

Volume 196  
January 2019



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

# The Bonsai Creation

# 2019

**INDIANA FLOWER AND PATIO SALE  
BONSAI 101 CLASS**

**NURSERY TOUR**

**GARFIELD PARK EXHIBIT AND SALE**

**IBC PITCH IN PICNIC**

**INDIANA STATE FAIR EXHIBIT AND SALE**

**PENROD ARTS FAIR BONSAI SALE**

**It's Going to be a GREAT year!**

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# From the President

**B**efore I go any further I want to thank Carl Wooldridge and Dan Cain for their excellent leadership over the past 2 years. Good job guys and I hope we can continue to meet the high standards you have set.

Happy Holidays. It is hard to believe 2019 has almost arrived. Oriental tradition tells us this will be the year 4715, the year of the Pig. Actually 4715 does not begin until February 5 on the International calendar but Happy New Year anyway. Who knows, if I remember I might wish you Happy New Year next month also. Depends upon whether I can come up with some useful items for this column in February. Also at my age sometimes I cannot remember what I was supposed to remember, and I don't remember why. Here is another tidbit of information you can use to impress someone at your next social gathering, the Chinese calendar obviously has been in use for centuries while the International Calendar everyone uses at the present was adopted as the standard worldwide only 437 years ago.

When I began first writing this I had the brilliant idea that if I write 12 generic articles, one for each month, I will not have to ever write them again. The articles can then be reprinted each year, month by month from now until eternity. Well....I blew that concept in the very first paragraph. I personalized it for 2019. Wait a minute, if I remember what I want to remember next year all I have to do is change the year and my generic version will work. You will just have to wait a year and see what I do. That is if YOU remember!

In case you have not noticed, I am beginning the third paragraph and have yet to mention anything relative to bonsai. I have so far just randomly (if there is such a word) pecked at the keyboard trying to mentally construct this article. No comments please....Actually it is hard to concentrate on this article. You see, as I am writing this I am in sunny Florida sitting on the beach and my only problem is keeping the sand off the keyboard. I will not be back in Indy for the January meeting so Carl Wooldridge and Mark Fields will lead a discussion on "How to find the Bonsai". Carl is bringing a number of un-styled trees of various species to discuss to pros and cons of each.

Actually January is an important month relative to your bonsai. This is the time to make plans, set priorities and create your own check list of essentials. One of the items I strongly suggest you accomplish in the next month or so is to photograph your bonsai, especially the deciduous trees while the ramification is visible. Pictures of your bonsai are nice to look back on through the years to see the progress, but more importantly, a single photograph can, and will, show any design flaws. I know this all too well from experience. If you have a PC with a graphics program you can scan or download your photos and experiment with moving or removing branches, and if it does not look good you can put them back on. I sure wish we had these options in real life! A photograph will also show if you have the correct pot for the tree. If you take photos now you will have the "before" prior to repotting and styling in the next few months. Then all you have to do is get the "after" photos.

While speaking about pots, this is the time of year to decide what needs repotting and is a new pot required. If you wait until March to decide what pot you need it may be too late

to get the specific pot you wish. Remember, everyone else is repotting and looking for a pot in March, so the pot you wanted may not be available. Obviously first check with IBC Sponsors Bonsai by Fields, Circle City Bonsai and Eagle Creek Bonsai to see if they have an appropriate pot.

Check your tools to see if you have all you need and then clean and sharpen them. Do not stop with checking tools, check everything. Do you have soil? Is it sifted and mixed? Do you have plant food, insecticides, hormones (i.e. Superthrive), pot screens, wire and a sterilant to dip tools in after each use? If you can get to your trees that are stored outside this the prime time to treat them with a dormant spray.

Yes, you can even work on trees this time of year. Pines, if they are not frozen, are extremely flexible and can be wired. Do not wire deciduous trees yet as the branches are brittle. Wait a month or two and when you see bud development....wire. Remember to check those dormant trees to make sure they do not dry out, but, in the same vein...do not over water. Too much or too little water are the primary culprits when bonsai do not make it through the winter.

Those of you with tropical bonsai just continue your care program. Just remember that unless you have a greenhouse or similar room with humidity control and growth lights of some type, your tropical will most likely go semi-dormant. Beware of over watering and remember that many tropicals will self defoliate in late winter to early spring.

One final comment, this is also a great time of the year to go through your bonsai books and periodicals and peruse through them again. If you are lacking bonsai books take advantage of IBC library and check out a book or two. I guarantee you will always learn something new even though you have read the books before.

Thanks for reading this issue of the IBC newsletter and I will see you in February

Oops. After writing this I have just discovered an error in the second paragraph. There is one country which does not follow the International Calendar. In 1997 North Korea adopted the Juche Calendar which states Year 1 was when the first Supreme Leader Kim Il-sung was born (1912). That makes this year 107 in North Korea. I bring this to your attention in case any of you are planning a field trip to North Korea to collect bonsai.

I am sure the dates on your passport will raise some questions.

*Paul Weishaar*

# January Bonsai Care

## **(suggestions/considerations)**

While deciduous, juniper and pine trees seem to be dormant, some activity is still occurring. Check regularly for water; the warmer, sunny days can dry out pots if you're not paying attention. This is a very good time to work on trees, particularly pines and maples. You may notice that Japanese maples "weep" sap when cut. If this happens, the tree is active and you may want to delay work for a couple weeks to see if the sap flow is reduced.

Complete major branch pruning and wiring with black and red pines this month. Red pines are more brittle, so work done in the middle of winter reduces risk of breaking branches.

Once a month, use a dormant oil or lime sulfur (100-1 dilution rate, or 2.5 Tablespoons per gallon) to smother overwintering insects and eggs and reduce risk of fungal diseases. Remove dead leaves and keep trees in a site that prevents rapid and wide temperature fluctuations. I place them on bricks under my benches, mulched in pine straw from mid-December to mid-March.

While not much is happening with the trees, this is a good time to take inventory of soil needs, sift soil components, and ensure you have the pots you need for March repotting.



# **Upcoming Bonsai Events**

For IBC Monthly Meetings/events+ visit [www.indybonsai.org](http://www.indybonsai.org))

**February 23 – 24, 2019 ■ GSBF Bonsai – A-Thon XXIII, The Huntington Gardens, San Marino, CA**

**March 2, 2019 ■ Brussel's Bonsai Annual Spring Bonsai Sale, Olive Branch, MS**

**March 9 – 17, 2019 ■ Indiana Flower and Patio Show, Indiana State Fairgrounds**

**March 23, 2019 ■ IBC Bonsai 101 Class, Garfield Park Conservatory, Indianapolis, IN**

**April 11 – 14, 2019 ■ ABS 2019 National Convention, Houston Marriott, Houston, TX**

**April 20, 2019 IBC ■ Nursery Tour, Eagle Creek Nursery, Indianapolis, IN**

**May 24 – 26, 2019 ■ Brussel's Bonsai Rendezvous, Olive Branch, MS**

**June 1 – 2, 2019 ■ Garfield Park Bonsai Exhibit, Indianapolis, IN**

**June 21 – 23, 2019 ■ US National Shohin Bonsai Exhibit, Southeast Kannapolis, NC**

**August 2 – 10, 2019 ■ Indiana State Fair Bonsai Exhibit, Indianapolis, IN**

**August 16 – 18, 2019 ■ Midwest Bonsai Society Bonsai Show at Chicago Botanical Gardens, Glencoe, IL**

**September 7, 2019 ■ Penrod Arts Fair, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN**

**September 15, 2019 ■ 7<sup>th</sup> Annual The Art of Bonsai, Hiddn Lakes Garden, Tipton, MI**

## **IBC Board of Directors**

### **2019-2020 Officers**

**Paul Weishaar – President**

**Scott Yelich – Vice President**

**Bob Hoy – Treasurer**

**Alyssa Batula – Secretary**

**Carl Wooldridge - Past President**

| Date                 | Program   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>2019 Meetings</b> |   |
| January 2            | Finding the Bonsai                                |
| February 6           | Soils Program                                     |
| March 6              | Repotting Demo/Bring Your Own Tree to Repot       |
| April 3              | Deciduous Workshop                                |
| May 1                | Repot/Restyle Garfield Park Bonsai Collection     |
| June 5               | Members Sale / Fertilizing and Disease Prevention |
| July 3               | Tropical Workshop                                 |
| August 7             | Bring Your Own Tree / Positive Bonsai Critique    |
| September 4          | Annual Members Only Auction                       |
| October 2            | Evergreen Workshop                                |
| November 6           | Bonsai Slab Construction Demo                     |
| December 4           | Christmas GALA                                    |

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| March 9 -17 | Indiana Flower and Patio Show Bonsai Sale      |
| March 23    | IBC Bonsai 101 Class                           |
| April 20    | Nursery Tour: How to Choose a Potential Bonsai |
| June 1-2    | Garfield Park Exhibit and Sale                 |
| June 22     | IBC Pitch In Picnic                            |
| August 2-10 | Indiana State Fair Bonsai Exhibit and Sale     |
| September 7 | Penrod Arts Fair Bonsai Sale                   |

We are (always) looking for articles and photos of your bonsai collection.

Please submit to [r.hoy@outlook.com](mailto:r.hoy@outlook.com) for 2019 publications!

**For the most up to date calendar, visit our website:  
[www.indybonsai.org](http://www.indybonsai.org)**



# IBC Corporate Sponsors

## 2019



**EAGLE CREEK BONSAI**  
[WWW.EAGLECREEKBONSAI.COM](http://WWW.EAGLECREEKBONSAI.COM)  
 (317) 471-7696

BONSAI TREES  
 POTS & TOOLS  
 WIRE & SUPPLIES  
 SUISEKI

DEMONSTRATIONS  
 WORKSHOPS  
 LECTURES

**SCOTT YELICH**  
[scott@eaglecreekbonsai.com](mailto:scott@eaglecreekbonsai.com)



### Fritz Nerding

Conservatory Manager

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

Fax: (317) 327-7268

Email: [fnerding@indygov.org](mailto:fnerding@indygov.org)

2505 Conservatory Drive  
 Indianapolis, Indiana 46203



Trees  
 Tools  
 Pots  
 Accessories

**Robert L. Hoy**  
 (317) 627-6084

**CIRCLE CITY**  
**BONSAI**  
[circlecitybonsai.com](http://circlecitybonsai.com)



**Bonsai by Fields, LLC**  
**Mark Fields – 317-439-0678**  
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Website: [bonsaibyfields.com](http://bonsaibyfields.com)  
 email: [maf71459@gmail.com](mailto:maf71459@gmail.com)

**Support  
 our  
 Corporate  
 Sponsors**

# **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+ 2019-2020**

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>President</b>           | <b>Paul Weishaar</b>   |
| <b>Vice President</b>      | <b>Scott Yelich</b>    |
| <b>Secretary</b>           | <b>Alyssa Batula</b>   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>           | <b>Robert Hoy</b>      |
| <b>Past President</b>      | <b>Carl Wooldridge</b> |
| <b>Membership</b>          | <b>Steven Dick</b>     |
| <b>Web Master</b>          | <b>Scott Yelich</b>    |
| <b>Volunteers</b>          | <b>Steven Dick</b>     |
| <b>Historian</b>           | <b>Ron Fraley</b>      |
| <b>Librarian</b>           | <b>Paul Weishaar</b>   |
| <b>MABA//BCI</b>           | <b>Paul Weishaar</b>   |
| <b>ABS</b>                 | <b>Mark Fields</b>     |
| <b>Garfield Curator</b>    | <b>Bob Hoy</b>         |
| <b>Publications/Photos</b> | <b>Bob Hoy</b>         |

**Checkout the IBC website:  
[www.indybonsai.org](http://www.indybonsai.org)**