

# CUTTINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BONSAI SOCIETY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

September 2005

www.cincinnati Bonsai.com

## FROM THE EDITOR

Has anyone "googled" the word bonsai? If so you will find that there are about 5,980,000 "hits". I have spent many hours in the past looking over some of these websites. There is a great deal of information floating around out there in cyberspace. Some of it good and some not so good.

Most of the clubs around the country have their own website, as well

as many vendors and individual enthusiasts. You can find anything from "mallsai" and sticks in a pot to incomparable specimen trees.

There are even specialized bonsai forums and mailing lists, where members can display their work, ask species care information, etc.

There are several of our own members that I know of that are active in some of these forums.

As Fall approaches and your bonsai chores are slowing down, take a few minutes and explore a few of these sites.

Happy Surfing!

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Sad News for the Bonsai World. Longtime club member, Dick Straus has passed away. He had been involved with bonsai since the 1960s and maybe even longer. In the 10 years that I have been a member of the Society he has done a lot of very good programs and helped out with our annual shows. I remember one year at the Ault Park Show, Dave Radlinski and Dick were setting up when Dick's heart started giving him trouble. Dick went and had his pacemaker adjusted and was back helping set up a day or two later. Amazing. I know the club will miss him a lot.

The White Elephant Sale is here. This is your chance to clean out all of the old trees that you are tired of seeing. Everyone has a couple of trees that get set in the back of the benches, miss a few waterings and eventually die. I know that I have some every year. Bring these in and either donate them or sell them. We will have a donation table with all proceeds going to operating the Society. I also wanted to mention a problem that we had last year. Normally the members look at the items for sale, convene to the Library for a short meeting, then make a mad dash back to the sales area to grab trees. I was told by several people that there were a few members that were removing tags before the sale started. This is not allowed and will be mentioned at the meeting.

Don't forget to bring a tree to the meetings for tree-of-the-month. The Society will give you 1 raffle ticket for the current raffle item. This is a Bonsai Society meeting so we should have bonsai trees at the meetings. It doesn't matter if you are the Tree-of-the-month person or not. If you have a tree that you like or is flowering, bring it in

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## PROGRAMS

Date—normally the third Thursday of each month (watch Newsletter)

Time—7:00 PM to whenever you want to leave

Place—Civic Garden Center—exception, Xmas Party (watch Newsletter)

### **September 15, 2005      Annual White Elephant Sale**

Members come out of the woodwork for this annual event. This is the time & place to pick-up some great deals on trees, pots, tools & things that defy description from members who are reducing their collections of bonsai stuff. If you are a seller, you should plan to arrive a little early in order to have time to price & tag your items. Tags will be provided for your use or you can use your own. Everything you bring for sale MUST tagged & priced. You may sell your items with all proceeds going to the society or with 85% to you & 15% to the society. If you choose to retain 85% of the sale price, your name must be also shown on the tag along with the price. This is a flag to our cashier that he owes you \$\$\$\$.

### **October 1, 2005      Annual New Talent Competition**

*(Sponsored by the John Carroll Bonsai Educational Endowment)*

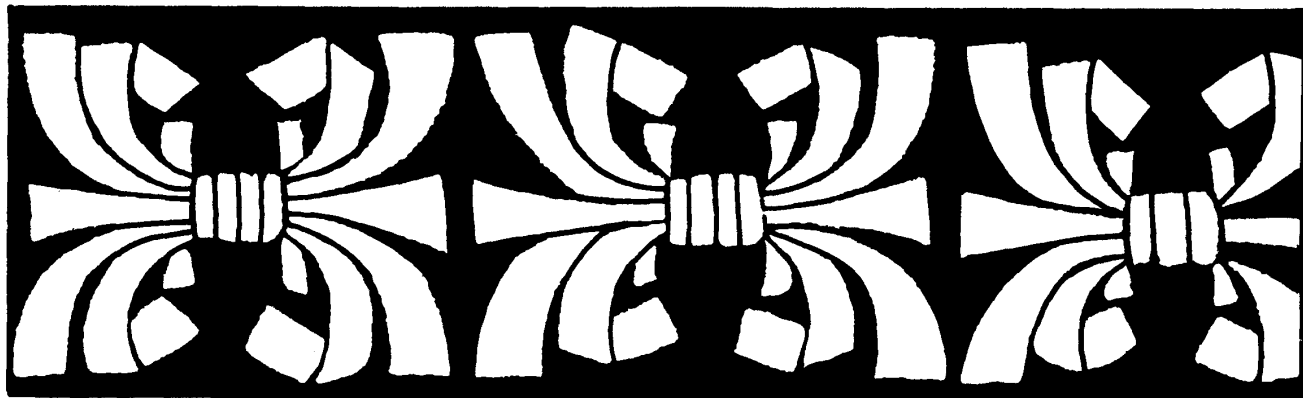
Last year this event was held at the same time & place as our September White Elephant. There was just too much going on at the same time & it was suggested that we move this popular event to occur in concert with our Annual Fall Krohn Show. It will provide the opportunity for the participants to have a little more time to work on their tree & a better opportunity for our membership to watch & learn, plus the general public will be able to observe. Therefore, the 2005 New Talent Competition is scheduled for Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, starting at 12:00 Noon & ending at 4:00 PM, at the Krohn Conservatory Fall Show. Judging will occur at 4:30 PM. The following are the terms & conditions for 2005:

Eligibility—This judged competition is open to all members in good standing of our society who have been involved in bonsai for five (5) years or less. The Membership Chair will confirm start dates. Participation will be limited to eight (8) contestants. Specifically excluded from the 2005 competition are the top three (3) finishers from the 2004 competition.

Material—Will be Shimpaku Juniper. Tree assignment will be by drawing & will be done promptly at Noon on 10/1. Participants are responsible for their own tools—wire will be provided or you may use your own. Trees will not be potted.

Awards—1<sup>st</sup> place \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$50, 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$25.

We now have the necessary eight entrants, with two on the stand-by list. You are still encouraged to enter, we often have cancellations & need to use the stand-bys.



# PROGRAMS

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## **October 20, 2005                      Bonsai By Committee**

This will be a new adventure for our society. It's a very successful annual event for several clubs on the east & west coasts. Here's how it works. As you enter the meeting you will be given a raffle ticket. All duplicate tickets will be put into a hat & at the appointed time 12 tickets will be drawn. The winners will be divided into 3 groups of 4 people. The 5<sup>th</sup> person pre-assigned to each group will be one of our senior members. Each group will be given tools, wire & tree, and a time limit in which to style it. The random nature of this grouping process will provide a unique opportunity for participants to work with members they may or may not know. This is a group effort but each member is encouraged to think creatively & work cooperatively as they style/design the tree. The audience is invited to stroll among the groups to observe, enjoy & learn from the creative process---but must be silent & not participate nor give advice or comment. The styled trees will be sold via raffle at our Christmas Party @ the Krohn. Each of the 12 people in the design groups will receive one free raffle ticket. This should be a fun & instructive time for us all---don't miss it.

## **November 17, 2005                      Doug Hawley & Tom McCormack**

To be announced.

## **December 2, 2005                      Annual Christmas Party**

This has become a very festive event & not one you will want to miss. It will again be at the Krohn Conservatory starting at 6:00 PM with a cash bar of wine & beer @ \$1.00 & free soft drinks, followed by a catered buffet. The cost will be \$20.00 per person over the age of 14, under 14 are free. There will be door prizes as well as the three trees from the October "Bonsai by Committee" will be raffled. You must make a reservation to attend & Mary & Joe Kayata will take your reservation at any time but will be personally available @ the Oct & Nov meetings with the sign-up sheet.

## **OF GENERAL NOTE & NOTE WORTHY IMPORTANCE**

The 2006 Program Schedule has been substantially completed & we are awaiting confirmation from the guest masters. As soon as these are received, I will make the announcements. I can tell you now that if all respond favorably, we will have an outstanding line-up for 2006.

It will be very important that you use your bonsai calendar carefully as there are several departures from our normal scheduling.

*Don Brown*  
*(513) 831-1811*  
*djbrown@cinci.rr.com*

## WORKSHOPS

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**REMEMBER OUR POLICY HAS CHANGED. YOU HAVE TO PAY UP FRONT TO GET YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN UP SHEET. PLEASE DON'T FORGET YOUR CHECKBOOK ON THURSDAY.**

**September, 2005      No Workshop**

White Elephant Sale

**October 22, 2005      Gail Penner**

Photographing your trees.

Gail is an excellent photographer. We would all benefit from this workshop to help us keep records of our trees.

Gail working on a tree with Lindsey Shiba



**November 19, 2005      Tom McCormack & Doug Hawley**

To be announced. Plant material selection is still being decided.

*Tom McCormack  
(513) 563-0473  
bonsaicin@aol.com*

## NOTES OF INTEREST

### Cincinnati Flower Show

Someone is needed to step up to serve as the chairperson of next years' show, which is scheduled for the April 21 - 30, 2006, at Coney Island. Dave Radlinski has had fun for the past five years, but may be out of the country during the next show. He will assist in any way possible because the show is a great place to showcase the society and make people aware of our organization. If no one volunteers, the Horticultural society will be notified that the society will not participate in the show. If your interested please contact Tom Mounce before the September meeting.

### Fall Krohn Show

The fall show is fast approaching. Set up will take place on Friday September 30<sup>th</sup>. The Show will follow on Saturday and Sunday. Dave Radlinski is putting together a list for host and hostesses. This is a good time to display your trees and see other members trees. Do not be afraid to display your trees. We have room for over 100 trees, but normally get about 75 for the display. When you bring your trees down on Friday please have the name, approximate age and style.

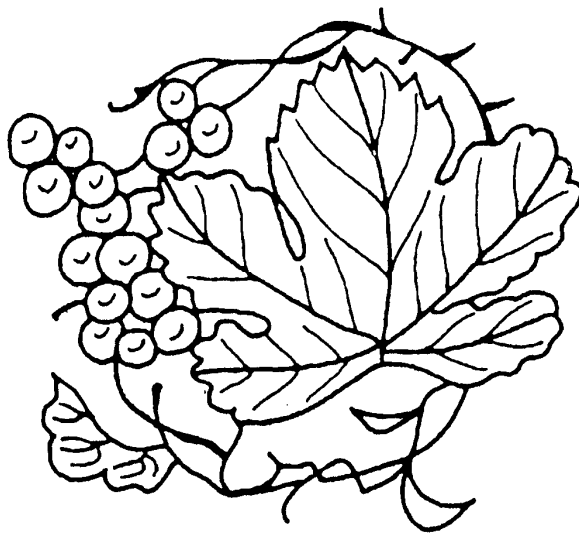
### Thinking Ahead

The Christmas Dinner party is already scheduled. All the members should mark their calendars for an evening of great food and a lot of good fun at the Krohn Conservatory on Friday, December 2. The showroom will be decorated and the Christmas tree will be trimmed in the entrance hall.

Activities will start at 6:00 PM. There will be a cash bar and a catered buffet. Don't forget about the door prizes after dinner.

### BSGC 2005 Membership Dues

There are still quite a few of you who have not renewed your memberships for the coming year. Contact Gail Penner to make payments. Remember if you let your membership lapse, you will be unable to participate in workshops and will no longer receive the newsletter. Please note that dues have increased to \$30.00 this year, which is still a bargain.



## MONTHLY TIPS

"If one loves the earth, he finds a liveliness in walking through the autumn woods: the color, the crackling, and the ripeness of the time appeal to his senses as he kicks his way through the dry leaves with his feet."

- Frederic Remington

Beautiful fall colors are beginning to clothe our deciduous trees in a marvelous display of color. We are fortunate to live in one of the great fall color areas of the world. Trees that can produce great fall color and respond well to bonsai culture, in our area, are the maples: the common red maple (*acer rubrum*), *acer ginnala*, Durands dwarf, and *ginnala Flame*. The tridents and *palmatum*s have beautiful coloration but are somewhat tender in our area. Sweet gum (*liquidambar*) has gorgeous color, but is short lived in pot culture.

Many club members bring their indoor bonsai inside in September - before the furnace in the house comes on. I prefer to leave my indoor trees outside as long as possible. But, I am also prepared to bring all my tender bonsai inside in the event of an unexpected cold spell (40 or lower).

Before bringing your trees indoors spray them with an insecticide. Make sure they are insect free. I also use a systemic insecticide several weeks before I plan on bringing them indoors.

### **FERTILIZING**

Some bonsai enthusiasts feel that no fertilizers are needed after later summer. The use of fertilizers with a high nitrogen content is detrimental to the health of the tree. You want to avoid developing new shoots that will not harden before winter. However, fertilizers that are high in potassium and phosphorous (such as 4-10-10) will strengthen the bonsai and discourage winter die back. On junipers add a small amount of agricultural lime to promote good color next year.

### **INSECTS**

Hardy bonsai also need attention. Insects are as busy now as ever and diseases are ever present. Spider mite population can be controlled with Kelthane.

### **WIRING**

You have always promised to do the fine wiring needed on your bonsai. Well now is the time to honor your promises. If you fine wire now you can leave the wire on until spring. Even wire on conifers (which continue to have some growth during winter) will cause no damage. But, make certain to remove all wires in early spring or your trees will be damaged.

What should you do if you see a starving endangered species of owl that is about to eat an endangered species of fish?

-*Jim Hagan*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

The rates for advertising is \$50 for 12 insertions, for card sized ads.

Contact Dave Radlinski at (513) 831-6931

### Bonsai Speakers Bureau

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For information and rates, Call:

Dave Radlinski	(513) 831-6931
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And/or other club members

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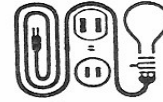


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