

May  
2010



Springfield  
Bonsai Society

SPRINGFIELD BONSAI SOCIETY

Palmatum Press

## Future Tense June Meeting

The June 14th meeting will feature a workshop on Penjing/ Forest style Bonsai. We will try to have trays, rocks, trees available for attendees. The focus of the meeting will be on Elm/ hornbeam trees. However you are welcome to bring any other trees you would like to see in your Penjing.

A 11" crackle patterned tray and 5 small ginkgo saplings will be available for purchase. The cost of this combo is \$20 for current SBS members. Supplies are limited so please email [Trammell.Gary@uis.edu](mailto:Trammell.Gary@uis.edu) as soon as possible. You are welcome to bring your own tray/trees to style or just observe if you wish.

Milt also has following upgrades available, please contact him directly by email [cassbonsai@empowering.com](mailto:cassbonsai@empowering.com) if you are interested.

16" unglazed \$35, 11" glazed \$20, 23" cement slab \$50, 29" cement slab \$75  
Larger trays are available on request !!

Trees :

Chinese elms , Japanese maples , Shantung Maples , 4" pot size \$7.50 ea.  
Assorted tropicals also available.

On June 14 just before our regular meeting, we plan to stop by **David Sans' Japanese maple nursery**. <http://www.davidsansjapanesemaples.com/> A few SBS members have already been there and like the trees they found there. The nursery is open by appointment only so we recommend you take this chance to visit.

We will meet at the Old Jacksonville road nursery at **5:30pm**. This gives you an hour to look around and then head back to WPBG. Address: **5611 Old Jacksonville Rd, Springfield, Illinois, 62711**. Gary said that David has some miniature conifers you could buy for the Forest / Penjing workshop.

The MABA convention is on June 25-27 at Grand Rapids, MI. Kathy Sharer will be the headliner artist along with. MABA brings Bonsai artists, Vendors and enthusiasts together in the Mid-America region. It is a great way to advance your Bonsai Skills and add some great trees to your collection. Usually the artists/ vendors line up and reserve some very good material for the shows.

Registration for the MABA 2010 Convention is now open. Full registration is currently \$235 per person. After June 1 registration will be \$250. <http://mababonsai.org/pages/convention.html>

## Past Tense May Meeting

The workshop with Erik Wigert was very well attended. Participants got to work with some dwarf Bougainvillea in the morning session. The afternoon session included some bougies and some other trees like Escambron, Nia etc.

In the May meeting we learned about Insects in Bonsai. Phil Nihon, an entomologist at University of Illinois Extension did a presentation on the Subject. Phil and his wife have a Bonsai Collection and host the Bonsai club in Champaign area.



Phil talked about the upcoming Japanese Beetle season. *Imidacloprid* came up as potential solution to these nasty pests! This chemical is found in many off the shelf insecticides. Please check with your local UofI extension office before applying this control. Other insects discussed were: Sawfly, Caterpillars, Scale, Spider mite, whitefly, mealy bugs, gnats, etc. Phil mentioned that application of insect control when not necessary can lead to problems as beneficial insects could be eliminated.

After the Presentation Roland Folge led the group in a hands-or discussion of debudding Pines. The observed the air of mystery surrounding Pine needle management and tried to de-mystify it! Pines are mostly categorized into the following groups.

Japanese Black Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Parviiflora Pine (5 needle), Scotch Pine

The purpose behind debudding is to shorten internodes and stimulate growth (back buds). Out of these, the Ponderosa Pine doesn't necessarily take well to Spring de-candleing. The Fall de-candleing routine as described in the book on P.P. by Larry Jackal has produced some back budding for people. Japanese Black Pine (or JBP as it's fondly known among Pine lovers), is the most vigorous of Pines. In this Pine it is Ok to remove the (enter/ Longest candle and break the second/ third longest ones into half. If it is a lone candle, then break the entire candle off and remove (shorten some of Last year's needles). Do not feed the tree while the remaining candles are elongating after this procedure. For Scotch Pines you can take of the middle bud, keep the weakest two and pluck all the back needles off.

On behalf of SBS officers I would like to thank SBS community for their continued support. We have a few new members and some old ones renewed their memberships.

## Azaleas in Bonsai-a compilation of information from the internet.

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You might have seen your Azaleas and Rhododendrons bloom already. Some members wait to work on their Azaleas till the blooms have faded. While this can give you a chance to enjoy the blooms and still work on the tree, however, care should be taken to not stress the tree too much. While the June meeting is about Forest style bonsai/ Penjing the July meeting was originally scheduled for Azaleas. Now we are hosting guest artist Craig Coussins on July 19th instead of our regular meeting on the 12th. You are welcome to bring your Azaleas to that meeting as Craig is an all-round bonsai artist and would be a great source of knowledge.

Lee Squires of Louisville Bonsai Club observed that the Azalea show has been quite spectacular this year due to the cool and wet weather we have had this Spring.

Another source of good Azalea Knowledge and material is David Kreutz. Following is his introduction from the US National Arboretum website "David Kreutz graduated from the three-year-long Satsuki Care and Culture classes taught by Tatemori Gondo of Osaka, Japan. He was certified as a first level instructor by Gondo-san, and has been a continuing student of bonsai for over 18 years. He lectures and teaches for clubs, conventions, and private students. His philosophy is to give the student all of the information they need to develop their tree over a long period of time. Mr. Kreutz specializes in satsuki azalea bonsai, which are known for their brilliant floral display. The name Satsuki (pronounced sat'ski) means "fifth moon" of the oriental lunar calendar, which is the time that the satsuki azaleas bloom. Mr. Kreutz imports satsuki plant materials through his business, Satsuki Bonsai-en, located near Chesterfield, Missouri."

The Satsuki Azaleas are named as such for the fifth-month that they bloom in Japan. They are known for the variety of flowers and even multiple colors on the Same tree.

Some nurseries put up their Azaleas on sale after the blooms are faded. You might find some good bonsai raw material in the "Leftovers"!!

Nashville Bonsai Society is hosting a show on July 24/25 featuring Guy Guidry. Guy is from Louisiana and has a great selection of Azaleas as well.

## June Bonsai Care Tips

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Disclaimer: This guide is being reprinted with permission from the Louisville Bonsai society. Times can vary as much as a month depending on the weather trends in our area. Some species of trees do not follow the general category guidelines of deciduous, evergreen or tropicals. Know your trees!

June is the month when we start seeing temperatures in the 90's in the Ohio Valley. That means that we must start watching our trees more closely.

1. Water – During the hot spells, especially with summer winds, our trees can quickly dry out. It may be that the trees will need water more than once a day, depending on the temperature and the placement of the tree. For those plants which were transplanted this past spring, a once daily watering may be more than sufficient, depending on their foliage mass. These trees may enjoy a gentle spraying of the foliage during the hottest part of the day, to not only cool the leaves but also the pot.
2. Insects – As the temperature goes up, so does the insect population, especially the aphids, scale and spider mites. A daily inspection is necessary, and rapid treatment is dictated at the first signs of an infestation.
3. Fertilization – During June and July, application of heavy amounts of liquid fertilizers can do more harm than good. You might want to consider switching to a slow release version, or cutting the concentration of the liquid fertilizer and adding it more often.
4. Temperature – As the temperature stays in the 90's during the day (and sometimes at night), the temperature of your pots, which are in the direct sun, may be 10 – 20 degrees hotter than the air temperature. If possible, you should try to have the pot in shade or semi shade during the hottest part of the day. If that is not possible, a misting of the pot to cool it off is recommended.
5. Ohio Valley Storms – We all know that wild summer storms are possible during June/July. You need to be prepared to set your trees down on the ground if one of these high winds storms pops up.



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**SPRINGFIELD BONSAI SOCIETY**

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## Upcoming Events

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**June 25-27, MABA Convention**, Grand Rapids Michigan [www.wmbonsai.org](http://www.wmbonsai.org). Another long drive but some more Bonsai workshops, demos, exhibit and vendors. Kathy Shaner, headliner.

**June 12-13**, 2nd National Bonsai Show, Rochester NY

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## Administrivia

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Your 2010 Officers are:

President – Gary Trammell 217-741-4849 (M)  
Vice President – David Kerwin  
Treasurer – Tom Applebee  
Secretary – Manish Sumant 217-652-9619 (M)  
& newsletter editor

Annual membership is \$20 (family \$30).  
Email [msumant1@netscape.net](mailto:msumant1@netscape.net) to sign up or visit  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BonsaiSBS/>