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# MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

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

## President's Message

Hello again fellow Bonsai enthusiasts. I'm writing to you from the middle of April, but frankly, it looks more like Christmas outside. For the second (and possibly not the last) time this month, the ground is covered with at least an inch of snow. I'm waiting on the last forecasted overnights below 30 degrees to pass before breaking my trees out of storage and I have a few more days to wait. This winter is hanging on with

the tenacity of a rabid mink. I don't have room in the house to bring the trees inside and get them started so they're just going to have to wait. I have my tropicals to deal with in the meantime.

While nothing much is going on with my bonsai, a lot is going on with the Society. The first half of May will be awfully busy for us. Our **annual Repotting Meeting** will be **Monday, May 7th**. To accommodate

Midwest Bonsai Society Newsletter  
Volume 61 • Issue 4 • May 2018

the process there will be **no Bonsai 101**, and the general meeting will start at 7 rather than 7:30. If you don't have a tree to repot, bring your experience to help our beginner members or bring your questions and observation skills if you happen to be one of those members.

The morning of **May 11th** our wonderful volunteers and vendors will **set up** the stage for our **May Show**. That afternoon, it will be up to our members to bring their exhibits for the public to enjoy. **May 12th and 13th** our **May Show** will be in full swing, come get your supplies and take a workshop or two. We still need a few volunteers for all shifts on Sunday, so if you can spare the time, please drop us a message at the Society e-mail [Midwest.Bonsai@Yahoo.com](mailto:Midwest.Bonsai@Yahoo.com) and

let us know you can help. Also, if you have a **Facebook** page, please keep an eye open for the **May Show Promotional Video** our excellent P.R. Chairperson, Jose Fonseca, has put together. To help increase the number of people who see the video and increase our reach please be sure to hit the **"Like"** and **"Share"** buttons below the post. This helps us avoid any need to pay Facebook to promote the post.

The **Board** will be **meeting May 14th**. If you have any concerns to bring to our attention, please drop me a message directly at [MwBSSecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:MwBSSecretary@yahoo.com).

Here's hoping Spring gets sprung soon. We'll see you at the May meeting.

—Robert Wright

## Naoki Maeoka Bio: August 2018 Master

Bonsai professional based out of Osaka prefecture.

He has obtained his Japanese bonsai association certificate in 2015 working out of Fujikawa Kouka-en nursery.

Prior to his bonsai career, Naoki Maeoka graduated from Osaka University Of Art, where he studied and received a diploma in graphic design.

He has always had passion for bonsai, music and pottery.

Since joining Fujikawa Kouka-en in 2009, he has worked extensively on a

variety of bonsai projects.

He has worked with many different species and styles of bonsai. Over the years he has developed his skills in best practice methods in regards to both aesthetic qualities and proper care of bonsai.

He has conducted workshops and demonstrations in Italy, Spain, France, Sweden, Denmark and Australia.

Future projects include opening up his own bonsai nursery and school, installing a kiln to make his own bonsai pottery, and

conduct more workshops across the world.

After extensive travel

throughout the world. Midwest Bonsai Society is bringing Naoki here for his first American Debut.



# Events Calendar

**Tuesdays, May 1 – June 5, 2018**

**BONSAI BEGINNER with Chris Baker**

6:00 AM - 9:00 PM, Six-week fundamentals course at Chicago Botanic Garden, Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. For further information go to [https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult\\_education/horticulture/root\\_over\\_rock\\_bonsai?range\\_start=2018-04-18](https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/root_over_rock_bonsai?range_start=2018-04-18)

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018**

**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)

**Wednesday, May 2, 2018**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING**

Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. Program: 7:00pm Bonsai 101, Branches by Dean Cooper. 7:30pm, Wiring/styling by Mark Karczewski. For further information go to [www.prairiestatebonsai.com](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com)

**Saturday, May 5, 19 & 26, 2018**

**BC BONSAI HARVESTING WORKSHOPS:**

Starting at 10:00 AM in Paw Paw, IL. For further information & to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

**Saturday May 5 or Sunday, May 6, 2018**

**HIDDEN GARDENS WILL BADDELEY WORKSHOPS,**

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html> or call 630-655-8283.

**Saturday May 5, 19 & 26, 2018**

**BC MASTER BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters,**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

**Sunday May, 6, 20 & 27, 2018**

**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, May 7, 2018**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING**

at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: at 7:00 PM. This is our annual repotting meeting, so bring your trees (and pots, if you have them). Soil will be provided. There will be no Bonsai 101 For further information, go to [www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org).

**Wednesday, May 16, 2018**

**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](mailto:suekazoo@hotmail.com)

**Saturday, May 19 or Sunday April 20, 2018**

**BC BONSAI WORKSHOPS: Spring Candling Of Pines.**

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

**Saturday May 19 or Sunday, May 20, 2018**

**HIDDEN GARDENS JAN CULEK WORKSHOPS,**

9:00 AM - 4PM, Bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html> or call 630-655-8283.

**Saturday May 26, 2018**

**BC BONSAI WORKSHOP: Repotting Tropical Trees.**

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

**Saturday June 2 or Sunday, June 3, 201**

**HIDDEN GARDENS TODD SCHLAFFER WORKSHOPS,**

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Willowbrook, bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html> or call 630-655-8283.

**Saturday, June 2 & Sunday June 3 2018**

**JAPAN FESTIVAL Culture of "Rykyu" Island.**

Saturday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM and Sunday 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Forest View Educational Center, Arlington Heights. For further information go to <http://japanfest-chicago.org/>

**Sunday, June 3, 2018**

**BONSAI BASICS with Chris Baker,**

1:00 AM - 3:00 PM, at Chicago Botanic Garden Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. For further information go to [https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult\\_education/horticulture/root\\_over\\_rock\\_bonsai?range\\_start=2018-04-18](https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/root_over_rock_bonsai?range_start=2018-04-18)

**Monday, June 4, 2018**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING**

at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Pullman Room, located in the Regenstein Center. Program: at 7:00 PM, Bonsai 101, Topic TBD. 7:30 PM: Program TBD. For further information, go to [www.midwestbonsai.org](http://www.midwestbonsai.org)

**Tuesday, June 5, 2018**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,**

6:30 PM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. MBS Presentation – Todd Schlafer avid collector of Colorado Yamadori. For further information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

**Wednesday, June 6, 2018**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING**

at TEC/1038b College of DuPage. Program; 7:00pm Bonsai 101, Topic Growing Superb Roots by Jim Beck. 7:30 PM, Topic Iron-man bonsai competition. For further information go to [www.prairiestatebonsai.com](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com)

**Saturday June 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2018**

**BC MASTER BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters,**

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-690-0404.

*(Continued to page 3)*

# Events Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

**Wednesday, June 10, 2018**

## **PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY SPECIAL EVENT!**

Annual Club Picnic and workshop with Chris Baker  
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Next to the Fabyan Japanese Garden, Batavia, IL. For further information go to [www.prairiestatebonsai.com](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com)

**Sunday June 10, 17 & 24 2018**

## **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, June 16, 2018**

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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](mailto:suekazoo@hotmail.com)

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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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## Chicago Bonsai Club

The May meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, May 16, 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.

## 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 Wayne Bonsai Club. Reprinted by Permission. Compiled from several web articles and adapted to our area.

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## May Meeting Focus

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

This is our annual repotting meeting, so bring your trees (and pots, if you have them). Soil will be provided. There will be no Bonsai 101 but, if you do not want to repot, you should still bring in trees for advice and comments from expert members.

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 re-new 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.

Midwest Bonsai Connection  
Volume 61 • Issue 4 • May 2018

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## Membership Request

Name

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Address

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City, State, Zip Code

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Telephone

Date

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Email

Please Check If Renewal

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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