**Inland Empire Bonsai Society**

**Club Meeting Notes, November 17, 2024**

**Present:**  Aaron, Caleb, Cass, Ed R., Emily, Jeffrey, John B., Josh, Kurt, Linnea, Marty, Mira, Mitch, Robert, Roger

**Items of Discussion:**

1. Marty led a discussion of selecting, valuing and then developing pre-bonsai material.  Examples of pricing of material that was being sold at the Pacific Bonsai Exhibition recently.  Multiple in person tree examples from Marty and Roger to show what can be done developmentally with seedlings, cuttings, field grown and nursery stock trees over time. (Long in-depth discussion lasting about 90 minutes)
2. Discussed the importance of leaving stubs when reducing larger branches, especially on Japanese Maples, to reduce die back on the trunk.
3. Discussed collection of trees from Mira’s yard next Spring.  Details to be arranged.
4. Retrospective review of our 2024 meetings.
   * + 1. January - slide show from 2022 Pacific Bonsai Expo, discussion of member’s trees.
       2. February - discussion of bonsai styles & how to develop them, silent auction of donated pots, a wood back workshop a week later.
       3. March - bonsai fertilizer discussion, discussion of member’s trees, and then a repotting workshop a week later at Mitch’s place.
       4. April - reviewed branch wiring techniques, discussion of member’s trees.
       5. May - reviewed results of members’ survey, demonstration of post-flush harden pruning, demonstration of partial defoliation of a Japanese Maple, discussion of members’ trees.
       6. June - demonstration of initial styling of a Japanese maple, discussion of members’ trees, planning for July Show & Sale.
       7. July - Show & Sale canceled due to high temperatures, will be moved to June next year.
       8. August - picnic at Jeffrey’s house.
       9. September - discussion of “insults” to the tree and limiting to one a year, report on Interstate Fair, discussed fall pine care, discussion of members’ trees.
       10. October - discussion of fall/winter care, report on yamadori collecting trip led by David, discussion of future program content to meet the needs of both newer and experience members, discussion of fall deciduous pruning and flow/directionality in bonsai, discussion of members’ & guest’s trees.
5. Discussion of ideas for next year’s programming:
   * + 1. Seasonal care recommendations for work to perform
       2. Wabi Sabi club tour - off meeting
       3. Yamadori collection trip - off meeting
       4. Repeat the repotting workshop - off meeting
       5. Soil discussion with sources and options - informational
       6. Discussion of different species and style options - meeting
       7. Participate in the Garden Expo at SEC again - off meeting
       8. Have an option for a sales table or silent auction - multiple meetings
       9. Workshops and similar tree follow-up -
       10. Airlayering Demo
       11. Root grafting Demo
       12. Forest Workshop
       13. Guest Artist
       14. Tool care
       15. Repotting preparation, including pot prep
       16. Show presentation tips
       17. “Humble” tree show
       18. Pot making workshop
       19. Workshop on matching pots with trees
       20. Documentation of trees over time
6. Discussed a tentative club meeting schedule for 2025:
   * + 1. January - Tool care
       2. February - Pot selection & repotting prep
       3. March - Small tree repotting workshop
       4. April - discussion of tree styles
       5. May - airlayer discussion, show prep discussion
       6. June - Club Show & Sale
       7. July - to be determined
       8. August - to be determined
       9. September - to be determined
       10. October - to be determined
       11. November - year retrospective and next year training
       12. December - club holiday party
7. Marty showed his computer tree tracking system
8. Member trees presentation & discussion:
   * + 1. Japanese Maple (Marty) - from nursery stock 14 years ago.  Used in discussion of pre-bonsai material selection from nursery stock.
       2. Japanese Maple (Roger) - grown from seedling in the ground for 12-14 years, then was dug with root reduction and potted in an Anderson flat for 2 years, first repot into a bonsai pot this last Spring.  Initial primary structure wired this fall. Next repot planned in 2026.  Probably 5 years away from having decent ramification.  Discussed process of root reduction.
       3. Hedge Maple (Roger) - dug from Mira’s yard 7-8 years ago, discussed the developmental process.  Was in a mica pot for some time before going in to a bonsai pot 4 years ago.
       4. Paperbark Maple (Marty) - always grown in a pot, hedge trimmed to this point.
       5. Little Leaf Linden (Marty) - obtained bare root from the Spokane Conservation District 2 years ago.  In a 1 gallon nursery pot now and just developing.  Will go in a wood box with a developmental soil mix to continue development and work on root spread.
       6. Japanese Maple (Marty) - grown in a pot for a couple of years, working on developing an exposed root tree.
       7. Japanese Maple (Marty) - 6 years old, always grown in a bonsai pot, has great trunk movement, discussed option for cutting back for a mame or shohin size tree.
       8. Trident Maples (Marty) - forest, started with seedlings together 6 ago.  Discussed process of developing a forest root system.
       9. Canadian Hemlock & White Spruce (Cass) - pre-bonsai material purchased from Dave at Wabi Sabi Nursery.
       10. Ficus (Caleb) - obtained last January as cheap nursery stock. Air-layers and then puts in pots on a coaster.  Grows under grow lights indoors during the winter.  Discussed his root development process.
       11. Flowering Plum (Linnea) - yard volunteer, potted in a pot she got from the club silent auction earlier this year.

**Next Club Meeting:  December 15th, Finch Arboretum.  Planned Topic: Club Holiday Party**