



YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

Learning from each other. Sharing with the community”

January

2011

**GUEST ARTIST: MARILYN REILLY "AN INTRODUCTION TO DRAWING"
SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2011 AT 12:00 NOON
THE GREENWICH GARDEN EDUCATION CENTER (GEC)**

DRAWING BASICS FOR BONSAI ILLUSTRATION & STYLING

Norm Geisinger

The bonsai masters do it...do you? What??...draw the future design of your tree and maybe even the steps to get it there. So, we thought it would be a good idea to have someone talk to us about "Drawing or Sketching Trees" and get a little practice at it.

Marilyn Reilly will be our guest artist at our January meeting where she will discuss the "Drawing Process". *Marilyn* holds a BS in biology from Fordham University and an MS in education from Iona College. A retired public high school science teacher, she is currently working toward a Certificate in Botanical Art and Natural Science Illustration at the New York Botanical Garden. She an instructor at the NYBG. *Marilyn* is a member of the ASBA (American Society of Botanical Artists) and the GNSI (Guild of Natural Science Illustrators). She most recently participated in the GNSI 2009 Exhibit "Birds of Prey of the Northeast U.S.". Two of her drawings are shown here. We do not promise to get you to this level in an afternoon, but she will introduce you to some basic techniques.



The plan for the day is for *Marilyn* to discuss basic drawing techniques, draw a branch, draw a tree and then draw a future design for the tree. We will provide drawing paper. Please bring the following:

- ✓ One of your trees and a stand to bring the tree to eye level when sitting
- ✓ Graphite pencil (#2 ok or better, a---HB, 2H, or 2B drawing pencil)
- ✓ Hand held pencil sharpener, eraser (white, if possible), and a 12" clear ruler

Note: The drawing pencils and white eraser can be found in craft stores. If you have any questions contact *Norm* at: normc21@aol.com.

DECEMBER'S HOLIDAY BUFFET & AUCTION

Lavanya Muller

The MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies' Board meeting, which was held in Grantville, PA because it's the Festival's 2011 site, was in conflict with YAMA KI's Holiday buffet and auction meeting. Since *Rhoda* is currently President of MABS her attendance was essential and we are a one car family. *Rhoda* and *Irv* are YAMA KI's co-editors, in their absence *Norm*, *Mike Pollock*, and *Lavanya* have pitched in and covered the bases. This report was written by *Lavanya* without advance notice:

“By the time *Charlie* and I arrived, the ‘banquet’ was in full swing, and everyone was sitting down eating! However, more food kept arriving



with all the latecomers, and soon another table had to be found and set up to accommodate the crowd. There was enough food to feed an army. I took a picture with my cell-phone, but not until after people were well into the desserts. I attached it anyway. The table still looks good! We were too busy eating and shopping!

Turnout was good despite a morning of drenching downpours. The food was varied, abundant, and delicious, as were the desserts. I think most of it was prepared by members, not purchased.

For the auction, people were in the spirit of the season, and ready to buy. Very few things that were offered found no bidders at



all. High points of the auction were: the Yew that had been styled by *Marco Invernizzi* at the October meeting (won by *Charlie*), and *Norm's* weeping willow, last



styled with some of *Colin Lewis'* suggestions (won by *Al*). *Mike Pollock* once again donated his own time and expertise by auctioning two-hour private workshops with him at the winner's convenience.

Phyllis made another good-sized donation of her own remaining bonsai-related items. *Mike Pollock* and *Pete* were the auctioneers, and kept things moving along expertly. “

Before starting the auction, *Mike Pollock*, on behalf of the society, presented *Norm* with a display stand which includes the following statement: “Presented to *Norm Geisinger* in appreciation of services as President, YAMA KI BONSAI SOCIETY, July 14, 2007 - July 10, 2010”.

YAMA KI STORAGE CLOSET

As a result of recent discussions with GEC personnel, YAMA KI now has a storage area in the GEC building. The closet is located on the second floor in the library area and next to the mens' room. It contains our library, office supplies, name tags, party supplies, coffee pot, tokonoma and other miscellaneous items. We plan to have the closet open before, during and after our meeting. If not unlocked, see one of the board members. This will give you the opportunity to peruse the library materials and borrow them until our next meeting. Please sign them out/back in blue notebook. The book "North American Bonsai" in tan cardboard sleeve is not to be removed from the building...it is our autographed copy. Feel free to take it out and return it to closet, in the sleeve, after you are done looking at it.

NOTE: We are sharing the closet with the GEC and boxes on top two shelves, marked "GEC" are theirs and not to be opened or removed.

MIDATLANTIC BONSAI SPRING FESTIVAL

Early 2011 – specifically April 15-17 – in Grantville, PA right near Hershey Park, is THE weekend for bonsai aficionados. Three internationally renowned artists, *Yasuo Mitsuya*, *Kathy Shaner*, and *Steve Tolley*, will be available all weekend to demonstrate, teach, confer, and explore bonsai issues. Nineteen vendors will have their wares available for you to fill your spring shopping needs. Eleven member clubs will exhibit some of their finest bonsai and well known bonsai artists from around the US will participate in an Invitational Professional Exhibit – a first for MABS and in our region. And another first is the regional pre-convention competition for entries in the ABS-Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition (see following article). And don't forget that all demonstration materials are raffled following the demonstration. What a means to expand your collection with top quality material designed by an international bonsai expert! Add that “plus” to the availability of top-notch items found at the silent and live auctions. There's the fun of companionship and bonsai talk at Saturday's luncheon and banquet (frivolity of your making).

MABS – AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETIES NEW TALENT CONTEST

Are you doing bonsai for less than ten (10) years? American Bonsai Society (ABS), in conjunction with *Joshua Roth* (bonsai tool manufacturer), conducts a competition for burgeoning bonsai artists in North America. It is held at the annual ABS Seminar, this year in Louisville, KY. June 16-19.

In an effort to encourage more newcomers to bonsai to recognize and share their abilities, ABS has asked regional bonsai societies to conduct run-off competitions among their member clubs. Any person, except a past winner or runner-up, who lives in North America, including Puerto Rico, is eligible to participate in the New Talent Competition. As a constituent member of MABS, YAMA KI members are qualified to enter our first regional competition to be held on Friday, April 15, at the MABS Spring Festival in Grantville, PA.

There are two stages to the MABS Regional Run-Off Competition.

Stage One: Photograph submission

- a) Each contestant shall submit photographs of at least three bonsai that he or she has personally styled. More than one picture of each bonsai is preferred. The photographs do not have to be of publication quality; however, they should show the talent of the artist to the best advantage.
- b) All of the photographs submitted shall be enclosed in a single presentation folder with the photos enclosed in clear plastic sleeves. A brief description and history of each bonsai shall also be enclosed.
- c) An envelope with the completed application form shall be taped to the back inside cover of the folder. *NOTE There Should Be No Identification on the Photos or on the Outside of the Enclosed Envelope.*
- d) Submissions of the photographs must be received before Saturday, March 5, 2011.
- e) Entries from artists whose photographs indicate the most promise will be selected to participate in Stage Two at the MABS Festival to be held on Friday, April 15. Contestants selected for Stage Two will be notified by Friday, March 22, 2011.

Stage Two of the MABS Regional Run-Off Competition (Bonsai Creation)

- a) Each contestant selected for Stage Two must come to the MABS Festival on Friday, April 15, 2011. Each contestant must pay his or her own expenses (unless a member club is willing to underwrite this expense) including purchase of the stock material to be used in the competition.

Each contestant shall:

- 1) purchase the stock material provided by the MABS Regional Run-Off contest committee; (cost of a tree will be \$50 or less). YAMA KI will reimburse its club entrants for the cost of the trees;
 - 2) furnish her/his personal tools, wire and turntable (power tools acceptable);
 - 3) be given an eight (8) hour time period in which to style the material into a finished bonsai. The competition will begin at 8AM and will close at 4PM, on Friday, April 15, 2011. There will be an optional lunch break.
- b) Repotting of the finished bonsai will not be done during the competition.
 - c) The winner of the MABS Regional Run-Off New Talent Competition will also serve for two years as a member of MABS Regional Run-Off Contest Committee.
 - d) Our regional winner, to be selected by votes of the three artists of the MABS Festival and all Festival registrants, will be guaranteed a position at the national ABS-Joshua Roth New Talent competition described below.
 - e) The regional winner will receive \$500 from MABS upon submission of her/his receipts from participation at the ABS-Joshua Roth Competition in Louisville.
 - f) Mail all entries to: *Pauline Muth*, 7 Western Avenue, West Charlton, NY 12010.

The winner of the ABS competition will receive an exclusive course of instruction with an approved bonsai teacher. Two YAMA KI members were former national winners: *Mike Pollock* and *Kevin Goveia*.

Registration applications to MABS' Spring Festival will be mailed shortly after the Holidays.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

OFFICERS

Mike Pollock.	President
John Cotoggio.	Vice-President
Len Douglas.	Treasurer
Lavanya Muller.	Secretary
Norm Geisinger.	Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS

David Castro, Al DeAngelis, Irv Kleiman,
Charles Muller, John Ruggio, & Nick Sajda

Co-Editors: Rhoda & Irv Kleiman

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COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 8 12:00 pm *Marilyn Reilly* tree drawing
- Feb. 12 10:00 am - 12:45 pm BYO Workshop
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm YAMA KI Stories:
Hear the origins of our club, stories of Yuji
Yoshimura's creations, member's collecting
trips, and more.
- Mar 12 10:00 am - 12:45 pm BYO Workshop
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm How to get the most out of
a Bonsai convention
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Continuation of BYO
Workshop

Remember to check our website (www.yamakibonsai.org) for updates and latest information

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