



Volume 29, Number 6  
August 1999

## PBA FALL SYMPOSIUM HEADLINER

*by Joe Gutierrez, MD, (NVBS)*

Our fall symposium to be held on the weekend of September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> headlining Harold Sasaki of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, will really be bringing us a **Rocky Mountain High**. For his demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday, Harold will be working on collected Ponderosa Pines which will be approximately 200 years old.

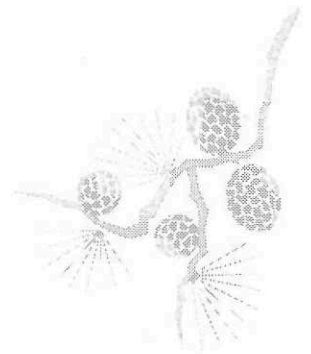
Harold is one of the premiere collectors from the Rocky Mountains, and his demonstrations not only display his excellence of style and technique, but also share with the audience his considerable experience and knowledge regarding collecting methods, as well as care of these wonderful collected specimens. His demonstrations (and his workshops) will be treats in terms of the visual experience and the sharing of considerable knowledge and expertise.

Harold is an avid tree collector, and for his workshop, he will also be utilizing collected Ponderosa Pines of approximately 100 to 150 years of age. The workshop should be a great learning experience for all. Those fortunate enough to be taking the workshop will take home wonderfully styled and glorious trees.

For those not taking the workshop, there is no observer fee! In effect, seeing 8 or 10 trees being worked on simultaneously is the equivalent of seeing 8 or 10 demonstrations going on at the same time. Our only request is that observers be considerate, and show the workshop participants their courtesy, by remaining silent and staying well away from the participants and the instructor so as not to be intrusive.

Harold is a very charming, pleasant, and modest gentleman. He is a bonsai expert par excellence. He is an expert collector of Rocky Mountain species with a very sharp eye for excellent bonsai material, and a hard worker who is also generous to a fault. I have been collecting with Harold over the past 15 years. He is spry on a mountain top!

Having Harold as our headliner is certainly is going to be a wonderful treat.





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**Non-Member Subscriptions:** Individuals residing within the metropolitan areas of our clubs are encouraged to become members of a club to receive the newsletter. Annual subscription for 12 issues of the *PBA Clippings* only is US \$15.00 (US \$35 for international mail) which should be made payable to the Potomac Bonsai Association and sent to Judy Wise, 1259 4th St., SW, Washington, DC 20024.

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## CHASE BACK, PUSH BACK, PINCHING BACK - YOUR CHOICE?

by Jules Koetsch

Last June, a postcard arrived with a resplendent color photograph of the Goyomatsu (Japanese white pine reputed to be 500 years old) in the U.S. National Bonsai and Penjing Museum. The message on the back of the postcard was:

"Kooky Kabuki No Noh  
Dwarf Tree Thief.

'Chase back' is the term I've used. Neither it nor 'Push Back' tells much.

Dave  
29 May 99"

The address "Kooky Kabuki No Noh Dwarf Tree Thief" is a throw-back to my having played the part of the thief in a series of plays that Bill Merritt authored. The plays were based on a Japanese kyugen play, a one-act comedy, titled "The Dwarf Tree Thief." Bill enjoyed playing the part of the Japanese noble with a valuable bonsai collection.

What was the card all about? Dave, Dave Garvin to be exact, is a longtime member of the Brookside Bonsai Society who dabbles as I do in translating Japanese. He always likes to chide me about shortcomings in the *Clippings* and I am extremely grateful for his comments; and also for the fact that he reads *Clippings*. At our last meeting, we talked briefly on the subject, and he followed up with the postcard. He has two concerns - what is the right term for the procedure, and that the words themselves do not convey enough information for the reader to know what to do.

As for the proper choice of words, I believe "chase back" is what Julie Haga used since she described it as having been borrowed from the days when one army of samurai at the conclusion of a battle "chased" after their retreating foes. To try

to back up the use of those words, I looked in the sections of the Japanese book from which I extract much of the information for the "Monthly Care Tips." Fortunately, most of the Japanese articles on how to do bonsai contain step-by-step illustrations. With some knowledge of bonsai, they are not hard to figure out, even if you can't translate the captions. However, the accompanying texts sometimes have sentences which seem convoluted. To resolve the quandary, one must use one's own judgement as to what exactly the Japanese author is trying to explain. I rely on a well-thumbed edition of A.N. Nelson's Japanese-English Character Dictionary for the Chinese characters (konji) and a few English-Japanese, Japanese-English dictionaries and a book, 501 Japanese Verbs to get through a translation. All that I could find in the sections pertaining to chase back in the Japanese book were words which when translated meant pinching, or pruning, or plucking, etc., but no words translating as chase back. However, based on Julie Haga's use of the words, I'll concede that Dave is right.

As for "Neither it (chase back) nor Push Back tells much," I agree. That's why I put in the previous Monthly Care Tips that if one does not know how to do it, one should consult a knowledgeable person in their club to find out when and how it should be done for a specific species of plants. In reality, whether it be chase back or push back, for Americans it may be best termed "pinching back." To help readers better understand what's going on, the article "Pinching Back" by Kate Hunter is included in this issue of *Clippings*. As for how to do it, it may be timely to run the details of pinching back in a later issue of *Clippings*.

Lastly, I have an extra copy of the Japanese book from which the information in Monthly Care Tips is extracted, and I'll give it to Dave Garvin the next time I see him. He may be able to come up with things I have missed. In the meantime, I always look forward to your comments, Dave, relative to *Clippings*.



**Dear Club Presidents . . .** It would be very helpful for PBA to have an e-mail address for at least one cooperative person in each member club of PBA so that we may get time-sensitive information out in an efficient way. That volunteer would be responsible to his/her club to share the message. Conversely, we would appreciate that volunteer sharing info **from** your clubs.

*PBA Clippings* is **your** newsletter. Call us or send in such information. And please note the input from Brookside's Jim Hughes in this issue. The intent of PBA is to educate people in the art of bonsai. Toward that end, member club meetings are open to all PBA members. In the past, member clubs often have provided only sketchy descriptions as to what their meetings would entail. It has raised a question among *Clippings* Staff: "Are the descriptions even enticing enough for members to want to attend the listed meetings?"

Then again, listing a club's forthcoming events in more detail will give other clubs ideas on what subjects and speakers they can use for their future events.



## Calendar of Events

compiled by Doug French, NVBS

### August

#### Rappahannock Bonsai Society

**7** 11 am Tropicals Workshop

#### Northern Virginia Bonsai Society

**14** 10 am Janet Lanman critiques member trees in a lively forum

#### Brookside Bonsai Society

**14** Open forum

#### Baltimore Bonsai Club

**15** 1 pm Grooming of trees for Maryland State Fair at Mike Ramina's

#### Kiyomizu Bonsai Club

**22** 2 pm Photo Session at Clearwater Nature Center, Bring trees.

### September

#### Rappahannock Bonsai Society

**4** 11 am RBS member bonsai selection for PBA Fall Symposium

#### Northern Virginia Bonsai Society

**11** 10 am Kingsville Boxwoods

#### Brookside Bonsai Society

**16** 7:30 pm Jack Sustic on Design Issues. See article from Jim Hughes, BBS

**11-19** Brookside Bonsai Club show at the National Arboretum

**19** 1-2 pm Demonstration, Special Exhibits Wing

#### Kiyomizu Bonsai Club

**26** 2 pm Winterizing Discussion.

#### Baltimore Bonsai Club

**26** 1 pm Lecture/Demo by Jim Sullivan, Tree of the month: Maple Display: Marcia Evert

### 18-19 September, PBA Fall

#### **Symposium, National Arboretum,**

Harold Sasaki will demonstrate and do workshops with Rocky Mountain Conifers

### Non-PBA Functions

**14-29 August**, 10-3:30 pm, Art of Suiseki, Special Exhibits Wing, Free **Till 6 September** - Wilmington, Delaware, Splendors of Meiji, Riverfront Arts Center. See Janet Lanman's letter for information and inspiration to attend.

**11 September**, US Natl Arboretum, 12-4 pm Azalea Society Plant Auction, Admin Bldg Auditorium

**11 September**, US Natl Arboretum, 1-3 pm Warren Hill teaches why and how to perform Fall pruning, registration required. Fee \$7.

**2-5 October** - Taipei, Taiwan, 5th Asia-Pacific Bonsai, Suiseki, Chinese Old Pottery Convention and Exhibition '99. Further details in this issue.

**14 October** - US Natl Arboretum, 7-9 pm Successful Fall Color in Bonsai, Yoshimura Ctr, "Tricks" to ensure good fall color in bonsai, Warren Hill, Registration reqd. Fee \$7.

**21-24 October** - Atlanta, GA (Kimura) Contact Tony Smith (404) 872-2217, fax (404)875-1464 or hermita@mindspring.

**GENERAL LIBRARY VOLUNTEER:** For those with an interest in horticulture, botany, and the world of ornamental plants, why not consider volunteering at the US National Arboretum Library? The Library is seeking dedicated volunteers to assist with daily operations and numerous special projects. Your help is needed to make our mission a success.

**BONSAI MUSEUM LIBRARY VOLUNTEER:** For those with an interest in Bonsai and the related arts, why not consider volunteering at the US National Arboretum's Bonsai Museum Library? The Arboretum is seeking dedicated volunteers to staff the Bonsai Museum Library, provide reference services, assist with daily operations and numerous special projects.

For more information/application, please phone Mary Ann Jarvis, Arboretum Volunteer Coordinator at (202) 245-4565.

# **Annual PBA/Behnke's Auction Raises Record Amount**

*by Sally Griffin, NVBS, Chair, PBA Annual Auction*

Good year! There were some great trees and some great tools, pottery, and art for sale, too.

<b>1999</b>	<b>\$1,450.40!</b>
1998	760.60
1997	936.40
1996	1,067.90
1995	1,059.66
1994	804.20

While most people in Metro DC were counting down to the millennium, members and wanna-be's of the Potomac Bonsai Association were counting their luck at finding a treasure trove of bonsai at Behnke's this past Memorial Day weekend.

The entire PBA membership has always had a great relationship with the folks at Behnke Nurseries Co. of Beltsville. By sponsoring the PBA member auction every year for the last 23 years, Behnke's has become synonymous with bonsai in DC. The success of our relationship showed itself again this year at the annual event.

Auctioneer Chris Yeapanis, of the Northern Virginia club, bantered to keep the pace of this annual auction of bonsai plants and materials. Items for auction ranged from a mature Japanese maple in Japanese pot to a rare, imported chrysanthemum rock sold for the benefit of NBF'S Yoshimura Fund.

Club members from around the region plan ahead to sell or buy material for training at the annual event. While many things sold for prices ranging from \$10 - \$100, there was also a good amount of hard-to-find, mature trees and important pottery which exchanged hands. Examples are:

Japanese maple:	\$600
Juniper in large, Sharon Booth pot:	\$250
Chrysanthemum rock:	\$160

Thanks to Ed (BBS), Judy and Barbara (NVBS), and all the volunteers who made it fun.

Plans are in place for next year's auction at Behnke's. Call now to volunteer and beat the rush, (540) 785-5472.

**Dear Members:** If you did not get your May issue of ***PBA Clipping***, we would like to supply you with one. It will involve more volunteer time, one-sided copying, expense of 9x12 envelopes, and paying first-class postage for a heavy item, so please don't request a copy unless you seriously follow each issue. Also, we can e-mail a Zip file if you can devote approximately 30 minutes to receive it.

Additionally, we are trying to push the US Post Office to be responsible to deliver all the mail we supply and pay them to deliver. If you have not received any issue by the 15th of a month, you may call me **after 11 a.m.** ((703) 591-0864) or e-mail me at [bittenhand@erols.com](mailto:bittenhand@erols.com) to confirm that we are on track.



## 6 **PINCHING BACK** by Kate Hunter

(Reprinted from the January 1980 issue of *House Plants & Porch Gardens*.)

Pinching is a simple act with straightforward results; but the process that makes pinching so effective is remarkably complex. Consider a normal plant living in an environment which allows consistent growth. Usually, such a plant produces a stem which grows straight up. Provided that enough light falls on this uppermost stem, it continues to grow vertically. Such behavior is called apical dominance. That is, the growth of the plant is dominated by the bud at its very top. If nature or man removes this bud, however, a simple message is conveyed to the plant. First, growth in that direction is discouraged and ought not to be duplicated unless there's a good reason. And, a new bud has to be sent forth so that growth can continue. Often, a plant that has been pinched back in this way will sprout new branches up and down the older parts of the remaining stem.

Clearly, an apical growing tip has a tremendous amount of control over other buds. After all, it seems to stop them from growing. Side branches appear when the leader is removed.

The heart of this system lies in the growing tip of a plant. There you find a silent powerhouse of activity called the meristem. In this layer of plant tissue, cells constantly are dividing and then organizing themselves into leaves, stems, and flowers. All the parts of a plant begin right there in a little blob of cells at the tip of each branch. Under a microscope, you can actually see tiny, tightly compressed leaves forming around the meristem.

The meristem produces new cells. As these are produced, they take a place behind the ever-advancing meristem and then lengthen, pushing the active growth center forward. And, of course, leaves form behind the growing tip.

Basically, this is how a plant grows. The leading edge constantly divides, producing plenty of new, but very small cells. And behind all this cell production, on older plant tissue, these little cells grow, lengthening. With time, older, stretched cells become thicker walled and woody in order to support the ever-increasing load of leaves and branches above.

As a plant grows though, it produces inactive buds all along its stems and branches. These sit, waiting, behind the active growth center of the meristem. They don't grow at all. This inactivity is controlled by a delicate balance between different kinds of plant hormones. We only now are reaching a full understanding of the interaction between these chemicals; but the basics of this hormonal control seem to be clear.

### **Auxin and Kinins**

Growing tips at the apex of a branch, stem, or root produce a hormone called auxin. It travels slowly throughout a plant but always is most abundant in newer growth. Auxin has the interesting effect of keeping buds from growing. It seems to force cells to lengthen behind a growing tip and, at the same time, prohibits these cells from dividing and forming a new growth center. So, near a growing tip, there is a high level of auxin which prevents dormant buds from sprouting. Kept in check this way, stems rarely branch behind an actively growing stem tip.

There is, however, another hormone or group of hormones in plants. These are called kinins. Kinins, it seems, constantly do battle with auxin, trying to counteract its effects and spur dormant side buds into growth. But, close to an actively growing tip, auxin prevails and buds are kept in check.

Only two things can turn the tide in favor of kinins and the lateral, branching growth they encourage. First, as a stem

grows longer and longer, the growing tip gets farther and farther from dormant side buds. Eventually, it grows to such an extent that the auxin it exudes no longer overwhelms buds on older plant tissue. When this happens, lateral meristems can develop at last, producing side branches and foliage. The second influence which reduces the auxin in a stem is the removal (pinching off) of the growing tip. Once pinched away, the apical meristem no longer manufactures auxin and so buds to both sides of a branch can sprout.

After a while, of course, these new growing tips begin to produce auxin. They then inhibit further branching, just as did the stem tip which was removed. So, to

produce loads of new lateral branches, you must pinch a plant more or less constantly. This keeps it compact, small, and bushy.

Every time you trim a hedge, you actually are taking the auxin out of the growing tips. The hedge starts branching and becomes denser each time you cut off top growth. The remaining branches not only fill out, but also are usually more vigorous because food and water which would have gone to the pinched growth now go to feed a temporarily reduced area of leaves and branches. So, keeping a plant pinched back often results in lusher foliage, more flowers and a fuller look.

## BONSAI BON MOT -- A New Column for *Clippings*.

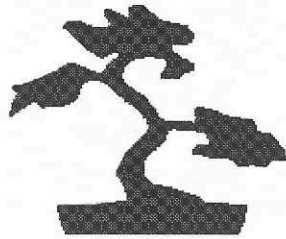
According to my Roget's International Thesaurus "bon mot" comes from the French language and connotes a number of English synonyms when we use it (according to Roget) such as: bright or happy thought, smart saying, good story, flash of wit, repartee. Listening to well-known bonsai artists and bonsai practitioners, one usually hears during each presentation at least one bon mot worth repeating.

Just like the "Poetry Corner" in this issue where readers are invited to submit bonsai related poetry, this publication now invites members to submit bon mots related to bonsai which they have tucked away in their memories. To get the ball rolling, here's one that Papa Kaneshiro, the revered Hawaiian bonsai master said during one of his demonstrations. (According to Verna Croft, the word "Papa" is used in Hawaii to indicate that the person is well-respected for his capabilities.)

"Do you know why they do not place a bonsai tree in the middle of the pot? Well, if they placed the tree in the middle of the pot, people would glance at the bonsai, see that the tree was in the middle of the pot, and be thoroughly satisfied to move quickly away to the next item on exhibit. However, if the tree is **not** in the middle of the pot, people will pause to ponder why the tree is not in the middle of the pot. In so doing, the viewer then will have to inadvertently look at the tree and the comment, "Nice tree," can be elicited from the viewer."

*Do you have a favorite "bon mot" to share? Send it along. This newsletter does not write itself.*

# Little Trees Bonsai Nursery



(703) 590-5431

*Huge mid-Summer inventory reduction sale!*

***Friday, Saturday and Sunday***  
***August 20, 21, and 22, 1999***  
*(10:00 AM to 5:00 PM)*

*All bonsai and pre-bonsai plants at least 25% off, most 50 % off. Comparable savings on pottery and soil.*

*Thousands of plants must find new homes, ficus, bougainvillea, buttonwood, maples, pines, elms, cotoneaster, carmona, serissa, and many others.*

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ACCEPTED

**Directions:** From the Beltway, follow I-95 south towards Richmond, VA. Take the Woodbridge (U.S. 1) exit and proceed south on route 1 for approximately three miles. Turn left on Featherstone road, and go one mile to Farm Creek drive, turn right and go 1/4 mile to "Loft Bed Store" building on right. Turn right into Loft Bed Store parking lot and proceed to rear and Little Trees Bonsai Nursery. From the south take Woodbridge exit (route 123) and

149890 Farm Creek Drive  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22191  
(703) 590-5431

Special Note: I am looking for part-time sales help. If you think you might be interested, please call me.



## Poetry Corner - Calm yourself

The cascading style (Kengai) fascinates me as a poet on several levels. Like a poem, it challenges the conventional definition of "growth" by progressing down instead of up. This idea—that growth isn't standard—has led this poem to be the most free in its presentation. It is still a sonnet, but has disintegrated into couplets, the stanza type usually used at the ending of a sonnet. It is a cascade of endings, appropriately, since this is the last in the bonsai series. (And sadly, just as we're getting to know Ian, he has moved off to be influenced by the Ann Arbor bonsaiists the likes of Jack Wikle--you must remember "cool, white light!" We have extracted promises for further input via e-mail.)

### 5. Kengai: *Cascading Style*

The usual comparison is to a waterfall,  
but there is nothing at this cascade's end,

so I like to think of this form as the random falling  
of a hundred wide-eyed existentialists

plunging past their origins on their way  
to work, with an umbrella in hand

just in case, and everyone blind to the training  
required to get a life to grow against

expectation (some would say nature),  
backwards, new limb under old, descending

without pretense, a slave to time, but not  
alternate meanings of gravity, simply ending

with integrity, a life's full measure, below  
that place most others start to grow.

I hope you've enjoyed these poems, and thanks to the editors of *Clippings* for providing me this opportunity to have them read by the community which inspired them.

— Ian Fulcher

This month we have the great pleasure to begin sharing the haiku of a NVBS member, John Hoffman. John has been a member of NVBS for 5 years. This Spring he inherited the role of Princess Chi Chi Bu (originated by Bob Sitnick in his puerile, prettier youth) with the Kooki Kabuki No Noh Players. In real life, John works for the US Patent and Trademark Office, where he examines applications for optical fiber patents.

lonely lovely tree

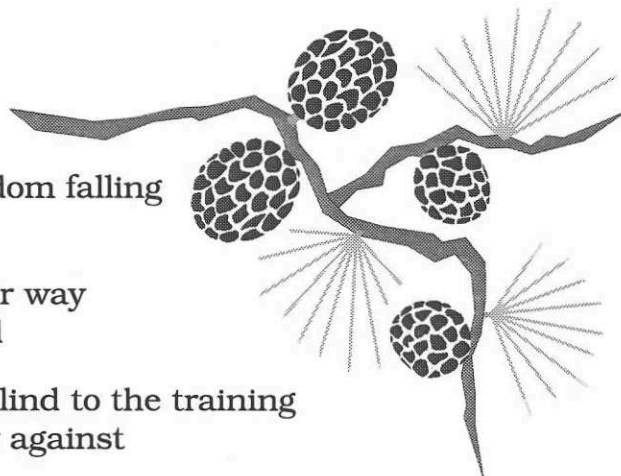
under shelf, bare branches,

brown who forgot water?

pine ponder so slow

not white nor black nor even scots

doctor joe digs you



## MONTHLY CARE TIPS for AUGUST

The following tips have been compiled from four Japanese bonsai magazines and Yuji Yoshimura's book.

One procedure often followed is to not fertilize bonsai during the hot summer months since this can possibly stress the by making it expend too much energy in trying to produce new growth. It is interesting to note that for some of the plant material listed below that the Japanese book suggests applying fertilizer during the month of August.

Wherever fertilizing is to be done, it is noted as "apply fertilizer balls" since that is how the Japanese do it. If you do not use fertilizer balls you can consider applying the fertilizer of your choice during that time. One application of fertilizer balls is expected to be good for about 30 days. For example, if you are using a certain strength liquid fertilizer and apply it once per week, you can apply it once every week for a month starting from when the words "apply fertilizer balls" appear. If a gap of more than a month appears between "apply fertilizer balls" in the schedule, consider holding back on applying any fertilizer during that time period.

### CONIFERS

**Black Pine:** Water 3 times per day. Note that the Japanese usually plant a black pine in a soil mix, usually sand, which does not hold water for long. Gage your watering based on your soil mix's ability to hold water, and weather conditions. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Cryptomeria:** Water three times per day, including the leaves. Apply fertilizer balls in the last 10 days of the month. Wiring can be done any time during the month. Prune every new sprout to maintain the desired shape.

**Hemlock:** Water whenever the top of the soil appears dry. Thin out branches

during the middle of the month. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Hinoki:** Water whenever the top of the soil appears dry. Wiring can be done in the middle of the month. Make certain no existing wire is biting into bark. Repotting can be done anytime during the month. Repotting is done every 3 years. Pinch off the edges of the foliage to reduce the lengths of the new growth when it gets too leggy. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Larch:** Water whenever the top of the soil appears dry. Repotting can be done during the last 10 days of the month. Repot every 3 years. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Needle Juniper:** Water three times per day, including the leaves. Wiring can be done any time after the old wire which might be digging into the bark has been removed. Pluck new growth to reduce its length so that it does not become too leggy. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Sawara Cypress:** Water whenever the top of the soil appears dry. Pluck new growth to keep it from getting too leggy. Wiring can be done during the month. Repotting can be done during the last 10 days of the month. Repot every 3 years. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Shimpaku (Sargent juniper):** Water twice per day and at the same time water the foliage. Wiring can be done after the 20th of the month.

**Spruce:** Water 3 times per day. Apply fertilizer balls during the last 10 days of the month. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**White Pine:** Water 3 times per day. During the last 10 days of the month remove the old needles by cutting each of the 5-needle groupings with a scissor so that about 1/8" remains above the

branch. The new growth on the end of the branch is left untouched. Also during that time frame, remove unnecessary branches. Wiring can be done during the last 10 days of the month, and fertilizer balls can be applied once.

**Yew:** Water as needed. Pluck the ends of new growth to maintain the desired contour of the tree. During the middle of the month apply fertilizer balls once. During the last 10 days of the month, remove wire and during that time frame one can repot.

### **DECIDUOUS**

(Non-fruiting/non-flowering)

**Beech:** Water 3 times per day. Wire anytime during the month. Reduce branches to the desired lengths and prune any unwanted growth. Give plant ½ day of shade. Remove wire. Pluck leaves to maintain the desired contour for the branches. Apply fertilizer balls during the last 10 days of the month.

**Chinese Elm:** Water as needed. Chase back new growth by reducing the lengths of branchlets to 4 leaves and remove any unwanted branches. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Ginkgo:** Water as needed. Remove unwanted lengths of branches during the last 10 days of the month. Also apply fertilizer balls during that time frame.

**Hornbeam:** Water 3 times per day. Prune unwanted branches and chase back new growth. Apply fertilizer balls during the last 10 days of the month. Remove wire during the last 10 days of the month.

**Japanese Maple:** Water 3 times per day. Prune to establish the desired contour of the tree and remove unwanted growth (branches). Give the plant ½ day of shade. Apply fertilizer balls once during the

middle of the month. Wiring should be checked to insure against wire marks.

**Trident Maple:** Water 3 times per day. Remove unwanted branches, sprouts and leaves. Wiring should be checked to insure against wire marks. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

**Weeping Willow:** Water once per day. Keep the pot in a dish of water during the month. Apply fertilizer balls once sometime during the last 10 days of the month. Remove unwanted lengths of branches and those not desired.

**Winged Euonymous:** Water as needed. Prune unwanted branches and push back new growth. Remove any wire that is digging into the bark during the middle of the month. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month.

### **Flowering/Fruiting Plants**

**Cherry:** Water 2 times per day. Give plant ½ day of shade. Remove wire after the middle of the month.

**Crab Apple:** Water 3 times per day.

**Gardenia:** Water as needed. Apply fertilizer balls once during the last 10 days of the month. Remove wire during the middle of the month.

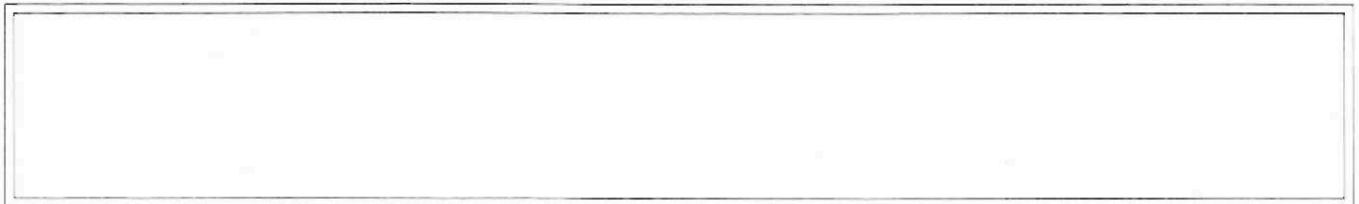
**Pyracantha:** Water 3 times per day up to the 20th of the month; then go to 2 times per day. Remove wire.

**Quince:** Water 3 times per day.

**Satsuki (azalea):** Water 3 times per day.

**Ume** (Japanese flowering plum or apricot): Water 3 times per day. Remove wire during the last 10 days of the month.

**Wisteria:** Water often. Likes full sun. Trim back branches so that 2 leaf pairs remain. Apply fertilizer balls once during the middle of the month.



## 5th ASIA-PACIFIC BONSAI, SUISEKI and CHINESE POTTERY CONVENTION

Mr. C. F. Kwok (NVBS) sent information on the 5th Asia-Pacific Bonsai, Suiseki and Chinese Pottery Convention which was followed in the mail by similar information that Janet Lanman (BBS) had received from BCI. The price to attend the convention is \$200 and other incidental charges are listed below.

Anyone wishing further information can contact:

Mr. C. F. Kwok, Special Travel Consultant, 5109 Philip Road, Annandale, Va., 22003

Fax: (703) 256-5363; e-mail: cfkwok@aol.com

The following contains non-duplicative information excerpted from both Janet's and C.F.'s correspondence:

Date: Oct. 2 - , 1999

Location: Taipei World Trade Center

Address: No. 1 Hsin-Yi Road. Sec. 5, Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Corresponding Secretary: Yi-Hua, Chang (Lucia)

Tel.: 886-2-2771-4323 Fax: 886-2-2771-0234 E-mail: bonsai@mail.hato.com.iw

The 5th Asia-Pacific Bonsai, Suiseki and Chinese Old Pottery Convention and Exhibition will be held in beautiful Taiwan, Oct. 2 -5, 1999.

In the tradition of our previous conventions, we have specially designed programs that will let you experience the beauty of Asian art, enjoy Taiwanese style hospitality, visit best collection of Chinese artwork at the National Palace Museum, participate in bonsai garden tours, and also feast gourmet Chinese cuisine.

We sincerely welcome your visit. This will be an unforgettable Asian experience.

Signed by Mr. I.C. Su, Chairman of Organizing Committee and Professor Amy Liang.

### **Schedule:**

**October 2** - Opening ceremony and viewing of the exhibition.

**October 3** - One all-day demonstration by Mr. Kimura (Japan) and three lectures in sequence beginning in the morning by Mr. Yun-Hwa Hu on Chinese bonsai, Mr. Paiman (Indonesia) on the beauty of suiseki, and Mr. I. C. Su (Taiwan) on the story of old Chinese pots.

**October 4** - Two demonstrations with one in the morning by Mr. Quingquan Zhao (China) and one in the afternoon by Mr. Cheng-Kung Cheng (Taiwan). In the afternoon there will be two workshops each using trees that have been cultivated for 20 years. Instructions will be by local bonsai masters. Participation is limited to 20 persons per workshop. Expenses for bonsai material, tools, wire are included in the workshop price of \$300. Quarantine, package and delivery services will be available.

**October 5** - Taipei City tour including the National Palace Museum, Taipei and a bonsai garden tour (lunch included).

**October 6 - 7:** Bonsai Garden Tour to Mid. and South Taiwan, 2 days 1 night. You can visit local gardens and have the opportunity to buy bonsai and quarantine, package and delivery services will be available. Price for the tour is \$150 per person.

**DISCOUNT FROM CHINESE AIRLINE** After complete the registration, you may contact the secretary of our Committee for a reconfirmation letter and then show this letter to your local agency of Chinese Airline for special discount on flight fare.

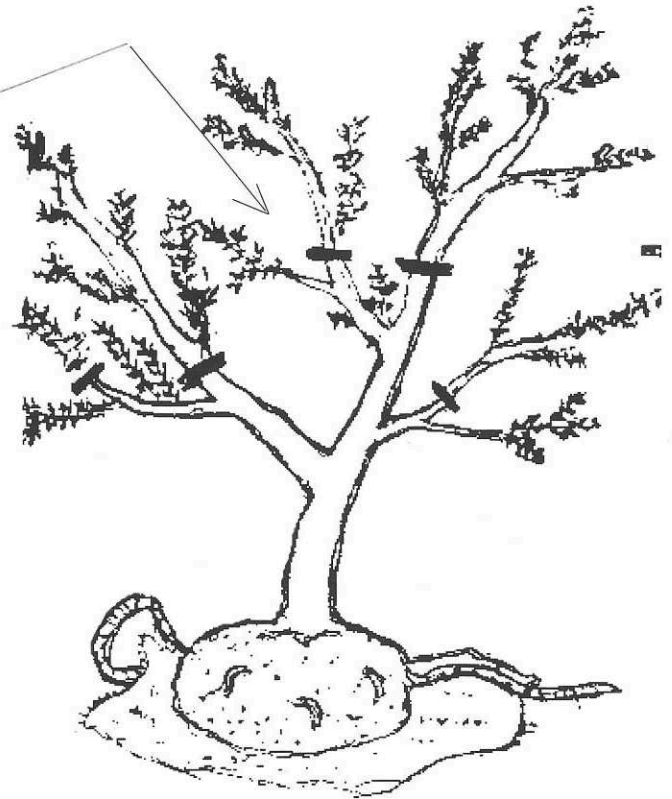
*It's a great time of the year to travel!*

## Yew -- Making Shari and Jin

Adapted from a Japanese magazine article, c.1980

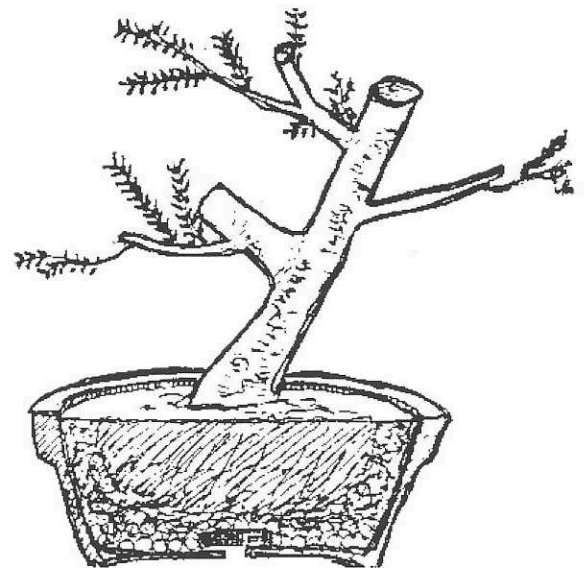
Immediately after purchase, remove unwanted branches. (Cut at these lines)

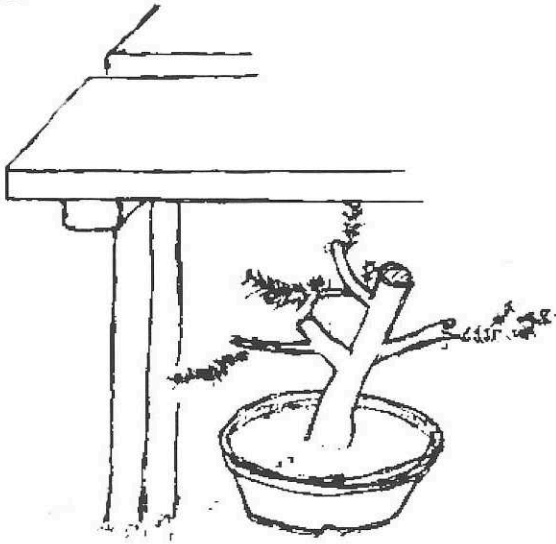
In cutting branches, retain symmetry in the design. The trunk-to-be is cut so that 12 inches remain. The thick branches and trunk are pruned to leave stubs of 2 inches from the cut to the next branch. This distance is reduced to 7/8 inch for thinner branches.



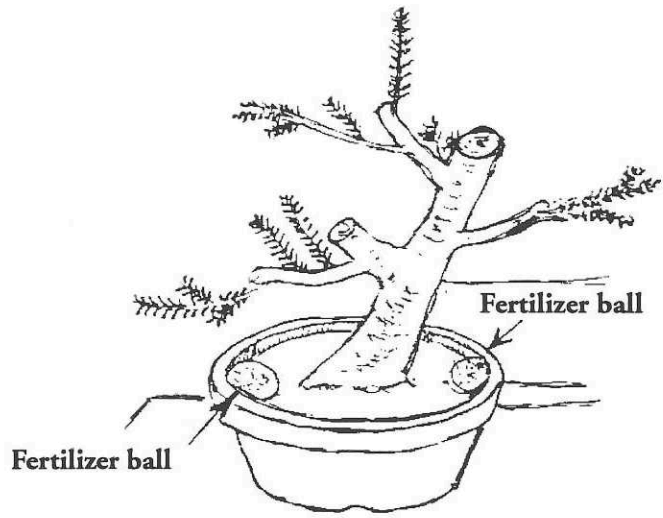
Prepare the pot. Pot the tree immediately after removing the branches. Taking the root size into account, shorten thick roots and leave the thin roots. Remove about 1/3 of soil from the edge of the roots.

Use an unglazed training pot of about 8 to 10 inches. After potting the yew, water until it flows from the hole in the bottom of the pot. Immediately place outdoors under a bonsai table.





Place under a table outdoors immediately after potting. When the top of the soil appears dry, merely water--nothing more.



Place on top of table around April 1-10. Between May 1 and 10, place 2 fertilizer balls, as shown. Repeat between September 1 and 10. Water sufficiently.

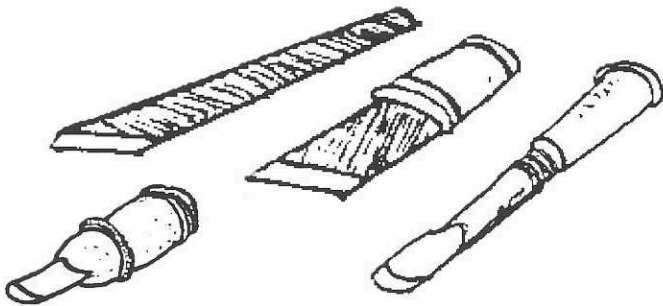
## Second Year

Make shari and jin in January or February.

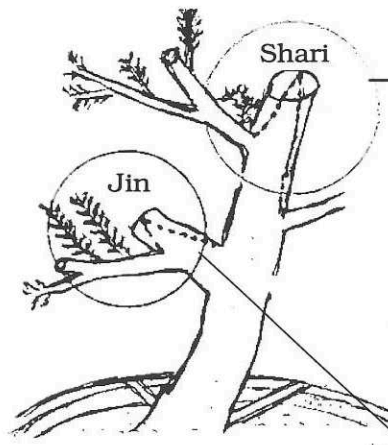


Consider how to make the shari and jin.

Necessary Tools - Incision knives and chisels

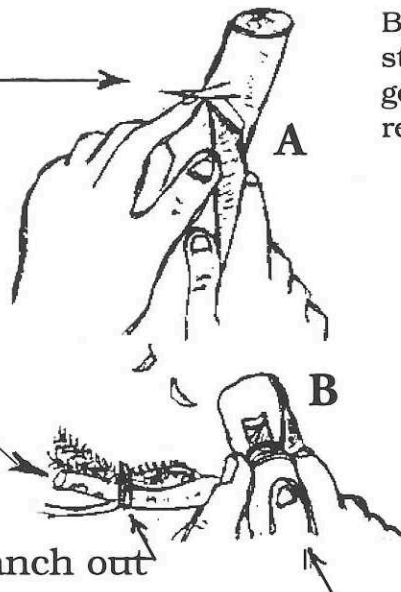


So that the tree does not shift when being worked on, bind the tree to the pot with cord by tying the base of trunk and leaving the branches free.



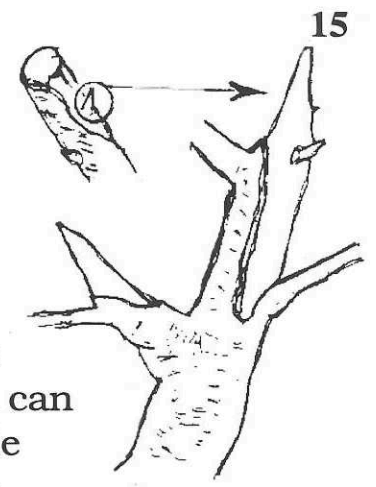
Mark the parts to be worked on.

Bind branch out of the way.



Because this stub looks good, let it remain.

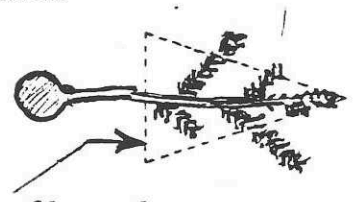
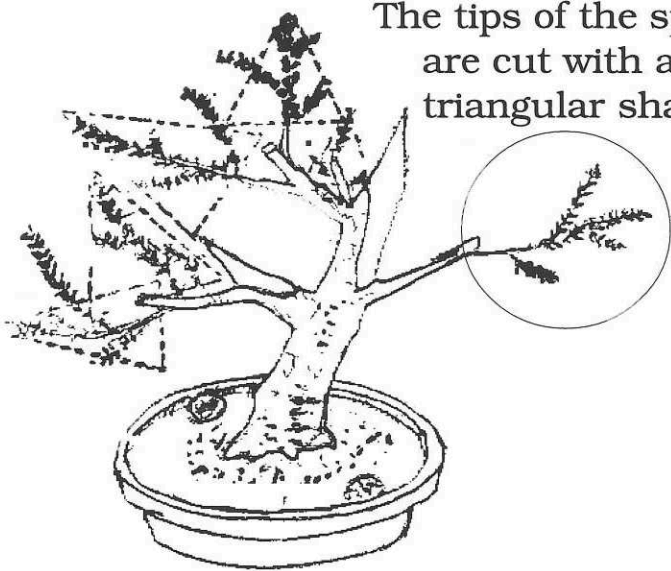
A stub branch can be made using a chisel.



- (A) First cut off the bark with a knife.
- (B) Then use the chisels.

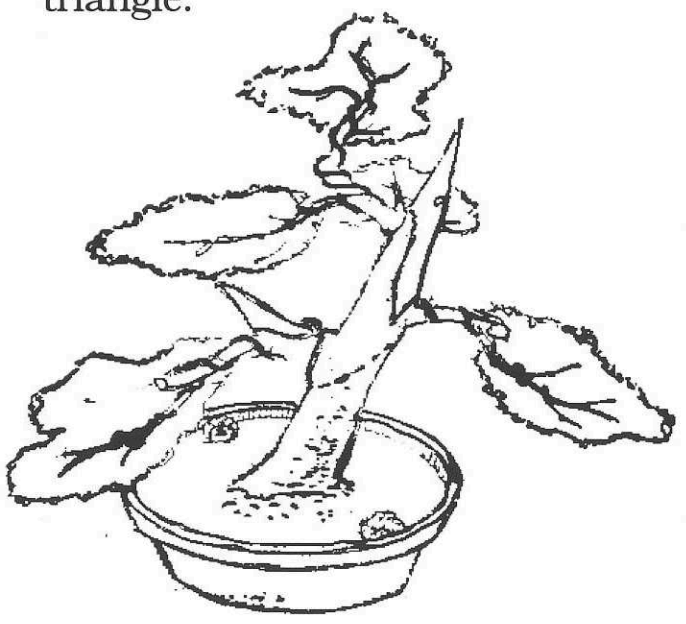
**Cut sprouts May 20-31.**

The tips of the sprouts and branches are cut with a scissors to form triangular shapes.



Top view of branch  
Remove all that is outside the triangle.

Apply #12 or #14 copper wire to all the branches and bend the branches slightly downward from the horizontal.



## Brookside Bonsai Society Invites

**you . . .** by Jim Hughes, BBS

Occasionally individual PBA clubs sponsor activities of special interest to all clubs within the organization. Brookside Bonsai Society has three such activities scheduled for this fall. Members from other PBA-affiliated clubs are encouraged to attend these programs.

At the regular monthly BBS meeting in September, Jack Sustic, Assistant Curator at the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum, will be the featured guest. The program will start at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, 16 September, at North Chevy Chase Recreation Center. His program will center on design issues. He will talk about one of his own trees. In addition, he will be leading critiques of 'trees in progress' brought by other Brookside club members. This will be the first opportunity for many of you to meet Jack, who is relatively new to the local bonsai community. He assumed his position at the museum in April after being the acting assistant curator for the past year.

Jack first became interested in bonsai while being stationed in the military in Korea. Upon leaving the military in 1987, he attended Michigan State University to study ornamental horticulture and greenhouse management. In 1995 he became greenhouse manager at Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden in Columbia

SC. The following year he interned at the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum.

Throughout this period, Jack was active in bonsai clubs and organizations. While in South Carolina, he was president of the local bonsai society.

By the time of his presentation in September, he will have just returned from a trip to Korea where he likely will have done a little 'bonsai shopping.' Come to the meeting and find out how successful his trip to the Asia was!

**Directions** to the BBS September meeting: From the beltway, exit at Connecticut Ave exit and go south to Jones Bridge Road. Get in the extreme right lane and turn right on Jones Bridge Road. Go about 2 blocks and look for a brown sign 'North Chevy Chase Recreation Center' on the right side of the road. Turn right into the parking lot.

In future PBA Clippings look for more information on fall BBS programs. An auction is planned for the October meeting and Arthur Joura, Bonsai Curator from The North Carolina Arboretum at The University of North Carolina, will be the guest speaker in November. Brookside Bonsai Society meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and all interested PBA members are welcome. If you have any questions, please call Jim Hughes, (301) 779-2891.

**Dear Members . . .** Are you willing/qualified to stand up in front of seven other club members and speak on a facet of bonsai? The Washington club needs the rest of us to help them. They are a small club and would have some trouble paying for speakers. They have been shy to ask for help. It's possible our other small clubs need the same help and also have been too shy to mention it.

Speaking of which, we need a list. Who's qualified within PBA as a teacher, who will do it fee-less, who will speak with just expenses covered, and who will do it for free. And do we get the volunteers' clubs to vouch them qualified? Who will parent the list? What do **you** have to say?





**Meiji Drum** - Some of the details are lost to the scanner since we had to work with a Xerox of the brochure, but we wanted to include this as an example of the wit Janet refers to in her letter.



## Odds and Ends

**The second meeting of the new Viewing Stone Group** (still working on our name) was held at the National Arboretum's Yoshimura Center on August 1<sup>st</sup>. An initial meeting working out details of how to run the club was followed by critiques of members stones. Each member in attendance brought stones. We had stones from China, Japan, across the U.S., and even right here in the metro area.

The club will affiliate with the North American Viewing Stone Society and probably request affiliation with PBA. The club will primarily be educational, meeting every 2 months. We will address the following topics: critiques, display principles, making diaza, collecting, aesthetics, what to look for in quality stones, etc.

We are planning a collecting trip for the fall. Election (or was that forced volunteerism) of the club's officers resulted in President - Chris Yeapanis, Vice President - Chris Cochrane, Treasurer - Margaret Lewis, Secretary - Glenn Reusch, and Librarian - John Carlson. Yes, we do have a library (a full set on the NAVSS magazines). The club name was discussed, but not resolved. We did agree on Viewing Stone Group, but all felt something was still needed. Dues are to be \$15.00 per year.

If interested please e-mail Glenn Reusch at Ghreusch@aol.com or Chris Yeapanis at ibonsai@erols.com or call Chris Yeapanis at 703-591-0864 **AFTER** 12:00 noon.

**The 22nd Annual Midwest Bonsai Exhibit August 19 through 22, 1999**, at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe, Ill., Tel (847) 835-5440.

Besides the exhibit, which is free, there will be demonstrations, lectures, movies and a raffle of trees styled by well known masters at previous Exhibits. On Aug. 20th and Aug. 22nd there will be 3 workshops and Aug. 21st there will be 6 workshops. There will be 2 demonstrations on Aug. 21st and one on Aug. 22nd. Each workshop will be conducted by a different American bonsai master each using different plant species. Prices for the workshops vary.

For more information, write Midwest Bonsai Society, POB 1373, Highland Park, IL 60035-7373; e-mail [www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org); or phone president Scott Clark at (847) 295-1380.

# Learn a Little More About Our Gold and Silver Friends

## Jim Doyle

Through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle, each sent PBA Clippings a bio on Jim, respectively titled "James F. Doyle - Teacher and Horticulturist" and "James F. Doyle - Little Known Facts." Not to preclude any information, Clippings has taken the liberty to merge the contents from each and here's the result:

Jim Doyle is a graduate of Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture with a degree in horticulture. He worked at several nurseries and managed a garden center for 3 years. Jim developed an early interest in Asian culture and plants; and in 1973 he started Nature's Way Nursery, Inc., of which he is president. The nursery specializes in dwarf conifers, Japanese maples, Japanese garden design and the production of bonsai. Bonsai became a hobby in 1973, and by 1980, through the influence of Chase Rosade, bonsai passed from being a hobby into Jim's business/life-style.

He has traveled to Japan and China to study bonsai and imports for sale bonsai, tools, pots, and related garden items.

Jim Doyle is multi-faceted in the arts in that besides being a bonsai artist, he has taught and performed tap dancing, jazz, and ballet for over 30 years. Jim also enjoys writing haiku, and the collection/

display of viewing stones. He likes working with conifers and Japanese maples and also volleyball, fishing and spending time with his wife Mary Kay and children, Sarah and Max (not to be confused with his other hobbies).

Jim is very active in horticultural related organizations and events as the following attests:

He has lectured year around on bonsai and Japanese garden design to clubs, schools, and symposia throughout U.S. since 1985, and has been a guest of many TV and radio shows covering topics in horticulture and bonsai.

He was a founder of the Susquehanna Bonsai Club, and has acted as co-chairman of the 1992 ABS (American Bonsai Society) Symposium in Hershey, PA, and was master of ceremonies for the ABS'96 symposium. He currently sits on the Board of Directors of ABS and is a representative for the Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Society.

He was co-chairman for the Pennsylvania Nurserymen's Assn. Conference which spanned a total of 4 days and had over 1200 attendees.

Jim's favorite tree is, of course, the one he is working on. He has discovered a caring and understanding friendship with plants and with people.

A few questions and answers about Jim's workshop:

Will you have handout on history of tree (collected, field grown) - Yes. It will cover info on history and cultural considerations.

Average age of workshop trees - 12-year-old Dwarf English yew suitable for shohin or small bonsai.

Average caliper of trunk base - ½ to 1¼"

Height - 10-15"

Will soil, wire, pots, tools be required for workshop - The trees are already potted in bonsai pots. Bring wire, raffia, tools, and a notebook.

Emphasis is on culture care and styling. For intermediate and advanced up to ten students.

## Bob Chilton and Todd Stewart

Bob Chilton and Todd Stewart together have more than 25 years experience with bonsai. Over the years, they have held lectures, workshops and demonstrations for numerous clubs and organizations, teaching the art of bonsai. Both Bob and Todd are founders of the Rappahannock Bonsai Society and supply an inspiring meeting place for the club. Todd is currently serving as it's president.

For the past 6 years, they have owned and operated Gardens Unlimited, a bonsai nursery, located in King George Virginia. They offer both group and individual counseling, classes, and demonstrations. They also offer a complete line of bonsai related materials.

Together Bob and Todd maintain a large personal bonsai collection. Bob describes their collection's size in the time it takes to water it - "one hour in the morning and one hour at night." Several of Bob's bonsai have won top awards in state competitions. Both Bob and Todd are well known for their creative talent, in-depth horticultural knowledge, and most innovative approaches to bonsai styling.

If you have not yet taken the time to become acquainted with them, make the effort at the Fall Symposium. Like most bonsai folks, Bob and Todd are truly worth getting to know. They have generous, gentle natures and are glad to share their knowlege in an easy manner.

### Stewart/Chilton Workshop

Material: 8-year-old Shimpaku, container grown

Trunk diameter at base: average 8 inches

Pot: Japanese Houtoku kiln pot, unglazed, reddish brown color.

Wire and Soil: will be provided.

Tools: Bring tools if you have them. Be sure they have identifying marks. Some will be available for sharing.

Remarks: Todd and Bob will conduct the class. Trees will be styled and repotted. Time will allow for only basic wiring. Fine wiring will be briefly addressed so that it can be done at home.

*Make new friends, but keep the old . . .*

*. . . One is silver and the other gold.*

## POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION

Presents

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual PBA Fall Symposium*Rocky Mountain High*

September 18 &amp; 19, 1999

U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC

Featuring two demonstrations, a tree critique, and an advanced workshop by HAROLD SASAKI of Wheat Ridge, Colorado. The demonstrations and workshop will feature conifers collected in the Rockies. There will also be workshops by two of PBA's favorite vendors, Jim Doyle of Nature's Way Nursery and Todd Stewart of Gardens Unlimited. Jim Doyle's workshop will feature English Yews already established in mica pots and Todd's workshop will feature Shimpaku, pot, and soil.

**Harold Sasaki** first started working with bonsai in 1955 in Hawaii. He studied forestry in California and Colorado. He later left forestry to become a stockbroker, but continued with his hobby of bonsai. In 1977, Harold started teaching bonsai at the Denver Botanical Gardens. He currently teaches in the Denver area and often conducts workshops and demonstrations across the United States and Canada. In 1985, Harold expanded his hobby to a full-time business. His mission is to "demystify" the art of bonsai so more people can be successful and enjoy this fascinating hobby.

**Jim Doyle** started Nature's Way Nursery in 1973 and developed an early interest in Asian culture and plants. By 1980, through the influence of Chase Rosade, bonsai passed from being a hobby to a business/life-style. Jim attends many symposia, teaches year round to both adults and children at his studio, and travels extensively. As time goes by, Jim continues to enjoy the benefits of knowledge through bonsai. He has discovered a caring and understanding friendship with plants and with people.

**Bob Chilton and Todd Stewart** have owned Gardens Unlimited in King George, VA, for 6 years. They have been involved with bonsai for many years, lecturing, doing workshops and demonstrations, and teaching the art of bonsai. Both Bob and Todd are well known for their creative talent, in-depth horticultural knowledge and most innovative approaches to bonsai styling.

Our **vendor tent** will offer for sale many fairly priced bonsai related items.

**Silent Auction:** The symposium will feature a silent auction of bonsai items donated by the vendors and PBA members. **Two major items in the Silent Auction will be the 2 trees styled by Harold Sasaki in his demonstrations.**