
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message


I would like to send good wishes to Milwaukee and Indiana for their upcoming State Fair shows this month, in advance of our show in Chicago. Our very own Ivan Watters will be down in Indy judging their event. Also on my list of acknowledgements are you, our members. I want to send out a thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership, and a welcome to anyone who might be a new member. July is the end of the membership year and August the beginning of a new one. If you haven't renewed your membership, please talk to us at the next general meeting or the show.

August is a very important month for us as a Society—its time for our 36th Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit. Workshops, vendors, demos, trees—it's the biggest bonsai event in the Chicago-land area. This year's headlining judge is Bjorn Bjorholm, an apprenticeship at Koukaen nursery in Ikeda City Osaka, Japan. There, he learned under Master Keiichi Fujikawa. He's brought his knowledge

back to the States, to the club he helped found in Knoxville, TN and to other shows and groups around the US. We're excited to have him with us on a break from Japan and I look forward to showing him our great exhibit!

While on the topic of the show and trees, if you've never shown one of your trees before please consider trying it. We are each our own worst critic when it comes to our trees, which discourages many a person from showing their trees to others. But there is much to be learned from showing a tree. First, just the thought process behind putting a display together can be a learning experience. Choosing a tree, deciding on what type of stand will look best with it, what accent plant will harmonize, how you want the arrangement composed. Each step teaches us something new about our trees, and showing our trees to others and getting their comments and feedback can be priceless. We've had a few meetings this year on the topic of showing trees, this is the time to show what you've learned!

Midwest Bonsai Society Newsletter
Volume 56 • Issue 7 • August 2013



Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit

The Midwest Bonsai Society invites you to the 36th Annual Bonsai Exhibit

www.midwestbonsai.org

- Bonsai Trees
- Workshops
- Vendors
- Raffles
- Demonstrations
- Banquet + Auction

Featuring
Guest Master
Bjorn Bjorholm



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CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN
1000 Lake Cook Road • Glencoe, Illinois
August 16 • 17 • 18, 2013, 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

One last note about the August show, and that is the annual call for volunteers. Volunteering is very easy, and you can sign up for whatever duty fits your comfort level. Walking the floor watching the trees, sitting at the sales table, selling raffle tickets, moving workshop trees—if you have an ability to offer, we can use it! We are continuing our advancements in taking credit cards, so if you have an iphone or ipad we would especially like to hear from you for the sales table. With the installation of a simple app you can help us take credit cards and keep that feature running at the sales table

for the whole show. If you haven't already talked with Rich Katz, please do so at the next meeting or email us at midwest.bonsai@yahoo.com. This show can only happen with your help! We had a great volunteer turnout for the May show, lets see if we can keep that enthusiasm going this August!

I will be presenting this month's general meeting, a presentation on bonsai pots. I will start with identifying pots and what to look for when buying pots at the show, and then continue with info on matching trees to pots. I hope to see you all there!
—Cat Nelson

Workshop Schedule for the 36th Annual Mid-America Show

You can still register for most Fall Show workshops online at <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/augworkreg.html>. All Workshops (except the Children's Workshop & Exhibit Critique) have a \$50 Workshop Fee in addition to the Materials Fee listed below with the workshop. BYOT Workshops with the Guest Master have no material fee. The total cost for the Children's Workshop is \$10.00 - there are no additional fees.

1) Friday, August 16 - 9:30am

JIM DOYLE: Bonsai: Intensive Techniques
All-day workshop: "Bonsai: Intensive Techniques".

2) Friday, August 16 - 1pm

LINDA CAMP: Melon Seed Ficus (Ficus Retusa 'Melon Seed')

3) Friday, August 16 - 5pm

BJORN BJORHOLM: Exhibit Critique
This is your chance to have a guided tour of the exhibition trees with commentary from the guest judge

4) Saturday, August 17 - 9am

FRANK MIHALIC: Cotoneaster part 2

5) Saturday, August 17 - 9am

BJORN BJORHOLM: Bring Your Own Tree Workshop
Bring your own tree and get individual help with it from our Guest Master.

6) Saturday, August 17 - 9am

MARTHA MEEHAN: Cork Bark Maple
Work with Martha on a Corkbark Maple (Acer Palmatum 'Arakawa').

7) Saturday, August 17 - 1pm

BRIAN CISKOWSKI: Black Pine
Work with Brian on some old-stock Japanese Black Pine (Pinus Thunbergii).

8) Saturday, August 17 - 1pm

ANDY SMITH: Ponderosa Pine
Work with Andy on some collected Ponderosa Pines, mame to shohin sized.

9) Sunday, August 18 - 9am

FRANK MIHALIC: Juniper
Work with Frank on some old stock junipers.

10) Sunday, August 18 - 9am

BJORN BJORHOLM - Bring Your Own Tree Workshop
Bring your own tree and get individual help with it from our Guest Master.

11) Sunday, August 18 - 9am

DAVE LOWMAN: Hornbeam
Work with Dave on some old stock Carpinus that have approximately 1" to 1 1/2" trunks.

12) Sunday, August 18 - 1pm

FRANK MIHALIC: Children's Workshop
Frank Mihalic will lead a workshop in which children create a beautiful bonsai with material chosen to be easy for beginners
Availability: Not open for registration yet

Chicago Bonsai Club

The Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, August 21, beginning at 6 p.m. Bring the tree you bought from a vendor at the Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit, for assistance in styling. James Fairchild and Tony

Welninski will be available to answer questions, and assist with styling and maintaining your bonsai trees.

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

Contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com or call 773-235-9479.

Haiku

by Susan Babyk



Show Time

It's Show Time again.

Spruce up my pot and moss, and
Put me on display.

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The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent those

of the Midwest Bonsai Society membership or the Board of Directors.

General Meetings

Meetings of the Midwest Bonsai Society are held at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

All meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Bonsai 101 presentations commence at 7:00 PM.

Library Resources

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

Monthly Care Report:

What to Do in August

Now that summer has arrived and temperatures are getting hot, we need to keep a close watch on our trees. The insects will be coming to feast on our expensive plants.

It's generally too late in the season for digging or repotting except for our tropicals. Your feeding, pinching, and pruning schedules should be in full swing by now. Pinch the terminal buds from deciduous trees, leaving only one pair of leaves, and keep plucking the terminal buds off your junipers and cedars as well. Everyone of our club members should have our club made fertilizer blocks on all of their trees. Keep an eye peeled for insect pests and don't overdo it with the chemicals! Always read and follow manufacturers' directions, and be aware that plants in small containers are more easily stressed than plants growing in the ground. If you spray your trees with insecticides or fungicides, it's best to put them into the shade for the rest of the day. We have had lots of rain the past few weeks, so watering has to be adjusted accordingly.

Summer is in full swing now so watch your watering, especially small trees like mame and/or shohin. Trees that are sensitive to full sun, like Japanese maples, should be situated so they are at least partially shaded from hot afternoon sun. Continue to check your wires, as they can eat into the bark quickly when they grow so fast during the summer.

On black pines from which you removed this year's growth, you should start to see new buds forming. Be careful of these new buds if you are adding or removing wire, since they are the future branches.

Over the years, I've noticed that I tended to do major work on my trees in the spring, but during the summertime there is sometime a tree that can benefit from some branch pruning. This year with my elms and maples, I decided to stay on top of it; pinching every shoot from 5 leaves back to 2 leaves. Anytime a shoot stretched out to 5 leaves, I nipped it back to one or two. This year, the trees have responded with growth so rampant, that it seems that almost every day there is one that needs a little attention. Summertime work is just as important as the major operations that are carried out in the wintertime. Usually it's as simple keeping a pair of scissors on the bench and tidying up the trees as part of daily watering.

I recently read about how hot the soil can get in dark colored pots and that can damage the roots on that side. If you have your trees setting in full sun all day, you can use some shade cloth to drape over the side of the pot in the sun to keep it a little cooler. I just use a couple of stones to hold it over the side. Compiled from several web articles and adapted to our area

—Ed Hake. Fort Wayne Bonsai Club.

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Events Calendar

August 1 – 11, 2013

Wisconsin State Fair, Horticulture Exhibit

Horticulture, Craft & Culinary Pavilion. All the vegetable exhibits and society shows are vibrant and fragrant, showcasing the state's best produce, plants and flowers from bonsai to roses. For more info, go to <http://www.wistatefair.com>

August 2 – 10, 2013

Indiana State Fair Bonsai Show and Sale at the Ball State Ag./Hort. Building, sponsored by Eagle Creek Bonsai, LLC. For more info, go to <http://www.in.gov/statefair>

Monday, August 5, 2013

Midwest Bonsai Society August meeting, 7:30 pm., at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Cat Nelson will do a presentation on what to look for when buying bonsai pots as well as matching pots to trees. The Bonsai 101 session, which begins at 7 pm, will be a talk on nutritional supplements for your trees, the presenter as yet undetermined.

Tuesday, August 6, 2013

Milwaukee Bonsai Society Meeting 6:30 pm. Will feature a Presentation by their Advanced Study Group. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

Prairie State Bonsai General Meeting 7:30pm, at the College of DuPage. Room TEC1038b Program: Grow plot tree workshop. 12 crabapples were selected from the grow plot and will be sold for \$20 each (half the price of a comparable nursery retail price). Bonsai 101 at 7 pm. For directions to meeting, go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com

August 16 – 18, 2013

36th Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit

Enthusiasts from five states bring their trees to be judged in the main hall at the Garden's Regenstein Center - with this year's Guest Master Bjorn Bjorholm. Along with this fabulous display of regional talent, there are over a dozen national vendors, workshops, free demonstrations, and a banquet with a silent auction. For more info, go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/augustshow.html>

Wednesday, August 21, 2013

Beginning at 6 p.m., the **Chicago Bonsai Club**, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will hold a meeting at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Bring the tree you bought from a vendor at the Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit, for assistance in styling. For more info, email: suekazoo@hotmail.com

September 21-22, 2013

Annual Prairie State Bonsai Show

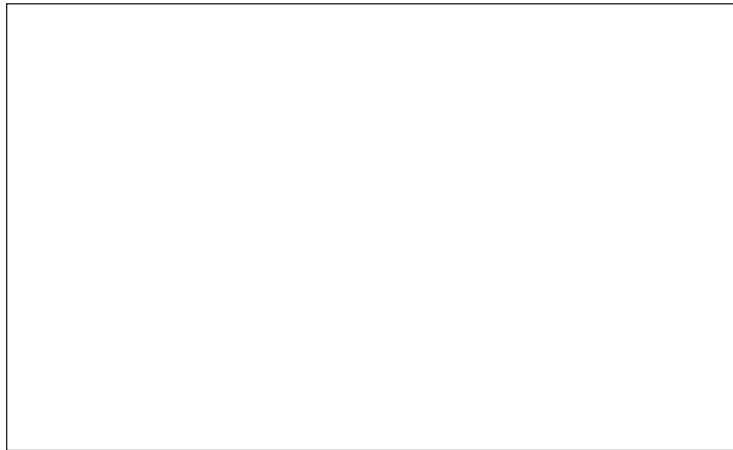
Hours: Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm, at the Morton Arboretum. For more information, go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com

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

Membership Renewal Reminder

July was the time to renew your Midwest Bonsai Society membership, so if you haven't, please fill out the "Membership Request" form provided on this page of this newsletter, and mail it in with your check, or pay in person at the August Show. 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.

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Membership Request

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone

Date

Email

Please Check If Renewal

Please make check payable to:

Send to: Midwest Bonsai Society

Midwest Bonsai Society

P.O. Box 1373

Highland Park, Illinois

Annual Membership • July 1st thru June 30

60035-7373

\$35 Electronic Newsletter **OR \$40** Newsletter by Mail

Midwest Bonsai Connection

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