

Volume 179

May 2017



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation

JAPAN

Mark Fields

Round 2!

**Come hear
the story!**

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From the President

There is a song in the musical "CAMELOT" that goes " Its May, its May, the month of yes you 'may'! Yes, we 'may' get our plants out and style many of them. We 'may' find some surprises; new buds and branches. There 'may' also be new bugs and pests who have a different plan for our bonsai. We 'may ' just need to feed, spray and prune our tree; now. Camelot always had perfect weather; Indiana ain't Camelot. Keep your eye on the weather, 'May' can produce killer winds!

MABA is progressing nicely. Paul, Scott and I flew down to Florida and brought back some fantastic Bald Cypress, Buttonwoods and very large Jade. The material for the workshops are the best I have ever seen. We will be folding the Thursday pre-convention workshop on Itoigawa junipers into the "Bring your own" workshop on Friday. The Itoigawa junipers will be available for sale in the vendors area. We will have a volunteer sign up sheet at the June meeting. If you want to volunteer for the exhibit, you need to get in touch with Neil Dillinger. He has some speciality training for docent. I need to remind everyone that only registered people, visiting instructors, and vendors can show trees in the exhibit.

Neil did a great job of presenting how to prepare a tree for exhibiting. The highlights included how to "clean" a tree and pot as well as how to balance the two together. His idea of using walnut oil to clean the pot was new to me. [I assume you use raw walnuts out of the shell.

The June program has changed slightly. Mark Fields will give a presentation on the World Bonsai Convention, in Japan, he attended last month. His Facebook pages are full of beautiful bonsai, and he has more to present. Ron Fraley will still be presenting a study on ideal temperature for root health in bonsai. Ron is an experienced bonsai artist, and has always presented well prepared programs.

The Garfield bonsai exhibit will be Saturday, June 3rd and Sunday, June 4th. The exhibit opens at 10:00 AM, but if you wish to show your tree, please be there at 8:30 to set up. If you have a tree to show, but no table, let me know; {765-914-1029}. I have a few extra tables to lend to members.

I will start to visit members in the club to see their bonsai collections and feature them in upcoming newsletters. If you are interested in opening up your garden, let me know.

Carl Wooldridge

Indianapolis Bonsai Club

May 3rd, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Alyssa Batula

Date & Time: May 3rd, 2017

Location: Garfield Park Conservatory Meeting Room

Presiding: Club President Carl Wooldridge

Attendance: 27

Membership: 101 memberships, 68 paid for 2017

Checking/Savings Balance:

Checking: \$659.45

Savings: \$6,591.80

The May meeting featured a presentation by Neil Dellinger on how to prepare your display for an exhibition.

A few interesting points:

Healthy plants, creativity, and attention to detail are required for a good display. Old, highly-developed trees aren't necessary.

Make sure everything (including pots and stands) is clean, and all plants (trees and accent plants) are healthy and free of disease

Timing is important - start preparing at least a few days ahead of time. Some trees require planning months to a year ahead of time.

Upcoming Events

Garfield Park Exhibit June 3-4

Bring your trees! No judges, but good display practice

Setup at 8:30 or 9am, pick up trees Sunday after 4pm

Bonsai 101 October

Will be having another Bonsai 101 class at the end of October

MABA July 7-8

Registration open - sign up soon, workshops filling up

Show a tree! Don't let lack of novice-specific category stop you

Volunteer - you don't need to be an expert, just tell wet from dry and/or talk to people

Looking for donations to raffle/auction (especially pots)

June Club Meeting

Presentation by Ron Fraley - results of soil temperature and pot color experiments

Moss Ball Kusamono postponed

Investing in Bonsai

As humans, we invest in lots of things. We invest for our retirement. We also invest our time and money in our families, our hobbies, our homes and our cars. All things in life require some sort of investment of time or money-- in most cases, both! Bonsai is no different. The important thing is that you are making the right investment for you and your situation.

Like any good investor, knowing your goals is key. Here are a couple of examples: One person's goal may be to purchase a bonsai that will make a nice Mother's day gift for his wife, while another person's goal is to purchase a bonsai that may one day be selected for the National Bonsai Show. The right bonsai for these two situations will likely be completely different. Furthermore, some people are simply more into bonsai than others. For some people, bonsai is a hobby. For others, bonsai is a lifestyle. As stated before, all bonsai take a certain degree of time and money. Frankly, some people have time on their side while others have money. The teenager getting into bonsai might only want to spend a few dollars for a starter tree. They can grow that small tree into a specimen tree with about twenty years of work. Perhaps the senior citizen wishing for a specimen bonsai ought to start with something a little more developed.

When investing in bonsai, you have to figure how it weighs in with all of life's other investments. Investing in a bonsai is more like investing in a pet than a plant. Maybe purchasing a tree that requires daily care might not be the best investment for a person who travels frequently. Good investments also require a little planning. If you use a financial planner to assist you with your retirement planning, isn't it also wise to seek advice from someone knowledgeable in bonsai when purchasing a tree? Take advantage of both the local bonsai professionals and experienced bonsai club members. You may save yourself a lot of grief in the long run.

Here are some quick pointers to help you make wise decisions when purchasing a bonsai tree:

1. Knowledge comes at a price. Sometimes, it may be a little cheaper to obtain a bonsai tree at a big box store or as a nursery stock plant from a local nursery. However, you are far less likely to get material that will make a good bonsai as a long term goal. You will also miss out on the detailed information that you can get from a bonsai dealer. This detail is most important when you are new to bonsai.
2. Set a budget and try to stay within your budget. Like any hobby, you need to balance bonsai with all the other things in your life that require money. Don't miss a car payment because you spent too much on a tree!
3. Get something you can handle. Investing money in a tree that you can't keep alive doesn't make sense. Get a tree that will work for your situation and your ability. Sure, even the most accomplished bonsai artists have killed trees. Nothing lives forever. That being said, you should always try to maximize a tree's potential and minimize risk. It might be fine to spend a lot of money on a species of tree you're used to dealing with, but wouldn't be as smart to spend a bunch of money on a species that you know nothing about. In my case, a \$500 ficus might be a very smart investment, while a \$500 aspen might be a pretty dumb investment. Maybe it would be smarter to invest in a \$50 aspen and make sure I can keep one alive before I spend money on a larger one.
5. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Make sure you know how to care for something before you buy it. Make sure to ask questions down the road, too. Most people who are knowledgeable about bonsai are happy to help if questions or problems arise in the future.

In conclusion, we all come across that tree that we want to buy on impulse. Still, try to be wise when purchasing a bonsai. It would be best to know a little something about what you are buying so you can make a smart purchase. Get something you can handle. Don't spend more than you can afford. If you don't have all the answers, you should know where to find them when you need them. Your local bonsai club is always a good start.

Scott Yelich



MABA 2017 Bonsai Convention News

The Pre-conference workshop w/Matt Reel scheduled for Thursday, July 6 is CANCELLED

Registration is open for the 2017 Mid-America Bonsai Alliance (MABA) Convention being hosted by the Indianapolis Bonsai Club on July 7-8, 2017. A complete schedule of 32 events is scheduled for Friday and Saturday and there is a one-time full day pre-convention workshop with Matt Reel on Thursday, July 6. In addition there is a 4,000 square foot vendors room and a bonsai exhibit consisting of 100+ bonsai. There are 13 noted bonsai artists hosting Seminars, Workshops, Demos and Exhibit Critiques. Workshop and Critique spaces are limited so early registration is suggested. There is also an early registration discount cost.

The Clarion Hotel Waterfront Plaza & Conference Center is offering an unbelievably low cost of \$89 per night. Be sure to mention the MABA Convention to get this price.

For full information and registration forms, visit www.MABAbonsai.org

YOU'RE TAKING A BIG CHANCE!
... IF YOU HAVEN'T YET REGISTERED FOR MABA2017!!!

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE WORKSHOPS

YOU

WANT!

REGISTER TODAY!

CONTACT KYLE WEIDNER

kylew10@hotmail.com

Mark Your Calendars!
MABA 2017
July 7, 8

Clarion Hotel
2930 Waterfront Pky West Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46214
317.299.8400

IBC Board of Directors
2017 & 2018

Carl Wooldridge – President
Dan Cain – Vice President
Bob Hoy – Treasurer
Alyssa Batula – Secretary
Scott Yelich – Past President

Date 2017	Meeting Topic	Detail	
1/4	Trends Shift	The shift in American trends toward trees, stands, and pots used in US national shows	Carl Wooldridge, Neil Dellinger, Mark Fields
2/1	Pottery	AV presentation on making bonsai pots	Mike Thiedeman
3/1	Maples	Doug Phillips: Trident Maples	Doug Phillips
4/5	Root over rock work-shop	Modest fee for rocks and either Ficus or Maple trees	All
5/3	Preparing for Shows	Presentation for preparing your bonsai for display at shows	Neil Dellinger
6/7	Soil and Pot colors; The World Bonsai convention	A report on his experiments on the effect of pot colors on soil temperature (Ron Fraley); A report on the World bonsai convention by Mark Fields	Ron Fraley Mark Fields
7/5	MABA site preview	On site preview of MABA Convention Preparations: Clarion Hotel & conference Center (Westside)	
8/2	State Fair Judge Bonsai Styling Demo	Bonsai styling by State Fair Bonsai Judge	
9/6	Members Only Auction	Annual Club Members Bonsai Auction	
10/4	Tropical bonsai Styling Workshop	Tropical Bonsai styling workshop. BYOT or trees available to buy (modest fee)	
11/1	Dueling Demos	Dueling Demos on late fall bonsai styling and care	
12/6	Annual Dinner	Annual Club Holiday Dinner and Raffle, Volunteer Raffle, Dead Tree Contest	

IBC Financial\$ 5/15/17

Checking	\$ 280.45
Savings	\$ <u>6,591.80</u>
Total	\$ 6,872.25

IBC Corporate Sponsors 2017



Fritz Nerding

Conservatory Manager

Phone: (317) 327-7184 or 327-7337

Fax: (317) 327-7268

Email: fnerding@indygov.org

2505 Conservatory Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

www.Indygov.org

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Scott Yelich

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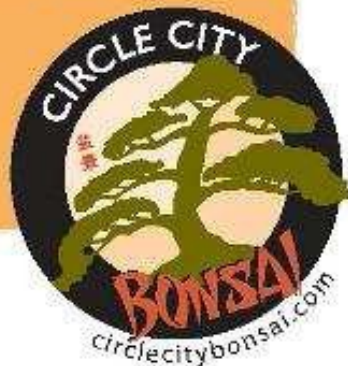
Westfield, Indiana

317.565.3582

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- By appointment only

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+ 2017-2018

President	Carl Wooldridge
Vice President	Dan Cain
Secretary	Alyssa Batula
Treasurer	Robert Hoy
Past President	Scott Yelich
Membership	Steve Dick
Web Master	Scott Yelich
Volunteers	Steve Dick
Historian	Paul Weishaar
Librarian	Paul Weishaar
MABA//BCI	Paul Weishaar
ABS	Mark Fields
Garfield Curator	Chuck Perry
Publications/Photos	Robert Hoy

Checkout the IBC website:

www.indybonsai.org

www.mababonsai.org

(click on the MABA 2017 link)