



BADGER BONSAI NEWS

May 2024

President's Message

By Ron Fortmann

As I am composing this message, our spring is continuing to keep us on our toes, a couple days in the seventies and tonight temps will dip into the twenties. So of course all the deciduous trees need to have their new foliage protected, and let's not comment about the winds, When did we move to Kansas???

The main topic for our May meeting is about show preparation and display options. I will go over things you should be doing before bringing your tree to the exhibit. We will also have a discussion about stands and accent items displayed with your trees. Selection and placement of these items can really improve the overall display. Always think of a show as a time that you want your tree to be the best it can be, it's like going to a big event where you put on your best clothes, have your yourself looking as good as you can. Not the time to show up in sweats and your favorite comfy sweater and bunny slippers. Bottom line, don't wait till the night before the show to decide which tree you are going to pull off the bench, you should be preparing days or weeks before.

I would like to thank those who participated in the Dwarf Blueberry workshop, I think a good time was had by all. Despite the chillier temperatures we survived. I hope those newer members enjoyed and learned some new skills that they can use in the future. Look for pictures from the event in this newsletter.

If you are looking for a little bonsai adventure think about visiting the Milwaukee Bonsai Society's Annual Show on June 8-9. Featuring Flowering Bonsai There will be workshops and "New Talent Contest." The Guest Artist will be Rick Garcia a Satsuki Azalea Master. For more info/details see milwaukeebonsai.org. The show is free and it is held at Boerner Botanical Gardens in Hales Corners.



Zach reports his American Larch (*Larix Laricina*) at the April meeting. Currently styled in a Literati style, the Sara Raynor pot compliments the tree quite nicely. Apparently it wasn't easy to fit the tree in to the pot, but Zach made it work.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BBS MAY MEETING

Thursday, May 9, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave, Madison

AGENDA:

Show preparation

Blueberry Bonsai Workshop



Participants in the dwarf blueberry bonsai workshop were from left, Frank, Molly, Erik, Michael, Pam, Yumi, Loren and Linda (seated).



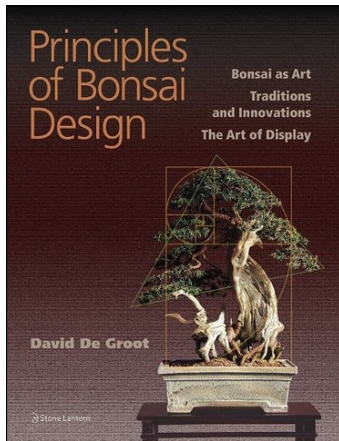
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Badger Bonsai News is a monthly publication of the Badger Bonsai Society.

<https://badgerbonsai.net>

New Books in the BBS Library

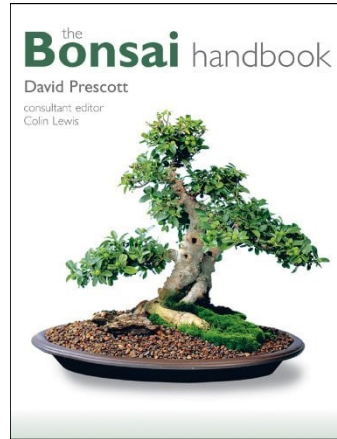


Dave De Groot's 2nd edition of the masterpiece *Principles of Bonsai Design* with added content and a superior new layout design is making the best English language book on Bonsai Design even better.

Includes 500 photos and drawings to support Mr. De Groot's in depth discussions of bonsai art and aesthetics, traditional Japanese and Chinese bonsai styles, new naturalistic bonsai styles in the West and elsewhere, and much more.

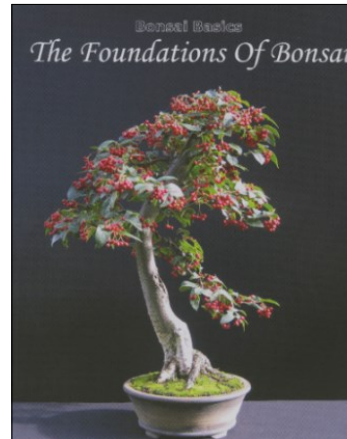
Perhaps best of all, are the detailed discussions that cover where technique and art come together; branch structure, deadwood features, initial styling, container selection, refinement, display and collection.

Whether you're a novice or a skilled practitioner, this one-of-a-kind book will help you improve your bonsai knowledge, your bonsai techniques and your enjoyment of the art of bonsai.

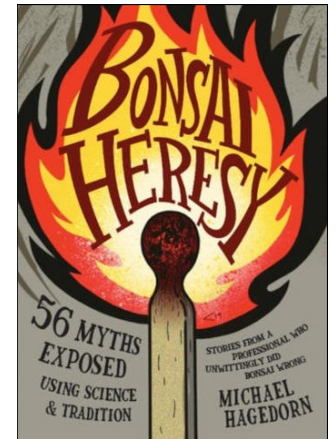


David Prescott's *Bonsai Handbook* is one of the very best beginner and intermediate bonsai books in English, and now it's back after a long absence. T

his highly useful and attractive book deals with almost every facet of the art of bonsai - styling, tools, watering, fertilizing, root pruning, soil types, choosing pots, wiring and so much more. This worthy classic has what you need to get started and carry on successfully.



Harry Harrington is a unique force in our world bonsai community. What he accomplishes with inexpensive, undeveloped and sometimes unattractive material is nothing short of impressive. And his combination of horticultural and bonsai knowledge, coupled with his willingness to experiment and to teach what he learns along the way is a great service to the bonsai community. We can all benefit from Harry evolution as a bonsai grower and artist of considerable dedication and skill.



Michael Hagedorn, renowned bonsai artist, teacher, and author takes us deeper into the art and science of bonsai than you might have imagined possible with *Bonsai Heresy* And he does it with disarming humor and a love for the art of bonsai.

Michael apprenticed with bonsai master Shinji Suzuki in Obuse, Japan from 2003 to 2006. He lives and practices bonsai in Portland Oregon, where he founded Crataegus Bonsai Garden and The Portland Bonsai Village. Michael is also the Bonsai Consultant for the Portland Japanese Garden. He teaches classes to students from around the world at his garden, and blogs at crataegus.com.

The collection of books in the Badger Bonsai Society Library have been curated for our members' enjoyment and education. Checking out books from the BBS Library is a great way to grow your skills and knowledge of bonsai cultivation and design. We hope you'll take advantage of this membership benefit.



Of Interest on the Web

[Badger Bonsai Society Member Group](#)

BBS members only platform for sharing tips, advice, and inspiration between monthly meetings



A few of our suggestions for further study on what's happening this month in the world of bonsai.

[Accent Plants](#)

- [Bonsai Tonight](#)

[A Guide to Bonsai Critique](#)

- [Bonsai4Me](#)

[Midwest Bonsai Society Bonsai Gallery](#)

- [Midwest Bonsai Society Website](#)

[Bald Cypress Evolution](#)

- [Bonsai Mirai](#)



Follow [Badger Bonsai Society on Facebook](#) for the latest news, meeting agendas, upcoming events, and inspiring shares from the world of bonsai.

BBS 2024 CALENDAR

Monthly meetings are on the second Thursday. All are at Olbrich Botanical Gardens unless otherwise indicated.

MAY 18 & 19, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

BBS Annual Exhibit , Olbrich Botanical Gardens

JUNE 13, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Three-person Demo
Extended meeting

JULY 11, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Tropical Trees Pt 1- time for repotting or structural changes, wiring demo

AUGUST 8, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Tropical Trees Pt 2- late summer , early fall fertilization, what and why

SEPTEMBER 12, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Bring your tree for wiring help and advice
Extended meeting

OCTOBER 10, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Artificial lighting member presentation

NOVEMBER 14, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Member silhouette show (naked trees, not stands or accents), Officer elections

DECEMBER 12, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Review May Show Trees, maybe pick top ten voted trees and have owners tell us about



Jennifer's Texas Quince put on a nice spring show. We wish it had held out for the BBS exhibit in May, but at least she got to enjoy the flowers.