

CUTTINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
BONSAI SOCIETY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

May 2007

www.cincinnatibonsai.com

FROM THE EDITOR

I hope everyone is enjoying their trees, I love this time of year, when all the new growth is starting to harden off. The real work of refining your bonsai is just starting. If you have not started yet, it is time to begin your maintenance pruning routine.

Most deciduous trees should be allowed to develop several sets of new leaves on each shoot before pruning. Once the desired growth stage has been reached, these new shoots should be trimmed back to just one or two nodes. Stronger areas require harder trimming than the weaker areas.

Remember the amount of foliage is proportional to the growth potential of an individual branch. Leave more in areas that you want to bulk up and remove more in areas that you want to slow down. Annual practice of this technique will balance the strength of your tree and build the ramification that we all want out trees to have.

Conifers are a bit different in their maintenance pruning techniques. Junipers are pinched by hand as the new shoots extend. Yews and spruces are also trimmed this same way, but by twisting the new soft growth. Pinching

by hand on these species will result in less ugly browning of the foliage tips than trimming with scissors. The same principle of energy balancing applies as with deciduous trees.

Pines are a different story. The shoots (candles) are entirely cut off with scissors. Trimming early allows the new growth to have a longer growing time and will result in longer needles. The latter you do this, the smaller the new growth will be.

Steve Parr
(513) 248-0160
sparr@cinci.rr.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As we have been working on the formation of The Advanced Bonsai Study Group & The Continuing Bonsai Education programs, we have come into contact with several bonsai clubs around the U.S. We have noted the increased popularity of small bonsai study groups being formed within many bonsai clubs. These groups consist of any number of people, typically 5 to 8, who have similar bonsai experience. They get together on a schedule convenient to the group, usually at one of the member's house, to work on bonsai, discuss solutions to common problems & socialize. They will frequently invite a more experienced club member to one of their gatherings to help them with a particular issue of bonsai design, maintenance, pest control or whatever. These small study groups seem to serve as a catalyst to stimulate the advancement of each of it's members bonsai abilities--it's a win win for everyone. I would strongly suggest you consider forming such a group.

How do you find other club members with your same interest??? You can make an announcement at a monthly club meeting (let me know & I will give you the floor) or contact Steve Parr & run a brief article making your interest known in the next monthly newsletter. Informal study groups are a lot of fun & very instructive.

Don Brown
(513) 831-1811
djbrown@cinci.rr.com

PROGRAMS

Date—normally the third Thursday of each month (watch Newsletter)

Time—7:00 PM to whenever you want to leave

Place—Civic Garden Center—exceptions, July Picnic & Xmas Party (watch Newsletter)

May 17, 2007 **Boon Manakitivipart**

Boon to most of us needs know introduction. He is one of the best skilled bonsai artist in this country. In 1993, the Golden State Bonsai Federation awarded Boon a Teacher Development Scholarship: two years later, he received the Ben Oki International Design Award for styling a Sierra Juniper. He studied bonsai in Japan under the direction of Yasuo Mitsuya for one year and has returned many times to study under Kihachiro Kamiya until his passing in 2004.



June 21, 2007 **Jerry Meislik**

Jerry is an enthusiastic hobbyist and the most knowledgeable about growing high-light tropical bonsai in cooler climates. Now retired and looking to share his knowledge. He has a lot to share!

While living in Michigan he held many positions at the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society and is currently vice-president of the Big Sky Bonsai Society in Montana. He's been a director of the American Bonsai Society, Chair of the American Bonsai Society Editorial Board, and board member of the National Bonsai Foundation.

He teaches bonsai at Flathead Valley Community College and throughout the country. He travels extensively and shares his knowledge and experiences in The Bonsai Enthusiast - Online Journal, American Bonsai Society Journal, International Bonsai, and the Bonsai Clubs International's Bonsai Magazine.



August 16, 2007 **Matt Ouwinga**

A bio on Matt will be emailed early next week. He's excellent at training Trident maple. He will have handouts and do a power point presentation. He studied under Kunio Kobayashi at the Shunka Bonsai Museum in Tokyo. The only fee he wants from our club is his airfare from Chicago. Bill Valvanis highly recommends him.



Tom McCormack
(513) 563-0473
bonsaicin@aol.com

WORKSHOPS

REMEMBER OUR POLICY HAS CHANGED. YOU HAVE TO PAY UP FRONT TO GET YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN UP SHEET. PLEASE DON'T FORGET YOUR CHECKBOOK ON THURSDAY.

May 19, 2007 BYOT Workshop Rowe Arboretum

Boon Manakitipart --- The workshop will be held at the Rowe Arboretum starting at 9am. This is a BRING YOUR OWN TREE workshop. This is a chance for our members to work with one of the west coast masters. Boon is from Thailand and was trained in Japan. He has used his artistry on trees all over the world. Now is the time to start looking for a tree for his workshop. The fee for this workshop is \$40.00.

June 23, 2007 Chinzan Azalea Workshop Civic Garden Center

Jerry Meislik --- The workshop will be held at the Civic Garden Center at 9 am. The material to be used is the Chinzan Azalea. The plants have all been potted and are ready for styling. Bring your wire and tools. The fee for this workshop is \$80.00.

July, 2007 No Workshop - Annual Picnic

August 18, 2007 Matt Ouwinga

Details will be forthcoming

The club will be serving coffee and refreshment at all workshops. There will be *appropriate* refreshments for the afternoon sessions.

Mike Scheid
(513) 984-0289
mscheid1@cinci.rr.com

MONTHLY TIPS

From Boron to Zinc: What Your Plants Need and Why

Because plants need nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in large amounts, these elements are known as primary macronutrients. Plants require smaller amounts of the secondary macronutrients—sulfur, calcium, and magnesium. Iron, manganese, zinc, copper, chlorine, boron, and molybdenum are still essential for growth but are required in even smaller amounts. They are often referred to as micronutrients or trace elements. Each of these macro- and micronutrients serves specific purposes for our plants, and, for plants grown indoors, it's entirely up to us to make sure we supply them.

Nitrogen (N)

Nitrogen is always listed first in the fertilizer grade (or N-P-K ratio) on nutrient product bags, boxes, and bottles because it is one of the biggies. (For example, if the ratio on your nutrient package reads "11-13-3", that means it contains 11 percent nitrogen.) Plants use nitrogen to produce new, green growth.

Phosphorus (P)

Phosphorus is listed second in the N-P-K ratio. (That nutrient package with the "11-13-3" ratio contains 13 percent phosphorus.) Phosphorus is essential to plant fruiting and flowering because it promotes root growth. When you supplement the amount of phosphorus your flowering plants get, you'll likely notice more blooms and more vigorous growth overall.

Potassium (K)

Potassium takes up the last spot in the N-P-K ratio. (So an "11-13-3" nutrient ratio contains 3 percent potassium.) Because plants use potassium to build cells and tissue, supplementing this nutrient contributes to overall plant hardiness. Stronger, more durable plants are usually more tolerant of temperature extremes and are more pest- and disease-resistant.

Sulfur (S)

One of the secondary macronutrients, sulfur helps plants maintain their dark green color. Mainly, plants use sulfur to create essential proteins.

Calcium (Ca)

As with sulfur, plants also need calcium to make proteins. Calcium promotes new root growth and facilitates overall plant vigor.

Magnesium (Mg)

Even though it's classified as a secondary macronutrient, magnesium is still critical for growth. Without magnesium, plants can't use light to make food! Plants also need magnesium to be able to take in their other essential nutrients and to make seeds.

Iron (Fe)

Iron makes for healthy, dark green growth. As with magnesium, iron is essential for photosynthesis. Plants must have iron in order to produce chlorophyll.

Manganese (Mn)

In short, manganese makes things happen. Manganese is necessary for chlorophyll formation, and without it, plants wouldn't be able to carry out essential cellular functions.

Copper (Cu)

Copper contributes to many natural processes including plant metabolism and reproduction.

Zinc (Zn)

Plants use zinc in conjunction with other elements to carry out many natural processes including forming chlorophyll.

MONTHLY TIPS (CONT'D)

Boron (B)

Plants don't need much of it, but boron does facilitate nutrient uptake and it helps plants to grow new tissue.

Molybdenum (Mo)

Plants need molybdenum to produce essential proteins.

Finally, to help your plants make the best use of the nutrients you offer them, make sure the nutrient solution is well aerated and not too hot or too cold. A good temperature range for most solutions is 60 to 65 degrees F. Even though they will absorb the nutrients at different rates according to what they need, you can avoid imbalances by offering your plants fresh nutrient solution every week or so.

NOTES OF INTEREST

Continuing Bonsai Education

The Bonsai Society of Greater Cincinnati (BSCG) has determined there is a need to provide our beginner/intermediate members with a program to assist them in more fully understanding and developing their bonsai skills. The study group, to be known as Continuing Bonsai Education, is being formulated to begin in May, with the Class of 2007. The class will cover a twelve month period with nine to ten classes. The first session will cover tools, wire selection and soil preparation. The cost for the program is \$75, to cover room rentals and incidental class materials. The costs of plants, pots and soil will be the responsibility of each student. Size of the class will be limited to fifteen students. Payment must be made at the time of registration, and participants will be enrolled on a first-paid basis. There are only two slots remaining. A sign up sheet will be available at the April meeting. If you need additional information or have questions. Please contact Carole Gray at rcgray@cinci.rr.com. Dave Radlinski, Chairman

Accent Plant Sale

If you are looking for accent plants, here is your chance. Over this coming Memorial Day weekend, from Friday the 25th through Monday the 28th. Joan Day is having her annual yard show and sale. There will be miniature hostas, irises, and other alpine type plants available, as well as hypertufa troughs and planters.

The address is 6215 Cavalcade Dr. in Fairfield

Going north on I-75, take Hwy. 129 West (this is the first exit past Tylersville Rd. in West Chester), exit at Hwy 747, turn right on 747 and go to first traffic light, which is Princeton Road, turn left and go to Liberty Fairfield Rd., turn right. Go to Stonybrook Dr. and turn left, then right on Calvacade Drive.





ADVERTISEMENTS

The rates for advertising is \$50 for 12 insertions, for card sized ads. Contact Dave Radlinski at (513) 831-6931 (Ed's. Note: Please Note that there has been a change in our insertion rate, effective July 1ST, 2007, the new rate will be \$10 per 12 insertions).

Bonsai Speakers Bureau

For Lectures-Demonstrations-Lessons-Programs-Tours


For information and rates, Call:

Dave Radlinski	(513) 831-6931
Tom McCormack	(513) 563-0473
Mike Scheid	(513) 984-0289
Don Brown	(513) 831-1811

And/or other club members

SPECIALIZING IN:

DWARF CONIFERS
WILDLIFE ATTRACTING TREES AND SHRUBS
HORTICULTURAL CONSULTING
LANDSCAPING DESIGN SERVICES



B.C. NURSERY

CHRIS AND BECKY
DAEGER

4183 ST. RT. 276
BATAVIA, OHIO 45103
(WILLIAMSBURG)
HOURS BY APPOINTMENT
(513) 724-9032



Harold E. Malaby, GRI
ePro

Serving Greater Cincinnati
WWW.HaroldMalaby.Com

24 Hr Direct: (513) 470-6295
E-Fax: (513) 619-9849
Office: (513) 248-0800
Email: Malaby@USA.Net



CLASSIFIEDS

(Ed's. Note: This is a new addition to our newsletter, which will allows members to post bonsai related items for sale, with 20% of sales going to the club (similar to the White Elephant Sale). Contact Steve Parr via e-mail (sparr@cinci.rr.com) with notices.

Trees for Sale

Japanese White Pine, Imported Shimpaku, Chinese Elm
&

Korean Hornbeam 3 Tree Grove

Owner reducing collection due to advanced age lifestyle

Contact

Don Brown @ 513.831.1811

or

djbrown@cinci.rr.com