



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | Nov 2022

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday Nov-10-2022 | 6:30 to 8pm

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI

AGENDA:

Officer elections, close-up of soil components, discussion of wintering strategies and needs

CLUB OFFICERS:

President Wayne
Vice President Mary
Secretary Lisa
Treasurer Gary
Web Admin / Newsletter Wayne
Librarian Ben
Refreshments Elaine

President's Message

As I compose what will be my last President's Message (well at least for several years) I think back over my bonsai journey so far. In reality this is just getting started. Just like the progress with my trees, there has been highs and lows, moments of great joy as well as times of extreme frustration, but there have been positive gains.

We are told that the strength, health, growth and vigor of a bonsai is a consequence of developing a network of a fine and growing root structure, and not a few massive roots. Eventually we come to understand why and then it makes perfect sense to us. Though most of us will also learn (unfortunately the hard way) it is infinitely frustrating that success comes only with constant and consistent vigilance; to lapse or diminish your efforts and commitments could ultimately lead to the failure of your bonsai. In some cases, such as the junipers that I prefer, you may never get any

obvious indications of failure until it is often way too late. Bonsai-ing is tough, but as we learn along the way if we are patient enough, our efforts can provide us with tremendous reward(s). *"As you sow, so shall you reap"* (old proverb derived from Galatians 6:7 of the King James Bible) certainly rings true to us.

For my soapbox appeal and challenge to all current and future members ... take another look at this brief message, but for *"bonsai"*, substitute *"the Badger Bonsai Society"*.

The continued growth and success of the BBS is dependant not upon a few strong leaders, but from each and everyone of you that makes up our root system by participating in, and contributing to achieve the BBS goals. Express your desires and thoughts, ask questions, learn something new and share it with your co-members. Don't be afraid to reach out for help, or to extend an offer of assistance ... all will benefit !

During my tenure as President, I have learned so much on my own, from club resources and activities and members, and found ways to engage membership and resources. I have had the pleasure to meet many incredible people, acquaintances and friends. Thank you to all members for your attendance and participation. Please consider how you can contribute to our continued growth and be an ambassador for the bonsai community! --- Wayne

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Agenda for Nov-10th meeting

The plan for the Nov-10th meeting at Olbrich Gardens (upstairs, normal meeting location) will be to elect officers and positions for 2023 (see detail at right); Wayne will show some close-ups of typical bonsai soil components; and we will have our usual new-concept show'n'tells and door prizes. The balance of the meeting will consist of a discussion of wintering strategies, specific needs, and last minute pruning activities as your trees go into dormancy.

Recap of Oct-13th meeting

Our Oct-13th meeting at Olbrich Gardens again was well-attended with a total of 28 attendees (I think for the 3rd month in a row now), but with no new attendees. Thanks to all members for your attendance and participation. Gary gave a Treasurer's report — probably one of his last, as he indicated that he has chosen to step down from the BBS Treasurer position – thanks Gary for your hard work over these many years. We also asked for any nominations for BBS officers and club positions for the upcoming year. Wayne indicated he will not be President in 2023, and plans on transitioning the newsletter and website admin duties to other members by March-2023. MaryE, LisaH, BenK and Elaine indicated they would continue in their current positions, respectively, Vice-President, Secretary, Librarian and Refreshments if no one else is interested in being considered for those positions.

Six members brought in or discussed their Show'n'Tell topics (see details to the right), and Wayne reminded all that Annual Dues for the BBS are payable beginning Nov-1-2022 for the upcoming 2023 year. TimO gave an interesting presentation on efforts to develop a large trunk and effectively using sacrificial branches during your bonsai development. Thank you again Tim for another detailed and interesting presentation. Members were in favor of a Jan-2023 dinner (will follow-up with details). And finally, ChrisH displayed several trees that he is offering up for sale for his down-sizing efforts.

our website: badgerbonsai.net

Officer elections for 2023

Whether you are a new or a long-time member of the BBS, please consider stepping up to take a leadership roll for the ongoing management and development of the BBS. Though we currently have members that are willing to continue in the VP, Secretary, Librarian and Refreshments Coordinator, all officers and positions (see those current assignments on the page 1 masthead) are open for consideration if you are interested in nominating yourself for consideration.

April-2023 Dig ...

In April-2023, the Milwaukee Bonsai Society (MBS) will be coordinating a dig of burning bush plants from a Milwaukee park that are suitable to develop into individual bonsai or bonsai forest plantings. Note that the MBS has received permission to conduct this dig, otherwise **digging in public parks is not permitted**. The BBS has been asked if we are interested in participating in this dig. If you are interested in participating, please speak up at the Nov-10th BBS meeting.



Show'n'Tell from Oct 13th meeting ...

MaryE: Roadside Juniper dig

ChrisE: burning bush



Zach: pfitzer juniper



Collin: japanese apricot



TimO:
small pots



Ken:
chinese elm
2 years dead



Other Shows and Conventions or Societies:

[Pacific Bonsai Exposition \(Oakland-CA\)](#)

Nov 12 & 13, 2022:

The Pacific Bonsai Expo is a juried exhibition featuring 70 outstanding bonsai displays and 25 of the [community's top vendors](#)

BBS Annual Dues are now due ...

and are payable beginning Nov-1-2022 for the upcoming 2023 year. Remember, if you joined the BBS as a first time member after May-1-2022, then you will renew at the 50% rate for your 1st subsequent year only. Thereafter you pay the normal renewal rate. An email will be sent out to all 2022 members reminding them, and will indicate if you qualify for the 50% rate. We will also have the list available at the Nov-10th meeting if you need to confirm your renewal.

Another Source of Bonsai Pots ...

A Milwaukee Bonsai Society member Bryan has a supply of pots left over from this year that are available if you are interested ... or would like to discuss custom pots for next year.

Bryan is in Franklin-WI and can be reached at bryan11lor@gmail.com if you would like to contact him. Some examples are shown below.



Tentative 2022 - 2023 Calendar for Badger Bonsai Society meeting & events:

(date is 2nd Thursday unless noted differently below)

Nov-10 - Officer elections; close look at bonsai soil components, wintering strategies and needs

Nov-12 - BBS Member's Course ... session 3

Dec-8 - TBD, perhaps a guest speaker

Jan-10 - either a regular meeting (content TBD) or membership dinner

Feb-9 - general meeting (content TBD)

Mar-9 - general meeting (content TBD)

March-?? - Bonsai Foundation Course, session 4

Apr-?? - Milwaukee Bonsai burning bush dig

Apr-13 - general meeting (content TBD)

April-?? - Bonsai Foundation Course, session 5

Oct-13th Meeting Door Prizes

Congratulations to our door prize winners of pots: Paolo, JohnR, Barbara; and a Ginseng Ficus (grown from 4th generation cutting by Zach) Wayne ⇒ Skylar. Remember, BBS members bringing a show-n-tell item (that illustrates a bonsai action or design principle) earns them an additional door prize entry.

Recent Links and Info of Interest

- Bonsai Boy: [Care of Burning Bush Bonsai](#)
- from Sumo Bonsai Supply (south-Minnesota)
November tasks:

By now your winter storage plans should be final.

Your bonsai should still be out and be experiencing some frosty mornings.

Clean up your pots, remove any weeds and debris.

Remove any dead leaves that are still hanging on the branches by cutting through the petiole.

Spray deciduous trees with 100% NEEM oil.

For evergreens use a 3-in-1 spray about a week before putting them in storage.

Water your trees before putting away for winter.

Keep a constant check to ensure they do not dry out and those critters do not feast on them.

Clean and put all hardy trees into protected storage toward the end of the month.