



The Bonsai Creation

Hot Time, Summer in the City . . .

Well, we are entering into the hottest time of the year - midsummer! This is the time of the year when I usually make significant changes in my bonsai collection, usually not on a voluntary basis. It's kinda like "bonsai evolution" - the survival of the fittest - which means those trees that are strong enough to survive my attempts at bonsai craft, live to see fall (of course, that then leads to the next phase of the evolutionary process - winter survival!)

So far this year, my work seems to have paid off - I actually have lost only a couple trees, most are thriving, and for the first time in a number of years, I am actually being successful with my pines and junipers!! None of them are in trouble, all are sending out nice new growth, and the only branch in danger on any of the conifers is a weak branch on a collected Ponderosa pine that would probably look better jinned any way as it only had one weak tuft of needles anyway!

The only problem trees I am currently dealing with is my European beech grove - trees have turned brown but many of them then sent out a new flush of leaves!! Can't figure out what's going on there. I guess I need to credit Mark Fields for the success this year as the only thing that I have done differently, other than buy more EXPENSIVE trees is to change the feeding regimen to what he does and it works!! (No, this isn't a plug for Mark's products, though it is a testament that sometimes getting advice from someone who is

successful is the BEST thing we can do for our trees.

See you August 1!!

WHITE RIVER GARDENS BONSAI EXHIBIT

It may seem a long way off but September 22, opening day of the exhibit, is coming up quickly. The staff at White River Gardens has notified me that they are going to create new identification signs for all the bonsai. They have requested the IBC submit information ASAP so they do not get in a bind the week prior to the exhibit.

We are going to simplify the signs and need only the following information:

- Scientific name
- Common name
- Name of exhibitor

There will be space at the bottom of the sign for any specific comments you wish to include relative to the bonsai.

Also include the retail value of the bonsai. This will not appear on the sign but is requested for insurance purposes.

If you are not 100% sure you are going to exhibit a specific tree but are considering it, go ahead and submit the information.

Please send information to:

Paul Weishaar
9211 Central
Indianapolis, IN, 46240

Or email information to:
pweishaar3@comcast.net

Do not be shy about exhibiting your bonsai. This is your show.

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From The Office of the President -

AUGUST 2007 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We're midway through the summer and now is the time that our trees start showing problems. Again, my Japanese and Trident maples are turning brown around the edges of the leaves. I haven't found the answer to this yearly problem yet. The Japanese Beetles have taken a real liking to the blooms on my Crepe Myrtle so it's looking a little raggy as well. I've got some real determined spiders this year that can make a dense web overnight and spraying hasn't seemed to help. This dense web kills the leaves so a few of my Chinese Elms have bald spots.

What I'm trying to say is that your trees need you more now than ever. The high heat and little rain means you need to be vigilant and check your trees daily. Besides, taking care of your bonsai will take your mind off the high tax bill you just received. Ouch!

Since our last newsletter, our Club hosted a great variety of bonsai trees at the Garfield Park Conservatory. **Mark Fields** and **Rich Stepien** both offered bonsai and related material for sale. The attendance was a little slow due to the rain, but we had some members who had never exhibited their trees and that made the exhibit much more interesting. Again, thanks to everyone who helped. The volunteer effort made me proud.

We didn't have a July meeting due to the holiday, but one of our members opened up his backyard to a great backyard tour. He had just completed new plant stands and a fantastic greenhouse that features shade cloth in the summer and plastic covering in the winter. We were all jealous. As we don't want to jeopardize his collection, again I won't mention his name, but the 35 to 40 members who attended sure seemed to enjoy themselves. A big thanks goes to all the effort and refreshments – and the wife who shared her husband's birthday with our club members.

AUGUST 1 - TROPICAL WORKSHOP & TREE RAFFLE

This will be the last year **Mike DeVore** conducts a tropical workshop. Many club members have great trees in their collections from working with Mike. There will be a \$5 workshop fee which covers soil and wire. Mike will bring a variety of tropicals and pots which he will sell directly at reasonable and varied prices. Tree and pot shouldn't cost more than \$50 total, probably less depending upon your choice of tree and pot. PLEASE BRING CASH so Mike doesn't have to deal with cashing checks.

You can still sign up at the August 1 meeting for this workshop. Those already signed up for this workshop are: **Terry Meldrum, Chuck Perry, Donna Case, Sanford Pederson, Roger Chestnut, Mike Turley (2 trees), and Mike Dodge.**

Also, we'll raffle the 2nd **Marco Invernizzi styled juniper at the August 1 meeting**. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

TREES NEEDED FOR WRG EXHIBIT

Additionally at the August 1 and September 5 meetings we will have **sign-up sheets for the September 22 – November 11 White River Garden Exhibit**. As White River Garden makes up a plaque describing each tree, there will be **info sheets for you to fill out regarding each tree displayed**. You can take the sheets home and bring them back to the September 5 meeting or you can mail them to Paul Weishaar. To give WRG time to make the plaques, the deadline for submitting these info sheets is Monday, September 10. Some former members won't be displaying this year, so **we need new exhibitors** as we usually exhibit 100+ trees. Don't be bashful. If you're unsure about a tree being exhibited, the **September 5 meeting is an opportunity to bring the tree(s) and get member's advice**. This is our biggest exhibit each year. Last year 14,000 folks went to see our trees.

Also at the August 1 meeting, we'll decide whether to have the **trees judged or not?** Last year we tried for the first time judging trees in 4 categories based on the owner's ability. The categories were novice,

intermediate, advanced and professional. Should we do it again? If so, we need some competition in the novice category as we only had one member who exhibited in that category last year. Let me know at the meeting as we need to find outside judges.

BONSAI SALE OPPORTUNITIES

As a reminder, members can sell bonsai and related items at the September 8 Penrod Art Festival and the September 22 & 23 White River Garden Exhibit. Remember to price accordingly, as IBC deducts 20% of your total sales before sending you your proceeds.

Hope to see everyone at the August 1 meeting. Thanks to everyone.

Donna Shirley



If you have a request for articles, comments or photos please send them through www.indybonsai.org or send an email to IBC's Newsletter Editor at:
webmaster@indybonsai.org

Indianapolis Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

January 3 - Preview 2007 Schedule of Events, Historical Tapes of IBC Club - Mark Fields Presenter

February 7 - Bonsai Soils - Paul Weishaar, Presenter

March 7 - Potting / Repotting Trees - Carl Wooldridge, Presenter. 2006 Bonsai 101 participants bring back frees for potting. Other members can bring 1 tree for repotting with Club assistance. Club provides soil @ \$10 a bag

April 4 - Juniper Workshop from nursery stock, Rough Pruning on Chinese Elms for June ramification demo - Mark Fields, Presenter

April 15 - Marco Invernizzi Demonstration - Marco returns from Italy for the third year in a row to visit our Club

April 16 - Marco Invernizzi Workshop - Bring Your Own Tree - Morning, afternoon, and evening workshops for IBC members will be scheduled

May 2 - Air-Layering, Thread and Root Grafting Demonstration - Mark Fields, Presenter

May 5 & 6 - Indianapolis Museum of Art Exhibit - IMA Garden Court

June 6 - Ramifying Chinese Elm Demonstration - Mark Fields, Presenter

June 23 & 24 - Garfield Park Exhibit - Garfield Park Conservatory

July 4 - NO MEETING - HOLIDAY

July 14 - Member Backyard Tour - Details will be furnished at the June Meeting

August 1 - Tropical Workshop - Mike DeVore, Presenter

September 5 - Membership Critique "Bring Your Own Trees" - Members can get advice on WRG display trees

September 8 - Penrod Art Festival and IBC Bonsai Sale

September 22 - White River Gardens Exhibit begins. Day 1 of annual IBC Bonsai Sale at WRG Exhibit

September 23 - Day 2 of annual IBC Bonsai Sale at WRG Exhibit

October 3 - Bonsai 101 - Carl Wooldridge, Presenter

November 7 - Bonsai Display Stands & Accent Plants - Presented as preparation for MABA 2008 hosted by IBC

November 11 - White River Gardens Exhibit ends

December 5 - Annual Holiday Party & Raffle - Held at Chinese Ruby Restaurant

Bonsai by the Month

By Paul Weishaar

The care of your bonsai this much is dictated by the temperature and location of your trees. Keep in mind the growth cycle is minimal or even ceased if the temperatures are high enough. Go back and read last months *Bonsai by the month* for a detailed explanation.

You should be alert to the watering needs. You may have to water twice a day if it gets too hot. If you notice a couple of your bonsai have damp soil and all the others have dry soil, this should raise a red flag. Something is wrong! Check the soil as this is indicative of a drainage problem.

Also remember to rotate your bonsai so all sides get equal light. I rotate my bonsai every two weeks.

With the exception of tropicals, be cautious with heavy trimming or pruning as growth, as noted previously, is slow or non existent.

As August is one of the leading vacation months, plan to find someone that is dependable to water your bonsai. Automatic watering systems are good but they have one major drawback, if it rains for 3 or 4 days your automatic timer does not recognize the rain and will continue to water as programmed. This could cause problems with some trees, such as elms, that do not like wet feet all the time.

Finally, minimize your fertilizing this month as your trees do not need food as they are not in an aggressive growth mode.

IBC June Meeting - Thread Grafting with Mark Fields



*Bonsai
by Fields*

A Division of Fields Landscape Concepts,

By Appointment Only

Mark Fields
317-786-5079

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2505 Conservatory Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

www.Indygov.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 to receive the newsletter by email, or \$30 to receive it by US Mail. Cost includes up to two members of the same household. After July 1st, dues are \$15 for the remainder of the year.

Club Officers

President	Donna Shirley
Vice President	Mark Fields
2nd Vice President	John Braunsdorf
Secretary	Chuck Perry
Treasurer	Don Helmer
Past President	Paul Weishaar
Newsletter Editor	Michael Turley
Web Master	Michael Turley
Membership	Bob Hoy
Historian	John Strassburg
Librarian	Jason May
MABA/ABS/BCI	Paul Weishaar
Garfield Curator	Chuck Perry
Speaker's Bureau	---

Indianapolis Bonsai Club
3944 Cherry Blossom Boulevard
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IF SEVERELY Damaged,
Refuse Delivery & Return to Sender