



# YAMA KI NEWSLETTER

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

October

2002

## YAMA KI AGREES TO EXTEND BONSAI EXHIBIT AN ADDITIONAL WEEK

At the request of the New York Botanical Garden, our bonsai exhibit will be on display from Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. We will start setting-up around noontime on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Because of the time required, there will be no regular meeting this month. Our next meeting will be at our normal time (1:00 pm), at our usual place (the Education Building at the Bartlett Arboretum) on the usual date (the second Saturday of the month, i.e., November 9<sup>th</sup>).

## YAMA KI AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

*Lucille Miller*

You are needed!! Now !! It is October and the YAMA KI BONSAI SOCIETY exhibits, again, at the Enid Haupt Conservatory at the NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN'S Fall Festival. ALL members are asked to participate. If you are a new member or new to bonsai, don't be nervous, other members will walk you through the routines.

Please call me, *Lucille Miller*, co-chair of the exhibit committee, at (914)-934-0613 to indicate the times you will help. We need hands to help at set-up on Friday, October 4 around noontime and at take-down, Sunday, October 20 as well as docents for the entire time of the exhibit, each day from 10:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Docents are needed in minimum 2 hour shifts as follows:

Sundays: October 6, 13, and 20 (take-down will be about 4:00 pm)  
Monday: October 14 (Columbus Day)  
Tuesdays: October 8 and 15  
Wednesdays: October 9 and 16  
Thursdays: October 10 and 17  
Fridays: October 11 and 18  
Saturdays: October 5, 12, and 19

You may park without charge; tell the gate attendant that you are working the bonsai exhibit in the Conservatory. Usually you can park right near there.

As in the past, NYBG will have security guards available all day, every day. In addition, this year they will help with the watering at day's end.

Encourage friends, relatives and acquaintances, employees and employers, plant lovers, bonsai devotees, and sculpture aficionados to attend. This year part of the sculpture collection from the Museum of Modern Art is on display in the courtyard just outside our exhibit area.

## IN MEMORIAM - CONRAD PALMER

For those members who have not heard, with deep regret we report that *Conrad Palmer*, a long-time Yama Ki member and former member of the Board of Directors, tragically died in a gas explosion at his condominium complex in mid-August. We will miss his quiet humor, earnestness, and warmth.

## MIDATLANTIC BONSAI SOCIETIES

*Gail Therrien & Lucille Miller*

As YAMA KI's new representative and alternate to MABS, we attended the September 21st Board meeting in New Jersey. We found that for the first time in a while several clubs sent their full representation (2 reps and an alternate). This may have to do with the excitement engendered by the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival to be held April 11-13, 2003.

The weekend will open with a joint presentation by three of the first Festival's presenters, Dr. *David Andrews*, *Chase Rosade* and *William N. Valavanis* using 18 Shimpaku junipers. There will be two exhibit rooms and a special committee is working out plans for the materials and presentations.

*Kunio Kobayashi* from Japan, translated by *Mieko Kubata*, will be the headliner, working on Shimpaku, Yew, and his choice of Robusta or Rocky Mountain juniper at lecture demonstrations. His workshop will be a "Bring-Your-Own" and he will offer a Critique of the Exhibits.

*Ms. Patrizia Cappelaro De Martino* (Italy), translated by *Solita D. Tafur Rosade*, will present lecture/demonstrations with Scots pine and Juniper. She too will offer a Critique of the Exhibits and a "Bring-Your-Own" workshop.

*Colin Lewis*, whose "other-side-of-the-pond" English may not need translating, will design a group planting of Hornbeam on a slab. He also offers a Critique of the Exhibits. His workshop, building upon his lecture/demonstration will be a "Deciduous Group Planting" of Trident maple trees in an 18" mica pot for the forest.

Of course there will be a banquet with an auction. The Auction Committee has already purchased some material to supplement the contributions of members and vendors.

And the Board even began to select artists for the 2004 Festival.

This year YAMA KI probably will not have an artist from MidAtlantic unless our membership indicates a willingness to have a weeknight meeting either before or after the April 11-13 weekend. Let one of us, or *Jim Glatthaar* or *Rhoda Kleiman* know your preference. We could possibly have *Ms. Cappelaro De Martino* or *Colin Lewis*.

The registration brochures will be mailed to every member in December.

Treasurer's note: Any excess of revenue over costs and expenses of the Festival is divided among the member clubs based on the attendance of the individual clubs' members.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Adam Hume*

Following a muddy, but worthwhile visit to *Gail Therrien's* new garden, we began our formal programming for the new year with a major presentation by an artist new to YAMA KI and a returnee friend -- *Walter Pall* and *Jim Doyle*. It was a pleasure to have such a good membership turnout for studying with these two pros.

*Jim Glatthaar*, our Vice-President and Program Chair, has planned a very full program by following our bonsai exhibit at the New York Botanical Garden in October (our longest show), with *Marty Schmalenberg* in November using a (probably) collected Pitch pine; Holiday luncheon festivities and auction in December; Sean Smith to teach us how to design daiza for viewing stones in either January or February; and a "local" program in the other month. March we'll have a work-on-my-own-need tree workshop, possibly repotting late in the month with *Chris Peterson*. MidAtlantic 2003 Spring Festival starts April 11th, and, I hope, most members will attend. The first weekend in May *Horst Krekler* returns for a presentation, and in June we'll celebrate the year with our annual meeting and semi-annual auction. *Jim* will announce the July and August plans in the next few months.

2003 is YAMA KI's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Will some members come forward to serve on a Planning Committee to arrange an appropriate celebration? Call me at (718) 543-5232.

I urge you to please make your commitment immediately to serve as docent during the weeks of our exhibit at the

New York Botanical Garden. Please call *Lucille Miller*, (914) 934-0613 to tell her when you will cover. Remember that we open on Saturday, October 5, 10:00 am. I look forward to working with you.

Once again, I want to thank you for your confidence in me and trusting me with the stewardship of YAMA KI. It is an honor, and I pledge to do my best.

## WALTER PALL'S AND JIM DOYLE'S FULL DAY VISIT

*Mike Pollack*

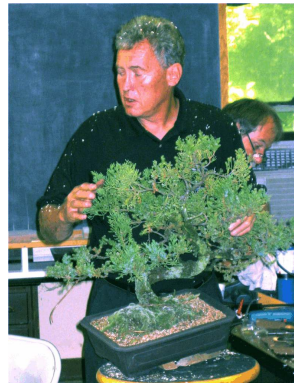
*Walter Pall* and *Jim Doyle* visited Yama Ki on September 14th for an enjoyable demonstration and workshop. *Walter* has been coming to the US from Germany for several years. Recently, he has been teaming up with *Jim Doyle* of Nature's Way nursery (Harrisburg, PA) to travel the US. In addition to doing demonstrations and workshops, the two friends make time for collecting trips to the West. *Walter* reciprocates by hosting *Jim* in Germany. Each has his own trees in the other's country awaiting their visits.

Yamadori, collected trees, are *Walter Pall's* passion. His collection at home includes more than 1,000 trees, virtually all collected material. Yamadori interests *Pall* because he prefers "non-traditional" trees. "Cookie-cutter" trees, classically styled trees that resemble one another more than trees in nature, no longer hold interest for him. "How many times can you design the same tree," he asked? Creating bonsai that capture the spirit of an aged mountain tree is his goal.

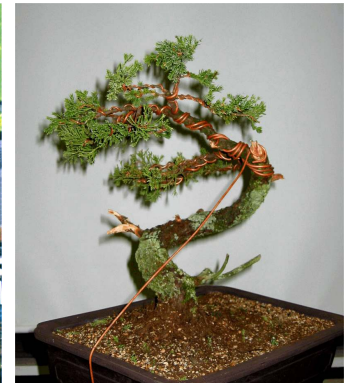
The demonstrations were performed on two trees donated by YAMA KI Program Chair, *Jim Glatthaar*. A collected Rocky Mountain spruce was the first to be styled. *Walter* says he always looks for the smallest tree he can find in his material. The smaller size emphasizes the trunk's diameter. Working closely with *Jim*, *Walter* proceeded to reduce a 30 inch tall tree to about 7 inches. At times it looked more like a power tool demonstration than bonsai. After reducing the tree's size, *Walter* created jin and shari with a rotary tool and different cutting bits. He then aged the carved areas with a large torch; quickly helping the tree lose its "just styled" image.

The second tree was a San Jose juniper with a beautifully curved trunk. This tree also finished up smaller and looking like it had led a tough life in the mountains. Creating dead wood from unneeded branches mimics the trees they see in nature. An added benefit is reducing the number of open wounds on the bonsai.

This synopsis barely does justice to the entertaining and provocative style of *Walter Pall*. Don't miss a chance to see his trees or attend one of his presentations.



San Jose juniper



San Jose - after

Some tips from *Pall* and *Doyle*:

- ✿ Amass a collection of different bits for carving tools. Creating the detail in convincing-looking dead wood requires different cutting edges and sizes.
- ✿ Always get permission to collect trees from the wild.
- ✿ Know how to work with yamadori material and keep it alive before collecting too many.
- ✿ Buy already acclimated yamadori to help build up this expertise.
- ✿ Collecting from the wild is almost a sport in itself - a separate endeavor.

Finally, he emphasized that all of these techniques are learned by doing them, not just reading or watching.



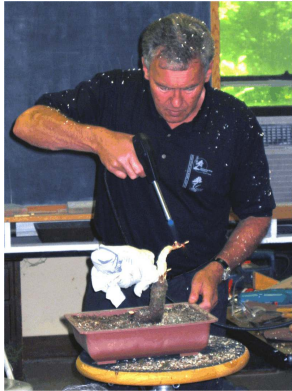
Rocky Mt. Spruce - before



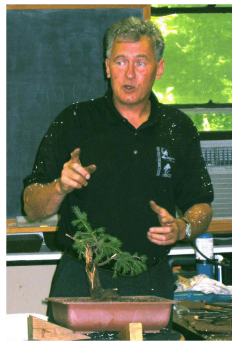
Walter & Jim - "What now?"



Creating & carving dead wood



Burning



Almost - - -



"Finished"

Photos by *Mike Pollack*

### ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

"Would you be so kind as to place the enclosed announcement in your upcoming issue of the Yama Ki Newsletter? It is part of a public awareness campaign being conducted by the University of Vermont Entomology Research Laboratory and New England State Foresters.

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) is an exotic insect pest that threatens the health of hardwood forests in the United States. The beetle was accidentally introduced into New York City and Chicago in the late nineties, where it has destroyed almost 7,000 trees. ALB feeds on a number different tree species, favoring maple but also attacks horsechestnut, willow, birch, poplar and many more. This broad host range, makes the pest particularly dangerous to the forests of Massachusetts.

Bonsai trees can act as a vector! A close cousin of ALB, the Citrus longhorned beetle, was found infesting bonsai trees in Washington state, so it is imperative to get this information out to bonsai enthusiasts.

The Asian longhorned beetle is well suited for involving the public and in its detection. It is a large beetle with distinctive markings that leaves characteristic signs, which people can readily see and identify. Most of the initial ALB infestations have been found by the public, not pest specialists. It is impossible for official inspectors to check every tree. For this reason, enlisting assistance from the public is essential to detecting infestations early.

We would like to employ your help in preventing the Asian Longhorned Beetle from becoming established in New England. The announcement is another unique way to distribute information about this terrible pest.

For more information please link to the Asian longhorned beetle web site at: [www.uvm.edu/albeetle](http://www.uvm.edu/albeetle)

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

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**COMING EVENTS**

Oct	4-20	Yama Ki Bonsai Exhibit at the New York Botanical Garden
Nov	9	Marty Schmalenberg Lecture/Demonstration
Dec	14	Annual Holiday Party & Auction