



SPRINGFIELD BONSAI SOCIETY

Palmatum Press

May 2014

From the Editor's Desk

[May] is Scarlet O'Hara time in the garden. Tomorrow is another day.

- Henry Mitchell on Gardening

Happy May Day. Now that spring has finally arrived every day brings new surprises in my garden. I check everyday to see what new bulbs are up, what trees are flowering, and how my my bonsai are stirring from winter dormancy.

With spring comes a seeming endless number of tasks. Again to quote Henry Mitchell:

A terrible problem for the gardener who has no labor but his own, however, is deciding whether the dahlias need to be replanted out more than the the fence requires repairing or the walkway needs weeding - deciding, in short, between the need for maintenance and the need for playing with plants. If the element of play is not present, there is no point in gardening at all.

Take the time to enjoy the flowers and play with your bonsai.

Future Tense

Monday May 12 - SBS March Meeting at Washington Park Botanical Garden - 7:00 pm

Scott Day will present a program on group plantings. We will have some saplings to work with and bring your own if you have some small trees. Also, if you have a shallow tray for forests bring it to the meeting.

Upcoming 2014 SBS Meetings

Regular meetings are held at Washington Park Botanical Garden, 1740 W. Fayette Ave. Springfield. IL.
 Special meeting locations are indicated below.*

Meeting Dates	Topics/Activities
Monday, June 9 th 7:00 p.m.	Azalea Care & Development
Monday, July 14 th 7:00 p.m.	Tropicals [Garden Tour to be arranged]
Monday, August 11 th 7:00 p.m.	Display – companion plant, rocks
Monday, September 8 th 7:00 p.m.	TBA
Monday, October 13 th 7:00 p.m.	TBA
November 10 th 7:00 p.m.	Planning Meeting for 2015

Bonsai Events Around the Country 2014

Date	Event
May 22-26	Bonsai Societies of Florida 41st Annual Convention (http://bonsai-bsf.com/?page_id=1644/)
August 13-17	37th Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit Chicago, IL (http://midwestbonsai.org/)
September 13-14	4th US National Bonsai Exhibit Rochester, NY (http://www.internationalbonsai.com/)

October 2-5	Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association 25th Anniversary Celebration Victoria, B.C. (http://victoriabonsai.bc.ca/)
October 11-12	Carolina Bonsai Expo North Carolina Arboretum Asheville, NC (http://www.ncarboretum.org/)
October 30-Nov 2	Bonsai Visions of the West GSBF37 Sacramento, CA (http://gsbfconvention.org/)

Past Tense - April

April Meeting - Refinement

Dr. Folse led a program on ways to refine our trees to get them to show quality. Techniques include pruning and wiring to bring out the best in our trees. Members spent the rest of the meeting working on their trees.



Owen Reich Workshop

Owen Reich presented a very informative demonstration and workshop. For his demonstration, Owen worked on refinement of a black pine from Dr. Folse's collection. Owen is amazingly knowledgeable about bonsai and horticulture. He gave us many suggestions on how to style a tree by careful branch selection, wiring, and placement of the tree in the pot. In the afternoon he worked with members on their trees or some Junipers that he brought from Tennessee.



Group Plantings

Our May meeting will focus on group plantings. I have located a few web sites that may be useful if you want to read ahead and start getting some ideas for your bonsai landscape.



[A Guide for Creating Group Plantings for Bonsai](#)

[A Bonsai Close-up on Forest Plantings](#) - Pauline Muth

[Forest Style Bonsai](#)

Bonsai Care Tips

The Columbus Bonsai Society (Ohio) has a [calendar](#) for bonsai care for USDA Hardiness Zones 5 and 6. These are their recommendations.

May - Late Spring - 73/50

- Start hardening up indoor tree growth by using an oscillating fan a few hours a day.
- You should move tropicals outdoors now. Introduce tropicals to the sunlight gradually. Be careful of night time temperatures <45°F. You may also leave tropicals indoors year round, but most will benefit from the outdoors.
- Most deciduous trees have the leaves out sometime in May.
- Holding back fertilizer for pines can keep their needles shorter.
- Perform air-layers on trees once their leaves are fully emerged.
- Start fertilizing with a balanced 10-10-10 or 20-20-20 fertilizer for most trees.
- Trees will be using more water now that they are actively growing.
- Re-pot any later emerging species, and any that show signs of being pot bound – they won't make it through July and August if you don't.
- Pinch or cut back long pine candles to encourage back budding and a more dense overall growth

Administrivia

Your 2014 Officers are:

President	– G. Jackson
Vice President	– Ken Schaal
Treasurer	– Tom Applebee
Webmaster	- Manish Sumant
Newsletter editor	– Gary Trammell (217-741-4849) (trammell.gary@uis.edu)

Annual membership is \$20 (family \$30).

To receive our newsletter you may sign up by email (<mailto:BonsaiSBS@gmail.com>) or visit our website at <http://www.BonsaiSBS.com/>.