



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | Dec 2020

Next Meeting Date:

Zoom virtual meeting session starting at 6:30pm
on Thursday Dec-10-2020; no physical meeting

AGENDA:

NBF and BBS Suiseki; WI-wintering; participant
"shares", door prizes and future topics

CLUB OFFICERS:

Co-President Wayne / Bill
Vice President Mary
Treasurer Gary
Web Master / Newsletter Wayne
Librarian Ben
Refreshments Elaine

President's Message

This is my last newsletter column as the club president. I'm not going anywhere; I just wish to return to the ranks as a member. Thanks to everyone that made my job so much easier over these past years – GaryL, MaryE, BillB, ElaineW, DerekN, DevonC and especially WayneP who will now lead the society. I have tried to incorporate the suggestions for programs that members have proposed, getting to most, if not all, of the suggestions. We are secure financially for an organization of our size. Our annual show has been an unmatched success each year thanks to all of our members, those displaying trees and those working the show. A good portion of our finances are generated from the free-will donation by members of the public attending our show. The fact that so many people donate is a testament to the quality of the show that we put on. Going

forward we always need ideas and suggestions for programs. And if you are comfortable with some topic, step forward and present it to the group.

Everyone stay well. We will at some point return to our normal meetings. — *Karl*

December Online Meeting Agenda

The current zoom meeting agenda is: continued discussion of wintering methods (see the Bonsai Tonight Wintering Guide link on page 3); and continuing in our recent December tradition, will review Suiseki from the National Bonsai Museum (and in particular any pictures members would like to share). In addition we will also solicit and review ideas for upcoming meetings, any attendees' shares of pictures or videos or interesting weblinks; and door prize "drawings".

If anyone has other items for discussion, or show / tell, please let Wayne know in advance, or as you join the zoom meeting so that we can plan to review in our meeting session. NOTE, we will record the zoom session, so be on your good behavior.

Odds and Ends

MollyP gets the gold medal for the best backdrop of participants at the November Zoom meeting! What a beautiful sight watching the waves wash ashore along the Pacific coast in the background!

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If you recall MaryE's grove planting demo at our Sep-2020 zoom meeting (remember it is on our website), take a look at the link (see page 3) to the Stone Lantern Bonsai bark blog about a Saikei Bonsai incorporating a deep ravine. Pictures of this classic, along with the planning diagrams are really inspiring.

One of the YouTube videos we watched last month (Tom Vuong's bonsai collection) featured very large yamadori, trees collected from the wild. These were some of the largest trees I have ever seen successfully collected, and were a testament to the nursery owner's skill and expertise. MaryE raised the issue of ethics about collecting trees from the wild and I regret not giving that enough discussion during our meeting. This has been a topic permeating bonsai discussion boards for many, many years. There is something offensive about digging up a tree that has been growing in the same spot for hundreds and hundreds of years and putting it in your collection. It is even more distasteful to put it up for sale. And if the tree dies because of the removal, everyone has lost. A counter argument is that the logging companies are removing thousands upon thousands of trees, frequently making a mess of the environment in the process. What's the harm of collecting a few old trees? Some conscientious collectors only collect where "progress" is going to destroy the trees, - e.g. new or expanded roadways, power line right-of-way, building sites, etc. In Florida it is illegal to collect buttonwood, except if the trees are going to be lost due to development (wait – it's okay to destroy the trees for development, but not okay to collect? Hmmm) Perhaps it is just me, but I always feel a sense of loss when I see newly cleared farm fields or roadways, with dead trees piled high, pulled out of the earth with mighty machines, either burning, or left to rot. What did the trees do to merit such a fate? In my own mind I think the age of the tree plays a role in ethical collecting. I see collecting a young tree as less problematical than collecting an old tree. I don't wish to pass judgement on anyone who collects. But, if you do, do it responsibly – fill the hole so the site looks less disturbed, and plant a

few seedlings in the area if you can.

A collected tree is referred to as a 'yamadori'. A cute pun I recently heard referred to a tree collected from someone's yard as a 'yardadori'.

— Karl

Door Prizes

Congratulations to Karl (BBS t-shirt) and Wayne (semi-cascade pot) as winners of our November door prizes. We are looking forward to see what Karl comes up with for December. How this works is explained in the Sep- or Oct-2020 newsletters. Remember we DO NOT deliver.

BBS By-Laws ...

BBS members, please watch for an email with a scan of, or a link to our "current" by-laws ... it is time to review and update these ... thanks to those members volunteering to review --- Wayne

Ralph's chrysanthemums

In what has become another late-year tradition, we were impressed with Ralph's chrysanthemums blooming late in the year. Thanks for preparing and sharing the pictures of your trees Ralph ... a few are shown below.



Other Shows and Conventions or Societies:

Due to the current COVID-19 situation ... check out the individual websites for current status.

US National Exhibition rescheduled to 2021

Sep 11 – 12, 2021 East Rochester, NY

Join people from around the world for the U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition, where over 200 of the finest bonsai in the world will be on display.

National Bonsai and Penjing Museum

3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC

Bonsai Global Seminars

~~Oct. 8-11, 2020.~~

This event has been postponed due to COVID-19.

Recently saw this image on Amazon ...

I wonder, was Charlie Brown really a bonsai literati genius in waiting ... ?



Your Saver ...

At our last meeting, Wayne and Karl shared a "challenge" question that Wayne asked Karl when viewing his trees in September. Now I throw the same challenge out to all BBS members, and would love to have you share a picture and your thoughts at future meetings.

If some catastrophic event occurred at your house, and you were given the opportunity to "save" only one tree from your collection (at no personal risk or restriction of size or weight) ... *which tree would you select to save ... any why?* This could be based on value or appeal or your own personal reason ...

Annual Membership dues are due!

Because of COVID-19 and lack of face-to-face meetings, we will email current members a postal address to send a check for dues to our Treasurer.

Non-members wanting to join are to indicate their intention using the [Contact Us form](#) on the BBS website, and Wayne will provide details to do so.

our website: badgerbonsai.net

Tentative Calendar for

Badger Bonsai Society meeting & events:

(date is 2nd Thursday unless noted differently below)

Dec 10 - **Zoom Virtual meeting** – but no physical meeting at Olbrich; Wintering Strategies for Wisconsin; review Suiseki at National Bonsai and Penjing Museum; future meeting topics

January-2021 no Membership Dinner

Jan-14 - Zoom meeting, topics TBD

Feb-11 - Zoom meeting, topics TBD

Spring-2021 - juniper dig event

Video Tours

Many thanks to Karl for "walking" us through his collection at the November zoom meeting ... and thank you to Barbara for editing the video.

You can take a brief video and narrate as you walk-through, or take still pictures and SHARE during our next meetings ... show us your stuff !

Zoom Tech Requirements

For our Zoom virtual sessions, all you will need to participate is to join the zoom meeting session and the zoom web client will be installed. You will be able to see video feeds, audio and shared computer screens. If you want to present a live video feed you need a webcam. If you want to speak for all to hear, you will need a microphone for your computer, or have used a dial in phone number for the audio connection. If you would like to "practice" zooming ... contact Wayne.

Some Recent Links of Interest

- Bonsai Tonight [Wintering Guide](#)
- Bonsai Bark blog - [Deep Ravine Saikei Bonsai](#)

Zoom Attendees ...

If you recall, our December meeting has always been a sharing of member's cookies and treats, and kept Elaine hopping. Please show us the cookies / treats that you would have brought if we had a physical, face-to-face meeting!

