
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

Bonsai and Websites - Really!!!

As winter comes closer and closer the Board is looking at bringing our website up to date. Our current website has old, difficult to modify, programs. The Board would like you to be able to join or renew memberships online without mailing in a check. We would like to be able to have participants sign up for workshops online and pay online at the time they sign up. This

would include a confirmation that you are within the permitted number of workshop participants. Over the next month we will be looking at other improvements. If you have any suggestions for other improvements please E-mail us at midwest.bonsai@yahoo.com.

Back to the weather. According to Accuweather, after two mild and one

hard frosts we probably will not see more really cold nights until around the 13th or 14th of November. Keep a close eye on the weather and your conifers and deciduous trees. Remember this is Chicago, and the forecasts change for the worse with very little notice.

The next general meeting will be Monday, November 3rd, with Ivan Waters

as the featured speaker. There are no general meetings in December and January. Meetings resume on the first Monday evening of February, 2015. But, we do have the Holiday Party coming up on Wednesday, December 3rd from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Takiff Center, Aiken Activity Room, 999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe, IL 60022.

—Larry Stephan

Fall 2015, Show Judge: David Easterbrook

We're excited to announce that David Easterbrook of Montreal, Canada has agreed to judge our Fall Exhibit in 2015. Larry Stephan met him recently at the National Bonsai Show in Rochester, NY where he was one of three judges. He is enjoyable, entertaining and very knowledgeable about bonsai.

David has been studying and creating bonsai for over 40 years. He began studying bonsai with Jerry Stowell and then apprenticed for one year in Japan at Kidoen with Isao Shinkai. Afterwards, he started his own bonsai nursery, which he still runs today. In 1982, he became Curator of the Montreal Botanical Garden's bonsai

collection and recently retired in 2011. He has always pursued an active teaching career in a variety of locations including the Montréal Botanical Garden's School of Horticulture, in the eastern U.S. and abroad.

Further, he has served as judge of several national and international bonsai competitions. He is a

founder and past president of the Montreal Bonsai and Penjing Society, which is now one of the largest and most active bonsai societies in North America having over 400 active members. As well as monthly meetings, it offers four levels of bonsai classes, three study groups and several workshops.

In 1988, David chaired the

ABS Annual Convention in Montreal. Also, he served on the ABS Board from 2005 to 2008.

David has quite an eclectic collection of more than 900 bonsai. His trees have been widely exhibited in both Canada and the U.S., including U.S. National Bonsai Exhibitions, and they have appeared on the covers of International Bonsai Magazine.

During his long career he has trained and cultivated almost every species grown as bonsai. As a young man, he favored fruiting and flowering trees. Subsequently he specialized in group and forest plantings and today is well known for his collection.



Events Calendar

Monday, November 3, 2014

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY NOVEMBER MEETING, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Fairchild Room. 7:00pm - Bonsai 101 - TBA. 7:30pm - Guest speaker, Ivan Watters, will give a presentation on wiring, with a hands-on demonstration.

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING, 6:30 pm. Introduce Bamboo and Update Fertilizers - Leo Schordje. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org.

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING, Room TEC 1038b. 7:00 pm: Bonsai 101 - TBA. 7:30pm, Program - Collecting and propagation techniques. For more information go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com.

Friday-Sunday, November 21-23, 2014

HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR EXHIBIT, presented by Milwaukee Bonsai Society, 9 am - 3 pm, Wisconsin Exposition Center. An exhibit of bonsai & trees in training. For more information go to www.milwaukeebonsai.org.

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY, 5-10 pm. Takiff Center, Glencoe, IL.

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY, 7:30 pm: Butterfield Park District. For more information go to www.prairiestatebonsai.com.

Midwest Bonsai Society Board Members

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Haiku

by Susan Babyk

Bunjin

**Literati tree,
The beauty of
subtraction
Evokes the
drama.**

November Meeting Focus

The November meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 3, 2014, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Berstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center. 7:00pm - Bonsai 101; 7:30pm - Guest speaker, Ivan Watters, will give a presentation on wiring, with a hands-on demonstration.

NOTE: This will be the last meeting of the year, and the club will be on hiatus until the first Monday of February. Be sure to plan on attending our Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 3rd, to be held at the Takiff Center in Glencoe - find more details included elsewhere in this newsletter.

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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

November is a very busy month. It's time to put everything away for the winter.

WINTER PREP: All of your tropical trees should be inside by now. They should receive as much light during the day as possible. If you have plants under lights they should be on approximately 12 hours per day. A small greenhouse is great, but if it's plastic, be sure that it's clean, to allow in as much light in as possible.

OUTDOORS: Your trees will naturally acclimatize to cooler weather. A gradual decrease in temperature going into winter is best. Elm, Holly, Juniper, Maple, Boxwood, Pine and all other cold-hardy varieties should be left outside, as they need the cold.

WATERING: Morning watering is still the best. But if the night is going to be cold, watering just the soil in the evening will help maintain temperature in the pot and protect the roots better.

PRUNING: When I bring my trees in, I prune back the tips and thin them out some, allowing more light to reach the lower branches. Your trees will be getting less sun in the winter, so keeping them thinned out a little will keep you from losing the fine twiggling that you worked all summer on getting.

During November, deciduous and evergreen trees can remain totally exposed until about the last week of the month. Prepare trees for their winter setting,

whether it be a cold frame or whatever type of winter protection you may have. Prior to setting them in their winter quarters, check for insects and spray and remove all dead leaves and branches. Thinking ahead, write down and plan what you need to do for spring, and choose which trees you will work on first.

Fall color should be at its peak early in the month. During November we typically get our first heavy frosts, so be prepared to protect your trees. November can also bring long rainy spells, so shelter those trees that are sensitive to excess rain, such as pines.

Once the leaves have dropped from your deciduous trees is a good time to begin needle thinning your two needle pines. If you thin last year's needles by pulling, be careful to

pull in the direction they grow. Otherwise, you will most likely lose the bud you are trying to stimulate. On strong, well-developed pines, you can also thin this year's needles by thinning to 5 or 6 pairs of needles in the top half of the tree and 7 or 8 pairs in the lower half of the tree.

Don't forget to pull any weeds and clean dead leaves off your soil surface, since they can provide shelter for unwanted pests. If you put your trees away for the winter, be sure to inspect them for pests like mealy bugs or scale before doing so. Don't mulch too early or you may get creatures (ie:mice) in it and they will damage your trees.

—Ed Hake. Fort Wayne Bonsai Club. Reprinted by Permission. Compiled from several web articles and adapted to our area.

Chicago Bonsai Club

The Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, held its last meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 15th. Jim Fairchild spoke on pruning five needle pines. Please note: the Chicago Bonsai Club will be on hiatus until March of 2015. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact: suekazoo@hotmail.com or call 773-235-9479.

Annual Holiday Party - Potluck! Wednesday, December 3, 2014



Takiff Center

Aiken Activity Room
999 Green Bay Road
Glencoe, IL
5:00pm - 10:00pm

Bring a dish to pass
and bring an item for
the free raffle!

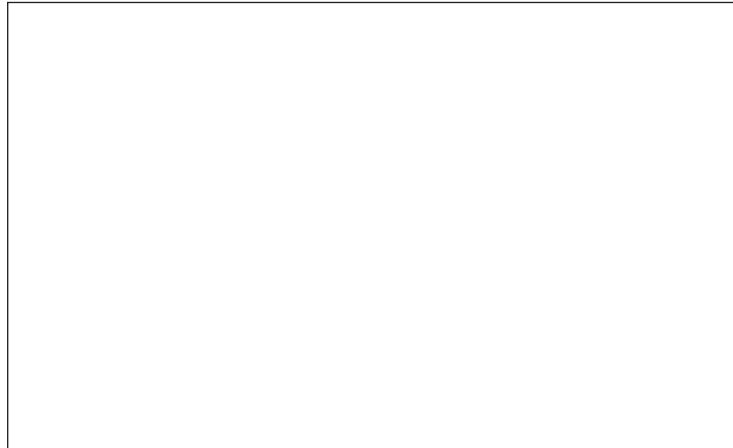
**Please note that
there is no general
meeting in the month
of December)**

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 the last 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 \$40** Newsletter by Mail