

Volume 180
August 2017



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation

MABA 2017



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The IBC Board of Directors would like to thank the Indianapolis Bonsai Club Membership for its support and participation in MABA 2017.

From the President

MABA has just finished and after spending the entire Monday wiring trees to relax, I am ready to move on. By every measure MABA was a huge success. Our goal was GOOD MATERIAL, GREAT TEACHING and a Good TIME!

GOOD MATERIAL. Our first goal was finding the best affordable material available. We were surprised at the response. We knew that we could count on Jim Doyle, Bill Valavanis and Andy Smith, but we were amazed at the outstanding material that Cass Bonsai, Ken Huth and Mark Fields presented. I feel that each dug deep to provide their very best available. Mary Madison found great Buttonwoods, but was not happy with the development of her Bald Cypress trees. She sent us to Robert Pinder of Dragon Tree Bonsai and everyone saw what great trees he had. He also donated a very large Ficus for the auction!

The most unique workshop was Alan Magruder's 'Build your own Bonsai Table'. Actually, it was 'assemble your own table'. Alan did all the cutting of pieces and brought all of the 'woodshop' tools to do the job. Alan has been a supporter of MABA from the beginning. I first met Alan in Milwaukee at MABA 2006 where he gave a class on how to judge bonsai trees. At MABA 2017, he was simply a shining star.

GOOD TEACHING. Good material and good teaching make for a good workshop, demo, or seminar. We knew that we had experience in Bill, Jim, Mary, Andy, Alan, Scott and Mark. I was confident with Ken Huth and Brian Ciskowski of Cass Bonsai, but was really surprised with the knowledge of Ryan Bell on pots, and Matt Reel in general. Matt was very composed and clear; he is a rising star. Mark was in charge of finding this collection of teachers and should be proud of his decisions.

GOOD TIME. I have had conversations with many of the people at the convention and all agreed that MABA 2017 was an enjoyable experience. The Vendors were happy and attentive, the exhibit was smartly planned and done (good job; Neil) and the banquet went well. Jim Doyle has many talents!. can not express enough gratitude to all of the volunteers, with a special thanks to the many volunteers from Greater Cincinnati Bonsai. Then question most asked of me was "What can I do to help?" That is always a fun question to hear.

MABA 2015 and 2017 are in the books. We will present the financial results as soon as they are final, but they look good. It was great fun, but we need to take a long rest I will let you know that there will be an ABS convention in April 2018 in Collegeville, Illinois. With Brian Ciskowski involved, it has to be good.

Carl Wooldridge

Indianapolis Bonsai Club

July 5, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Alyssa Batula

Date & Time: July 5th, 2017

Location: The Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center

Presiding: Club President Carl Wooldridge

Attendance: 17

Checking/Savings Balance:

Checking: \$181.22

Savings: \$6,092.12

The meeting began with setup for the MABA exhibition, followed by a short planning meeting.

The club is still looking for people willing to help make video recordings of demonstrations.

Upcoming Events

State Fair

Everyone should show a tree! The critique is incredibly valuable for learning and improving

Two sessions: First week is judged, second week is a show with no judging

Judging categories: evergreen, deciduous, tropical, & indiginous

Novice, intermediate, and open judging levels for each category

August Club Meeting

Demonstration by the judge of the state fair

September Club Meeting

Club auction - starts at 7pm sharp

Bring anything (bonsai-related) that you want to sell

MABA 2017





**Best MABA Region Indigenous Tree
Eastern White Cedar , Paul Weishaar**





Best Shohin Display: Neil Dellinger

Best Indigenous Tree Award - Ponderosa Pine
Daniel Turner



Best of Show - Dwarf Scots Pine
William Valavanis





Best Accent - Shimpaku Juniper, Daniel Turner

**Best Tropical
Burt Davyii Ficus**

Mark Fields



Best Evergreen, Douglas Fir
Barbara Bogan



IBC Member Trees Recognized as “Outstanding” by MABA



**Blue Atlas Cedar
Steve Knapp**



**Korean Hornbeam
Bob Warfel**



**Japanese Maple
“Butterfly”
Bob Warfel**

State Fair 2017

August 4-12

The Indiana State Fair Bonsai Show is open to all residents of Indiana

JUDGED BONSAI INFORMATION

Four Classes

Youth (or Junior) -- Practitioners under age 16

Novice (or New Talent) -- Up to 5 years experience

Intermediate – Over 5 and less than 13

Open – 13 or more years experience

General comments

Anyone winning 2 – 1st Place awards or Best Of Show in past year(s) moves to next class

Limit of 3 entries in each category (Deciduous , evergreen, tropical, indigenous to Indiana)

Bonsai purchased or styled by someone other than the owner may be entered for judging 1 year after purchase or styling. Youth and Novice classes are exempt from this rule.

After 3 years, a Best Of Show or 1st Place bonsai may be entered for judging (after next 2 shows)

Any bonsai can be entered for Display only

One Best of show will be awarded for session 1. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded during session 1 for each class and classification of bonsai except for youth. All youth entries get a participation ribbon.

2017 Indiana State Fair Bonsai Entry Form

Exhibitor Name _____
Address _____ -

Telephone _____
Email _____
Do you want name on display card? ____yes ____no

Session 1 Judged Bonsai (set up Aug 3 until 3 pm, display Aug 4 thru 9)

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| ____ Youth | Bonsai Information |
| ____ Novice | |
| ____ Intermediate | Common Name _____ |
| ____ Open | Botanical Name _____ |
| ____ Evergreen | |
| ____ Deciduous | |
| ____ Tropical | |
| ____ Indigenous | |
| | Comments _____ |

Session 2 Exhibit Bonsai (set up Aug 9, display Aug 9 thru 13 must be out by 8 am Mon. Aug 14)

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| ____ Youth | Bonsai Information |
| ____ Novice | |
| ____ Intermediate | Common Name _____ |
| ____ Open | Botanical Name _____ |
| ____ Tropical | |
| ____ Indigenous | |
| ____ Deciduous | |
| ____ Evergreen | |
| | Comments _____ |

Please submit **1 Entry Form for EACH Bonsai**

Send forms to: Paul Weishaar

9211 Central

Indianapolis, IN 46240

Email: pweishaar3@comcast.net

Or bring forms to fair



Danny Coffey, State Fair Judge

Danny apprenticed at Aichien in Nagoya, Japan. Danny assists maintaining the US National Bonsai Collection in Washington DC. He also writes a blog called 'Tree The People.' Originally from Arlington Virginia, just outside of Washington, D.C.,

Danny Coffey became interested in bonsai in his early 20's. In the spring of 2007, he visited the U.S. National Arboretum with friends and was surprised to discover the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum.

"It was my first time seeing bonsai of that age and quality," says Coffey, who became a frequent visitor from then on. This provided his inspiration to study bonsai as a hobby.

With each passing year, Coffey's interest increased, along with ideas of pursuing bonsai full time as a career and lifestyle. He was almost entirely self-taught apart from a beginner course from bonsai educator Randy Clark, who would later recommend him as a potential volunteer to the Museum.

Today, Coffey's primary focus is continuing to study bonsai while experimenting and developing his own body of work using the accumulation of techniques and experience acquired over nearly a decade of individual and formal studies. In addition, he frequently travels the East Coast teaching bonsai while building a small home-based bonsai nursery in Charlotte, North Carolina, with the help of his wife, Yukie, and his father, Dan Coffey Sr.

In 2012, Coffey began volunteering at the Museum under the guidance of Curator Jack Sustic and former Assistant Curator Aarin Packard. "By then I was determined to do bonsai professionally, but I knew I had to increase my skill," he says. He also knew the only way to get better was to devote his undivided attention to bonsai. "You have to be all in," he says.

In 2012, Coffey began volunteering at the Museum under the guidance of Curator Jack Sustic and former Assistant Curator Aarin Packard. "By then I was determined to do bonsai professionally, but I knew I had to increase my skill," he says. He also knew the only way to get better was to devote his undivided attention to bonsai. "You have to be all in," he says.

Shortly after, he moved to Nagoya, Japan, where he studied bonsai full time as a formal apprentice to bonsai master Junichiro Tanaka, the fourth-generation owner of Aichien Bonsai Nursery. It was during this apprenticeship that he truly learned the depth of what it means to pursue bonsai. "I literally lived in the workshop," says Coffey, "My sleeping area was less than five feet from my working area." Tanaka and Coffey have maintained a strong relationship; Tanaka continues to educate Coffey remotely via text and phone conversations.

In the spring of 2015, after almost two-and-a-half years studying in Japan, Coffey returned to the U.S and was immediately selected as an intern at the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum under Sustic. Impressed with the curator's patience and skill as a teacher, Coffey says, "Jack was so open to my questions – anything I was curious about." The experience as a Museum intern, he says, was very different from his previous education. "I'm not sure most people realize how unique the national collection is," explains Coffey. "There's possibly no other place where you can find such a wide variety of bonsai, from all over the world. Having all of that as a study tool, in one place, is a real treasure."

When Coffey is in the Washington area, he still stops by to volunteer at the Museum.

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 col- ors; The World Bonsai conven- tion | 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) | All |
| 8/2 | State Fair Judge Bonsai Styling Demo | Bonsai styling by Danny Coffey, State Fair Bonsai Judge | Danny Coffey |
| 9/6 | Members Only Auc- tion | 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\$ 7/15/17

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Checking | \$ 716.10 |
| Savings | \$ <u>6,091.80</u> |
| Total | \$ 6,807.90 |

IBC Corporate Sponsors 2017



Fritz Nerding

Conservatory Manager

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

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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)