

Volume 222

April 2021



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

# The Bonsai Creation

# IBC



**Cicadas 2021 -**  
Coming soon to a plant near you!  
**Are you ready?**

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# From the President

**M**arch showers bring April flowers? Sure, I know that April showers are supposed to bring May flowers, but our May meeting is going to feature a bald cypress workshop, so we don't have time for flowers. Although our April meeting is going to focus on flowering and fruiting bonsai, I need to get a little business out of the way, first.

**Our April meeting will be at the Hix Institute at the Indianapolis Zoo again.** Once again, I want to thank the Zoo for generously allowing us to use their facility while we are all trying to deal with the current pandemic. In May, we will be back at Garfield Park, although not necessarily in the conservatory's meeting room. Starting in May and throughout the summer, Garfield Park has a lighted picnic shelter on reserve for us for our meetings. I'm happy with that. We get to enjoy some fresh air and it will be easier to clean up after our string of club workshops that we'll have during May, June and July. It will be easy to sweep off picnic tables and then just sweep any excess dirt into the grass after we've finished potting trees. Although we won't be potting the bald cypress in May, we will be potting trees for the root over rock and the tropical workshops. So once again, we meet at the Zoo for the April meeting. Back to the flowers!

Fruiting and flowering bonsai are things the I really enjoy. I think that most people do. After a dreary and cold winter, it's nice to have a little color. Lots of bonsai fall under the category of fruiting and flowering trees. We have both tropical trees and deciduous trees that fruit and flower. We have some trees that do one or the other, while other trees do both. Some species of trees flower just once a year. Other trees fruit and flower frequently. Of course, some fruiting and flowering trees don't work very well for bonsai. During the April meeting we'll help you sort it all out.

During my presentation on flowering and fruiting bonsai, I'm going to discuss species that make good fruiting and flowering bonsai. I'm also going to discuss fertilizers and other tips and tricks to help maximize your bonsai's fruit and/or blooms. We'll also discuss selecting the proper pot for your fruiting and/or blooming bonsai. Finally, I am hoping to do a little show and tell. My goal is to get some trees ready so they will be flowering just in time for our April meeting. Also during our April meeting, Ron Fraley is going to bring up a topic that really bugs us! We're already dealing with a pandemic, why not add in a locust plague! Well, not quite a plague, I hope, but it can be a concern. Ron Fraley will be presenting a report on the upcoming cicada population which will be coming home to roost this summer. If I understand correctly, cicada larva hide in the ground for about seven years, then a whole bunch show up at once. I guess this is their lucky year. Ron will discuss the upcoming cicada cycle and what threats these things may pose to our bonsai trees. I look forward to hearing his report.

I hope to see you at the Zoo in a few weeks where we'll be discussing flowers, fruit and cicadas -- oh, my!

*Scott Yelich*

Hey everyone, hopefully you've been enjoying the much nicer March weather as much as I have. Soon it will be time to start styling, potting, and maybe even (world events permitting) showing trees. Just remember to snap a few "before" pictures before doing any work on your trees! Being able to put before/after pictures side-by-side can highlight just how much you changed on a tree. It's easy to do (though also easy to forget), and if you keep it up over the years it can be really neat to watch your tree's journey over time. Alyssa Batula, VP





## Cicadas 2021 by Ron Fraley

Cicadas are true insects, they have 6 legs, a distinct head, thorax, and abdomen, are about 1 ½ -2" long and about ½" wide. They have black bodies, reddish legs wing margins and eyes. They have spent the last 13-17 years underground and are eager to emerge and mate.



This year the emerging cicadas are members of brood X, their range is quite large, from the east coast to the middle of Illinois and down into Kentucky. There are several theories about their emergence cycle, but the cicadas are not giving up their secret. It is like the cycles of rabbits, some years there is an overabundance of rabbits, you will also notice that there is also an increase in the number of rabbit predators. Animals will adjust their population not only by the number of predators but also the amount of available food. Most small animals will have a 2, 4 or 6 year cycle. The same with cicadas, except their predators are usually birds and rodents, birds' and rodents' cycle is either two or four years. The cicada's cycle is 13 to 17 years, looking at the bird and rodent cycle, they are not in sync, so the cicadas have a greater chance of survival and increasing their population.

Once the Cicadas emerge their goal is to mate. They do not fly well and will fly into you as you're walking. They last a few weeks. Once the females mate, they will cut slits in branches that are about 3/16" or less in diameter. (About the diameter of most bonsai branches.) Then they deposit their eggs in the slits. Once the eggs hatch, the nymph will begin feeding on the sap in the branches. This will kill most branches or significantly stunt their growth. After feeding on the sap and grown adequately the nymph will drop from the branches and burrow underground. The cycle continues.

Trees in descending order that Cicada like most are Maples, Dogwoods, Cotoneasters, Apple, Crabapple, Fruit trees, Basswood and Oak. Low risk trees are Hollies, Cork trees, Birch, Hornbeam Magnolia and Cedar.

There is no prevention methods for these insects, so the best approach is to protect the trees that Cicadas like the most. A few suggestions to protect your trees:

- Put screening that has an opening of around ¼" or less around your trees. If you have a patio umbrella think about purchasing a screen that goes around the umbrella. This time of year, they are pretty common in the box hardware stores or on-line. (About \$30-\$40)
- If you have a green house or a screened in plant structure put your trees in there. I have seen these structures on-line for about \$170.
- Stand outside with a tennis or badminton racket and swat any Cicada that comes near your trees. (Neighbors will think you have lost it)

The intensity of the number of Cicadas in geographic, some areas will have only a few, while others will have a large infestation. I live near Ft. Ben Harrison and 17 years ago they were awful. Once they were gone, I kept smelling rotten flesh around my house, looked in the gutters and removed over 7 gallons of carcasses from the gutters.

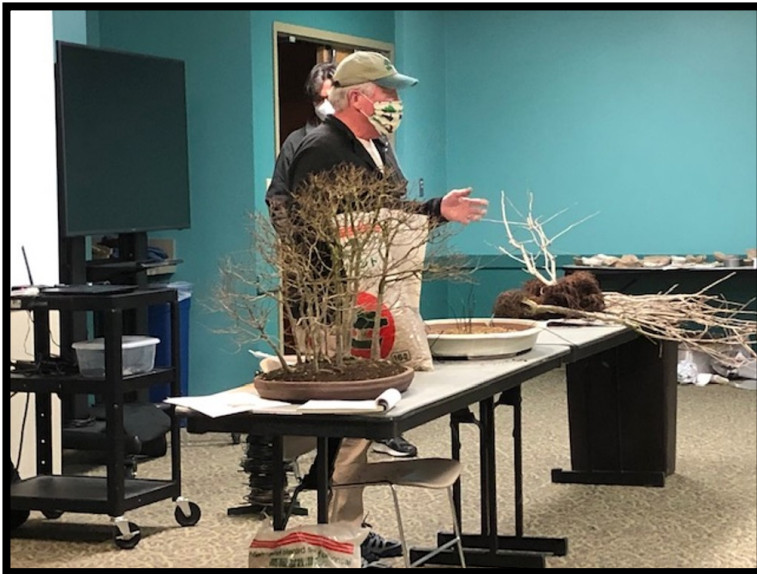
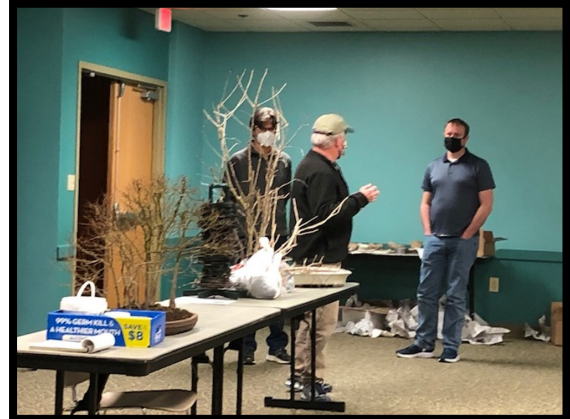
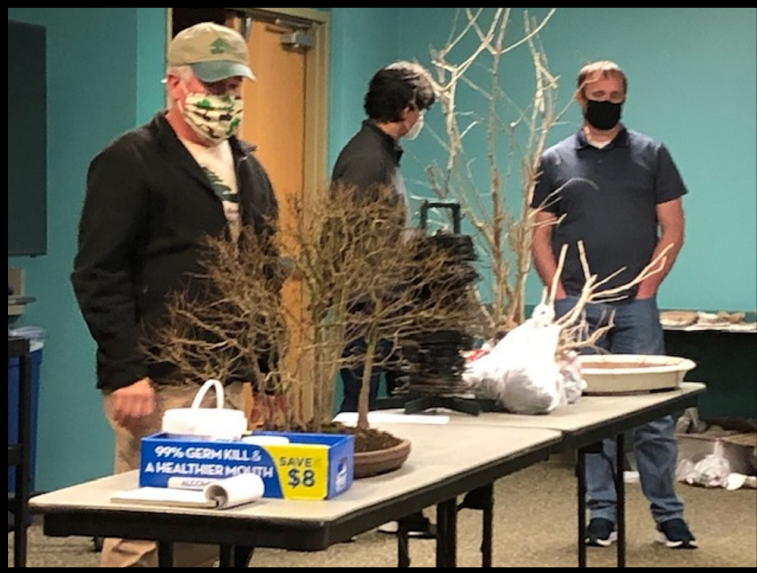
This brood's offspring will be back in 17 years..



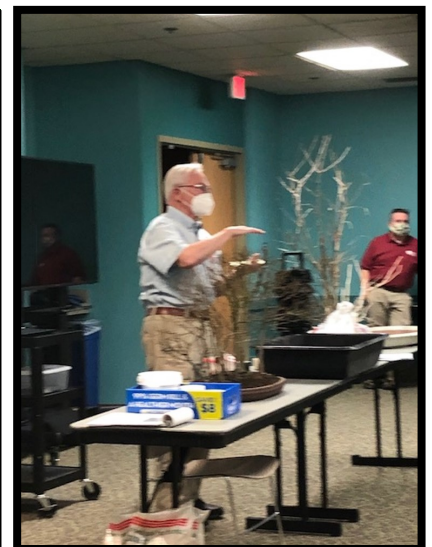
# Can you See the Forest through the Trees?

## Creating a Bonsai Forest

**Mark Fields**



**Prior to Mark's presentation, Carl Wooldridge discussed the effects of heat on bonsai.**



# **Club Information**

**Visitors are always WELCOME!!!**

**Where:** Garfield Park Conservatory\*

Indianapolis, Indiana

**When:** First Wednesday of each Month\*

(Meeting Location/Time w/be scheduled according to any-all Covid Virus Restrictions or mandates)

**Time:** 7:00 pm\* (Check our website for possible changes)

**Club Dues:** Dues are \$25 per calendar year. Cost includes (up to) two members of the same household

Visit our website for more information on our club, bonsai events, nurseries and suppliers, and bonsai links worldwide

**[www.indybonsai.org](http://www.indybonsai.org)**

**Find us on Facebook: Indianapolis Bonsai Club**

**(The April 7 Meeting Will be held at the Hix Institute of the Indianapolis Zoo)**

## **Club Officers**

**2021-2022**

<b>President</b>	<b>Scott Yelich</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Alyssa Batula</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Neil Scarborough</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Robert Hoy</b>
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Paul Weishaar</b>
<b>Newsletter +</b>	<b>Robert Hoy</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Scott Yelich</b>
<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Steven Dick</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Steven Dick</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Paul Weishaar</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 Park Curators</b>	<b>Chip Taylor</b>
	<b>Jacy Macia</b>



## **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.

**Check our website monthly for  
meeting status/location**

## **Club Officers+ 2021-2022**

President	Scott Yelich
Vice President	Alyssa Batula
Secretary	Neil Scarborough
Treasurer	Robert Hoy
Past President	Paul Weishaar
Membership	Steven Dick
Web Master	Scott Yelich
Volunteers	Steven Dick
Historian	Paul Weishaar
Librarian	Paul Weishaar
MABA/BCI	Paul Weishaar
ABS	Mark Fields
Garfield Curators	Chip Taylor Jacy Macchia
Videographer	Cameron Fackler
Publications/Photos	Robert 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](http://www.indybonsai.org)**