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# MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

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

## June and July Thoughts

Welcome to Phase 4 of the Illinois Covid-19 Plan which arrived June 26. Thanks to all who followed the guidelines since the beginning of the pandemic keeping yourself and others safe from infection. Keep up the good work and most of us will survive this dilemma.

As you probably have expected the August MBS show is officially canceled. I believe thoughts of doing anything public this year are not in the picture. But who knows. However, several board members are searching for ways we can create avenues to serve you.

Though currently open with limited access, the Chicago Botanic Garden will have an expanded "re-opening" in July. Even though they are open the garden will not allow classes or meetings to be held there until further notice. Moreover, it appears unlikely that the Garden will allow any large

(more than 10 people) meetings or gatherings even in August.

We are reviewing options for a smaller more socially distant event as an alternate to our traditional Exhibit. Perhaps, if vendors are willing, a sale featuring our local suppliers like BC Bonsai, Hidden Gardens, Fred Tarnow and Karen Schuman. We would appreciate any and all suggestions from our members. What would you like MBS to do? Let us know what you think at [midwest.bonsai@yahoo.com](mailto:midwest.bonsai@yahoo.com)

Monthly meetings continue to be canceled at least through August, so we continue to explore virtual options. Our MBS Programming Director Victor Zurczak is checking with scheduled presenters Mark Fields and Jennifer Price to determine if and how they may be able to provide us with virtual demonstration. In addition we are testing technology required for producing

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### Chicago Bonsai Club

Due to the COVID-19 closures, all future Chicago Bonsai Club meetings for 2020 have been cancelled at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Hopefully, we will be able to find an alternative space to meet, but certainly not on July 15. Please watch for further information in the MBS newsletter.

If you would like further information about or to join the club, please contact: [sukuzu17@gmail.com](mailto:sukuzu17@gmail.com) or call Susan Babyk at 773-235-9479.

virtual meeting, with the help of BC Bonsai and how to best manage notification to members.

### FRIENDS OF THE HIDDEN GARDENS BONSAI SHOW

The Hidden Gardens Bonsai is hosting an outdoor bonsai show on July 18 and 19, 10 to 4 both days. Workshops with Andy Smith (July 18) and Owen Reich (July 19) are offered. For more information about exhibiting or workshops: [thehidden-gardens@comcast.net](mailto:thehidden-gardens@comcast.net) or 630-655-8283.

### LUCIA HEYWORTH BONSAI FOR SALE

After the passing of my great friend, Lucia Heyworth, I have been helping water and keeping the trees in good shape and health. I have also accepted the responsibility of selling the trees for the estate. This is an exceptional collection, of 23 small to medium sized trees, which was started 45 years ago. I personally have helped select many of them and

have helped maintain them for over 40 years.

With the great help of Arlene Knapp and Karen Schuman we have prepared a slide show of the collection. Many thanks as I couldn't have done it without their help. The pictures are informal snapshots taken by Frank Mihalic in 2016 for a certified appraisal. We have added common name, scientific name, dimensions and price to each picture.

To view the slides text, Email or call me at 847-917-0817 or [yasukunai@aol.com](mailto:yasukunai@aol.com). Very serious inquiries only, please. If you determine you are a potential purchaser, limited times are available for an appointment for a personal view. Covid-19 guidelines followed. (more to come)

Greetings at the beginning of a beautiful summer. The weather

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# Events Calendar

**Please note:** What we have shown below is a list of events scheduled as of June 17, 2020. Where we have information on cancellations due to Covid-19 we have included same. While all of the local clubs are still not meeting, BC Bonsai and Hidden Gardens are open and offering workshops. In addition Ivan Waters is offering one on one workshops by reservation. Please check all events, if you want to participate to insure they have not been canceled.

**Saturday July 4, 11, 18, & 25, 2020**

**SATURDAY WEST SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters**

Canceled due to Covid-19 but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to [yasukunai@hotmail.com](mailto:yasukunai@hotmail.com) or call 847-917-0817.

**Saturday July 4, 11, 18, & 25, 2020**

**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.hiddengarden.net/bonsai> Saturday morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

**Sunday July 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2020**

**SUNDAY NORTH SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters**

Canceled due to Covid-19 but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to [yasukunai@hotmail.com](mailto:yasukunai@hotmail.com) or call 847-917-0817.

**Monday July 6, 2020**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING**

Canceled due to Covid-19 - Virtual Meeting - TBD. At this time we are exploring possible virtual demonstration with Mark Fields. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

**Tuesday July 7, 2020-**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY PICNIC MEETING**

On hold due to Covid-19. Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: "Yamadori Talk". For more Information go to <http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/Newsletters/MBS202005news.pdf>

**Wednesday July 8, 2020**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING**

Canceled due to Covid-19 - Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

**Saturday July 11, 2020**

**CREPE MYRTLE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Wednesday, July 15, 2020**

**CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING**

Canceled due to Covid-19. Meetings for Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, have been postponed indefinitely due to Covid. If you would like further information about or to join please email: [sukazu17@gmail.com](mailto:sukazu17@gmail.com) or call Susan Babyk at 773-235-9479.

**Saturday July 18, 2020**

**BRAZILIAN RAIN TREE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Saturday July 25, 2020**

**HINOKI SEKKA WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Saturday August 1 thru September 12, 2020**

**INTERMEDIATE BONSAI at BC Bonsai**

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Covers advanced techniques, wiring, styling, refinement, carving, and displaying your trees. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Saturday August 1, 2020**

**PROCUMBUS NANA WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Saturday August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2020**

**SATURDAY WEST SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters**

Canceled due to Covid-19 - but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to [yasukunai@hotmail.com](mailto:yasukunai@hotmail.com) or call 847-917-0817.

**Saturday August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2020**

**SATURDAY MORNING BONSAI with Mark Karczewski**

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Hidden Gardens Willowbrook, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/bonsai.html> or call 630-655-8283.

**Sunday August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2020**

**SUNDAY NORTH SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters**

Canceled due to Covid-19 - but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to [yasukunai@hotmail.com](mailto:yasukunai@hotmail.com) or call 847-917-0817.

**Monday August 3, 2020**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING**

Canceled due to Covid-19. Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall located in the Regenstein Center. 7:00 PM, <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

**Wednesday, August 5, 2020**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING**

Canceled due to Covid-19 - Room TEC/1038a College of DuPage. 7:00 PM, Program: Bonsai 101: Bonsai Soil by Landen Gibbs. 7:30 PM, Program: Air-Layering. For further information go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

**Saturday August 8, 2020**

**DWARF HINOKI CYPRESS WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Sunday, August 9, 2020**

**BRING YOUR OWN TREE OUTDOOR WORKSHOP with Chris Baker**

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Chicago Botanic Garden, Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. Bring any bonsai tree to this outdoor workshop, where we will work on our trees (weather permitting). For further information go to [https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult\\_education/horticulture/bring\\_your\\_own\\_bonsai\\_outdoor\\_workshop](https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/bring_your_own_bonsai_outdoor_workshop)

**Saturday or Sunday August 18 and 19, 2020**

**FRIENDS OF THE HIDDEN GARDENS BONSAI SHOW**

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Hidden Gardens Willowbrook, IL. Visiting artists Andy Smith and Owen Reich. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/bonsai.html> or call 630-655-8283.

**Wednesday, August 19, 2020**

**CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING**

Canceled due to Covid-19. Meetings for Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, have been postponed indefinitely due to Covid. If you would like further information about or to join. For further information please email: [sukazu17@gmail.com](mailto:sukazu17@gmail.com) or call Susan Babyk at 773-235-9479.

**Saturday August 22, 2020**

**CANADIAN HEMLOCK WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**Saturday August 29, 2020**

**SHIMPAKU JUNIPER WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com>

**By Reservation Only in July or August**

**ONE ON ONE WORKSHOPS at BC Bonsai**

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# Thoughts

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is and is forecasted to be wonderful. No really hot days with cool nights. Best bonsai weather in years. But, as we all know, things change in Chicago so keep an eye on the longer-range forecasts. AccuWeather is my go to website so here is link to their July monthly forecast <https://www.accuweather.com/en/us/glencoe/60022/july-er/2241055?year=2020>

I'm still repotting and plan to continue until I run out of trees or the weather changes. Tropical trees can be repotted any time now.

## JUNE REVIEW

It has been great weather for all growing things after about a two-week delay in getting started. Pinch, pluck, trim, candle, defoliate, prune. All are in full swing.

If you haven't switched to higher N or applied timed-release fertilizers, do it now. Plants are lush so are wanting extra water. Likely no such thing

as the so-called summer dormancy this year.

I will stop potting most hardy trees now, except Junipers, if any are still left. I will wire a little bit, especially thick branches. Now is the time to use the heroic techniques: rebar, clamps, guy wires, etc. Just keep in mind that what you do will make a more beautiful tree.

## JULY WORK

Not this year, as it is unusual, but July, hot and humid as it is, is a great time of year for bonsai. Growth is in full tilt and likely to continue, deciduous trees are leafed out, and juniper trees should be bushy. Keep trimming your trees.

Because this July is forecast to be cooler than normal we should be able to extend our repotting season through July—possibly August and September. Look to take advantage of this longer window to get trees out of depleted mix with room to grow after trimming roots and in the right pot. 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. Even when using watering systems have someone check to insure it turned on, turned off and that all trees were watered.

Keep your trees in shape by all techniques required. Check wiring on trees. Even add some wire when defoliating or new growth is strong and not easily damaged. 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.

Note we in the process of adding a bonsai "Question / Answer" link on our website and social media sites. So if you have questions send them along with photos to get an opinion on what is afflicting your trees.

Watch out for scale, looking for tiny white specks on the foliage. Scale requires repeated

sprays regularly, as it is amazingly persistent. Adding paraffin based horticultural oil or Neem oil to the insecticide makes it much more effective. 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, (turn 90 degrees clockwise each week). The hot sun can heat up pots and the soil, trees in wide rimmed pots tend to get hotter. To prevent heat damage to roots cover soil and the rims of your pots with sphagnum moss, old cloth or burlap. This will also help keep the plants moist longer. Another technique that works well, which I learned from Kay Berlenborn, is to use foam shelf liners which will cool and reflect light to increase growth and let in water and air freely.

Look on the website to see flash messages and opportunities for you developing by your board.

—*Ivan Watters*

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## Events Calendar

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Time TBD, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Pick a time and plan to spend 1 to 2 hours in one on one workshop with your tree or ours. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

**By Reservation Only in July or August**  
**FREE LESSONS ON TREES IN THE GROUND at BC Bonsai Nursery**

Time TBD, Paw Paw, Illinois. Throughout the summer you can come out to the nursery and work on the development of as many trees as you would like. We will give you free lessons and training on bonsai techniques to develop trees in the ground. Then you can come back in the early spring to harvest only those trees that you like. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-7585.

Midwest Bonsai Society  
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www.midwestbonsai.org

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The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the Midwest Bonsai 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.

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## July MBS General Meeting Has Been Canceled Due to COVID 19

The July meeting was originally scheduled for 7:00 PM. on Monday, July 6th, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

At the Board's June 8 meeting, which was held using Cisco WebEx virtual meeting technology, we decided we needed to cancel our August meeting, as well.

At the same time we created a subcommittee to explore the feasibility of an online general meeting for July. We are try-

ing to determine best technology to use and what content could be effectively presented virtually. We have a pilot meeting scheduled for board members on June 23.

Any suggestion especially regarding content desired would be appreciated. Email your suggestions to our Programming Chair board member Victor Zurczak at [manofnature2002@yahoo.com](mailto:manofnature2002@yahoo.com) We will of course keep you posted on our progress.



## 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

**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.