**Inland Empire Bonsai Society**

**Club Meeting Notes, May 18th, 2025**

**Members Present:**  Anthony, Caleb, Cass, David, Dottie, Flavio, Helene, Jeffrey, Jeremy, Jerry, John B., Josh, Kurt, Linnea, Marty, Michael L., Mitch, Roger, Ryan

**Items of Business/Discussion:**

1. June Show and Sale here at Manito Park Meeting Room on June 15th, from 10am-4pm.  Need members to arrive at 8:00 am to help set up.  If you have a tree that you want to show, Roger will reach out to get information on the tree.  Even if you are not showing a tree, we need members to be here to interact with the public and answer questions. The more help we have the better.
   1. If you are going to show a tree, it should be in a pot that is cleaned up.  The soil surface should be cleaned up of weeds and debris.  A stand and an accent piece would be ideal. The tree does not have to be at a high level of refinement, but does need to have some bonsai work done to it.
   2. Feel free to bring bonsai related stuff to sell.  The club will take a 10% commission on sales.
   3. Josh has created a flyer for us to distribute around town to advertise the show and sale.  Please take some and distribute around town to nurseries, libraries, etc.
2. Will poll the club in the near future to see how much interest there is in bringing in a guest artist.
3. Our club president Marty led a discussion of airlayering and had a handout.
   1. Airlayering is the process of creating new roots on a trunk or branch to create a new tree or propagate stock.  Often can be more successful than cuttings.
   2. Good technique for creating improved nebari (root base) on a tree.
   3. Ground layering is a variation where the new soil is attached to the existing soil.
   4. Done by removing a ring around the tree taking the bark, phloem and cambium.  Let sit at least overnight to dry out.  Foliage is still getting water through the xylem.  Cut a very clean edge at the top cut.  Can apply rooting hormones.  Can wrap a ring of aluminum wire just under the top cut to be a tourniquet to prevent cambial downgrowth and promote root flare.  Can use sphagnum moss or bonsai soil around the cut.  The top cut should be in the middle of the pot or the bag to best promote new roots.
   5. Timing should be right as new leaves harden off in the Spring.
   6. Important not to keep the airlayer too wet, as new roots will not form.  Allow to dry out in between waterings until roots formed.  When starts drying out faster then new roots have probably started growing and can water more.
   7. Separation can be done in the Fall, would then need to be kept from freezing.  Or can separate in the Spring.
4. We have been invited to participate at the Spokane County Fair again on September. Kurt will coordinate.  Need members to volunteer and show their trees.
5. Silent auction today of pots, supplies & tools from a prior member.
6. **Member Trees Presentation & Discussion**
7. Elm (Cass) - yamadori that she collected near Upriver Drive.  Did an airlayer 4 days ago to deal with an ugly burl on trunk causing an inverse taper.  Used as an example in our discussion of airlayering.
8. Japanese Maple (Linnea) - grown from seed since 2003.  Trunk chopped a few years ago.  Encouraged to bring it to the show next month.
9. Black Spruce (Mitch) - repotted this year.  Rebar and guy wires removed last year after he brought it to a club meeting last year.  Collected from a bog in Alaska in the 1990’s.  Potted initially in 2018.  Discussed how long to leave wire on.
10. Japanese Maple (John B.) - from an airlayer.  Got 6 trees out of a larger tree.  Used the tourniquet method.  Took a year before separating.
11. Trident Maple (Jeffrey) - field grown from Driftwood.  Repotted and did thread grafts last year.  Long term project.  Discussed timing of separating off inputs from thread grafts.
12. Cotoneaster (Josh) - in primary development.  Re-worked the roots this year.  In a wood box.  Has done some wiring.  Just letting it grow this year.  Discussed styling options.
13. Japanese Maple (Marty) - grown from seed.  Leaves are large.  Brought to a meeting last year and used as an example for a partial defoliation.  Planning to do a full defoliation this year.  Hoping it responds well and can come back for the show next year.
14. 2 more Japanese Maples (Marty) - used as a demo at a meeting last year.  Discussion of long term styling.
15. Dwarf Pomegranate (Marty) - grown from a cutting.
16. Boxwood (Marty) - from the long term boxwood project done a couple of meetings ago.

**Next Club Meeting: June 15th, 2025, 9am-3pm, Manito Meeting Room.**

**Planned Topic: Club Show & Sale**