

Volume 216

October 2020



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation

IBC



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From the President

Welcome to the Indianapolis Bonsai Club monthly newsletter. Over the past 6 months it has been a real challenge to find relevant topics to write about due to the COVID-19 pandemic but over the past 30 days there have actually been a couple bonsai related events. I will get to them but first I want to confirm that the scheduled conifer workshop at our October 7 meeting will happen. The workshop fee is \$20 and the tree cost is in addition to the workshop fee. Mark Fields is bringing an assortment of conifers (both type and size) which will range from \$25 to \$70. The IBC will provide wire but bring your own tools. This workshop will be styling only..no potting. This is the wrong time of year to repot these trees. "Wrong time of year", I hope that comment does not apply to the styling workshop in the sense we are meeting outside in the Garfield Corporate Shelter again. It could be cool so dress accordingly. The Garfield Conservatory is not scheduled to open for events until October 15. After explaining how our last meeting ended using cell phone lights and a couple camp lanterns, the Conservatory staff has promised to turn on all 16 lights in the shelter for our meeting.

We are actually participating in a bonsai related event now through the end of November. There are 25 excellent tropical bonsai on exhibit in the White River Gardens Conservatory which is located at the Indianapolis Zoo. At last months meeting the exhibit was announced and a request was made for exhibit worthy bonsai. At first I was disappointed only 3 members volunteered to display bonsai but then I suddenly realized that not everyone has tropical bonsai plus it was also pointed out to me with nearly all events cancelled many members gave their bonsai a year off from showing, i.e. lots of sacrifice branches and wire. Early comments have been positive, in fact one of the staff said they were concerned they could not find enough space to exhibit 25 bonsai but now that everything is set up they think we could double the quantity to 50 next year. Next Year??? Interesting comment! I do have a personal issue that relates to the exhibit,,,,last week I brought all my sub-tropical and tropical bonsai into my greenhouse and after considerable juggling got them spaced and went into the house and proudly told Judy what I had accomplished, Her reaction, "what about the ones at the exhibit?". Oh well, I guess I have a couple months to figure that out.

I recently traveled with Scott Yelich to visit the Ft Wayne Bonsai Club annual fall exhibit. Scott was a vendor and only after arriving at the exhibit did I realize why Scott invited me. He needed someone to push the cart loaded with 6 or 7 dozen bonsai pots into and out of the facility. Fortunately he had a good day and the cart was considerably lighter when we left. It was surprisingly well attended, even with all the pandemic restrictions, and there were some very nice bonsai on display. I always enjoy visiting the various bonsai events and strongly recommend any time you are traveling, take the time so see if there are any bonsai related events along your journey.

Paul Weishaar

Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2020

Alyssa Batula

Date & Time: September 2nd, 7pm

Location: Garfield Park Corporate Pavilion

Presiding: Club President Paul Weishaar

Attendance: 31

The annual auction was held at the Corporate Pavilion, to take advantage of the outdoor lights. Over 30 trees were auctioned off, as well as 10+ pots and a collapsible greenhouse.

Officer elections will be held in November, so remember to nominate yourself or someone else for any of the positions.



Indianapolis Zoo Exhibit 2020

IBC Members Scott Yelich, Paul Weishaar and Mark Fields exhibited 25
bonsai at the White River Gardens



Rob Shumacher

THANK YOU!

A big IBC "Thank You" to Zoo President Rob Shumacher
(Club Member) & staff at the White River Gardens
for assisting in efforts to promote the art of bonsai to the general
public.









Creating a Juniper Bonsai from Nursery Stock

By Mark Fields

This month, I thought it would be appropriate to discuss the steps in bringing a cutting grown juniper to a quality bonsai. Appropriate because that's what I will be teaching at our October meeting. The juniper that pictured in this article was grown from a cutting from an Shimpaku Itoigawa juniper that I stuck about 8 years ago. It was grown in a pot the entire time.

After the cuttings are rooted, I pot them into individual 4-inch pots using a blend of Japanese pumices. They are fertilized well during the growing season. At year 2, when the trunk is one quarter inch in diameter, I wire the trunk to create some movement and may even curl some of the primary branches. I leave the wire on until I see it start to bite in on the trunk, at which time, it is removed.

At year 4, using wire, I pull some of the newer primary branches down and thin out the tree a bit in order to allow sunlight into the interior to promote back budding. Again, that wire remains on the tree for the next year or so, then removed.

At year 6, they are sufficiently developed so that they can be formally styled. That's when I offer them up for workshops and sold as individual pre-bonsai at my nursery, conventions and events.

This an example of one of these Itoigawa after about 8 years. This one had a really nice curl and had dead wood down the left side of what I chose as the front of the tree. I stripped off that bark to expose the dead wood.



The next step was to clean up the tree as preparation to begin styling the pre-bonsai into a bonsai. Clean out all of the dead branches, dead foliage, small branches that are growing from the bottom of the branches that will become the pads of the tree. I also carefully remove all of the flakey bark from the tree exposing the smooth, reddish bark layer underneath.



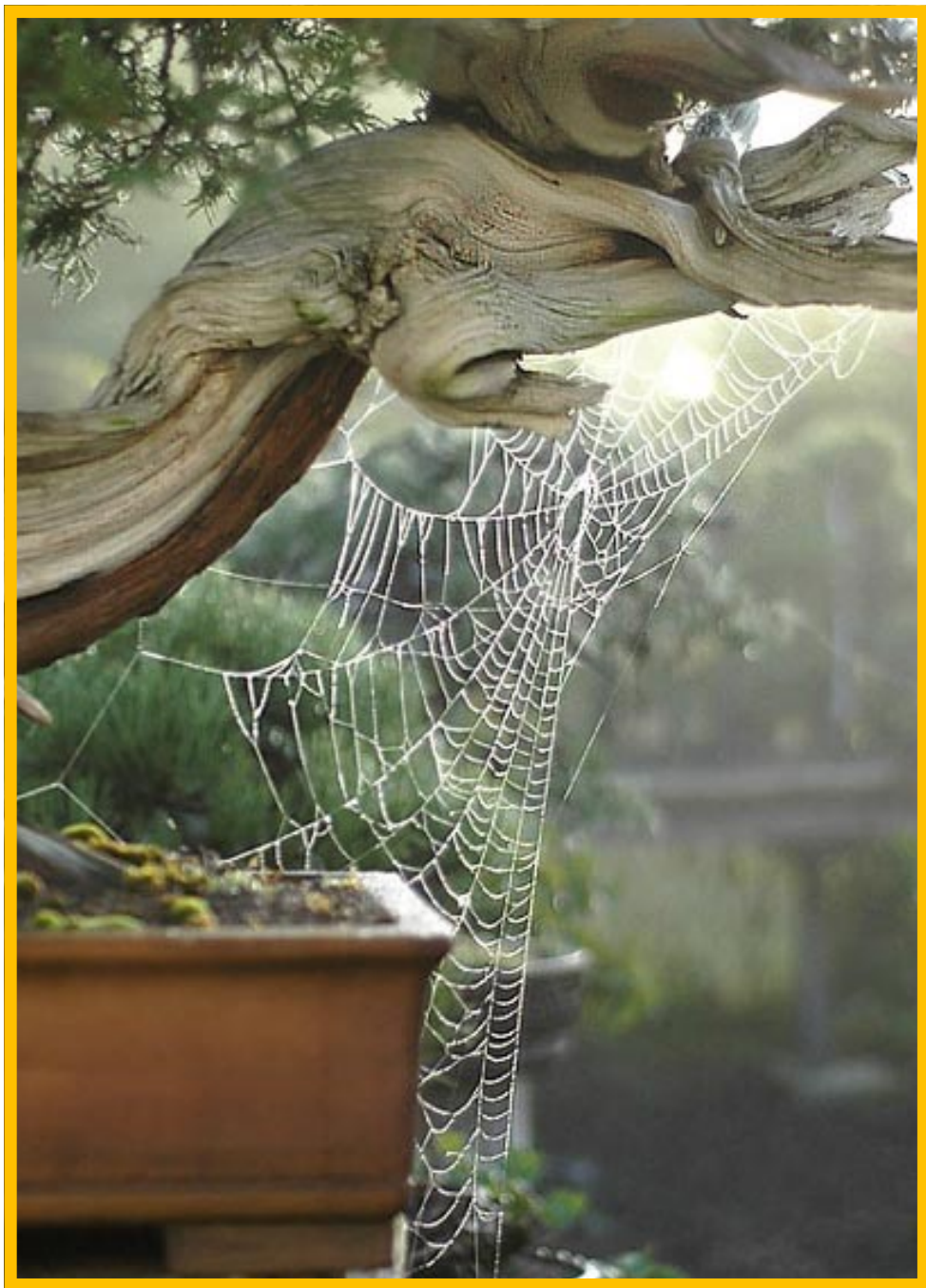
I wired the tree, knowing that the tree had long branches and that they had to be compressed inward to compact the design of the final silhouette of the tree. This meant that I wrapped the wire in the correct direction so that the wire would support the bends and not loosen when the branch was bent. Some of the tips, not all, were snipped back to complete the desired design. The tree was placed back in the sunny location where it was growing. It will be fertilized well during this growing season in order to increase the foliage mass. It will be repotted into a bonsai pot in the late winter next year.





Steve Dick, Membership, wants to remind ALL that only 46 of 107 registered members have paid their 2020 dues. If you haven't yet paid, *Please. Pay. Now!*





A Happy "Bonsai"
Halloween to All.

2020 Midwest and Eastern USA Bonsai Events

(Please Check w/event organizers for latest updates)

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. Asheville, 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 8—November 30 White River Garden Exhibit

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.

Date 2020 Meetings	Program
January	No Meeting
February 5	Grafting Demo
March 4	Suiseki Presentation
April 1	How to Display Your Bonsai
May 6	Meeting Cancelled
June 3	Meeting Cancelled
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

**Reminder: the October meeting is currently
 scheduled to be held in the Garfield Park
 Corporate Pavilion ...**

**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

Support our Corporate Sponsors

Bonsai by Fields (Mark Fields)

Circle City Bonsai (Bob Hoy)

Eagle Creek Bonsai (Scott Yelich)

Checkout the IBC website:

www.indybonsai.org