
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

The Chicago Botanic Gardens is following the state and local health agency guidelines and has eliminated the requirement for masking in order to enter the Gardens. Masks are optional.

The Midwest Bonsai Society Board has decided to continue with on-line options for General Meetings. You will still be able to view the April 4th General Meeting on line, thank to Jose Fonseca. Bonsai 101 will focus on Pot Preparation. The main presentation will focus on planting Bonsai with Roots over Rocks. While you are still able to view the meeting on-line, please be aware that Eva

may be bringing some treats to the meeting.

The May Exhibit on May 14th and 15th is shaping up well. Karen Shuman, BC Bonsai, Wildwood Gardens, Lil Tarnow, Teresa Wooden and others will have booths at the Exhibit. Chris Baker and Jim Fairchild will be doing demonstrations in the mornings on Sat. and Sun. The Frank Mihalic's Children's workshops will be held each afternoon.

We will need your help in setting up, running and tearing down the Exhibit as always. Read more about volunteering in Matt Mazza's commentary. Shifts are only

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April Meeting Focus

The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 4th, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center and via WebEx. WebEx Invitations will be sent to all members in an email.

7:00 PM – Bonsai 101 program; Soil and Pot Preparation presented by Victor Zurczak.

7:30 PM - General program; Root over Rock Planting workshop by Victor Zurczak. Come to just observe or create your own tree. BC Bonsai will have trees, rocks, muck, soil and pots available for purchase. Victor who will guide us through the process, will also have trees and rocks to use for this workshop. Please feel free to bring your own tree and material to create a root over rock or any tree from your collection to work on and get advice from Victor or other senior members.

2 or 3 hours and Midwest Bonsai Society volunteers will enter the Gardens without any parking or entry fee. Note, just being a member won't get you free admission unless you are working as a volunteer during the Exhibit. Eva will be working with Docents and other volunteers to explain what we expect them to do. Easy fun way to get involved.

Spring is just around the corner. A lot of trees

are coming out of winter hibernation and are starting to bud. Remember, at our general meetings you can bring in a tree and consult with senior members on next steps. Keep them watered and warm in case the weather takes another temperature dive. In Chicago you never know if the high in March will be 28 degrees or 68 degrees.

—Larry Stephan

New Chicago Botanic Garden Fees

We are all trying to understand how the new fees will affect us. Please note that our attempt to clarify these changes is not guaranteed to be accurate. In fact, rates are still confusing in some cases when consulting the Garden's website, especially since admission tickets are not available or priced beyond May 14, 2022. Link to their site is <https://www.chicagobotanic.org/visit>

Summary of Garden's website information or information shared with MBS Board;

Parking fees;

• Car \$8.00, Van \$30.00, Limo, Bus or RV \$65.00. Includes tax.

Minimum Admission Fees;

• Cook County Residents - Adults \$9.95, Children \$7.95, Children under 3 free
• Non-Cook County - Adults 11.95, Children \$9.95, Children under 3 free

Note: admission fees include Garden's most popular spring and summer attractions such as Butterflies & Blooms, Grand Tram Tour, and Model Railroad Garden.
Exceptions to minimum Fees;

• Rates per day can change so to insure you receive lowest rate make reservations in Advance. In other words, rates may go up as you get closer to a given

date or if you buy at gate.
• Rates may increase for certain dates after May 15 but won't know until published. For example, rate be higher during popular Orchid Show.

• Become a member to get free admission and parking each visit. Membership pays for itself in as little as two visits.

• If you sign up in person at the Garden MBS mem-

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April Events Calendar

Saturday April 2, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: Lecture and Demo - Repotting from Nursery to Container. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsai-Society.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai-society.org)

Saturday April 2 or Sunday April 3, 2022

DECIDUOUS TREES WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For more information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Saturday April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2022

SATURDAY MORNING BONSAI with Mark Karczewski
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Hidden Gardens in Willowbrook, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to http://www.hidden-garden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Monday April 4, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY APRIL MEETING Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall located in the Regenstein.

7:00 PM Bonsai 101 Program: Soil and Pot Preparation presented by Victor Zurczak 7:30 PM, General Program: Root over Rock Planting workshop by Victor Zurczak. Come to just observe or create your own tree. BC Bonsai will have trees, rocks, muck, soil and pots available for purchase as will Victor who will guide us through the process. Please feel free to bring your own tree and material to create a root over rock or any tree from your collection to work on and get advice from Victor or other experienced members. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday April 6, 2022

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage.

7:00 PM Program; Austrian Black Pine Styling Demonstration by Don Lindstrom. This tree, donated by Jim Bailey, will be raffled off at the end of the meeting. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Saturday April 9, 2022

BRING YOUR OWN FOREST WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For more information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515

Saturday April 23, 2022

PINE TREE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For more information

or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515

Saturday April 30, 2022

JUNIPER TREE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For more information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515

Monday May 2, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MARCH MEETING Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall located in the Regenstein Center or via WebEx Meeting (Invitation to be sent via email).

7:00 PM, Bonsai 101 Program: "Wire and Wiring Techniques" presented by Victor Zurczak. 7:30 PM, General Program: Choice of two hands-on Workshop. Either "Preparing your trees for May show" or "Work on your own tree, not in May show". Victor and other senior members will be available to answer questions and provide assistance. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage.

7:00 PM Program; TBD. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Saturday May 7, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. Program: Horticulture tips for bonsai. Maybe a bit of botany. For further information go to [MBS202203news.pdf \(milwaukeebonsai.org\)](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

Saturday May 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2022

SATURDAY MORNING BONSAI with Mark Karczewski

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Hidden Gardens in Willowbrook, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to http://www.hidden-garden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY 16th ANNUAL MAY BONSAI EXHIBIT

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM in the Burnstein Hall of the Regenstein Center at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Show theme: Bonsai Education. Members invited to bring trees in various stages of training, accompanied by explanations of what techniques are being used. Vendors, workshops, demonstrations. For further information, go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/may-exhibit>

Sunday, May 14, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY WORLD BONSAI DAY

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM At Lynden Sculpture Garden. For further information go to https://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/mbs_schedule.html

Monthly Care Report - April 2022

When the temperature is consistently 65 degrees and sunny you can bring your trees out of their winter storage area. According to current weather forecasts for a warmer than normal spring will allow us to take trees out of storage April 1. Get started repotting your deciduous trees.

Junipers are OK to do, and pines can be started any time during the month. Continue to provide good after-care, by protecting repotted trees from frosts, which will still happen in April.

Begin your feeding, pinching, watering, and prun-

ing schedules in earnest. Of course, be mindful of potential cold snaps, and be ready to protect vulnerable plants. You can begin fertilizing trees repotted in April. Keep your initial fertilizer mix on the light side for those first couple doses of fertilizer. April is still a decent month for root-pruning, and for digging trees from yard or field.

Tropical trees will be showing new growth, even

under lights. Cuttings will be easier to root now that the days are lengthening. Use a rooting hormone as an aid. As always, keep a close watch for insects, which may show up fast as the weather warms. In April you may want to start some plants from seeds.

—Ed Hake • Fort Wayne Bonsai Club • Reprinted by Permission. Compiled from several Web articles with adaptation to our area

May Show Volunteers, May 14-15

In order to make the MBS May Show at Chicago Botanic Gardens a success, we need Members who are willing to offer time and energy to represent the Society throughout the exhibit. We specifically need:

Greeters: Members willing to staff the Exhibit entrance desk, provide

handouts, distribute membership forms, and refer visitors to the various attractions.

Docents: Members who are willing to answer visitors' questions about the Art of Bonsai and the nature of trees on exhibit.

Set-Up/Take-Down Crew(s): Members avail-

able to help set up and take down the exhibit.

Show times are Saturday (5/14/22) 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday (5/15/22) 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vendor unloading is scheduled for Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. Take down will begin promptly at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. We will need assistance

on all 3 days. Volunteer shifts are for only 2 to 3 hours and remember volunteers get in free.

We'll send a sign-up sheet around at the next general meeting, and we will also have a sign-up link on the website. Also feel free to just show up and lend a hand. Your participation will be sincerely appreciated.

Garden Fees

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bers receive 10% discount on Garden Membership https://www.chicagobotanic.org/visit/free_admission_opportunities This includes Veterans, Teachers, LINK & WIC members etc.

Free Admission Days

- There are 52 dates that have no Admission Fee. These dates are typically Tuesday or Thursday. Some winter months have more free days.
- Free Admission for Midwest Bonsai Society members volunteering for one of our Exhibits
- TBD - MBS members coming for a general meeting. In the past, Parking fee has been waived.

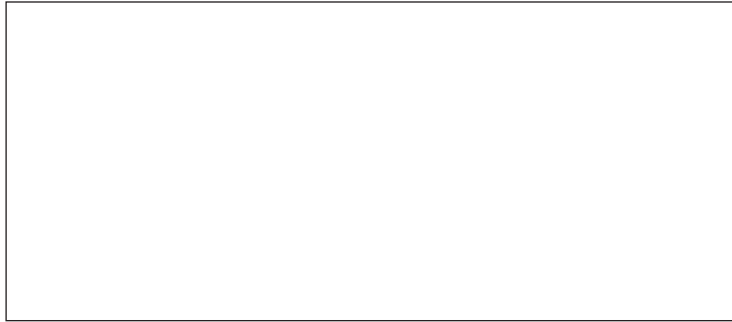
Chicago Bonsai Club

The April meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, April 20, beginning at 6 p.m. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a tree to work on.

Chicago Bonsai Club meets at Garfield Park Conservatory, located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago.

If you would like further information about the meeting or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 773-235-9479.

Midwest Bonsai Society
P.O. Box 1373
Highland Park, Illinois 60035-7373
www.midwestbonsai.org



Membership Request

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone

Date

Email

Please make check payable to: **Midwest Bonsai Society**

Please Check If Renewal

Send to: Midwest Bonsai Society
P.O. Box 1373
Highland Park, Illinois
60035-7373

\$35 Electronic Newsletter **OR \$45** Newsletter by Mail

Midwest Bonsai Connection

Library Resources

MBS has a fine collection of Bonsai books and journals which are available for loan. Please contact the Librarian for information.

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Membership Information: To become a member of the Midwest Bonsai Society or renew your current membership, fill out the "Membership Request" form provided on this page of this newsletter, and mail it in with your check. Or to join online, go to: <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/membership/join-renew/> Membership dues keep the Society running and cover costs such as producing our 2 annual shows, inviting guest lecturers to various meetings, and newsletter printing and postage.