
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

The August Exhibit is almost here (Friday, Saturday and Sun. August, 18th, 19th and 20th). We can use a few more volunteers for the following times:

- Wednesday, 16th - Pick up of materials from offsite locker on Lake, 3-5 pm.
- Thursday, 17th - Tree registration, 5-7 pm
- Thursday, 17th - Tree arranging, 4-7 pm
- Sales Table, Friday, 18th, 12-3 pm, Saturday, 19th, 12-3 pm, 3-5 pm, Sunday, 20th, 9 am-12 pm, 2-3 pm, 3-5 pm.
- Information Table (Nichols Hall), Friday, 18th, 12-3 pm, 3-5 pm, Saturday, 19th, 12-3 pm, 3-5 pm, Sunday, 9 am-12 pm, 12 - 3 pm, 3-5 pm
- Docents, Friday, 18th 12-3 pm, Saturday, 19th, 9 am -12 pm, 3-5 pm, Sunday, 20th, 19th, 9 am-12 pm,
- Assist with Children's workshops, Saturday, 19th, 1-4 pm, Sunday, 20th, 1-4 pm
- Banquet set-up, Heller Nature Center, Saturday, 19th, 4-5 pm

You can sign up for any of these times at <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#volunteer>

There are complimentary lunches each day for volun-

teers as well as free parking and admission to the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Workshops are filling up fast. Check them out at <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#workshops>. You can also sign up for the fabulous Sat. night banquet, silent auction and raffle at <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#dinnerandauction>. What makes this event special, in addition to food and drink, is the chance to mingle with members, vendors and visiting artist Bjorn Bjorholm. We are also raffling off what we expect to be an exceptional tree created by Bjorn.

Don't forget about entering trees on line to save us all lots of time. Trees can be entered at <https://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition#treeregistration>

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Exhibit. Remember, this is one of the top Bonsai Exhibits in the country and YOU make it happen.

Try to give your outside trees a little shade and extra water during the hottest summer days ahead.

—Larry Stephan, President

Midwest Bonsai Society Newsletter
Volume 66 • Issue 7 • August 2023

The Midwest Bonsai Society Invites you to the 45th Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit

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



Guest Master:
Bjorn Bjorholm

© 2022 Matthaei
Botanical Garden of
Ann Arbor, Michigan,
courtesy of Jack Sustic:
Satsuki Azalea (Professional Class Winner).



www.midwestbonsai.org

August 18 • 19 • 20, 2023
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN
1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, Illinois

*Garden Admission Applies

45th Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibition

Everything you need to know for August Exhibition, featuring guest artist Bjorn L Bjorholm from Eisei-en Bonsai, in Mount Juliet, Tennessee, is now available on our website! This includes, great descriptions of workshops and schedule of events. Online sign up for workshops and tree registration will be added shortly. If you are showing a tree online registration is a real time saver for all so please consider using same. Here is link <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/august-exhibition/> Thanks to Mathew Corpolongo and Matt Mazza for their work gathering and publishing this information.

Current list of vendors for this year's exhibition; Ancient Art Bonsai, Asian Artique, BC Bonsai, Bonsai By Fields, Cactus and Succulent Society, DaSu Bonsai Studio, Eisei-en, Golden Arrow Bonsai, Green Witch Gardens (The Flower Market), International Bonsai, Jack Ken Matsumoto Scrolls, Kawa No Oka Bonsai, Ken's World of Bonsai, Kusa-Farm, Lakeside Bonsai, Lil Tarnow Pots, Morning Sun Bonsai, Mulberry Creek, Pottery Cat Studio, Rob Sheldon, Sara Rayner Pottery, Stone Forest Pottery, Superfly Bonsai, Tandamiti Bonsai, Tom Phardel Pottery, Yume-En,

August Events Calendar

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. The college address is 425 Fawell Boulevard in Glen Ellyn.

7:00 PM Program; How to Prep Your Tree for 17th Annual Bonsai show at Morton Arboretum's, "Destination Asia Festival". For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Thursday August 3 thru Sunday August 13, 2023
WISCONSIN STATE FAIR BONSAI EXHIBIT

9:00 AM - 10:00 PM Daily, at Wisconsin State Fair Park Exposition Center at The Grand Champion Building, 8200 West Greenfield Avenue, West Allis, WI 53214. Rotating Bonsai Display and Competition; Exhibit 1 Thursday - Sunday, Exhibit 2 Monday - Wednesday, Exhibit 3 Thursday - Sunday. For more Information go to http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/mbs_shows.html

Friday August 4 thru Sunday 6, 2023

THE MORTON ARBORETUM DESTINATION ASIA FESTIVAL

Friday 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM, at The Morton Arboretum. at 4100 Illinois Route 53 in Lisle, IL 60532. Prairie State Bonsai Society will be in the Sycamore Room hosting their Annual PSBS Bonsai Exhibition. For more Information go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/event/destination-asia-festival-3/>

Saturday August 5, 2023

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: Show Display - Displaying basics using stands and accents. Focus: Mid-Summer Final Cutbacks on Hardy Trees. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

Saturday August 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2023

SATURDAY MORNING BONSAI with Mark Karczewski

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Hidden Gardens in Willowbrook, IL. Bring your own tree and Mark will evaluate and help you get it to the next level. (Repotting and wiring are extra). For further information go to Hidden Gardens in Willowbrook, IL or call 630-655-8283.

Monday August 7, 2023

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL 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, "Accent Plants" demonstration by Linda Camp. General program; "Show Presentation for Bonsai" presented by Victor Zurczak. Members are, as always, invited to bring a tree to get advice on care or styling from Victor Zurczak or other senior members. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday August 16, 2023

MBS CHICAGO CHAPTER MEETING

6:00 PM - 7:30 at Garfield Park Conservatory, located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a tree to work on. For more information about the meeting or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 312-590-6049.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 18, 19 & 20, 2023

45th ANNUAL MID-AMERICA BONSAI EXHIBITION

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday and Sunday, with guest master Bjorn BJORHOLM, 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.

Saturday & Sunday, August 26 & 27, 2023

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBIT

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Sunday, with guest artist Bjorn BJORHOLM at Linden Sculpture Garden, 2145 W Brown Deer Rd, Milwaukee, WI. For more information or updates go to http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/mbs_shows.html

Saturday September 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2023

SATURDAY MORNING BONSAI with Mark Karczewski

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Hidden Gardens in Willowbrook, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. Bring your own tree and Mark will evaluate and help you get it to the next level. For further information go to http://www.hidden-garden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Saturday September 2, 2023

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. Program: Breakdown of the differences between the many different pine types and how they should be handled. Focus: Getting trees ready for their winter homes. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

Wednesday September 6, 2023

BONSAI SEASONAL STORAGE with Chris Baker

6:00PM - 8:00PM This class will be taught online via Zoom. In this class, we will discuss the steps necessary to prepare your bonsai trees for the fall and winter seasons. Proper feeding, pruning, and winter storage options for both temperate and tropical bonsai will be covered. For more information or to register, go to: https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/bonsai_courtyard_tour

Saturday & Sunday, September 9 & 10, 2023

U.S. NATIONAL BONSAI EXHIBITION

9:00AM - 4:00PM Total Sports Experience Arena, East Rochester, New York. Join people from around the world for the 8th U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition where over 200 of the finest Bonsai in the country will be on display. For more information or to register go to [U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition \(usnationalbonsai.com\)](http://www.usnationalbonsai.com)

Monday September 11, 2023

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL 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; "Fall Care of Trees" presented by Victor Zurczak". 7:30 PM, Program: "August Exhibit Tree Critique" by visiting artist and exhibit judge Bjorn BJORHOLM. This is a video presentation recorded at the show. Members are always invited to bring a tree from their collection to get advice on care or styling from Victor Zurczak or other senior members. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

(Continued on Page 3)

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 off before the sun hits, or in the evenings after trees are getting some shade, to help cool them a bit. Midday 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 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. 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 if 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, so 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 year's 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 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.

— *Compiled from several web articles and adapted to our area with the help of Ivan Waters.*

August Calendar (Continued from Page 2)

Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. The college address is 425 Fawell Boulevard in Glen Ellyn. 7:00 PM Program; TBD. For more information or updates go to <https://prairies-tatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Wednesday September 20, 2023 MBS CHICAGO CHAPTER MEETING

6:00 PM - 7:30 at Garfield Park Conservatory, located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a tree to work on. For more information about the meeting or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 312-590-6049.

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



August Meeting Focus

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

7:00 pm - Bonsai 101 program; "Accent Plants" presented by Linda Camp.

7:30 pm - General program; "Show Presentation for Bonsai" demonstration by Victor Zurczak.

Remember you are always invited to bring in a tree of any sort, as Victor and other senior members will be available to answer questions and provide advice. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Chicago Bonsai Club

The August meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, August 16, 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 or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 773-235-9479.

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.

Not for Profit • Copyright • Disclaimer

The Midwest Bonsai Connection is an official publication of the Midwest Bonsai Society, Inc., an Illinois Not for Profit Corporation. This Newsletter is published monthly and may not be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without the written permission of the Midwest Bonsai Society. The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the Midwest Bonsai Society membership or the Board of Directors.



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.