**Inland Empire Bonsai Society**

**Club Meeting Notes, October 20, 2024**

**Present:**  Cailen, Cass, David, Dotty, Ed B, Helene, Jeffrey, Jennifer, JerryJohn B., John K., Kurt, Linnae, Marty, Mira, Roger

**New Members:** Aaron, Mathew

**Guests:** Lani (visiting from Yakima), Aaron, Mathew

**Items of Discussion:**

1. Preparing for fall/winter weather – too early to put in cold frames or greenhouses for local hardy species.  Putting trees on the ground can help a lot for cold protection.  Can insulate with pine needles, leaves, tarp, even snow heading into the winter.  Protect from the wind.  Pines and other temperate trees should not come inside for the winter.  All trees need varying amounts of cold hours below 40 degrees, not just conifers.The number of cold hours required for best health varies by species.
2. Report on the collecting trip yesterday, led by David, up to the forest around Sherman Pass.  Six club members went.  The weather was great and the group enjoyed exploring the woods together.  A few trees were collected and a few were marked for coming back in the future to collect.  David discussed the process for getting a permit for tree collecting from the forest service.
3. Group discussion of meeting content and topics going forward, including the balance between content for the experienced practitioners versus the beginners.
4. Marty led a discussion of fall deciduous pruning with a trident maple as an example piece.  Discussed the differences in strategy between developmental and refinement pruning.  Discussed the differences in pruning strategy between and oppositely versus alternatively arranged leaf pattern species.  Don’t prune larches or other deciduous conifers until spring. A little late now for pruning pines or junipers, earlier in the fall would have been an ideal time.
5. Marty led a discussion in flow & directionality in styling and display of trees with several example trees.
6. Note that club meetings in both November and December will be held at the Finch Arboretum meeting room.
7. Member and guest trees presentation & discussion:
   1. Crabapple & Cotoneaster mixed planting (Cass) - had been in the ground for a few years.
   2. Japanese Maple (Helene) – has had trouble with grasshoppers eating the leaves.  Described her watering system for when she is gone for days.
   3. Little Leaf Linden (Kurt) – came from Spokane Conservation District, wired into a formal upright, question about what to do with a secondary trunk.
   4. Little Leaf Linden forest (Kurt) - also from SCD.
   5. Pomegranate (Lani) - grown from seed since 2005, ramifies well with pruning every year.
   6. Trident Maple (Lani) - post trunk chop and preparing for thread grafting next spring.
   7. Japanese Maple (John B.) - long feminine design, brought it for fall color.
   8. Japanese Black Pine (John B.) - literati form, discussed design options/suggestions
   9. Boxwood (Jeffrey) - nursery stock, discussed front and branch selection

**Next Club Meeting:  November 17, 2024, Finch Arboretum.  Planned Topic:  Retrospective & Next Year Planning**