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# MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

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[www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

## President's Message

Wow. Time sure flies when you're having fun, doesn't it? A lot has hit us since the May Exhibition: in a wholly understandable precautionary move the Chicago Botanic Garden has banned Boxwood and Pachysandra plants from entering the premises (see our website for details), and we lost not one, but two old friends of the Society, Jack Wilson and Helen "Howie" Hartmann. Health issues had kept both of them from being with us for some time, but their passing is still felt. They will be missed and we wish peace to their families as they cope with the loss.

June is almost done, the heat has settled in for the summer, and the August show is looming large on the horizon. Do you have a tree in mind to show yet? If you don't, all is not lost yet. Maybe you have one that you think is close to ready. Yeah, that one that's just a little scraggly around the edges and needs a little TLC to get it ready to go? If so, we've got just the program for you coming up this month. Due to the holiday on the 4th, our meeting is delayed to July 10th, but that extra time has allowed our special guest to fly in to Chicago for his studies. David Martinez will

be here to help our members make those last minute adjustments to their trees.

I hope you read that. Now, due to the demanding nature of the program, the meeting will be starting promptly at 7 p.m. In order to keep this from becoming chaos, trees will be looked at one at a time, in the order of the members' arrival (please remember, no boxwoods). I'm asking that you try to limit it to one tree, but if you do have a second tree and time allows, after the first round of trees is complete we will start over again with the earliest arrivals. The program will continue until Mr. Martinez needs to go, but no later than 9:30, as we need to have the room cleared by 10. Some of the Board were concerned about the format of this program due to the way a similar program worked (or didn't work) some time ago, but I think we can all learn just as much from seeing each other's trees worked and critiqued as we can from a single demonstration tree.

So, now that we're on the road to the August Exhibition it's time once again to help spread the word about the show. This Exhibition will mark our 40th annual

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show at the Chicago Botanic Garden, truly a milestone for a Society like ours. Posters and Postcards in English and Spanish will be available at the July and August meetings for you to take and distribute. This is an important part of our advertising and we spend a significant amount of funds on getting these materials printed. It hurts to have leftovers at the end of the show, so let's all try to place a few. Let's at least get one English and one Spanish Poster into each of our local libraries, which should be easy enough, right? A lot of places will ask if we are a not-for-profit organization. The answer is, yes, we are. And to keep us honest, Ms. Madigan, down in Springfield, has us jump through a number of hoops each year to prove it. So let's get these materials out there so that all that effort doesn't go to waste.

If you haven't noticed yet, the schedule of workshops and demonstrations for the August Exhibition is now live on our website. I've already seen a number of reservations go out for the workshops and for Kathy Shaner's Exhibition critique Friday night, so if you want to get in on the action, I suggest you do it as soon as possible.

Speaking of getting in on the action, please keep your eyes peeled for the volunteer schedule for the exhibition, it will be coming around any day now to your inbox and to the General Meetings. I know there are those who like to "float" at the show and try to fill in wherever volunteers are needed. I used to be one of them, but now that I've seen

things from behind the inner curtain, I understand that it really adds a lot of stress to the organization process. So please, if you have time to volunteer, pick a time and a role, and let us know as soon as possible.

Over the last few months we've heard a lot of people comment about the membership cards, or rather the lack thereof. We are currently in the process of redesigning the cards to include the date you originally joined (if we have it) and when renewal will come due. We are hoping to have the new cards printed, filled out and mailed to you in time for the August Exhibition. In the meantime if you know the date you originally joined the Society feel free to drop an email with that date into the club email account at [Midwest.Bonsai@yahoo.com](mailto:Midwest.Bonsai@yahoo.com) and we'll update our information to include it.

In other news, our Milwaukee friends have finally finished their permanent exhibit at the Lynden Sculpture Garden in Milwaukee Wisconsin. I haven't yet been able to see the exhibit in person, but I have seen photographs of it and it is truly a beautiful effort on the part of the Milwaukee Society. The exhibit is only open to the public Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday as the Society keeps people there to man the display. The Exhibit is free to members of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society or with admission to the Sculpture Garden. So take a day trip and see what's new in our local Bonsai world.

See you 7-10,  
—Robert Wright

# Events Calendar

**Sunday, July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2017**

**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](mailto:yasukunai@hotmail.com) or call 847-917-0817.

**Wednesday, July 5, 2017**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY General Meeting**  
7:30 PM, Room TEC/1038b Program: Chris Baker. For further information go to [www.prairiestatebonsai.com](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com)

**Friday & Saturday, July 7 & 8, 2017**

**MABA 2017 CONVENTION,**  
8:00 AM – 5 PM, Clarion Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center, Indianapolis, Indiana. Headlining Artist Matt Reel bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.mababonsai.org/event-schedule.html> or call 630-655-8283.

**Saturday, July 8th, 2017**

**THE SECRET GARDENS OF WAUWATOSA AND BONSAI EXHIBIT,**  
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Kneeland-Walker house. For further information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

**Monday, July 10, 2017**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING**  
at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: at 7:00 PM, David Martinez will be here to help our members make last minute adjustments to their trees for our August Exhibition. Bring your trees for critique. For further information, go to [www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

**Saturday, July 15th, 2017**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY OPEN WORKSHOP: Tropical Repotting**  
Bring a tropical tree to repot and enjoy the company of friends. 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. For further information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

**Saturday & Sunday, July 15 & 16, 2017**

**BC BONSAI WORKSHOP:**  
Developing and styling trees while they continue to grow in the ground, Paw Paw, IL. For further information & to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

**Tuesday, July 18, 2017**

**BONSAI: INTERMEDIATE-THE NEXT STEP,**  
(6 Tuesdays, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM), Chris Baker at Chicago Botanic Garden. For further information go to [www.chicagobotanic.org/education](http://www.chicagobotanic.org/education) or call 847-835-8261.

**Wednesday, July 19, 2017**

**TROPICAL BONSAI WORKSHOP,**  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Chris Baker at Chicago Botanic Garden Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. For further information go to [www.chicagobotanic.org/education](http://www.chicagobotanic.org/education) or call 847-835-8261.

**Wednesday, July 19, 2017**

**CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING,**  
6:00 PM, Garfield Park Conservatory. Bring a tree to work on to prepare or just come to watch. Senior members will be present to answer questions & give assistance. For further information, contact: [suekazoo@hotmail.com](mailto:suekazoo@hotmail.com)

**Saturday, July 22nd, 2017**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY SPECIAL MEETING:**  
Picnic and Swap Meet. For further information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

**Tuesday, August 1, 2017**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,**  
6:30 PM. Boerner Botanical Gardens. MBS presentation TBD. For further information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

**Saturday & Sunday August 5th & 6th, 2017**

**ANNUAL PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY SHOW,**  
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at the Morton Arboretum. Special Guest Artist Owen Reich. For further information go to [http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com/images/PSBS\\_showflyer\\_2017.pdf](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com/images/PSBS_showflyer_2017.pdf)

**Sunday, August 6, 13 & 27, 2017**

**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](mailto:yasukunai@hotmail.com) or call 847-917-0817.

**Monday, August 7, 2017**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING**  
at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: at 7:00 PM, Bonsai 101, Accent plants, Display stands. 7:30 PM: Former Society President Cat Nelson will return to give us a last minute refresher on displays and accents trees just in time for our August Exhibition! For further information, go to [www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

**Thursday August 3 thru Sunday August 13, 2017**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY - ROTATING BONSAI DISPLAY at WISCONSIN STATE FAIR.**  
For further information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, August 18 • 19 • 20, 2017**

**39TH ANNUAL MID-AMERICA BONSAI EXHIBITION,**  
12:00 PM – 5:00 PM Friday, 9:00 AM to 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](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

**Wednesday, August 16, 2017**

**CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING,**  
6:00 PM, Garfield Park Conservatory. Program TBD. For further information, contact: [suekazoo@hotmail.com](mailto:suekazoo@hotmail.com)

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## MBS Library Suggestions

Eileen Michal, our Society Librarian, has asked if anyone has a specific book they would like the library to purchase. Please see her at the meeting or email your suggestion directly to [<fotodoc6@gmail.com>](mailto:fotodoc6@gmail.com)

# Monthly Care Report: What to Do in July

July, hot and humid as it is, is a great time of year for bonsai. Growth has slowed, deciduous trees are leafed out, and juniper trees should be bushy. Since it is also vacation time, be sure to plan ahead, even if leaving for a few days. Find a trustworthy friend or hook up a watering system with a timer.

Keep your trees in shape by pinching or light pruning. Check wiring on trees. Watch for pests and diseases, and spray accordingly. If you find something wrong and aren't sure what the problem is, consult someone who is knowledgeable, and ask them. Watch out for scale, looking for tiny white specks on the foliage. Scale requires repeated sprayings regularly, as it

is amazingly persistent. Fertilize regularly. If using fertilizer cakes, replace every month.

Turn your trees often so that all sides get equal amounts of sunlight and grow in all directions. The hot sun can heat up pots and the soil, trees in wide-rimmed pots tend to get hotter, and deep pots retain more heat than shallow ones. To prevent heat damage to roots cover soil and the rims of your pots with old cloth or burlap. This will also help keep the plants moist longer.

—*Some information has been paraphrased from IBA News & Muse, Volume 27, Issue 7, Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter, Reprinted by Permission*

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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.

## Chicago Bonsai Club

The July meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, July 19, beginning at 6 p.m. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a plant 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](mailto:suekazoo@hotmail.com) or call 773-235-9479.

## July Meeting Focus

**NOTE:** The July meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 10, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

Program: at 7:00 pm. David Martinez will be our guest, here to help members make last minute adjustments to improve their trees for our August Exhibition. Bring your trees for the critique. For further information, go to [www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

Also, David Martinez is available for private work sessions. Email him directly at [contact@davidmartinezmoreno.com](mailto:contact@davidmartinezmoreno.com)

## Midwest Bonsai Society Board Members

President	Robert Wright (interim)
Executive Vice President	Kurt Nykaza
Vice President Programs	Vacant
Vice President Special Events	Larry Stephan
Treasurer	Phil Troy
Public Relations	Vacant
Membership	Lorraine May
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Assistant Editorial	Gail Thompson
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	Ivan Watters
	Tony Welninski
Prairie State Representative	Vacant

Midwest Bonsai Society  
P.O. Box 1373  
Highland Park, Illinois 60035-7373  
[www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

## Membership Information

To become a member of the Midwest Bonsai Society or renew 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.

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## Membership Request

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone

Date

Email

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Please Check If Renewal

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

Send to: Midwest Bonsai Society

P.O. Box 1373

Highland Park, Illinois

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Annual Membership • July 1st thru June 30

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