
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

Midwest Bonsai Society Newsletter
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Chicago Bonsai Club

Due to the COVID-19 closures, all future Chicago Bonsai Club meetings for 2020 have been cancelled at the Garfield Park Conservatory. Hopefully, we will be able to find an alternative space to meet, but certainly not on August 19. Please watch for further information in the MBS newsletter.

If you would like further information about or to join the club, please contact: sukuzu17@gmail.com or call Susan Babyk at 773-235-9479.

Thoughts For Late July And August Comments

Well it's CV-19 again. Seems to be the main topic of discussion everywhere you go. The first few days of the Phase 4 reopening seemed to go well. Then the marching, rioting and looting took off and new cases ballooned to over 1200 a day. As I write this, new cases are around 1600 and appear to be heading who knows where. Hopefully this is not the trend.

CV-19 hit close to home in the last couple of weeks. Larry Stephan's (our Special Events VP and a member of the Office of the President Committee) wife tested positive. She had very minor symptoms and at this time, we are happy to report, she has recovered and gratefully Larry tested negative. There is hope for us senior citizens!

We should all be thankful to be living in Illinois where all levels of government are determined to work together to conquer this scourge. My personal thanks to all these dedicated public servants who labor to protect us.

There's light at the end of the tunnel but it seems

a long, long way in the distance. Be careful. Be patient. Be strong. Many of us will make it through.

CBG just announced that our August general meeting is cancelled. It seems certain that September will be also, and I personally believe there won't be any public events this year. In the future, nobody knows how things will progress.

But fear not, as they say, several board members are working on several events that should be unveiled soon. In fact, you should have received an email from us regarding a CV-19 compliant Bonsai Garden Walk we are planning in conjunction with Prairie State Bonsai Society. More info elsewhere in Newsletter, so you give us your feedback.

As an aside, this virtual meeting business is no piece of cake. We've had several sessions and something always goes wrong, quits, goes haywire or just blows up. It will get fixed but I'm doubtful it will be before we can actually meet in person.

**UPCOMING EXHIBIT
AND WORKSHOPS**

Wellfield Botanic Garden, Elkhart Indiana is holding a bonsai exhibit, workshops and demos Saturday, August 1, 10-4 pm. There will be vendors. Pauline Muth and Bill Valavanis are workshop leaders and demonstrators. For more info: wellfieldgardens.org/bonsai-show-august-1/

Great luck.

FRIENDS OF THE HIDDEN GARDENS BONSAI SHOW

Congratulations on a day and a half of good weather. Saw some posts on Facebook and was very impressed with setup and layout. Also saw some posts of trees on Facebook. Looking forward to a post on THG, PSBS, of the complete display. We all can learn from that. Many thanks for your bravery.

LUCIA HEYWORTH BONSAI FOR SALE

Things are going well. I'm hoping to get more people to view the trees this month. I know CV-19 is making people reluctant to go to places beyond their regular destinations but be assured I'm following all the required constraints. I'm particularly at risk myself because of my age

and very compromised immune system. Definitely don't want to catch it! The link to the slide show is: Mrs. James Heyworth Bonsai Tree Collection. Call or text me at 847-917-0817 or email at yasukunai@yahoo.com for an appointment.

JULY REVIEW

July weather, while very warm to hot, hasn't affected plant growth negatively. Nights are now too warm, and will continue to be so, for re-potting hardy trees. On the other hand, tropics will enjoy this warmth and recover from potting very quickly.

Insects are enjoying the weather, too. I'm seeing some damage from chewing of leaves that I'm treating weekly with a systemic insecticide. This warmth will be bringing on spider mites so watch susceptible specimens, especially Junipers, and act with haste.

Continue all the activities discussed in the July newsletter.

AUGUST WORK

No relaxing yet. Wait until

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Events Calendar

Please note: What we have shown below is a list of events scheduled as of June 17, 2020. Where we have information on cancellations due to Covid-19 we have included same. While all of the local clubs are still not meeting BC Bonsai and Hidden Gardens are open and offering workshops. In addition Ivan Waters is offering one on one workshops by reservation. Please check all events, if you want to participate to insure they have not been canceled.

Saturday July 4, 11, 18, & 25, 2020
SATURDAY WEST SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters
Cancelled due to Covid-19 but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to yasukunai@hotmail.com or call 847-917-0817.

Saturday July 4, 11, 18, & 25, 2020
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.hiddengarden.net/bonsai_saturday_morning.html or call 630-655-8283.

Sunday July 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2020
SUNDAY NORTH SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19
but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to yasukunai@hotmail.com or call 847-917-0817.

Monday July 6, 2020
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19 - Virtual Meeting – TBD
At this time we are exploring possible virtual Demonstration with Mark Fields. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Tuesday July 7, 2020
MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY PICNIC MEETING - ON HOLD DUE TO COVID 19
Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: "Yamadori Talk". For more Information go to <http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/Newsletters/MB-S202005news.pdf>

Wednesday July 8, 2020
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19
Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Saturday July 11, 2020
CREPE MYRTLE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Wednesday, July 15, 2020
CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19
Meetings for Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, have been postponed indefinitely due to Covid. If you would like further information about or to join please email: sukazu17@gmail.com or call Susan Babyk at 773-235-9479.

Saturday July 11, 2020
CREPE MYRTLE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Saturday July 18, 2020
BRAZILIAN RAIN TREE WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Saturday July 25, 2020
HINOKI SEKKA WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Saturday August 1 thru September 12, 2020
INTERMEDIATE BONSAI at BC Bonsai
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Covers advanced techniques, wiring, styling, refinement, carving, and displaying your trees. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Saturday August 1, 2020
PROCUMBUS NANA WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Saturday August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 2020
SATURDAY WEST SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19
but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to yasukunai@hotmail.com or call 847-917-0817.

Saturday August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 2020
SATURDAY MORNING BONSAI with Mark Karczewski
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Hidden Gardens Willowbrook, IL. Bring your own tree workshop. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/bonsai.html> or call 630-655-8283.

Sunday August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 2020
SUNDAY NORTH SUBURBAN MASTERCLASS BONSAI WORKSHOPS with Ivan Watters - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19
but one on one, bring your own tree workshops are available by reservation any day of the week not booked. For further information go to yasukunai@hotmail.com or call 847-917-0817.

Monday August 3, 2020
MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY MEETING - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19
Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall located in the Regenstein Center. 7:00 PM, <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday, August 5, 2020
PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19
Room TEC/1038a College of DuPage. 7:00 PM, Program: Bonsai 101: Bonsai Soil by Landen Gibbs. 7:30 PM, Program: Air-Layering. For further information go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Saturday August 8, 2020
DWARF HINOKI CYPRESS WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Sunday, August 9, 2020
BRING YOUR OWN TREE OUTDOOR WORKSHOP with Chris Baker
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Chicago Botanic Garden, Horticulture Conference Room, Rice Plant Resource Center. Bring any bonsai tree to this outdoor workshop, where we will work on our trees (weather permitting). For further information go to https://www.chicagobotanic.org/adult_education/horticulture/bring_your_own_bonsai_outdoor_workshop

Saturday or Sunday August 18 and 19, 2020
FRIENDS OF THE HIDDEN GARDENS BONSAI SHOW
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Hidden Gardens Willowbrook, IL. Visiting artists Andy Smith and Owen Reich. For further information go to <http://www.hiddengarden.net/bonsai.html> or call 630-655-8283.

Wednesday, August 19, 2020
CHICAGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING - CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19

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Thoughts

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next month. Everything that is healthy is growing robustly. Nearly everything that isn't healthy is getting better.

Watering sufficiently is critical. This means more than once a day sometimes. Cover every part thoroughly (leaves, branches, trunk, soil surface). Obtain a wand that produces the effect of soft rain, arching the stream upward so it falls like rain all over the tree. Rewater the soil surface multiple times until you feel it is thoroughly saturated. If the tree is rootbound it will require three or four visits. This is a critical process that ensures old air is completely

pushed out the bottom of the container and fresh air is pulled into the soil mass. A plus of this method is that a lot of chlorine is dispersed and added oxygen is mixed into the water.

Continue to fertilize on your established schedule. You want the trees to have energy to produce wood and begin the process if storing energy in the lower trunk and roots for dormancy and next year's growth spurt.

Prune and trim vigorous growth on deciduous and broad-leaved evergreens. It follows that more trimming yields better ramification.

Don't do much to Larches, Spruces, Yews and their other relatives other than trimming back overly vigor-

ous growth. Reduce new buds to two per branch on two-needle pines.

After about August 20 begin needle thinning on five-needle pines. If the needles come off easily when you pull them toward the tip you can continue throughout the tree. If there is resistance you risk damaging the bark and endangering the health of the tree. The needles removed must be trimmed/cut off at the middle of the fascicle. This can change in any given tree yearly.

To balance the vigor of the branches on white pines, remove all of last year's growth and about half this year's needles on strong growths. Remove all last this year's needles but leave all of this year's on average strength growths.

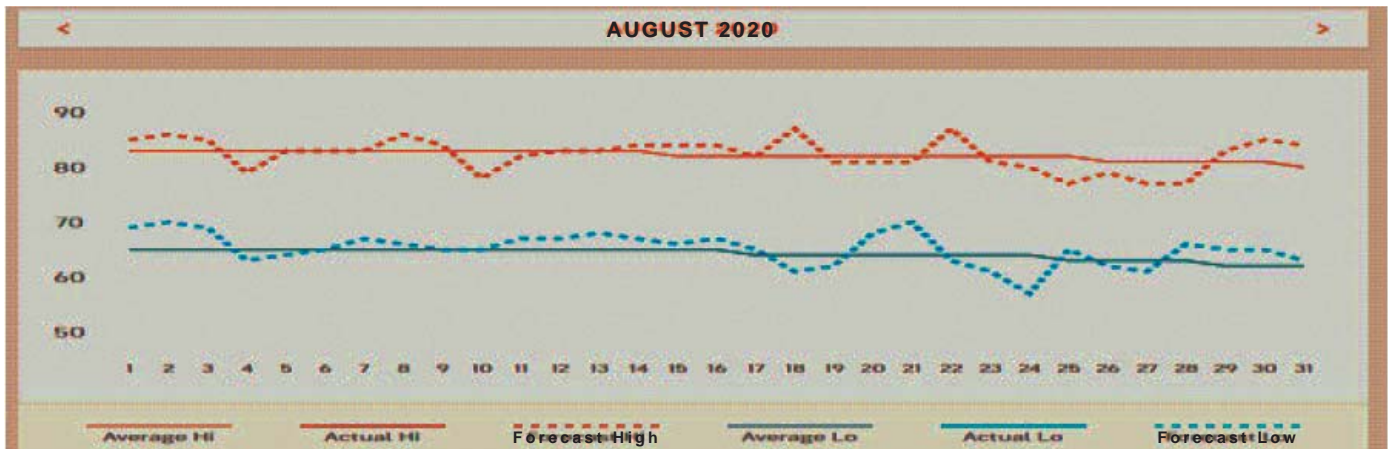
Leave about half of last year's needles and again leave all of this year's needles on weak growths. When finished tree branches should look like they all have the same

Note that we included August AccuWeather Temperature graph below for your Bonsai planning. Forecast is quite pleasant, but dry. No extreme hot or cold temps. Likely to be very dry, so pay careful attention to winds. Could be some/several days that watering twice will be needed.

Have a nice month.

Watch out for the bugs and keep the water wand handy.

—Ivan Watters



Events Calendar

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Saturday August 22, 2020

CANADIAN HEMLOCK WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

Saturday August 29, 2020

SHIMPAKU JUNIPER WORKSHOP at BC Bonsai

1:30 PM - 4:00 PM, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com>

By Reservation Only in July or August

ONE ON ONE WORKSHOPS at BC Bonsai

Time TBD, 2250 Durham Drive, Wheaton, IL. Pick a time and plan to spend 1 to 2 hours in one on one workshop with your tree or ours. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-254-8841.

By Reservation Only in July or August

FREE LESSONS ON TREES IN THE GROUND at BC Bonsai Nursery

Time TBD, Paw Paw, Illinois. Throughout the summer you can come out to the nursery and work on the development of as many trees as you would like. We will give you free lessons and training on bonsai techniques to develop trees in the ground. Then you can come back in the early spring to harvest only those trees that you like. For further information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-7585.

August MBS General Meeting Has Been Cancelled Due to COVID 19

The August meeting was originally scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 1st, at the Chicago Botanic Garden's Burnstein Hall, located in the Regenstein Center.

At the Board's July 13th meeting, which was held using Cisco WebEx virtual meeting technology, we were informed that The Garden is still not allowing meetings in August. This means our September General Meeting scheduled for August 31 is also cancelled.

As previously reported, we created a subcommittee to explore the feasibility of an online general meetings in the future. While we continue to work on this option, it not feasible for August meeting. Both technology and content has been creating challenges we need to resolve.

Any suggestion especially regarding content desired would be appreciated. Email your suggestions to our Programming Chair board member Victor Zurczak at manofnature2002@yahoo.com We will of course keep you posted on our progress.

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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.

MBS Help Line

With an inability to hold General Meetings or Events we understand that many of you may be looking for help or advice on what to do with a tree or forest. If you have questions please E-mail them to midwest.bonsai@yahoo.com. One of our more experienced members will get back to you with our best advice.

2020 Bonsai Garden Walk

The Mid-West Bonsai Society and the Prairie State Bonsai Society are working to sponsor a September "Bonsai Garden Walk". We are defining our Bonsai Garden Walk as an opportunity for members to open their yards and fellow members to tour the environment in which they grow and display their trees. Enjoy a COVID-19 conscious opportunity to walk through and discuss these personal Bonsai Gardens

At this time, we are targeting September 12th and 13th for MBS members to open their gardens and September 19th and 20th for Prairie State members to host (i.e. one weekend in the southern suburbs and the other in the northern suburbs). Hosts will be scheduled to be open on either Saturday or Sunday.

This gives them a chance to see fellow members gardens on the other weekend day. Keep in mind this is a new event and subject to change.

We are asking interested MBS members to please call Tony Welninski at (773) 612-9312) or email him at tonywelninski@gmail.com. Let him know if you expect to be part of the Bonsai Garden Walk, either as a visitor or as a host. Please respond by August 15, to give us enough time to get times, dates and places published.

If we can get enough interest we will consider making this an annual event, so both clubs can work together.



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** **\$45** Newsletter by Mail

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.