



BADGER BONSAI SOCIETY

Promoting and Enjoying the Ancient Art of Bonsai Since 1972

Badger News | A Publication of the Badger Bonsai Society | May 2020

Next Meeting Date:

TBD ... due to COVID-19, Olbrich Gardens and State of Wisconsin have suspended formal gatherings

AGENDA:

No meeting ... at home activities for you again

CLUB OFFICERS:

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

President's Message

May ~~meeting~~ Activities

I hope all of you and your families are all well. We will all remember this year for a long, long, time - safer at home, quarantines, masks, school closings, cabin fever, business closings, people losing their jobs, thousands of deaths, and on and on. Dane County, at least so far, has had relatively few cases of covid-19 in comparison to some other areas.

As was expected, Olbrich Gardens has canceled both our May-14 meeting and our May 16-17 Annual Show. Though the show is a lot of work for many of our members, it is always fun to have the public get to see what we do.

While it is regrettable, and we do not have a choice, please try to "take advantage" of any stay-at-home downtime to enrich yourself with some

of the bonsai resources and activities available to you ... of particular note, recall that **Saturday May-9-2020 is World Bonsai Day.**

The National Bonsai Foundation is planning a series of on-line activities as an alternative to the cancellation of demonstrations and exhibits that usually occur annually for World Bonsai Day.

Originally started to honor Bonsai Master Saburo Kato's mission for peace through bonsai, World Bonsai Day is a cornerstone of the bonsai community. Perhaps more than ever before, this day finds meaning and necessity in our lives.

To mark this occasion, the National Bonsai Foundation is preparing a plethora of festivities for you to experience online. On May 9th, the National Bonsai Foundation homepage will be completely dedicated to all things related to #WorldBonsaiDay2020!

Just visit www.bonsai-nbf.org and enjoy video greetings, special interviews, trivia, private collection tours and so much more!

More Wintering Observations ...

Rodents sent a few of the trees in winter storage into the here-after. Mostly tridents along with a few other maples. I don't know why this year was so bad. In years gone by it was unusual to have anything chewed on. Next winter I'll have to be more diligent and set mouse traps and perhaps moth balls in advance of wintering my trees.

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On a positive note, I have about 15 willow-leaf ficus that I have started from cuttings. One has a nice trunk about finger-size in diameter, with branches about four or five inches long. All of the foliage was out at the ends of the branches, so about three weeks ago I chopped them all down to an inch or two. (I didn't get around to planting the new cuttings right away and unfortunately they all died.) I fully expected to see new buds growth on the parent plant in a week. But, a week came and went; then two weeks; still nothing; then three weeks – nothing. I was beginning to think I had killed it. Finally, two days ago it started to push out new growth. Success! It will ultimately make a nice mame size tree. (See photos of this tree below.)



I have also just started some Carissa cuttings. The lineage of these cuttings is from a Carissa that was given to me by Chet R, somewhere around 1988. The original tree has produced many rooted cuttings and many of these have found their way into other BBS member collections. On another front, two of the bloodgood grafts have successfully taken, and are pushing out new growth. Two others didn't take. I guess fifty percent success rate is pretty good for a first attempt. I am anxious to try some more.

Do you have any wintering success or fails that you would like to share? Mail them to Wayne (or submit via our website Contact Us link).

YouTube suggestions:

As I reported last month, I have been watching lots of YouTube videos. There are lots of good one out there (and a lot of bad ones, too). Bonsai Empire, Eisei-en Nursery, Heron's nursery, and

Graham Potter all have interesting material, made by knowledgeable people

Have you watched anything that particularly impresses you? Let us know! -- *Karl*

I have found the YouTube videos by Jason Chan of [Eastern Leaf Bonsai](#) are interesting to watch, as he likes to do "time-lapse" modes, but also likes to educate the listener on his thoughts and goals as he works on his trees. -- *Wayne*

Virtual BBS Events ???

With the obvious work at home situation, a whole new emphasis is on virtual meetings. A couple of members have suggested trying to organize some "virtual-sessions" as a way to keep connected with club members and share your experiences and efforts. If properly coordinated and setup, these can take place at no cost, and with minimal risk. For instance, the Zoom application, installs quickly and is relatively straightforward to handle multiple participants, who can participate in shared and mutual audio and video. Don't quote me, but I think that with Zoom, "group meetings" of 2 participants have no time limit at no cost; with 3 or more participants, the sessions must be less than 40 minutes in length to incur no cost. Participants can choose to join with or without video (of you); if you want to show your own video, you obviously need a webcam device. Audio participation (for you to speak) requires a microphone tied to your computer, or participating via phone. The software also lets you share your computer screen for viewing by all. Once you have joined a virtual meeting, in order to view video from other participants, you just need an internet connection (the faster the better); audio of others can be heard through your computer speakers / headphones, or through a call-in phone line.

If you are willing to "put on" a short demo, please let Wayne know, and we will explore this ... invites can be sent out, or can be posted on our website. Remember the real intent of any session, would be for meaningful demos and questions and answers ... not socializing!

Other Shows and Conventions or Societies:

Listed below are events that were set up prior to the current COVID-19 situation ... May events are going to be questionable, be sure to check out the individual websites for current status.

Bonsai Vision 2020

May 14 – 17, 2020

Drury Plaza Hotel San Antonio North Stone Oak, 823 N Loop 1604 W E, San Antonio, TX 78232, USA ([map](#)). Lonestar Bonsai Federation Convention

For more info see: www.sanantoniobonsai.org

Brussel's Rendezvous

May 22-24, 2020 (over Memorial Day weekend)
Olive Branch, MS

Mid-American Bonsai Show and Sale

August 14 - 16, 2020 Chicago, IL

One of the largest regional shows in the nation, and centered on the Chicago Botanic Garden's Permanent Collection, features over 50 world-class trees.

US National Exhibition

Sep 12 – 13, 2020 East Rochester, NY

Join people from around the world for the U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition, where over 200 of the finest bonsai in the world will be on display.

National Bonsai and Penjing Museum

3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC

Bonsai Global Seminars Oct. 8-11, 2020. Kellogg Conference Hotel and the U.S. National Arboretum, Washington, DC.

If you are ...

During these tough times of staying at-home, as you work on trees, please take a few moments to take photos at various stages and jot down some simplified (or detailed) thoughts. We might be able to use your examples for a display at our Annual Show or for future meetings ... whether organized get togethers, or virtual sessions, or just website postings.

Thanks ... and STAY SAFE !

Tentative 2019 Calendar for

Badger Bonsai Society meeting & events:

(date is 2nd Thursday unless noted differently below)

April 9 – **meeting canceled**

May 14 – **meeting canceled**

Badger Bonsai Society Annual Show

May 16 & 17, at Olbrich Gardens ... **canceled**

June 11 – **meeting TBD** simultaneous 3 demos ?

July – Membership Picnic (?) ... no meeting

Aug 13 – TBD

Sep 10 – TBD

regarding MABA 2020 ...

due to the situation of COVID-19,

the MABA 2020 Organizational Committee has determined that in the best interests of personal safety the MidAmerica Bonsai Alliance (MABA) convention previously planned for June 25-28, 2020 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin ... **is being canceled.**

Ranking Japanese Collection ...

As feedback from this April activity as been low, the deadline for you to participate in this activity has been **extended to May-28th** (despite the instructions in the document).

If you recall, in February, we ranked the North American Collection of the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum via their on-line images. Given the COVID-19 situation, and lack of a physical meeting in April, Wayne has prepared a similar ranking document for 42 trees (of the 63 total) that are available on their website for the [Japanese Collection](#). The ranking document is intended to be a guide to assist in your viewing of the on-line images. Instructions can be found on the last page of the ranking document. Wayne will collate rankings that are submitted by May-28th via email or the **Badger Bonsai website Contact Us page**, and include in the June newsletter and website postings.

Get the [ranking document here](#).

our website: badgerbonsai.net