
MIDWEST BONSAI CONNECTION

www.midwestbonsai.org

President's Message

Happy to report that our May show went very well. Thanks especially to Matt Mazza, Peter Buckley, Amy and Robert Wright for their help at the show, from beginning to end, and also to a host of other Midwest Bonsai Society volunteers. What was absolutely great was the amount of help that was present for take down. We also had a steady flow of volunteers all weekend; some of whom spent an awful lot of time there. We want all our volunteers to know how much they contributed to make this exhibit a success.

Most of the vendors had good sales numbers and the trees on exhibit were an excellent selection. BCI's workshops were well attended. Traffic was a little below past years but we had a lot of people come through. Many people spent time watching Jim Fairchild's Styling demonstrations. We even added a number of new MBS members. Amy and Jeng Fonseca and others worked hard to get a new batch of merchandise for sale. The t-shirts and hoodie sweatshirts were flying off the shelf. We did not encounter any crisis

events and everyone seemed to be having a good time.

What happened to spring this year? It seems like we have gone directly from Winter to Summer. The next General Meeting will be on June 6th at the Gardens. Bonsai 101 will focus on pinching and pruning. The main presentation will be on Topical tree re-potting. So, bring a tree to repot using our soil, wire and experienced members, to assist. In July, Bonsai 101 will feature daily care and the Main Program will be presented by Phil Malhiot. He will explain how to select the right pot for a tree. Members should bring in

a tree and Phil will critique the pot it is in or the pot you plan to put it in.

While in person numbers have been good for the General meetings we want to encourage more members to come to the meetings. In June and July we will be doing some no cost or very low cost raffles of trees and or waivers of the \$50 workshop fees for the August Exhibit. So, make plans to join us in person next month when we will raffle a 7- to 9-year-old Brazilian Rain Tree.

Thanks again to everyone who helped at our show.

Larry Stephan



Frank Mihalic's (Wildwood Gardens) children's workshop is always well attended. This year between Saturday and Sunday we had 66 participants.



Many people spent time watching Jim Fairchild's Styling demonstrations. *Photos by Jen Fonseca*

June Events Calendar

Saturday June 4, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Garden. Program: Wiring demo on branch samples. Meeting presentation will feature a lecture on wiring plus hands on work. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org](http://ScheduleforMilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org)

Saturday & Sunday, June 4, & 5, 2022

BONSAI IN BLOOM 2022 - EXHIBITION
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Matthaei Botanical Gardens at the University of Michigan, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. Exhibition of blooming Satsuki azalea from bonsai expert and collector Dr. Melvyn Goldstein and featuring Satsuki artist David Kreutz. For further information go to <https://mbgna.umich.edu/bonsai-in-bloom/>

Saturday June 4, 1022

TWISTED TRUNK YEW MAME BONSAI WORKSHOP with Phil Malhiot
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM at 8028 W 27th Street, North Riverside, IL. You will create a Mame Bonsai, from trees Phil has been growing for 10 years. For further information call 708-705-7768 or bonsaiphil@gmail.com

Saturday or Sunday June 4 & 5, 2022
BRING YOUR OWN TREE WORKSHOP with Owen Reich

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Hidden Gardens in Willowbrook, IL. For further information or to register for the workshop go to <https://www.hiddengarden.net/index.html> or call 630-655-8283.

Saturday June 4 thru Saturday July 16, 2022
7 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 more information or to register go to <http://www.bcbonsai.com> or call 630-386-1515.

Saturday June 4, 11, 18, & 25, 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 June 4 & June 18, 1022
FINISHED BONSAI REFINEMENT AND SHOW PREP with Phil Malhiot

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM in North Riverside, IL. This is a bring your own tree workshop or you can work on one of Phil's finished trees. For further information call 708-705-7768 or bonsaiphil@gmail.com

Monday June 6, 2022

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

Midwest Bonsai Connection

7:00 PM Bonsai 101 Program: Pinching and Pruning by Victor 7:30 PM, General Program: Tropical Tree Repotting Workshop. Please bring your own tropical tree to repot. Soil and wire will be provided. Victor and other experienced members will be available to answer your questions. Also, we will have a raffle for a Brazilian rain-tree that is between 7 and 9 years old. Other raffle prizes may also be available. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings/>

Wednesday June 8, 2022

PRAIRIE STATE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
Room TEC/1038b College of DuPage.
7:00 PM Program; Jennifer Price will perform a demo with maples. Jim Beck and Linda Camp of BC Bonsai will discuss making and using muck. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Wednesday June 15, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY 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 773-235-9479.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, June 23, 24, 25 & 26, 2022

MABA/MILWAUKEE 2022TWO - EXHIBITION
at Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee North Shore, 8900 North Kildeer Court, Milwaukee, WI.
The Milwaukee Bonsai Society will be hosting an innovative, world class MABA exhibit. Enjoy large selection of vendors, demonstrations, presentations and workshop. Visiting artists include headliners François Jeker (France) and Ted Matson (California) as well as guest artists Mark Fields (Indiana), Byron Myrick (Mississippi), Jennifer Price (Illinois), Todd Schlafer (Colorado), Andy Smith (So. Dakota), Steve Carini (Wisconsin) and Ron Fortmann (Wisconsin). For more information or updates go to <http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba/docs/RegistrationPacket.pdf>

Saturday July 2, 2022

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING
9:00 AM, Boerner Botanical Gardens. Program: Basic Styling. Just in time styling for the Holiday. For further information go to [Schedule for MilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org](http://ScheduleforMilwaukeeBonsaiSociety.org)

Saturday July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 31, 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.

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Monthly Care Report - June 2022

All deciduous trees have come into leaf and new candles on pines have sprouted. Your feeding, pinching, watering, and pruning routines should be in full swing by now. Trees repotted in April can be given light doses of fertilizer. Continue to check for insects and adjust your watering to match the warmer weather. Air-layering of deciduous and evergreens can be continued. The nights are warm enough now, staying in the 60's, so it is time to work on tropicals. We are starting our very active growth season, so proper

pruning, feeding and watering through the summer months will be essential. Any wiring you did this winter should be checked and probably removed now.

Repotting of pines should have been completed in early May. Remember to keep them in the shade for a couple weeks. Candles on pines can be pinched any time. Start with the weak buds and do the strong buds a week or so later. Spruce, junipers and larch shoots are probably ready for their first pinching off the season. Watch

the new growth on your deciduous trees and trim back to 1-2 pairs of leaves.

Pinch back long shoots of deciduous trees as sudden frosts (which we hope have ended) can damage the young leaves. Stay on top of maples now and pinch out the center bud just as it emerges from the middle of the first two leaves. Some deciduous species, can handle defoliation, usually early summer, it will greatly reduce their leaf size and create better ramification. If the tree needs to be brought back further, do it now. Now is when you really have to keep on top of your pruning to increase ramification. Cut your Bougainvillea back before all of the flowers are spent to keep it blooming. Keep pruning your Elms back to the first or second node.

side of the leaves. Soapy water can usually take care of both those problems. Check your Ficus for Thrips (folding in of the leaves) for they have been a problem in the past. Check your Junipers for mites. We use a granular systemic insecticide whose main ingredient is Imidacloprid, available at some nurseries or garden centers. This kills almost all insects and is highly toxic to honeybees, birds and fish. (See University of Florida IFAS Extension, EDIS). Careful use of insecticides and fungicides becomes increasingly useful at this time of year. Always read and follow manufacturer's directions. Don't use less because it may not be effective. Don't use more because it may cause damage or death.

Watch wired branches carefully to avoid unsightly spiral scars from bark growing over the wires, deciduous trees in particular can expand very quickly in May through September.

FERTILIZE... You can start on your summer feeding program soon. Young trees more nitrogen, older ones a more balanced food to maintain them. Any tree you have defoliated or cut back hard, place in shade until new growth starts and wait till they have flushed back out to feed them. Be careful not to over water, trees need leaves to transpire water. Blooming varieties can be fed with a fertilizer with a higher middle number. You want your trees healthy to prepare them for the hot summer months.

—Ed Hake • Fort Wayne Bonsai Club • Reprinted by Permission. Compiled from several Web articles with adaptation to our area by Ivan Waters.

PRUNING tropicals...

After our winter months some trees have wanted to grow out of proportion, their leaves have enlarged and some branches have elongated due to lower light. So now is the time to prune for shape. You can also root prune and repot your tropicals now.

Water routinely if we don't get rain. Spring and early summer are usually the worst for drying out trees. Low humidity, windy, with somewhat cooler temperatures, gives a false sense that they don't require as much water, but do not be fooled, check your trees daily... an old Japanese saying. "Never count on Buddha to water your bonsai."

INSECTS... check daily for any insect problems. Aphids love spring growth and can get out of hand before you know it. Look for scale on the under-

June Events

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Wednesday, July 6, 2022

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

7:00 PM Program; Juniper styling demonstration. For more information or updates go to <https://prairiestatebonsai.com/news-and-events/>

Monday July 11, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY JULY 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: "Pinching and Pruning Techniques" presented by Victor Zurczak. 7:30 PM, General Program: "How to Select a Pot for Your Tree" to a Pot by visiting artist Phil Malhiot. All members are encouraged to bring in a tree for Phil to critique pot selection. For more information or updates go to <http://www.midwestbonsai.org/meetings>

Wednesday July 20, 2022

MIDWEST BONSAI SOCIETY 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 773-235-9479.

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



June Meeting Focus

The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 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; “Pinching and Pruning” presented by Victor Zurczak.

7:30 pm - General program; Tropical Tree Repotting Workshop. Please bring your own tropical tree to repot. Soil and wire will be provided. Victor and other experienced members will be available to assist. Also, for those attending in person, we will have a raffle for a Brazilian raintree that is between 7 and 9 years old. Other raffle prizes may also be available.

Chicago Bonsai Club

The June meeting of the Chicago Bonsai Club, a chapter of the Midwest Bonsai Society, will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 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 773-235-9479.

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.