



BADGER BONSAI NEWS

July 2025

Kusamono: A Companion Art with Instant Joy

By Lisa, Editor

While bonsai is often a long-term meditation in patience and form, kusamono offers a more immediate sense of satisfaction. These elegant arrangements of grasses, mosses, and seasonal plants are designed to stand alone as works of art—or to complement a bonsai display. For those looking to explore new creative paths, kusamono is one of many related art forms that deepens our appreciation for nature and composition.

We're thrilled to welcome renowned kusamono artist **Young Choe** for a live demonstration at our **July meeting**. Trained in traditional art in Korea, Young studied horticulture at the University of Maryland and refined her kusamono practice in Japan under master Keiko Yamane of the Omiya Bonsai Museum. She is celebrated for bringing a poetic sensitivity to her plantings, evoking natural landscapes in miniature.

Choosing the Right Kusamono Pot

Selecting a pot for kusamono is part of the creative process. The container should harmonize with the plant's size, color, and seasonal message. Unglazed or subtly glazed ceramics often work best, as they let the planting take center



stage. Shallow, irregular, or handmade pots can add rustic charm or emphasize the wild, natural feel kusamono is known for.

Whether you're new to the art or a long-time bonsai enthusiast, kusamono can offer fresh inspiration—and instant beauty. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from a master!

UPCOMING
EVENT

July 10, 6:30 to 9:00 pm
Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave, Madison

AGENDA:

Kusamono Demo with
Young Choe

In order to provide ample time for the demo and questions, no Show and Tell or Raffle Prizes at this meeting



June Meeting Tree Auction

Seven BBS members went home with new bonsai at our June meeting after a member, Jennifer S., decided to downsize her collection and generously donated the bonsai to the club for auction. These bonsai were well - known for their health and vitality and several had been chosen by the public as favorites at our annual exhibits multiple years running.

It will be a pleasure to see how these bonsai grow and develop with their new keepers in the years to come.

Mary - Cotoneaster, 10 years, semi-cascade. After learning Sharon really wanted this tree, she sold it to her for what she paid for it.



Skyler - Amur Maple, 10 years, miniature landscape



Ron— Dwarf Balsam Fir, 20 years,



John - Larch and Jack Pine, 6 years, miniature landscape



John - Chinese Elm, 9 years, informal upright , 20 years,



Tamaki—Hybrid Yew, 9 years, root over rock informal up-right



Lisa - Dwarf Japanese Juniper, 28 years, semi-cascade

New in the BBS Library

By Linda K, Librarian

Thanks to former member, Gary, five books, either new or duplicates, will be added to our collection:

NEW - *Bonsai: Grow Your Own Bonsai from Cuttings, Seeds, and Saplings*, by Werner M. Busch.

NEW - *Bonsai Survival Manual: Tree-by-tree guide to buying, maintaining, and problem solving*, by Colin Lewis

SECOND COPY - *Junipers: Bonsai Today Masters' Series (growing and styling juniper bonsai)*, edited by Wayne Schoech

NEW - *Pines: Bonsai Today Masters' Series (Growing and styling Japanese black-and-white pines)*, edited and adapted by Wayne Schoech and Michael Persiano

NEW - *Understanding Bonsai: Revised and Extended Edition*, by Pieter Loubser



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Badger Bonsai News is a monthly publication of the Badger Bonsai Society.
<https://badgerbonsai.net>

Of Interest on the Web



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

[Caring for Bonsai During a Heatwave](#)
 - *Bonsai Empire*

[The Function of Water in Bonsai](#)
 - *Bonsai Mirai*

[10 Ways to Increase the Size of your Bonsai Trunk](#)
 - *Bonsai B-En Seattle*

[Nursery Shopping for Bonsai Material](#)
 - *Evergreen Garden Works*



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

[Badger Bonsai Society Member Group](#)
 BBS members-only platform for sharing tips, advice, and inspiration between monthly meetings

Welcome Back! BBS Club VP, Mary!

By Lisa, Editor

During board elections earlier this year, Mary graciously stepped aside so Alex could take on the role of Vice President and gain hands-on experience planning and executing our annual exhibit. When Alex transitioned into the role of President, the VP position was briefly vacant. At our June meeting, members unanimously nominated and re-elected Mary to the position.

In addition to stepping in for the President when needed, the VP coordinates raffle prizes, organizes workshops and special events, and takes the lead on our annual exhibit. That's just scratching the surface—this role often includes a long list of behind-the-scenes efforts that keep our club vibrant and successful. We're lucky to have Mary back in this role, bringing both continuity and energy to everything she does.



UPCOMING EVENTS

The Midwest Bonsai Society Invites you to the 47th Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibit

- Free admission to Midwest Bonsai Society Show*
- Vendors
- Bonsai trees
- Suiseki, Pots, Stands, Scrolls, Tools
- Workshops
- Demonstrations
- Banquet + Auction
- Raffle



Guest Judge:
Professional, Jonas Dupuich
©2024 Sierra Juniper by
Timothy Priest
(Professional Class Winner).
Photo by Jeng Fonseca



www.midwestbonsai.org

August 15 • 16 • 17, 2025
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



chicago botanic garden
1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, Illinois 60022

*Garden Admissions & Parking
Fees Apply.



Prairie State Bonsai Society

Destination Asia Festival 2025
Annual PSBS Bonsai Exhibition

August 2 & 3 at noon

Morton Arboretum
4100 Illinois Route 53
Lisle, IL 60532

[Learn More](#)



WISCO BONSAI
www.WiscoBonsai.com

**EVENTS COMING UP AT
WISCO BONSAI**

Saturday, July 19 -
Thuja (Eastern White Cedar)
Styling Workshop

Sunday, August 3 -
Wound Healing Workshop

**Friday-Sunday,
September 26-28 -**
SeptemberFest: 5 artists & 5
workshops, all open to the public

Email Kevin at
wiscobonsai@gmail.com
for more information

Wisconsin State Fair July 31-Aug 10, 2025

Rotating Bonsai Display

Presented by

Milwaukee Bonsai Society

At the

The Grand Champion Building

Exhibit 1 – Thursday - Sunday

Exhibit 2 – Monday - Wednesday

Exhibit 3 – Thursday – Sunday

Wisconsin State Fair Admission applies

www.milwaukeebonsai.org



Milwaukee
Bonsai Society



