



# YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

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

December

2002

## HOLIDAY PARTY SET FOR DEC. 14 NOON at the BARTLETT ARBORETUM

Are you a take-outer? A baker? A cook? A food stylist as well as bonsai stylist? Do you enjoy eating? Snacking? Nibbling? Noshing? Grazing? Eat to live or live to eat? ANY and ALL of the preceding require your presence at YAMA KI’s annual holiday festivities and semi-annual auction.

Please call *Phyllis Wishnick* at 914-723-5369 tell her what morsels you are bringing to our luncheon. Members have already bespoken: lasagne, spiral ham, some salad, a cheese cake, punches. Much more is needed to feed our artistic souls, but it really helps *Phyllis* and the elves to know in advance what you are bringing. Please call as soon as you can.



December 2000 “Viewing the left-overs”

Having filled our biological need, the afternoon’s activities will move to the aesthetic side of our beings and we will hold our winter solstice auction. That means you are urged to bring other items: plant material (styled or pre-bonsai), tools, soil, wires, containers and trays, books, magazines, turntables. calendars, scrolls - anything of interest to the bonsai community. Also, bring your cash or checkbook to take advantage of the prices of the items offered at the auction. New members especially can inexpensively build their collection of plants and equipment. Those of you who have had difficulty with a particular specie, can try again - without financial worry.

Remember, 14 DECEMBER, 12 NOON, at the Bartlett Arboretum  
COME CELEBRATE!

### MARTY SCHMALENBERG - PITCH PINE CONNOISSEUR

On a beautiful Indian Summer afternoon in early November, *Marty Schmalenberg* came east from Pennsylvania with a collected Pitch pine tree as his demonstration material. He started the program with a set of slides to introduce himself to us, his lifestyle which is inseparable from his bonsai philosophy, and the secret area in which he collects his trees.

*Marty’s* wife, Christine, is an artist and drew “finished” bonsai. He is very partial to encourages creative freedom and introduce motion and dynamic pine is material which lends itself to

When coating jin, he uses guash with uses is Akadama exclusively. He 2.3.2 fish emulsion containing kelp. from bioorganics.com. It costs year shelf life. Since the bottle is large, will survey members who are willing to



*Marty’s* conception of the the literati style because it requires the artist to “economic” styling. Pitch literati.

lime sulpher. The soil he fertilizes primarily with a The fertilizer is available \$80/container and has a 2- at the December meeting we share a bottle.

After creating a fine bonsai *Marty* suggested keeping the tree in the box in which he brought it for one more year, then cleaning the roots before putting it in a bonsai pot.



At the start



“Times Up!”



Berni & Christine helping Marty

## BACK TO BASICS WITH BERNI

*Berni Gastrich*

### WINTER AGAIN

By now your trees should be in their winter quarters. Junipers, Scots, Pitch pines, Eastern white cedar and a few others can stay out fully exposed all winter.

Yet, if your trees are accessible, it can be a very busy and creative time. It is much easier to prune deciduous trees when they are bare of leaves. The branching really shows and decisions are much easier. Wiring is also easier. Wire EVERYTHING but leave the RADICAL bends for springtime. If you crack a branch now, there will be no healing till spring and the branch may die. For the same reason treat all cuts with cutpaste. Since there will be no callous formation till spring, you must protect the cuts from dryout.

It is perfectly OK to bring a tree in to the house to enjoy at your dinner table, but only for a few hours. The sight of one of your bonsai at dinner makes winter more bearable.

### NOTES FROM NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> BOARD MEETING

After reports by *Lucille Miller* and *Berni Gastrich* (our NY Botanical Garden Exhibit co-chairs) and a further discussion and evaluation of our last exhibit, it was tentatively decided that the two weeks of the exhibit was too long. Many plants suffered and there was not adequate docent coverage for the extended period. *Melba Grieshaber* agreed to serve as temporary Exhibit Chairperson and will discuss our constructive criticisms and suggestions with the Garden.

A new Exhibit Committee was created with the overall responsibility for all exhibits. *Gail Therrien* and *Berni Gastrich* agreed to serve as Co-Chairs of this Committee, with both Lasdon Park and the NY Botanical Garden and as the most immediate events

The resignation of *Anton Vukich* created a vacancy for the remainder of his term of 8 months. *Berni Gastrich* was appointed to fill the vacancy.