
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

Time has flown this year—I can't believe it's the end of October and almost November. This year has flown by fast. Actually, the last four years as President has flown by very fast. I'd like to send my thanks out to everyone who's helped me out along the way, it's been a very interesting journey. The board has asked me if I will stay on for two more years (one more term) and I've accepted. I look forward to the future and

the next stage in our journey together.

November is our bi-annual elections. I've been asked why we hold elections since we can barely come up with the numbers to fill the vacant positions.

The simple answer is that the bylaws require it, but it goes deeper than that. We might be at a low ebb in people who are able to commit to being on the board, but we want to keep up the traditions so

that when there are more people in the future we have stable practices in place. We also hope to glean ideas about possible people to ask by leaving a space for a write-in candidate in each position.

It's the start of wiring season at the moment, and a time that I enjoy with my trees. Seeing them lose their leaves lets me really study their internal structure, and gives me ideas where I want to

take the tree in the future. And see how far they've all come since the spring. And let's not forget the color—while the maples didn't get the spring they needed for dramatic color now, the rest of my deciduous are filling in the gap. My burning bush is getting incandescent, and the rest of the colors range from oranges to pinks to yellows—russets, golds, all balanced by the green of the evergreens. It truly is a time of bounty.



Get out your calendars, we've set a date for our annual Holiday Party. It's on Wednesday, December 4; details are inside the newsletter. We've found a new venue (we had lost our ability to have a potluck at our old venue) and pulled our party off the night of Prairie State's party so hopefully those who are members of both can now attend both! Next month's meeting is a white elephant sale. Generally popular, it's a chance to sell a few things and pick a few new things up. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in November, thank you all for your continued membership.

—Cat Nelson

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Holiday Pot Luck Party: December 4

The Midwest Bonsai Society is hosting a pot luck Holiday party

Where: Takiff Center, Aiken Activity Room, 999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe, IL 60022

When: Wednesday, December 4th, 2013, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Bring a pot luck dish and any item you would like to donate for the evening's raffle. The Society is providing drinks.

Last year's party was a great deal of fun with fine food, wine and drinks.

This is a great opportunity to renew friendships and meet new Bonsai members.

Midwest Bonsai Society Board Members

President, Cat Nelson
Executive VP, Rich Helminiak
CBG Representative, Ivan Watters
Past President, Jim Fairchild
VP Special Events, Rich Katz
VP Programs, Dick Besetzny
Treasurer, Phil Troy
Membership, Lorraine May
Recording Secretary, Karen Schuman
Librarian, Eileen Michal
Editorial, Susan Babyk
Assistant Editorial, Gail Thompson

November Meeting Focus

The November meeting is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 4, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

November is our bi-annual board elections meeting—all members may vote. 7:30pm – Our Annual White Elephant Sale. It's a chance to sell a few things and pick up a few new things

Midwest Bonsai Connection

Chicago Bonsai Club

The Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, held its last meeting of 2013 on Wednesday, October 16. Tony Welninski spoke about and demonstrated needle pruning, and provided a nursery pine

for attendees to practice on. The club will be on hiatus until March of 2014.

If you have questions, please contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com or call 773-235-9479.



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Haiku

by Susan Babyk

Anticipating Winter

Rainstorm
drenches trees.
Time to get them
to shelter.
They don't like
to freeze.

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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.

Monthly Care Report: What to Do in November

We've seen a little frost on rooftops over the weekend, so the tropical trees should be inside now and until nights are predictably above 45, sometime in early April.

The combination of frosts and subsequent sunshine will bring on fall colors. Colors will be better if conditions remain dry in the month. If you are aiming for a great fall display, protect your trees from wind and rain and keep them in sunlight as much as possible.

As the leaves begin to fall, keep the soil surface clean to avoid fungus and keep air circulation good. Through the bared branches, you may notice some wire that should be removed. Now is a very good time to remove the wires that have cut in and done their job. Cut the wire with a good pair of wire cutters, perpendicular to the wire, and at each coil; giving a slight twist as you cut will pop the wire loose. It is not a requirement to remove wire for winter storage, so long as it's not embedding itself into the branches.

Older pine needles are yellowing and should be removed with tweezers; one at a time, since a bud is in the sheath between each needle pair/cluster that will be removed if you pull the pair/cluster and remove the sheath with it.

Prepare your overwintering site, spray it with fungicides and insecticides when you spray your trees to reduce chances of problems when you put them away next month. Lime Sulfur diluted to 1:100 (about 1.25 oz per gallon) is a traditional Japanese all-purpose insecticide and fungicide. Other products are more effective and less offensive, so it's a matter of choice. Lime Sulfur also has the whitening effect that you'll notice on most trees in the Japanese books.

Finally, a couple "don't do" points for this time of year. Repotting should be avoided in all instances until spring. Watch closely for watering needs, they will sharply decline now that we've had some frosts. Also, don't do heavy pruning on trees just yet; sap is still flowing and a couple weeks of warm weather could inspire a tree to grow after a hard pruning.

—*Excerpt from Brian's Bonsai Blog on the Nebari Bonsai Website* (<http://nebaribonsai.wordpress.com>)



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Events Calendar

Monday, November 4, 2013

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY NOVEMBER MEETING, 7:30 pm., at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. Annual White Elephant Sale.

The Bonsai 101 session begins at 7 pm, the topic has not been determined.

Bi-annual board elections meeting—all members may vote.

Tuesday, November 5, 2013

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING, 6:30 pm. Fall Repotting of a Quince. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Sunday, November 10, 2013

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY, 10:00 am. Open Workshop, Tropical Check-up. If you were at the Spring or Fall Public Workshop bring in your tree for a check-up. If you have a tree that needs a fall clean-up, bring that one too. If you want to hang out with members, just bring your tools. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY, 6:30 pm. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY, 5:00 pm – 10 pm. Further details included elsewhere in newsletter.

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

Membership Renewal Reminder

July was the time to renew your Midwest Bonsai Society membership, so if you haven't already, please fill out the "Membership Request" form provided on the last page of this newsletter. If you do not renew your membership by the end of the year you will no longer receive newsletters via email or snail mail. Your renewal is important in order for us to keep our mailing lists up-to-date. Thank you for your ongoing support. 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:

Send to: Midwest Bonsai Society

Midwest Bonsai Society

P.O. Box 1373

Highland Park, Illinois

Annual Membership • July 1st thru June 30

60035-7373

\$35 Electronic Newsletter **OR \$40** Newsletter by Mail

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