
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

Midwest Bonsai Society Newsletter
Volume 65 • Issue 10 • November 2022

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

Exciting News!

Bjorn Bjorholm has accepted our invitation to be the Guest Master and Judge of our 2023 August Exhibit. Bjorn is the owner of Eiseien Bonsai Garden. He has spent 9 years in the study of Bonsai in Japan. He has been certified as a Bonsai Master by the Nippon Bonsai Association. We look forward to working with him.

The weather is changing. I have already had one hard frost at our new home in Naperville. Accu-Weather says we can expect two more in the next few days. This week I will get the Bonsai spot in the garage set up for the hardy trees. I suspect most everyone in the Chicago area should be watching the weather closely to determine when your hardy trees are going

into hibernation the winter.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

The next general meeting will be on November 7th at the Gardens with on-line participation. Tool sharpening is planned for Bonsai 101 and an "Indoor Bonsai Garage Sale" during the general meeting.

And then there is the upcoming Holiday Party at

the Heller Nature Center on Tuesday, December 6th. As usual this will be a pot luck dinner with a raffle for numerous donated items. Once again I am sure the food will be great. The May exhibit at the Gardens will be returning to the Mother's Day weekend. Be sure to put it on your calendar.

—Larry Stephan

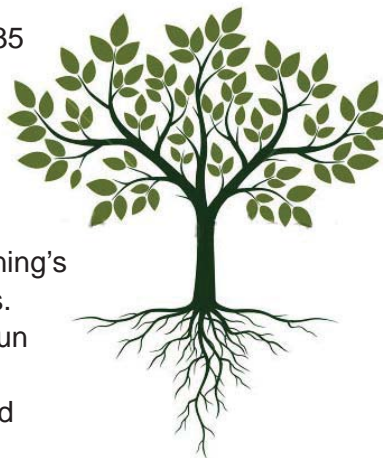
The Midwest Bonsai Society Annual Holiday Party

The annual Midwest Bonsai Society Holiday Party is Tuesday, December 6, 2022. The setup is at 5:00 pm, dinner 6:00 to 8:30 pm.

Where: Heller Nature Center
2128 Ridge Road, Highland Park, IL 60035

When: Tuesday, December 6th, 2022
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Bring a pot luck dish if you can, and any item you would like to donate for the evening's free raffle. The Society is providing drinks. The last party, 2021, 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.



November Events Calendar

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. The college address is 425 Fawell Boulevard in Glen Ellyn. 7:00 PM Program; TBD. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Saturday November 5, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. Program: "Fall work; cutback, shoot selection". Time to get your tree ready for spring flush by proper fall work. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org](http://www.MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org)

Saturday November 5, 2021

MAPLES WINTER STYLING AND PREP WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 4:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Saturday or Sunday November 5 or 6, 2022

ANDY SMITH WORKSHOPS at Hidden Gardens

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Willowbrook, bring your own tree workshop or buy tree at the gardens. For further information or to register go to <https://www.hiddengarden.net/bonsai.html> or call 630-655-8283.

Saturday November 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2022

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.hidden garden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Monday November 7, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY NOVEMBER MEETING

Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall located in the Regenstein Center or via WebEx Meeting (Invitation to be sent via email). 7:00 PM, Bonsai 101 program; "Tool Care and Sharpening" presented by Jim Beck from BC Bonsai. 7:30 PM, Program: "Indoor Bonsai Garage Sale". Bring items to sell or come get a bargain on other members unneeded items. There will be some Lil Tarnow pots available for sale. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Saturday November 12, 2022

JUNIPER TREES STYLING AND WINTER PREP WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 4:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday November 18, 19 & 20, 2022
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR EXHIBIT**

2:00 PM - 10:00 PM Friday, 10 AM to 10 PM Saturday and 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM Sunday at the Wisconsin Exposition Center at State Fair Park, 8200 Greenfield Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53214. Holiday Folk Fair International showcases the heritage and culture of over 50 ethnic groups through international exhibits, food and dance performances. It will include an exhibit of Bonsai trees from new students to advance members. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org](http://www.MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org)

Saturday November 19, 2022

STYLING AND WINTER PREP WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 AM - 4:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Saturday December 3, 10, & 17, 2022

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.hidden garden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Tuesday December 6, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY HOLIDAY POT LUCK DINNER

6:00 PM (set up at 5:00) - 9:00 PM. At the Heller Nature, 2128 Ridge Road, Highland Park. Please bring a pot luck dish and any item you would like to donate to the evening's raffle. There will be a fabulous no cost raffle of numerous items. See announcement in this Newsletter for more information.

Saturday January 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2022

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.hidden garden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Monthly Care Report - November

Outdoor Trees: Be ready to put your trees into winter protection as soon as the weather dictates the need for it. Generally, in November you can leave them outside with no protection. Trees from **Hardy Trees** Hardiness Zones 4 and below do not tolerate the 28-35°F temperatures, so protect them or bring them in sooner. By around December 1, group the remaining **Very Hardy Trees** together on the ground in a protected space. To cope with the occasional night or two in the 25°F or below range, cover with tarps or snow blankets. Make sure to weigh down the blankets so wind doesn't blow them off. A consistent night temperature of 25°F is a good reference point as to when the **Very Hardy Trees** need to be put in their final winter protection location. When bringing trees in, remove remaining foliage on deciduous trees and any weeds or debris on the soil before placing them into winter protection. Reduced wind and light are extremely helpful for dormancy. A spraying with a general fungicide can help prevent problems over the winter and in the Spring. If leaving the trees out with pots/roots buried, provide mulch or wood chips for protection. Burying with snow when it comes will also help protect from freezing and provide moisture. Water if there is no snow so the roots don't dry out.

Once 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. Safer approach is to cut off needles, rather than pulling. 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 trees and 7 or 8 pairs in the lower half of the trees.

Regarding **Semi-Hardy Trees** like Chinese/Japanese Elms, Pomegranate, Holly, Chinese Sweet Plum, Olive, Japanese Silverberry and Crepe Myrtle, leave them outside as long as possible, but bring them in when the temperature is consistently hitting the lower 30's. They are safe in your regular storage so long as the temperature does not drop below 30°F; leave them there until they are dormant. Once they're dormant, bring them inside and put them under light and heat. They should start leafing again in a week or two after which you can take care of them as you would your indoor trees per below.

Keep your trees properly watered. The trees will use less water in the cooler temperatures. Fertilization may be stopped at this point. Do not repot except in the case of an emergency. Wiring may be done and is easier to do on deciduous trees after the leaves have fallen. Wire as many trees as you can in December but do not prune them.

Indoor Trees: Continue fertilization assuming the trees will be receiving 12-18 hours of light daily and will continue to grow. If you are not using supplemental light, do not fertilize until mid-March. Some people opt not to fertilize at all (and adjust their lighting accordingly) during the winter so as to avoid long leggy growth. Such growth will occur if you are not providing enough light but will be exacerbated if you are fertilizing and not providing enough light. All species are a little different, so adjust your watering, fertilizing and light accordingly as needed for your particular indoor conditions. Provide some means for humidity via humidity trays or a room humidifier. Circulate air with a small fan. Light pruning may be performed if long

internodes occur. Wiring may be done, but repotting should be avoided unless there is an emergency. If you must repot, use a heating pad set at ~80 degrees below the pot until the tree recovers.

Regarding lighting, unless you have a system that provides good results and has a reasonable cost factor, the current system of choice is LED (Light Emitting Diode) lamps. On a broad basis, LED is far superior to everything else in use. Cost, results, electricity use and ease of operation are all attractive. The author used metal halide lighting in the past and was very pleased with the results (some trees seem to prefer it to LED), but the electricity consumption is considerably higher than LED.

November Meeting Focus

The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 7th, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center and via WebEx. WebEx Invitations will be sent to all members in an email.

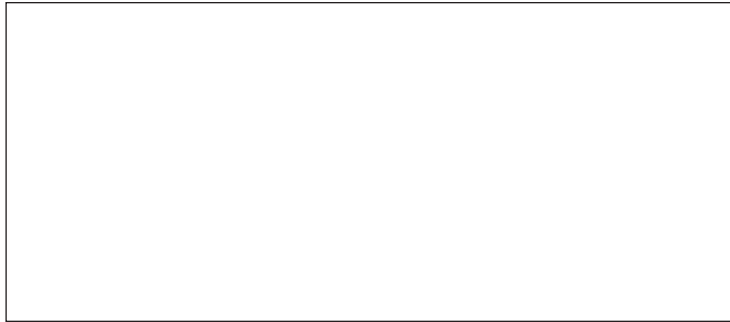
7:00 pm - Bonsai 101 program; "Tool Care and Sharpening" presented by Jim Beck from BC Bonsai.

GARAGE SALE



7:30 pm - General program; "Indoor Bonsai Garage Sale". Start looking for items you do not need or want to bring and sell or come and get garage sale pricing on something one of our other members no longer needs. There will be some Lil Tarnow pots available for sale. Remember you can also bring your own tree to the meeting as Victor and other experienced members will be available to answer questions and provide advice. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings/>

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



Membership Request

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Date _____

Email _____

Please make check payable to: **Midwest Bonsai Society**

Please Check If Renewal

Send to: Midwest Bonsai Society
P.O. Box 1373
Highland Park, Illinois
60035-7373

\$35 Electronic Newsletter **OR \$45** Newsletter by Mail

Midwest Bonsai Connection

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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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.