
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

Hello friends. Time flies. It seems like time flies faster every day, month, and year it manages to put behind it. There's never enough time to do everything that seems to need to get done. Fix the leaky pipe, fix the insulation, fertilize the trees, cut the grass, remove that too-tight wire, type the message. The list goes on and on, and here it is almost August already. By now you've already noticed the days getting shorter. And though they haven't gotten noticeably colder than they have been, (wow it's been chilly this year) your trees will have already noticed the shorter days. They'll be starting their preparations for the winter season. Some of them may have even already set next their buds for next spring. I've barely managed to fertilize this year. It seems like something else is always higher on the urgency list. But it's already time to start looking to the low nitrogen mix again to keep the trees in that winter prep mode. If you haven't been checking your wire you should check now. The trees will have bulked up over July and wire scars will be imminent on anything tightly applied.

For our August Society meeting on the 6th, we'll be styling five large shimpaku junipers from Brussels Bonsai in a group exercise. At the end of the meeting we'll be raffling off the trees to five lucky winners, so come on out and enjoy a night of fellowship, discussion, and activity.

Just ten days after our August meeting, our August Exhibition begins (at least for us it does). Some setup will begin Wednesday evening, but the work in earnest will start Thursday morning. If you haven't already responded to the volunteer recruitment E-mail or signed up on the handouts at the Monday meeting, please look through your inbox for the E-mail and let us know where you can help. We have a lot of openings to fill this year.

This year Eileen Michal will be coordinating the volunteers from Bernstein Hall. We ask that when you arrive for your shift, you head to Bernstein Hall to sign in with Eileen and pick up a red apron. I also ask that you be somewhat flexible in filling the positions we need covered. While it is not a common occur-

rence, on occasion somebody can't fill their shift, so while you may have signed up to do cent we might ask if you can handle the Information table instead. We fully understand that some people can't fill some positions due to physical issues, so we will always try to keep you in your preferred position, but if there is a need you can fill we would greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Beyond the August show, there is always more work to be done. The Midwest Board now stands short two members. Secretary, and Vice President of Monthly Programming. The Secretary position mostly requires note taking and typing skills. In return for taking down and typing up the Minutes at our monthly Board meeting, you will gain an understanding of the operation of the Society and a voice in its future planning. The Vice President of Monthly Programming is responsible for organizing the Monthly Society meetings. This means arranging Guest appearances, find-

ing materials for people to work on, and hopefully coming up with interesting new programming for our membership. Most of this year is already planned, so anyone who steps up to fill this position can use the next five months to plan for next year, and we even have a few leads ready to help you fill the schedule. I'm not going to try to hide it though, V.P. of Programming is a tough position. It's a lot of pressure to find and arrange interesting presenters and programs, but the payoff of seeing a good program come together is a great feeling. If anyone feels brave enough to step forward for either of these positions, you can send me a note at MwBSSecretary@Yahoo.com.

Now if you'll forgive me, I've got a bunch of hungry trees I need to feed, along with a pile of other "to-do" items. See you all the 6th, and thank you in advance for volunteering your time, the show can't go on without you.

Sincerely,
Robert Wright

Naoki Maeoka
August 2018 Guest Master

Events Calendar

Saturday & Sunday August 3rd, 4th & 5th, 2018
ANNUAL PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY SHOW,
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the Morton Arboretum. Special Guest Artist Frank J. Mihalic. For further information go to http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com/images/PSBS_showflyer_2018.pdf

Saturday August 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2018
HIDDEN GARDENS WORKSHOPS,
9:00 AM - 12 PM, Saturday Morning Bonsai with Mark Karczewski bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html> or call 630-655-8283.

Sunday August 5, 12, & 26 2018
BONSAI WORKSHOPS
with Ivan Watters, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Brendan Berry's residence. For further information or to register go to yasukunai@hotmail.com or call 847-917-0817.

Monday, August 6, 2018
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING
at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: at 7:00 PM. Group styling exercise using 5 large Shimpaku Junipers, that will be raffled at the meeting. There will be no Bonsai 101. For further information, go to www.midwestbonsai.org

Tuesday, August 7, 2018
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,
6:30 PM. Boerner Botanical Gardens. MBS Presentation – Tropical Bonsai. For further information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Wednesday, August 8, 2018
BONSAI REFINEMENT AND SHOW DISPLAY
with Chris Baker, 6:00PM - 9:00 PM, at Chicago Botanic Garden Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. For further information go to https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/bonsai_refinement_and_show_display

Saturday August 11 & 25, 2018
BC BONSAI WORKSHOPS
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, Wheaton, IL. 11th Brazilian Rain Tree, 25h Fukien Tea Tree. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

Saturday August 11 & 25, 2018
BC MASTER BONSAI WORKSHOPS
with Ivan Watters, 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

Wednesday, August 15, 2018
CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING,
6:00 PM, Garfield Park Conservatory. Bring a tree to work on. Senior members will be present to answer questions & give assistance. For further information, contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 17 • 18 • 19, 2018
41st ANNUAL MID-AMERICA BONSAI EXHIBIT,
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday and Sunday, at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake

Cook Road, Glencoe, Illinois. For further information go to www.midwestbonsai.org

Saturday September 1, 15, 22 & 29, 2018
BC MASTER BONSAI WORKSHOPS
with Ivan Watters, 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

Saturday September 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2018
HIDDEN GARDENS WORKSHOPS,
9:00 AM - 12 PM, Saturday Morning Bonsai with Mark Karczewski bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html> or call 630-655-8283.

Sunday September 2, 16, 23 & 30, 2018
BONSAI WORKSHOPS
with Ivan Watters, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Brendan Berry's residence. For further information or to register go to yasukunai@hotmail.com or call 847-917-0817.

Tuesday, September 4, 2018
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,
6:30 PM. Boerner Botanical Gardens. MBS Presentation – State Fair Winners. For further information go to http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/mbs_schedule.html

Wednesday, September 5, 2018
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. Program: 7:00 PM Bonsai 101, Foliage presented by Matt Mazza. 7:30 PM, Program Bonsai development as a joint presentation by members, Phil Malhiot, Mark Karczewski and Jim Keith. For further information go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com

Saturday September 8, 15, & 22, 2018
BC BONSAI WORKSHOPS
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, Wheaton, IL. 8th Melon Seed Ficus, 15th Shohin Willow Leaf Ficus and 22nd Amur Maple. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

Saturday, September 8, 2018
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY BEGINNERS WORKSHOP,
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Boerner Botanical Gardens. MBS Presentation – State Fair Winners. For further information go to http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/mbs_schedule.html

Monday, September 10, 2018
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING
at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: at 7:00 PM, Bonsai 101, Topic TBD. 7:30 PM: Program TBD. For further information, go to www.midwestbonsai.org

Wednesday, September 26, 2018
PREPARING FOR FALL AND WINTER STORAGE
with Chris Baker, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Discussion on the steps necessary to prepare your bonsai trees for the fall and winter seasons. Bring your own trees for late summer to early fall work. Chicago Botanic Garden, Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. For further information go to https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/tropical_bonsai_workshop

Monthly Care Report: What to Do in 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 in partial shade on hot, sunny afternoons. Don't water foliage if trees are in sun. On super hot days, I spray foliage early in the day, so it dries off before the sun hits, or in the evenings after trees are getting some shade, to help cool them a bit. Middy root watering and a little extra nitrogen will help. Continue to check wires.

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 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 re-potting 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. Pinch terminal buds from deciduous trees, leaving only one pair of leaves, and keep plucking terminal buds off 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.

Watch for insect pests, 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.

Watch for leaf burn or heat stress from too much afternoon sun. 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 season 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 the need to keep up with watering. If your tree is outside, water daily those that drain fast and are in shallow pots, maybe twice. 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.

Chicago Bonsai Club

The August meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, August 15, 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.

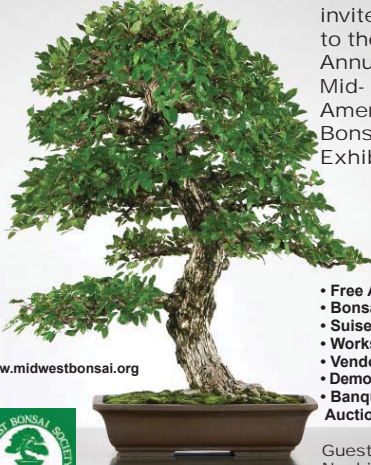
Chicago Bonsai Club meets at Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago. Contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com or call 773-235-9479.

August Exhibition

All you need to know for August Exhibition now available on our website! Great information and sign up for workshops is effortless. Note we have added the capability to register your tree, for the show, on our website. Online registration is a real time saver for all so please consider using same. Here is link: <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition/> Thanks again to Mathew Corpolongo and Larry Stephan for their work creating, gathering and publishing this information.

The Midwest Bonsai Society

invites you to the 41st Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit



• Free Admission
• Bonsai Trees
• Suiseki
• Workshops
• Vendors
• Demonstrations
• Banquet + Auction

Guest Master Naoki Maeoka

www.midwestbonsai.org

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

CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, Illinois
August 17 • 18 • 19, 2018
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Parking Fees Apply

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

Membership Information

To become a member of the Midwest Bonsai Society or re-new your current membership (July is the month to renew), please fill out the "Membership Request" form provided on this page of this newsletter, and mail it in with your check. 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
Volume 61 • Issue 7 • August 2018



Membership Request

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

Highland Park, Illinois

60035-7373

Annual Membership • July 1st thru June 30

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