



YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

Learning from each other. Sharing with the community”

August

2008

AUGUST 9, 2008 11:00 AM BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN TOUR & HOME VISIT TO LAURIE AND STANLEY MAURER

Our August meeting will be a field trip to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden’s C.V. Starr Bonsai Museum, where BBG's famous collection of tropical indoor and temperate or outdoor bonsai is exhibited in a Japanese-style architectural setting. The Garden Opens at 10:00 am, with the bonsai tour starting at 11:00 am. We will meet in front of the C.V. Starr Bonsai Museum and the curator, *Julian Velasco* will guide us on a tour of their “Bonsai Back Lot”. If you can, get there at 10:00 am so that you have some time at your own pace to view the bonsai exhibit.



After the tour we will lunch at the garden - bring your own or purchase lunch there. There will be time to explore other areas of the garden on your own.

Stanley Maurer and his wife, *Laurie*, have graciously invited us to join them at their home in Brooklyn following our visit to the garden. It’s a renovated brownstone with a history. They plan a tour of the house and refreshments. The Maurers are architects who focus on designing and remodeling New York city co-ops, condos, and other buildings. Their home is one of them; an award winner. A rare treat for us! The open house will start at 3:00 PM. Driving time is 15+ minutes from the garden. Stanley will provide a map & directions at the garden.

Stanley has provided the following provenance about the house:

“This brownstone originally built as a one family house, around 1850-60, is located in the Cobble Hill Historic Landmark district. It was converted into a brothel with 24 rooms and 23 bathrooms during World War II serving the Brooklyn Naval Yard and then afterwards used as a furnished rooming house. We converted the building into a two family dwelling, just before the city wanted to tear it down as an abandoned and condemned building. Our design won an AIA award in 1971 and was widely published in this country and Japan. Laurie’s mother, 100 ½ years old, lives on the Garden Floor below our triplex.”

ANNUAL MEETING/AUCTION/FUN DAY

Going, going, really? Going, GONE. Mellow words heard through the afternoon of June 14th. But first to CLUB BUSINESS:

Norm Geisinger opened the meeting with a terrific turnout ready to act on any business brought before it. The first order of business was to elect the officers who will lead us for 2008-2009. Following last month’s list of the proposed slate, to no one’s surprise the entire slate was elected unanimously and the Secretary cast a ballot to make the election official.

Officers are:

Norman Geisinger - President, *Mike Pollock* - Vice-President, *Lavanya Muller* - Secretary, *Irv Kleiman* - Treasurer, *Gail Therrien* - Immediate Past President.

The Directors are:

Rupen Kiskanyan - Director-2011, *John Ruggio* - Director-2011, *John Cotoggio* - Director-2010, *David Cruz* - Director-2010, *Charles Muller* - Director-2009, *David Castro* - Director-2009

Norm had previously sent to the membership a proposal to amend the By-Laws to consolidate the Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary Officer positions. The membership voted to accept the change (Article VI, Section 1).

The auction was delayed due to the number of potential bidders studying the many plants, containers, tools, publications, etc. on display. This auction was enriched by the donation of several plants and related items by Anna Pai, who had decided that she could not continue to properly care for her bonsai. The auctioneers, Mike Ivany and Pete Halm, were exhausted and hoarse by the time every item was sold. As always, everyone was a winner!



Pete looking for a bid



Mike hawking bonsai soil

To those members who did not see Norm's email: "Thanks to all who participated in the Annual Meeting & Auction last Saturday. As a result of your efforts the club raised almost \$2,000. Our two auctions each year account for 50% of the club's income. This will allow us to continue bringing top notch bonsai artists to our meetings. WAY TO GO & THANKS!!!"



Pete giving bidders a closer look



Irv's "What Number?"

Photographs courtesy of Rhoda Kleiman

MIDATLANTIC NEWS

The 26th MidAtlantic Spring Festival will be April 17-19, 2009. The Hudson Valley Resort and Spa will again host our gang - trails of leaves, soil, raffle tickets, and all. You will find that changes have been made to our access to hotel facilities – chief among them will be a very large exhibit room immediately next to the vendor and demonstration spaces. Food services have been expanded and your suggestions for improving hotel services are in the hands of management.

MABS will announce the artist line-up within the next couple of weeks. Once again you will meet new artists who may refine traditional bonsai approaches and/or present new outlooks. We'll continue to update you through this NEWSLETTER. Just remember to save the date.

If gasoline mileage/prices continue to present an ugly aspect to an otherwise valuable weekend, start now to arrange car pools. Should YAMA KI try to set up a bus service from one or two central points, going up on Friday afternoon and returning Sunday? Let Gail Therrien (914.666.0898), Lucille Miller (914.934.0613), or Rhoda Kleiman (212.724.7840) know your thoughts on bussing.

NOTES ON JULY'S BOARD MEETING

Finances: We have been meeting our budgets the last two years, resulting in essentially matching our income and expenses. Our net worth on June 30th, was over \$13,000 mostly cash, including a \$10,000 certificate of deposit. This, of course, does not include the proceeds from the July auction and late membership dues.

Workshop Fees: The board agreed that the per person cost for each workshop will be 1/6th of the cost of the artist's workshop fee, exclusive of board and transportation costs, regardless of the number of persons taking the workshop. This charge is not to exceed \$50 per person (cost of materials not included). It was agreed to try out the above fee schedule for one year and then reassess.

NY Botanical Garden Bonsai Exhibit: The Kiku Festival will happen! The dates are set, October 18 – November 2 (setup October 15). The board agreed that *Mike Pollock* will be project leader, and that a selection committee of 4 members will vote on which trees to place in the exhibit. Details will be forthcoming.

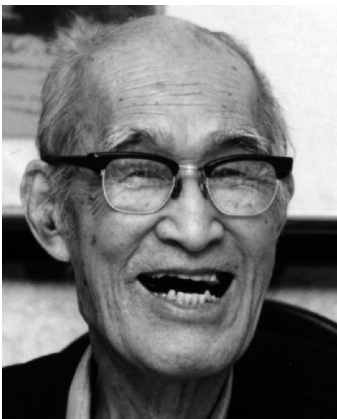
2009's Meetings & Programs: *John Cotoggio* presented the meeting schedule for the year and the schedule for artists coming to Yama Ki in 2009. As of the present date, subject to change, they are:

- 10 January - T.B.D.
- 14 February - *Arthur Skolnik*
- 14 March - *Marty Schmalenberg* (series: Part I)
- ?? April - MABS artist (possibly a Wednesday evening dinner meeting)
- 2 May - *Sandro Signeri* (probable date)
- 13 June - *Marty Schmalenberg* (series: Part II)
- 11 July - Annual Membership meeting and Auction
- 8 August - T.B.D.
- 12 September - *Marty Schmalenberg* (series: Part III)
- 3 October - *Colin Lewis* (possible date not 10/10)
- 14 November - T.B.D.
- 12 December - Holiday party & Auction

John Cotoggio and *Mike Pollock* will each fill one of the TBD dates. *John* will do a saikei workshop especially for newer members; *Mike's* presentation remains TBD.

YUJI YOSHIMURA AWARD

Norm Geisinger



The *Yuji Yoshimura* award will be given at the National Bonsai Exhibition (10/11-12/08) in Rochester, NY. The award will be for the "Finest Classical Bonsai" in the show and will be for \$2,000. *Yuji* was one of the "founding fathers" of Bonsai in the USA and of Yama Ki. We are soliciting contributions to this award. The club and a number of individual members have already made contributions. If you also wish to do so send your check payable to YAMA KI to *Irv* @ Yama Ki Bonsai Society; 165 West End Ave.-12D; New York, NY 10023-5509 and include a note indicating it is for the *Yuji* Award. Please do so by Aug 1st. Shortly thereafter we will send the club's total contribution along with a list of the contributors to *Bill Valavanis* at the show.

OFFICERS

Norm Geisinger. President
Mike Pollock. Vice-President
Irv Kleiman. Treasurer
Lavanya Muller. Secretary
Gail Therrien. Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS

David Castro, John Cotoggio, David Cruz,
Rupen Kiskanyan, Charles Muller, and John Ruggio

Co-Editors: Rhoda & Irv Kleiman

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<http://www.yamakibonsai.org>

COMING EVENTS

Aug.	9	11:00 am	Brooklyn Botanic Garden tour & home visit with the Maurers
Sept	13	10:00 am	<i>Colin Lewis</i> : Lecture, critiques, and BYOT workshop
Oct	11 - 12		2008 National Bonsai Exhibit (Rochester, NY)
Oct	18 - Nov 2		NY Botanical Garden Bonsai Exhibit

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

Yama Ki Bonsai Society, Inc.
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