
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Committee Message

We certainly miss Cat. It has been a longtime since this space was not filled by one of her articles. Thanks to Jay Albright and Matthew Corpolongo we are still moving forward. Jay is coordinating the August Exhibit. Matthew has taken over administration of the Midwest Bonsai Website (www.midwestbonsai.org) and is making changes and improvements. All of the Board's efforts are focused on the show. Please bring any trees that are ready to exhibit. Please remember to thoroughly water your tree before dropping it off at the Garden. The new judging form will give you much better feedback on how the judge views your trees.

The Workshops have been posted on the website for a couple of weeks and we now have the Demonstration list posted too. The free demos include Mark Fields working on a Yew tree, Jim Doyle showing how to work with Yamidori and a major rock planting project demo by Rodney

Clemons, our guest artist. Rodney is looking for lots of good moss to go on the demo project at the end. If you have any extra moss available please get in touch with Jay Albright. The Workshops are exceptional this year. Go on line and check them out. And do not forget about the Saturday night banquet at Maggiano's in Old Orchard Mall. The food and company are good and there will be a silent auction with many exciting items on sale. You can also meet our fantastic group of vendors, one on one, in a relaxed setting.

Be sure to mark August 4th at 7:00 pm on your calendar. At this general meeting renowned artist Walter Pall will be visiting from Germany for a talk and a demonstration that will involve carving.

If anyone would like to submit an article or some thoughts to add to the Newsletter, please send them to us. In the future I will add some thought on Bonsai and things to do at

this time of year. Right now I know everyone is just watching the weather day to day and trying to decide how the cool summer is affecting the trees. Will my

tomatoes in the garden ever ripen?

E-mail us anytime at midwest.bonsai@yahoo.com.—Larry Stephan



Photo of the tree that Walter Pall will use in our next meeting for his Tree Carving Demonstration.

Events Calendar

Saturday & Sunday, August 2 & 3, 2014
ANNUAL PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SHOW
Hours: Sat.-Sun. 10am-4pm, at the Morton Arboretum,
For more information go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com

Monday, August 4, 2014
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY AUGUST MEETING, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center, 7:00 pm, World-renowned German bonsai artist Walter Pall will be our guest speaker.

Tuesday, August 5, 2014
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING, 6:30 pm. Guest Artist – painter Charlotte Fung Miller." For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org.

Wednesday, August 6, 2014
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING has been cancelled.

Friday–Sunday, August 15-17, 2014
37th ANNUAL MID-AMERICA BONSAI EXHIBIT.
Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL. For details on demonstrations and to sign up for workshops and the banquet, please go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/augustshow.html>.

Wednesday, August 20, 2014
CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING, 6 pm at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Contact suekazoo@hotmail.com for further information.

Tuesday, September 2, 2014
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING, 6:30 pm. Jack Douthitt Spruce Follow-up. See what's next for the club tree. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org.

Wednesday, September 3, 2014
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY
General Meeting and "Bonsai 101" 7:30pm, Room TEC 1038b Program: TBA. 7:00pm, Bonsai 101, TBA.

Monday, September 8, 2014*
Note later date due to Labor Day Holiday
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY SEPTEMBER MEETING, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Fairchild Room.
7:00pm - Bonsai 101 - What is bonsai and what are different bonsai styles.
7:30pm - Rich Katz talks with us about using junipers as bonsai material.

Chicago Bonsai Club

The Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 20, beginning at 6 p.m. The focus of the meeting will be on pine needle pruning, so bring your pines. Senior members of the MBS will be available to answer questions, and assist with

styling and maintaining your bonsai trees, so bring one to work on or for critique.

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.

August Meeting Focus

The August meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2014, 7:00 pm, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Berstein Hall, located in the

Regenstein Center. World-renowned German bonsai artist Walter Pall from Germany will be our guest speaker for this month.

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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.

The Midwest Bonsai Society's 37th Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit + Show

**Chicago
Botanic
Garden,
1000 Lake
Cook Road,
Glencoe,
Illinois**



**Friday,
August 15,
Noon-5pm**

**Saturday,
August 16 +
Sunday,
August 17,
9am-5pm**

© 2013 Chicago
Botanic Garden
Photo by: Tim Priest
M.Photog.Cr

Workshop Schedule for the **37th Annual Mid-America Show**

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. Bring Your Own Tree Workshops with the Guest Master have no material fee. The total cost for the Children's Workshop is \$10. There are no additional fees.

To register online, please go to: <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/augworkreg.html>

Friday, August 15

**1) Friday, August 15, 1-4 pm: Frank Mihalic,
Wildwood Gardens**

Respected national bonsai artist Frank Mihalic will work with you on a 5 tree Shimpaku (Chinese Juniper) rock planting

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: \$40

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Plant Science Lab, Regenstein Center

**2) Friday, August 15, 1-4 pm: Andy Smith,
Golden Arrow Bonsai**

Work with Andy Smith on his amazing collected Ponderosa Pines (Spring 2013). Some of the trees are large.

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: \$65-\$400 (average \$125)

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Design Studio, Regenstein Center

**3) Friday, August 15, 5-6:30 pm: Rodney Clemons,
Exhibit Critique**

This is your chance to have a guided tour of the exhibi-

tion trees with commentary from the guest judge. This will be a private tour after the exhibit closes to the public.

Limit: 20 Participants

Special Price: \$20 (total - no additional workshop fee applies)

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Regenstein Center

Vendors

BC Bonsai

Bonsai by Fields

**Cass Bonsai Gardens,
LLC**

Charlotte Fung Miller

DaSu Bonsai Studios

**Esclusso Ltd. Candle
Creations**

Golden Arrow Bonsai

**International Bonsai
Arboretum**

Literati Design

Knittle Designs

Meehan's Miniatures

Nature's Way Nursery

Sara Rayner Pottery

Suiseki Illinois

Wildwood Gardens

Saturday, August 16

4) Saturday, August 16, 9-Noon: BC Bonsai

Work with the founders of BC Bonsai on a selection of Crabapples with 2" trunks, grown from seed.

Skill Level: All

Limit: 8 Participants

Materials Fee: \$40

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Plant Science Lab, Regenstein Center

5) Saturday, August 16, 9-Noon: Rodney Clemons

Bring Your Own Tree

Bring your own tree and get individual help with it from our Guest Master.

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: None

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Annex #1

6) Saturday, August 16, 1-4 pm: Martha Meehan, Meehan's Miniatures

Work with grower and artist Martha Meehan in a BILINGUAL (English and Spanish) workshop with Bougainvillea or Chinese Elm. Fee includes Pot and soil.

Skill Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Limit: 15 Participants

Materials Fee: \$35

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Annex #2

7) Saturday, August 16, 1-4 pm: Cass Bonsai Gardens

Work with the Cass brothers on Pinus thunbergii "Kotobuki" dwarf pines. They always have fine stock to work on.

Skill Level: All

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: \$125

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Annex #1

August Show Banquet and Silent Auction

The August banquet and auction will be at Maggiano's Little Italy Saturday evening, August 16, at approximately 7:00pm (6:30pm cocktails). We need to know in advance what the reservation count will be, so please tell us early if you are interested in coming! Cost for the banquet is \$45, and registrations can be made with the workshop registration form. Please register in advance! At the banquet we will have a silent auction with many high quality bonsai related items up for grabs. This is a great time to casually meet the faces in the show, network and enjoy a great meal while talking bonsai all night long. Maggiano's Little Italy can be found at 4999 Old Orchard Ctr, Ste A28, Space #A28, Main Level, Skokie, IL 60077-1480

8) Saturday, August 16, 1-4 pm: Frank Mihalic, Wildwood Gardens

Frank will work with you on 15" to 18" Shimpaku (Chinese Junipers)

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: \$35

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Plant Science Lab, Regenstein Center

Sunday, August 17

9) Sunday, August 17, 9-Noon: Rodney Clemons

Bring Your Own Tree

Bring our own tree and get individual help with it from our Guest Master.

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: None

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Design Studio, Regenstein Center

10) Sunday, August 17, 9-Noon: Dave Lowman, DaSu Bonsai Studio

Dave will work with you on Boxwood, urban yamadori, ready for advanced styling. The trees were hand picked from a large re-landscape/removal project and are the best from a great many trees.

Skill Level: All

Limit: 10 Participants

Materials Fee: \$39

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Plant Science Lab, Regenstein Center

11) Sunday, August 17, 1-4 pm: Cass Bonsai Gardens

Work with the Cass brothers on Hackberry, Celtis occidentalis, grown from seed.

Skill Level: All

Limit: 15 Participants

Materials Fee: \$35

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Plant Science Lab, Regenstein Center

12) Sunday, August 17, 1-4 pm: Martha Meehan, Meehan's Miniatures

Martha will work with you on Shohin Scots Pines from their nursery.

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Limit: 8 Participants

Materials Fee: \$35

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Design Studio, Regenstein Center

13) Sunday, August 17, 1-4 pm: Frank Mihalic, Wildwood Gardens

Children's Workshop – Frank will lead a workshop in which you will create a beautiful bonsai with material chosen to be easy for beginners. Pot, wire and soil are included. Get started now for many years of enjoyment.

Skill Level: Beginner

Total Cost: \$10 (there is no workshop fee)

Availability: Registration Open

Location: Burnstein Room, Regenstein Center

Monthly Care Report: What to Do in July-August

Mid-July has been hot and dry, so watch your watering daily, 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. Don't water the foliage if they are in the sun. On super hot days, I spray the foliage early in the day, when it will dry off before the sun hits it or in the evenings after the trees are getting some shade to help cool them a bit. Sometimes you can overwater in this heat too. Continue to check wires. Weeds are growing rampant and keeping pots clear of weed seems impossible for me.

On pines in late summer, if you see the needles completely formed, you can take the central bud out, which should stimulate the formation of more buds and possible back budding for next year. Be careful of these new buds if you are adding or removing wire, since they are the future branches. On some pines you can take the entire new growth off and get new buds to form. Some trees, like pines & hemlocks enjoy a couple mild doses of fertilizer during late summer and early fall.

It's generally too late in the season for digging or repotting except for tropicals, though the more experienced can seemingly get away with almost anything. Your feeding, pinching, and pruning schedules should be in full swing by now. I am finding my elms

grow a lot and need pruning pretty often. 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 seems to have their own preferences for fertilizers and feeding schedules, so ask around or find a good book. Keep an eye peeled for insect pests, spider mites love hot and dry conditions, but 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.

IT'S HOT... and your trees know it. Watch for leaf burn or heat stress from too much afternoon sun. Midday root watering and a little extra nitrogen will help. Trees do much better outside, but if they are facing from east to west and are receiving late afternoon sun, the pot and the soil temperature can get extremely high, enough to kill the roots, so give them some shade in late afternoon. Be sure to turn your trees weekly so the sun doesn't pull them to one side. High temperatures, and humidity are perfect breeding grounds for fungi and mildew. Be vigilant and use a preventive fungicide on trees you have had problems within the past. With this being the most active growing sea-

son it sometimes seems you can't keep up with all the pruning. I let some of my trees grow out a little now to promote healthy roots and help with gaining some trunk size. Now is a good time to let those certain branches grow out to thicken them up. You may do so by letting the branch grow out for the summer and then cut it back. Also, if you have branches that have outgrown your composition, now is a good time to remove them and start growing a new one. To force back budding, keep your growth tips pinched off.

Can't stress enough to keep up with watering. If your tree is outside, water daily those that drain fast and are in shallow pots, maybe twice, I have some in fairly deep pots and I check them daily, but not necessarily water daily. It would be very hard to overwater a tree sitting outside this time of year. If in doubt whether it needs water, water.

—Ed Hake
Fort Wayne Bonsai Club.
Reprinted by Permission.
Compiled from several web articles and adapted to our area.

Poem, Like a Bonsai

by Susan Babyk

Haiku poetry—
Words pruned carefully, much like
Bonsai tree branches.

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Midwest Bonsai Society
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www.midwestbonsai.org

Membership Renewal Reminder

July is the time to renew your Midwest Bonsai Society membership, so please fill out the "Membership Request" form provided on this page of the newsletter, and mail it in with your check, or pay in person at the August Show (renewal form is required). 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.

Midwest Bonsai Connection
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Membership Request Form

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone

Date

Email

Please Check If Renewal

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

Send to: Midwest Bonsai Society

P.O. Box 1373

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Annual Membership • July 1st thru June 30

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