

Volume 240

March 2023



INDIANAPOLIS BONSAI CLUB

The Bonsai Creation

IBC



Phoenix Graft

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From the President

I've been enjoying our sporadic days of warm fake spring weather lately, and I'm excited to see signs of life in the trees around my neighborhood. We still have a while to wait before spring weather is here to stay, but at least we can finally start moving from planning and preparing to working on trees. We're starting March off with our first tree workshop on phoenix (or tanuki) grafting.

The phoenix is a mythical bird, famous for achieving immortality by rising from its own ashes after it dies. Similarly, a phoenix graft takes young live trees and grafts them onto a large piece of deadwood. This technique can get you a mature-looking tree much more quickly than waiting for the young material to age. Alternatively, you could use it to "revive" a favorite tree that died. At least, as long as the dead tree is a species that leaves behind good deadwood.

Another, possibly less flattering, name for these trees is tanuki. A tanuki is a (very cute) racoon-dog native to Japan that is considered to be a trickster animal spirit in Japanese folklore. They are famous as beings of mischief and deception, and calling a tree a tanuki references the attempt to trick you into thinking it's older than it actually is. But it's not all bad associations: tanuki are often thought of as jolly pranksters more than malicious tricksters, and their statues are used to symbolize good fortune. Besides, as long as you tell people the tree is grafted you aren't deceiving anyone.

Whether you prefer the symbolism of the phoenix, the tanuki, or just like cool-looking bonsai, I hope you enjoy our March program!

Alyssa Batula, President

Remember: We are interested in showing members trees. Send a photo & description of your trees/collection to:

r.hoy@outlook.com.

Thank you!



Kusamono/Accent Plant Workshop

At the February 1 meeting, members who had made a pot at the January meeting were able to purchase plants & place them in their pots. In addition, a small selection of pots were available for purchase. Both plants and pots were available for \$5 each. The club has a selection of several remaining plants available for sale at \$5 each. They will be available at the March meeting.

February 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Alyssa Batula. The Secretary gave a report on the February 1, 2023 meeting. The main topic of the meeting was to complete the Kusamo pots made in January. With plants.

The Treasurers report was given; checking account had a balance of \$327.00, savings had a balance of \$4,204.02 for a total amount of \$4531.02.

Number of members in attendance participating in the workshop was 22.

Randy Suhre, Secretary

**Reminder: Phoenix Graft Workshop
March 1, 2023 IBC Meeting
Presenter: Mark Fields
Bonsai by Fields**



**A sampling of the workshop
trees available for purchase for
the Phoenix Graft Workshop**

April Deciduous Workshop

Although I am eagerly waiting for the March Phoenix Graft bonsai workshop, I wanted to give all of you a little reminder about the April deciduous workshop as well. Springtime is the right time for repotting our deciduous trees, so having a workshop in early April is perfect. The best time for potting many of these trees is when the buds are just starting to swell. This workshop will include a tree growing in a one or two gallon pot, an eight inch ceramic pot, soil, wire and drain mesh. We will have a nice variety of trees available which will likely include species like, ginkgo, trident maple, Japanese maple, amur maple, Chinese elm, American beech and American hornbeam. The board is still in the process of determining the cost of this workshop, but I can assure you that it will be very affordable. We will have examples of some of the trees available and a sign up sheet for the deciduous workshop at the March IBC meeting.

Scott Yelich, Past President



American Beech



Hophornbeam



Chinese Elm

**A sampling of the trees available for purchase
for the April deciduous workshop**

2023 IBC Meeting Calendar

January 4	■	Preview of Year Events/Suiseki
February 1	■	Pottery Workshop
March 1	■	Phoenix Graft Workshop w/Mark Fields
April 5	■	Deciduous Workshop
May 3	■	Repot Your Tree/Repot Garfield Park Trees/Members Swap Meet
June 7	■	Demo (Tree to be raffled off @ July 5 mtg.)
July 5	■	Tropical Workshop
August 2	■	Winter Tree Care Preparation
September 6	■	Members Only Auction
October 4	■	Conifer Workshop
November 1	■	Winter Tree Care/Show and Tell
December 6	■	Annual GALA

(meeting topics/presenters subject to change)

March 11-19	Indiana Flower & Patio Show
March 25	Bonsai 101 June 3 & 4
June 3&4	Garfield Park Bonsai Exhibit/Sale
July 28-August 6	Indiana State Fair Bonsai Exhibit/Sale
September 9	Penrod Arts Bonsai Sale

**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+ 2023-2024

President	Alyssa Batula
Vice President	Neil Scarborough
Secretary	Randy Suhre
Treasurer	Robert Hoy
Past President	Scott Yelich
Membership	Steven Dick
Web Master	Scott Yelich
Volunteers	Steven Dick
Historian	Paul Weishaar
Librarian	Paul Weishaar
MABA/BCI	Paul Weishaar
ABS	Mark Fields
Publications/Photos	Robert Hoy

Support our Corporate Sponsors

Bonsai by Fields (Mark Fields)

Circle City Bonsai (Bob Hoy)

Eagle Creek Bonsai (Scott Yelich)

If you are interested/willing to write an article or articles for the e-news, please let us know. We will ensure grammar, etc. is correct, to the best of our ability. I Quit teaching English a LONG time ago!!! THANK YOU!

Checkout the IBC website:

www.indybonsai.org