

Volume 2112

May 2020



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation

IBC



In this Issue:

- From the President
- 2020 Midwest & Eastern Bonsai Events
- Bonsai as a Hobby, a Business, and a Lifestyle (Scott Yelich, Eagle Creek Bonsai)

- Meeting Minutes

From the President

It is that time of the month and our Newsletter Editor is E-mailing me daily to write my presidents message. I refuse to submit the usual tried and true article on what to do with your bonsai this month, i.e. take them outside if it is warm enough, water them if they are dry, if repotting be sure you don't forget the soil, etc, etc. You get the message. Wait a sec.. I do have something different to say. **There will be no IBC meeting on Wednesday May 6 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.** On a second thought, I bet that is not any different from what any other bonsai club newsletter is saying. There will be no meeting next month.

As I am writing this, Garfield Park has no idea if they will be open on May 6. It all depends on what our Mayor says. Even if he opens the parks I am sure he will keep the 6 Ft separation requirement for meetings and after doing a few calculations I figure there will be room for only 20 attendees. Taking that possibility a step further, if 20 of you beat me to the meeting I will not be able to enter, which means no program. So I repeat, no meeting in May.

All over the USA there are many bonsai events cancelled and those who have posted their cancellations on the web are noted on the Events Calendar included in this newsletter. Bottom line, check first before you go.

I see where the PGA is proceeding with a tournament with only participants attending, no public. Is this an option for bonsai events? To those of you who know Bill Valavanis, can you picture him hosting the U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition with Exhibitors only. If Vendors are allowed will you phone in your order for curbside pickup? No, I don't think it would work.

There are so many options being discussed relative to the reopening of the country it is impossible to predict anything in the future so we will continue to plot the future of the IBC on a monthly basis. An IBC member mentioned to me the other day that one positive is since we are supposed to be home we all have plenty of time to work on our bonsai. I agreed and then realized I am retired and supposedly already have all that time. I must be doing something wrong.

Thanks for reading this newsletter, and if everything works out, hopefully we will have our June meeting and Bonsai Exhibit at Garfield Park.

Paul Weishaar

Schedule update for the Indianapolis Bonsai Club

The IBC Nursery Tour to look for potential bonsai scheduled for April 18 has been canceled in compliance with the Indiana Do Not Travel mandate. We have also learned the 2020 All Michigan Bonsai Show at Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, MI scheduled for May 9 - 10 has been canceled. This is mentioned as a number if IBC members always visit this show.

2020 Midwest and Eastern USA Bonsai Events

***Cancelled due to COVID-19**

February 15-16 Knoxville Bonsai Society Annual Show. Knoxville Botanical Garden/Arboretum. Knoxville, TN.

March 7 Brussels Spring Sale. Brussels Bonsai Nursery. Olive Branch, MS.

***March 14-22** Indiana Flower and Patio Show IBC Bonsai Sale. Indiana State Fairgrounds. Indianapolis, IN.

March 13-15 Atlanta Bonsai Society Spring Show. Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Atlanta, GA.

***March 28** IBC Bonsai Class 101. Garfield Park Conservatory. Indianapolis, IN.

***April 17-19** Mid Atlantic Spring Festival. Holiday Inn I-81 Exit 80. Granville, PA.

May 1-3 Potomac Bonsai Association Festival. U.S. National Arboretum. Washington, DC.

May 9 WORLD BONSAI DAY

May 9 Nature's Way Nursery's 47th Anniversary Festival. Nature's Way Nursery. Harrisburg, PA.

***May 9-10** Michigan All State Show. Meijer Gardens. Grand Rapids, MI.

May 9-10 Mid-Appalachian Bonsai Kai Annual Show. Kingsport Civic Auditorium. Kingsport, TN.

May 14-17 Bonsai Vision 2020, Drury Plaza Hotel. San Antonio, TX

***May 22-24** Brussel's Rendezvous. Brussel's Nursery. Olive Branch, MS.

May 22-24 47th Annual Bonsai Societies of Florida Convention. Florida Hotel and Convention Center. 1500 Sand Lake Road. Orlando, FL

June 6 Wellfield Botanic Gardens Bonsai Show. Wellfield Botanic Gardens. Elkhart, IN.

June 6-7 Garfield Park Bonsai Exhibit. Garfield Park Conservatory. Indianapolis, IN.

***June 6-7** Satsuki Workshops. Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Ann Arbor, MI.

June 13-14 25th Annual Carolina Bonsai Expo. North Carolina Arboretum. Ashville, NC.

***June 25-28** MABA Bonsai Convention. Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee North Shore. 8900 N. Kildeer Court. Milwaukee, WI

June 27-28 Cleveland Bonsai Club Summer Show. Rockefeller Park Greenhouse. Cleveland, OH

July 11-12 Triangle Bonsai Society Annual Show. Duke Gardens. Durham, NC.

July 18-19 Nashville Annual Bonsai Show. Cheekwood Gardens Nashville, TN.

August 7-16 Indiana State Fair Bonsai Exhibit. Agriculture/Horticulture Building. Indianapolis, IN

August 8-10 Four Seasons 50th Annual Bonsai Show. Bordines Nursery. Rochester Hills, MI

August 14-16 Chicago Bonsai Show. Chicago Botanical Gardens. Glencoe, IL.

August 29-30 Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Show. Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Ann Arbor, MI

September 12 Penrod Arts Fair Bonsai Sale. Newfields (Indianapolis Museum of Art) Indianapolis, IN

September 12-13 U.S. National Bonsai Exhibit. East Rochester, NY.

September 12-13 Bonsai Society of Greater Cincinnati Fall Annual Show. Krohn Conservatory. Cincinnati, OH.

September 12-13 NVBS Fall Show. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. Vienna, VA.

September 20 Hidden Lake Gardens Art of Bonsai Exhibit. Hidden Lake Gardens, MI.

***October 8-11** ABS – BCI – NBF – PBA Convention 2020. U.S. National Arboretum. Washington, DC.

Bonsai as a Hobby, a Business and a Lifestyle

I've been a Hoosier for 95% of my life. I've lived through lots of unusual springs, but never one like this. For a change, the weather is fairly usual and but the situation we are in is nuts. Depending on your situation, this spring has been very good or very bad for bonsai.

For the bonsai hobbyist, perhaps this spring has been pretty good. You're staying at home because of the Coronavirus, and you may have extra time to tinker around the house. The trees went through a pretty mild winter and things are really starting to take off. Now is a great time for potting and wiring trees. You may have a little extra time on your hands, so getting those tasks done may be a little easier. The only unfortunate thing (in terms of the hobby) is that we've had to cancel a couple months of bonsai club meetings. Luckily, there are still sources where you can get help if you need it. You have the internet, and several local Bonsai businesses who are willing and able to give you a hand.

For those of us who are in business and lifestyle category, this spring has been a disaster. Let's start off with the Indiana Garden & Patio Show as an example: The club paid for a booth and purchased an extra case of club brochures. The show was cancelled about 12 hours before we were to set up. Besides that, the corporate sponsors, Circle City Bonsai, Bonsai By Fields and Eagle Creek Bonsai all invested a fair amount of time and money for inventory that was supposed to be used in that booth. Other Spring events, like the MABA Convention, Brussel's Rendezvous, and the big show at the US Arboretum have all been cancelled or postponed due to the Coronavirus. It difficult to know how this lockdown is going to affect shows and meetings down the road. Right now, I may as well throw my business planner in the garbage.

Finally, let's talk about bonsai as a lifestyle. When you make much of your living off of shows, farmers markets, conventions and other similar events, you eventually end up with a "family" of people who are into those same sorts of things. I know people who do bonsai all over the US. Some of these folks are real nice people and I look forward to seeing them. I also feel badly for those people, because I know the negative impact the Coronavirus is having on their business as well.

Years ago, bonsai was just a relaxing hobby for me and I worked as a retail manager. As a manager, your orders and expectations based on how you've done in previous years. You have one eye focused on historical trends and the other one focused on the horizon and the next big thing. Ordering, shipping, and event scheduling are things that are often done many months in advance. Owning a bonsai business isn't much different. This year, I've personally been dealing with event cancelations, flight cancelations and inventory supply issues. It's difficult to get ready for shows weeks or months down the road because cancelations often come with little or no warning. I also can't count on farmers markets for the summer, the spring bonsai show or even the State Fair, because decisions are being made with little advance notice by someone other than me. I'm sure that the other local guys in the bonsai business are equally as frustrated.

It's a tough time for everyone, especially small businesses and places deemed "non essential." My wife and I have been going out of our way to order a few more take out orders from smaller local restaurants. We buy our flats of spring pansies from local garden centers and pick them up curbside, rather than getting them at the big box store with our groceries. I invite you to do what you can to help the local small businesses in your area. On behalf of the Indianapolis Bonsai Club's corporate sponsors, I also ask you to remember to help out the businesses that support our club. Eagle Creek Bonsai, Bonsai by Fields, and Circle City Bonsai all have bonsai material that they'd be happy to sell you right about now.

Bonsai By Fields (317) 439-0678 -- Greenwood area

Circle City Bonsai (317) 627-6084 --Southport area

Eagle Creek Bonsai (317) 471-7696 -- Northwest Indianapolis

Scott Yelich

IBC Vice President

Indianapolis Bonsai Club

Date & Time: April & May Meetings canceled due to the Corona Virus

Location: Garfield Park Conservatory Meeting Room

Presiding: Club President Paul Weishaar

Checking/Savings Balance: April 23, 2020

Checking: \$221.81

Savings: \$9001.46

Total: \$9222.81

Dues for the 2020 year are now being accepted, and a new directory and brochure are available.

****No meetings in April, May due to the Corona virus**

Support our Corporate Sponsors

Bonsai by Fields (Mark Fields)

Circle City Bonsai (Bob Hoy)

Eagle Creek Bonsai (Scott Yelich)

Date 2020 Meetings	Program
January	No Meeting
February 5	Grafting Demo
March 4	Suiseki Presentation
April 1	How to Display Your Bonsai
May 6	Bald Cypress Workshop
June 3	IBC Members Sale/Root Over Rock Workshop
July 1	Tropical Workshop
August 5	Bring Your Own Tree Bonsai Critique
September 2	Annual Members Only Auction
October 7	Evergreen Workshop
November 4	Pinch Pot Workshop
December 2	Christmas GALA

IBC Board of Directors

2019-2020 Officers

Paul Weishaar – President
Scott Yelich – Vice President
Bob Hoy – Treasurer
Alyssa Batula – Secretary
Carl Wooldridge - Past President

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

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**