


Bonsai News



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society*

P.O. Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI
53224

*Information line
414-299-9229*

JUNE CLUB MEETING

Join us in welcoming Tom Longfellow at our June meeting. Tom will be working on a very large hemlock. This tree will be a multi-year process... styling, re-potting, more styling...



This is a Japanese Hemlock about 4 feet tall and approximately 7+ inches in diameter

JUNE

June 1 - CLUB MEETING
Guest artist Tom Longfellow
June 5/6 Carini Study Group
June 25-27 - MABA convention

JULY

July 1 - CLUB MEETING
Photographing your tree, treating wounds, getting ready for a show
July 10 - Wauwatosa Tour
July ?? - club picnic
July 24/25 Carini Study Group
July 31 - Suthin workshop

AUGUST

Aug 1 - Suthin workshop
Aug 3 - CLUB MEETING
guest artist Suthin S
Aug 5-15 - State Fair
Aug 7/8 Carini Study Group
Aug 20-22 - Chicago Show

NEXT MEETING
June 1 - 7 pm
Grace Lutheran Church

See page 2 for more information about Tom Longfellow...

President's Message

“Let's Hear It”

In the past, many generous, creative, and intelligent people have served on the board of your MBS. The invitation to serve on this board is a great honor. We are almost halfway through this current term and your board will be evaluating itself and it's progress at the next board meeting.

The financial stability of the club remains sound despite the economic environment. Maintaining and expanding our membership is essential to our vibrancy and well-being. Our Program Committee continues to work on providing our members with a full range of fun and interesting events and activities.

So let's hear it. Everyone has an opinion, and we actually want to hear what you have to say. It is only through your feedback that we can continue to give you the best programs and bonsai experience that we can. It is through your feedback that we can evaluate our progress and adjust our course.

Pam W



Japanese Hemlock



TOM LONGFELLOW

Tom has been working with bonsai for over fifteen years. While enjoying all manner of potential material, Tom really enjoys working with conifers and collected trees. With a career as a technical project manager for many years, Tom is currently completing his horticulture degree in landscape design to further his knowledge and work full time with plants instead of computers.

Tom got his start in bonsai studying with Ivan Watters at Yasakunai Bonsai Nursery. He eventually became an instructor and started teaching at the nursery. Tom is a member of Sosunu Nakamura's Chicago-based study group and has studied with Walter Pall. He continues to work with Ivan Watters at the Chicago Botanic Garden when his schedule permits.

Currently Tom provides one-on-one instruction and winter care services for clients. He has served as a judge for bonsai shows in the Illinois/Wisconsin area and has enjoyed being a long time contributor at the Wisconsin State Fair for the Milwaukee Bonsai Society.

Tom's spouse Cheryl started his interest in gardening and horticulture. The couple insist on an organic approach to gardening and Tom applies this approach to his bonsai as well. They maintain a variety of native and perennial gardens and seem to be winning their struggle with garlic mustard and buckthorn.

When not working with plants, Tom plays guitar for the band Against the Grain, works on ad-hoc design and layout projects and helps people with computer issues.

Hemlocks

By Pam W

Tsuga species commonly known as Hemlocks feature flattened, usually linear leaves similar to the leaves of the more common Yews. They are typically tall (65 feet), graceful trees with spreading branches that droop downwards. The bark is a cinnamon red color that becomes deeply furrowed with age. For our Wisconsin climate Hemlocks are great especially since they can tolerate full sun to full shade

We are fortunate to have one of our recent State Fair judges, Tom Longfellow demonstrate one of those intriguing trees. I did some quick research and found a few interesting facts. Canadian hemlock is the "granddaddy" to over 200 cultivars. The common English name 'Hemlock' refers to the perceived similarity in the smell of the crushed foliage of the species first known in Britain (*T. canadensis*) to that of the very poisonous herb water hemlock *Conium maculatum*. The two plants are of course totally unrelated, and *Tsuga* is not poisonous.

Suthin Workshop Silent Observer

If you are not able to be a part of the workshop, you can still benefit from Suthin's expertise.

Do come as a silent observer.

You will NOT be able to interact with Suthin as this would take away time from the members who have paid the full fee.

You will be able to gain insight from a leading bonsai master watching him instructing other members working on their trees.

SUTHIN WORKSHOPS FOR 2010 latest update

*SUTHIN will be coming soon !!
Workshop dates are July 31, Aug 1 & 2.
(Aug. 3 is available also)*

*Workshop dates for his second visit are
Sept. 25, & Sept. 26.*

*COSTS FOR THE WORKSHOPS ARE
\$80.00 PER PERSON, PER WORKSHOP.
A \$50.00 deposit per workshop if
required, payable to MBS.*

*Check out your calendars, then contact
Judy Hughes, 262/245-6465, email me,
jh64boomer@aol.com, or see me at the
June or July meetings, as I will have
sign up sheets there. Openings are still
available.*

*These workshops are open to ALL
members of MBS of ANY skill level.*

*The locations of each workshop, along
with the directions, will be posted at the
July MBS meeting, or you may contact
Judy*

*"Silent observers" will be allowed at
these workshops. A charge of \$5.00 per
AM or PM sessions (or \$10.00 for a whole
day) .*

*Don't miss out on this opportunity to
learn better Bonsai from one of the
best !!!!!*

Grafting workshop

The grafting workshop with Mike Yanny will be on August 7. We will have a 3 hour morning session and a 3 hour afternoon session. Each session will be limited to 8 people. Mike will lead the sessions with assistance from Lynn Mayer who has over 20 years of grafting experience. Each participant will be given a choice of understock and scions to choose from to graft. (Linden, Malus, ginkgo, Carpinus, and Aesculus understock) (Some scions include, eating apple cultivars, ornamental crabapple cultivars, dwarf and fernleaf linden, various male ginkgo, and various forms of carpinus) Each person will be able to do a minimum of 5 one gallon container plants to take with them (retail value of over \$65). In addition, each person will receive a professional grafting knife valued at about \$35. If the grafts take, which Mike expects most will, the value of the plants can triple. We are charging \$250 per person for a session. Custom grafts are welcome if individuals want to bring in scions of a specific plant. They must call Mike ahead of time about the custom work. Mike is putting together some information on their website about this event. We will let you know when it is ready to be viewed.
Mike Yanny -- plant propagator
mike@johnsonsnursery.com



**THE MABA CONVENTION
IS COMING UP SOON!**

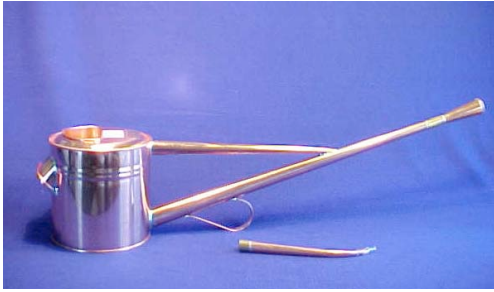
JUNE 25-27

PLEASE PUT THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR. YOU'LL WANT TO HEAD TO GRAND RAPIDS, MI TO ATTEND THIS CONVENTION.

KATHY SHANER WILL BE THE HEADLINER. OUR OWN JACK D WILL BE A GUEST ARTIST!

**GO BACK TO THE MBS HOMEPAGE AND CLICK ON "WHAT'S NEW"
UNDER JUNE YOU WILL SEE A LINK TO THE MABA REGISTRATION PACKET. ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS IN THIS PACKET. WE ARE HOPING TO HAVE A CARAVAN OF CARS / VANS HEADING TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAKE. WORKSHOPS WILL FILL UP FAST, SO GET YOUR REGISTRATION IN AS SOON AS YOU CAN.
JOIN US FOR A GREAT WEEKEND!!**

WATERING



NEVER count on rain. Water when you need to do so, even if you are

hauling watering cans under cloudy skies and dodging sprinkles. That rain may not deliver enough water or even fall. The flip side of this situation is this: What if I water then a long soaking rain hits? Constructed bonsai soil will give proper drainage and any excess water will flow away. You may need to water more than once.

Try to water regularly at the same time each day.

Think about how your plants are situated. Some afternoon shade on a hot day can make a big difference. So can taking a plant down off the bench and putting it in a sheltered spot on a scorching day. The temperature difference between the ground and a bench can be substantial. Larches may not do well on a bench; they just get too hot at some point and start to sulk. Leaving them on the ground seems to make them less moody.

Teach a family member how to water. Being able to call home and ask for someone to do you this favor is a great back up plan. Insulate small pots in bigger pots or a sand tray. Combining several mame or shohin pots into a larger pot will give the plants a buffer zone, as will setting such little guys on the surface of a tray of wet sand. Remember to check up on these situations regularly, because growing roots will snake out of drain holes and require trimming.

Gizmos do not seem to help. A timer attached to the hose may help, but it takes some finesse to make sure every plant receives the proper amount. Some have invested in those long stemmed globes that claim to water plants

for up to two weeks, and don't get good results. The water leaks out in about ten minutes so never creates the safety net the packaging promises. One trick that does help is to empty out the automatic ice maker on your freezer and pile up the cubes on the surface of the soil. The very slow dribbling water provided by the melting ice gives every absorbent particle in the soil a chance to soak up its maximum quota of water, and the lowered temperature is a benefit as well.

Suiseki Diaza Carving workshop at the Chicago Botanic Garden



Tim Priest, suiseki and diaza artist and instructor will conduct a course covering the collecting and classification of stones used for Suiseki, as well as types of wood and tools suitable for diaza carving. Students will be taught with hands-on traditional and modern Japanese diaza carving techniques. A supply list will be sent.

4 Sundays in June (6,13,20,27)
from 12:30 - 3:30pm
\$189 (members) / \$237

To register, call 847-835-8261
Chicago Botanic Garden
1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, IL 60022



P.O. Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Please note our new P.O. Box #

2010 MBS OFFICERS

President	Pam W
First VP	John M
Second VP	Greg P
Secretary	Jorge R
Treasurer	Kris Z
Director	Jerry N
Director	Steve Car.
Director	Steve Con.
Past Pres.	Joe H

Other Club Functions:

Newsletter - Kris Z
Webmaster - Pam W
Librarian - Tom A
Telephone response - John M
PAB Board - Don G, Leo S, & Houston S



Sea shells' grand design
Spirals artfully crafted
Nature's calculus

- Joe N