



YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

Learning from each other. Sharing with the community”

June

2007

YAMA KI MEMBERS' BONSAI EXHIBIT
LASDON PARK & ARBORETUM
SUNDAY JUNE 3rd, 2007
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

June 3rd, when “June is bustin’ out all over” YAMA KI will have a Members’ Exhibit at the Lasdon Park & Arboretum on Route 35 in Somers, NY. Our exhibit will be part of a 'Gardener's Fair', which Lasdon describes as "A large event featuring displays, flower show, botanical art show, plants, children's activities and anything to do with gardening, horticulture and outside entertaining."

Set up will be at 10:30 am, and the exhibit will be open to the public from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Display your tree (s) with a small card with the name of the tree, its years in training, and if you know its actual age, include that too. You may or may not identify yourself as the owner – your choice. Since part of the purpose for this bonsai exhibit is educational, wired trees are acceptable. Remember to bring a folding chair, a picnic lunch and beverage, sun block, and a hat. The day is on rain or shine. We are also permitted to have a sales table. See page 3 for directions to the park.

Our set-up location will be behind the main house, an area which is additionally fenced and locked. (i.e., we'll be in a fenced area within a fenced area, for those wishing to set up on Saturday). Lasdon does not carry insurance to cover our material.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9TH MEETING
AT SHANTI BITHI'S OPEN HOUSE WITH COLIN LEWIS

June 9th, we are having an open meeting at Shanti Bithi, in conjunction with their annual open house and sale day. *Colin Lewis*, is the featured artist. *Colin* now resides in Salem, Massachusetts, and is working full-time as a bonsai teacher, artist and consultant. He is the founder and Principal of the Hô Yoku School of Bonsai and creator/owner of Hô Yoku-en, his working bonsai garden, which is located at Bonsai West, Littleton, MA. *Colin* had been our guest artist/presenter regularly and many of our members are students of his Hô Yoku school.



Shanti Bithi will open at 9am. Members should take the opportunity to look at the bonsai and related merchandise, both for pleasure and for possible purchase, to take advantage of the sale. Our members’ discount will apply to any purchases that day, just

identify yourself as a YAMA KI member.

Colin Lewis will style a challenging red pine. His lecture/demonstration, open to the public, will begin at 10:00 am. When he has finished his preliminary styling, *Colin* will be available to chat with members about bonsai they bring for his knowledgeable review and help with styling decisions.

The program will take place basically in the outdoors, with a canopy in the back (as done in the past) so check with AccuWeather before dressing on June 9th. Shanti Bithi will provide some refreshments, but YAMA KI folk who plan to spend the day should bring lunch (and sun block?).

Directions to Shanti Bithi appear on the page 3.

DAVID BENAVENTE CAPTIVATED YAMA KI at MAY MEETING



Pointing out problems

The Program Committee arranged for seven clubs to share the transportation costs to bring *David Benavente* from Spain to the northeast US so that YAMA KI members could be treated to a lecture/demonstration by a new bonsai artist. *David Benavente*, was our lecturer/demonstrator at the Bartlett Arboretum on May 5th.

The Program Committee presented him with a large, challenging Shimpaku juniper that had been collected by *Marty Schmallenberg*. *David* is a follower of the classic bonsai masters and it was interesting to hear his analysis of the problems with each potential “front”. There was a sizable number of large branches coming from a rather thick trunk. Some were long and straight and two branches actually were twisted around each other.



Berni cutting a problem long straight branch



Problem - crossed branches!



Changing the angle

Before he decided to lop off any major branches, *David* chose to severely change the p o t t i n g angle so the trunk held prime place.



David sketches his styling concept



Creating jin & shari



Smoothing & grooving the shari

Then it quickly became evident which branches had to go and which had the potential for heavy wiring to emphasize a new design.



Untwisting the branches



Shortening the branches

Mike Pollock is caring for the tree until our July auction. He, and probably most of you, will be bidding for the Juniper at the auction. A photo of the “finished first phase” of the bonsai with the new owner will appear in the August issue of the newsletter.

David Castro presented the tokonoma with a Larch that was on the cusp of leafing out. He accented it with a delicate planting of bluettes that had just opened.



YAMA KI MEMBERS' BONSAI EXHIBIT
HAMMOND MUSEUM & JAPANESE STROLL GARDEN
SUNDAY, JULY 15TH, 2007



The day following our Annual Meeting and Summer Auction will be our exhibit at the Hammond Museum. Please review your checklist of planned preparations of plants and containers for a public display. Call *Gail Therrien* before July 7th to indicate what trees you intend to bring. Full details and directions will be published in the July newsletter.

DIRECTIONS TO LASDON PARK

Take I-684 to exit 6, and head west on Route 35; the park entrance is three miles ahead on left.

Or take the Taconic State Parkway to Route 202 exit and head east on Route 202. Follow to Route 35 and turn left; the park is three miles ahead on the right

DIRECTIONS TO SHANTI BITHI

Shanti Bithi Nursery is located at 3047 High Ridge Road in Stamford, CT at the corner of Trinity Pass.

1) *From Long Island:* Take the Van Wyck Expwy to the Whitestone Bridge. After crossing the bridge stay to the LEFT and get on the Hutchinson River Pkwy north. Stay on the Hutch Pkwy until it becomes the Merritt Parkway, then follow directions 2 immediately below.

2) *From the Merritt Parkway N or S:* Take exit 35 (High Ridge Rd. / Rte 137) and turn LEFT at the end of the ramp onto High Ridge Rd. northbound. We are 5 miles from the exit, on the RIGHT side, before the corner of Trinity Pass.

3) *From I-95 going north:* Take exit 7 (Greenwich Ave. / Rte 137). Go straight through the first intersection at the end of the exit ramp, and turn LEFT at the next intersection onto Washington Blvd, Rte. 137. Stay on Washington Blvd until it ends, then turn LEFT onto High Ridge Rd, which is the continuation of Rte 137. After you pass under Rte. 15 (the only overpass) Shanti Bithi Nursery is 5 miles farther, on the RIGHT side. If you come to a sign that says "Welcome to New York," you passed us about ¼ mile back.

4) *From I-95 going south:* Take exit 7 (Atlantic St. / Rte 137). Go straight through the first intersection to second set of lights, and turn RIGHT onto Washington Blvd., Rte 137. Follow directions above from Washington Blvd

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COMING EVENTS

- June 3 10:00 am YAMA KI Bonsai Exhibit at Lasdon Park
- June 9 10:00 am *Colin Lewis* at Shanti Bithi
- July 14 12:00 pm Annual Meeting & Summer Auction
- July 15 10:00 am YAMA KI Bonsai Exhibit at Hammond Museum
- Aug 11 12:00 pm *John Romano* at Bartlett Arboretum

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