



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | May 2018

NEXT MEETING:

May 10 | 6:30

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI

MEETING AGENDA:

What Constitutes Good Bonsai?

CLUB OFFICERS:

President Karl
 Vice President Mary
 Treasurer Gary
 Communications Devon
 Librarian Derek
 Refreshments Elaine

President's Message

Yogi Berra is often quoted as having said, "if you don't know where you are going, you might not get there." For our May meeting we will look at some images of bonsai and evaluate what is good, or bad, for each of them. Remember, bonsai is art. So what is pleasing to one observer may not be to someone else. Still, there are some bonsai that seem to be 'not quite right.' Perhaps the artist intended for that reaction. Or, perhaps the composition could be improved by.... Our objective in this examination is not to be critical of someone else's work, but to improve our own. We need to have in our own mind what constitutes good bonsai, so we know what are goal is.

I will also bring in a few Japanese maples for sale. I think we ordered these trees three years

ago, which would make them 5 years old. I have just let them grow untrimmed so they develop maximum trunk size. They are about 'little-finger' size in diameter and four to five feet tall. I think \$5 is a reasonable price.

Our annual show at Olbrich is May 19-20. Mary will have sign up sheets for volunteers at our May 11 meeting. We would like all members to participate in some fashion.

May 19-20 Show

Start planning on which trees you are going to be showing. The public will love it no matter what. A stand will improve your display. It can be practically anything, from a traditional Japanese stand, to barn boards, place mats, ceramic tiles, etc. The pot should be clean. Many of our members use a little baby oil on unglazed pots to improve their sheen.

"Honey, I Shrunk the Kids"

Oops, not that honey. In a discussion with Wayne, Wayne commented on the use of honey to treat wounds. The honey is applied topically – not ingested. I had heard of this some

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time ago, but had not seen anything recently. It makes sense to me as I have also heard that honey is the only(?) substance that doesn't spoil and has anti-fungal properties. Mansel Johns, a former club member and now deceased, used to raise bees and always commented on the many beneficial attributes of honey, bee's wax, and propolys. Wayne and I wondered if honey might make a good sealer for the wounds left by pruning bonsai.

In doing a Goggle search other people have wondered the same thing and beaten us to it. I don't think I would try just honey. I would think the ants would just love this. But, maybe the wax???? Currently I don't treat my pruning

wounds with anything. This seems to be the most accepted practice. There are lots of folks that argue for using cut paste, too. Do what works for you.

July Picnic

Anyone care to volunteer to host the July picnic?

“The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing that stands in the way. Some see nature all ridicule and deformity... and some scarce see nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination, nature is imagination itself.”

– William Blake

World Bonsai Day

Lynden Sculpture Garden

Bonsai Pavillion

May 12, 2018 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm

1 pm: Demonstration by Jennifer Price

3 pm: Reception

Free to members or with admission to the sculpture garden.

Bonsai is a living art that is appreciated by people in every culture. World Bonsai Day is for sharing this peaceful art and advancing international friendship and goodwill throughout the world.

In honor of this year's World Bonsai Day and the re-opening of the Bonsai Pavillion, Lynden will host a special temporary exhibit of bonsai by members of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society.

The exhibit will open on Saturday, May 12, 2018, at the Bonsai Pavillion, with a demonstration by bonsai artist Jennifer Price at 1 pm. A reception will follow at 3 pm. The exhibit will remain on view through Sunday, May 20, 2018.

The Bonsai Pavilion, which houses the collection of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society, is open to the public Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and by appointment, from May to October. Admission is free to members or with admission to the sculpture garden.

About Jennifer Price



Jennifer Price discovered bonsai eight years ago after retiring from the stage as a professional ballerina. She is struck by the line and form within bonsai and the ability to use the tree's natural flow of movement. For the last several years she has been involved in an intensive study program with Walter Pall from Germany and Jim Doyle from Pennsylvania. She has taught workshops and given demonstrations worldwide and last year represented America at an international bonsai convention in Shanghai, China.