# MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

## **President's Message**

Hello again Midwest members. The last month has proven to be a busy one despite the unusual gap in our meetings. After our repotting meeting the last week of March, the weather surprised us with an early spring. I moved my trees out of storage by the 5th to find that some were even starting to flower in my sealed storage. A few have yet to bud out, but I hold out good hope for a "no casualty" spring.

The last week of March saw good participation for our repotting meeting, special thanks goes out to the members who helped newcomers through the process. A first repotting is always a daunting task.

Coming for our General Meeting May 1st, the esteemed Phil Malhiot will take us through the care of our conifers. If you have particular questions be sure to bring them. Also, if you have a tree you'd like Mr. Malhiot to take a look at, a critique session will follow the prepared segment. Mr. Malhiot will comment on trees of particular interest first, and if time allows we will have a drawing for the remaining time and trees.

May also brings our annual spring show. Poster signage has been available at the past few meetings, did you get one up at the office yet? Also available are the volunteer signup sheets. Many thanks to those who have already signed up, your steady hands are greatly appreciated but quite a few more hands are still needed, so please take advantage of the meeting May 1st to sign up or send

#### **Bonsai Sale**

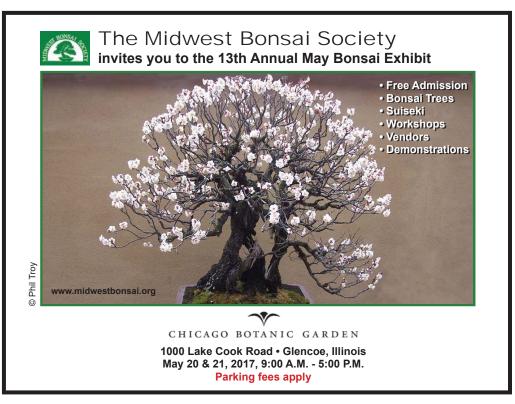
May 6-7, 8am to 4pm: Phil Mahliot will be selling off about 1/3 of his trees, from starters to finished (some pots for sale also). Drop by or call 708-705-7768 for an appointment. Address: 8028 W. 27th St. North Riverside, Illinois 6054.

a response by E-mail to our V.P. of Special Events, Larry Stephan. Our Spring show has for several years been about the work of developing Bonsai, so as you choose the trees you want to bring, consider doing a brief write up about what you've done to the tree so far, and what your future development plans are.

In other news, our new Public Relations chair, Mr. Jose Fonseca, is settling into his new position. We hope to start bringing you more content and activity to our online presence very soon. Our search continues for a new V.P. of Programming. If you have any interest in the position please drop an E-mail to Midwest.Bonsai@yahoo. com or feel free to speak to myself or any of the other board members at the General Meetings.

Good luck with your Spring, and hope to see you all at the May meeting.

Sincerely, Robert Wright



### **Events Calendar**

Monday, May 1, 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, topic Topic: Flowering trees, Wire and wiring, Pinching and pruning. 7:30 PM: Phil Malhoit will compare/contrast care of pines vs junipers. For further information, go to www.midwestbonsai.org

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY General Meeting,
6:30 PM. Boerner Botanical Gardens. Brian Huddleson,
Plant diseases. For further information go to www.
milwaukeebonsai.org

Sunday, May 7, 14, & 28, 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 or call 847-917-0817.

Thursday, May 11, 2017
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY General Meeting
7:30pm, Room TEC1038b Program: Jack Sustic. For further information go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 BONSAI: BEGINNER BASICS & FUNDAMENTALS, (6 Saturdays, 6:00 – 9:00 PM), Chris Baker at Chicago Botanic Garden. For further information go to www. chicagobotanic.org/education or call 847-835-8261

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB Meeting,

6:00 PM, Garfield Park Conservatory. Bring a tree to work on to prepare for the May MBS Exhibit. Senior members will be present to answer questions & give assistance. For further information, contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com

Saturday, May 20 – Sunday May 21, 2017 13TH ANNUAL MBS MAY BONSAI EXHIBITION, 9:00 – 5:00PM, Chicago Botanic Garden, For further

9:00 – 5:00PM, Chicago Botanic Garden. For further information to to www.midwestbonsai.org

Thursday, May 25 – Sunday, May 28, 2017 AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETY (ABS) Learning Seminar

Orlando, FL. For more information, go to www. absbonsai.org.

Saturday, May 27, 2017 REPOTTING WORKSHOP, B C Bonsai,

Wheaton, IL. For further information & to register go to http://www.bcbonsai.com or call 630-690-0404

Saturday & Sunday, May 27 & 28, 2017 SPRING CANDLING OF PINES WORKSHOP, B C Bonsai, Paw Paw, IL. For further information & to register go to http://www.bcbonsai.com or call 630-690-0404

Saturday or Sunday, June 3 or 4, 2017 HIDDEN GARDENS, 9:00 AM to 4PM, Owen Reich bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to www.thehiddengardens.net or call 630-655-8283 Saturday, June 3, 2017 EUROPEAN OLIVE WORKSHOP, B C Bonsai,

Wheaton, IL. For further information & to register go to http://www.bcbonsai.com or call 630-690-0404

Sunday, June 4, 11, 18 & 25, 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 or call 847-917-0817.

Sunday, June 4, 2017 BONSAI BASICS, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Chris Baker at Chicago Botanic Garden Plant Science Lab, Regenstein Center. For further information go to www. chicagobotanic.org/education or call 847-835-8261

Monday, June 5, 2017
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY Meeting

at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: 7:00 PM, Bonsai 101, Topic: Pinching and pruning, Jin, Shari and Sabamiki; 7:30 PM - Main Program, Topic: Work on Society-provided trees in groups. Trees will be raffled off at the end of the program. For further information, go to www. midwestbonsai.org

Tuesday, June 6, 2017
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY Meeting,
6:30 PM. Boerner Botanical Gardens. MBS
presentation TBD. For further information go to www.
milwaukeebonsai.org

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY General Meeting and "Bonsai 101" 7:30pm, Room TEC1038b Program: Iron Bonsai. For further information go to www. prairiestatebonsai.com

Sunday, June 11, 2017
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY Special Event!
Annual Club Picnic and workshop with Chris Baker
10am, Next to the Fabyan Japanese Garden, Batavia, IL.
For further information go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com

Saturday & Sunday, June 17, 18, 24 & 28, 2017 CANDLING OF PINES STEP 2, B C Bonsai, Paw Paw, IL. For further information & to register go to http://www.bcbonsai.com or call 630-690-0404

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB Meeting, 6:00 PM, Garfield Park Conservatory. Program TBD. For further information, contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 BRING YOUR OWN BONSAI TREE WORKSHOP, 6:00 – 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 or call 847-835-8261

Saturday or Sunday, June 24 or 25, 2017 HIDDEN GARDENS, 9:00 AM to 4PM, Todd Schlafer bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to http://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html or call 630-655-8283

# **Monthly Care Report:** What to Do in May

By May, most deciduous trees have come into leaf and new candles on pines have sprouted. Watering should now be done routinely. Cuttings of evergreens may still be taken. Air layering of deciduous and evergreens can be continued. Pinch back long shoots of deciduous trees. as late frosts can damage young leaves.

Feeding, pinching, watering, and pruning schedules should be in full swing by now. May is not too late for

repotting or field collecting, but this requires increasingly careful after-care as the season progresses. Trees repotted or collected in May should be protected from strong sun and wind until strong growth is observed, as leafy trees may suffer from transplant shock, so roots should be left intact as much as possible. Careful use of insecticides and fungicides becomes increasingly useful at this time of year. Always read and follow manufacturer's directions,

but keep in mind that trees in containers may do better with slightly diluted formulations. Watch wired branches carefully to avoid unsightly spiral scars from bark growing over wires—deciduous trees in particular can expand very quickly in May and June.

Finish repotting pines early in the month. Remember to keep them in the shade for a few weeks. Trees repotted in April can be given light doses of fertilizer.

Continue to patrol for insects, and adjust watering to match warmer weather. Candles on pines can be pinched any time as

they elongate. Start with weak buds and do strong buds a week or so later. Spruce, juniper and larch shoots are probably ready for their first pinching of the season. Watch new growth on your deciduous trees and trim back to 1-2 pairs of leaves. It is critical to stay on top of maples now and pinch out the center bud as it emerges from the middle of the first two leaves. Continue feeding trees on a regular basis.

-Ed Hake • Fort Wavne Bonsai Club • Reprinted by Permission. Compiled from several Web articles with adaptation to our area.

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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.

### May Meeting Focus

NOTE: The May meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

7:00 PM, Bonsai 101, topic TBA. 7:30 PM: Phil Malhoit will compare/ contrast care of pines vs junipers. Please bring your questions and trees for a critique session with Phil after his presentation.

### Chicago Bonsai Club

The May meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, May 17, beginning at 6 p.m. Bring a tree to work on to prepare for the MBS Exhibit on May 20-21. There will be senior members available to

answer your questions and provide assistance.

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.

Robert Wright (interim)

Kurt Nykaza

#### Midwest Bonsai Society Board Members

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Prairie State Representative Vacant 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 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	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