



## CHRIS PETERSON RETURNS FOR REPOTTING DEMO/WORKSHOP APRIL 5, 2003 1:00 PM AT THE BARTLETT ARBORETUM

Most everyone who attended last March's lecture/demonstration and workshop with *Mr. Chris Peterson* asked for his return this year. We all learned novel tricks and techniques for repotting which we had not seen in the literature. He will again briefly demonstrate both repotting and pot selection skills which he acquired while apprenticing in Japan. *Chris* is classical in his approach to bonsai and will bring several trees to display at the meeting. *Chris* will review how he ties the screen into the pot and how to use bamboo stakes to secure the tree in the pot.

*Chris*, following his lecture/demonstration, has agreed to supervise the repotting of trees brought by members. Members should provide their own tools. Bonsai soil and wire will be provided by YAMA KI. There will be no cost to members for the afternoon - but please limit the number of trees you bring. After everyone has had *Chris'* attention with their first tree, if there is time, he will help with another.

*Chris* will review last year's discussion of containers and the markers which enable us to discern the degree of quality and workmanship between bonsai containers. He has an excellent eye for selecting appropriate pots which concentrate on the relationship between the tree and the container. If you intend to repot, bring multiple pots so, with you, *Chris* can make an aesthetic choice not a convenient settlement. In helping you select a container he will be demonstrating the significant difference between a "nice" match of tree and container and a "perfect" match.

### 2003 IS YAMA KI BONSAI SOCIETY'S 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

*Melba Grieshaber* is chairing a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee planning a dinner event in the fall to celebrate the occasion.

Many members will remember our 20th anniversary which was held at the Tarrytown Hilton Inn. The daytime program consisted of simultaneous bonsai demonstrations presented by *Yuji Yoshimura*, *William Valavanis*, and *Marion Gyllenswan*. Lectures were also presented by *Mr. Yoshimura* on "Foundations of Rock Appreciation" and by *Mr. Vincent T. Covello* on "The Use of Rocks in the Garden." The evening program consisted of a dinner celebration, "Reminiscences", and an exhibit of bonsai styled by members.

We are hoping to engage a private room in a good centrally-located restaurant for Saturday night - either the last Saturday in September or the first Saturday in October. Reserve these dates. Details will be reported as they develop.

### GLEANINGS

Gleanings from NEW ORLEANS BONSAI, newsletter of the Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society:

- ❁ The selection of glazed or unglazed containers should be based on horticulture as well as beauty. Glazed containers hold water longer than unglazed ones.
- ❁ A glaze on a glazed container should not run down the inner sides - it should stop just inside the rim. It should never cover the bottom of the container, inside or out.

## LAST MONTH'S "BYO" REPOTTING WORKSHOP

Surprisingly, last month's meeting was not heavily attended. Prior member surveys had ranked the BYO Workshops as Number "1" in popularity! However, everyone who attended and participated were extremely pleased with their results. Besides getting their repotting accomplished, we all developed new insights. If there was more than one opinion on tree placement (angle and placement) we reviewed the pros and cons of each suggestion learning where the "rules" worked best and where breaking the rule needed a deserving exception. Each decision on container selection demanded a careful review of all the criteria. Accomplishing results while honing skills and insights to a higher level - at no cost - what could be better?

*Kevin Goveia*, our in-house bonsai potter, brought various home-made containers for sale. They came in handy!



David Cowles



Jim studying



Melba



Len & Berni



Rhoda & Melba



Rhoda "cutting up"



Kevin



Jim & Craig

## BACK TO BASICS WITH BERNI

*Berni Gastrich*

### AFTERCARE

*(Reprinted from the April, 2000 Yama Ki Bonsai Society Newsletter)*

A newly repotted tree should be thought of as the equivalent of a post surgical patient - - - **INTENSIVE CARE IS REQUIRED**

Since the root pruning has caused the tree to be unable to take in water by normal amounts, the essence of aftercare is to provide conditions which reduce the amount of water the tree loses via transpiration. How do we do this?

1. Keep the tree out of direct sun.
2. Keep the tree out of wind.
3. Mist the tree as often as possible, wet foliage losses no water.
4. If possible, provide some kind of tent structure to maintain high humidity. Of course a greenhouse or cold frame are ideal but not essential.
5. Do not water the tree daily. The roots cannot take up all this water and may rot.
6. Anti desiccants, applied to evergreen foliage ONE time. Do not use it on newly emerging leaves.

Another aspect of aftercare is temperature control, especially soil temperature. As a general rule most North Temperate Zone trees grow and heal wounds best when the soil temperature is between 50 and 80 degrees. Higher or lower slows everything down. How do we do this?

1. Greenhouse or cold frame is ideal.
2. Catalogs and some nurseries sell 'hotcaps'. These are essentially plastic bags supported by wires which are inverted over plants at night. There is even one variety which holds water in its walls.
3. Carry the trees in on very cold nights. This way they start each day with soil that is already warm.

Remember, these are ideals. If you repotted to a larger pot and did little root pruning you can all but ignore the above. If, however, you have stressed a tree severely, then the above becomes vital!

More trees are killed by poor aftercare than by the actual repotting process.

### **HORST KREKELER LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION & "BYO" WORKSHOP SATURDAY MAY 3, 2003 AT THE BARTLETT ARBORETUM**

*Horst Krekeler's* 2003 Spring Tour includes a full day with YAMA KI. He will conduct a lecture/demonstration at 10:00 am and, after a lunch break, at 1:00 pm, will supervise a "BYO" workshop. *Horst* loves challenges! This is the ideal workshop to bring your mature bonsai that you keep looking at, but can't decide which approach to take to bring your tree from a "nice" bonsai to a "wow" specimen.

There is a nominal \$20 fee for participation in the afternoon workshop. There is no charge for members remaining for the workshop as "silent" observers. The workshop is limited to ten participants so that *Horst* can give each participant ample time, Please get in touch with *Irv Kleiman* to register for the workshop (212-724-7840 or [irkleiman@rcn.com](mailto:irkleiman@rcn.com)).

**GEORGE LEBOLT LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION & WORKSHOP  
SATURDAY JUNE 14, 2003 AT THE BARTLETT ARBORETUM**

The meeting format for the day will be similar to that in May. with a lecture/demonstration at 10:00 am and, a workshop after lunch at 1:00 pm. *George* will conduct the lecture/demonstration on tropical bonsai and the afternoon workshop is limited to six participants. *George* said he did not purchase all the same material because he went for the best trees. They are all "substantial" trees with large trunk bases and excellent root flare. The workshop fee is \$75, which is the actual cost of the trees.

The workshop trees are: 2 *Ficus nerifolia*, 1 *Ficus Kingman*, 1 *Ficus burtt-davyi* (dwarf), 1 *Ficus burtt-davyi* (regular leaf), 1 *Ficus burtt-davyi* (long leaf). The material is native to South Africa. HORTUS 3<sup>rd</sup> does not list the burtt-davyi varieties, but the internet provided the following: leaves are leathery and smooth and readily reduced; likes humidity, well-drained soil, and moderate watering; tolerates full light or partial shade; tends to bear insignificant floral clusters; styling particularly nice over rock, red spider mite may be a problem. Variety is commonly known as Veled fig or Scrambling fig.

Call *Irv* to register for the workshop and reserve the tree of your choice.

**MIDATLANTIC BONSAI SOCIETIES 2003 SPRING FESTIVAL  
RAMADA HOTEL - E. HANOVER, NJ  
APRIL 11 - 13, 2003**

MidAtlantic, as you know by now, is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and this year's festival will be extra special. You shortchange yourself if you do not attend at least one day of the festival. New members should see *Gail Therrien*, *Lucille Miller*, or *Rhoda Kleiman* at the April 5<sup>th</sup> YAMA KI meeting to get full details of the advantages to all bonsai enthusiasts - but especially beginners. She will have application forms which include the calendar of events and directions to the Ramada Hotel.

**THREE INTERNATIONAL STARS IN OUR BACKYARD**

In the event you have misplaced the registration notice for MidAtlantic's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, we want to remind you that you have the singular opportunity to study with *Kunio Kobayashi*, *Patrizia Cappellaro DeMartino*, and *Colin Lewis* during the weekend of April 11-13, 2003.

*Mr. Kobayashi*, a professional bonsai Master from Tokyo is making his debut visit to the northeastern states at this weekend. He has won more than 15 prestigious bonsai awards since his first in 1983, including two Prime Minister's awards and the Sakufu-ten award. He has taught around the world. On April 12, Saturday, he will work on two trees simultaneously, do another lecture/demonstration on Sunday. In addition, he will critique the exhibit trees and offer an open workshop on Sunday afternoon.

*Ms. Cappellaro DeMartino* continues to study with *Salvatore Liporace* with whom she began her bonsai studies in Italy. She has studied with several European masters, and in Japan she has worked with *Mr. Masahiko Kimura*. She teaches in Italy at the Studio Botanico and the Collegio Nazionale Istruttori I. B. S. (national college of instructors) and maintains a schedule of international presentations. At MidAtlantic she will present lectures/demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday as well as critiquing the Exhibits and offering an open workshop.

*Mr. Colin Lewis*, lately of Surrey, England, now based in the Boston, Massachusetts area, returns to MidAtlantic. The European Bonsai Association benefitted from his expertise when he served as a board member. He is treasured by those of us who have had the advantage of studying with him and/or using his books as guides for developing our bonsai. On Saturday he will demonstrate a group planting on slab and his Sunday workshop will further develop the skills involved as he continues the theme using Trident maples in a forest. He will also critique the Exhibit material.

You may remember from an earlier issue of our NEWSLETTER that Friday night's program will be a triple, simultaneous demonstration by *David Andrews, Chase Rosade, and William Valavanis*.

YAMA KI's representation in the Exhibit Room will be one tree each from *John Cottaggio, Berni Gastrich, and Gail Therrien*.

New this year will be an additional exhibit room with theme-exhibits presented by four clubs.

Eighteen vendors will offer outstanding bonsai and pre-bonsai material, imported and hand-crafted containers, tools, accessories and books.

You will have time the entire weekend to chat one-on-one with the artists and other bonsai enthusiasts to share successes, to discuss the causes of empty pots, and to find out about new soil mixes and watering techniques. Making new friends and renewing acquaintances is always a heart-warming component of this bonsai-oriented time. You can even practice Japanese with *Ms. Mieko Kubota* who will translate for *Mr. Kobayashi* and Spanish or Italian with *Ms. Solita Tafur Rosade* who will translate for *Ms. Cappellaro DeMartino*.

Each member society must have two people to "docent" the Exhibit Rooms for an hour. Our scheduled time is Saturday, April 12 from 2:00pm - 3:00pm. If you are coming only to see the Exhibits and Vendors please volunteer. Call *Gail Therrien* at (914) 232-9377, and tell her of your availability.

In addition, if you or companion have a spare hour to help at the registration desk, again, your time will be most welcome particularly between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm on Saturday and 9:00 am and 10:00 am on Sunday.

Come and bonsai-grow at MidAtlantic's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Festival 2003, April 11-13, 2003.

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Co-Editors: Rhoda & Irv Kleiman

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#### COMING EVENTS

Apr. 5 *Chris Peterson: Repotting Lecture/Demo*  
Apr 11-13 MidAtlantic Spring Festival  
May 3 *Horst Kreckler: Lecture/Demo & Workshop*  
June 14 *George LeBolt: Lecture/Demo & Workshop*

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