

Volume 202  
July 2019



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

# The Bonsai Creation

## CELEBRATE FREEDOM



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# From the President

The Summer Solstice occurred recently, specifically on June 21, and this normally forewarns us the next 60 days are typically the hottest, driest days of the year. Based upon the past 60 days I am having trouble accepting this but all the long range forecasts are predicting a return to "normal". Speaking of June 21, and realizing our next meeting is July 3, it has suddenly hit me that the year 2019 is half gone. How did that happen? I have items on the spring bonsai calendar to do which have yet to be done. Oh well.....

The July IBC meeting will feature a tropical bonsai workshop. Scott Yelich has obtained a selection of older, more mature pre-bonsai for this workshop. These are considerably nicer than one usually finds in a tropical workshop. There will also be a selection of pots for those who wish to pot their bonsai. We are obtaining the trees at a discount and will pass the costs on with no profit for the IBC. It looks like the cost will be in the \$40 - 45 range including a pot. Bring your tools and the IBC will have everything else.

One item you can do right now is restyle, repot and defoliate tropical bonsai. Defoliating now will give the trees about 30 days to produce new, smaller leaves which will allow viewers to see the movement of the trunk and branches. This schedule works perfectly with the upcoming bonsai exhibits, i.e. Indiana State Fair, Chicago Botanical Gardens Bonsai Show and the Penrod Arts Fair.

See you on July 3rd.

*Paul Weishaar*

## Watch For MABA/Milwaukee 2020

[www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba)



June 25 – 28, 2020

Insights into Bonsai

François Jeker (France)

Ted Matson (California)

# Indianapolis Bonsai Club

June 5, 2019

## Meeting Minutes

Alyssa Batula

**Date & Time:** June 5 7pm

**Location:** Garfield Park Conservatory Meeting Room

**Presiding:** Club President Paul Weishaar

**Attendance: Membership:** 65

**Checking/Savings Balance:**

**Checking:** \$1,538.78

**Savings:** \$9,295.87

**Outstanding bill (insurance):** \$287.50

At the May meeting, club members worked in groups to repot and restyle trees from the Garfield Park bonsai collection. A few trees were also donated to add to the collection.

Reminder: it's been a wet spring, make sure you spray your trees before fungus starts to grow.

### Announcements

**Garfield Park show: June 1 & 2**

- Show is before our next meeting!

**June meeting: sale and fertilizer/pest control**

- 7-7:30: bring in any bonsai-related items you want to sell
- Followed by program on fertilizer and pest control



# TIME FOR TROPICALS

**SCOTT YELICH, EAGLE CREEK BONSAI**

Since our upcoming meeting is going to focus on tropical bonsai, I decided that now would be a good time to write an article on tropical trees. Most of you who know me, know that I have a preference for the tropical trees. Although I appreciate all types of bonsai, 75% of my personal collection is tropical. This doesn't mean that I don't like other types of bonsai-- I do! I have pines, maples, juniper and elms in my collection. I even have a few indigenous to Indiana trees. I enjoy learning about and working on all sorts of trees. Still, tropical trees are my favorite for several reasons.

First of all, tropical trees were the first thing I had any success with. Like most people, I started out with a juniper. I did everything wrong and I killed it. I'm from a small town and I started doing bonsai pre-internet. I didn't have a good source to learn bonsai outside of an outdated library book from my small local library. Mike Devore was the first person I ran into that actually did bonsai or knew anything about them. Mike had a large greenhouse filled with tropical trees. I learned a lot from Mike and my first successful trees came from him. Once I tasted a little success, I gained confidence in my ability to care for bonsai. I was hooked. To this day, I think there is no better tree than a ficus when it comes to learning bonsai. If more people started out with ficus trees rather than with juniper trees, there would be a lot more people dedicated to the art of bonsai.

Another reason why I enjoy working with tropical trees can be tied to my general lack of patience. I don't like to wait on things. I started doing bonsai as both a way to relax and a way to teach myself patience. That being said, I prefer fast growing trees over slow growing trees. Tropical trees have a longer growing period than do trees that have to go dormant during the winter. Although tropical bonsai will slow their rate of growth over the winter, they never completely stop. When you put them outside for the summer, they tend to grow faster than most other trees. Therefore, you often get a more developed tree in less time if you choose to use tropical trees.

Still another reason why I prefer tropical trees is their dura-

bility. For many of the trees that go dormant, like pines and juniper, you can normally only perform one major task per season. If you tried repotting, pruning an wiring a tree all in one afternoon, there's a good chance you'd kill it. With many tropical trees, I can safely perform all tasks at once. Since I can do more at once, the tree can develop and improve much faster than bonsai that need to go dormant in the winter.

Finally, having some tropical trees in your collection makes bonsai a hobby for all four seasons. Around mid November, my outdoor trees go into their winter protection. I place them by a windbreak and mulch them in. Since I let the snow fall on my trees, they are often frozen to the ground in the mulch, and I don't do anything with them until they thaw out in mid to late March. Mulching my trees in is always kind of a sad time for me. For some people, their bonsai season is over, and they don't have an opportunity to tinker with their trees until the weather starts to warm up. Not me! I'm still watering the trees every day in the greenhouse and about every other day for the trees I have inside the house. Although I don't generally do any repotting or defoliating during the winter months, I still do some trimming and wiring.

If you prefer deciduous or conifer trees over tropical trees, that's fine! I think we all appreciate the many types of trees that can be used for bonsai. Our preferences may depend on our personal likes, who's influenced us as bonsai enthusiasts and our growing conditions. I'm not going to argue with someone about what they choose as a personal preference. That being said, I think it's still good for all people who are into bonsai to take on a couple of tropical trees. They have some nice advantages and they'll give you something to look at and work on during the months when many trees are dormant.



# **GARFIELD PARK 2019**

## **A SAMPLING...**





**We are always looking for new content for our e-news! Send info/photos of your trees+ to [r.hoy@outlook.com](mailto:r.hoy@outlook.com)!**

## **Bonsai Events**

**For IBC Monthly Meetings/events+ visit [www.indybonsai.org](http://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 7<sup>th</sup> Annual The Art of Bonsai, Hidden Lakes Garden, Tipton, MI**

**For other Indiana Bonsai Organizations schedules visit their websites:**

**[michianabonsaistudy.club](http://michianabonsaistudy.club)**

**[Fortwaynebonsai.com](http://Fortwaynebonsai.com)**



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 for the e-news. 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  
(317) 471-7696

BONSAI TREES  
POTS & TOOLS  
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**SCOTT YELICH**  
scott@eaglecreekbonsai.com



### 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

Trees  
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Robert L. Hoy  
(317) 627-6084



# Support our Corporate Sponsors



**Bonsai by Fields, LLC**  
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Website: [bonsaibyfields.com](http://bonsaibyfields.com)  
email: [maf71459@gmail.com](mailto: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	Paul Weishaar+
Publications/Photos	Bob Hoy

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