



IBC to Host MABA 2015

The Indianapolis Bonsai Club will host the 2015 MABA convention.

For those not familiar with the Mid-America Bonsai [Alliance](#), it is a group of clubs located throughout the central part of [North America](#) whose purpose is to promote the use of plant species that are native to this region to be used as bonsai and to also provide a bi-annual convention [close to home](#) that offers a good value for your money. The intent is to hold a convention every other year and move its location within the region so that all clubs that are members of MABA have the opportunity to host the event.

The MABA region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin, Ohio and Ontario Canada. There is no membership fee and any club within the region is cordially invited to join.

The club last hosted the convention in 2008, and because of the tremendous efforts of our club members/volunteers, it was a huge success! 2015 will be a success as well through the efforts of our membership and volunteers.

Suthin Sukosolvisit will headline the event. Some of his bonsai are pictured here:



Mark Your Calendars:

MABA 2015 (July 10, 11, 12)

Hosted by the Indianapolis Bonsai Club

Clarion Hotel

<http://www.clarionhotel.com/hotel-indianapolis-indiana-IN117>

Indianapolis, Indiana

From the President

I love late Spring and early Summertime! This is the time of the year when things really get cooking. The stones and diazas are pretty much off the workbench until fall, and its time to work on the trees. My days are filled with the repotting, trimming, and wiring of trees. I've also been trying to give some extra attention to some of my older forgotten favorites this Spring. This year, I am less focused on new acquisitions and more focused on developing trees I already have. I have a 'sit it and forget it' mentality with some of my trees. Meaning, that I tend to focus more on a select group of trees, while others end up on the back of the bench where they grow, but get less individual attention. Sometimes, I've even used the Mike Devore method, where I throw something under the greenhouse bench for a couple of years and let it grow unchecked. Often, I come back to some pleasant surprises when I come back to a forgotten tree. I sometimes think back of some of Mike's words of advice when I was just beginning my bonsai Odyssey. Although Mike's pruning techniques earned him the nickname of "The Butcher of Montgomery County," some of the best words of advice I received from him were, "Leave it alone."

For those of you who missed the show at the Indianapolis Museum of Art: You missed a stunning display. Over eight hundred people came to see the display that weekend. It was the talk of the IMA. There were awards given out in three categories. Z. Zajak's privet was awarded "Best Novice Bonsai." Kyle Weidner's Japanese Black Pine was awarded "Best of Show," and Steve Knapp's Japanese Maple was awarded "The People's Choice." Congratulations goes out to the winners and thanks goes out to all IBC members who showed their trees, and assisted in the set-up, tear-down, and staffing of the event.

In case you missed the IMA Spring Bonsai Show, don't worry, we have another show right around the corner. The annual Garfield Park Bonsai Show is happening the weekend of June 7 & 8.

We will have sign-up sheets at the June meeting for both volunteers and for the bonsai display. Although the city allows us to use the meeting room in Garfield Park's conservatory for free, we are expected to log a certain amount of service hours to earn our keep. This is a chance for our club to earn some major service hours, so I'm hoping we have a great deal of participation with this show.

Finally, I want to remind everyone again that the IBC is hosting the 2015 MABA Convention in a little over a year from now. If you've never been to a bonsai convention, you're in for a real treat! There will be a wide array of artists and vendors. This will include an exhibition, workshops and demonstrations, too. We want to make this into something really great. Over the next year, you'll be hearing about this a lot. Work has already begun on this project. In the near future, we'll be asking for help from volunteers. I think that the MABA convention in 2008 had a very positive impact on our club and I expect this one will do the same. Even though the convention doesn't take place until July 10-12 of 2015, I'm already getting excited.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting on June 4.

Scott Yelich

What To Do May and June:

By Mark Fields

This month all of your trees should be exploding with new growth. You should have moved your trees outdoors and defoliated tropical trees such as shefflera, ficus, bougainvillea, buttonwood, etc. The reason for this is that the foliage they developed during the winter will likely have stretched and the leaves will not be able to tolerate the full sunlight they require. It is important to cut the leaves at the petioles (stems) and to cut the terminals (growing tips). Fertilize them and they will flush with smaller leaves and lots of new branches.

If you had your deciduous trees in a winter hut covered with white poly, your trees likely started leafing out inside that enclosure. That growth is not the best for the overall shape and design of your trees, especially the maples. The internodes (space between the leaves) will be too long and the leaves will burn when you place them out in the sun.

When you take them outdoors, it may be necessary cut the stretched growth back to the first set of leaves or. Like I mentioned above, cut the leaves at the petioles and cut the terminals. Fertilize and in a couple of weeks you will notice new buds emerging from the base of the petioles just below the cut. With maples, it is also important to leave about a half inch of stem above the buds you leave. Maples can die back after cutting so if you cut too close to the buds, you may lose those buds.

When you see the second set of leaves start to open, pinch or cut the stem just below where they are opening. This will activate the buds at the base of each of the remaining leaves and will increase the ramification (fine tertiary and quaternary branches). Repeat as necessary throughout the growing season and you will notice a marked difference in

the fullness of your trees.

Those of you with Japanese black and red pines, you will see the candles on them stretching to several inches in length. At this time you should completely remove all but 2 of the candles at each terminal; leave the 2 that are growing more horizontally. This will begin to balance the tree and will even out the growth if this technique is done every year. When the needles on the remaining candles begin to harden off, in June, cut them back to about 5mm at the base of the candle. A secondary flush will appear at those areas which were cut in a few weeks. As they begin to stretch, they will not be as long and vigorous as the spring growth. Again cut back to 2 lateral candles. Those candles will have shorter needles and will be much shorter. Repeat this annually and you will see more back budding and your tree will be much more compact and well ramified.

There is likely some confusion concerning fertilizing methods. I like using organic fertilizers and others like chemical fertilizers. Ultimately, it is up to you. Do what works best for you.

Mark Fields

IBC LOGO ITEMS

Scribbles Embroidery of Arkansas has the Indianapolis Bonsai Club logo on file and they can produce dress shirts, polos, t-shirts, caps, bags, sweatshirts, fleece pullovers, etc in a wide selection of colors, both product and logo. This allows IBC members to purchase any item any time they wish. You can visit their website at www.scribblesemb.com to see their selection and place your order.

Tree of the Month: Jaboticaba

I was first introduced to the Jaboticaba about three years ago. I was immediately impressed by how colorful and interesting these little trees are. Although most of the leaves are a bright green, the new growth on the tips is red, similar to the new growth on a Japanese Maple. The bark is also particularly interesting. It is flaky and it sheds. As it flakes away, it exposes a mixture of brown, red and gray color. If that isn't enough, the tree will occasionally bare clusters of white flowers. On older trees, you may see dark berries following the flowers. The berries are often found on old branches or along the trunk line itself.

Care for this tree is pretty easy. Since it's a tropical tree from Brazil, it should be kept indoors for the winter, although you can put it outside in the summer. I'd suggest keeping it above 50 degrees. While your tree is inside during the winter, it would do best in a sunny window. It likes humidity, so I'd recommend putting it on a humidity tray when it's indoors. If you choose to put the tree outdoors for the summer, I'd recommend a place where the tree gets some good morning light, but it's protected from the intense afternoon sun. The new growth seems to scorch easily in bright sun and high temperatures. Also, this is a fairly thirsty tree. It doesn't like getting too dry, and it will quickly wilt if it hasn't had enough to drink.

Maintaining the shape on a Jaboticaba is easy. It's a fast growing tree that likes to be hard pruned, particularly if you want to build a nice network of delicate twigs. They can be wired, but these trees can scar easily, so keep a close eye on your wiring. This is a tree that will need to be repotted every 2-3 years. I usually repot them in late spring or early summer. You can trim the roots back by up to 50% and the tree will be fine. You can remove more if you are willing to defoliate the tree before the repotting process. These trees do well in a standard bonsai soil mix. Like my other tropical trees, I fertilize

them every other week during the spring, summer, and fall with a liquid fertilizer mixed at 'houseplant' strength. I fertilize once a month during the winter.

Although I would not consider this a tree that's prone to insect infestation, I would periodically treat them with an insecticide as standard preventative maintenance. They are most vulner-



able to insect attack on the young new growth, particularly if you've done something to stress the tree. I once managed to get aphids on a couple of my trees during a chain of springtime shuffles between the outdoors and the greenhouse, thanks to the unpredictability of Indiana weather.

If you are looking for a tree that's fairly easy to maintain, and one that will provide a splash of color to your bonsai collection, the Jabatocaba may be the right tree for you.

Scott Yelich

Suthin Sukosolvisit



A native of Thailand, Suthin Sukosolvisit is recognized as one of the premier bonsai masters in the United States. He has extensive experience with tropical bonsai and his expertise also extends to Japanese Maples, Junipers, Azaleas and Black Pines. A true artist, he is proficient with many other species and is particularly known for his 'Shohin,' small-sized, elegant bonsai. He's been involved in bonsai since 1970, and has won multiple national bonsai awards in Thailand and the United States (including multiple awards at the US National Bonsai Exhibitions, one of them being the overall Best In Show Winner in at the 2010 event).

Suthin teaches his unique bonsai techniques throughout the New England area and the United States, and he has been one of the few American artists to appear at the Noelander's Cup in Europe. He cheerfully shares new information and techniques everywhere he teaches. His Bonsai are known for their proportion, refinement and detail. Suthin and his wife operate Royal Bonsai Garden, Inc. in Stoughton, Massachusetts.

Suthin's bonsai artistry is clear from the moment you see his trees. They just look right. They are the right proportion, with beautiful line and dramatic expression that has been achieved through many years of dedicated work and painstaking attention to detail. He has an ability to envision a bonsai in most any tree, and can work with whatever a piece of material offers to give it a chance to become a future masterpiece. And, to watch him work up close is possibly one of the best learning experiences you can imagine.



**Indianapolis Bonsai Club
May 7th, 2014
Meeting Minutes
Amanda Cox**

Date & Time: May 7th, 2014 from 7:00-9:00
Location: Garfield Park Conservatory Meeting Room
Presiding: Club President Scott Yelich
Attendance: 27 1-Visitor
Membership: 36 Paid Members
Checking/Savings Balance: \$4308.00

Upcoming Events

-Garfield Park Bonsai Show
June 7th & 8th
Need trees to display and volunteers

-Adam Lavine Workshop

June 22nd
Tree: Ilex vomitoria

Announcements

-MABA Convention here in Indianapolis 2015
Clarion Hotel on the West Side of Indy
July 10th, 11th, 12th 2015
Need Volunteers

-State Fair Judging discussed further at meeting. IBC Board members will meet to make a final decision.

IMA Awards:

Best novice tree: Z. Zajak, Privet
People's Choice: Steve Knapp, Japanese Maple
Best of show: Kyle Weidner, Japanese Black Pine

May:

-Evaluating trees for the August State Fair Bonsai Show
-Tree of the Month: Crabapple Paul Weishaar & Mark Fields

Date 2014	Meeting Topic	Detail	Presenter - Coordinator	Tree of the Month
1/15	My Trip to Japan	A presentation on Mark and Neil's recent trips to Japan	Mark Fields Neil Dellinger	Green Island Ficus (Amanda Cox)
2/5	Suiseki: Viewing Stones and daizes	A presentation on the use of stones in bonsai	Scott Yelich	Brazilian Raintree (Paul Weishaar)
3/5	Tree of the Year Presentations	2014 Tree of the Year Introduction; Kingsville Boxwood	All	Ponderosa Pine (Carl Wooldridge)
4/2	Styling of collected trees	A presentation by members of their 2013 tree of the year; Styling of trees collected on IBC club trips	All	Larch (Carl Wooldridge)
5/7	State Fair Exhibit Tree Evaluation	An initial evaluation of trees planned to be exhibited by members at the State Fair	All	Crabapple (Paul Weishaar, Mark Fields)
6/4	Choosing Pots	How to select the right pot for your tree	Paul Weishaar	Jaboticaba (Scott Yelich)
7/2	Exhibiting tree tips	Putting it all together for the State Fair	All	American Beech (Roger Chestnut)
8/6	Tropical's	Ed Trout Revisit the tree of the year progress	All	Bald Cypress (Paul Weishaar)
9/3	Annual "Members Only" Auction	Members bring in "anything bonsai" to auction. The club receives 20% of sale.	Paul Weishaar, Mark Fields, Scott Yelich	none
10/1	Pines	A presentation of Pines as bonsai	Mark Fields, Paul Weishaar, Carl Wooldridge	Zelkova (Mark Fields)
11/5	More Pines & Tropicals— Winterizing Trees	Pines & Tropicals+ and Winterizing Trees	Mark Fields, Paul Weishaar	Shefflera (Bob Hoy)
12/312/3	Annual Dinner	The Annual Gala Celebration	All	none
Events				
April 26,27	Perennial Premier	Bonsai Sale and Exhibit at the IMA	All	
May 2, 3, 4	Orchard in Bloom	Bonsai Sale/Information booth at Holliday Park	All	
June 7, 8	Garfield Park Exhibit and Sale	Annual exhibit and sale	All	
June 22	Bonsai Workshop	Guest Artist: Adam Lavigne	All	
July 12	Club Picnic	Hosted by Scott Yelich	All	
August 1-9	State Fair	Annual exhibit and sale	All	
September 6	Penrod Art Fair	Bonsai Sale	All	
September	Bjorn Bjorholm	Workshop at Bonsai by Fields Details to follow	All	

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Scott Yelich

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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

President	Scott Yelich
Vice President	Carl Wooldridge
Asst. Vice Presidents	Robert Hoy Kyle Widener
Secretary	Amanda Cox
Treasurer/Membership	Robert Hoy
Past President	Mark Fields
Newsletter Editor	Robert Hoy
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Garfield Curator	Chuck Perry