



Kongetsu

West Michigan Bonsai Club Newsletter

Vol. 16 No. 7

October 2012

Mollie Hollar, Editor

2012 Schedule of Events

Fri, Oct 12: Show set-up

Sat & Sun, Oct 13 & 14: Fall Club Show

Sat, Nov 17: 2013 Planning

Show hours are Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and Sunday, Noon to 5:00 PM. Teardown begins at 5:00 Sunday. Please be there at 5:00 to take your trees home.

New MJ Clubs

After having successfully helped to establish a new Michigan bonsai club several years ago which is centered in Lansing now, I have this year been working on another one at Central Michigan University. Their first meeting is going to be in November and hopefully the small show we put on in early September helped to give us enough exposure to attract a good group.

I also got a phone call from someone in Benton Harbor who wanted to display some trees in our Club show. After I explained that this show is just for Club members, I suggested that he consider starting a bonsai club in his area. So we may have yet another club in the next year or so. If you know of any bonsai enthusiasts in that area, tell them to watch for notices at their local nurseries and flower shops in the next few months. Now *that* is bonsai education at work!

October Already?

Wow, what an incredibly weird year this has been for me! Starting way back in December when my husband started on his new job after almost four years of not working, my life has just been one adventure after another. Adventure: that's what I call things when I can't come up with a better descriptive word, or at least one that doesn't call up visions of the Titanic or World War III. Ok, enough of that. I've done more apologizing to you, our membership, than I have ever done in one year. Let's hope 2013 will be better!

October – Big Event!

This newsletter will be a short one given the time crunch we're under to prepare for this weekend's Club show.

For new members, our October show is just for Club members to display our bonsai, unlike the May Michigan show when anyone can display. Also, our Club show is an educational one, meaning that we want at least one tree from *all* our members. Please do not think that your trees are "not good enough." We want to show the public that we have beginners as well as more experienced bonsaiists in our Club.

Set-up for the show will be Friday afternoon from 3:00 to 6:00. If for some reason it is impossible for you to bring your trees Friday, you can bring them at 8:00 AM Saturday. We would prefer to have them all on Friday because I'll be bringing in my veteran students' trees Saturday morning so will need to take the time that morning getting them into the exhibit. We will need a good number of members to help on Friday since I will be setting up my vendor booth, possibly for the last time due to a new Meijer Gardens ruling.

For the show itself I would like to have at least three or four members there for several-hour shifts throughout the weekend. We will need a person to man the Gardens' teaching cart, although I'm not sure what they will have on it. But mostly we need members scattered throughout the exhibit to visit with the public. Don't worry about not knowing all the answers – that's what we old members are there for, taking on the tougher questions. You don't actually need to sign up for the hours you want to be at the show. Somehow it always seems to work out. Just try to be there as much as you can. We will also need people to help tear down at the end of the show Sunday. Again, I'll be busy with my booth boxing up whatever I have left (hopefully not much).

Again this year we will be handing out cards to the public to vote for the Peoples' Choice Award, so keep this in mind while preparing your trees.

I have included here a sheet with details about preparing your bonsai for display. If you have any questions about anything concerning the show, please call or e-mail me.

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Tree info you'll need for the show:

- 1. Species of tree – common and/or Latin
- 2. Year training began
- 3. Approximate age of tree

Website

For those of you who are desperate to read more on growing pine bonsai:

<http://peterteabonsai.wordpress.com/2012/06/29/de-candling-and-stuff/>

2013 Membership

If for some reason you are receiving this newsletter without having paid 2012 dues, please note that, if you would like to pay membership now, you would get the rest of this year “free” and your 2013 dues would be paid.

2013 Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phones: Home _____ Work: _____

E-mail: _____

(Check one:)

Active membership (\$25.00) Inactive membership (\$6.00)

Hardship membership

(Check one:)

I prefer that my newsletter be e-mailed to me.

I prefer a snail-mail copy of my newsletter.

Please make check out to:

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Or bring to any meeting or workshop.