



BADGER BONSAI NEWS

November 2025

President's Message

By Alex S.

Attention Badger Bonsai Society! This is your captain here!

November is here, bringing cooler days, frosty mornings, and the steady march toward winter dormancy. This month's meeting will center on our annual board elections for next year's officers. Don't worry—it shouldn't take long, and we promise to keep things painless (no campaign speeches or recounts required!). This is your opportunity to help guide the club and keep our momentum growing into the new year.

After elections, we'll finally get to enjoy a presentation from Ron and Zach on preparing our bonsai for winter. They'll cover everything from overwintering strategies to pest management and protection techniques—basically, how to keep our trees safe, healthy, and ready to thrive once spring returns.

It's a practical, information-packed session and a great way to wrap up the year.

Lastly, I'd like to thank this year's board for all of their hard work. This has been one heck of a trying and eventful year, and I'm proud of the effort that has been put in, and the results we've enjoyed. After all, the proverb is "you reap what you sow". I'm very proud of what we have accomplished here and I'm looking forward to what we can do in the new year.

See you (and your bundled-up trees) soon,

Alex



President.....Alex
Vice President..... Mary
Secretary..... Lisa
Treasurer..... Ken
Web Manager..... Paolo
Newsletter Editor..... Lisa
Librarian Linda
Past President..... Ron
Board Member Zach
Board Member Skyler
Board Member Loren

.....Your Name Here

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

<https://badgerbonsai.net>

UPCOMING
EVENT

November 13, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave, Madison

AGENDA:

- Board Elections
- Winter topics



At our October meeting, Ron shared his experience showing his little leaf linden at the U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester, New York, on September 13–14. Ron has been developing this tree for more than 25 years, shaping it with patience and care into the beautiful specimen it is today. For many of us, simply keeping a tree alive that long would be an achievement—but Ron’s dedication elevated his tree to the national stage.



Of Interest on the Web



Have some news to share?

Submit articles, ideas, photos, and events to the Newsletter Editor at badgerbonsaisociety@gmail.com

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

[Overwintering Bonsai Trees](#)

- *Bonsai Empire*

[Bonsai - A Miniature Display of Fall Foliage](#)

- *CBS Sunday Morning*

[Lime Sulphur - A Miracle Solution](#)

- *Kaisen Bonsai*



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

BBS 2025/2026 CALENDAR

December 11 – Review of top ten show trees.

January 8 - Annual BBS Holiday Dinner

February 12 - Second Annual Silhouette Show.

March 12 – Potapalooza!

April 9 - Repotting workshop.

May 14 - Show preparations. Members bring trees for consult and mossing instruction.

May 16-17 - Badger Bonsai Annual Exhibit at Olbrich Botanical Gardens

June 11 - Nursery stock workshop.

Need a Ride to Meetings?

Let us know by sending an email to badgerbonsaisociety@gmail.com and we'll arrange for someone who lives nearby to pick you up.



Septemberfest at Wisco Bonsai

By Valerie Struke,
Milwaukee Bonsai Society VP

A weekend of gorgeous weather was just the cherry on top of a fantastic event. From amazing trees, pots, tools, and of course, visiting artists, Septemberfest did not disappoint visitors to Wisco Bonsai in Sussex, WI.

This year, the event was held from the 26th-28th. Hosted by artist, entrepreneur, and Milwaukee Bonsai Society member Kevin Stoeveken, bonsai enthusiasts were invited to check out available pots, trees, and supplies. Artists Brian Susler and Houston Sanders of Milwaukee, Elle Nieto-BrodAnick of Chicago, and Mark Fields of Indianapolis graciously offered their talent to hold workshops over the weekend. This event was open to the public and the workshops allowed for silent observers.

Day 1 - The first day was a bring your own tree, beginner/intermediate workshop with Kevin. It was a great discussion for folks newer to bonsai. The biggest discussion was timely work on trees in Wisconsin. There are many guides and resources online regarding tree work, but it is important to know the climate your trees are kept in when deciding whether to cut back, wire, repot, or do nothing. The health of the tree can be compromised if we are not careful when we do our work.

Day 2 - Saturday featured Wisconsin's own, Brian Susler and Houston Sanders. Houston brought a selection of Japanese Maples for the participants to work on, and shared his vast knowledge of how to care for and style them. Brian's workshop was centered on trees brought in for advice

and guidance for styling those trees. His extensive knowledge of pines and junipers led to interesting discussions on the intricacies of tree health and how to successfully style these common bonsai.

Day 3 - Visiting artists, Elle Nieto-Brodnick and Mark Fields ended the weekend Sunday with two more awesome workshops. We brought our own trees to work on with Elle, and learned much about seasonal styling and wiring. An up and coming artist, it was a pleasure to meet and learn with her.

Mark Fields, who needs no introduction as a long-time bonsai artist and a champion of shohin bonsai, brought Itoigawa junipers for his class to work on. Each person took home a new tree, wired and styled with Mark's advice. Both artists stayed after their workshops to mingle with guests.

Elle demonstrated on a tree after the workshops concluded Sunday, and guests that stayed behind enjoyed a lively discussion.

As always, the best part of bonsai is the discussion and great conversation among friends and fellow bonsai enthusiasts.

The atmosphere at Wisco Bonsai is always conducive to good conversation and loose fun, but most importantly, learning about our trees!

Plans are already underway for Septemberfest 2026. Be sure to get on the Wisco Bonsai email list to stay informed: www.wiscobonsai@gmail.com. See everyone next year for more bonsai fun!

Kevin Stoeveken started Bonsai in 2012 and began Wisco Bonsai in 2014. He is mainly self-taught, though he has studied casually under the likes of Walter Pall, Bjorn Bjornholm, Arthur Joura, Marc Noelanders and others. The Wisco

Bonsai Garden & Shop are located in Sussex Wisconsin.

