



## Bits and Pieces cont.

the Grand Rapids Press sometime this summer:

“The release of nearly 1,600 imported Chinese wasps to kill emerald ash borers ... has entomologists abuzz with excitement.

“After years of preparation, the parasitic wasps were released near East Lansing and in Holly, north of Detroit. Like native wasps, most die with a hard freeze.

“As long as the days stay warm, they’ll continue to be able to parasitize the emerald ash borer. [Shouldn’t be a problem this fall!]”

“Though only the size of a sesame seed, the stingerless wasps lay eggs in immature ash borers or in ash borer eggs, killing the eggs or larvae before they can become beetles. Baby wasps emerge from their hosts three weeks later, fly off and repeat the cycle.

“The emerald ash borer ... is in more than half of Michigan’s 83 counties. It is blamed for killing about 30 million ashes, roughly 4 percent of Michigan’s ash tree population.

“(The wasps) post no threat to humans. They zero in on the emerald ash borer, and only if the borer is in ash trees.”

Besides, how much will we see of them if they’re only the size of a sesame seed?

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Some ideas that came from our last meeting:

1. Using a fertilizer that is high in nitrogen (the first number) will help to make foliage really green. Don’t use it at this time of year though – we don’t want

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for displaying their beauty. I’ve used large black plastic plates I bought at Meijer, with sand in a similar color to the predominant one in the stone. You can use anything that won’t detract from the beauty of the stone itself.

So bring what you’ve been collecting all these years and share them with us!

The show itself is, as always, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, and Noon to 5:00 PM Sunday. It’ll be in the Brewer and Michigan B rooms in the lower level at Meijer Gardens. The people at the Gardens have promised good signage so that the public can find us.

We will also have three vendors this year: myself with my pots, books, tools, etc.; CS Bonsai with plants and trees; and All Things Bonsai (Bob Goddard) with his hand-made planters and hopefully some plants and trees. So you’ll have plenty of opportunity to shop ahead, looking forward to spring, or stock up on what you need for your indoor trees.

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We’re also having our planning/elections meeting on Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 PM at the Gardens. I’m including an idea sheet with this newsletter to help get your brains started on planning events for 2008. Also, if you are interested in running for an office for 2008, please let me know ASAP. I mentioned this last month and didn’t hear from anyone, so this is your last chance!

## And in November

We’re still hoping to be able to have a Club auction in November, but are still looking for a site that is workable and fairly convenient to all members. And I’m still trying to find out if Frank Mihalic might be available to do a pines demo for us on Nov. 18. More next month.

With the November newsletter I will include proposed changes to our Club bylaws and a current copy of the bylaws. ***Please read the changes and if you have any suggestions or comments about any of them, please notify me ASAP.*** We will be voting on the changes at the November meeting. Those active members who are in attendance will constitute the quorum necessary to vote.

## All-State Show

Many of the changes to the bylaws have become necessary due to changes in how the Michigan All-State Bonsai Show will be organized. I had mentioned in our August newsletter that a committee will be set up to do the planning for the show. This Advisory Committee will be made up of members from all six (or seven) of the bonsai clubs/societies in Michigan, the show coordinator, and the coordinator from Meijer Gardens. The committee is vital since we always want this show to truly be an all-state show. We will be talking more about this at our October meeting, so please plan to be there so we can select a representative for the committee from our Club.

## Donations

A couple months ago I got an e-mail from a bonsaiist in South Haven who had moved there after having been a member of the Four Seasons (Detroit area) and the Ann Arbor bonsai clubs. He also contacted Eric Newton, president of the Kalamazoo club.

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### Bits and Pieces cont.

new growth now. By spring, I should be selling a different product that does the same thing.

2. When making a tanuki or deadwood planting, use Gorilla Glue to fasten the plant to the wood.

3. To treat deadwood so it won't rot, use white barn paint mixed 50-50 with water. Barn paint has a fungicide that will further protect the wood.

### More from *Bonsai – A Practical Guide To Aesthetics*

The book says this about displaying bonsai:

“The first criterion of quality in presenting a bonsai is cleanliness.

“Before showing a tree at an exhibition, the pot must be cleaned, cleared of calcium deposits (with household vinegar) and for unglazed pots, coated with a light layer of olive oil.”

[Accent plants, or *kusamono*, are often used in exhibits next to a single bonsai tree. It can be a small grass, a tiny flowering plant, or even a dandelion.]

“Kusamono and suiseki are used in exhibitions to create contrasts (ex: old pine tree + a flower which lasts a day).

“A suiseki is a stone sculpted by nature, presented either on a wooden base, or on a flat tray filled with water or sand. This stone is remarkable from its common brethren for its evocative power (mountain, landscape, animal, ideogram, abstract concept, etc.)”

Since the donator hadn't touched his trees for two years, he decided to get out of the hobby, and he wondered if our clubs could use any of what he had. I brought home a gorgeous larch forest, a single larch planting, and a couple of funky juniper cascades; a good selection of various sizes and colors of pots; and some really great books for our library. The trees and pots will be available for our auction, whenever we have it. The books will be available for checking out at our October meeting. Here are some of the titles:

*Basic Bonsai Design*  
*Bonsai from the Wild*  
*Bonsai Basics*  
*Dwarfed Potted Trees*  
*Bonsai-Special Techniques*  
*Indoor Bonsai*

*Japanese Gardens*  
*The Art of Flowering Bonsai*  
*The Four Seasons of Bonsai*  
*Bonsai Design*  
*Bonsai Workshop*  
*The Living Art of Bonsai*

This is really a huge and extremely generous addition to our library, so we now have a great selection of books for our members to choose from. You can take them out to read and gather information to use with your trees. Or you can take them out merely to find out if you'd like to purchase your own copy.

Incidentally, *Bonsai from the Wild* is the one by Nick Lenz that was out of print for many years and is very valuable. Nick did recently update the whole book and another version is now out.

### 2007 Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phones: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one:)

Active membership (\$25.00)       Inactive membership (\$6.00)

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Please make check out to:

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