

Columbus Bonsai Society Newsletter - May 2004

Sonny helped me open and price the pots that were ordered. Fifty pots were received, eleven were not in stock. We stored them away - except for 3 really huge mica pots that Zack ordered - I dropped them at his house on my way home - they were too big to stick into a cabinet.

As we went though I was surprised at the high quality of most of the pots some were Tokonama. Most are small - less than 14".

They only gave a small discount and then added on shipping. So the prices I marked are very close to what we have in the pot. ~ Ken Schultz

We are again at that time where we need volunteers to sign up for bringing in snacks for the meeting. If you have some treats you would like to share with the club at our meetings, please contact Linda Schultz or sign up at the meeting.

Coming Attractions

This month we have two of our club members talking about Maples. Ben William will be talking about Japanese maples and general care tips and Zack will be putting together a forest or grove planting with volunteer maples that he has lifted from his "growing beds" AKA - the flower beds that haven't been weeded for several years. These will all be maples that you might normally just pull up and put out for trash or into the compost. Garden Volunteers - practice on them, test ideas on them, learn from them, and then show some. What have you got to lose? They were just growing in the flower bed before you came along, and the price is right.

We will also be talking about what needs to be done for trees you are going to show in June. There are some maintenance chores that need this much time. If you are thinking about putting a tree in the show but aren't sure about it, bring it in. you really should have your short list of trees you want to show by now, and if you have any questions about what you are showing this is the last chance to get advice.

Road Trip: May 23rd to Ken Huth's. "I will have tons of big , high quality pots. I will be the place to get them(unless they are all broken in transit). The prices will be great too. The only problem is that they will all be in boxes or grates and someone will have to open them? I am excited. We will have a good time and food too. Kenneth J. Huth Sr., Ken's World of Bonsai www.kensworldofbonsai.com

By the way, take note of the styling contest: Alberta Spruce (*Picea glauca albertiana* 'conica') open to all Club members. We have beginner (styled less than 5 trees so far) intermediate (styled 5 – 25 trees), and advanced (more than 25 trees styled by you). The "Winners" will get their names in the newsletter - with a photo of them and their tree and a free bag of soil - value \$3. (Other prizes to be determined)

Judging in July.

And just where should you get your Alberta Spruce? From the Club. At the April and May meetings we will be selling Alberta Spruce, \$3 for 1, 2 for \$5, and 5 for \$10.

That show I keep mentioning is the June show which is for all members to participate in. It is Fathers Day weekend and we are asking people to register their trees as early as possible. We want to keep last minute typing and printouts to a minimum so if you have the smallest intention of showing a tree, please go ahead and give us the information. We can easily make electrons disappear instantly, we want to not have to create them at the last minute.

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COLUMBUS BONSAI SOCIETY ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR ANNUAL SHOW

Twenty-ninth edition will feature workshops, plus more than one hundred examples of this beautiful and ancient art form on display.

Detailed plans have been announced for the Annual Bonsai Show Weekend, a yearly event sponsored by the Columbus Bonsai Society. The Society organizes the show as a way to publicize the hobby its members share: the ancient Japanese art of growing miniature trees. The Show will be held once again at the Franklin Park Conservatory and will feature two full days of events and displays. Visitors to the show will be able to view at least one hundred examples of bonsai created by the Society's members, take part in a workshop on either day and browse the colorful and exotic wares of three vendors.

A new feature this year will be guided tours of the bonsai exhibit space. Just as a curator in a museum or gallery would offer specialized information and insight about art or artifacts, experienced and knowledgeable bonsai growers will share their learning and insight in to the horticultural practices and aesthetic guidelines that go into creating beautiful miniature trees.

Information about the CBS Bonsai Show is also available online at <http://columbusbonsai.v-space.org/show.html>

This website will be updated as show plans finalize.

When: Saturday, June 19 and Sunday June 20. Hours will be the same for both days 10:00 A until 5:00 PM

Where: Franklin Park Conservatory is located on the eastside of downtown Columbus at 1777 East Broad Street. Easy access is provided by a Broad Street exit on I-71 approximately one mile west of the Conservatory. Free parking is available on-site.

Admission: Admission to the Bonsai events is free and open to the public. General admission to the Conservatory exhibits has a modest cover charge.

Workshops: Workshops will be held at 1:00 each day and have a modest charge, which provides participants with all needed materials and supplies and detailed instructions to create their own bonsai. Workshops are suitable for those with no previous bonsai experience and for both skilled and beginning gardeners.

A "Question & Answer" table will be staffed by club members. General inquiries about the hobby of bonsai, or specific questions about a particular plant will be answered by knowledgeable growers.

Vendors: A full selection of finished bonsai, plant materials, pots, tools, supplies and books will be available to purchase from three guest vendors. Our vendors this year are Dale Cochoy of Wild Things Bonsai, Hartsville, Oh.; Ken Huth, Ken's World of Bonsai in North Canton, Oh. and Gary Woods from Mussel Shoals, Al. Club member Tom Holcomb will also offer handmade bonsai pots.

And for you really long range planners:

Bonsai and suiseki enthusiasts worldwide are invited to attend the 5th World Bonsai Convention in the beautiful and inspiring capital city of Washington, D.C., home of the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum, in 2005. Along with co-sponsoring this exciting event, Bonsai Clubs International and American Bonsai Society will hold their annual meetings for 2005 in conjunction with the 5th World Bonsai Convention.

Honor Saburo Kato and John Naka for their vision of world peace through bonsai. Tour the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum. Enjoy multiple exhibits including I.C. Su's antique bonsai pot collection. Celebrate the 400 year-old Yamaki pine - symbol of peace.

<http://www.bonsai-wbff.org/wbc5/main.htm> In D.C. May 28-31, 2005

Tree of the month

Common name: American red maple

Botanical name: *Acer rubrum*

Japanese name: Not applicable

Varieties: The American red maple like so many other trees indigenous to North America has had woefully little attention as a bonsai subject. As a landscaping tree its popularity increases yearly. One has only to look in nationally circulated catalogs for an extensive list of red maple selections and hybrids.

Advantages: As this monthly series proceeds, the careful reader can detect that more and more references are being made to trees native to Western Pennsylvania. And if a personal allusion is allowed, I began my bonsai addiction with American and regional trees and I've not found many foreign trees that surpass our own locals. Such can be said for the Rubrum: beautiful fall color, rich, deep; ease of digging; tolerates container growing; prunes well when following Shigo's rules; flowers well, seeds well; hardy; deer don't eat them unless starving; leaves smaller than most Japanese maples.

Disadvantages: Specimens found in nurseries tend to be grown tall for landscaping; not usually wired; rough bark occurs only after 20 plus years old; watch for leaf miners; leaf burn can occur if prolonged dry conditions persists, particularly if in containers.

Bonsai Potential: Good to excellent.

Growing location: Full sun except in August: filtered shade will reduce leaf burn.

Watering: High humus soil kept noticeably damp: do not allow to dry out.

Propagation: Seed, air layering

Fertilizing: Balanced fertilizer May through July; light applications in September until leaves drop.

Over-wintering: Not much protection needed; mulch the pot.

Styling: Informal upright by the cut and grow method, avoid wiring.

Thanks to Keith Scott and the Pittsburgh Bonsai Society
Book Report

No book reports were submitted this month. To write an article for the newsletter, please contact Zack at the club address and talk about what you would like to write.

Bonsai Here and Beyond the Outerbelt

Unless otherwise noted *, The Columbus Bonsai Society meets the third Sunday of every month at 2:00 pm. at the Franklin Park Conservatory. Board meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 in the Franklin Park Conservatory library. The meetings are open to members.

May 16 - Focus on Maples. There will be volunteers available and you are encouraged to bring you own maples for show and tell. Also - Getting a tree show ready, what the professionals do.

May 23 to Ken Huth's place.

June 5 and 6 - The Annual Dawes Bonsai show at Dawes Arboretum on SR 13 between Newark and I-71

June 19 and 20 - The Columbus Bonsai Society Annual Show. Yes it's on Fathers day again.

June 18, 19, and 20 - MABA and BCI in St Louis, Mo

July 18 - Tropical weird and wonderful bonsai with hands on workshop for club members.

August 14-15 Workshop, guest artist to be announced.

September 19 - Club Picnic, TBA

October 17 - Saikei - (ground landscapes)

November 21 - Fall show and demo

December - Dinner TBA - and something else?

May 28-31, 2005 5th Annual World Bonsai Convention, Washington, D. C.

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