



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | November 2012

NEXT MEETING DATE: November 8, 2012

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave. Madison, WI

MEETING TIME 6:30-8 pm

MEETING AGENDA: Officer election time

CLUB OFFICERS:

- President**Matthew
- Treasurer**.....John
- Librarian** Greg
- Newsletter/Website**..... Devon
- Refreshments** Elaine
- Past President** Tim

Greetings

I'm quite sure every one is sick and tired of the constant political bombardment from both sides of the upcoming election. Certainly, the national election this coming Tuesday may change the future of our country forever, but more importantly, we have a bonsai election to think about.

We have come to a pivotal point as an organized group of bonsai enthusiasts. I fear that during this last year, our enthusiasm as a whole has decreased. We will have an open discussion this month before the 2013 officer positions are determined regarding the direction we as a club would like to go in the future. I would like every one to think about what it is that they would like to get out of our monthly meetings and how we can generate more interest in the hobby.

For the 2012 year I had planned to attract new members through the Garden Expo and then proceed through the fundamentals and basics of bonsai as an art. These basics of bonsai are brilliantly outlined and described in many different books. Yet, it was more difficult to overview the artistic nature of the hobby than I had thought it would be. Art is something that comes from within. It is something that must be developed on an individual level through experimentation and experience. The tragedy of my plan was that the majority of the regular meeting attendees were not new members. We are a diverse group of individuals ranging in experience from novice to expert; trying to balance the information covered is a difficult task. How does one adequately inform newer members while presenting more advanced material in order to keep more experienced members interested? This month you all have the opportunity to direct the course of the club. Your input is absolutely needed.

Inside This Issue

- **President's Message**01 – 02

If I am to be reelected as president, I intend to design a lecture schedule based on the science of bonsai from a horticultural perspective, since that is where my interest primarily lies. I believe that everyone among us can benefit from under-



standing the interactions between plant, soil, water, and air in the context of bonsai. Pests and pathogens are another topic that I feel would be interesting and pertinent to the club as a whole. This means that more basic subjects that otherwise are covered every year may be left out of the “curriculum.”

On a personal note, my life is full of distraction right now. I’m sorry to say that I am the reason these newsletters are often not published until the month is well underway. I’ll be honest; I wouldn’t mind a break from the duty of President. I also feel that now that my education is nearing completion, I have a lot to share and could still be a benefit to the club as president. So, I leave the decision to you. On November 8, your vote matters.

I’m Matthew G, and I approve this message.

