

Presidential Musings

Welcome to a New CBS Board

Last night, September 4th, your new Board of Directors' met to begin to plan the events for the next several months. It was with a little sadness that I noted that Sally Bodley, past treasurer, Ross Fillmore, past editor, Elaine Finley, past librarian and Mike Scholl, past 3 year Board member would not be joining us for this meeting. Each of them brought a good deal of bonsai knowledge, and experience in their positions to the table. I know that I will be looking for them at our regular meeting to catch up; after all, we are a social club, dedicated to sharing our experiences in raising our treasured trees. I am pleased that our new Board members also bring their bonsai knowledge and the excitement of meeting a new challenge.

Our new Board members are Dan Binder, 2nd Vice President, Jerry Cohn, Secretary and Dr. Dick Gurevitz, Treasurer. Dan is one of the club's more experienced members. Several years ago, Dan wrote a series of articles for our newsletter on various aspects of care. Dan and 1st VP Sandy Schoenfeld are charged with program development, following through with the ideas that the Board brainstorms at its meetings. Dick Gurevitz (aka Dr. Dicky to those who have seen his license plate) has taken over the job as Treasurer. He was very complimentary on the thoroughness of Sally's books. Zack Clayton has taken on the challenge of news letter editor and Webmaster. Merrida Weinstein is the new Librarian. She teaches at Ohio State University. While relatively new to Columbus, Merrida has been a bonsai enthusiast for some time. I note that she is one of the members who has made some of the "Out of Town" shows, such as MABA in Detroit, and the Potomac Society's 25 th Show at the National Conservatory. Finally, Jerry Cohn is our new Board Secretary. Jerry is relatively new to the hobby, but wanted to contribute to making the organization successful. Linda Fields asked to step down as the Secretary as her new job at Ohio EMA involves some travel during the week and she felt it was not fair for the Secretary to miss meetings. However, being a true enthusiast with some 60 trees in her collection, Linda agreed to remain on the Board as one of the 3 year Board members.

Feel free to let us know the types of programs and events that you would like to see. We're anxious to hear your ideas too.

Ken Schultz

Inniswood Weekend - An Affair of the Hort

The Columbus Bonsai Society has for the third year in a row been asked to exhibit at the Affair of the Hort. This has been an exciting event for central Ohio Gardeners. Thousands of fellow gardeners will visit the vendors and other society displays during this September 28 and 29 event. The show is held from 10 AM till dusk on Saturday and 11 AM till 5 PM on Sunday. So far six of our members have volunteered to staff our booth. We will have pots and a few plants. Our main goal is to let people interested in Bonsai know when and where we meet. Marcia Herrold, one of our six volunteers first learned about CBS at this event! We could use about 4 more volunteers, so that 4 hour shifts of 2 each can be established. This would allow us to enjoy the lectures and demonstrations while working our booth. I am positive that many of you would

enjoy this year's lectures and demonstrations.

A sampling of the agenda of speakers and demos includes: **Saturday** 10:30 - Tuffa Troughs, Rob Proctor from the Denver Botanical Garden, Ohio Public Gardens,- Ian Anderson, 5 PM - Diagnosing Plant Problems, Demos include; Bulbs, Feng Shui and Making Garden Troughs at 4 PM. **Sunday**: Ohio Native Species (Kingwood), Perennial Combinations, 10 Best Plants, Thomas Lloyd Smith, Old Things New Places, Ed Lentz. Look in the Sunday 9/23 Dispatch for a full schedule.

If you've never been to Inniswood, it is located between Westerville Rd and Sunbury Rd, north off of Dempsey Rd, on Hempstead Rd. There are brown metro park signs to guide you. I especially enjoy the fantastic rock garden with its rushing brook.

The Annual Picnic - September 15, 1:00 to Whenever at 3161 Hanawalt Road

Each year, since I have been a CBS member, I look forward to the Annual Picnic.

Not only is it a great social event, but you also get to see another hobbyist's collection.

Last year, we went to the Schoenfelds, the year before the Fredritz's and before that the Puderbaugh's. This year,

I welcome you to my home and my garden. It is definitely a work in progress, as I have only been at this location for 4 years. I have nearly 1 acre, so there will be plenty of room to spread out.

It has great possibilities, and for you, a parking lot at the office building directly behind my home. Its very easy to find, even if you're not a north end frequenter.

Just take I -71 to the Polaris exit and turn east, or right.

Then turn south on the first street on the right (between the BP and the Shell). There is a brand new 4 story office building on the corner of Hanawalt and Worthington Galena Road. This is part of the 3 office building complex that goes in behind my house. If you were at August's meeting you heard me say that I'm the 3rd house, a blue split level. From the parking lot, you'll see a blue tool barn at the rear of the property. (Next to the house with the fence around an in the ground pool - no we're not

invited there.)

What should you bring? Folding chairs (I have about 7, but to be sure - bring an extra). A side dish appetizer or desert to share. A meat or fish item for you and your spouse/guest. (There is a gas grill for those who wish to BBQ here.) Soft drinks and picnic ware will be provided. If you'd like to bring something a little stronger - feel free.

And what is Bonsai about this event? The Club does have about a dozen trees that will be offered at silent auction. (They may be marked with a "minimum bid" to make sure the Club doesn't lose money). Bonsai items that you would like to sell; trees, pots, books, stands, suiseki, stands, turntables, tools? Just remember that the Club asks that 10% of the amount sold, be donated to the Club to help pay for the drinks and paperware. **And of course the Golden Dog Award.** Each member is strongly encouraged to select their **poorest** bonsai specimen for this contest. There are 2 rules: 1) It must be alive; and 2) in a bonsai pot. (That's to prove you thought it was bonsai at some point in time.)

Don't be afraid to come late, you might miss some of the appetizers, but don't let that keep you away. And don't forget this is a rain or shine event. Though if it rains, some of the events may be in the garage....

And now a word from **Mark Passerella** on shopping tips:

During the introductory bonsai course that Zack Clayton and I taught at the Conservatory, we spoke briefly to the assembled students about the specialized tools our hobby can require. We made the point that a very serviceable kit of tools can be assembled using items from a variety of sources. In fact, one trip through a mega store such as Wal-Mart or Meijers could yield just about everything one would need for a very useful bonsai tool box, except for that one indispensable bonsai tool, a concave cutter.

First item is the tool box itself-head for the hardware department to check the selection, and don't forget that a fishing tackle box may better answer your needs. While in the outdoor sports section, pick up a pack or two of lead fishing sinkers, which can be useful for adjusting small branches without wire. With tool or tackle box in hand head for the gardening department. Some "western" style gardening implements are useful for bonsai. Chose shears or cutters that have two sharp blades meeting each other. Avoid anvil type pruners, as they are more likely to smash and tear branches rather than cut them cleanly. A small pair of pruners are good to have handy for cutting roots only, while a set that is more like scissors will be excellent for shoots and small branches. It may be possible to find some of the fine floral arrangement shears here as well. Circle back to the hardware department and locate some small pliers, both standard and needle nose can be very useful. Next stop is office and school supplies, just to look over the selection of scissors and pick up a little bottle of Elmer's glue, which is a more than satisfactory wound dressing(for your trees, not you). The domestics or craft area will give another selection of scissors to choose from-little embroidery scissors are great for wee shoots and leaf pruning. Try to locate the plastic mesh used for cross-stitch, which is a very good screen for covering drain holes in pots. Now set out for the health and beauty department, just to have a look and manicure scissors and nail clippers. There is type of nail clipper that looks just like a mame size concave cutter. While here pick up a tube of lip balm, which is also used as a tree wound sealant.

Before making for the check-out, swing by the Asian food department and get a package of chop sticks or bamboo skewers.

There you have it-an hour's shopping and a very practical and respectable tool kit ready to serve for a long time to come.

And finally, **the editor's two cents**. I now have a much greater appreciation for what Ross did for us for so many years. He has provided us with a monthly source of information about our club and our trees. I have given him periodic article contributions over the past several years and I hope that you will all do the same for me. I will be making some changes over the next few issues that I hope you like. I invite your comments, questions, and letters to be included here. You can deliver them at the meetings, or post them to the club email address at: columbusbonsai@hotmail.com

I'm hoping to have a regular Presidents column, a bit of information two or three months ahead on program topics (just so you can plan ahead on what to bring), book reviews, a seasonal calendar for tree care, and members questions. This is your newsletter folks, decide what you want in it and we will try to make it happen. We have a good start and a history to work from, and we certainly have enough material to keep the news flowing.

Zack

A Calendar of Events for travelers...

September 20 - Cincinnati Bonsai Society White Elephant Sale and Silent Auction

September 22 - Wildwood Gardens Fall Gathering - Chardon Ohio (\$90 +workshops)

October 13-14 Great Lakes Bonsai Society Fall Show - Villa Maria Center, Erie Pa.

October 15-19 - Bonsai Clubs International - Convention aboard the Royal Caribbean Majesty of the Seas - sail from Miami Fla. \$285

October 20 - 21 - Cincinnati Bonsai Society Fall Show - Krohn Conservatory, Cincinnati, Oh

October 26 - 28 The International Scholarly Symposium on Bonsai and Viewing Stones - National Arboretum, Washington D.C.

October 27 - Wildwood Gardens Hosts Craig Coussins, author and founder of the Scottish Bonsai Association in 1978 - \$60 Chardon, Oh.

Members are encouraged to add events to this list. We probably should focus on events that are within 250 miles and the majors such as MABA, BCI, and ABS.