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# MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

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

## From the President's Committee The Work is Over/The Work is Just Starting

Congratulations to Rich Helminiak, winner of this year's Ladany Trophy. Rich is the first person to win this honor twice. The first time was in 2002 and his amazing efforts to help the Society since then have earned him another year with the trophy. Rich, please finish your rehab from your broken leg soon. We missed you at the Exhibit.

The Fall Midwest Bonsai Exhibit is over. My thanks go out to the dozens

of club members who donated their valuable time to make the show a success. The team effort this year was amazing. Now we can relax, or can we? What about taking the moss off those Exhibit trees? What about thinking towards the fall and winter. In a little more than a week we will be in September. Will it be a long fall or a short one? Will the winter be mild or bitter cold like last year? In any case now is the time to start creating your

plan. One of my first jobs is to create some type of protection for my accent plants that have become a salad bar for hungry chipmunks. I am thinking of something created out of coat hangers and mesh netting. If it works I will post a photo in next month's newsletter.

Last but not least we again thank Lanny Wozniak of La Porte, IN for creating the beautiful trees that his wife Julie donated to the Midwest

Bonsai Society just before the show. One beautiful Larch has gone into the Garden's permanent Bonsai Collection. Eight trees were shared with our sister club, Prairie State Bonsai. Some were silent auctioned to our members and a few were raffled off at the Exhibit. Lanny started doing Bonsai 27 years ago with lessons in Chicago and regular visits to Midwest Bonsai Society events and shows. Thank you!  
—Larry Stephan



Walter Pall demonstrated his technique with a blow torch, and Dan Turner assisted him at the August Midwest Bonsai meeting.

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# Events Calendar

**Tuesday, September 2, 2014**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,**  
6:30 pm. Jack Douthitt Spruce Follow-up: See what's next for the club tree. For more information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org).

**Wednesday, September 3, 2014**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,**  
Room TEC 1038b. 7:00 pm: Bonsai 101 - Larch. 7:30pm, Program – Sea Green Juniper workshop. For more information go to [www.prairiestatebonsai.com](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com).

**Monday, September 8, 2014**

**\*Note later date due to Labor Day Holiday\***  
**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY SEPTEMBER MEETING,**  
at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Fairchild Room.  
7:00pm - Bonsai 101 - What is bonsai and what are different bonsai styles.  
7:30pm - Rich Katz will talk to us about using junipers as bonsai material.

**Wednesday, September 17, 2014**

**CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING,**  
6 pm at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Contact [suekazoo@hotmail.com](mailto:suekazoo@hotmail.com) for further information.

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday September 19 - 21**  
**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBIT,**  
the best trees of club members... along with trees in training. For more information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org).

**Wednesday, October 1, 2014**

**PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,**  
Room SRC 1144. 7:00 pm: Bonsai 101 - TBD. 7:30pm, Program – Overwintering. For more information go to [www.prairiestatebonsai.com](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com).

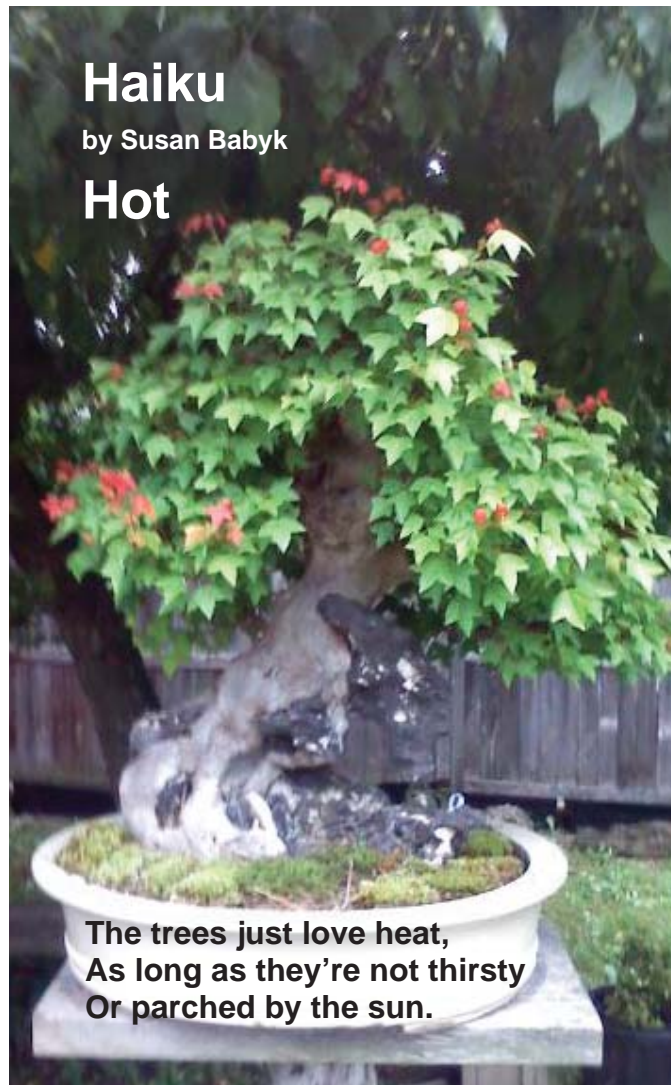
**Monday, October 6, 2014**

**MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY OCTOBER MEETING,**  
at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center, 7:00 pm – Bonsai 101 (TBD). 7:30 pm – Program TBD.

**Tuesday, October 7, 2014**

**MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING,**  
6:30 pm. Guest Artist: Suthin Sukosolvisit. For more information go to [www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org).

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## Haiku

by Susan Babyk

## Hot

The trees just love heat,  
As long as they're not thirsty  
Or parched by the sun.

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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 August-September

Since August can be a very hot and dry month, it is imperative that trees be watered every day, maybe twice daily, but always check. Not much else can be done except to feed regularly. From August on, trees will need less nitrogen and more potassium and phosphorus to harden the wood and induce budding. Branches start to thicken during August, and wire begins to bite into the branches and needs checking.

August is pretty much about keeping your trees sufficiently watered against the heat, and beginning to harden them up for the coming fall. This is about the time that most people

start backing off their feeding, pinching, and pruning schedules.

Don't fertilize too aggressively, or else you risk the trees pushing too much new growth that will not harden-off sufficiently before the cold weather comes in. When September temperatures start to cool a bit (into the low to mid 70's), take off any remaining portion of your fertilizer blocks and add it to your soil mix for repotting next spring.

August is usually our hottest month, so pay careful attention to your watering and continue to protect trees that are sensitive to the hot sun. The books

recommended that you start tapering off nitrogen late in the month and go to something like 0-10-10 in late September-mid October. Avoid doing any heavy pruning so as to not generate new growth that will not harden off before frosts in the fall.

Pines and junipers can still be wired if needed and if you want more branching and fullness now is the time to break out the central bud on the most vigorous branches. Late August is a good time to begin applying 0-10-10 to help harden off twigs and roots, and help set buds for flowering varieties.

Watch for spider mites. Check your plants often-look under leaves and at the ends of branches. Weeds can harbor many insect pests, so watch out.

You may not want to prune your hardy trees, but you can continue pruning your tropicals as much as you want. I know mine seem to need some pruning every week as they love the heat and humidity and are growing like crazy. You can even repot if you want.

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

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## September Meeting Focus

\*Note later date due to Labor Day Holiday\*

The September meeting is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2014, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's

Berstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.  
7:00pm - Bonsai 101: What is bonsai and what are different bonsai styles.  
7:30pm - Rich Katz will talk to us about using junipers as bonsai material.

*According to Japanese tradition, the bonsai represents the three virtues or shin-zen-bi, which translates into truth, and beauty.*

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## Chicago Bonsai Club

The Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 17, beginning at 6 p.m. The focus of the meeting will be on preparing for fall. Senior members of the MBS will be available to answer questions, and assist with styling and

maintaining your bonsai trees, so bring one to work on or for critique.

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.

## Midwest Bonsai Society Board Members

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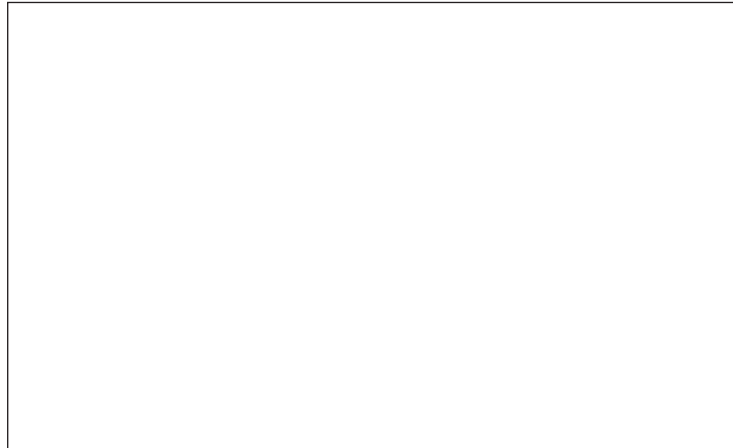
Midwest Bonsai Society  
P.O. Box 1373  
Highland Park, Illinois 60035-7373  
www.midwestbonsai.org

# 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

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Address

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City, State, Zip Code

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Please Check If Renewal

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

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P.O. Box 1373

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Annual Membership • July 1st thru June 30

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