

July 2010 Newsletter

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“A Pinch of this....”

...I’m Late, I’m Late....

Term of the month: APPROACH GRAFT

Approach Graft—The Approach Graft is used to graft two independently growing, self-sustaining plants together and the closest grafting technique to natural grafting.

TIME IS SHORT

Gosh, all of these deadlines seem to be coming up fast don’t they? Here I am late in getting this issue out, and add to that we are less than two months away from our fall show at a new venue. Are you getting your trees ready yet? Please help us spread the word about our new location; tell everyone you know. And make sure you check out pp. 4-5 . Then watch this newsletter and our website for more specific details as they become available.

And maybe we can all raise a stein after the show....eins, zwei, Prosit!

Bonsai=Perseverance



Rich Uhrick

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**Join us at Franklin Park
Conservatory on July 18, 2010.**



Columbus Bonsai Society PO Box 1981 Columbus OH 43216-1981

ColumbusBonsai@hotmail.com www.ColumbusBonsai.org



Columbus Bonsai is a proud member of the American Bonsai Society and Bonsai Clubs International.

This Month's Program— Root over Rock and styling follow up on previous demonstration Trees with Jose' Cueto

We will be sharing and discussing the Root over Rock style, so feel free to bring any examples you have with you to add to the discussion. There will also be some follow up styling of trees used in earlier demos. We will be in Meeting Rooms 1-2 (Classrooms A-B) downstairs from the main entrance.



We proudly welcome our newest members:

Tristan Haas
Stephen Horvath
Steve Lindsey
Dusten B. Smith

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

AUGUST: Member Sales, Picnic, Show Preparation

SEPTEMBER: New Annual Show date.

OCTOBER: Phoenix Grafts with Mike Thornhill.

NOVEMBER: Saikei/ Elections. We will look at Saikei and vote on officers for the next year.

DECEMBER: Annual Holiday Party.



The Columbus Bonsai Society receives meeting space and other support and assistance from Franklin Park Conservatory and Oakland Nurseries

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Rich Uhrick, Editor
ruhric@otterbein.edu

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT....

Big, big news bonsai fans-The annual Columbus Bonsai Show is on the move. We will be doing our show at a new venue this year, at the Columbus Maennerchor in historic German Village. [See pp 4-5] Never Heard of the Maennerchor? It was-and is a club devoted to preserving the member's German heritage, especially through music (Maennerchor means Men's Choir) My in-laws were members and my wife took German language lessons there when she was a girl.

There are many advantages for us in this move. Access is easy from all points of town and from points further afield. The show venue will be large enough to hold whatever we can put in it, and there is a real rathskeller with full bar onsite. This makes it a real destination to spend the day, especially when you consider that all the sights and attractions of German Village are right there.

It will be a big change for us; having had the show at Franklin Park as long as any of us can remember. But Conservatory admission is now \$11 per person, and those going to our show are now required to pay. The board has always felt a free show-no admission would draw more casual spectators, and practical experience bears this out. The Conservatory often ends up double-booked on group shows; in addition to the dwindling available space in the Grand Atrium. These factors make it the right time to try a new venue.

There is some strategic thinking in relocating to German Village. Our 2010 show will be in September, while the 2011 show will be the last weekend in June. The last Sunday in June is the German Village Society's annual Haus und Garten Tour, one of the areas most popular and well attended horticultural events. This means for us big crowds of people who have an interest in plants.

Plan to spend some time at the show, and if you can help set up, tear down or keep it running! [This is similar to many other groups timing; the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society has a show with the Philadelphia Floral Show in January each year.]

See you there!

MP



Care Notes from the Columbus Bonsai Society Website

July - Mid Summer - 85/64

- This is the hottest time of year, so most trees need water every day. Water in the morning, the evening, or both. Watering in the evening may increase the risk of fungus. Most trees' roots will not take up water if they are above 90°F. If your root ball remains wet in hot temperatures, do not re-water. You may want to repot this tree next season.
- Remove old needles on pines. They should be discolored and useless now.
- Creating Jin and Shari is easier in the summer due to sap flow. Removing bark from live branches is easiest when restyling and difficult from truly dead wood.
- Protect trees with delicate foliage, from the sun, such as Japanese maple. This applies through the summer season.
- Tropical trees should be in the peak of their growth. Hard pruning can occur now on tropicals.

Summer repotting should not be done, but if it is necessary, disturb roots as little as possible. Transplant these trees either into the ground or into a larger pot with more soil.

ANNUAL BONSAI CLUB SHOW TO EXPLORE NEW VENUE Thirty-Seventh edition of yearly exhibition will highlight Asian art in a European setting.

The Columbus Bonsai Society will bring a Teutonic twist to their annual show this year, as they display examples of bonsai, the Japanese art of miniature trees, in the Old World setting of German Village's historic Maennerchor club. The Bonsai Society is an educational and social organization for those interested in the classic Japanese form of horticulture, and presents a show each year as a way of educating the public about the art form.

The club's vice president, Ken Schultz, who is organizing the show commented: "In past years we have had the show at Franklin Park Conservatory, but because of events and exhibits happening at the Conservatory recently, there really is not enough space to put on the kind of show we are committed to providing. Also, we really want to be accessible, which in our minds means no admission charge, and that is just not possible at the Conservatory any longer.

During the two day event club members will display over one hundred examples of the miniature trees they have patiently trained and nurtured. Workshops and demonstrations will take place during the show, so participants can get a hands on feel for what is involved in creating a bonsai. Several vendors will be on site offering a wide range of plant stock, pottery and tools needed for bonsai work.

Admission to the show is free and open to the public, a free will donation will be accepted. Demonstrations are free as well, though workshops will have a modest fee to cover cost of materials used. Food and beverages will be available in the Maennerchor's well known Rathskeller restaurant during most show hours. Free onsite parking is available, and the show venue is served by public transportation.

A complete schedule of demonstrations, workshops and other activities will be posted on the Club's website :

www.columbusbonsai.org

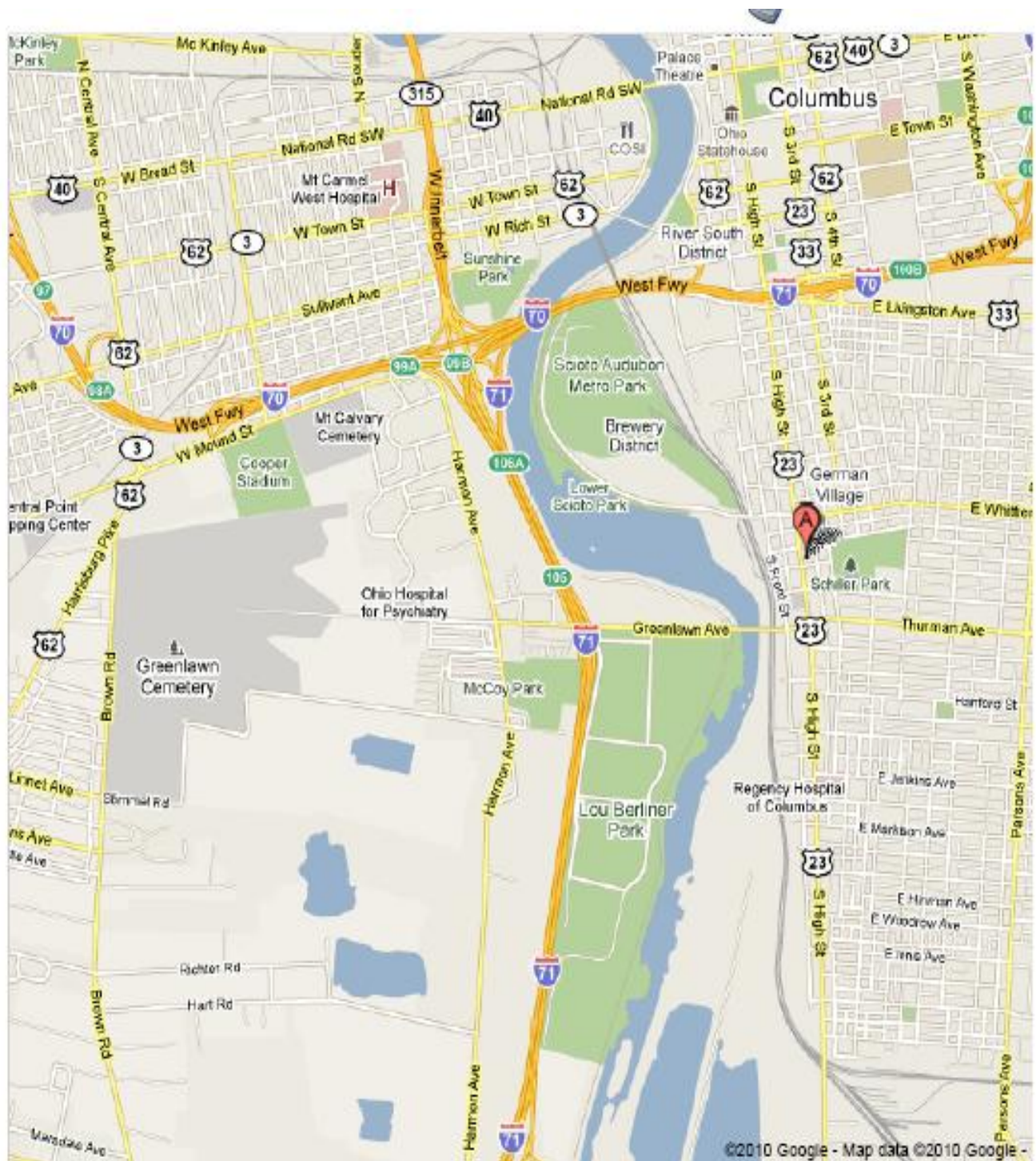
Facts in brief:

What: Columbus Bonsai Society's Annual Show

When: Saturday, September 11th 10:00am-5:00pm and Sunday , September 12th 10:00am-3:00pm

Where: Columbus Maennerchor building, 966 South High Street Columbus, OH 43206-2524



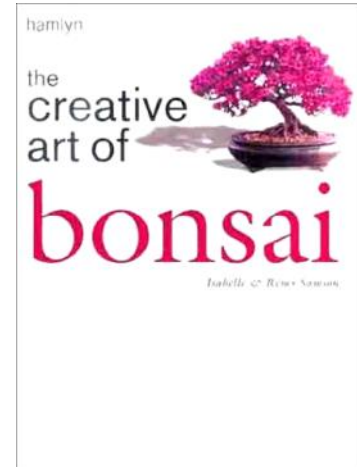
BUT HOW DO I GET THERE.....

ALL ROADS (I-70 & I-71, ETC.) LEAD TO THE FALL SHOW IN GERMAN VILLAGE.

Book of the Month: The Creative Art of Bonsai

By Isabelle and Remy Samson

Originally published in 1986 in Paris, France this is an English translation. It was interesting to me that in the twenty four years since, Europeans seem to have made a great deal of progress in developing their bonsai. The photographs of bonsai in the book are not up to today's standards. Regardless of the quality of the text, as a visual art the photographs are a mixture of trimmed, untrimmed, and good, to poor quality material. Even more curious is the fact that the photographs are well staged – trees on stands with neutral, non- distracting backgrounds. One of the trees had wire marks, another roots sticking up, some have new growth outside the canopy.



So why did I buy this book? Simply put, because it has sixty-two individual species care guides, several which do not appear in other bonsai reference books. After the bonsai basics found on pages 6-33, the book is organized into four tree categories used for bonsai; Outdoor Conifers (11), Deciduous Trees (10), Flowering and Fruiting Trees (21), and Indoor Bonsai (20). The Samsons say that they helped introduce the French to Indoor Bonsai in 1979. Each species is presented in three sections; propagation, care and pests and diseases. Each species includes a photograph, as noted. In the basics section, I found some interesting information about the names of group plantings. I had always thought Yose-Ue meant “forest planting”, apparently it means more than nine because there were names listed for two, three, five, seven and nine. Page 11 has a chart that shows 12 Thai signs. Note these are not usually seen mixed in with bonsai.

Before I list some of the unusual specimens presented, I thought I should mention the chart on candling Japanese White Pine found on page 54 as an excellent reference and three pages of “Program of Work” of the trees presented in the book. (Pages 166-168). The chart has a schedule for repotting, pruning, wiring, watering and feeding.

Now for a sampling of those trees I do not normally see in other bonsai books.

English Oak, prune new shoots before they lignify, shortening branches to one or two pairs of leaves after they have extended to four or five.

Willow, prune the branches to one bud in the spring before the sap starts to flow. Use raffia when wiring the branches. IT may be necessary to stand the pot in a birdbath during the summer.

Barberry, prune after flowering.

Mulberry, repot every year. Spirea, the one shown is root-over-rock. I would not have guessed that style. They really want to be bushes, not trees. They say to cut them back hard after flowering – leaving one or two buds.

Lilac, prune after flowering to one or two buds. Be careful not to break the branches when wiring.

Araucaria (Norfolk Island Pine), pinch the new shoots to shorten them in April and May. Do not leave wire on for longer than four months. Allow the soil to dry out between watering, spray daily. The specimen shown was a 50 year old tree in a Chinese pot; shown in a Taiwan Exhibition.



Ken Schultz

In addition to our club library, you can find many books on Bonsai at your public library under the Dewey decimal system # 635.9772.

Summer Tips

It is HOT and sunny too. So is there anything you should do differently with your bonsai? You bet. Start by watering first thing in the morning if your schedule will allow. You might find smaller pots will need to be watered a second time at 7:00 PM too. Before you hit your trees with the water put your hand in front of the nozzle and feel the water temperature as it first comes out; making tea? Was it hot and steamy? Especially if your hose is black like one of mine is since the old green one sprang a leak? Now take your time, remember to water until you see water running out of the bottom holes (eyes). When you get done, water them all again. If you are fertilizing, do it on the second round, not the first. Fertilizer may burn dry roots, plus your second round of watering would flush half the fertilizer you just put on onto the ground.

Look for sucking bugs and beetles, they are thirsty too. Use Sevin or an orchard Spray. Treat them every 10 to 14 days until bug season is over.

Are some of our trees in dark pots? Dark colored pots get hotter than light pots and may cook the roots. Small pots that quickly dry can dry within hours. Place small trees/pots on a bed of sand; or while not as effective, onto the soil surface or on to the soil of a tree in a larger pot. This will help them slow their loss of water.

So far, this has been all about water. The sun is the culprit. Japanese maples, azaleas, and other plants that have thin or finely dissected leaves will lose water so fast through evaporation/transpiration; their edges will turn brown and crispy. Typically, trees lose their inner leaves when the leaves get larger and the cool rainy weather is gone, this phenomenon is sometimes referred to as “June-drop”, though the term is usually applied to fruit that falls off in July.

Observe the sun throughout the day as it moves from east to west across your bonsai collection. Too little light will weaken your trees just as too much light will toast their leaves. Also, your trees will take on a “bend”, just as your tropical trees do in the winter under lights. Rotate them 90 degrees every week. Now what did you see? Are some of your trees getting weak from the lack of light? You can tell, the leaves are bigger, growth is thin and weak, and the internodal space is longer (spacing between leaves on a branch). These trees could use a bit more light than they have been receiving. However, if you see burned edges, or trees that dry out before you can get to watering, you need to find them a shadier spot. The mid-afternoon sun is the hottest, so where was it shady in your yard from 1-4 PM? They say morning sun is best, but I have some places where it does not get sunny until about 5PM and are sunniest about 7 PM, this may work until the days start to get shorter.

Squirrels and chipmunks may also become more persistent about gnawing and digging in your trees, some of my Mica pots even bear the tooth marks as these rodents need to chew to keep their teeth worn down. Fortunately, the neighbor has a big sacrificial maple that they prefer, but I think they like the moisture. I do have 3 birdbaths and a pond as a water alternative. I have seen them drinking. And I recently began putting out sunflower seeds in the birdfeeder to see if that is a good decoy.

If you wired, look at the branches, is the wire already cutting in? Some of mine were, so I have taken their wire off. If growth has been rapid, you need to check to see if you should be doing any summer pruning on that particular species now. If you decide to repot a tropical, because the books say do it when the temperatures are up at night, remember to water a lot and set them in a shady area until you see fresh new growth starting before you return them to a sunny spot.

Finally, Junipers, Chamaecyparis, and Tsuga need to be monitored and long growth plucked to maintain the general shape of your foliage pads. If you allow these to extend to far without plucking, the inner foliage will brown and die and your tree will end up growing bigger and bigger out of the design style you had in mind when you bought it. As on all conifers, getting new buds to sprout on “old wood” can be difficult to downright impossible. Ask anyone who has a Boulevard Cypress or Hinoki Cypress. Failing to pluck will result in long thin foliage rather than tight dense healthy looking foliage on your Shimpaku, Cypress and Cedars. Which brings us back to bright sun and hot weather; these trees need the light to promote back-bud growth.

So now that you've read this, put on some mosquito repellent, grab a beverage of your choice and get outside to check on your bonsai.

—Ken Schultz

2011 ABS/BCI Seminar: Exhibit Trees & Suiseki

June 16 through 19, 2011, the Greater Louisville Bonsai Society will be hosting the ABS/BCI *Bonsai in the Bluegrass* Show and Symposium. An outstanding group of bonsai artists has been scheduled, and vendors throughout the US will be here to display and sell bonsai related materials. There are presently 46 demonstrations, workshops and learning seminars scheduled during this 4 day show.

We have reserved a large space in the conference center for a bonsai tree and suiseki exhibit. The Greater Louisville Bonsai Society is requesting that bonsai enthusiasts from the Mid-west area nominate trees for inclusion in the show. There are many outstanding specimens in our area, and we would like to display them at this show.

The symposium would like to display all sizes, styles and varieties of trees. The bonsai will be judged by a panel of visiting masters scheduled to be at the show.

The Louisville club is hoping to have a display of the finest, most outstanding trees in our area. We know they are out there. I personally have seen many of them and find them breathtakingly beautiful. Since Louisville is centrally located, it should be fairly easy to transport trees and viewing stones to this location.

The show and symposium will be held at the Fern Valley Hotel and Convention Center, Louisville Ky. The show can only be successful if you submit your trees and suiseki for display. The trees will be well taken care of by experienced local bonsai members. We are planning for professional security personnel to look after the trees.

If you are interested in helping out and displaying your trees and/or suiseki, please submit a picture and description to;

Earl Ekman
160 E. Mt. Zion Dr.
Crestwood, KY 40014.
(502) 222-7419 or earl.ekman@gmail.com

I will accumulate all the information and present it to the show judging committee. Following their recommendations, I will get back with you.

This will be the Greater Louisville Bonsai Society's 40th anniversary and we are very excited about presenting this show. This will be a wonderful opportunity to see old friends, and make many new ones.

We are looking forward to seeing you in the Bluegrass.

Earl Ekman
Exhibit Chairman



“Spring” Bonsai BBQ
July 24th & 25th , 2010

Bonsai Master Suthin Sukosolvisit from MA.
See www.ichibanbonsai.com/wildwood for details.



Pictures from last year's BBQ courtesy of Ken Schultz.

THINGS I LEARNED FROM KATHY SHANER AT MABA....



I had the chance to take a workshop and watch demos by Kathy Shaner. She does many things contrary to convention. Some concepts just make sense. Before starting to wire she spends a lot of prep time cleaning up stubs, repairing old wounds, etc. She massages branches and trunk to be bent. She flexes / bends the branches back and forth to make them more supple and they hold shape more readily. If she knows she is going to twist a branch she wires a bit looser with longer spaced wraps so that the wire tightens as the branch is twisted.

Kathy recommends spraying a "seriously" bent branch or trunk with Wilt Proof (or similar product) to avoid moisture loss through cracks. She uses wire pliers to make more accurate, sharper bends.

I was introduced to a new product, ParaFilm. Ask Dan about its intended original use in lab applications. In bonsai it is used to wrap cracked-broken branches. The paraffin coated clear plastic stretches and adheres to itself, holding the branch securely in place and preventing the cambium from drying out. It biodegrades after a few months. It is also being adopted for grafting. (Advertisement - I will have this for sale).

A few other ideas: She does not work on or repot dry trees. Americans should bring trees into the home more often for the opportunity to observe and enjoy them, not just leave them on the benches. Look for OMRI certification on organic products. Cuts on elms and hornbeams discolor / oxidize quickly; if using cut paste do it quickly.

Kathy says her favorite tree is the one in front of her.

—Tom Holcomb



- ◆ VENDORS
- ◆ DEMOS
- ◆ WORKSHOPS
- ◆ DISPLAYS

Columbus Maennerchor
966 S. High Street
Columbus, OH 43206
September 11-12, 2010

DETAILS AT:

www.columbusbonsai.org

Columbus Bonsai Society
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From the Circulation Desk of the C.B.S. Library

In an effort to make the C.B.S. library more available to all of our members (since the library cabinet is being stored at Oakland Nursery and since we aren't meeting there every month), I will do my best to fill any requests that you may have to borrow any of the items that we currently have in our collection. I have a complete list of all of the books, magazines and videos that we have in our library; so, no later than the Friday before our monthly meeting, either send me an e-mail at jyoungjfy@sbcglobal.net or give me a call at 614-267-4168 and let me know what items you would like to borrow from our library.

I will let you know if we have that particular item in our library or, if it has already been checked out by another one of our members, when it should be available for you to borrow. However, if you are interested in a particular article or topic in one of our bonsai magazines, I will need to know the specific issue you

would like to borrow, since I don't have a master index for all of the magazines that we have. And to be as fair as possible to all of our members, you may check out only two books, magazines, CD's or videos at one time for a two month period.

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions about these new procedures. After all, it is your library, too!

John Young, Librarian
 (614) 267-4168
jyoungjfy@sbcglobal.net



P. O. Box 1981

Columbus, Ohio

43216-1981

Columbus Bonsai Society Membership Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ -- _____ Date: ____/____/____

Email: _____

Membership: Individual \$25.00 Family \$35.00

Check # _____

May your phone number be included in our members list? Y N

Would you like to get your newsletter by email? Y N

(email saves the club about \$3.00 - \$4.00 an issue in printing and mailing.)

IF family membership, please list other members: _____

Renewal Memberships may be paid for more than one year at a time.

Bonsai Here and Beyond the Outerbelt

Unless otherwise noted, The Columbus Bonsai Society meets the third Sunday of every month at 1:45 pm at the Franklin Park Conservatory. Board Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. The board meetings are open to members.

18 JUL 2010	ROOT OVER ROCK / ETC.—FPC
24-25 JUL 2010	WILDWOOD GARDENS BBQ— SUTHIN SUKOSOLVISIT, GUEST
24-25 JUL 2010	SE REGIONAL BONSAI SHOW; NASHVILLE—GUY GUIDRY GUEST
15 AUG 2010	STYLES OF BONSAI/ SHOW PREP/MEMBER SALES—OAKLAND
11-12 SEP 2010	CBS SHOW —COLUMBUS MAENNERCHOR [SEE PP. 4-5]
29 SEPT-12 OCT 2010	BCI IN CHINA
9-10 OCT 2010	INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF BONSAI—PARIS, FRANCE
OCT 2010	SHOW OF THE CAROLINA'S —ASHEVILLE ARBORETUM
OCT 2010	OAKLAND NURSERY FALL FESTIVAL
17 OCT 2010	PHOENIX GRAFTS —FPC
21 NOV 2010	ELECTIONS/ SAIKEI/ STYLES—OAKLAND
DEC 2010	HOLIDAY DINNER —TBD
JUN 2011	ABS/BCI LEARNING SEMINAR—LOUISVILLE, KY

FPC= FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY
OAKLAND= OAKLAND NURSERY, COLUMBUS

Columbus Bonsai Society
PO Box 1981
Columbus, OH 43216-1981

Questions to:

Columbusbonsai@hotmail.com
[HTTP://Columbusbonsai.org](http://Columbusbonsai.org)

Regular Club meetings on
3rd Sunday of the month
Meetings Start at 1:45 pm
All are welcome to attend

CBS Board meets
1st Tuesday of the month
at 7:00 pm

***Meeting is at
Franklin Park***

