



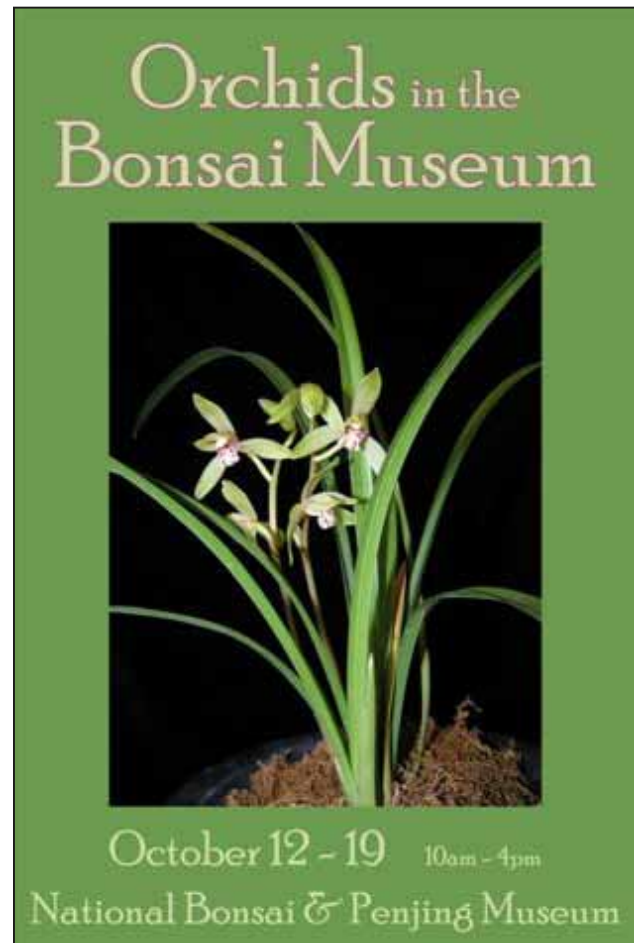
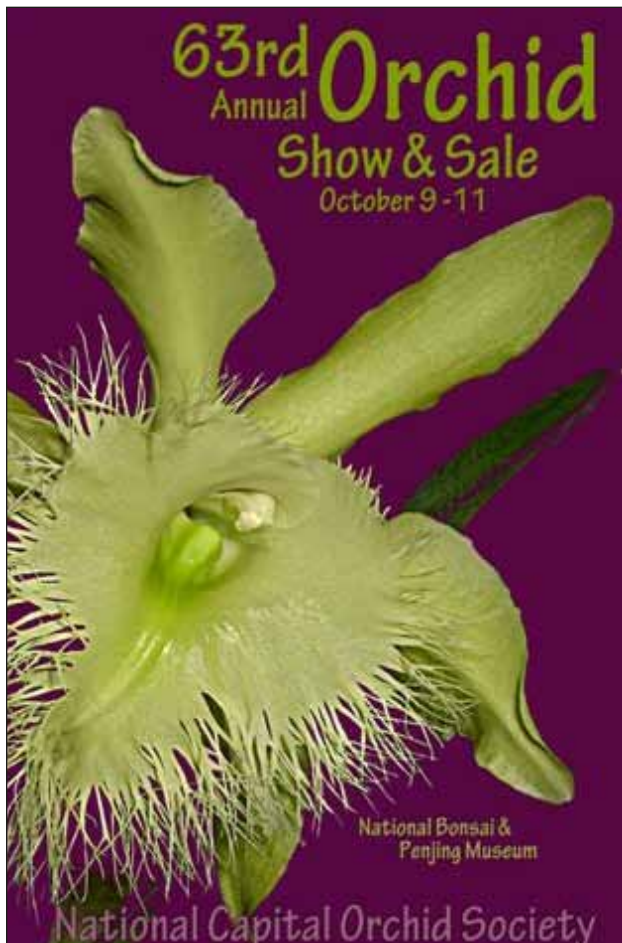
## Spectacular Orchid Show in the Museum

On Columbus Day weekend, the National Capital Orchid Society presented its 63rd Annual Orchid Show in the Mary E. Mrose International Pavilion at the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum. Traditionally this show is displayed in the National Arboretum's Administration Building, but because of the renovations to that building the show was moved to the Museum.

Thousands of orchid plants were installed for public viewing in every nook and cranny of the International Pavilion and its Special Exhibits Wing. This exhibit always draws thousands of visitors to the Arboretum grounds and this year was no exception. Only this time they were enticed into the Museum and for many it was their first exposure to the delights of the bonsai collections.

Following the weekend show, Assistant Curator **Kathleen Emerson-Dell** installed an exhibit that illustrated how a Chinese gentleman-scholar might have displayed his orchids for his own enjoyment and that of his friends. This show integrated objects from the Museum collections with orchids on loan from members of the National Capital Orchid Society.

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## President's Letter



Congratulations to **Dr. Colien Hefferan** on becoming the 6th Director of the U.S. National Arboretum. At this critical time of governmental budgetary constraints, Dr. Hefferan has been entrusted with charting the future of the National Arboretum. NBF, along with the Friends of the National Arboretum, looks forward to working with her on this all-important task. We are also delighted that Dr. Ramon Jordan, who during 2010 has served as Interim Director, will continue to manage the operations of the National Arboretum.

We also warmly welcome to the NBF Board **Yasuo Mitsuya** of Japan as an Honorary Director and **Benjamin Vinocour** of Washington, DC as a Director. Please see more information about both of these fine additions on p. 5.

With deep gratitude, we hold in our hearts the memories and enormous contributions of the following members of the NBF community who passed away recently: **Jack Cardon**, **Jules Koetsch** and **Jim Rieden**. Each of these men made a real difference in our lives and they will be greatly missed.

Finally, NBF's top priority continues to be the renovation of the 35-year-old Japanese Pavilion. A summary of the renovation plans has been translated into Japanese and Chinese, and distributed to potential donors through key bonsai and penjing leaders in the Far East. We are still in the "Quiet Phase" of our fundraising efforts for this project, and much work is still to be done to raise the estimated \$2 million cost of the renovation. We hope that in the coming year you will continue your generosity to NBF in support of our National Bonsai & Penjing Museum.

Best wishes for 2011!

*Felix*

## New Arboretum Director Appointed

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced on December 3, 2010 the appointment of **Dr. Colien Hefferan** as the sixth Director of the U.S. National Arboretum. Dr. Hefferan is the first woman to hold this position.

Prior to her appointment she served as advisor to the Director of USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture and before that she was the Administrator of the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service.

A native of Phoenix, Arizona, Dr. Hefferan has been an employee of USDA since 1979 and holds M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in economics from the University of Illinois.

**Dr. Ramon Jordan**, who served as Interim Director of the Arboretum following the retirement of **Dr. Thomas S. Elias** in December 2009, will continue to serve as an advisor to Dr. Hefferan on research and management issues.

## Spectacular Orchid Show—

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*Judging the Orchid Show.*



*Night set-up for Orchid Show.*



*Chinese Scholar Orchid Exhibit.*



*Orchids on Display.*

## Gloria Stuart

**G**loria Stuart, who was nominated for an Academy Award in 1997 for her performance in the film *Titanic*, died on September 26th. Her 100th birthday celebration in July was hosted by the movie's director **James Cameron** and his wife **Suzu Amis Cameron**.

She was a longtime member of the California Bonsai Society and had studied with **Frank Nagata**, **John Naka** and

**Frank Goya**. In August her black oak bonsai forest planting, which she had started from seed collected in France over 25 years ago, was displayed at the Nanpukai show in Los Angeles.

In 2005 Ms. Stuart attended the World Bonsai Friendship Federation convention in Washington D.C. and was an honored guest at the Museum banquet held at the National Arboretum.



*Gloria Stuart at the Huntington Library and Gardens with her cork bark elm.*

Photo: Cheryl Manning

## Museum Notes

- Kusamono teacher and Museum volunteer **Young Choe** left the staff of the U.S. National Arboretum and



Young Choe.

moved to Florida. Working with Assistant Curator **Kathleen Emerson-Dell**, Young designed kusamono for two acclaimed Museum exhibits: *Spring Kusamono* in 2008 and *The Art of Kusamono* in 2007. Ms. Choe also served on the NBF Board of Directors before accepting a position as Plant Propagator for the Arboretum. We hope that she will continue her work with the Museum from afar.

- Museum Gardener **Amy Forsberg** was married to **James Reaves** in Harford County Maryland on October 10th. Best wishes to Amy and James!
- Assistant Curator **Aarin Packard** and his wife **Emily** are the happy parents of **Ethan Anthony Packard** born on October 11th. Congratulations to the Packard Family!



Ethan Anthony Packard.

- **Thomas S. Elias**, an Honorary Director of NBF and the former Director of the U.S. National Arboretum, was conferred with the *Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette* by the Government of Japan in recognition of his career contributions in the enhancement of goodwill and understanding between Japan and the United States. Dr. Elias

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## Museum Losses

The bonsai community of the Museum has lost three important figures during the Fall of 2010.

- NBF Board Director and Museum Volunteer **John A. "Jack" Cardon** died at the age of 95 on November 13th after a short illness. Jack was an active volunteer in the Museum for many years up until his death and his trees were part of the special Museum show *Bonsai Invitational Exhibit featuring Three Local Artists* in 2007. See [http://www.bonsai-nbf.org/site/exh-3local\\_artists.html](http://www.bonsai-nbf.org/site/exh-3local_artists.html).

A native of Utah, he attended law school at the University of Cincinnati and was a senior partner in the law



Jack Cardon with Janet Lanman and his wife Edythe at the Kusamono Exhibit Reception in 2007.

firm of Lee, Toomey and Kent in Washington D.C. Jack served on the NBF Board of Directors since 2007 and he was a member of the Brookside Society of the Potomac Bonsai Association.

- **Brother James Rieden, SDS**, a long time volunteer in the Museum, died on September 2nd in Milwaukee. Jim was a missionary and served in Africa and the Philippines. Upon his return to the United States he studied sign language and worked at the National Children's Center in Washington D.C. A stained glass artist and photographer, he was also an officer of the Brookside Bonsai Society and a member of that organization for 20



Jim Rieden at work in the Museum.

years. Jim was always generous in propagating bonsai material for other club members and he loved creating *saikei* (tray landscapes).

- **Jules Koetsch**, a founding member of the Potomac Bonsai Association (PBA), died on November 12th. For over 20 years he was the editor of the PBA newsletter, *Clippings* and he was active in Washington bonsai circles since 1972. A supporter of the Museum from the beginning, he was honored by NBF at the Asian Arts Festival in 2001.

The passing of Jack, Jim and Jules leaves the Museum Community with very sad hearts but happy memories of past times.



Jules Koetsch in the Japanese Pavilion circa 1987.

## Museum Notes —

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- will be attending the NBF Board meeting in May and we will celebrate his honor then.
- In October, Curator **Jack Sustic** attended a *World Bonsai Friendship Federation* meeting in China that laid the groundwork for the 2013 *World Bonsai Convention*. On his trip he also made contacts with collectors and nurseries that might lead to future improvements to the Museum's Chinese Collection.
  - **Mike Roussel**, President of the Toronto Bonsai Association, paid his



Mike Roussel in the Museum.

first visit to the Museum for a day in early November.

- Two Chinese Scholar's Rocks from the Museum's collection will be on loan to the Smithsonian Institution in 2011. A *taihu* stone and a *lingbi* stone will be incorporated into a Chinese scholar's room to be displayed as part of the exhibit, *Orchids—A View from the East*, January 29–April 24, 2011, at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C.
- **Mimi and Richard Stiles**, founders of the Suiseki Interest Group in Washington State, visited the Museum to look over the stone collection in late October.



Mimi and Richard Stiles in the Autumn Exhibit.

## Dutch Photographers Visit the Museum

During the last week of October, the back room of the Yoshimura Center was turned into a studio by two Dutch documentary photographers, **Rob Wetzer** and **Sjoerd Knibbeler**. During their time here they photographed some of the Museum's trees, which will be included in *The Bonsai Project*, a work that involves interpreting the bonsai experience in a photo-documentary. The project is international in scope and thus far, in addition to the United States, they have photographed trees in Africa and China.

Updates on the *The Bonsai Project* can be found at <http://bonsaiproject.org/>.



Sjoerd Knibbeler and Rob Wetzer setting up.

## NBF Board Additions

There are two new additions to the NBF Board. **Yasuo Mitsuya** of Tokai-en in Toyohashi-City, Japan has been confirmed as an Honorary Director of NBF and **Benjamin Vinocour**, of Washington D.C., has been elected to the Board of Directors.



Yasuo Mitsuya.

- Mr. Mitsuya was the first Bonsai Master in Japan to take a foreigner as an apprentice. This was **Kathy Shaner** of California who was the first woman and the first foreign bonsai professional to complete a 5-year apprenticeship in Japan. In addition to Ms. Shaner, **Dennis Makashima**, **Cheryl Manning**, **Boon Mana-**

**kitvipart**, **David DeGroot** and **Gordon Deeg** have also studied under him.

His relationships with his American students brought him to the United States to do demonstrations and workshops, beginning with the Golden States Bonsai Federation Convention in 1984. Since that time he has traveled to the U.S. almost every year to work for one or two months, mainly in California but also in other areas of North America.

He was appointed by the Labor Union of Aichi Prefecture as a lecturer, a position that he held for 15 years. In 1995 at the request of the Japanese Ministry of Culture he came to the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum to work on the Japanese bicentennial gift of trees.



Benjamin Vinocour.

- Benjamin Vinocour began working with bonsai while in high school when he took his first bonsai class in his hometown of Rochester, NY with NBF Board Director, **William N. Valavanis**. Following graduation from Cornell University, he received wide exposure to *penjing* and viewing stones while living abroad in Southwestern China from 2002 to 2003. After returning to the United States, Ben moved to Northern California, where he developed an appreciation for the *yamadori* of the high Sierras. He has also traveled to Japan to visit some of the famous and historic nurseries there.

Now an attorney, his personal collection includes more than 50 bonsai as well as numerous suiseki. Ben has studied under many of today's masters including **Boon Manakitivipart**, **Suthin Sukosolvisit**, **Peter Warren** and **Larry Jackel**. He is also a member of the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society of the Potomac Bonsai Association.

As part of his work on the NBF Board, Ben will be overseeing the NBF Facebook page. See [http://www.bonsai-nbf.org/site/whats\\_new.html](http://www.bonsai-nbf.org/site/whats_new.html).

## Fall Fruit and Foliage Exhibit



Maple in the Fall Exhibit.



Halloween Tokonoma.

## New Acquisitions to Museum Collections

A new tree has been added to the North American Collection. **Jack Fried** of Highland Park, IL has donated a Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*), which was originally collected in 1979 from a cow pasture in Mississippi. Mr. Fried purchased the tree in 1981 and began developing it under the periodic guidance of **Susumu Nakamura**. This bonsai has received numerous accolades, including the *Best North American Bonsai* award in 1992 at the Midwest Bonsai Show and best-in-show awards at other regional exhibits in 1995 and 1996. It was also featured on the cover of the *Journal of the American Bonsai Society* in 1990.



Jack Fried with his tree in the Naka North American Pavilion.

Earlier this year, the Museum accepted a gift of almost 800 bonsai pins from **Susan S. Appleton** of Sacramento, CA. Her interest in bonsai pins started in 1987 when she joined the Redwood Empire Bonsai Society. Her collection includes domestic and foreign pins commemorating bonsai events, collections, clubs, people and

famous trees. This donation is an important addition to our inventory of historical artifacts, which document the history and practice of bonsai in the United States. **Ken Hallatt** of North Carolina donated to the Museum a copy of his *International Bonsai Pin Guide* to assist the staff in cataloguing this unusual collection.



Pin designed by Susan Appleton.



Pin from Vietnam.



African Pin.



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Thank you for your support of the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum.