



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | Feb 2023

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday Feb-9-2022 | 6:30 to 8pm
Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI

AGENDA:

Guest Presentation: Japanese Woodblock Prints

CLUB OFFICERS and Roles:

President Ron
Vice President Mary
Secretary Lisa
Treasurer Ken
Web Admin / Newsletter Wayne / Jason
Librarian Alex
Refreshments Elaine

President's Message

On January 12th the Badger Bonsai Society had a post holiday dinner get together at Imperial Gardens in Middleton. There were 25 members and their guests in attendance. Santa had left some gifts for the bonsai hobbyists that were nice last year. We all enjoyed a nice selection of entrees at each table. There was fun discussions and story telling for all. I believe everyone had a good time and enjoyed each other company, and for the biggest surprise the weather, for once in the 20+ years I have attended was a non-factor. Thank you to Mary for coordinating the dinner.

At our next meeting on February 9th, we will have a guest speaker (see additional details on page 2 in this newsletter).

Mary will be in charge as I will be out in Oregon at Bonsai Mirai studying with Ryan Neil for 5 days. This is one of my commitments to further my education in Bonsai horticultural and building

skills. We will be focused on repotting techniques during this session. I hope to have some pictures and stories to share with all of you in March and the months to follow.

I would also like to point out that Mary will present *An Introduction to the Art and History of Bonsai* on Feb-11th at 4:45pm at the Wisconsin Landscape and Garden Expo at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison-WI (note the expo has an entrance fee).

Speaking of March, our topic for that meeting will focus on the repotting process. More details will follow in that month's newsletter. But in the meantime, February is a great month to start looking at your trees and noting which ones you want to repot. Have you sourced the pots you may need? Do you have soil? Wire for tying your tree into the pot? Start thinking of all this now as spring will jump out at us when we are not expecting it to, so be prepared as some trees have a very small window when they can be safely repotted and it would be a shame to miss it, because you were not prepared. This is your "Official Warning". --- Ron

Agenda for Feb-9th meeting

The plan for the Feb-9th meeting at Olbrich Gardens (upstairs, normal meeting location) will be introduce first-time-attendees, review our revamped show-n-tells that illustrates a bonsai-

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related concept or technique (remember, participation earns an extra door prize ticket for members); and enjoy a guest presentation on Japanese woodblock printing — rumor has it that there may also be a surprise at the meeting related to this topic. Also remember that if you have not renewed your annual BBS membership yet, please be prepared to do so at the meeting.

Japanese Woodblock Prints

At our February 9th meeting we will have a guest speaker for a presentation on [Japanese woodblock](#) prints. The BBS enjoyed a similar presentation a number of years ago and this will be an opportunity to appreciate another form of Japanese art and design.

[Professor Steffani Bennett](#) is a historian of premodern Japanese art with expertise in medieval painting and cross-cultural exchange in the East Asian region. The daughter of U.S. diplomats, Steffani first developed an interest in interregional art history during her childhood in Asia. She has a bachelor's degree in art history and Japanese language from the University of Washington–Seattle and a PhD in Japanese art history from Harvard University.

In the fall of 2022, Steffani joined the Art History department at the UW-Madison, where she holds the Joan B. Mirviss Chair in Japanese Art.

Although a specialist in medieval painting, Steffani's research and teaching interests are broad and include the subject of Japanese woodblock prints. This spring Steffani is teaching her course "*The Floating World: A History of Japanese Prints.*"

Steffani's talk for the Badger Bonsai Society offers an introduction to the woodblock print medium through the thematic lens of the printed landscape.



The Great Wave off Kanagawa (神奈川沖浪裏, Kanagawa-oki nami-ura) print by Hokusai
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Jan-12th Door Prizes

Congratulations to our door prize winners, which turned out to be for all members that were in attendance at the dinner.



from the Jan-12th dinner ...



... sorry, but the picture of the 3rd table from the dinner did not turn out.

We had 25 members and their guests in attendance.

Note the extensive Japanese and Chinese artwork on the walls of the Imperial Garden restaurant

our website: badgerbonsai.net

Other Shows and Conventions or Societies:

Prairie State Bonsai Society Winter Silhouette Exhibit (Wheaton-IL)

Feb-18-2023: 10 am to 4 pm

A Silhouette exhibit displays the bonsai without leaves which may seem a little strange, but it is a great time to see the trees' structure, especially the ramification.

2023 Bonsai-a-Thon

The Huntington (San Marino, CA)

Sat–Sun, Feb. 25–26, 2023

The Bonsai-a-Thon returns in 2023 as Southern California bonsai masters share their passion for the art form in this annual event that includes exhibits, demonstrations, prize drawings, a “bonsai bazaar,” and a live auction at 2:30 pm each day. Proceeds from the event support the Golden State Bonsai Collection at The Huntington (Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens). event is in the Brody Botanical Center. Free with paid general admission.



Recent Links and Info of Interest

Bonsai Mirai: [Beginner Series : Repotting](#)

Superfly Bonsai: [Newsletters : Repotting FAQ in the Jan-2023 issue](#)

Tentative 2023 Calendar for

Badger Bonsai Society meeting & events:

(date is 2nd Thursday unless noted differently below)

Feb-9 - Japanese Woodblock Prints

Feb-11, 4:45pm - BBS introduction to bonsai presentation at WI Landscape and Garden Expo, Alliant Energy Center, Madison-WI

Mar-9 - Repotting Basics

Apr-1 - Milwaukee Bonsai burning bush dig

Mar-8 ? - Bonsai Foundation Course, session 4

Apr-13 - Prepping for annual show, incorporating accent plants (kusamono); bring your own trees for repotting

May-?? - Bonsai Foundation Course, session 5

May-11 - Watering & Fertilization Basics - What, When, How Much, Why

May-20 and May-21 - BBS 2023 Annual Show

Jun-8 - Pruning and partial defoliation tips

Jul-13 - Wound work and wiring

Aug-10 - Late summer work

Sep-14 - Wiring and styling

Oct-12 - Fall preparation

Nov-9 - Winter preparation

Dec-14 - Holiday treats, Suiseki/Viewing Stones

Potential Workshops for 2023:

April — Repotting

July — Pruning / Wiring / Partial Defoliation

September — Wiring / Styling

The Huntington virtual event

Inscribing Chinese Gardens: The Origins of Shutiaoshi (Calligraphy Stone Slabs)

These stones were once made to produce compendia of ink rubbings, known as *fatie*, which served as copybooks for calligraphers. While the trend of installing these stones on walls in gardens may have had earlier precedents, it was largely reinvented during a politically charged interaction between the Manchu emperor Qianlong (r. 1735–96) and cultural elites in the southern region of Jiangnan. The display of shutiaoshi in gardens also presaged a modern form of spectatorship that differs from the traditional way of viewing calligraphy.

This is part of the East Asian Garden Lecture Series.

Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023, 7:30 p.m.–9 p.m. (PST)

Online via Zoom (Pacific Standard Time)

Virtual Event | Free with reservation

[YouTube Video: Calligraphy in the Lingering Garden, Suzhou](#)