

# YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

Learning from each other. . . . . Sharing with the community”

July

2011

## ANNUAL MEETING, PICNIC, & AUCTION HOME OF MIKE & JENNIFER POLLOCK SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2011

The Board of Directors will meet at 10:00 am to noon, before the general meeting. Interested members are welcome to be observers at the open Board meetings.

After a provided picnic lunch and informal reviews of *Mike’s* bonsai collection and the donated auction materials, *Mike* will call the meeting to order. The first order of business for the general membership meeting is the elections of Officers and Directors, per our Constitution, i.e., Officers for one year terms, and Directors for three-year terms. Any or all Officers and Directors can be re-elected.

Anyone can nominate themselves or any other member for any open position. The Nominating Committee, chaired by *Gail Therrien*, has recommended the following slate of candidates:

The re-election of the present Officers: *Mike Pollock*, President, *John Cotoggio*, Vice-President, *Len Douglas*, Treasurer, and *Lavanya Muller*, Secretary.

Directors: *Layne Rodney* and *Rima Chatterjee*.

The Directors continuing to serve the remainder of their terms are: *Charlie Muller*, *John Ruggio*; *Al De Angelis* and *Nick Sajda*.

After the elections, members will receive their bidding IDs and the auction’s fun, excitement, entertainment, and education that we have been waiting for will start. How long will it last? - depends on you! Remember, all your donations are tax deductions for city, state, and federal income taxes. Bring pre-bonsai as well as mature plants that need another’s eye to meet your standards or just to concentrate your collection. Wire, bonsai containers, and other related materials will be grabbed, especially by new members. Don’t forget to bring cash and/or your checkbook for your winning bids.



Pete looking for the next bidder

All members will receive an email or phone call with driving instructions to *Mike’s* home. If you have any problem, call *Mike* (914- 764-5557).

### JUNE’S MEETING *Lavanya Muller*

The morning started with a BYO workshop. Although the workshop is intended for experienced members to help novices and less experienced members, some experienced and talented members seek confirmation and/or suggestions from other members for a fresh new look - especially when considering a radical change



*Norm with new member, Steve?*

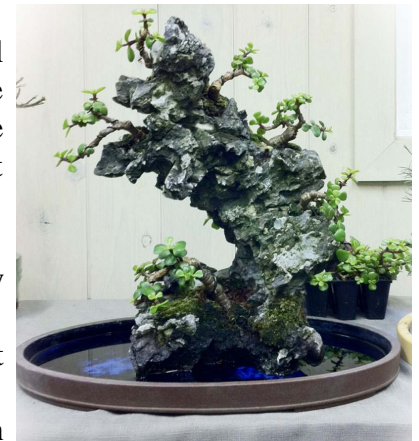


*Lucille and Al contemplating*



*MikeP critiquing Mark's tree?*

The afternoon meeting was a hands-on workshop in creating mame bonsai. *Mike* brought in a beautiful rock that he had planted with the same kind of material we were going to use in the class, to show how easy it is to grow dwarf jade (*Portulacarias afra*) successfully in very small planting space. He showed us the robust root systems that these tiny plants create in a short period of time if not over-watered.



*Mike* cut up several bushy *Portulacarias* into mame-sized branchlets, and everyone present chose the one they wanted to plant. A nice selection of mame pots in assorted styles and colors was also supplied, along with appropriately tiny mame soil. He then did a quick demonstration, with explanation, about how to secure these tiny plants in their diminutive pots, and we all went to work, with advice and assistance from *Mike*.

← Here are some of the tiny gems that were created in class. There were enough mame pots and enough plant material for everyone to make two trees, so we were all able to try different styles, and to hone our skills at handling such small plant material.

## GLEANINGS FROM MID-ATLANTIC

*Kathy Shaner:*

- ✿ When repotting, the plant should be wet. Spraying the roots doesn't help. The foliage needs water because of the loss of roots, and new roots take time to pass water up.
- ✿ Snapping wire stretches the wire. Do that when preparing a guy wire.
- ✿ A copper pipe filling brush (a plumber's tool) is very good for cleaning shari and jin. It smooths the surface without removing the grooves.
- ✿ Kathy likes to over-wire (using a heavier wire than usual).
- ✿ Start wiring from the heaviest to the lightest branches.

*Steve Tolley:*

- ✿ Deadwood should look natural. Machines usually leave marks. Cut up and/or tear to create more natural jin.
- ✿ Create jin in the summer, when the tree is growing.
- ✿ After wiring, while bending the branch, twist it.
- ✿ Bend branches in the winter when no sap is flowing.

*Yasuo Mitsuya:*

- ✿ When cutting unnecessary branches remember to create jin.
- ✿ Do not wire until all jin has been created.
- ✿ Mitsuya sharpens his tools every day they are used.

### **SOME RANDOM PHOTOS OF MABS 2011 MEMBERS' EXHIBIT TREES**



### **LAST DUES NOTICE!**

If you haven't paid your dues, this is your last reminder. If you come to the July meeting, you will not be able to vote for candidates or bid for auction items until your 2011 - 2012 dues are paid.

Remember to check our website ([www.yamakibonsai.org](http://www.yamakibonsai.org)) for updates and latest information