



# YAMATO BONSAI KAI

“FRIENDSHIP THROUGH BONSAI”

Since 1968

Newsletter - September 2010



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

By Tony Hayworth— President

Hello Yamato Bonsai Kai members.

This month's newsletter will focus on getting ready for the Fall Show. Please be ready to roll up your sleeves and pitch in where you can. There is always a task or two that you can help and volunteer for.

All trees should be of a specific and recognizable bonsai style and you should have a dai (stand). Everyone should try to have something to display if it is ready. The club's strength is its members old and new. If you are new and have something that is ready, then let's show it!

How is your favorite tree progressing for the show? Make sure you are doing everything to ensure it's a healthy tree for the event and in the best shape possible.

This year's Fall Exhibition and Demonstration will be different from past years. We only have the hall for two days. This means that setup will be on Saturday morning 16 October and the Exhibition will open at 2PM for viewing. Our Saturday demo will be at 7PM, Sunday will be the normal 10 AM open with the demo starting at 1:30 PM.

I want to encourage you all to come to the September 21<sup>st</sup> Club meeting. The Board will have an important agenda item to discuss with the general membership regarding the venue for our monthly meetings. Your input is most important so be there to weigh in on the topic.

## AT THE NEXT CLUB MEETING...

On Tuesday, **September 21st**, Sensei Uchida will discuss October show preparation. Don't miss this club meeting event.

PLACE: Castro Valley Women's Club,  
18330 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, CA

Note: All Club Meetings start at 7:00 PM.

## CLUB DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULE—2010

**October 19** – October show discussion

**November 16**– Demonstration on collected trees, how to carve trunks and branches

**December 21** – Pruning and shaping deciduous trees



## SENSEI UCHIDA'S NOTES

By Johnny Uchida – Club Sensei

Dear member, the bonsai show time is coming up about 30 days our fall show. We want to be very colorful, we want pink, red, and yellow more than other color. If you think you have color bonsai, we like to see that so bring them to next meeting. Of course we want the green colored trees too, black pine, shim-paku, green cedar, and blue atlas cedar. Many other kind too, we like to see that.

I would like trees that you think would be good for the show to be critiqued. Please bring them and also we have so many other things to talk about, so please attend the meeting. This year looks like a very late

summer so something. Watch out for Indian summer you have to watch your watering, especially show trees need very special care. For deciduous tree no more fertilizer but for evergreen trees. If they need a little green just give them a little bit Miracle Gro, then water good. Please don't give too much Miracle Gro.

Sometimes on very hot days watering is very important so watering I leave up to you. Especially maples don't let them burn. I will see you at the meeting.

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## **YAMATO FALL SHOW UPDATE**

By Michael Butler-Show Chairman

The 39th Annual Yamato Bonsai Show is only weeks away, even less by the time you all read this.

I have been in contact with Sensei and have been requested to advise everyone that it is time to start bringing in your show trees for approval. Please bring them either to Grove Way or to the coming meeting on September 21st. This meeting has been set aside for show tree critiquing.

We will also have a signup sheet at the meeting for everyone to list the variety of tree they are planning on displaying this year. This will make it easier for Sensei to determine which trees he needs to prepare.

If you have not received tickets for sale or need more please contact Karen Paulos. Remember, this is the only fundraiser that we as a club conducts each year. So please sell or purchase as many tickets as you can. Besides the demo trees this year are fantastic. Sensei has out done himself on the material.

Dennis Hawkins who will have tags and inventory control sheets available at the next meeting for the Plant Sale. It is up to each member that has plants for sale to tag each tree and to complete the inventory control sheet. The club gets 20% of each item sold. You may also make your item a donation to the club if you so wish. Items in the plant sale do not have to be trees though they must be Bonsai related.

Thee Kole is requesting contact from members as soon as possible if they will donate trees or Bonsai related items (tools, books, magazines, pots etc). Again, this year the silent auction be a 100% donation to Yamato Bonsai Kai. If needed Dave Barron will have donation forms available at the show.

If you have trees that are too big for your vehicle or trees that you cannot handle by yourself please contact Richard Paulos at least two weeks prior to the show, October 1st is the last day. We need this lead

time to schedule a route for Richard.

We hope everyone will donate some small (or big) item for the raffle after each demo. We are hoping for about 20 to 25 items each day. Please let Jack Ellis know if you are planning on donating items.

As of September 3rd we have 3 people signed up for the workshop. We have room for 9 more. The workshop is on Sunday from 8AM to 11 AM. We can accommodate 10-12 people, so if you are planning on taking the workshop contact me as soon as you can. The cost is the same as last year \$75. We need payment as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

The signup sheets will be available at the September meeting for those that have not signed up yet. I know a lot of you automatically help but by signing the sheets takes a lot of stress off me.

I want to thank all of you for the support you have given me as YOUR show chairman.

If anyone has questions or suggestions please contact me.

Thanks again and see you at the September meeting.

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## **Bonsai Basic**

By Noah Hanna

It's hard to believe it's September already. We're only a month away from the fall show. Things will be slowing down in the growing cycle but don't hang up your watering nozzle just yet.

Deciduous trees should be changing colors soon, but the way the weather has been going this year who knows how things will go? I woke up last night to the sound of rain but today it's clear and warm out.

Don't take anything for granted, you should be checking your trees daily. Don't assume a light shower means your tree is "watered", and don't assume that mild fall weather means you should keep watering like it's summertime. The only way to be sure is to get out and check all your trees, pick it up and see if it's heavy with saturated soil and stick a finger or a chopstick into the soil to see if the roots are getting water.

Deciduous trees should be getting little or no Nitrogen so they can properly go dormant. Evergreens are a little more flexible, but you should not fertilize them

heavily as they approach dormancy.

Now is your last chance to provide proper care for your show trees. Make sure they're not lacking water or exposed to strong winds, sun, etc that will stress them prior to the show. If you aren't sure what you should be doing with your show tree make sure to talk to an experienced member. If you haven't brought your tree in to be critiqued make sure to bring it in to the meeting or into Grove Way nursery.

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## NEWBY NEWS

By Dennis Hacker

Here I was, proud as anything about my Shohin Olive tree. It looked beautiful to me. A little darker on the limbs than I remembered, but it was a little older and I thought it was aging. My friend, Ralph, came over to the house for a party and as he looked, he asked why the tree was turning black! I picked it up and lo and behold, it was black! Not only were the limbs black, but so were the leaves. What could it be? I found out it was scale insects!

### What are Scale insects?

Scale insects are quite old as a species. They look like little shields of either black or brown. I found out that the blackness was due to them defecating/poohing and boy did I have a lot of them on the trunk and limbs. The following is from Wikipedia: 'Scale insects are in the order of Hemiptera and in the superfamily Coccoidea. It is estimated that there are over 8000 species of scale insects.



### Ecology

Most scale insects are [parasites of plants](#), feeding on [sap](#) drawn directly from the plant's vascular system. A few species feed on fungal mats and [fungi](#), e.g., some species in the genus *Newsteadia* in the family Ortheziidae. Scale insects vary dramatically in their appearance from very small organisms (1–2 mm) that occur under wax covers (some look like oyster shells), to shiny pearl-like objects (about 5 mm), to creatures covered with mealy wax. Adult female scales are almost always immobile (aside from [mealybugs](#)) and permanently attached to the plant they have parasitized. They secrete a [waxy](#) coating for defense; this coating causes them to resemble , hence the name.

Scale insects feed on a wide variety of [plants](#), and many scale species are considered [pests](#). Some types are economically valuable, such as the [Polish cochineal](#), and [lack scales](#). Scale insects' waxy covering makes them quite resistant to [pesticides](#), which are only effective against the first-[instar nymph crawler](#) stage. However, scales are often controlled with [horticultural oils](#), which [suffocate](#) them, or through biological control.

Scale insects sometimes live symbiotically with ants.

### Description

Female scale insects, unusually for Hemiptera, retain the immature external morphology at sexual maturity ([neoteny](#)). Adult males have wings but never feed and

die within a day or two. Male scale insects are unusual in possessing only one pair of wings, thus making them resemble [true flies](#) (Diptera), though they lack the [halteres](#) (rudimentary hind wings) seen in flies, and have tail filaments, which do not occur in flies. The specifics of their reproductive systems vary considerably within the group, including [hermaphroditism](#) and at least seven forms of [parthenogenesis](#).'

Here is some information from the University of Rhode Island Landscape Horticultural newsletter:

“Scale insects feed on plant sap. They have long, threadlike mouthparts (stylets) which are six to eight times longer than the insect itself. Scale feeding slowly reduces plant vigor; heavily infested plants grow poorly and may suffer dieback of twigs and branches. An infested host is occasionally so weakened that it dies. Scales often secrete a sticky honeydew which is attractive to wasps and ants and which supports the growth of black sooty molds.

#### **Control:**

Scale insects are generally controlled by natural enemies, including tiny parasitic wasps and predators such as ladybugs. It is very common for ladybugs to move onto a plant with a growing scale infestation; before deciding upon treatment, look for adult and immature ladybugs on your plants. Dormant oil treatments can be used against almost all scale problems and are generally applied in very early spring, before bud break. Summer oils can also be very effective against most scales, but as with dormant oils, some plants are sensitive to these treatments. Check labels to make sure your plant is not harmed by the oil treatment you are considering. Most other insecticides, including insecticidal soaps, can be used only against the mobile crawler stage of scales since adult scales are protected from insecticides by a waxy covering. These treatments are very effective, but must be carefully timed as crawlers are only active for a limited period.



#### **Armored Scales**

##### **(Homoptera: Diaspididae)**

Scale insects can be roughly divided into two groups: armored scales and soft scales. Armored scales secrete a protective cover over their bodies. Most species of armored scales overwinter as eggs beneath the female cover. In spring, these eggs hatch into tiny mobile crawlers which migrate to new feeding sites. The crawlers settle after a few days, insert their mouthparts in the plant, and begin to feed. Soon they secrete a protective cover and lose their legs. Large populations can build up before plants begin to show visible symptoms. Our most common armored scale pests are described and illustrated below.

##### **San Jose Scale (*Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*)**

Mature scales are circular, slightly convex and smoky black. They are about 2 mm (1/16 inch) long. A conspicuous, dark gray, concentric ring is visible under a magnifying glass. San Jose scale is perhaps the most widely distributed and most destructive scale insect pest of fruit trees, shade trees and ornamental shrubs in the United States. Over 60 host plants are known, including apple, pear, peach, cherry, ash, poplar, lilac, elm, willow, pyracantha and cotoneaster. There are at least three generations a year; broods often overlap, making treatment of crawlers difficult. Both dormant oils and summer oils are effective.

### **Oystershell Scale** (*Lepidosaphes ulmi*)

These scales are shaped like the shell of an oyster. They are chestnut to dark brown, sometimes with lighter transverse bands. Infested twigs are often completely encrusted with scales. This is a common and destructive pest of over 120 different species of fruit trees, shade trees, and woody ornamental shrubs. Hosts include apple, lilac, dogwood, boxwood, birch, elm, sycamore, viburnum and many others. Eggs hatch in late May. Use a dormant spray in April or treat crawlers between late May and mid-June.

### **Pine Needle Scale** (*Chionaspis pinifoliae*)

Mature scales are pure white and shaped like oyster shells. Pine needle scales are common and serious pests of ornamental pines and various spruces. Less preferred hosts include hemlock and fir. Ornamental plants, Christmas tree plantations and nursery stock are more frequently infested than forest trees. In heavy infestations, needles may be completely whitened by a continuous layer of scales. Use dormant or summer oils against adults or treat crawlers when lilacs are in bloom.

**Euonymus Scale** (*Unaspis euonymi*) I just figured out that this is what is making my Euonymus sick!!!!

Females are pear-shaped and blackish-brown. Males are elongate and white. This is a common and serious pest of evergreen euonymus, often causing defoliation and dieback. Pachysandra and bittersweet are also suitable hosts. There are two generations per year. Crawlers are active in early June and mid-July. Avoid use of *Euonymus japonica*, a highly susceptible species. Watch for a small black ladybug with 2 red spots which often provides good control of this scale.

### **Juniper Scale** (*Carulaspis juniperi*)

Females are round and dirty-white with yellow centers. Under a magnifying glass they resemble miniature fried eggs. Males are also white, but smaller and narrower. Hosts include junipers, arborvitae, incense cedar and cypress. Crawlers are active mid-June to early July.

### **Hemlock Scales** (*Abgrallaspis* spp.)

We have two species of hemlock scale--one is round and the other oblong. Both are brown and found on the undersides of needles of hemlock and occasionally on other conifers. These scales are usually effectively controlled with biological controls, but dormant or summer oils may be used when needed.

### **Soft Scales**

#### **(Homoptera: Coccidae):**

In general, soft scales are larger and more convex than armored scales. Many resemble miniature tortoise shells. Soft scales usually cover themselves with wax, but they lack the detachable protective cover for which armored scales are named. Most soft scales overwinter as immature, fertilized females. In spring they resume feeding, mature and lay eggs. These hatch into tiny crawlers. After locating suitable feeding sites, crawlers settle and begin feeding. Some species lose their legs once they've settled; others retain legs and are able to crawl short distances to find suitable overwintering sites in the fall. Except for those soft scales which infest indoor plants, most have only a single generation per year at our latitude. Our most common soft scale pests are described and illustrated below:

#### **Magnolia Scale** (*Neolecanium cornuparvum*)

Our largest scale insect, this species reaches 12 mm (1/2 inch) in length. Color ranges from dark brown to pink-orange and older scales are covered with a white waxy powder. This scale produces large amounts of honeydew and sooty mold. Treat with dormant oil in April or treat crawlers in October with two treatments seven to ten days apart.

#### **Fletcher Scale** (*Parthenolecanium fletcheri*)

Mature scales are dark brown, shiny and very convex. Arborvitae and yew are the most frequently attacked hosts, but pachysandra and Eastern red cedar are also susceptible. Honeydew excreted by the scales supports unsightly, sooty molds. There is one generation per year with crawlers active in late June through

early July. There are several effective parasites which are best conserved by using dormant oil treatment in late April.

### **Cottony Maple Scale** (*Pulvinaria innumerabilis*)

Large, conspicuous, white egg sacs are produced on the twigs and small branches of host plants. During summer, immature scales feed on leaves, but they migrate to twigs as fall approaches. Honeydew excreted by the scales supports unsightly, sooty mold growth. Cottony maple scale is most common on silver maple, but also found on other maples, boxelder, linden, black locust, red mulberry, white ash, apple, beech, cherry, dogwood, elm, hickory, holly, honeylocust, peach, plum, sycamore, willow and others. There is one generation per year with crawlers active in late June through July. Many maples are sensitive to oils--both dormant and summer. Check labels carefully or treat crawlers.

### **Oak Kermes Scale** (*Kermes galliformis*)

Mature scales are tan, globular and hard. They are easily mistaken for galls or buds. Oak is the only host. This species is not particularly injurious to host trees, but, if necessary, treat crawlers between late May and mid-July, or use a dormant oil in April.”

### **How do you treat Scale insects?**

They are easily crushed with one's fingernail. I believe you could eradicate them doing that, but it would be extremely time consuming. There had to be an easier way.

The easiest way is to use “insecticidal soap”. Mix according to the directions and the spray using a hand sprayer. I sprayed every other day. This spray won't kill the immature stages and for that you need an insecticide.

Do you have any diseases I should report on? Let me know: [anmleyez@comcast.net](mailto:anmleyez@comcast.net)



## **GSBF CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

(For a more complete list, please refer to Golden State-ments calendar of events or visit the web site at [www.gsbfbonsai.org](http://www.gsbfbonsai.org)).

Some nearby scheduled events are:

### **September 21 Ross, California**

Marin Bonsai Club Annual Auction: Marin Art and Garden Center, Livermore Room, 50 Sir Frances Drake Blvd. Viewing at 7PM; auction starts at 7:30PM. Specimen bonsai, pre-bonsai and everything in between, along with pots and bonsai related items will be auctioned. Checks and cash only; no credit cards. For more information, call Craig Thompson, 415-472-6685.

### **October 2 Salinas, California**

Salinas Bonsai Club: Annual Bonsai Exhibit will be held at the Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church, 536 Lincoln Avenue. Exhibit hours are from 11AM-4:00PM with a demonstration by Katsumi Kinoshita at 1:30PM. A raffle of the demonstration tree, and other bonsai related items will follow the demonstration. Tea and cookies will be served, and there is plenty of parking for group attendance. For more information contact: Don White, 831-724-9283; e-mail: [whiteslib@aol.com](mailto:whiteslib@aol.com), or Maggie Brubaker, 831-663-5044; e-mail: [maggee36@aol.com](mailto:maggee36@aol.com).

### **October 2 San Jose, California**

Midori Bonsai Club, 49th Annual Bonsai Show, Wesley United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 566 N. 5th Street. Saturday 10AM-5PM. A formal display of members bonsai trees. Bonsai demonstration by Peter Tea at 1PM, with a raffle after the demonstration. Show is in conjunction with San Jose's Spirit of Japantown Festival. Admission to the festival and the bonai show is free.

[www.spiritofjapantownfestival.com](http://www.spiritofjapantownfestival.com).

### **October 9-10 Oakland, California**

East Bay Bonsai Society: 49th Annual Bonsai Show at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. Hours are Saturday, 10AM-5PM, and Sunday, 11AM-4PM. Demonstration on Sunday at 1PM by Dave DeGroot, followed by a raffle of bonsai and related items. Large selection of bonsai and related materials on sale throughout the show. For more information contact Janice Dilbeck, 925-458-3845.

### **October 23-24 Sacramento, California**

Capitol City Bonsai Association: 11th Anniversary Show to support the GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt and the Sacramento bonsai clubs. Location is the Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. in McKinley Park. Show hours are Saturday, 10AM-5PM and Sunday, 10AM-4PM. Demonstration both days at 1:30PM by sponsor clubs with special bonsai raffle drawings to follow.

Vendor and club member sales areas. Contact is Gary Judd, 916-630-1340.

**October 26  
Sacramento, California**

American Bonsai Association: Annual Auction at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Doors open for preview at 6PM and the auction starts at 6:30PM. Sale items to include bonsai in various stages of development and many bonsai-related items, (i.e., stands, pots, accent plants, etc.). Only Club members are allowed to sell, but the public is welcome to bid. For more information email: [pbholtzen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pbholtzen@sbcglobal.net)

**October 28-31  
Santa Clara, California**

Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention XXXIII: "New Face of Bonsai." The "New Faces" will shape the Art of Bonsai for years to come with the guidance and vision of these new teachers, and the GSBF 2010 will be able to receive the new visions of bonsai and participate in the future of Bonsai. The July/Aug issue of Golden State-ments will contain convention registration information. For more information visit <http://www.gsbfcconvention.com>

**November 12-13  
Ross, California**

Marin Bonsai Club Fall show at the Marin Art and Garden Center, Livermore Room, 50 Sir Frances Drake Blvd. Hours are Friday, 5:30PM-10PM. and events include a dinner at \$5 per person; demonstration by Peter Tea, a silent auction and raffle. Saturday hours are 10AM-4PM and include ongoing demonstrations and raffles throughout the day, tree sales and vendors. For dinner reservations or more information, call Jeanette Arnold, 415-883-2651.



## YAMATO CLASSIFIEDS

Notice: *if you want to advertise something in this space, please compose your text and contact the Newsletter Editor.*

Pre-Bonsai and Bonsai - For Sale – Tony Hayworth has many bonsai and pre-bonsai material for sale... including some large landscape sized bonsai styled trees. These would make great focal points for any landscape or yard re-do projects that you may be planning. I am overstocked and want to move this material to a good home. Is that you? I have a few pots for cheap also.

Contact Tony Hayworth early for best selection.

Phone: 510-289-5731 or [bonsaicho@comcast.net](mailto:bonsaicho@comcast.net)

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## THIS MONTH ...

A very Happy Birthday to:

### September

17th – Karen Paulos  
27th – Michael Butler

Happy Anniversary and many more

13th – Allen & Marlene Hightower

## YAMATO BONSAI KAI – 2010 BOARD

President – Tony Hayworth	510-471-9238
Vice President – Karen Paulos	510-410-5782
Secretary – Emiko Rosenberg	510-537-0326
Treasurer – Dave Barron	510-657-6895
Director 2009/10 – Sandy Barron	510-657-6895
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Director 2010/11 – Carl Osterhom	925-274-1574
Director 2010/11 – Brad Sheldon	510-888-1139

## CONTACT US

If you need to mail anything to the club in general, please send to:

**YAMATO BONSAI KAI  
P. O. Box 2616  
Castro Valley, CA 94546-2616**

If there is anything you would like to contribute or comment on regarding the newsletter, contact the editor, Noah Hanna, at [noah@invalidargument.com](mailto:noah@invalidargument.com)

*If you have moved, or changed your email address, please notify Yamato Bonsai Kai, so that we may update our contact and mailing list information. Thank*

**YAMATO BONSAI KAI**

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