

MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!
We did it again. Your help as volunteers made the August Show a great success. We had almost 30 vendors including Cactus and Ikebana. We aced the set up and the tear down with great improvement over a year ago. When I was organizing the Exhibit I thought we did pretty well, but Matt has made improvements that really showed up. Several things stood out to me. Bill Valavanis wrote about the competition trees in his blog: "The tree quality has significantly improved throughout the decades, but took a giant leap forward this year with many

refined developed bonsai." Jose's efforts on Facebook generated a large number of very favorable comments. And last but perhaps most importantly we were told by many vendors that this is their favorite Event. It is not because of record sale or profits. It is because they feel that we value the vendors. They told us the complimentary lunches and Sat. night dinner are appreciated and they love the help in unloading and packing up. They said we make them feel appreciated like they were part of our club. We provided that brand of Midwest Hospitality and each of you should take credit for it. Most of the new vendors



Ladany Award winners Amy and Robert Wright with their first ever entry in our August Exhibit. This Variegated Ficus Grove won a Blue Ribbon in the Novice Category.

said they are planning to come back next year. The support from Alex and the Chicago Botanic Gardens staff helped a lot too.

It was a pleasure to present the Ladany Award for 2022 to Amy and Robert Wright at the Saturday dinner. It would be close to impossible to get through the weekend without their help. The incredible

Suiseki stone donation from Rafael Perez Guerra led the silent auction. The food and drink were well received and next year we will buy more beer. Mark Fields demo tree was a winner in selling raffle tickets.

Overall – GREAT EXHIBIT, GREAT JOB EVERYONE.

—Larry Stephan



On Left Steve Jetzer's Colorado Blue Spruce won Best of Show in the Open category. On the right is a Satsuki Azalea from the Matthai Botanic Garden, shown by Jack Sustic, that won 1st Place in the Professional Category.

September Events Calendar

Saturday September 3, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. Program: "Wire A Tree". Lecture and work on your tree or provided branches. For further information go to Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org

Saturday September 3, 10, 17 & 24, 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.

Saturday September 10 thru October 22, 2022

SEVEN WEEK BASIC BONSAI COURSE at BC Bonsai

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, at 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Topics covered: History of bonsai, styles, care, bug control, watering, feeding, wiring, tools, propagation, soils and repotting, aftercare and more. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Monday SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 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: "Planting Tree On A Rock" presented by Victor Zurczak. Note that this demonstration tree will be raffled off at the meeting. 7:30 PM, General Program: "Video & Discussion of August Exhibition Judge's Review" For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday, September 14, 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; "Ironman Competition". Three teams competing for best Juniper Bonsai created in 45 minutes. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Wednesday September 21, 2022

MBS CHICAGO CHAPTER MEETING

6:00 PM - 7:30 at Garfield Park Conservatory, located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a tree to work on. For more information about the meeting or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 312-590-6049.

Saturday October 1, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: "How To Hunt/Select Nursery Material". For further information go to Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org

Saturday or Sunday October 1 or 2, 2022

TODD SCHLAFER WORKSHOPS at Hidden Gardens,

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

Monday October 3, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY OCTOBER MEETING Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall located in the Regenstein

7:00 PM Bonsai 101 Program: "Fall Care" presented by Robert Wright. 7:30 PM, General Program: "Satsuki Aza-leas" by visiting artist David Kreutz of Satsuki Bonsai-en in St Louis. 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>

Wednesday October 5, 2022

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage or via ZOOM.

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Program; Penjing Demonstration by Jennifer Price. Penjing, also known as Penzai, is the ancient Chinese art of depicting artistically formed trees, other plants, and landscapes in miniature. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

October 8 thru 16, 2022

9TH WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION 2022 (VIRTUAL) from Perth, Western Australia

This will be the first Virtual World Bonsai Convention with demonstrators from every WBFF region, including some live, interactive sessions with International Demonstrators with unlimited replays for registrants. Exhibitions of Bonsai and Suiseki in Australian Collections and a selection of free optional activities including a large Marketplace and an online auction. For more Info Convention Website: www.world-bonsai-convention-2022.com/

Saturday October 8, 15, 22, & 29, 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.

Wednesday October 19, 2022

MBS CHICAGO CHAPTER MEETING

6:00 PM - 7:30 at Garfield Park Conservatory, located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a tree to work on. For more information about the meeting or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 312-590-6049.

Monthly Care Report - September

We've lost about an hour and a half of daylight and the all trees know it. Many leaves are changing color and some are dropping off. So, the gradual entering of the dormancy is beginning.

I always think of mid-September as the beginning of a short vacation from regular bonsai work and arbitrarily pick the fifteenth to begin the big changes. No more trimming of anything but tropicals. Continue to watch for tight wire as there is rapid wood growth taking place.

Change to a low Nitrogen fertilizer. 3-4% is about right. 10-20% range of Phosphorus and Potassium is good. Continue to fertilize until the trees are put into winter storage. This will help the trees progress into dormancy with plenty of stored energy for new spring growth. This is also good for tropicals as it helps prepare them somewhat for the move indoors

Never use a fertilizer with no Nitrogen. The chemistry states that hardly any other

elements will work without it. It is also known that Nitrogen is quickly depleted from containers that are constantly watered. That little bit of Nitrogen keeps everything in balance and the trees healthy. Without it most of the other elements build up and the medium can become toxic. Your bonsai are actually being starved.

Rain is forecast to be very sparse this month with daytime temperatures about normal, but night temperatures will be warm and retard the dormancy process somewhat. Some afternoon watering again will be needed on a few

days. The warm nights will allow the tropicals to stay outside all month.

Insects can be a big problem in September. They too know the winter is coming and are in a feeding frenzy. The warm nights will be very beneficial for continuing their feasts. Spider mites and mealy bugs are very active as are the chewers. The grasshoppers and katydids are full grown and can chomp down a whole lot in a day. Good insecticide with contact and systemic properties will do the job well. My favorite is Bayer's.

—Ivan Watters

August Exhibit Photos

All photos courtesy of Jeng Fonseca.



Hidden Gardens Jeff Schultz's Rocky Mountain Juniper won 2nd Place, Professional Category.



Award of Merit Douglas Fir presented by Timothy Priest.



This year's guest artist and judge was Mark Fields from Indiana. His demonstration was styling this juniper. Picture below is tree after styling.



Award of Merit Winners shown by Tina Chirco. Shimpaku Juniper on left and Willow Leaf Ficus on the right.



Juniper styled by Mark Fields was raffled at the Saturday Dinner.

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



September Meeting Focus

The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 12th, 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; "*Planting Tree On A Rock*" presented by Victor Zurczak. Note that this demonstration tree will be raffled off at the meeting.

7:30 pm - General program; "*Video & Discussion of August Exhibition Judge's Review*" presented by Robert Wright and Jose Fonseca. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Chicago Bonsai Club

The September meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, September 21, beginning at 6 p.m. There will be senior members available to answer your questions and provide assistance, so bring a tree to work on.

Chicago Bonsai Club meets at Garfield Park Conservatory, located at 300 N. Central Park Ave. (at Lake Street) in Chicago.

If you would like further information about the meeting or to join the club, please contact: sukazu17@gmail.com or call 312-590-6049.

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.