

**Next up:**

**SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2012 \* Non-standard date \***

Collecting and potluck lunch at Claudia and Jim Eley's in Green Mountain Falls. Their several acres on the side of the mountain provide a few hours of truly getting-away-from-it-all. You can relax on their deck (built around a large unmovable rock) and gaze out about the valley and other hills filled with pines and firs, aspens, wild strawberries, columbines, mountain maples, and many, many other plants. And, you can take a bucket or bag and shovel and head up the mountain as far as you can go to collect specimens and lichen-covered rocks to bring home with you. And, you can head down to the cabin off to the side of theirs and rest next to the flowing stream. And, you can wander around and in the house to see Claudia and Jim's bonsai. And, you can just hang out with other club members, share good food, and friendly banter. What a relaxingly busy schedule!

Also, details about the collecting season in the Pikes Peak National Forest (April 15 – May 31). And please see this link for general collecting info,  
<http://www.phoenixbonsai.com/PPB/Care4.html#Yamadori>.

“What is Bonsai?” a new article by yours truly at the bonsaiempire website,  
<http://www.bonsaiempire.com/what-is-bonsai> .

Upcoming:

**SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2012 \* Non-standard date \***

Workshop at the Starsmore Discovery Center, 2120 N. Cheyenne Canon Rd. Details to follow.

For our continuing education:

On-line Club Newsletters

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

Some Bonsai Forums and Blogs

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

On-line Bonsai Magazines

<http://www.phoenixbonsai.com/Magazines2.html#Online>

On-line Free Books and e-Books

<http://www.phoenixbonsai.com/Books/OnlineBooks.html>

Teacher and Artist Interviews and Profiles

<http://www.phoenixbonsai.com/BigPicture/Interviews.html>

And, as always, the bottom line is: enjoy your trees.

Cordially,

Robert J. Baran  
Secretary/Webmaster