



YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

Learning from each other Sharing with the community”

August

2003

ANNUAL ELECTIONS & AUCTION AT HOME OF ANN & BERNI GASTRICH AUGUST 9, 2003 1:00 PM

Our August business meeting and auction is combined with a home visit at the *Gastrichs*. All members will enjoy *Ann & Berni's* beautiful home and garden and especially their bonsai collection and display. Their bonsai collection and setting is an inspiration for all of us. New members should schedule this meeting as a must - not only for the home visit, but to fill in their bonsai needs at minimal cost at the auction. All are welcome to come an hour early and picnic if the weather cooperates. Bring a chair and park on the road. There will be a guided tour of the Bonsai Collection at 12:30.

Many members have plants that do not “talk” to them and are not completely happy with the results of their styling. This presents opportunities for other members who can purchase the plants at auction prices, well below their market value, and then feel free to experiment and/or modify the styling dramatically. Some members take the auction opportunity to remove duplicate tools, containers, books, wire, etc. from their collections and receive tax credits for their donations. Many containers and some tools and books from *Marion Gyllenswan's* collection are already in hand for the auction. Bonsai created by some of our visiting artists during their demonstrations in the recent past will also be auctioned.

Members who have more expensive bonsai may elect to sell rather than donate their plants at the auction. In these cases, members may set a minimum bid and if the plant is sold, donate 10% of the proceeds to the club.

Marion's family is contributing most of her bonsai related possessions to the National Bonsai Foundation and the bonsai clubs in which she maintained memberships. Our auction proceeds of *Marion's* bonsai items will go to the National Bonsai Foundation toward a fund that has been started in her memory

Before the auction, we will hold elections for officers and directors whose terms have expired. The Nominating Committee has submitted the following slate for the elections at the August meeting:

- A: the continuation for another year of all the officers:

President	<i>Adam Hume</i>
Vice President	<i>James Glatthaar</i>
Treasurer	<i>Irving Kleiman</i>
Corresponding Secretary	<i>Mike Pollock</i>
Recording Secretary	<i>Gail Therrien</i>
- B: the nomination of *Kevin Goveia* and *Norman Geisinger* as directors to replace *Nicki Wallhofer* and *Anton Vukich*, whose 3-year terms have expired.

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, with the consent of the nominee. The following directors continue to serve the remainder of their 3-year terms: *Leonard Douglas, Arlene Quigley, Harry Saunders, and Cecelia Grieshaber*. In addition, the Board includes the immediate Past President, *Melba Grieshaber* and our Life-Time Directors: *Jerry Meyer* and *Ray Schiebar*.

THE POLLOCKS HOST JULY "MEETING"

Melba Grieshaber

On a beautiful, sunny July afternoon approximately two dozen YAMA KI members with several HoYoku members enjoyed a leisurely barbecue dinner at *Roz and Mike Pollack's* lovely home.

The gathering started off with a demonstration by *Colin Lewis* of carving using Dremel and Mikita tools. The HoYoku group had spent the day on jinn and shari on their personal trees, under *Colin's* guidance. The demonstration plant was a rescued yew, that had a tiny sprig of life on one side. *Melba* had gotten it from the dumpster across the street when some neighbor's had radical landscaping done last October. After cutting off a number of stubs, one long branch was carved to indicate a long period of rot, leaving a long comma-shaped (looking at a cross section of the branch) horizontal jinn. *Colin* worked on this piece as well as cutting back a lower branch stub for further carving. Most of the tree was lime-sulfured in the early afternoon after the bark had been cleaned off. Future plans include a phoenix graft if the yew doesn't survive.



After the carving demonstration in the shady driveway, we adjourned to the patio where a grill had been set-up and hotdogs, hamburgers, and chicken were in plentiful supply. There were new members, old members, and guests, all of whom enjoyed the meal and opportunity for conversation. Many thanks to *Roz and Mike* for their hospitality.

Colin Lewis at the Pollocks
Photo courtesy of Ann Gastrich

SPECIAL SEPTEMBER MEETING DAVID DEGROOT AND DINNER BARTLETT ARBORETUM - SEPTEMBER 22, 2003 @ 6:00 PM

David DeGroot, curator of the famous Pacific Rim Collection, will be visiting the east coast in September and we were able to reserve a date in his busy itinerary. The only date available to us was Monday, September 22nd. Rather than miss this opportunity, we have scheduled that evening for him to be our guest artist. His topic will be "Azalea Design and Refinement", including a demonstration on a carefully chosen azalea. Read more about his background in our next NEWSLETTER. Since it is a week-day, the Program Committee has arranged for a buffet dinner prior to his presentation. Dinner will be at 6:00 pm followed by *Mr. DeGroot*. The dinner and the presentation will be funded by our Education Fund.

YAMA KI's Pomeroy/Ackerman Memorial Education Fund was started many years ago by *Mike Ackerman* and *Dick Pomeroy*. The fund has grown through the years as people make contributions to honor or memorialize someone. The fund is invested and the interest earned is used for special programming - such as this special meeting.

We need to know approximately how many people will be at the dinner so that food is plentiful without waste. Please call *Phyllis Wishnick* (914.723.5369) or *Rhoda Kleiman* (212.724.7840) to tell us that you will attend or email *Irv* at irkleiman@rcn.com. Don't wait - call NOW!

LASDON ARBORETUM FLOWER SHOW

Margareta Limburg is organizing an educational bonsai exhibit for a flower show to be held at Lasdon Arboretum on August 15th and 16th. Members interested in seeing a district petite standard flower show ("Petite standard" means that all design and horticulture must be miniature or dwarf) should mark it on your calendar.

BACK TO BASICS WITH BERNI

Berni Gastrich

THIS OF ONE THOSE: “WHY DIDN’T I EVER THINK OF THIS BEFORE.”

For years I have carefully laid out my tools before working on a tree only to find that after a while I am spending time searching, each time I put one down and need a different one. Stupid, but exasperating.

While it is not a perfect solution, the following has helped tremendously. Wire handling tools, e.g. cutters and pliers go to the left of the tree. Trimming and wood cutting tools go to the right of the tree. [editor’s note: lefties reverse]. While my personal collection of tools would put a smile on Mr. Masakuni’s face, I find there are four tools, I use by far, the most: a wire cutter, wire handling pliers (also used in jin making), a pointed scissor, and a concave cutter. These are my closest left and right side tools. All related tools are put on the appropriate side but further out. Sounds almost stupidly simple doesn’t it? I predict you will remember this Basics more than any previous one, if you try it once!

Have you ever mixed your tools with those of others at a workshop? Solution: all hardware stores sell a special paint product for dipping handles. When dry it gives them a nice grippy feel, and it comes in colors! Pick a color and do it.

YAMA KI/NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN BONSAI EXHIBIT

Mark the dates on your calendar for our bonsai exhibit at the New York Botanical Garden. Set-up will take place on Thursday, October 16th. The exhibit will run until the end of the week-end following, Sunday, October 26th. Plan the dates when you can volunteer as docent and earmark the bonsai in your collection that you wish to prepare as a candidate for the exhibit. If possible, bring the plant to the August or September meeting for the Committee to consider. Don’t be shy! If it is difficult to bring to the meeting, submit a photograph and if it appears to be suitable, the Committee will come to your home to make the evaluation. The process can help elevate your skills and sensitize your artistic talents further.

YAMA KI’s motto is stated in our masthead: “Learning from each other - - - Sharing with the community,” Volunteering as a docent is exactly that! You learn and share - and, as a by-product, encourage interest in bonsai and in YAMA KI. Please do your share.

HELEN HASSELRIIS TO DISPOSE OF HER BONSAI COLLECTION

Helen Hasselriis’ macular degeneration has suddenly accelerated to the point where she can no longer maintain her bonsai collection. Regretfully, she wishes to place her cherished plants with knowledgeable bonsai enthusiasts. If you are in the market for additions to your collection (especially mame and tropicals), call *Helen* for an appointment. Her phone number is (718) 268-1540 or email her at hasselriis@aol.com.

LOST & NOT FOUND!

Lucille Miller called to report that three bonsai were stolen from her home in Port Chester: Unfortunately, we don’t have pictures, but let us know if you see any plants for sale that approximate the following:

- Twin trunk Juniper (from Yuji Yoshamura’s collection)
- Forest of miniature Hanoki Cypress (5 trees with a black and gray rock from Japan)
- Large Sargent Juniper, classic informal style in a brown scalloped pot

OFFICERS

Adam Hume President
Jim Glatthaar Vice-President
Irv Kleiman Treasurer
Mike Pollock Corresponding Secretary
Gail Therrien Recording Secretary

Co-Editors: Rhoda & Irv Kleiman

© YAMA KI BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.
<http://www.yamakibonsai.org>

COMING EVENTS

- Aug 9 Annual meeting and summer auction at the home & garden of the *Gastrichs*.
- Sept 22 Dinner & *David DeGroot* at the Bartlett Arboretum
- Oct 4 YAMA KI'S 30th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
- Oct 16 - 26 YAMA KI - NY Botanical Garden Bonsai Exhibit

YAMA KI BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.
165 West End Avenue - 12D
New York, NY 10023