



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

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

NEXT MEETING:

Dec. 13 | 6:30

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI

MEETING AGENDA:

Bring Your Ideas for Next Year

CLUB OFFICERS:

Co-Presidents Bill and Karl
Vice President Mary
Treasurer Gary
Web Master Wayne
Librarian Derek
Refreshments Elaine

President's Message

December Program

We always ask members what they want to do in the coming year. So before coming to the meeting give a few minutes thought about what our 2019 meetings should entail. Assembling a program schedule will be made so much easier if we know what members want to do.

The main portion of the evening we will look at some photos from 2018 Taikan-ten bonsai exhibition in Japan. If we wish to improve our own design capabilities, we have to have a mental image of what good bonsai looks like. I think Yogi Berra is credited with saying, "If you don't know where you are going, there is a good chance you won't get there." And like so much of what Yogi said, after an initial 'huh?', you start to appreciate how profound some of these quips are. If one doesn't have a clear destination and objective in mind, it is nearly impossible

to create anything worthwhile. And if you do, it is entirely serendipity and luck. Japan offers dozens, if not hundreds of top quality bonsai shows. However, the two that are universally recognized as the best of the best are Kokufu-ten held in February in Tokyo, and Taikan-ten held in Kyoto in November. These shows occur in winter so that the branch structure on deciduous trees is visible.

Lastly, our December meeting is traditionally the kick-off for holiday cookie consumption. Do not feel obligated to bring anything, for there is always more than can be eaten. But, if you want to bring something – please do.

November elections:

Thank you to the members who consented to serve as officers for the club:

Librarian – Derek
Treats – Elaine
Treasurer – Gary
Web Master – Wayne
Vice-President: Mary
Co-Presidents: Bill and Karl

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Web Site:

Wayne has been getting our web site up-to-date with some much needed improvements. If you haven't already done so, please visit the site to offer Wayne your suggestions and ideas.

Library:

The club owns a significant collection of bonsai publications. To see our holdings and make a request, see our web site.

What's new on our website:

Per discussion at our November meeting, we have upgraded to a \$4/month plan. Among other things, the first thing you will notice is that you will no longer be bothered with ads ... so nothing to distract you from a rewarding experience. Another part of that, which should be "kicked-in" by the time you read this, is that once you type in www.badgerbonsai.net that is what will be maintained in the URL, instead of "rolling" to a Wordpress url ... gives us a more polished look. I also hope to have cleaned up all our prior newsletters (redacting them to remove full names) and upload them in place of our current content. This helps afford all members with a greater degree of privacy and anonymity ... and plant security. Newsletters distributed via email will still have the full names for member benefit, but reference copies maintained on the website will be redacted to the extent possible moving forward.

In addition, I am working on improving our ability to find and access the past newsletters, eventually including a brief summary and ad in searchable category tags.

Remember, always looking for your comments and suggestions on how to make our site better.

Quite a few of the BBS monthly newsletters have been updated. There is a lot of great information and content in those past issues. Take a look for yourself ... from the Home Page, choose the ARCHIVES menu choice, then MONTHLY

NEWSLETTERS. This will display a listing of all the newsletter "back issues" as a hyperlink if currently available (note I am working on getting the rest). Clicking on a hyperlink will open the PDF file up in a new browser window ... or it may get downloaded depending on your browser settings. Look into these, reminisce and enjoy.

---Wayne

