

Display Checklist

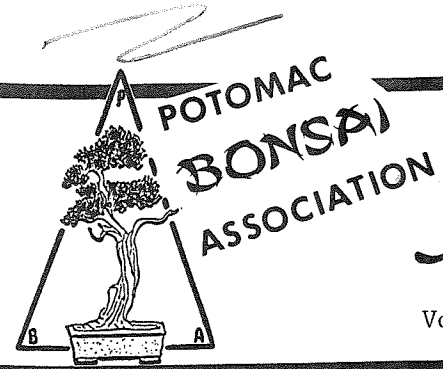
In a concerted effort to get everyone in PBA affiliated clubs to plan ahead for the Spring Show, we present a checklist of guidelines for displaying trees.

The basic idea is to show off the results of your work on a fascinating hobby and measure your progress through comparison with the skills of other exhibitors. No one should ever feel ashamed of his efforts. Remember, every bonsaist started as a beginner, and all can learn.

DISPLAY CHECKLIST

	Yes	No
<u>Trees</u>		
Are trees healthy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Well groomed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pruned?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do trees conform to recognized bonsai styles?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If bloomers, will they be in flower during the Show period?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are trees being considered advanced enough in training to warrant showing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Wiring</u>		
Is wiring properly done?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has wire been in place long enough to blend with tree?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are any wire scars visible?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Containers</u>		
Does size complement tree?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shape?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Color?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are pots clean?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Would baby oil or other aid remove water marks or stains?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
<u>Ground Cover</u>		
Is ground cover appropriate to the species of tree?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is moss placed in natural clumps?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are stems, leaves, etc. properly trimmed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If present, do rocks, stones detract from overall scene?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Stands</u>		
Do stands harmonize with trees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are stand finishes adequately polished or buffed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is each stand marked for easy identification later?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Nomenclature</u>		
Have you provided common names?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Botanical names?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you wish to have optional information used: club name?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Estimated age?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time in training?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Owner name?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Miscellany</u>		
Should accent plants be used?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If so, are they in harmony with the trees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do Mame bonsai, if entered, conform to above listed criteria?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (enter any you wish)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Newsletter

Vol. 4, No. 10

October 1974

(Photo by Suniewick)

how sweet
it is . . .

SWEETGUM (*Liquidamber styracifolia*) spreads branches to show leaves just beginning to pop during Third Annual PBA Bonsai Show last April. Accent planting of Dwarf Bamboo (*Sasa pygmaea*) contrasts vertically and horizontally. Both plants are the property of NOVABONSOC members.



Potomac Bonsai Association
 c/o National Arboretum
 24th & R Streets, NE
 Washington, D.C. 20018

TO: MILTON R. KIDD •
 18010 Elgin Road
 Poolesville, Maryland 20837

FIRST CLASS MAIL



POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

Published solely in the interests of the POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION, a non-profit organization, and its affiliate member clubs and societies, under the authority of its Board of Directors.

JOHN C. HREHA, President

POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION

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ADVERTIZING RATES

1 column inch (before reduction)..... \$ 1.75
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Classified 7¢ per word, 10-word minimum

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For further information, write Newsletter editorial office, address shown on page 2, or call Editor, 703-256-3623

Potomac Bonsai Association

ANNAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB
BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB
BROOKSIDE GARDENS BONSAI
NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Your Club's Activities

Not long ago, one of the PBA affiliate clubs scheduled a program featuring a visiting bonsai expert in a demonstration and workshop. Only three members showed up for the workshop, which meant the club went into the hole on this activity.

More recently another PBA affiliate announced a program on care and use of bonsai tools, including how to sharpen branch cutters. Only one member came.

These two incidents point up a harsh fact of life for volunteer hobby groups such as ours: programming is a thankless task if members will not support planned activities by either attending scheduled ones or personally assisting in the planning and presentation processes.

The most disheartening aspect of this problem, at least for those club members elect to the task of preparing programs, is that few members bother to inform anyone they can't or won't be present.

How can you, as a single member, help alleviate this situation? Simple. Get your money's worth by participating more actively in club programs and events. It is your organization; your money supports it. Your time and energy are the only motivating forces that can make the difference between a deadhead and a lively bonsai club.

Which do you want yours to be?

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BOOK REVIEW

STEP - BY - STEP GUIDE TO GROWING BONSAI TREES by Joan Melville. Felham Books Ltd, London, 1973. 91 pages. Reviewed by Jim Newton

Once one gets used to the lingual differences in the British bonsai lexicon ("compost" for "soil mix" by our usage, for example), this small book turns out to be merely a bonsai primer.

Although there is some evidence now and then that the British approach to nanization differs in subtle ways to the American way of looking at bonsai, basic principles and procedures will be familiar to everyone who has read any bonsai authors.

Ms Melville's introduction to bonsai came from a Japanese family living in Karachi, India. She travelled for several years in India, Malta, Africa, and parts of Arabia. She holds a First Class Horticulture Certificate (degree?) in Horticulture and Botony. Presently she is a freelance horticulturist and writer. Her bonsai collection numbers more than two hundred.

The most jarring note to this reviewer

PBA TREASURER'S REPORT September 13, 1974

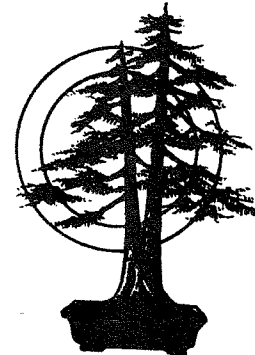
Balance on Hand (June 21) \$653.73
Receipts \$382.42
Expenditures \$424.06
Balance on Hand (Sept. 13) \$612.09

List of receipts and expenditures available from Treasurer Molly Hersh.

is the color photo chosen for the book's dust jacket. It is a red blossom Peach (*Prunus* sp.) with a white blossom branch grafted on. The styling appears to be on a par with the rankest beginner, so much so that form and shape are largely lost, or at best indeterminate.

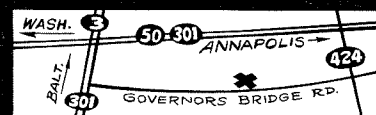
All in all, this step-by-step book is a disappointment in that it offers little new or unusual. It is this innocuousness rather than any of the several obviously controversial discussions of basic bonsai techniques that will tend to cause a negative reaction in most American readers.

Sunny South '75



Plan now to attend the 1975 International Bonsai Convention, July 2 to 6, Miami Beach, Florida. Site will be the Deauville Hotel, which gives special convention rates that are good for three days before and three days after the convention.

Convention schedule includes workshops, lectures, demonstrations, auctions, exhibits of collections, bazaars, entertainment, banquet, informal gatherings, and official meetings, plus sunbathing, swimming, golf, and a fabulous Atlantic beach to loll on.



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Library Is Research Aid

by BILL CRAIG
PBA Librarian

The PBA Library is fortunate to have close to a complete set of the BCI publication, BONSAI Magazine. Ten issues a year are being distributed. It began in 1962.

In addition to this vast accumulation of articles and features, an index also

has been put together. This is an invaluable aid in finding articles on a particular subject in which you may be interested.

If there are specific issues you would like to read, call or write me and I will forward them. If you prefer, I have a few copies of the index which you may also borrow for your own research.

In conjunction with this service, anyone with an extra copy of the index is asked to donate it for use by other PBA Library customers. The index was included in the July 1972 and May 1974 issues of BONSAI.

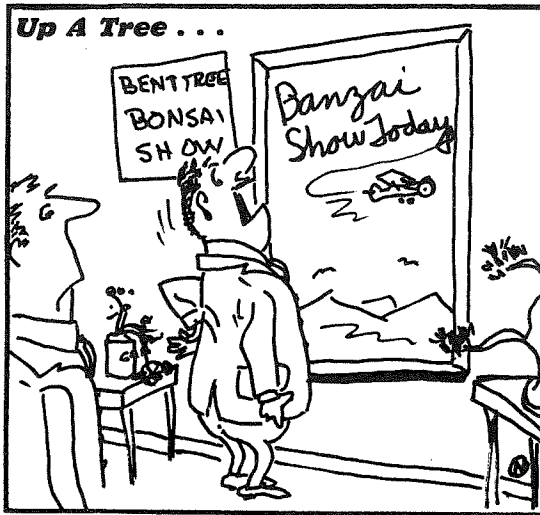
Lotus Anniversary

On Oct. 5 Lotus Imports, a longtime advertiser in the PBA Newsletter, will celebrate their third anniversary.

In addition to an open house for all their customers, including PBA members, Chris and Vera Yip have made an exclusive offer to PBAers. Often, shipments of expensive imports arrive with some damage, some severe, some massive. Quite often those pieces having only minor damage can be effectively repaired and utilized as originally intended.

Each PBA affiliate member who visits Lotus Imports at their store (see their ad on page 5) and displays a PBA membership card may choose any of these slightly damaged pieces. Included are vases, ceramic dishes, figurines, and, of course bonsai pots of various sizes and shapes. All pieces are present, so that to repair one needs only glue. Any piece selected by visiting PBA member is given free.

All visitors are invited to partake of refreshments while browsing.



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BONSAI - Consumer Corner

PAGODA, Inc.

Springfield Mall, Springfield, Va.

1325 Wisconsin Ave., Georgetown

In Springfield store, quite large stock of bonsai pots in variety of sizes, ranging from Mame to dai (large). Prices are comparative with other medium-priced pot sources: cheapest Mame pot \$1.95; 15-inch large cascade pot \$24.95.

Also at Springfield store, large selection of stands, round, oval, and square, polished and matt-finished. Prices are reasonable for imported wood products. A 10-inch-high, 10-inch-diameter round display table, black, with curved legs, made in Hong Kong was priced at \$34.95.

Owner Mrs. Sydalle Stone will give 10% discount on bonsai pots only to PBA and affiliate club members at Springfield store only.

Georgetown store has smaller stock of similar items, offers no discount.

Both stores have wide selection of other orientalia, including screens, ceramic ware, laquer ware, etc.

Overall evaluation: Springfield, good; Georgetown, fair.

Westcott's Closing

Wescott Nursery, 3250 Annandale Rd., Falls Church, Va., is closing its doors the first of December. A long-established stock plant and landscape nursery, a series of circumstances, including rising costs and pressures relating to land use, has combined to force the decision.

Their closing, however, may provide a temporary gain for some PBAers who take advantage of a closeout inventory sale now taking place. Most stock material is listed at 40% off retail price, with some specials available on an individually arranged basis.

For some time Wescott's carried bonsai developed by nursery personnel, but only a few specimens remain. These are included in the sale. Other potential bonsai stock material is on sale: Juniper, Arborvitae, Yew, Azalea, Fir, Pine, and more.

Pronouncing Guide

DEUTZIA

Deutzia purpurascens - doot'-zee-ah per-pure-ass'-enz

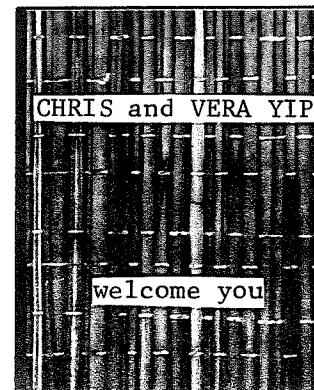
KATSURA TREE

Cercidiphyllum japonica - sir-sid-ih-fill'-um jap-on'-ih-ka

HOW ABOUT THAT...

...it is impossible to dictate taste, but wherever the bonsai is placed in the home, let it stand alone. Give it perhaps a simple screen or hanging for a

background - gold for pines and red-berried plants, silver for deciduous trees, bamboo for flowering bonsai and pomegranate.



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tree of the month

Bamboo

BAMBOO by Robert Austin and Koichiro Ueda. Walker/Weatherhill, New York & Tokyo, 1970. Reviewed by Jim Newton

Bamboo may possibly be the most extraordinary plant in existence today. It flowers perhaps once in a hundred years, then dies. It grows faster than anything else in the world, so fast that it is sometimes possible to actually see it growing. There are recorded instances of Bamboo growing four feet in a single day. It makes its complete growth in about two months only; thereafter it remains the same size as long as it lives.

More, Bamboo is the most universally useful plant known to man. It is inextricably woven into the fabric of life for more than half the planet's people. Their life would be completely different without it. Not only does it touch daily existence at a thousand points of common usage, it also has become endowed with almost metaphysical properties for great numbers of people. Truly ubiquitous, Bamboo provides food, raw materials, shelter, even medicine for the greater part of the world's population. The interlocked roots of Bamboo groves support insubstantial dwellings during earthquakes and resist the ravages of raging flood waters.

Most familiar, probably, for Americans as a fishing rod, we call it Bamboo. The Japanese call it take, the Chinese chu.

BAMBOO, in addition to being an authoritative text dealing with the cultural, esthetical, and technical aspects of this genus, includes 162 pages of photographs, 32 in full color. Text and photos are combined in striking layouts covering the lore and versatility of Bamboo; its beauty and uses in nature, garden, house, everyday use, and crafts and art; its growth and cultivation, including flowering, industrial and special techniques (including growing square Bamboo and Bamboo as bonsai), and tables of species.

A fascinating book, BAMBOO should help American audiences overcome the limited "fishing pole" view of this truly remarkable plant.

NOTE: This is another of the many books available for loan from the BCI Library; check Bonsai for details on how to borrow. "Bamboo" was the Tree-of-the-Month selection in the February 1974 issue of the PBA Newsletter; a follow-on article will be carried next winter -Ed.)

Longwood Trip Planned

NOVABONSOC members, and any other PBA affiliate members who care to join with them, is planning a trip to Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania on a Saturday in November. The date and other arrangements will be announced in next month's Newsletter. Longwood's bonsai collection is well known and well worth the trip to see.

Both Society members and others wishing

(Continued on next page)

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Affiliate Club Activities Schedule

ANNAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB - Main Library, West St., Annapolis, 2d Friday, 7:30 p.m.
BALTIMORE BONSAI CLUB - Cylburn Park Mansion, Baltimore, 3d Saturday, 3 p.m.
BROOKSIDE GARDENS BONSAI - Brookside Nature Center, Wheaton, Md., 3d Friday, 7:30 p.m.
NORTHERN VIRGINIA BONSAI SOCIETY - Gulf Branch Nature Center, Arlington, Va., 2d Saturday, 10 a.m.

OCTOBER

- 12 ABC: All-Day Workshop and Problem Tree Session, 11 a. m. to 5 p.m.; special assistance and guidance from PBA Ed. VP Richard Meszler and PBA stylist Dorothy Warren, Noon to 3 p. m.; bring as many trees as you want, stay as long or short as you want; bring your own lunch or visit nearby snack shops; place: Dave Brown's office, 8173 Governor Ritchie Highway (US Rte 2), Pasadena, Md.; telephone 647-8225
- 12 NOVABONSOC: Tree-Grooming Session, conducted by Ruth Lamanna, Bob Roland; to get trees in shape for PBA Spring Show; bring potential Show trees for advice and assistance
- 13 BBC: Third Annual Baltimore Fall Show, Cylburn Park, 2-5 p.m.
- 18 BGB: No meeting; John Naka demonstration (see below) takes place of regular third-Friday meeting date
- 21 PBA-sponsored John Naka School; day classes 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; evening to classes 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; both sessions each day for 5 days; cost \$65 plus supplies and plants; limit 10 per class; National Arboretum
- 25
- 26 PBA-sponsored John Naka Demonstration; free to all PBA affiliate club members; National Arboretum, 1 p.m.
- 27 PBA-sponsored John Naka Workshop; fee \$15; pay with advance registration to Molly Hersh, 102 Devon Ct., Silver Spring, Md. 20910; indicate what you are reserving; limit 10 persons; 1 to 4 p.m.; National Arboretum

LONGWOOD TRIP PLANNED

(Continued from preceeding page)

to go are asked to call Dave Flipse, 703-281-4524 as soon as possible and let him know if you are willing to drive, and if so, how many others you would be willing to take; also, if you need trans-

portation, your address so a system of pickup can be arranged.

Got ideas, hints, suggestions about our activities? Don't keep them to yourself. Call the Newsletter editor!



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