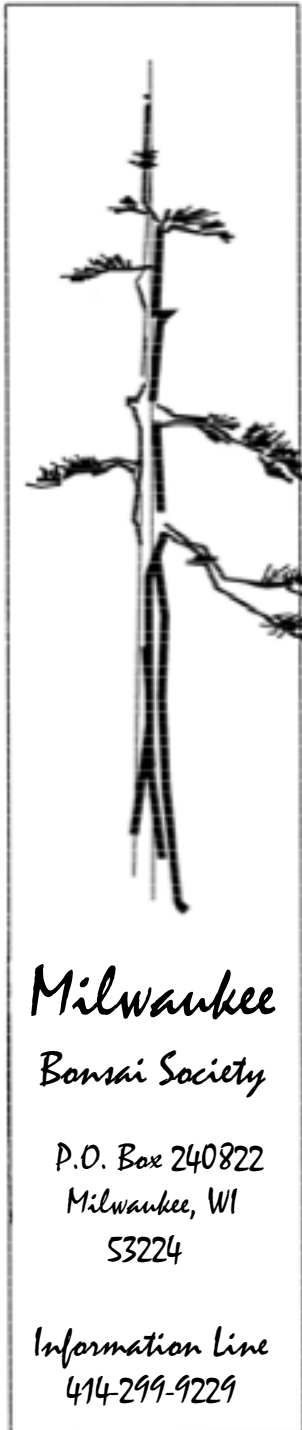


JULY 2013

Bonsai News



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society*

P.O. Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI
53224

Information Line
414-299-9229

NO JULY MEETING!!

The repotting workshop is open to all members. Saturday July 13, 1-4. Bring your trees, pots, potting soil, etc. This is the perfect opportunity to repot your tropical trees. Have fun with other club members!!

2013 MBS Cook Out

As in previous years, Don Gumieny has very generously invited the membership to his Waukesha area home on Sunday July 21st. We will gather about 2 PM and eat about 3 PM. Burgers, brats and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share, a bonsai tree for show and tell and a lawn chair to sit on. Collect moss for your trees and talk bonsai with friends until ???

Please RSVP to Don by 7/18/2013
262-548-0480 Office
414-651-7416 Cell
Map on page 8

2013 Events

JULY

July 2-NO SOCIETY MEETING

July 13 (Sat) - 1-4 Open workshop - repotting tropicals

July 13 (Sat) - 9-3 Intermediate Class #2

July 13 (Sat) - Wauwatosa Garden Tour

July 21 (Sun) - MBS Picnic

AUGUST

Aug 1-11 - State Fair

Aug 6 - Society Meeting
Presentation by advanced study group

Aug 16-18 - Chicago Show

Aug 25 - Intermediate Class #3

SEPTEMBER

Sept 3- Society Meeting
Presentation by State Fair winners

Sept 20-22 - MBS Annual Show

Sept 21 - Fall Public Workshop

www.milwaukeebonsai.org

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday Aug 6 - 6:00 pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens

REMEMBER

Come to the society meetings at 6:00 for social time and to get advice on trees you bring.

President's Message

Hi All,

Here it is July already. No monthly meeting this month but don't forget the MBS picnic on the 21st. See the related article and map in this issue.

The Father's Day Public Workshop at BBG didn't turn out exactly as planned. There was a mix up in promoting the event. We had a beautiful day and hope that next year will be a great improvement upon this year.

State Fair is almost upon us, have you signed up to tree sit yet? If you haven't, I will be calling you! Remember that the three shows during the Fair are judged. You get a written critique, the judges opinion on what to do to make you bonsai better, this is information on how you can improve your tree. So, it is to your advantage to show a tree at State Fair.

Also a couple of thoughts concerning MBS43AE, our 43rd Annual Exhibit. The dates are Friday September 20, Saturday September 21 and Sunday September 22 at BBG. I appeal to all MBS members who have not exhibited at the Annual Exhibit in the past or at all. This exhibit is an opportunity for you to show to the public your art form. Your tree does not need to be a ribbon winner, just as for State Fair, it is an opportunity for you to have your tree looked at by a knowledgeable judge who will give a written critique to you stating his/her opinion on what to do to improve your tree. This is invaluable information! So please don't hesitate, specifically those of you who have never exhibited before and especially Novice level people, participate in the Annual Exhibit this year, you won't regret it.

We have scheduled a banquet on Saturday Evening of MBS43AE this year for the first time. It will take place in Nell's Gazebo at BBG and a good time will be had by all. We are hoping for a few words of wisdom from our Exhibit Headliner, Kathy Shaner, during the banquet and the auction of a tree designed by Kathey Shaner. Sign up information for workshops and banquet will be in next months issue.

Hope to see you at Don's on the 21st for the picnic!

Steve

Bonsai Bucks what are they and why do I want them?

Whenever you work a 3-4 hour shift as a volunteer, you will receive a bonsai buck. With 6 bonsai bucks, you will receive a complimentary dinner at our Holiday awards banquet. Any bonsai bucks over 6 will be put into a drawing for \$50 certificates towards an MBS workshop or class. There are lots of opportunities coming up at State Fair and the Annual Show to volunteer. Get your calendars out and get ready to have fun!!

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR

AUGUST 1-11

STATE FAIR 2013 - Are you interested in entering a tree at State Fair? If you have never exhibited before, please consider doing so this year. Classes are: Youth, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Open. Please sign up at Club meetings or call 262-512-1228 to participate.

STATE FAIR EXHIBIT SCHEDULE 2011

Exhibit #1 (August 1 - August 3)
Exhibit #2 (August 4 - August 7)
Exhibit #3 (August 8 - August 11)

Exhibit #1

Deliver trees to **

Wednesday, July 31 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Sunday, Aug 3 from 9am - 10am

Exhibit #2

Deliver trees to **

Saturday, Aug 3 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Thursday, Aug 8 from 9am - 10am

Exhibit #3

Deliver trees to **

Wednesday, Aug 7 from 6pm - 7pm OR
bring to Society meeting Tuesday Aug 6

Pick up trees from **

Monday Aug, 12 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 will not be misdirected, lost or stolen.

Call or email

Kris at 262-512-1228, hagr8d@mac.com

Good luck and thanks for supporting the MBS 2013 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/pdfs/competitions/entry_info/general_info/hort/society_shows.pdf

Go to Bonsai info... p16-17

If you wish to help out at State Fair by greeting people who pass by our exhibit, please contact Steve by phone or email: 414-774-7714 or stephen.contney@att.net

43rd Annual Exhibit

September 20-22 2013

By Pam Woythal

In September, we continue our stellar Annual Exhibit. For the past few years Steve Carini has raised the bar on planning and preparations for our event. This year with help from you all, we will continue his “knock your sox off” event for all our club members.

Let's begin with a brief introduction of our featured artist, Kathy Shaner. Internationally known and recognized for her excellence in the art form, Shaner began bonsai in 1983 in California.

After ten years of study she obtained a 5 year apprenticeship with Sensei Yasuo Mitsuya, highly regarded Master of Gendai (contemporary form) bonsai training. She is the first non-Japanese and the first



woman certified by the professional bonsai grower's branch of Nippon Bonsai Association. Continuing to share the talents of her mentor, she is the Curator for the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt and teacher to hundreds of bonsai enthusiasts throughout the United States. She comes to Milwaukee to share her knowledge and deep commitment. MBS is extremely fortunate to welcome Kathy Shaner.

The exhibit will be held at the Education and Visitor Center at Boerner Botanical Gardens. We will accept exhibit trees from members on

Thursday evening, September 19. Friday we will have the judging followed by our evening traditional reception with guest artist critique. Saturday we will start the day with a material provided workshop geared for novice members. In the afternoon, we start “knocking off sox”. Our featured event will include a true educational experience with lecture and a demonstration on a Hynoki Cypress. This lecture/demonstration is available to everyone. Following the demonstration we will have a banquet so we can enjoy each other's company

and share our welcoming attitude with Kathy. Following the banquet, everyone is welcome to bid on the demonstration tree and participate in a fundraising raffle. Sunday morning we have another material provided workshop for intermediate to advance members on Hynoki Cypress similar to the

demonstration tree. The afternoon workshop is a small Bring Your Own. We close the weekend with our featured artist's closing thoughts on written questions that you provide earlier in the event. Sound fun?

Watch the website and newsletter for more details! Expect to sign up for one of the very few workshops at the August meeting.

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE PETER TEA MASTER'S CLASS?

The purpose of the 2014-2016 Master's class is to advance your knowledge of the art and science of bonsai as well as increase your bonsai skills and to pass on your knowledge to other club members. Peter Tea has agreed to be our sensei for this 3 year, in depth, class.

Depending on the number of students who sign up, we may have 2 or 3 days of classes. This, as well as the tentative costs, will be determined with the sign up in October (either at the meeting or by mail). We will require a \$100 non-refundable deposit at the time of sign-up. The final cost will depend on how many students are in each class (no more than 8 per day).

The dates for 2014 are:

May 2-4

June 27-29

November 7-9

Please check your calendars now to write in these dates. If you cannot make one of the sessions, you would need to find a member of the other class(es) to trade their day with you. If you cannot make any of the days, you will not be reimbursed your fees for that day as the fees are based on 8 (or fewer) in the class.

Some requirements from Peter:

"I do ask that each member of the study group has a good set of aluminum and copper wire. For aluminum, they should each have sizes .5, 1.0, 1.5, 1.7 (optional but useful) 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5mm. For copper (annealed), they should have sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 gauge. I know that copper is much harder to come by in the midwest so if there are difficulties in finding a good supply, I can help. I do also ask that each member have a solid basic bonsai tool set such as a good pair of scissors, wire cutters, concave cutters etc. If the tools don't work, it just makes bonsai that much harder."



Some requirements for material:

Black Pine or ??

Juniper or ??

Trident Maple or ??

We are waiting to hear from Peter whether he wants these specific trees or something similar.

We are very excited to have Peter coming to Milwaukee for the next three years. Join us and see how your skills improve!

We are advising you of the requirement now so you will have time to prepare for the class. If you need **wire**, see our vendors at the society meetings. If you need **trees**, see our vendors as well as those at the Chicago Bonsai show August 16-18.

Again, the formal sign up process will begin in October. We thought you all would want to know in advance what the required items would be.

BONSAI ARE STILL JUST TREES TO OTHERS

by Ron Fortmann

Right around May 8th this year I noticed that something has been messing with my Ponderosa Pine. There was a depression in the soil and a very loose scattering of debris (twigs; pine needles and dried grass blades) on the soil.

A couple of days later, during my morning ritual of wandering among my trees, I noticed one single white egg, laying in the depression. No adult bird in site. I went to work and did not give it anymore thought. That evening after work there was still only one solitary egg, still no

That night I “Binged” Mourning Doves and found out the following interesting facts:

- They are considered the closest living relative to the extinct Passenger Pigeon
- They are also considered Monogamous for their lifetime
- Can fly up to about 55 MPH
- Are mostly seed eaters
- They typically have Broods of two Squabs (young) at a time; up to 6 times a year



adults to be found, The nest, if you can call it that was poorly constructed and as the wind blew some of the parts blew away.

The next morning there was a second egg, and I noticed a couple of Mourning doves in the general area but nobody tending to the eggs. That evening Mom was sitting on the nest and flew off as soon as I came out the garage door. She came back soon but if I came anywhere near, she bolted off the nest. I looked and still only two eggs. Well, I said to myself, she will just have to get used to me being in the general area as the trees need to be attended too and since it is Mother’s Day weekend, I will leave them be. So every time I came close to the Ponderosa, she would take off. Eventually she began to trust that I was not going to harm her and stayed on the eggs.

- Females lay one egg in the morning and one in the evening; may lay eggs in someone else’s active nest
- Both Male and Female tend the nest, typically the Male during the day and the Female at night; Eggs take 14 days to incubate
- When hatched Squabs are fed “Crop Milk” for the first 3-4 days, which is something the parents produce in their alimentary canal (gut) and they then start adding seeds to their diet
- Squabs will “Fledge” (fly away) from the nest in 11-15 days

On the Saturday before Memorial Day I noticed that an eggshell was on the ground under the tree and Mom did not move off the nest. A couple of days later I noticed the head of one of the Squabs poking out from under her breast. At about a week, I would frequently see both of the Squabs moving about under the body of Mom, but not a sound as you are used to hearing from other baby birds.



I continued to water the Ponderosa, wherever Mom was not sitting. While she was nervous she did not leave her post.

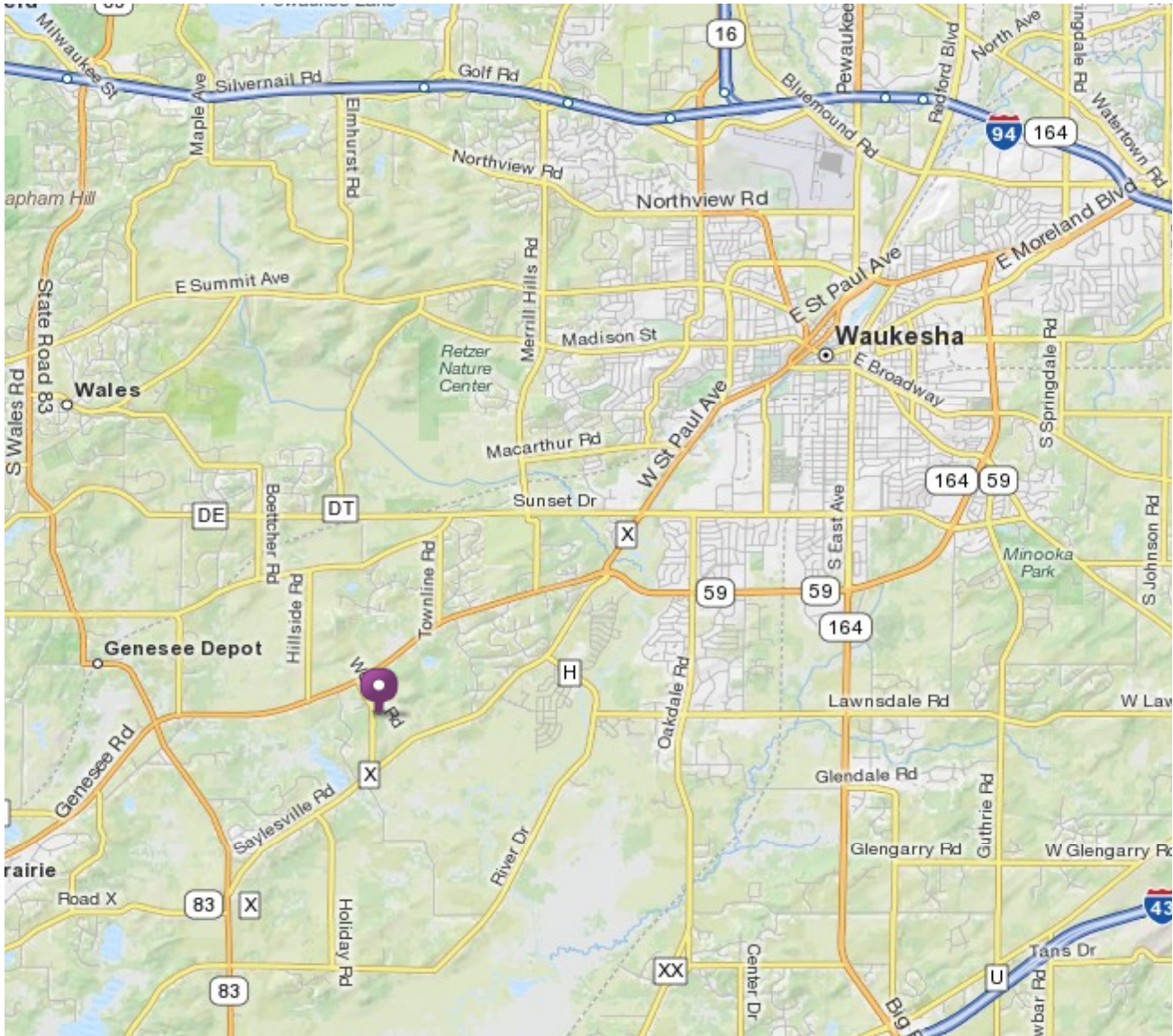
After Memorial Day, we were seeing the squabs daily out from under their Mom but still no noise from them.



It is amazing how quickly they grow, by mid-week they were about half the size of the adults. When Mom was sitting on them she looked like she was on some kind of carnival ride as she undulated with the Squab's breathing patterns.

Friday May 31st when I came home the youngsters were gone. Later that evening they were back wandering about other trees but not the Ponderosa that they hatched under. Mom and Dad were close by watching over their young but they soon flew off to some large Blue Spruce and I have not seen them since. Oh, they grow up so fast.

Map of W286S4684 Woods Road, Waukesha, WI



From Madison:

I94 East to Hwy 83
South on Hwy 83 7.2 miles to Hwy 59
East on Hwy 59 2 miles to Woods Road
Watch for signage at Woods Road
South on Woods Road .4 miles to Don's
(look for the American Flag-East side of road)

From Beloit or Kenosha:

I43 to Hwy 83
North on Hwy 83 8.2 miles to Hwy 59
East on Hwy 59 2 miles to Woods Road
Watch for signage at Woods Road
South on Woods Road .4 miles to Don's
(look for the American Flag-East side of road)

From Milwaukee:

I94 West to Exit 297 (Barker Road)
West on Hwy 18 (Moorland Blvd) 1.8 miles to Hwy 164
South on Hwy 164 (joins Hwy 59)
Stay on Hwy 59 when Hwy 164 turns south
9.2 miles to Woods Road
Watch for signage at Woods Road
South on Woods Road .4 miles to Don's
(look for the American Flag-East side of road)



Members...

Did you know that you are able to run short ads concerning bonsai in our newsletter for free?

July Bonsai Care Tips

a compilation from the Springfield Bonsai Society and the Iowa Bonsai Association

This is a general guide. Times can vary as much as a month depending on the weather trends. Some species of trees do not follow the general category guidelines of deciduous, evergreen or tropical. Know your trees!

- Repot tropicals.
- Prune pines. Pinch back junipers, as they will be growing rapidly. Leaf prune deciduous through the middle of the month. Wounds heal quickly. Create jin and shari.
- Continue wiring, especially conifers. Keep an eye on the wire on your trees. This is especially true for deciduous trees which grow very rapidly in early summer. Wire can cut in more quickly than you think.
- Keep an eye on watering. Some trees may need water twice daily. Avoid watering during the hottest part of the day. With so much rain watering chores have been pretty light. Check your trees daily in any event. Stick a finger in the soil as the surface may look dry but there may be plenty of moisture underneath. Misting in hot weather is always welcome.
- Turn your tree often so all sides are equally exposed to the sun for even growth.

Use an inexpensive turntable with a stop for larger, heavier trees.

- In the hot sun, the pots of your trees may become too hot to touch. Imagine what that does to the roots of your trees. Pots with wide rims are especially bad about heating up. Some trees may be shaded during the hottest part of the day. Possibly squirt the hot pots with water to cool them off but that isn't an option for most people. Covering the pot with burlap will keep the pot from becoming too hot and can keep the soil from drying too rapidly. It's not very pretty but it is cheap and efficient. Towels work too.

- Spider mites and aphids thrive in hot weather so keep an eye out for them. Give your trees a strong spray on the foliage when you water which helps keep the spider mite population down. If foliage starts looking puny that is a good indication of spider mites. Spray with an insecticide which specifies it is for spider mites on the label.

Soap Solution for Pest Control

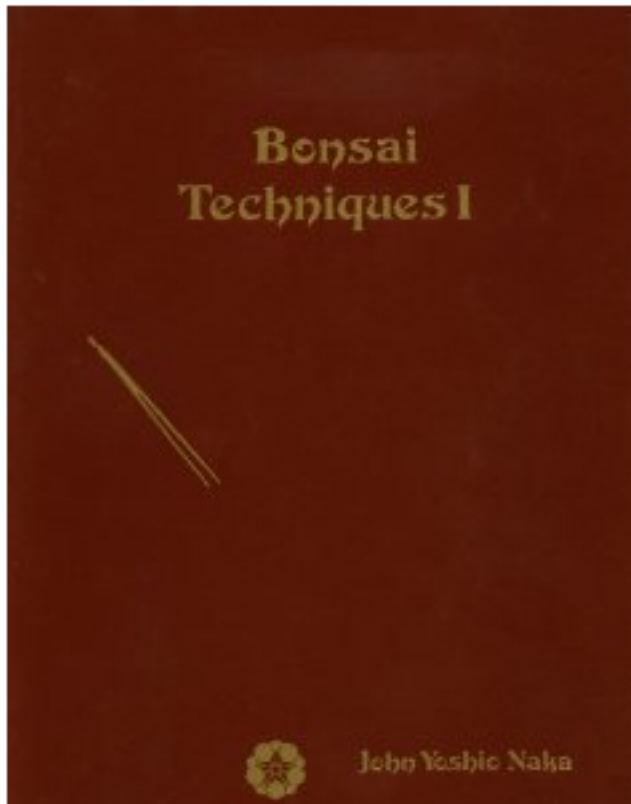
Pour 1-2 tablespoons of original Dawn dishwashing detergent and 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil in a gallon jug. Slowly add water to fill the jug. Pour part of this solution into a spray bottle and add 2 capfuls of rubbing alcohol. Use immediately. If there is any solution left in the spray bottle, add 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.

BONSAI TECHNIQUES I

by John Yoshio Naka



BOOK REVIEWS:

**Probably the best "working" bonsai book,
- G. Peterson**

In case you were wondering, the author, John Naka, was considered one of the top 5 bonsai artists of the late 20th and early 21st centuries (John died recently in 2004). The display pavilion of the National Bonsai Collection in the National Arboretum in Washington D.C. is named after him, and he is considered the "founding father" of American Bonsai. For many Americans, John humanized the art of Bonsai, and opened a window to what is for many people a new art form and a new culture.

As other reviewers have stated, this is not a book for people who are looking for glossy photos of finished bonsai (there are plenty of those elsewhere). Instead, this book is written for practitioners of the art of bonsai - it could be considered a compilation of John's working notes from his lifetime of experience and the numerous workshops and classes he gave. Much of the text feels like you are listening to a bonsai master talk to a class instead of reading a text book, and many (if not all) of the hand-drawn illustrations are by John personally. The text is very clear and easy to understand, and the complexities of bonsai are slowly revealed through the quantity of the content provided instead of the complexity.

Great Book by a Great Master!, David J. Piemme

Of all the books that I have read and collected in the 25 + years that I have been growing and studying Bonsai, this is by far one of the very best! Master Naka not only had a great love and passion for his art, but thru a long lifetime of intensive study and practice he acquired a vast amount of knowledge on, not only the horticultural aspect of growing bonsai, but also the philosophy behind the art. He was also a very gifted teacher with a great love of sharing what he had learned with his students, which is very evident in all his books. Some of the things he talks about in this book may seem a bit out dated since it was first published in 1972, but the vast majority of what is discussed has past the test of time and is still as true and relevant to the art today as it was then. John Naka was a true master and you could never ask for a better resource for knowledge of this unique and fascinating art form than to study his works. BUY THE BOOK!!!



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

Next Meeting of MBS
Tuesday August 6, 2013
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130



Free to a good home: large cuttings of corkscrew willow for your landscape and some smaller ginkgo for bonsai. Also some smaller bonsai for sale. Call or email Kris 262-512-1228 or hagr8d@mac.com

2013 MBS OFFICERS

President	Steve Con.
First VP	Judy S
Second VP	Kris Z
Secretary	Ron F
Treasurer	Susan L
Director	John M
Director	Barbara S
Director	Allen K
Past Pres.	Pam W

Other Club Functions:

Newsletter - Kris Z
Webmaster - Pam W
PAB Board - Rob P, Anna S & Houston S



Check out:

www.crashbonsai.com

