
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

2021 August Thoughts

They will be missed

In recent days we have lost Scott Ptacik and Tony Welninski. We will work on posting some type of memorial to them and the others we have lost since our last August Exhibit two year ago. That includes Fred Tarnow, Ivan Watters and Louellen Murray. Let us know if we have missed anyone.

Midwest Bonsai Society – June Event

This event at Matt and Rosy Mazza's home was a wonderful success. We had some short periods of heavy rain, some periods of light sprinkles and a lot of rain free time. The rented tent and Matt's two smaller tents provided all the shelter we needed. The vendors all said it was a very good day but the real success was seeing all the Bonsai people who turned out to socialize and check things out. Our old President, Kat Nelson, was there from Iowa. It was great to see everybody and we estimate that about 75 people came by during the day. Matt and Rosy provided a great lunch and were the best hosts ever.

**August Exhibit –
August 20th - 22nd**

Volunteers – As always, the Exhibit runs on volunteer power. Our club members really make this show what it is. From helping with workshops to answering visitor's questions and keeping a protective eye on the trees your assistance is a key ingredient. Here is link from our website to use in signing up to help. <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#volunteer>

We ask that when you arrive for your shift, you head to Bernstein Hall to sign in and pick up a red apron to wear. I also ask that you be somewhat flexible in filling the positions we need covered. While it is not a common occurrence, on occasion somebody can't fill their shift, so while you may have signed up to do not 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.

Midwest Bonsai Society Newsletter
Volume 64 • Issue 7 • August 2021

The Midwest Bonsai Society

Invites you
to the 43rd
Annual Mid-
America
Bonsai
Exhibit

- Free admission
- Bonsai trees
- Suiseki
- Workshops
- Vendors
- Demonstrations
- Banquet + Auction



© 2019 Arbole de Mark Fields - 1st Place Professional Class 2019 MBS August Exhibit, Photo de Jeng Fonseca



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, Illinois
August 20 • 21 • 22, 2021
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Parking Fees Apply

Tree Registration – Here is the link to on-line tree registration, like we have used in the last two Exhibits <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#treeregistration> Your use of website makes this job much easier for our volunteers but you may also register in person on Thursday. Please bring a tree to enter as a Novice (first time entering a tree) or in the Open category.

Workshops – Andy Smith will be back with a workshop with collected trees. BC Bonsai will host a workshop with beauti-

ful Japanese Lilac trees. Mark Fields will work with you on Burt Davy Ficus trees over rock. Dana Quattlebaum will be bringing 12 year old Hinoki Cypress trees to his workshop. The Children's workshops will return on Saturday and Sunday. Phil Malhiot, our Guest Judge, will host Bring Your Own Tree Workshops. To sign up for a workshop use this link <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#workshops>

We are so looking forward to seeing all of you in August.
—Larry Stephan

August Events Calendar

So good to see the return of live events. Our August General Meeting is back at Regenstein Hall and our traditional Annual Exhibition is back. Hope to see you at both.

Sunday August 1, 2021

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Cantigny. This will be the usual PSBS summer picnic, however, Cantigny has also asked us to set up a few display tables so that visitors can see the bonsai trees in the summer setting as opposed to the winter setting of the silhouette show. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Monday August 2, 2021

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

7:00 PM Bonsai 101 Program; "The 5 Wire Tie Down" by Robert Wright. 7:30 PM Program; Accent Plants by Linda Camp. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday August 4, 2021

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING – Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Program; How To Get Your Trees Show Ready. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Saturday August 7, 14, 21, & 28 2021

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.

Thursday August 5 thru Sunday August 15, 2021

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR BONSAI EXHIBIT

9:00 AM - 10:00 PM Daily, at Wisconsin State Fair Park Exposition Center, 8200 West Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214 For more Information go to http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/mbs_shows.html

Saturday August 7, 2021

ADVANCED WIRING AND BENDING WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 3:30 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Sunday August 8, 2021

CARVING WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 3:30 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Saturday or Sunday August 14 or 15, 2021

PREPPING YOUR TREEE FOR THE SHOW WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 3:30 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 20, 21 & 22, 2021
43rd ANNUAL MID-AMERICA BONSAI EXHIBITION**

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Saturday and Sunday, with guest master Phil Malhiot, at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road Glencoe, Illinois. For further information including links to workshops and tree registration go to August Exhibition — Midwest Bonsai Society

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 27, 28 & 29, 2021

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBIT

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Sunday, with guest master Mark Fields at Linden Sculpture Garden, 2145 W Brown Deer Rd, Milwaukee, WI. For more Information go to <http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/ae/index.html>

Saturday or Sunday August 28 or 29, 2021

DESIGNING THAT TREEE YOU BOUGHT AT THE SHOW WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 3:30 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Monday August 30, 2021

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

7:00 PM, Bonsai 101 Program TBD, 7:30 PM Program; TBD. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday September 1, 2021

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING – Zoom Meeting

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

Wednesday September 1, 2021

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

6:30 PM, Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: Club Ponderosa Pine's Repotting and State Fair Winners. For further information go to <http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org>

Saturday September 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2021

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 September 11, 2021

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY and PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GARDEN WALK at Various Members Homes

9:00 AM to - 5:00 PM, gardens located in N. Chicago, Skokie, Mt. Prospect and/or Wheaton. See announcement in this newsletter next month for more information.

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 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.

Monthly Care Report - What to do in August

No relaxing yet. Wait until next month. Everything that is healthy is growing robustly. Nearly everything that isn't healthy is getting better.

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 before the sun hits, or in the evenings after trees are getting some shade, to help cool them a bit. Mid-day root watering and a little extra nitrogen will help.

When watering, cover every part thoroughly (leaves, branches, trunk, soil surface). Obtain a wand that produces the effect of soft rain, arching the stream upward so it falls like rain all over the tree. Rewater the soil surface multiple times until you feel it is thoroughly saturated. If the tree is rootbound it will require three or four visits. This is a critical process that ensures old air is completely pushed out the bottom of the container and fresh air is pulled into the soil mass. A plus of this method is that a lot of chlorine is dispersed and added oxygen is mixed into the water.

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. Pinch terminal buds from deciduous trees, leaving only one pair of leaves, and keep plucking terminal buds off junipers and cedars as well. Prune and trim vigorous growth on deciduous and broad-leaved evergreens. It follows that more trimming yields better ramification.

Continue to fertilize on your established schedule. You want the trees to have energy to produce wood and begin the process of storing energy in the lower trunk and roots for dormancy and next year's growth spurt. Continue to check wires.

After about August 20 begin needle thinning on five-needle pines. If the needles come off easily when you pull them toward the tip you can continue throughout the tree. If there is resistance you risk damaging the bark and endangering the health of the tree. The needles removed must be trimmed/cut off at the middle of the fascicle. This can change in any given tree yearly.

To balance the vigor of the branches on white pines, remove all of last year's growth and about half this year's needles on strong growths. Remove all last this year's needles but leave all of this year's on average strength growths. Leave about half of last years needles and again leave all of this this year's needles on weak growths. When finished tree branches should look like they all have the same needle density. Performing this process for several years will also reduce the length of needles.

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 temper-

atures 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 with the help of Ivan Waters.

Chicago Bonsai Club

We are pleased to announce that the Garfield Park Conservatory is open. As a result the August meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, August 18, 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 or just come to observe.

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

This month meeting will be back at the Garden! Yes, a live meeting!

The August meeting is scheduled at 7:00 PM on Monday, August 2nd, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

7:00 PM - Bonsai 101 program will be "The 5 Wire Tie Down" by Robert Wright. 7:30 pm - General meeting program will be Accent Plants by Linda Camp.

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.