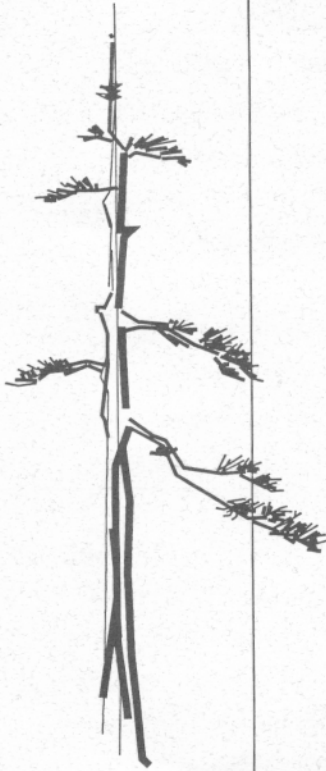


BONSAI NEWS



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society*

P.O. Box 198
Brookfield, Wisconsin
53208-0198

Information Line
414-299-9229

September Meeting

Our annual Dead Tree Contest will be held at our September meeting. Save your bonsai carcasses and bring them in to display them on our special display table. Everyone gets to vote for his or her favorite and the winners get a prize. Previous winners are not eligible. This is always a lot of fun and sometimes provides some real surprises.

September is also our "White Elephant Sale" where any member can bring their white elephants to the club meeting to sell, give away or trade. Remember that one person's trash is another person's treasure! So bring in all of those items (tools, pots, rooted cuttings, trees, books, whatever) that you have not yet used and probably won't use and sell or trade them to someone who will use them. For tonight only, no commissions will be charged.

ALSO, we will be learning about Haiku from Mary Turner. She will give us information about composing haiku and then we are going to have another contest. With more prizes!

It will be a fun night for all, so plan on attending. Bring your friend or neighbor and your checkbook.

President's Message

The State Fair is over and the bonsai exhibits were an outstanding success! There were some beautiful trees from around the state (with several from Illinois) and lots of interested viewers. Many of you stepped forward and volunteered to help with all sorts of tasks – from tree sitting to setting up the exhibits to transporting people and trees into and out of the Fair. The judges were Scott Clark from Chicago, Mary Ellestad from Madison and Dahn Lindstrom from Joliet, Illinois. I am told that they all did a really good job and handed out many valuable comments. Congratulations to those of you who were awarded ribbons. Many thanks to all of you, who volunteered your time and efforts, and

also to those who exhibited your trees. This was really a big event that required a lot of our resources. Not only did we meet the challenge but we also produced an event of which we can all be proud.

Years ago, an old friend by the name of Keith Scott told me that he used a particular technique in order to improve his ability as a bonsai artist. His philosophy was that one needed to "stretch" oneself in order to improve. So at least once each year he would select the worst piece of plant material that he could find and see how good a bonsai he could make of it. The point was to improve, by putting himself into a position where he really had to work to make something out of the material at hand.

In my opinion that same technique works for improving organizations. I remember the debate that went on before we hosted the Mid-America Bonsai Alliance (MABA) convention in 1995. There was a big concern about whether or not we had the ability to actually pull it off. We went ahead with the project and made it into a success. I am sure that having that positive experience behind us, gave us the confidence to apply for the 2002 American Bonsai Society (ABS) National Convention. When we were awarded that convention we went to work and made it into a huge success. Now we have successfully produced an eleven-day bonsai exhibit, which was also a roaring success. Each one of these events has stretched us as an organization and through this process we have all grown immensely.

Each of you contribute to the success of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society in your own way. By paying your dues you contribute to the financial health of the organization. By coming to meetings, and taking part in workshops, you show your support for the programs that we present as well as increasing your knowledge of bonsai techniques. By participating as an officer of the club, you help to meet the needs of its members and guide it

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forward into the future. We are happy to have each and every one of you as a member. We thank all of you for your assistance and your support.

Election of Officers for 2004

One of the ways that you can support the club is to be on the Executive Committee as an Officer or a Director. The Board meets the Tuesday night after club meeting. One night a month is not a lot of time to spend guiding an organization such as ours. You do not have to be a bonsai expert to be an integral part of the Board. All you need is a little time to come to the meetings and share your talent.

The slate of proposed Officers and Directors for 2004 must be ready to be announced at the September meeting. So you still have a little time to recommend someone to be put on the ballot for the election. Ron Fortmann, Mary Turner and Ken Hahn are the Nominating Committee for 2004. So if you want to recommend someone you have to call Ron (262/567-3483), Mary (262/784-7019) or Ken (414/529-1376) quickly. Volunteers are also welcome!

Position Open

The Club needs your help. Yvonne Szatkowski has been our Newsletter Editor for several years. She has done an outstanding job and has been a real asset to the club. Unfortunately, she now needs more time to devote to other interests. So the club is in need of a new Newsletter Editor. The position requires good computer skills, and having experience in a desktop publishing program would be a plus, but is not necessary. Yvonne has indicated that she will keep active as the Editor until the first of the year, and is very willing to train the new Editor. So if you have an interest, either call Jack at 414/228-9628 or Yvonne at home at 414/481-3473 for more information.

November Meeting

The November meeting will be devoted to "Tools... how to clean them, sharpen them and use them." It will also include a discussion of the various power tools that are used and how to use them. Winter is a great time to get your tools into top condition so they are ready for spring. This meeting will give you a head start on preparing your tools for next year's cutting, pruning, and shaping efforts.

State Fair Winners

Congratulations to the State Fair Winners!

[A = Advanced I = Intermediate N = Novice Y = Youth]

Exhibit #1 (July 31 - August 2) Madison/MBS

Best of Show

Buttonwood (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Awards of Merit

Green Mound Juniper (I) - Scott Hurula (MBS)

Ficus (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Winged Euonymus (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Blue Ribbons

Ficus (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Scots pine (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Shimpaku (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Winged Euonymus (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Buttonwood (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Shimpaku (I) - Mary Ellestad (Mad)

Barbados Cherry (I) - Kate Kerner (MBS)

Dwarf Rhododendron (N) - Jean Sher (MBS)

Green Mound Juniper (I) - Scott Hurula (MBS)

Red Ribbons

Blau juniper (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Shimpaku (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Pitzer juniper (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Boxwood (I) - Karl Bethke (Mad)

Juniper (N) - Jean Sher (MBS)

Rheingold Arborvitae (N) - Kris Ziemann (MBS)

White Ribbons

Shimpaku (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Shimpaku (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Black Spruce (A) - Bob Eskeitz (Mad)

Shimpaku (I) - Mary Ellestad (Mad)

San Jose Juniper (I) - Karl Bethke (Mad)

Boxwood (I) - Karl Bethke (Mad)

Exhibit #2 (August 3 - 6) Milwaukee Bonsai Society

Best of Show

Korean Hornbeam Grove (I) - Ron Fortmann

Awards of Merit

Kingsville Boxwood (Y) - Scott Hurula, Jr

New Zealand Christmas Tree (I) - Houston Sanders

Japanese Larch (I) - Ron Fortmann

Blue Ribbons

- Kingsville Boxwood (Y) - Scott Hurula, Jr
 Spirea (N) - Jean Sher
 Clavey Honeysuckle (A) - Joe Nemecek
 Korean Hornbeam Grove (I) - Ron Fortmann
 New Zealand Christmas Tree (I) - Houston Sanders
 Japanese Larch (I) - Ron Fortmann

Red Ribbons

- Juniper Procumbens (N) - Jean Sher
 Drunkard's Dream grouping (A) - Milt Mandelin
 American Larch (I) - Tom Kerner
 Korean Hornbeam (I) - Ken Hahn
 Pacific Juniper (I) - Jim Toepfer

White Ribbons

- Dwarf Hawaiian Umbrella Tree (N) - Jerry Nemic
 Chinese Juniper (A) - Milt Mandelin
 Green Mound Juniper (I) - Scott Hurula
 Dwarf Barberry (I) - Houston Sanders
 Ficus Nerifolia (I) - Ken Hahn
 Natal Plum (I) - Houston Sanders

Exhibit #3 (August 7 - 10) Fox Valley Bonsai Society, Rock River Bonsai & MBSBest of Show

- Crepe Myrtle (A) - Gerry Knops (FV)

Award of Merit

- Narrow Leaf Ficus (A) - Gerry Knops (FV)

Blue Ribbons

- Crepe Myrtle (A) - Gerry Knops (FV)
 Narrow Leaf Ficus (A) - Gerry Knops (FV)

Red Ribbons

- Trident Maple (A) - Gerry Knops (FV)
 Cypress Plumosa (I) - Melba Stockhausen (MBS)
 Apple (N) - Steve Carini (MBS)
 Prostrada juniper (A) - Bob Steele (RR)
 Larch (I) - Dennis Dahlstrom (FV)
 Willow leaf ficus (I) - Dennis Chuchel (FV)
 Green Mound juniper (I) - Scott Hurula (MBS)

White Ribbons

- Korean Hornbeam (N) - Steve Carini (MBS)
 Blue Rug juniper (I) - Dennis Chuchel (FV)
 Korean Hornbeam (I) - Dennis Chuchel (FV)
 Virginia Creeper (I) - Ralph Mahn (FV)
 Larch (I) - Dennis Chuchel (FV)



Tony Plicka
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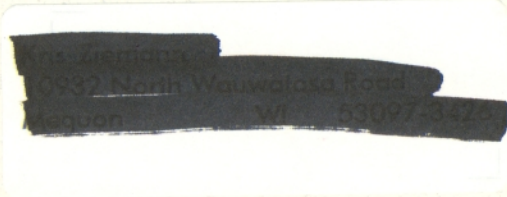
Hours: Monday thru Friday 9AM to 7PM and Saturdays 9AM to 5PM

MBS Meetings and Information Line:

The Milwaukee Bonsai Society meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 3030 W. Oklahoma Avenue. Call the MBS Voice Mail/Message System at (414) 299-9229 to learn about upcoming events and meeting times. To contact the club via email: mbs@asapnet.net Look for us on the web at: <http://www.asapnet.net/milwaukee-bonsai/index.html>



P.O. Box 198
Brookfield, WI 53008-0198
Return Service Requested



*Next Meeting of MBS
Tuesday, September 2 (Day after Labor Day)
7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church*



MBS Board - 2003

- Jack Douthitt, *President*
- Houston Sanders, *First Vice President*
- Jean Sher, *Second Vice President*
- Russell Weiss, *Secretary*
- Kris Ziemann, *Treasurer*
- Sharon Schmidt, *Director*
- Dr. Erskine Tucker, *Director*
- Pam Woythal, *Director*
- Brian Palevac, *Past President*
- Ron Fortmann, *MABA Representative*
- Yvonne Szatkowski, *Newsletter Editor*

*Humming bird hovers
Darting blossom to blossom
Tireless wingbeat*



~ Joe Nemeec

Members with questions or concerns for the Executive Committee should contact Russ Weiss, Club Secretary at cowbell@wi.rr.com