

# Bonsai News



December 7  
HOLIDAY PARTY at  
Meyer's Restaurant

74th and Forest Home  
6:00 cash Bar  
7:00 Family Style Dinner  
RESERVATIONS must be  
received by  
NOVEMBER 26

If you wish to attend and  
it is after the deadline  
date, please call to see if  
there is room.....  
262-512-1228

IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN  
WORKING WITH  
TED MATSON  
DURING 2011,  
PLEASE SEE THE  
ARTICLE ON PAGE 2.

BECAUSE WE DO  
NOT HAVE A  
MEETING IN  
JANUARY,  
please keep  
checking the  
website for  
updates on  
activities in  
December and  
January.

## 2011 MBS OFFICERS

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

**NEXT MEETING**  
February 1 - 7 pm  
Boerner Botanical Gardens

# President's Message

## "Time to Take Stock"

This year is coming to a close. We had a special year of demonstrations equally shared by club members and visiting artist. Being able to have our own members present is a result of the educational programs in which our members participate as they improve their skills and experience. The quality of our shows and trees has taken a great leap. Our novice trees are wowing the public and bringing in membership. Our members enjoy bonsai and each other. You can see the members who have been in the club for awhile enjoying activities and sharing duties right alongside new members.

Now it's time to take stock of our past, look hard at what we're doing, keep what works, get rid of what doesn't, and add new things to fulfill our mission: clear, conscious choices about where to spend energy, time, and money. It's time to explore new ways of bringing bonsai to people. Your club needs your input, ideas and help. Let us know what you like, where you would like to see us head.

To close out the year I would like to thank our volunteers for their time and talents. Thank our members who opened their homes for classes, study groups and hosting artist. Thank our board members for all the extra effort and support. Our club is very healthy because of you!

Happy Holidays!

*-Pam*

## 2011 TED MATSON STUDY GROUPS FORMING...

Novice, Intermediate, Advanced  
students are all welcomed.

Ted is scheduled to come to Milwaukee  
March 29 - April 5 (classes on Friday  
April 1 - Sunday April 3) and  
September 30 - October 5 (classes on  
Friday September 30 - Sunday  
October 2)

\*Day and evening classes will be  
offered.

\*Private and semi-private lessons will be  
offered.

The costs will be discussed with  
interested parties at a future meeting  
when we have an idea how many MBS  
members will be participating.

To express you interest and for more  
information contact:  
Kris Z 262-512-1228 / [hagr8d@mac.com](mailto:hagr8d@mac.com).

A sign-up sheet will be available at the  
Holiday party December 7 at Meyer's  
restaurant.

### Intermediate, Suthin and Matson Study Group members

If you have picked up a tree to work  
on for the July Wauwatosa event,  
please contact Kris at 262-512-1228  
or [hagr8d@mac.com](mailto:hagr8d@mac.com) THANKS!

# MBS Heroes

## Interview with Pam Woythal

### Can You Tell us a Bit about Who You are

I have been a bonsai artist in training for over twenty years. Recently I had the opportunity to work on the Bonsai Collection North under the direction and instruction of Kathy Shaner. I have attended countless workshops all over the country learning hands on with many notables such as Roy Nagatoshi, Colin Lewis, Mas Isumi, Ernie Kuo and Ted Matson.

This presidency is my second time as president of Milwaukee Bonsai Society. The first time was in the early 1990's. I also served as a director and Secretary of the American Bonsai Society. I have been instrumental in putting Milwaukee in the heart of the bonsai world. I proposed and chaired the first convention (1995) as well as co-chaired the second (2002), and was registrar of the third convention (2006) in Milwaukee.

### Are You Finding That People are willing to Share More Information Now?

Jack Douthitt mentioned that knowledge is cumulative so maybe I am just making more connections, but yes there is more information. More books, better quality magazines, and more club members sharing their personal experiences as our club grows in experience.

### This Leads into the Primary Question: How Would You Define Bonsai?

First and foremost, bonsai is a vision of nature, and everything you do should exemplify that vision. Think of each work of bonsai representing your unique perspective on nature. To be hands on with nature, surrounded by a collection of bonsai, perhaps the highest form of creative expression that human beings can muster. washing away soil from his maples at one of our demonstrations. I watched as Kathy worked on roots for two days before repotting. She cut dead root tips until she saw live tissue on each root of a rotting pine. As she explained it is the only way to get resulting roots to sustain the tree.

### When it comes to Bonsai, What Do You Think is the Coolest Thing You've Seen Done or That You've Done?

I would have to say root development. It all starts there. I saw how aggressive Houston Sanders is in washing away soil from his maples at one of our demonstrations. I watched as Kathy worked on roots for two days before repotting. She cut dead root tips until she saw live tissue on each root of a rotting pine. As she explained it is the only way to get resulting roots to sustain the tree.

Coolest thing.... bringing an ailing tree back to vigor through careful and thoughtful maintenance.



### Is there anything about Bonsai or MBS That You'd like to Add?

With nearly 60 trees in my collection in varying stages of development, I strive to make each tree a little better. I take this same approach with our club. Let's make each event, each exhibit, each workshop or class participant's experience and each other a little better.

I also share the vision of some of our other members for showcasing our talented members with a formation of a permanent collection in the greater Milwaukee area. Having worked on the Bonsai Collection North with Kathy Shaner, I understand what a great educational opportunity the club could provide.



## **RESULTS OF NOVEMBER'S DEAD TREE CONTEST**



**1st Place - Itoigawa shimpaku**



**2nd place - Blue Moss Cypress**



**3rd Place - Buttonwood**

**(Owner of all three - Kris Z)**

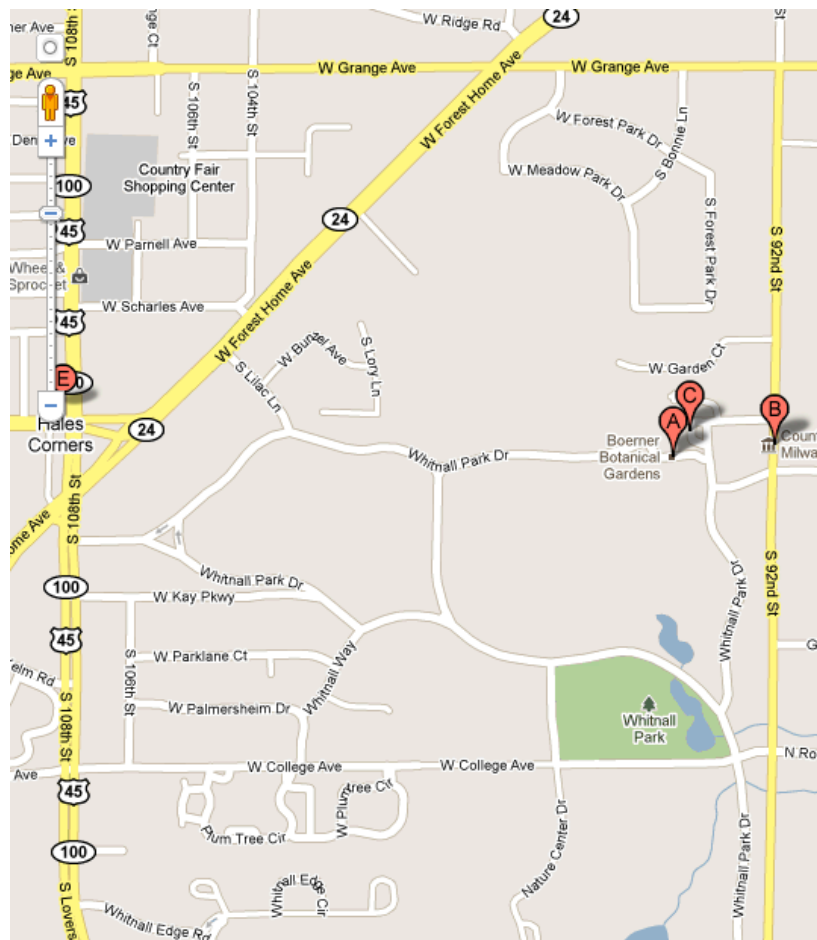


# A few shots of this year's Folk Fair..



Note... there are 3 addresses for Boerner Botanical Gardens all in Hales Corners:  
A 5555 S 106th St  
B 5879 South 92nd St and  
C 9400 Boerner Drive (where we will meet)

Use Google to get a better map...





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

Next Meeting of MBS  
7PM, Tuesday, February 1  
Boerner Botanical Gardens  
9400 Boerner Dr  
Hales Corners, WI 53130

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## Other Club Functions:

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

*Dried leaves skittering  
Madly chased by angry winds  
To and fro - swirling  
- Joe NemeC*