

Volume 168

May 2016



KUSAMONO + A Garfield “Thank You”.

INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation



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From the President

After last month's lead-in statement, I almost feel as though I should start this month's message with a retraction. Last month, I opened with something like 'Spring is finally here.' Once again, Mother Nature put me in my place. After some great early spring weather, we were reminded that we live in Indiana. The weather turned cold and soggy for more than a week. We had freeze warnings several nights. I saw both snow flurries and hail. None of this is good for bonsai. After being cooped up in the house for over a week, it finally looks like we have a stretch of nice weather. Too bad for me that I have to be inside typing my monthly president's message. I'd rather spend time outside with my trees. Last night, I was pruning and potting trees until the sun went down. It was great!

First of all, I want to remind you that the Perennial Premier and the Spring Bonsai show takes place the weekend of April 23 & 24 at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. We could still use more trees and volunteers for the show. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to contact Steve Dick, and sign up to volunteer during the show or during the setup time. You can also volunteer to show your tree (or trees) during the exhibition. You can contact Steve by email at: idoedit2@excite.com. Steve is making tags for the trees which will include the name of the exhibitor and the species of tree. The Setup will take place on Friday, April 22, from 1pm - 5pm. During this time, you can bring in a tree for show. You can also help us by setting up tables, putting down tablecloths and setting the trees up for show. The show will open at 9am the morning of Saturday April 23. I'm also hoping to see some of those finished bonsai stands and some kusa-mono which were done during our recent club workshops.

During our May meeting, we will be conducting a workshop on American Larch. I'm really looking forward to this project because American Larch is a species that is native to Indiana. I've been doing bonsai for almost 25 years

and I've never had a plant indigenous to Indiana. Now, I'll finally have my chance. Up till now, I've only used Japanese Larch. From what I understand, American Larch make great bonsai. Paul Weishaar had several of the workshop larch trees on display at the April meeting. I thought they looked very nice. The cost of the larch workshop for Indy Bonsai Club members is only \$25. That's a great deal!

Using American Larch is particularly appealing to me because of the Indiana State Fair Bonsai Show. The State show is really the only annual Indiana-based show where trees are actually judged and critiqued by a professional bonsai artist. We have many judged categories based both by category of tree and the level of the bonsai artist. Every year, the category with the fewest entries is the 'Indigenous to Indiana' category. These workshop Larch really won't be ready by this year's state fair --but they will be ready by next year. It is my hope that we'll see many more native Indiana trees in the 2017 State Fair Show.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meeting which takes place on May 4 at the Garfield Park Conservatory. The regular meeting starts at 7pm, but you can bring a tree to Bonsai 1 on 1, if you need some help or if you have bonsai questions.

Scott Yelich

What to do...

Mark Fields

This month all of your trees should be exploding with new growth. You should have moved your trees outdoors and defoliated tropical trees such as shefflera, ficus, bougainvillea, buttonwood, etc. The reason for this is that the foliage they developed during the winter will likely have stretched and the leaves will not be able to tolerate the full sunlight they require. It is important to cut the leaves at the petioles (stems) and to cut the terminals (growing tips). Fertilize them and they will flush with smaller leaves and lots of new branches.

If you had your deciduous trees in a winter hut covered with white poly, your trees likely started leafing out inside that enclosure. That growth is not the best for the overall shape and design of your trees, especially the maples. The inter-nodes (space between the leaves) will be too long and the leaves will burn when you place them out in the sun.

When you take them outdoors, it may be necessary cut the stretched growth back to the first set of leaves or. Like I mentioned above, cut the leaves at the petioles and cut the terminals. Fertilize and in a couple of weeks you will notice new buds emerging from the base of the petioles just below the cut. With maples, it is also important to leave about a half inch of stem above the buds you leave. Maples can die back after cutting so if you cut too close to the buds, you may lose those buds.

When you see the second set of leaves start to open, pinch or cut the stem just below where they are opening. This will activate the buds at the base of each of the remaining leaves and will increase the ramification (fine tertiary and quaternary branches). Repeat as necessary throughout the growing season and you will notice a marked difference in the fullness of your trees.

Those of you with Japanese black and red pines, you will see the candles on them stretching to several inches in length. At this time you should completely remove all but 2 of the candles at each terminal; leave the 2 that are growing more horizontally. This will begin to balance the tree and will even out the growth if this technique is done every year. When the needles on the remaining candles begin to harden off, in June, cut them back to about 5mm at the base of the candle. A secondary flush will appear at those areas which were cut in a few weeks. As they begin to stretch, they will not be as long and vigorous as the spring growth. Again cut back to 2 lateral candles. Those candles will have shorter needles and will be much shorter. Repeat this annually and you will see more back bud-ding and your tree will be much more compact and well ramified.

There is likely some confusion concerning fertilizing methods. I like using organic fertilizers and others like chemical fertilizers. Ultimately, it is up to you. Do what works best for you.

(reprinted from 2015)

Mark Fields

Indianapolis Bonsai Club

April 6th, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Amanda Cox

Date & Time: April 6, 2016

Location: Garfield Park Conservatory Meeting Room

Presiding: Club President Scott Yelich

Attendance:

Membership: 68 paid members for 2016

Checking/Savings Balance:

Bougainvillea donated to Garfield Park as a thank you for all they do for the club

First Bonsai show of 2016 “FREE”

Perennial Premier & Bonsai Show

IMA April 23-24

Friday Set Up

Saturday 9-5

Sunday 12-4

Volunteers needed to set up, tear down, watch trees, display trees

May

Bonsai 101 will be potting trees. Come early if you can help. Class starts at 6.

Short Program: LARCH BONSAI CARE WITH Mark Fields and Paul Weishaar

\$25 for workshop for paid members

April

Short program: Kusamono (accent plants) demonstration by Amanda Cox

Workshop: Creating a Kusamono display with Amanda Cox



Date 2016	Meeting Topic	Detail	Presenter - Coordinator
1/6	pots	Pottery Presentation Short program on viewing stones	Mike Thiedeman Scott Yelich
2/3	Pinch Pots	Pinch Pots workshop with Paul Weishaar Short program on making pinch pots & small slab pots	Paul Weishaar
3/2	Making Stands	Bonsai Stands workshop Short program on assembling and finishing a bonsai stand	Scott Yelich & Paul Weishaar
4/6	Kusamono	Kusamono workshop Short program on Kusamono	Amanda Cox
5/4	Larch Workshop	American Larch Workshop Short Program on American Larch care	Paul Weishaar Mark Fields
6/1	Display Setting	Setting a bonsai display Short program - How to set a bonsai for formal display	Mark fields
7/6	Tropicals	Tropical Workshop/ Short Program: Tropical Care	Scott Yelich
8/3	State Fair Judge - Demo	Bonsai Demonstration	Jim Doyle
9/7	Annual "Members Only" Auction	Sell/Buy any Bonsai related item (must be a current, paid member to participate)	Scott Yelich
10/5	BYOT Workshop	BYOT Nominations for 2017-2018 club officers	Scott Yelich All
11/2	Elections	Club election of executive officers	All
12/7	Annual Dinner	The Annual Gala Celebration	All

IBC Financial\$ 4/15/16

Checking	\$ 433.29
Savings	\$ 9,090.13
Total	\$9,523.42

IBC Corporate Sponsors 2016



Fritz Nerding

Conservatory Manager

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Email: maf71459@gmail.com

Web site: www.bonsaibyfields.com

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Club Information

Visitors are always WELCOME!!!

Where: Garfield Park Conservatory
2450 Shelby Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

When: First Wednesday of each
month

Time: 7:00 pm

Club Dues: Dues are \$25 per calendar
year. Cost includes (up to)
two members of the same
household.

Club Officers 2015-2017

President	Scott Yelich
Vice President	Carl Wooldridge
Asst. Vice Presidents	Robert Hoy Kyle Weidner
Secretary	Amanda Cox
Treasurer/Newsletter	Robert Hoy
Past President	Mark Fields
Membership	Steve Dick
Web Master	Scott Yelich
Volunteers	Steve Dick
Historian	John Strassburg
Librarian	Tom Barnes
MABA/ABS/BCI	Paul Weishaar
Garfield Curator(s)	Chuck Perry Carl Woodridge Robert Hoy

Checkout the IBC website:
www.indybonsai.org