

Volume 198

March 2019



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation

BONSAI AT THE IMA

**IBC MEMBERS PARTNER WITH THE IMA/NEWFIELDS IN
EXPOSING THE ART TO THE
COMMUNITY**



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From the President

If you missed the February meeting you missed a fun learning experience. In my presentation I managed to only tip over 4 containers of soil and attempt to fill a cup with 5 holes in it with water. Oh well.....I had fun and I hope there was some knowledge passed along.

Wow.....What a month. 60 degrees one day and 11 degrees 12 hours later, more than once. Here's hoping those of you wintering bonsai outside took extra precautions with this extreme temperature fluctuation. Four or five warm days can cause the sap to begin rising in the tree and the sudden severe cold can actually freeze the sap which in turn will kill the tree. Not a good situation.

I store many of my bonsai in a hoop house, which is simply a PVC tube frame covered with white visqueen. The pots are covered with a 4 inch layer of mulch. When it was 60 degrees outside the temperature was only 38 degrees inside and when the temperature dropped to 11 degrees outside it only fell to 26 degrees inside. On the coldest morning when the outside temperature dipped to 11 degrees below zero the inside only fell to 18 degrees. That protection prevented the soil from going through a freeze / thaw cycle, more than once, thus keeping the sap from becoming active. Some of you may consider similar methods of protection in the future.

That's enough negativity, let's talk positive! We have some exciting events scheduled, one of which is happening right now.

There are Bonsai at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. I will not bore you with the details of how this developed but simply say "We are excited to be back". Through March 7 the IMA is featuring their Orchid collection, along with a few bonsai, both in the Museum and the Greenhouse. In the Museum there are 3 award winning bonsai located in the West end of the Asian Arts Exhibit area. Each bonsai will be on exhibit for 7 days and then removed and replaced with another due to the environmental conditions (very low humidity to protect the Art, not good for Bonsai). There are also 12 +/- bonsai exhibited along with the orchids in the Elder Greenhouse.

For our 2nd event we are going back in history. If any of you read our 50th Anniversary history handout you might recall the IBC had its beginning in 1968 when two people set up a booth at the Indianapolis Flower and Patio Show located at the Indiana State Fairgrounds to find enough participants to start a bonsai club. Obviously it worked. Guess what....we have a booth at the renamed Indiana Flower and Patio Show this year. The event runs from March 9 – 17 and we will be looking for volunteers to participate. We will have bonsai for sale but our primary goal is to recruit new members.

Not to be overlooked is the March 6 IBC monthly meeting. Repotting your Bonsai is the subject with a short demo and then a "Bring your own tree" repotting workshop. Soil, wire, screen mesh and assistance will be provided by the IBC but you must provide the tree, pot, labor and tools.

Looking forward to seeing you

Indianapolis Bonsai Club

February 6th 2019

Meeting Minutes

Alyssa Batula

Date & Time: February 6th, 7pm

Location: Garfield Park Conservatory Meeting Room

Presiding: Club President Paul Weishaar

Attendance: 51

Membership: 89 members, 37 paid

Checking/Savings Balance:

Checking: \$412.54

Savings: \$10,295.36

The meeting began with a short program by Mark Fields on care of repotting of plants at this time of year, including examples of several species. Remember: you repot a tree, growth will stall for several weeks as it recovers.

The long program by Paul Weishaar focused on choosing the right soil for your trees. The notes will be made available, but a few things to keep in mind: when choosing soil, make sure you take into account the needs of the tree (how wet or dry does it want to be?) and its location (full sun vs shade). Also remember that much of the advice on soil is written by bonsai professionals, rather than hobbyist who have to worry about who will water their trees while they go on vacation.

Starting next month, come at 6:30 (before the meeting) with a tree to get advice on care or styling. Also at 6:30, there will be pictures and/or video from bonsai nurseries taken by Larry Benjamin.

Announcements

Flower and Patio show

- March 9-17 at the state fair grounds
- We will need volunteers, please sign up!

This show is where the club got started

Bonsai on display at the Indianapolis Museum of Art

- Rotating display of tropicals in the greenhouse and 3 trees in the museum

Will be there for the next ~4 weeks, so come see them

Reminder: Club library has books and magazines available

TALKING "DIRT"



IBC President Paul Weishaar discussed "Soils" at the February 6, 2019 IBC Club meeting.



Brussels Bonsai Preview Sale Olive Branch, Mississippi Saturday, March 9, 2019

Bonsai at the IMA

**(IBC members join
the IMA/Newfields
in exposing the art
to the community)**

Trees will be changed out weekly. We have provided a list of 12 bonsai to the IMA , but it is not known when/which trees will be exhibited.

P. W eishaar

Bonsai

The artful cultivation of plants, flowers, and trees has a long history in Japan. While displays in the Elder Greenhouse focus on Japanese orchids, showcased here is a related, and certainly iconic, Japanese horticultural art form: bonsai.



Shaded under David Robinson's greenery
a formal tree at the Elder Greenhouse
at Newfields, taken in 2010 by The Japan
Times, Ltd.

The practice of dwarfing trees began in China, but flourished as a living art form in Japan where it has been practiced for nearly a millennium. Over time, strict rules and definitive styles were developed. Bonsai artists select trees with particular characteristics that lend themselves naturally to one of these styles. As sculptors can see a statue in a block of marble, these artists can see the tree as it could be after decades of careful pruning and guided growth. Once known only in Asia, this horticultural art is now popular in the United States and Europe, with thousands of clubs, shows, and nurseries. Fine books on bonsai have been published in dozens of languages.



Informal Upright
or Moyogi

Cascade Style
or Kengai

Slanting Style
or Shakan

Formal Upright
or Chokan

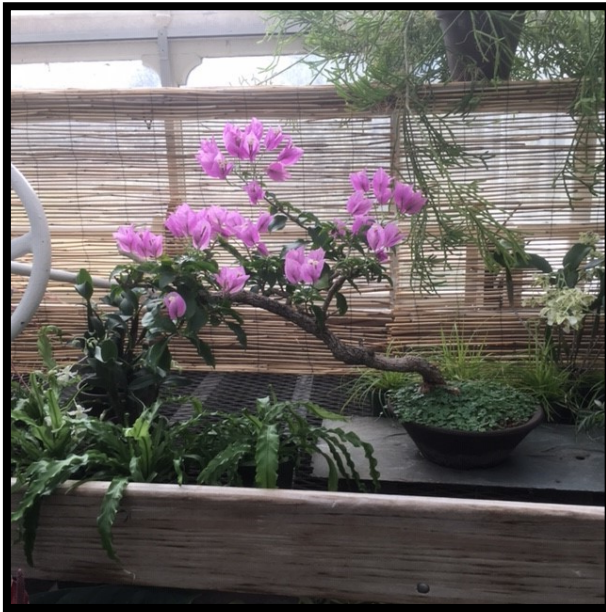
Semi Cascade Style
or Han-Kengai

Elongated Style
or Gosa Rake





- **Japanese Black Pine**
Paul Weishaar
- **Black Pine**
Mark Fields
- **Narrow Leaf Ficus**
Scott Yelich



Some of the other trees which will be displayed
(currently on display in the IMA greenhouse;
photos provided by Scott Yelich, Eagle Creek Bonsai)

Caring for your Tropical Tree During the Winter Months

By Scott Yelich

Spring is just around the corner! Many of us are eagerly waiting for the time when we can start working on our trees again. One of the nice things about tropical bonsai is that we can enjoy them in the house during this time of the year. Many of us have tropical trees in our windows or under grow lights. Some may wonder what we should be doing with our trees *right now*.

Although tropicals don't go completely dormant during the winter, they do slow down. Many tropicals will lose *some* of their leaves, particularly older leaves or ones that are near the interior of the canopy. During the winter, trees will also use less water and need less fertilizer. I usually only give them one light treatment of fertilizer per month during the winter. During the winter, trees are more susceptible to insect attack. This is because the trees aren't growing as fast, so they are less able to fight off or outgrow attacks like they can in the summer. Also, the air in our houses is often more dry and stale during the winter. You can help your trees by improving the airflow in the room and increasing the humidity around your trees. In my case, I leave the ceiling fan running to keep the air moving around my trees. I also put my indoor trees on humidity trays. Other humidity sources help, like humidifiers, fish tanks, decorative fountains or even misting your trees from time to time. Inspect your trees and look out for warning signs of insect attack like small webs, little white puffy fuzz and yellow, sticky leaves. The sooner you find and treat a problem, the better. I usually spray my tropical bonsai with a soap and oil spray every couple of weeks, the exception being my buttonwood trees. Oil spray will kill a buttonwood. I will normally treat my buttonwood trees with a systemic insecticide.

Things tend to get warmer in the greenhouse than inside my home, so the greenhouse trees speed up their growth more than the trees in my house right now. The active growth means that I can do more trimming and perhaps even a little early repotting. I usually don't repot any of the trees that have been in the house until I bring them back outside in the spring. Although some species of trees can survive indoors, they will thrive if you put them outside during the summer. The extra heat, light and humidity of the outdoors will always be better for the tree than leaving it inside all year. Even my wife's herbs and houseplants spend the summer outside on the back porch.

Personally, I don't put my trees outside in the spring until the overnight temperatures are reliably staying above 50F. I often tell people that they should have their tropical trees outside from Mother's Day until Labor Day. I know we all get excited when we get a warm streak, but I personally try to resist moving my plants out too early. Some trees don't really like getting moved around a lot, so moving in and out several times can cause a tree to drop leaves. I have too many trees to move in and out on a daily basis....that and I'm too lazy. The groundhog said that we are supposed to get an early Spring this year. Let's hope he's right!



March Bonsai Care

(suggestions/considerations)

Indoor

Watering: Once a week by entirely submerging pot in water.

Fertilizing: Once every two weeks at 1/2 strength if leaves are growing.

Pruning: Light pruning of overgrown branches.

Potting: Repot with new soil.

Wiring: Ideal time to wire.

Outdoor

Location: Keep in a bright place, but avoid burning sunlight. Rotate bonsai every second day for even light.

Watering: Once a week only if trees start growing otherwise just keep soil moist.

Fertilizing: Do not fertilize.

Pruning: Prune if trees are not showing new growth.

Potting: Repot conifers.

Wiring: Wire conifers, evergreens, and deciduous.

Location: Keep trees cool but provide good light.

We are always looking for new content for our e-news! Send info/photos of your trees+ to r.hoy@outlook.com!

Bonsai Events

For IBC Monthly Meetings/events+ visit www.indybonsai.org

Local and National Bonsai events in 2019

January 6, 2019 Plant City Bonsai Open House, 1pm - 5pm, Clermont, GA

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

March 9, 2019 Brussel's Bonsai Annual Spring Bonsai Sale, Olive Branch, MS

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

March 16 – 17, 2019 Atlanta Bonsai Society Spring Show, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Atlanta, GA

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

March 30, 2019 Deciduous Workshop at Eagle Creek Bonsai, Indianapolis, IN

April 6 – 7, 2019 Phoenix Bonsai Society Annual Bonsai Show, Valley Garden Center, Phoenix, AR

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

April 12 – 14, 2019 MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival, Holiday Inn, Harrisburg, PA

April 13 – 14, 2019 Northern Virginia Bonsai Society Spring Show, Merrifield Garden Center, Fairfax, VA

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

April 27 – 28, 2019 Mid- Appalachian Bonsai Kai, Spring Show, Kingsport Civic Auditorium, Kingsport, TN

May 11 – 12, 2019 Midwest Bonsai Society Spring Bonsai Exhibit, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe, IL

May 11 – 12, 2019 Michigan All-State Bonsai Show, Mijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, MI

May 18-19, 2019 Alabama Bonsai Society Show, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham, AL

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

May 24 – 26, 2019 Bonsai Societies of Florida Convention, Florida Hotel, Orlando, FL

May 31 – June 2, 2019 Potomac Bonsai Association Convention, National Arboretum, Washington, DC

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

June 29 – 30, 2019 US National Shohin Bonsai Exhibit, Southeast Kannapolis, NC

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

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

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

September 15, 2019 7th Annual The Art of Bonsai, Hidden Lakes Garden, Tipton, MI

For other Indiana Bonsai Organizations schedules visit their websites:

michianabonsaistudy.club

Fortwaynebonsai.com

Date	Program
2019 Meetings	
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 for the e-news. Please submit to r.hoy@outlook.com for 2019 publications!

**For the most up to date calendar, visit our website:
www.indybonsai.org**

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2019



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scott@eaglecreekbonsai.com



Fritz Nerding

Conservatory Manager

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Email: fnerding@indygov.org

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Website: bonsaibyfields.com
 email: maf71459@gmail.com

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

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

**Checkout the IBC website:
www.indybonsai.org**