



# BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

**Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | August 2019**

### Next Meeting Date:

Thursday Aug-8-2019 | 6:30 to 8:00pm  
Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI

### CLUB OFFICERS:

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

### AGENDA:

Succulents, recap of July picnic and field trip

## President's Message

### August-8th meeting

Coming off of our summer "off-month", we hope to be able to put together a slightly different program that touches upon the "fringe of the bonsai world" -- succulents. We will also speak briefly about the July picnic experience, and a few words about our July-28th field trip to Janesville-WI (Rotary Gardens) and Rockford-IL (Anderson Garden) — *Karl*

- August-8th meeting topic: Succulents
- Recap of our July field trip

### Recap of the July Picnic

This group certainly knows how to cook! I am pretty sure no one went home hungry! About 16 members attended our July 21 picnic hosted by BarbaraB. The brutal heat finally relented the day before and the day was perfect for our gathering. Thanks to Barbara for making her home and

garden available, and to all members that brought "stuff" for the giveaways.

### Aug-8th meeting topic: Succulents

Our calendar of events indicates that the topic this month is *succulents*. Our intention is / was to have a local expert come to lecture on this topic. However, as of today – July 29 – we have yet to find such an expert willing to come address the club. If we continue to strike-out finding an expert, we will go to Plan B, which will be YouTube videos on this topic.

The word *succulent* is from Latin *succus* which means juicy. It can be used both as an adjective, e.g. ‘the roast beef was succulent’, or as a noun, e.g. ‘the common jade plant is a succulent’. When used as a noun it refers to plants that store significant water in their leaves, trunks, and/or roots. There are more than 10,000 species of plants that are classified as succulents, many of which make acceptable bonsai. Having said this, I would venture to say that Masahiko Kimura and most other bonsai masters probably have few, if any, succulents in their collections. These are on the fringe of the bonsai world.

However, they do offer some characteristics that make them interesting. They can attain thick trunks in a relatively short time – years typically instead of decades. Many have small leaves. They can tolerate a fair amount of in-attention.

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On a side note, my office partner built a second home in North Carolina. He was in Wisconsin teaching part time this last spring, and was not in North Carolina from December through May. Returning to NC in late May his jade plant perked up after not being watered for six months!

At the State Fair in Milwaukee the booth adjacent to the bonsai display is always the cactus and succulent display. I have always admired many of the plants in their exhibit – especially the ones that are bonsai-ish. Many of these are being grown in bonsai pots for the same reason we use them for bonsai – esthetics and horticultural.

Here is a list from the [Brooklyn Botanic Garden](#) of their suggestions for suitable bonsai succulents for beginners:

- *Adenium obesum* (Desert rose)
- *Brachychiton* species (Australian bottle tree)
- *Bursera fagaroides* (Elephant tree)
- *Cereus peruvianus* var. *monstruosus*
- *Chorisia speciosa* (Floss silk tree)
- *Crassula ovata* (Jade plant)
- *Erythrina* species (Coral tree)
- *Euphorbia francoisii*
- *Euphorbia milii* (Crown of thorns)
- *Jacaratia corumbensis* (Dwarf papaya)
- *Jatropha podagrica* (Bottle plant)
- *Mammillaria bocasana* var. *monstrosa* (Snowball cactus)
- *Moringa* species
- *Pachypodium saundersii* (Madagascar palm tree)
- *Plectranthus Ernestii*
- *Portulacaria afra* (Elephant bush)

For a greater challenge, the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens website also indicates the following succulents for Intermediate and Advanced bonsai, requiring respectively higher levels of controls:

### When Do You Water ?

I have always thought watering in the morning made the most sense. The trees would have water available to deal with the summer sun, and the water would help keep the pots from getting too hot. However, I have read that some hobbyists water in the evening. IMHO that increases the chances of fungal diseases.

Like most advice in bonsai, you do what you have found works best for you.

#### Intermediate:

- *Alluaudia comosa*
- *Bursera* species
- *Commiphora* species (Myrrh)
- *Cyphostemma juttae*
- *Dorstenia* species
- *Euphorbia ambovombensis*
- *Fockea* species
- *Fouquieria diguetii*
- *Fouquieria fasciculata*
- *Jatropha* species
- *Pachypodium densiflorum*
- *Pachypodium windsorii*
- *Sedum frutescens*
- *Sedum oxypetalum*
- *Trichodiadema bulbosum*
- *Uncarina* species

#### Advanced:

- *Adenia* species
- *Ceraria* species
- *Cyphostemma* species
- *Othonna* species
- *Pachycormus discolor* (Elephant tree)
- *Sarcocaulon* species
- *Tylecodon* species

our website: [badgerbonsai.net](http://badgerbonsai.net)

#### Tree quotes

"The Bonsai is not you working on the tree; you have to have the tree work on you." — John Naka

## MABA / Milwaukee 2020 accepting program proposals

We recently received this request from the MABA 2020 Committee: MABA is looking to complete a roster of 45-minute to 1 hour long presentations for the MABA/Milwaukee 2020 program.

If any bonsai club members are willing to be a presenter of a topic of any innovative idea or subject, please email MABA President Judy Schmidt ([schmidtjm@aol.com](mailto:schmidtjm@aol.com)) with your proposed subject topic and Judy will follow-up with you. This could be bonsai-related, judging-related, on organization building, or something unique to the Mid-America bonsai growing conditions. All subject topics will be considered.

Thanks for sharing our information,

*Judy Schmidt, MABA President*

*Kris Ziemann, Convention Chairman*

*Pam Woythal, Committee Member*

[www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba)

## Show 'n' Tell

***remember, bringing something related to bonsai to the meeting to show & tell about, will get you an additional ticket for our meeting door prize drawings!***

## Other Bonsai Shows or Bonsai Societies:

[Bonsai Societies of Florida](#) is an umbrella organization for 22 bonsai and bonsai-related societies in Florida. If you Google this, you can access the member societies and their activities.

The [Golden State Bonsai Federation \(GSBF\)](#) is an umbrella organization of bonsai societies in California and adjacent states. If you Google this, you can find out about numerous shows scheduled in that region. (Many new listings at the GSBF site; too many to list here; please follow the links.) There also are events scheduled at the three bonsai collections maintained by the GSBF.

The [Lonestar Bonsai Federation](#) is a confederation of 10 bonsai societies in the Texas-Louisiana area. If you click this link, you can see information about the individual clubs, galleries, and much more information.

[Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society Annual Bonsai Auction](#), Aug. 17, Marine Corps League Hall, 2708 Delaware St., Kenner, Louisiana. Large selection and range of pre-bonsai, bonsai and pots. View items 4-6pm, auction 6-9pm. Free entrance.

[Minnesota Bonsai Society, Annual Exhibit](#) at the State Fair, Friday and Saturday of Labor Day Weekend, St. Paul, Minnesota

[24th Annual Carolina Bonsai Expo](#), Oct. 12-13, North Carolina Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, North Carolina.

[Bonsai Society of Greater St. Louis, Japanese Festival Bonsai Show](#), Aug. 31-Sept. 2. Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri

[Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society 50th Anniversary Bonsai and Suiseki Show](#), Sept. 7-8, Sat. 9a-8p, and Sun. 9a-4p. Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York St., Denver, Colorado. Guest Artist, Todd Schlafer

[Bonsai Society of Greater Cincinnati Annual Show](#), Sept 14-15, Krohn Conservatory, 1501 Eden Park Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio

[Cleveland Bonsai Club](#), September 28-29, Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, 750 East 88th St., Cleveland, Ohio

[Milwaukee Bonsai Society 49th Annual Exhibit](#), Sept. 28-29, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-3. Boerner Botanical Gardens, Whitnall Park, Hales Corners, Wisconsin. Guest artist, Tyler Sherrod

[Iowa Bonsai Association, Bonsai Show and Sale](#), Oct. 12-13, 9a-4:30p, Reiman Gardens, 1407 S. University Boulevard, Ames, Iowa

Other Shows and Conventions (continued):

[Milwaukee Bonsai Society](#) , [Wisconsin State Fair](#), Aug. 1-11, West Allis, Wisconsin. Rotating Bonsai Exhibits (exhibit 1, Th-Sun; exhibit 2, Mon-Wed; exhibit 3, Thur-Sun). In Champion Hall.

[Indianapolis Bonsai Club](#), Indiana State Fair Bonsai Show, Aug. 2-10, Agriculture-Horticulture Bldg

Annual Prairie State Bonsai Show, Aug 2 - 4, 2019  
Hours: Fri, 6pm - 9pm, Sat - Sun, 10am - 4pm,  
at the Morton Arboretum, Lisle-IL  
get show flyer:

[http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com/images/  
PSBS\\_showflyer\\_2019.pdf](http://www.prairiestatebonsai.com/images/PSBS_showflyer_2019.pdf)

guest artist: Dana Quattlebaum

[42nd Annual Mid-America Bonsai Exhibition](#)

August 16-18, 2019, Chicago Botanic Garden,  
1000 Lake-Cook Rd., Glencoe, Illinois  
Guest Master William Valavanis

[Hidden Gardens \(Willowbrook-IL\)](#)

Visiting Bonsai Artists:

- Todd Schlafer, Aug 10 - 11, 2019
- Jan Culek, Oct 26 - 27, 2019
- Mauro Stemberger, Nov 9 - 10, 2019

AND FROM TWO BONSAI MUSEUMS:

Pacific Bonsai Museum, 2515 S 336th St., Federal  
Way, Washington (State) July 20, [Bonsai Basics  
Classes](#): 1-3pm; 4:30-6:30pm

[National Bonsai and Penjing Museum](#), 3501 New  
York Ave NE, Washington, DC July 1 - Sept 29:  
Viewing Stone Exhibit July 13 + 14 + 27 + 28  
Workshops: Bonsai Basics with Tropical Trees

Bonsai Global Seminars Oct. 8-11, 2020. Kellogg  
Conference Hotel and the U.S. National Arboretum,  
Washington, DC. Hosted by: American Bonsai  
Society, National Bonsai Foundation, Bonsai Clubs  
International, Potomac Bonsai Association. This  
could be the most significant bonsai event many of  
us could ever attend. Please watch for updates.

Info provided by ABS (American Bonsai Society).

**Pearls of Wisdom ...**

"Stop bending just before sound comes out"

--- Mas Imazumi

"Every bonsai deserves some deadwood"

--- Dan Robinson

Tentative 2019 Calendar for

Badger Bonsai Society meeting & events:

*(date is 2nd Thursday unless noted differently below)*

TBD – Trip to [Davidsan's Japanese Maples](#) in  
New Berlin-IL (west of Springfield-IL), stocking  
500 of the 1000+ cultivars of Japanese maples

TBD – Slab making workshop TBD

TBD – Field trip to Mayflower Nursery,  
Hobart, WI

August meeting – Succulents, guest speaker or  
internet-driven content discussion

September meeting – Bonsai Styles

October meeting – American Bonsai Masters  
and examples of their work

November meeting – Tropical workshop;  
BBS elections; collection of ideas for 2020  
BBS meeting topics and content

December meeting – Suiseki and daiza making

Jan-2020: Annual Membership Club Dinner

**2020 Mid American Bonsai Alliance:** Insights  
Into Bonsai, June 25-28, 2020 at The Four Points  
Sheraton Milwaukee North Shore (8900 North  
Kildeer Court, Milwaukee, WI).  
Hosted by the Milwaukee Bonsai Society.  
Additional information is being added frequently.

**Watch For  
MABA/Milwaukee 2020**

[www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/maba)



[click image for link](#)