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## FUN AT THE ELEY RESIDENCE

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Poles!

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Announcement

Please be aware that our club's newsletters are now archived on-line -- Google (and Bookmark!) "Pikes Peak Bonsai" and on the left side click on "Newsletter". While there, also check out the link to see some 70 other Bonsai Club Newsletters On-line from around the world.

### NEXT MONTH'S MEETING: JULY 11TH

- At the home of Pete Apostolas  
For good directions you can  
call Pete

For the month of June we did not have a formal meeting at the Senior Center because we went to the mountains and had a party!!! So if you missed it, you missed a very good time. And my personal thanks goes out to Claudia and Jim for showing us all a fantastic time.



So around 10 A.M. the crowds started rolling in. Before you knew it Jim and Claudia's driveway was full to the max. I am sure we were all thinking the same thing, "how the heck are we going to get out of here?"

According to our website, Robert Baran reports our membership to be at approximately 25 members. Well guess what? We had 24 members there plus one new guest, Danny Deloux. So I guess that means that there was only one party pooper!! Actually, I can think of several people that were not there so we must be a little off on our count on the web site. I am sure Robert will take care of that, right Robert??

I know I can't speak for everyone (but I bet I do!!) when I say that we had a lot of fun. After Claudia gave us the grand tour, we had a very tasty lunch and then set out traipsing the coun-

tryside looking for Yamadori!! Like we didn't get enough last month!! I saw several people come back with some really nice trees. I myself was after the elusive Rocky Mountain Maple. Bet you didn't know we had one of our own did you? It is actually known as the Acer glabrum. Funny name huh?



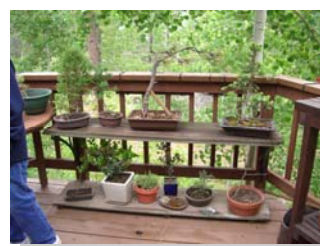
The Acer glabrum



The only part of club business that we did have was that Charlie Richards gave me the Treasure's Report. So as of the end of May we have \$1,137.09 in checking and \$36.39 in savings. This does not include the \$33 I forgot to give Charlie from last month's raffle. And it does not include the \$36 I personally will be giving the club for the first advertisement to go into our newsletter for the tool boxes that I make (see back page).

Some time after 1 P.M. everyone

started their journeys home.





Since this is the time of year for the Yamadori (tree collecting in the wild) and I assume those of us that did some collecting will be, if you have not already, planning on a backyard display for your new trees. I found this article on the internet (don't you just love the internet and the new Bing.com!!!). It comes from the site, [Knowledge of Bonsai](#). It is by Nick Keren, entitled; **Bonsai Tree Stands – Monkey Poles**. I hope it is useful to someone.



A simple, easy to make tree stand for your bonsai trees.

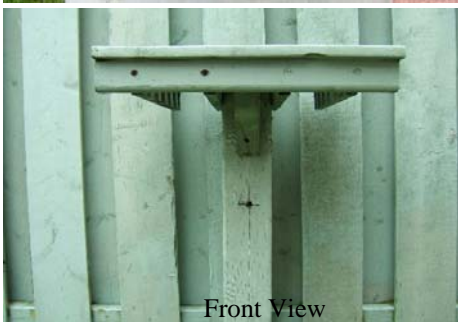
One of the joys of Bonsai is the ability to display them throughout your garden or property. In the first part of this article we'll show you how to make the Bonsai stand. In the second part we'll show you some of the various ways to set the stand for either permanent or portable placements.

### Making the Stands

- Materials List:
- 1- Pressure treated fence board 6ft.
- 1- Pressure treated fence pole
- 1- Piece of a 2x4 or 2x6 (for the support triangle)
- 44- Deck Screws, #10 x 1"
- Equipment List:
- **Required items:**
- Drill
- Screw driver or drill bit
- Wood Glue
- Saw or Table Saw
- **Optional Items:**
- Router
- Miter Saw
- Spacers



Top View



Front View

Making these stands is very simple. Once you make one or two, you can alter the general design in order to make a multiple tree stand or Bonsai tree benches using the same technique.



### STEP 1: CUTTING THE RAW MATERIAL

Using a table saw or hand saw, cut the Pressure treated fence board into 3 equal pieces along the length. Doing so will create 3 strips. 2 with a rounded edge and 1 with a straight edge on both sides. The pieces with a rounded edged (outside pieces) will be used for the table top boards. The straight edged (inside) board will be used for the ribbings of the table.



Figure 1—After

### Cutting the board tops:

Use the miter saw (or a hand saw) to cut the rounded edged boards to the desired table width of your table. These will be your table tops. One fence board can build a table from 12 inches to 18 inches in width. Discard any extra material.

Use a router (or ask a good friend ) to round the straight cut edge of 7 of the 8 table top boards. This is optional but will really enhance the appearance of your table top.

The 8th board will be used as a ground effect underneath the table and requires a flat side. More on that ground effect board later.

### STEP 2: CUTTING THE RAW MATERIAL – RIBBING

Using a miter saw or hand saw cut the long double straight edged board into 4, 12 inch pieces. Discard the extra material.

These boards will be used for the ribbing of the table.

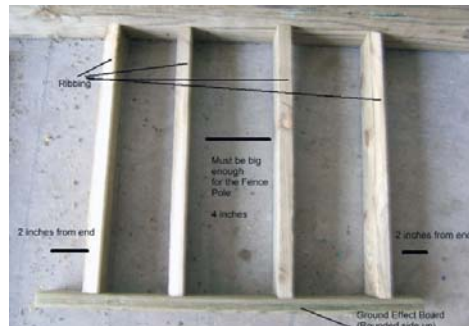
### STEP 3: CREATE THE TABLE SKELETON

At this point you will have 7 table top boards, 1 ground effect board and at least 4 ribbings.

Now its time to start putting the table together. Using the 'ground effect' board. Place it flat side down (rounded side in the air) on your work area.

Measure 2 inches from the edges, mark it. Measure 2 1/4 inches from the middle point and mark it.

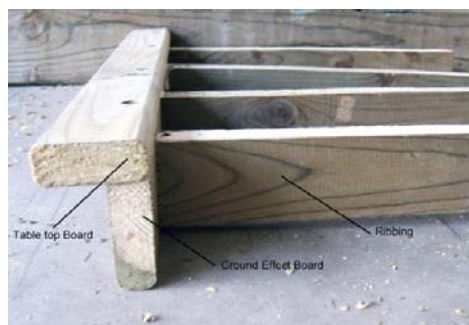
Attach the 4 ribbings to the 'ground effect' board using the 1 inch screws. Use some wood glue for good measure.



### STEP 4: ADD THE TABLE TOP BOARDS

Starting from the front, place the first board on the table skeleton so that it overhangs the 'ground effect' board. Screw it down. Use some wood glue for good measure.

Tip: Best to drill a pilot hole, then screw the board down to avoid cracking the wood.



Side View

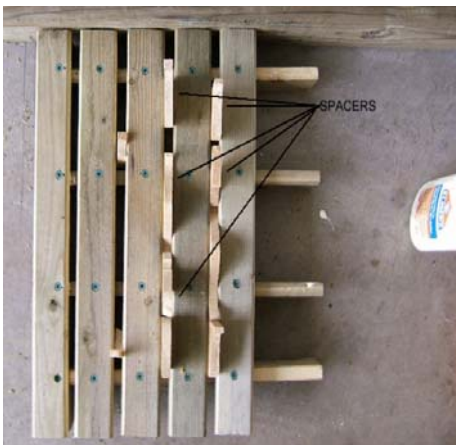


Top View

Tip: Use the fence post as guide to make sure all your top boards are even as shown above.

Attach the second table board. Screw it down. Use some wood glue for good measure. Tip: Use spacer between boards instead of measuring. Spacers are much easier!





Continue to attach the remainder of the top boards.

Your Bonsai Stand Top is done.

### **STEP 5: STAIN THE BONSAI STAND**

Staining or painting the stand to blend into the background will not only protect your stand, but put more focus on your trees.

### **PART 2 – SETTING THE STANDS**

Now that you have made the Bonsai Stand tops, it's time to attach it to the stand.

### **STEP 1: THE MONKEY POLE**

The fence post, sometimes called a monkey pole, can be permanently placed or we can create a base so the whole stand can be moved. I have both in my yard in different areas.



Permanent



Portable

### **Permanent:**

Dig a hole where the Bonsai stand will be. Use either a fence post collar sometimes called spikes or the traditional cement method to secure the fence post in the ground.



I typically use a fence post spike. It is quicker and you do not need cement.

Either way it is very important to make sure the fence post is level on both side and square at the top. Once in the ground the post is set.

### **Portable:**

Instead of setting the fence post in the ground we will make a base for the post. This will allow us to move the whole stand.

### **STEP 1A : MAKING THE BASE COVER**

Take a hanging basket pot and turn it upside down. Using the fence post, mark the size. Then cut it out.



### **STEP 1B : CEMENT THE POST INTO A 3 GALLON NURSERY POT**

Cut a 3 gallon nursery pot to 4 to 5 inches high. You must be able to fix an upside down hanging basket pot over the cutoff nursery pot.

Cement the fence post into the nursery pot.

It is very important to make sure the fence post is level on both sides and square at the top. Once in, the cement sets and it's too late.



### **STEP 2: SUPPORT FOR OFF-CENTERING POST**

Typically, the table top is secured to the fence post in the middle of the table top. So if you plan to do that, skip this step. However, there may be cases where you wish to have the fence post off center. I do this when creating stands near a fence. So in order to support the table top, I need to create a wedge as below. Only off-center if the post will be permanently in the ground.



### **STEP 2A:**

Create a wedge. Cut the pressure treated 2x4 or 2x6 diagonally. Creating a 4x6 triangle wedge.

### **STEP 2B:**

Attach the support triangle to the pole as shown. Make sure that the top of the triangle is even with the top of the pole since your table will be rested on it. Use the 1 inch wood screws Tip: Drill pilot holes into the wedge before screwing to avoid breaking the wedge.

### **STEP 3: ATTACH YOUR TABLE TOP TO THE MONKEY POLE**

Attach the table top to the fence post Use . . .

4- 1 inch screws on the top of table to attach to the pole.

2- 1 inch screws on the top of table to the support wedge. (if used)

2- 1 inch screws on the side rib to attach to the side of the pole.

### **STEP 4 : STAIN THE FENCE POST**

Staining the fence post to blend into the background will place the focus on the trees. A small thing like staining the wood of your Bonsai stand will make a big difference in the overall appearance of your display.





### Japanese Tansu Style Bonsai Tool Chest

- Handcrafted from solid hardwoods with dovetail construction.
- Two deep drawers to store Bonsai tools.
- Attached 10" turntable.
- Two solid doors with carved Bonsai trees.
- Spacious cabinet interior with rod to hang Bonsai wire. Plenty of room for larger tools and even a few Bonsai Pots.
- Wire protrudes through holes in back for easy dispensing.
- All for \$195 (wire not included).
- Contact Steven Alford — 719-633-9110

### PPBS SHOW COMMITTEE UPDATE

The new Pikes Peak Bonsai Society show committee had its first official meeting on Saturday, June 13, at the beautiful residence of club members Jim & Claudia Eley. The meeting immediately followed the social gathering that was held there.

Members of the show committee are as follows: David T. Conlin, Claudia Eley, Bill Fox, Larry Rohr, Timmie Stewart, & Harve Wolfe. Other members of the club at large were in attendance and any others who are interested & willing to help are welcome. Various issues were discussed at this meeting and some decisions were made. It was decided that for this year we will continue to have the show at our usual time and location. Our past-president, Bill Fox, has secured the Worner Center for us for September 26 & 27 with set-up on Friday evening on the 25. Cliff Broyles is in charge of getting table clothes for the display, as he has in the past. David Conlin, Claudia Eley, & Timmie Stewart are designing and creating fabric dividers to be used in the display and Harve Wolfe is also working on a plan to raise some tables for better viewing of shohin and mame bonsai.

It was also decided that we will try to secure more advertising before the event if possible. Anyone who has expertise or experience in this area would be greatly appreciated (we are talking to you Henriette). The next meeting will be held at Pete Apostolas house after the gathering there on July 11. I hope to see you all there.

David T. Conlin

### Pikes Peak Bonsai Society

<http://www.phoenixbonsai.com/PikesPeakBonsai.html>

Pikes Peak Bonsai Society  
Colorado Springs Senior Center  
1514 N. Hancock Ave.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
Phone: 719-385-5933



### CLUB MEETINGS

Non-members and those curious about this art/hobby are always welcome at no obligation!

10 a.m. on the Second Saturday of each month, usually at the **Senior Center** (Ceramics Room),

1514 N. Hancock Ave. (corner of Camarillo at the top of Hancock, 1/3 mile north of Uintah St.), just northeast of downtown Colorado Springs.  
(719) 385-5933

Look to this space in the future for want ads, sales ads and a place to put that ad for your business!!

If you have anything to put in this space, let me know.

A 2x3 insert is \$5 for one issue, \$10 for 3 issues, and \$18 for one year.

A 3x4 insert is \$10 for one issue, \$20 for 3 issues and \$36 for the year.

For more information call Steve Alford at 633-9110 (evenings) or email me at [pmprdcchef@msn.com](mailto:pmprdcchef@msn.com)