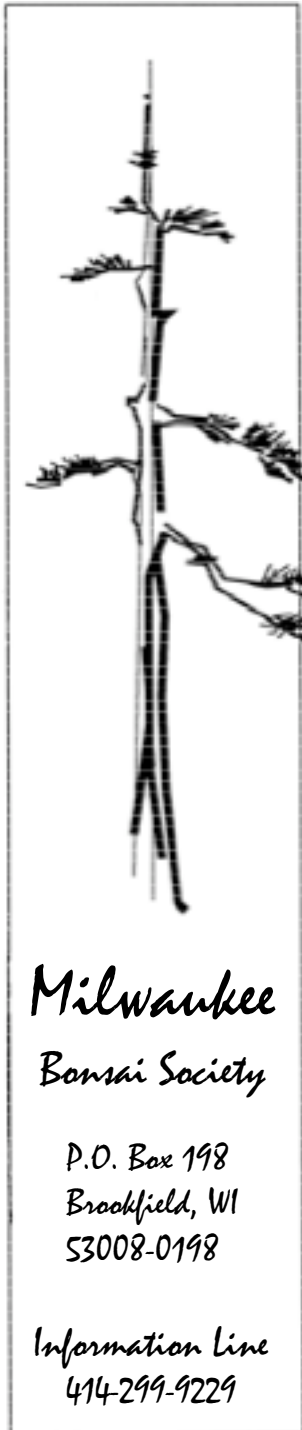


JULY 2008

Bonsai News



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society*

*P.O. Box 198
Brookfield, WI
53008-0198*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

NEXT MEETING
July 1 - 7 pm
Grace Lutheran Church

Come to the July meeting and get some refinement tips from Guest Artist, Ted Matson.

Ted is well known as a "very precise and picky" (in his own words) presenter at bonsai shows. His refinement techniques are down to earth, easy, and will help every tree look it's best. Ted will be demonstrating several show preparation techniques and you are welcome to bring a tree to look at and think about as he works. There will be time for a short question and answer session, but not time for Ted to "work" on individual member's trees. However if you have a tree that has specific "issues," by thinking about it, listening and watching you are sure to get some good ideas. Several MBS members will be on hand to help you try out a few of Ted's tricks.

Refinement is always possible... and who knows, your tree might be a State Fair

"Best Of Show."

Bring a tree, bring your tools and bring your tree to a higher level.

JULY

July 1 - CLUB MEETING*
Guest Artist: Ted Matson
Refinement
July 31-Aug 10 - State Fair

AUGUST

Thru Aug 10 - State Fair
Aug 5 - CLUB MEETING*
Guest Artist: Marty
Schmalenberg
Literati and Suiseki

SEPTEMBER

Sept 2 - CLUB MEETING*
Club Show and critique
Sept 20 - Public Workshop *
Pre-registration required
Limit of 25

OCTOBER

Oct 7 - CLUB MEETING*
Dead Tree contest and
fall clean up

NOVEMBER

Nov 4 - CLUB MEETING*
Year end wrap-up

DECEMBER

NO CLUB MEETING

* Only meetings with an *
are open to the public.

President's Message

As I was working on a tree yesterday I began to think that for many of us bonsai is a solitary activity. Then I remembered a bonsai friend who recently told me that bonsai seemed to be more fun when done with another person. Another society member mentioned that as an intermediate class student they felt "unqualified " to help anyone else style a tree. My response was that all of us can learn from someone else. What is the point? You might ask, why is Jean rambling on about this?

I do it in the need to remind all of us that when we discuss bonsai and help others with trees, the enjoyment of bonsai is doubled. This is what the idea of being a Bonsai Society is all about. Our call is to "promote the hobby and enjoyment of the art of bonsai to the general public."

I ask you to commit to becoming more involved with club activities. Consider tree sitting at State Fair, demonstrating tree styling at the Wauwatosa Garden Day booth, joining in the fun at the club picnic, or signing up for a volunteer spot at Folk Fair. There is something out there for everyone. We are a Bonsai Society... please, become involved and double your enjoyment.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events.

Jean

Novice class 2008 Tom A and Barbara S

SECOND ANNUAL MBS PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2008

Hosted by: Don and Karen G.

Time: 2:00 PM-? (Dinner about 5:30PM)

Bring a dish to share- the meat and beverages will be provided

- Come to view bonsai techniques used in the garden train layout

- Collect some moss for your bonsai trees

- Tag a buckthorn to bonsai

BRING LAWN CHAIRS!!!

RSVP:

-262-548-0480 office

-262-513-8395 home

Call for directions to the picnic.

We had a great time last year and hope you'll join us again this year.

Please send in articles to the newsletter editor. Something that you found on the internet, in a book, or an idea for an article, etc. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

hagr&d@mac.com



STATE FAIR - Are you interested in entering a tree at State Fair? If you have never exhibited before, please consider doing so this year. Ted Matson will be with us at our July Club meeting to focus on preparing your tree for show. Classes are: Youth, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Open.

Our space is smaller than in previous years, so it will be necessary to limit the number of trees to about 20 per show, 1-2 trees per individual.

You must sign up at Club meetings or call 414-979-0281 to participate.

Fox Valley Bonsai Society - Exhibit #1 (July 31 - August 2) - We will fill in if there is space.

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

Milwaukee Bonsai Society - Exhibit #2 (August 7 - August 10)

STATE FAIR EXHIBIT SCHEDULE 2008

Exhibit #1

Deliver trees to **

Wednesday, July 30 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Sunday, Aug 3 from 9am - 10am

Exhibit #2

Deliver trees to **

Saturday, Aug 2 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Thursday, Aug 7 from 9am - 10am

Exhibit #3

Deliver trees to **

Wednesday, Aug 6 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Monday Aug, 11 from 9am - 10am

** Strip mall parking lot approx. 102nd and National, just west of Baker's Square. Turn in by the Sentry/Fashion Bug sign. Meet in the area

nearest the street (National)

When checking in please bring:

- + your list of scientific names and common names,
- + the approximate age of the tree,
- + stand, accent, sketch of display, and the proposed style of tree.

It is also wise to mark all components of your display with your name.

(an address sticker is usually adequate)

Note: If the drop off/pick up schedule is not good for you, please make personal arrangements for your trees with someone who will care for them. YOU must alert the crew about these arrangements so trees cannot be misdirected, lost or stolen.

Call or email

Jean S at 414.979.0281 jsher46@wi.rr.com

Good luck and thanks for supporting the MBS 2008 State Fair committee.

For specific information as to whether your tree will qualify to be entered at State Fair, please go to:

http://www.wistatefair.com/home/2008_wi_state_fair/contests/horticulture.html

Go to horticulture info... p37-38



Allen K and Kay K - Novice class 2008



Novice class - Jeff M and Jim K

BUDDY BUCKS

Here's what we have so far for the list of volunteers at last year's Folk Fair. If we have not included you, please email: hagr8d@mac.com and let us know how many shifts you worked!

FOLK FAIR 2007

1 Buddy Buck

Susan L, Jean S, Allen K, Karen G, Don G, Kris Z, Jorge R, Rocío S, John M, Greg W, Scott H

NOVICE CLASS #3:

1 Buddy Buck

Jack D, Jean S, Kris Z

NOVICE CLASS #4:

1 Buddy Buck

Jean S, Kris Z, Tom A, Jeff M, Allen K, Laura L

Nebari???

from ABS Website August 2005

A surface root worthy of the name nebari should display the following characteristics:

- Seen from the front, they should not grow directly towards the viewer.
- The roots should radiate away from the trunk.
- They should be in proportion to the width of the trunk, and in proportion to each other.
- They should not be one-sided.
- They should not cross each other or the trunk.
- They should taper.
- They should not snake their way into the soil.





June Club Meeting
Work night

Soap Solution for Pest Control

Pour 1-2 tablespoons of original Dawn dishwashing detergent and 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil in a gallon jug. Slowly add water to fill the jug. Pour part of this solution into a spray bottle and add 2 capfuls of rubbing alcohol. Use immediately. If there is any solution left in the spray bottle, add 2 more capfuls of alcohol the next time you want to spray your trees. It seems that the contents of the gallon jug (soap and vegetable oil solution) can be stored for months without it going bad.



Spray on plants covering all leaf and stem surfaces. You may have to spray from 3 - 4 times with intervals of 3 days. Almost any kind of pest, including scale, can be eliminated using this solution. It is not necessary to wash off the spray as no adverse reactions have been found.

From ABS Forum 2004
Carl Rosner

Bonsai from your backyard

TAMARIX

General information: Tamarix is a genus of over 50 species of deciduous shrubs and small trees from coastal sites and dry or marshy, often salt rich areas inland, from W. Europe and the Mediterranean to E. Asia and India.

As bonsai, *Tamarix juniperina*, *Tamarix pentandra*, *Tamarix parviflora* and *Tamarix ramosissima*, are most commonly used. Both of these species display attractive, feathery foliage typical of the genus. Their foliage consists of small scale- or needle-like leaves and plume-like, often leafy racemes of small flowers.

Though very tolerant of strong, salt-laden windy areas, Tamarisks do have a reputation for dying for no apparent reason. It is sometimes remarked they not only thrive on windy, coastal climates but also actually require it.

Temperature: Zone 2 to 8; provide some frost protection when temperatures drop below 25°C in winter.

Lighting: Full sun but shade from midday sun in summer.

Watering: Normal, prefers an acidic, well drained soil. Native to the coast therefore should be given high humidity and normal watering.

Feeding: Every two weeks throughout the growing season.

Pruning and wiring: Pruning should be carried out at the right time for each species as some Tamarisks flower on old wood while others do so on growth made earlier in the

year. Spring flowering species produce flowers on old wood and require pruning immediately after flowers have faded. Late-Summer flowering species produce flowers on wood produced earlier in the season and should not be pruned back until late winter. Many Tamarisk bonsai are styled with weeping foliage and this requires wiring downwards as it grows.

Propagation: Take hardwood cuttings in winter or semi-ripe cuttings in summer. Air layer in late spring. Fresh seeds usually germinate within 24 hours after watering; no pretreatment is needed.

Repotting: In mid-Spring as buds extend.

Pests and Diseases: Trouble free, but root rot, because of poorly drained soil.

Styling: Informal upright forms and cascades with weeping foliage in small to large sizes.



Cake Fertilizer

submitted by Houston S

The following recipe from the Iowa Bonsai Society works very well as a SUPPLEMENTAL fertilizer for bonsai. I leave out the Peter's 20-20-20 and just use water, as there is no need for chemical fertilizer in the cakes. Add a couple of cakes of the fertilizer to each tree every 4-6 weeks during the summer, but continue to fertilize regularly every 1 - 2 weeks with chemical fertilizer.

I like to break the cakes into smaller pieces and bury them in the soil of my trees, as otherwise they attract snails and insects on the surface of the soil. When you make the mixture, be sure to do it outdoors. The cake recipe has a very powerful and penetrating odor when first mixed. The odor goes away (well, mostly) after drying. After drying, the cakes can be stored in plastic containers or Ziploc bags for later use.

Dry Ingredients:

3 parts cottonseed meal
2 parts agricultural lime (do not use for acid loving trees)
1 part bloodmeal
1 part bonemeal

Liquid Ingredients:

Peter's 20-20-20 mixed with water according to directions

Optional Ingredients:

Superthrive
Sevin Insecticide
Fish Emulsion

Mix dry ingredients thoroughly, then add in the liquid fertilizer to bring the mix to a paste-like consistency. Add in some Sevin and Superthrive if desired.

Spoon onto wax paper or a plastic tray to dry in the sun and cut into squares when nearly dry, or use a scoop to form into balls.

SUMMER SNIPPITS

- All trees should be outdoors by now
- Remember to rotate your trees so the sun will hit all sides
- July is a great time to repot tropicals
- Examine your trees and evaluate their condition. How is the foliage color? Any spots on the leaves? Pinching and pruning needed? Any wire cutting into branches? Move your tree from its growing area and place it on a workbench for examination. Surprising what you see!
- Fertilize every 1-2 weeks or so. See the recipe for cake fertilizer to the left. Perhaps alternate the chemical fertilizers (20-20-20, a low nitrogen 'blooming' formula, various rose fertilizers). Alternating helps ensure that the trees get trace elements that may not be present in all the products.
- Prepare your tree for State Fair!



Tamarix and hollyhocks in my backyard -

Kris Z



P.O. Box 198
Brookfield, WI 53008-0198
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Meeting of MBS
7PM, Tuesday, July 1
Grace Lutheran Church
3030 W. Oklahoma

2008 MBS OFFICERS

The MBS Officers are:

President	Jean S
First VP	Joe H
Second VP	Allen K
Secretary	Susan C
Treasurer	Laura L
Director	Jerry N
Director	John M
Director	Michelle Z
Past Pres.	Kris Z

Other Club Functions:

Kris Z - Newsletter Editor/
Distribution
Pam W - Webmaster
Joe N - Librarian
Jean S - Telephone response
Mary T - Membership Chairperson

