

Bonsai Display Hints - EPCOT 2014

If you wish to contact your partner to plan your display, I can provide an email address. You can each bring trees that will show different types of bonsai.

Trees: Try to have some deciduous, some evergreen, some tall, some not so, upright, cascade, forest, flowering – in other words, mix it up! And bring along an accent plant or two! Remember: **LESS IS MORE!** Don't put out too many trees. Give each some space. You can rotate your extras in.

Stands: Stands create a finished look that will impress! If you don't have any (or enough) there will some decorative mats available.

Pots & 'Soil': Bring some empty pots. Vary the shape, color, size, and finish. There will be a bag of soil there, and a saucer. Pour some out. Encourage kids to touch; it'll take their minds (and fingers!) off the trees!

Tools: Even if you aren't planning to work on a tree, bring a tool or two. People will ask, "How do you do that?" You can demonstrate! As to working on your trees, **TWO CAVEATS:** no repotting - messy and (let's face it) boring, and no carving – potentially hazardous!

Books: A nicely illustrated bonsai book can come in handy if you wish to reference something that's not on your table.

Before & After: Adam has made good use of a progression of Ilex Schillings to show 'how a tree becomes a bonsai.' I take a juniper in a nursery pot and a six-year specimen. Photos of your trees over the years are good.

Handouts: The only one on the table should be the Club brochure – we have acrylic stands for them. There are others: a care sheet (from Clarina and Anthony,) an illustration of styles and training, a laminated list of BSF Clubs and contact information, and our business cards. Keep these behind the table, and give them out only if the guest requests more information. For Florida clubs, use the BSF list to locate one near the guest's home and write the pertinent info on the back of our card. For out-of-state, suggest Google or the BCI site. **DO NOT** put the cards out; kids grab them and we get no bang for our buck!

We have 8-foot banquet tables for trees and tripods for posters. Children will want to touch, so place your trees carefully. Encourage guests to see the exhibit trees at Japan! And enjoy the day!