



The next meeting will be held on **March 14th @ 1pm**
Erie Community College North Campus
STEM Building(room102) parking Lot 1
Youngs Road, Williamsville

President's Corner

Hello everyone,

It looks like winter is almost behind us and soon we will be back to working on our trees. With some trees starting to bud now is the time to cut back to encourage and develop ramification along with doing fine wiring of secondary branches.



Our March 14 meeting falls right into that idea with Hank Miller doing an afternoon of refinement of a broad leaf tree.

Wiring is like cutting a tree; you are never done with either one. There are two types of wire annealed copper and anodized aluminum. Annealed copper is copper that has been heat-treated, you bend it



once and if you try to bend it again it is harder than when you first bent it.

Anodized aluminum is aluminum that has a coating on it. Using copper wire you will use a smaller gauge wire than you would using aluminum. Copper is more expensive than aluminum. Copper requires a bit more effort to apply than aluminum but the holding power is greater. Copper also requires a little more attention when applying.

If you are applying it on a fast growing tree the smaller wire may be more apt to leave a scare if you put it on too tightly or did not monitor the tree for growth.

Aluminum because you are using a thicker wire will not bite in as quickly because of the larger diameter wire need, but it is not a safe guard to wire bite. Those are the differences in a nutshell.

Regardless of what type of wire you use there are two attitudes on the thought of wiring besides the copper vs aluminum. One is wire is strictly applied to bend a branch and as long as it does that how it looks does not matter. The second is wire should be neatly applied following some rules.

Before I go any further please consider this, your tree is a work of art and everything you do to it and how you care for it is a reflection of the respect and reverence you have for that tree. Your wiring should be continuation of that. Motivated to read further... Cool!



Before you apply wire look at what you need to wire. If you are wiring start from the trunk and look at your primary branches. Wire your primary branches first working up the tree. Then your secondary branches. Then you look at tertiary branches and how they would be wired. See how you are creating a system.

Make sure you cut a piece of wire long enough to wire the first 2 branches and the wire is large enough in diameter to bend the branch. You should always attempt to wire 2 branches with one piece of wire. First secure the wire around the trunk then wire the lower branch then the upper one.

If you are wiring the branch down you want to start with the wire coming over the top where the branch meets the trunk and under the bottom if you are lifting the branch up. Ideally if you wired the lower branch in a clockwise direction the other branch should be wired in a counter clockwise direction. When you wire the wire should come across the branch at about 45 – 60 degrees and the coils should be evenly spaced. Evenly spaced coils at the correct angle can make the difference in being able to bend a branch they way you want and ending up with a bend that is close to what you wanted but not exactly what you wanted. The wire should be on the branch, it should not be tight, if it is the wire will bite into to the tree in a short period of time.

If the wire is not properly anchored it will not matter how large the wire is it will not hold and allow you to bend the branch. This is true on all the branches. If you start by looking first and map out how the wire is going to be applied you will reduce the chance of breaking the cardinal rules of crossing wires. This is a brief overview, but being more conscious of how to wire properly will not only help you bend things more accurately it gives your tree a nicer look.

At the March meeting, Hank Miller will be taking orders for soil for an April delivery.

As always please feel free to bring in a tree to show and discuss.

Scott

Events & Information:

Upcoming Bonsai Events

Bonsai Society of Upstate New York

March 24 Bill Valavanis

April 28 Suthin Sukosolvisit

2020 Monthly Agenda:

March 14 Hank Miller

April 11 Ron Maggeil Suiseki presentation.

May 3 Cherry Blossom Festival

May 9 Auction

June 6-7 Buffalo Bonsai Show at Botanical Gardens

June 13 Bill Valavanis

July 11 Alan Adair

July 18 or 25 Club Picnic

August 8 Young Choe

September 12 U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition

October 10 John Wiessinger

November 14 Mark Arpag

December Christmas Party

Tree of the Month

By Vince Philippono, Buffalo NY, Chinese Elm



Refreshments for month

March Christine Wilkolaski

April

May

2018 Board Members

Scott Russo- President

Paul Pearson- Treasurer

Christine Wilkolaski - Board
662-9429 membership

Bob Maxwell- Board

Kathy Bak- Board