



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | February 2013

NEXT MEETING:

February 14, 2012 | 6:30-8 pm

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI

MEETING AGENDA:

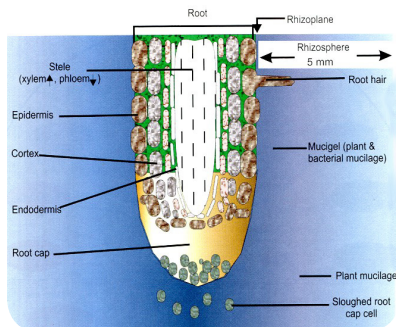
The Rhizosphere; In bonsai virtually everything within the pot and to some extent, the pot itself, is the rhizosphere.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President Matthew
VP/Communications Devon
Treasurer Mike
Secretary Orion
Librarian Greg
Refreshments Elaine

Greetings fellow Trimmers of Tiny Trees,

February is here, and with it the start of our bonsai season. The elections are over, we had our holiday fun, dinner at Imperial Gardens was delicious; it's time to talk about bonsai again.



This month we're going to get into something near and dear to my heart; you guessed it, the rhizosphere. This is where the roots meet the soil. As a student of both horticulture and soil science, I believe that understanding this area of interaction determines the health of a plant equally to the amount of light and temperature that the above ground portion of the plant is subject to. The rhizosphere is much more than just dirt and roots. It is an entire ecosystem. In bonsai virtually everything within the pot and to some extent, the pot itself is the rhizosphere.

We were at the Garden Expo again this year. It happened this weekend, Friday through Sunday. I hope you all seen the email that was sent out a couple of weeks ago. (*Continued on page 5*)

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Badger Bonsai Society's 2013 Garden Expo Table

Bonsai in Winter – Undressed Elegance

Original publication: bonsaibark.com/2012/03/07/capital-bonsai-undressed-elegance | Edited by Devon



Chinese Elm, *Ulmus parvifolia*. Donated to the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum by Yee-sun Wu. In training since 1901.

This remarkable bonsai was donated to the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum by Yee-sun Wu. This and the other photos in this post are from Capital Bonsai, the NB&P Museum's blog. capitalbonsai.wordpress.com

Sheer elegance

Somehow I missed the December 21st post at Capital Bonsai. It titled 'It's the most wonderful time of the year.' Though the song doesn't do that much for me, the sheer elegance of the leafless trees in the post most certainly do. And though winter is over, or nearly over, for most of us, it was -8F yesterday morning here in northern Vermont, and all of our deciduous trees are still at their leaf-bare finest.



Hornbeam, *Carpinus tschonoskii*, Donated by Minoru Koshimura. In training since 1935.



Pomegranate, *Punica granatum*. Donated by Alice Naka. In training since 1963.

Aarin Packard and John Naka speak for themselves

Here's a quote from Aarin Packard, Capital Bonsai's prime mover, about deciduous bonsai in the winter: "I have heard on multiple occasions that winter is the favorite time of year for the more discerning bonsai enthusiasts. John Naka described a bonsai in leaf as "a beautiful woman with her cloths on"... Only when a tree is leafless can you fully appreciate the level of training that a deciduous bonsai has had. That could be why the most prestigious bonsai exhibition in the world, the Kokofu ten, is held during the winter."

2013 Calendar of Events v2.0

February 14:

The Rhizosphere (Matthew)

- Garden Expo Exhibit (Feb. 8-10)

March 14:

Pottery; right pot for a bonsai (Devon)

- Repotting party / repotting, root pruning and soil (*location TBD*)

April 11:

Water and nutrients (Matthew)

- Amur Maple Forest Workshop (*date location TBD*)
- Nursery Crawl
April 27 [rain date May 4]
locations on attached map [next page]

May 9:

Preparing your trees for display (Karl)

- Annual Show
Olbrich Gardens, Evjue Commons
May 18, 7:30 am – 6 pm
May 19, 8:30 am – 6 pm
(*Mary and Devon Coordinators*)

June 13:

Pests and Pathogens (Matthew)

- Summer workshop

July:

Picnic meeting (date/location to TBD)

August 8:

Wiring: application & removal (Tim)

- Chicago Show meet-up

September 12:

Fall Show for meeting

October 10:

Preparing for Winter (Devon)

November 14:

Official business, elections

December 12:

Winter Celebration

Meeting Topic (presenter)

- Non-meeting date activity

V2.0 Calendar Updates: The dates for the Annual Show are now listed as are the details for the Spring Nursery Crawl and identifying who will be speaking at each monthly presentation. We are still trying to pin down details for hands-on workshops in March and April. Basically, we need a place to host a repotting party and where we can have a Amur Maple Forest Workshop. Hopefully we will be able to host both events at Olbrich Garden, in the lower level under our regular meeting room. *Stay Tuned* for more to come in the following weeks.

What to do in February

From: www.dallasbonsai.com

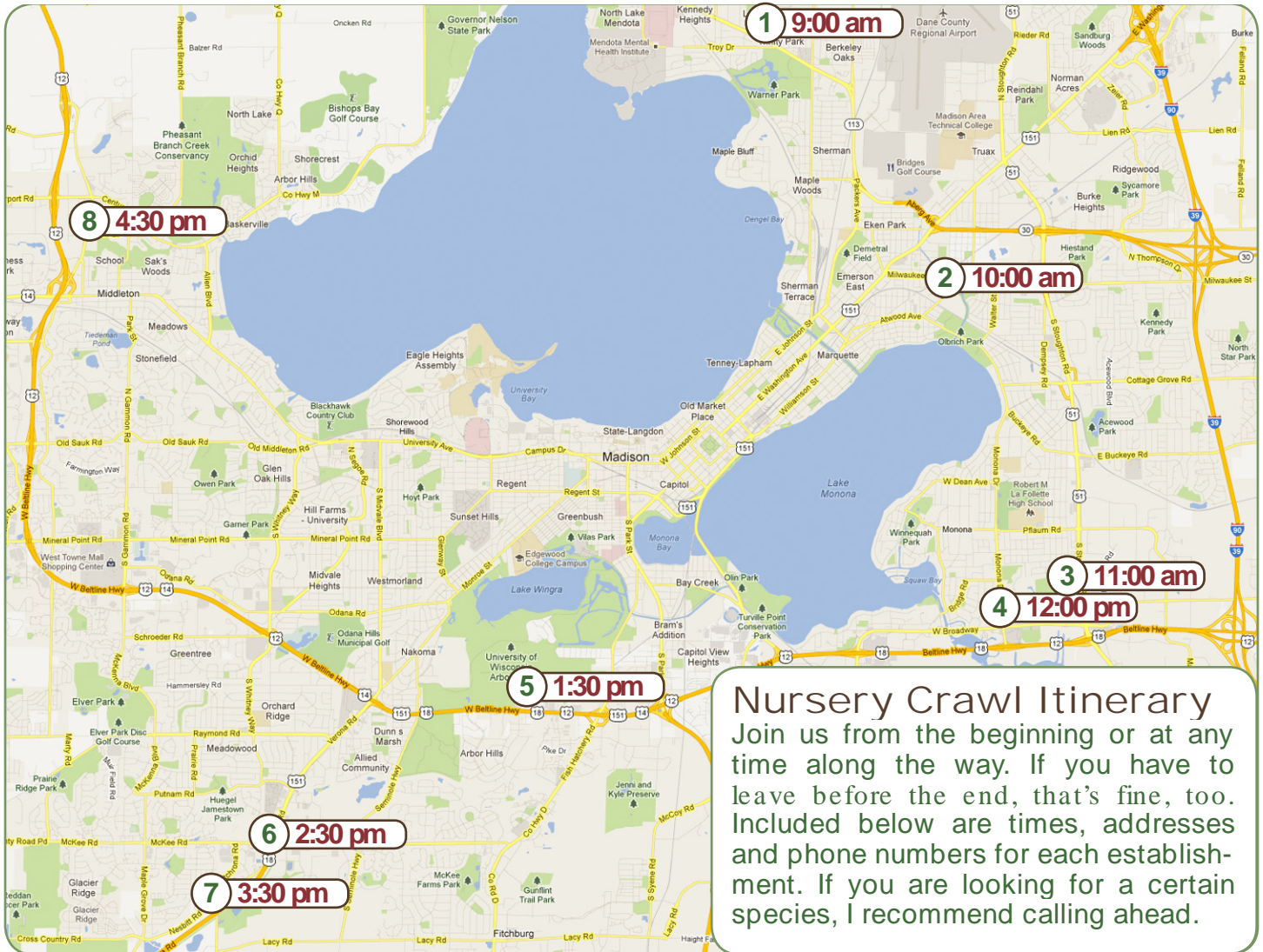
Fertilizing: No fertilizing yet. However, soil sulphur, iron-tone, crystal gypsite, etc., can be used to recondition alkaline soil.

Pruning: A good month for pruning any fruit-bearing bonsai.

Cuttings: Start from February and continuing through May is the best time to start cuttings.

Grafting: Grafting on deciduous trees should start this month.

Nursery Crawl | April 27 [rain date May 4]



Nursery Crawl Itinerary
Join us from the beginning or at any time along the way. If you have to leave before the end, that's fine, too. Included below are times, addresses and phone numbers for each establishment. If you are looking for a certain species, I recommend calling ahead.

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) 9 am Jung Garden Center
1313 Northport Drive, Madison
(608) 249-8120 | (5) 1:30 pm Johannsen's Greenhouse
2600 West Beltline Highway, Madison
(608) 271-9277 |
| (2) 10 am Fair Oaks Nursery & Garden Center
134 South Fair Oaks Avenue, Madison
(608) 244-2429 | (6) 2:30 pm Jung Garden Center
6192 Nesbitt Road, Fitchburg
(608) 271-8900 |
| (3) 11 am Menards
6401 Copps Avenue, Monona
(608) 221-9100 | (7) 3:30 pm Felly's Flowers
6353 Nesbitt Road, Madison
(608) 845-9592 |
| (4) 12 pm Edo Japanese Restaurant [LUNCH]
6309 Monona Drive, Monona
(608) 226-9828 | (8) 4:30 pm The Bruce Company
2830 Parmenter Street, Middleton
(608) 836-7041 |

(President's message continued from page 1.)

In my opinion, if we are to see this club grow, this is the best way to advertise ourselves to garden enthusiasts from miles around. We had a corner booth this year so all of the estimated twenty thousand people very likely passed by at least one side at some point over the weekend.

Since it is still February, there may not be a lot to do with many of your bonsai trees right now, unless you have tropical trees in your collection under intense artificial lighting and supplemental humidity; of course, that's not for everyone. February is a good time to start thinking about the upcoming growing season and begin to make preparations. Last spring we had some rather unusual weather and if this winter is similar, repot-

ting time could be right around the corner.

We'll talk about that next month, but the prepared and organized bonsai artist would be thinking about it this month. Have your tools rusted over the long winter? Again, February is a good time to assess the quality of tools. Have you developed a fertilizer plan? In April I will talk all about water and nutrients. So maybe wait on that one. What I'm trying to say is, it's time to start getting excited again.

I hope to see some of you at the Garden Expo this weekend. I'm giving up three days wages to represent our club. I think this is important.

Cheers Everyone,
Matthew

Styling Contest

Win your Free Bonsai Trip to Puerto Rico...
The of Bonsai Magazine Proudly Present Our
Second Progressive Bonsai Styling Contest

Check out details at: <http://ofbonsai.org/contest/2nd-ofbonsai-magazine-progressive-bonsai-styling-contest-sponsored-by-ryuga-bonsai-tools>



BBS Annual Dues

If you've not already paid your annual dues, now is the time.

To pay your dues, see Mike; Treasurer

Membership dues are
\$25/year (individual)
or \$35/year (family).

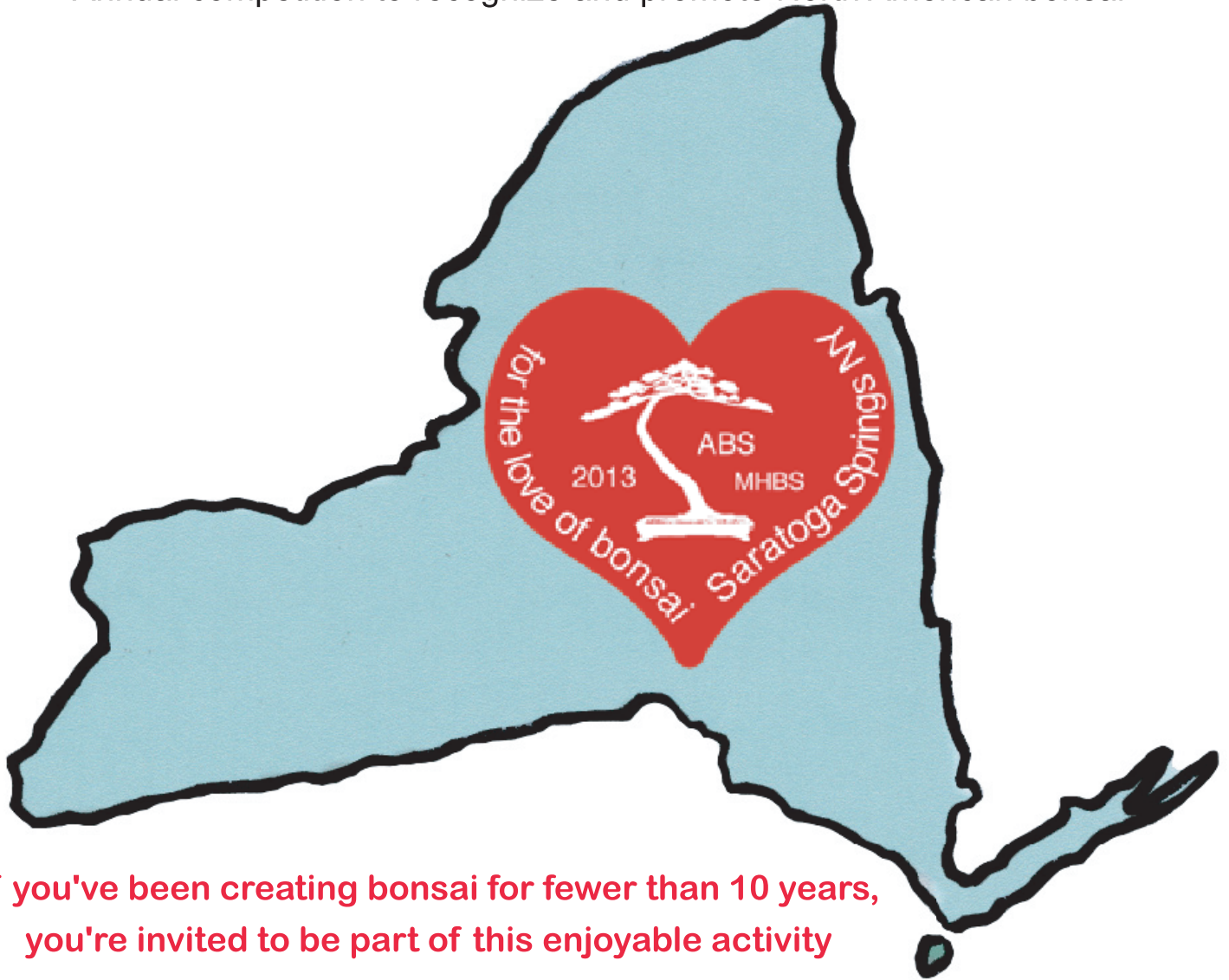
More information here:
badgerbonsai.net/membership



Joshua Roth

New Talent Bonsai Competition

2013 Learning Seminars in Saratoga Springs, NY
sponsored by ABS and Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society
Annual competition to recognize and promote North American bonsai



If you've been creating bonsai for fewer than 10 years,
you're invited to be part of this enjoyable activity

Two Stage Event:

1st Stage - judging of submitted bonsai photos

2nd Stage - participants will design their own tree

For information and contest rules check out:
<http://absbonsai.org/latest-news/87-new-talent-competition>
or email John Wiessinger natureetours@gmail.com