves, these leaves are cut back. The second budding was also cut back and the leaves produced are very small (thumbnail size). You could begin to style.

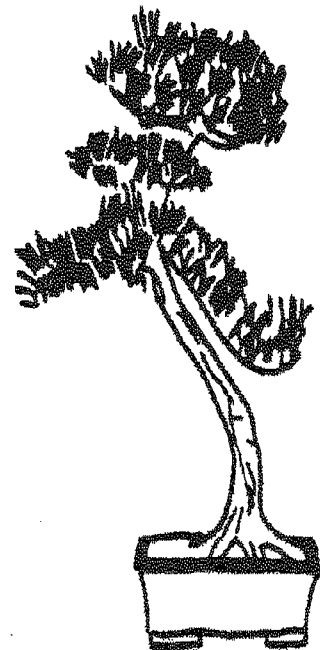
We were instructed to water daily but

not to fertilize until next year and pinch back as needed.

I have mulched the ivy in for the winter and will see how it survives next spring.

### References

1. WYMAN'S GARDENING ENCYCLOPEDIA, by Donald Wyman; Macmillan publishing Co., New York; 1978



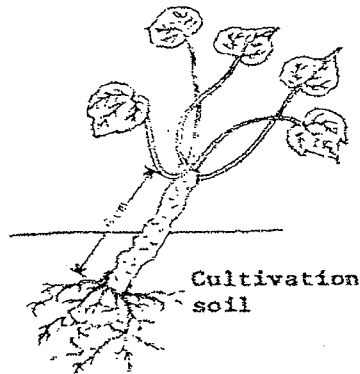
# Illustrations for Vines As Bonsai continued from previous page

## 1st Year

### Development of Roots and Leaves

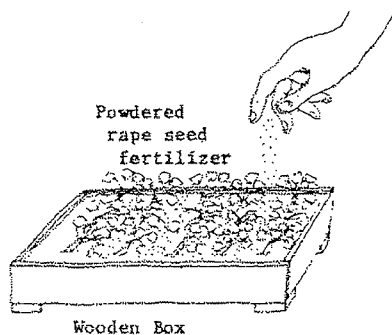
March 20th- 31st

Use a cutting of about 6 cm (2-1/2 inches) in length and as thick as one's little finger. Thrust the cutting into the soil and roots will appear with in one month.



### APPLY FERTILIZER

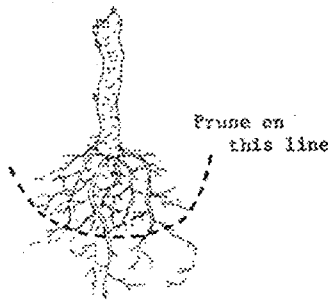
During the first year in September and October apply powder rape seed fertilizer to where the edges of the roots begin. Do not stop watering adequately.



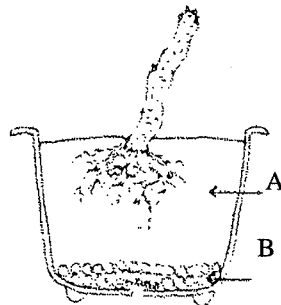
## 2 Year

### Transplanting; Root Pruning

March 10th - 20th



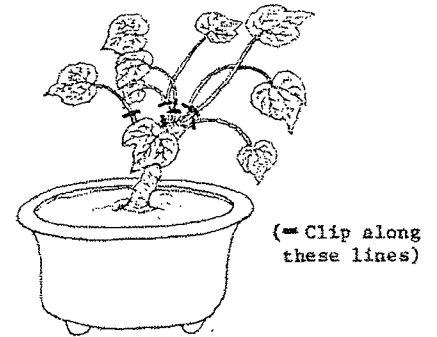
Remove 1/3 of the root system. Place the plant in pot no longer than 10 cm (4 inches).



- A) Potting Soil: 7 parts red clay; 3 parts paulowina sand
- B) Red clay drainage pellets

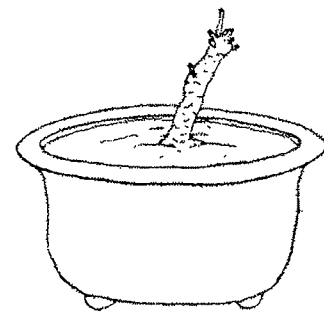
## 2nd Year Leaf clipping

June 20th-30th



Be Careful in selecting the place to clip the foliage.

### RESULTS OF LEAF CLIPPING



After the clipping, leaves will again emerge from the stems. These leaves will turn crimson in the Autumn.

## TREE OF THE MONTH

There it was setting by the trash can with its roots exposed and tops cut back in the midst of its brothers and sisters.(see drawing #1 ) Asking permission to carry away part of my in laws trash was easy. The question was, " Could I divide away the trunk I wanted"? With my folding saw the surgery began. I divided off two of the trunks June of 1989, one died the first year. The Azalea was cut back to only a few buds growing from the large three inch trunk with a nearly perfect taper, even the top where it was cut was well tapered.(see picture #2) I water fed using Green King monthly from July thru Oct. The liquid Green King was made by dissolving the pellets , enough to cover the base of a 2 gallon plastic container, in a 1/2 gallon of

water. A solution of 4 teaspoons to a gallon of water was applied to. I winterized in my underground stairwell, and on March 15, 1990 I repotted, trimmed roots and planted in a blue green oval Tokoname pot.(see picture #3) 1 Fed Miracid and Rapid Gro thru growing season of 91'. In May of 1991 I wired for the first time. In 1992 I repotted the tree in its present pot a reddish brown Tokoname. I've sprayed with Epsom salts, Iron, Fungicides and Insecticides to control various problems. The epsom salt is a source of magnesium sulfate which was used to correct the off-color of the leaves in summer - a reddish purple coloration. (Epsom salt is used for acid-loving plants such as azaleas - for non-acid-loving plants use dolomitic limestone.) A liquid solution of epsom salt in water was sprayed on the leaves. The iron was fed to the azalea to offset chlorosis - yellow

or pale green coloration in the leaves over the entire plant. The commercially available iron in liquid form was mixed with water according to the directions supplied and sprayed on the leaves and sprinkled on the soil. The beautiful light purple pink flowers have gotten a lot of attention at the Spring Show. For the last 2 years, the tree has won a first place ribbon at the Chicago Midwest Bonsai Show.(see picture #4) The tree is in great shape and should be on display this Spring. I gave the tree to my lovely wife of 20 years, because her Grandmother planted the Azalea over 50 years ago. My plans for the future of this tree include's a transplant into Kanuma soil which I have done with other Azaleas and to continue to improve the overall shape.

By Terry Adkins,  
Bowie Bonsai Club



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

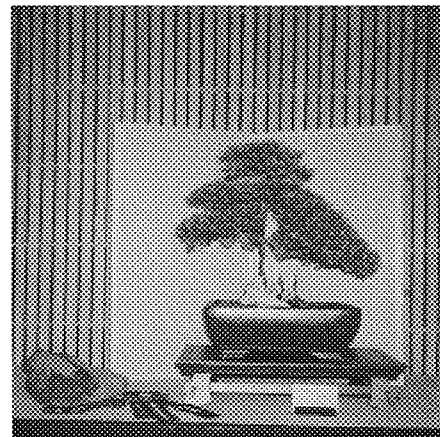


Figure 4



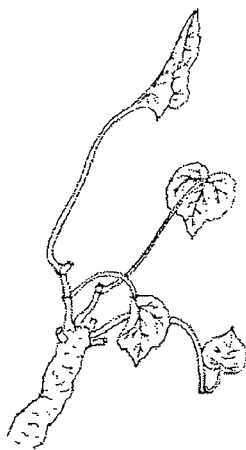
# ILLUSTRATIONS continued from page 7

2nd year continued

July 20th - Sept. 30th



Cut-off the excess branches so that only 2 - segments remain.

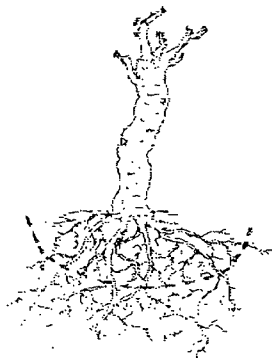


Do the pruning gradually over a 2 - month interval to arrive at the results shown.

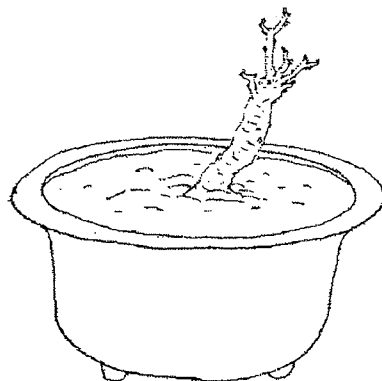
## 3rd Year

PRUNE ROOTS

March 10th - 20th



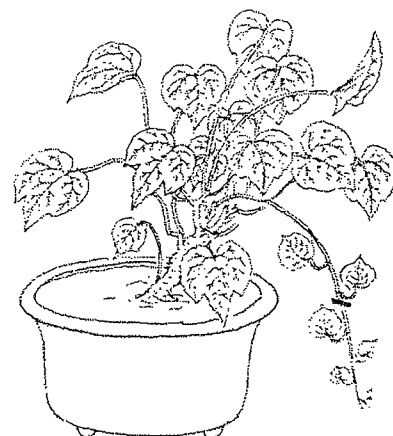
Remove roots along the line



Repot the Tsuta every year when confined to the small delicate sized pot.

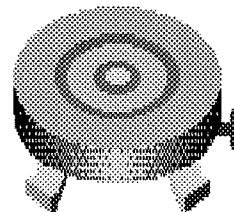
PRUNING

July 20th - Sept. 30th



Clip the leaves in June as shown by line. Prune gradually from July through September.

SENSEI  
SAM



Dear Sensei:

I am trying to get a tree ready for my clubs spring show with hopes of going on to the PBA show. My dilemma is that there is an old cut mark that is pretty large in size; is there any way to make it heal quicker?

Trying for the big show.

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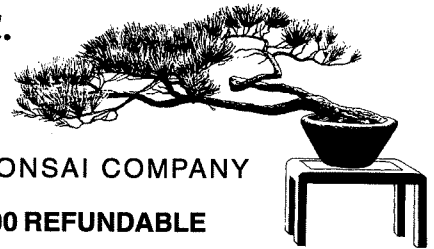
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(40-MILES NORTH OF  
TAMPA/ST. PETERS)

QUALITY

PRE-  
BONSAI

PLANTS

# Potomac Bonsai Association Membership Application

Welcome! We conduct a Spring Show and a Fall Symposium as well as other events. PBA is made up of the clubs listed to the right. Join one club and be eligible to attend any club meeting in addition to receiving the *PBA Clippings* monthly. Residents of: Baltimore, MD; Lancaster, PA; Philadelphia, PA; Richmond, VA and Washington, D.C. metropolitan regions are expected to join a club to receive all membership benefits.

To become a member, call the contact person of the nearest club for current rates and where to send your dues.

Individuals beyond commuting distance of a club are invited to subscribe to the PBA newsletter, *PBA Clippings*. For subscription to *PBA Clippings* only, mail a check payable to PBA for \$15.00 (U.S. \$35.00 for international subscription/postage) to Jeff Stephanic, 103 Bayliss Dr. Alexandria, VA 22302. For additional information, call Jeff Stephanic: (703) 671-6881.

*Regular meeting times and places are listed. Meeting times and locations are subject to change, call first! Events are*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>PBA Clippings</i> , Subscription Only, US \$15  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership     | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>PBA Clippings</i> , International Mail, US \$35 |

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Bonsai Club     | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater Philadelphia Bonsai Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Virginia Bonsai Society |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bowie Bonsai Club         | <input type="checkbox"/> Kiyomizu Bonsai Club                | <input type="checkbox"/> Richmond Bonsai Society          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brookside Bonsai Club     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lancaster Bonsai Society            | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington Bonsai Club           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chesapeake Bonsai Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Mei-Hwa Penjing Society             |   |

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: Office ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

- BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB**  
Cylburn Arboretum, Baltimore, MD.  
3rd Sunday, 1 PM  
Elaine Kendall, (410) 426-5421
- BOWIE BONSAI CLUB**  
Bowie Community Center, Bowie, MD  
Last Monday, 7 PM  
Terry Adkins, (301) 350-3586
- BROOKSIDE BONSAI SOCIETY**  
North Chevy Chase Recreation Center, Chevy Chase, MD.  
3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM  
Jerry Antel, (301) 320-5251
- CHESAPEAKE BONSAI SOCIETY**  
Paca Garden, Annapolis, MD  
2nd Tuesday, 7:30 PM  
Stephen Choi, (301) 261-8131
- GREATER PHILADELPHIA BONSAI SOCIETY**  
Pennypack Watershed, Willow Grove, PA  
4th Thursday, eve.  
Larry Chiger, (215) 663-1678
- KIYOMIZU BONSAI CLUB**  
Clearwater Nature Center, Clinton, MD  
3rd Saturday, 2 PM  
Joan Stephens, (301) 423-8230
- LANCASTER BONSAI SOCIETY**  
Lancaster Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, PA  
2nd or 3rd Wednesday, 7 PM  
Frank Thomas, (717) 394-0845
- MEI-HWA PENJING SOCIETY**  
(Chinese language spoken)  
Bowie Community Center, Bowie, MD  
2nd Sunday, 1 PM  
Akey Hung, (301) 390-6687
- NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY**  
Green Springs Park, Annandale, VA  
2nd Saturday, 10 AM  
Judy Wise, (202) 554-3045
- RICHMOND BONSAI SOCIETY**  
Imperial Plaza, 1717 Bellevue Ave., Richmond, VA  
4th Monday, 7 PM  
Chris Cochran, (804) 353-6674
- WASHINGTON BONSAI CLUB**  
U. S. National Arboretum, Washington, D.C.  
3rd Saturday, 2 PM  
Julie Walker, (202) 547-8497

POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION, INC.  
% U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM  
3501 NEW YORK AVE., NE

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