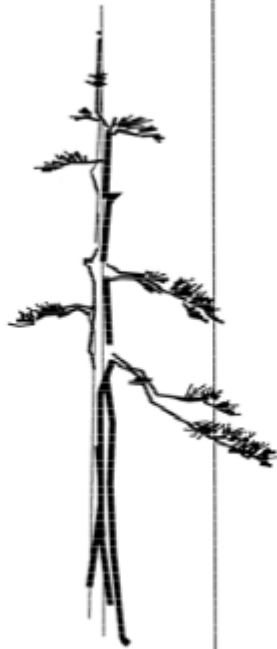


BONSAI NEWS

October 2015



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

October MBS meeting

Our October meeting is entitled "The Art of Viewing Stones".

What are they you ask?

Well, the best way to find out about them is to come to the October meeting.



Nominees for 2016 board

Pres—Judy S
1st VP—Kris Z
2nd VP—Teri Wall
Secretary—Leo S
Treasurer—Wally V
Director—Rob P
Director—Susan L
Director—Bryan L
Past Pres—Greg P

October

Oct 3 Intermediate Class #4*
Oct 6 **Society Meeting**—Tony Ankowicz-Suiseki
Oct 17 Fall Cleanup Workshop
Oct 23-26 Peter Tea-Classes #3*

November

Nov 3 **Society Meeting**—Prepare for Winter
Nov 20-22 Folk Fair

December

No Society Meeting

***Members Only**



**Next Meeting
October 6, 2015
6:45pm
Boerner Botanical
Gardens**

President's Message

Whoa, another fantastic month of Bonsai. I want to thank everyone who helped make the 45th Annual Exhibit a success! You know who you are and it would take too long to name everyone. The volunteers who helped set up the exhibit hall, arrange the trees in the really exciting , unconventional set-up. Which we received many good comments about. Everyone seemed to like the informal setup compared to the conventional way we used in the past. Everyone who donated to the raffles and the people organizing the things to be raffled. The people who sold and the ones who bought the tickets. The ones who took the time to prepare and bring in their trees for exhibit. The vendors and people who helped clean up and get everyone out of Boerner on time Sunday. Thank You! I would like to personally thank one individual, Steve Co for co-chairing the AE for the past five events. He has done a fantastic job and as he steps back for a well deserved break it will be hard to replace him.

-Greg

Suggested Winter Care

-Joe N

To overwinter outdoor trees they can be kept in large plastic bins which are available at Wal-Mart. The bins will need large, drainage holes drilled into them. The bins should be large enough for 2 or 3 trees. If more trees will need protection, you can purchase a large, shallow, plastic infant sitting pool and drill drainage holes in the bottom.

During the first week of November place the bin or pool on an elevated stand, if possible. Place the trees, in their pots, in the containers and fill the containers with fine shredded mulch; up about 1/3 of the way up the height of the tree. Place the bins outside in a sheltered area. and wet the bark thoroughly. Throughout winter, let the snow cover the trees. In about mid-April, or when green growth appear, remove the trees from the bins and set the trees up. Now would be the time to start gathering the materials you will need for this project

Annual Exhibit Results



Best of Show
Jack Douthitt
Japanese Weeping Willow

People's choice
Michelle Zimmer—American Larch



Annual Exhibit Results
Blue Ribbons



Jorge Rossette—Advanced
Willow leaf Ficus

Rocio Saybe-Intermediate
Korean Hornbeam



Nancy Majewski-Novice
Weeping Barbados Cherry

Annual Exhibit Results



Pam Woythal
Advanced
White Cedar



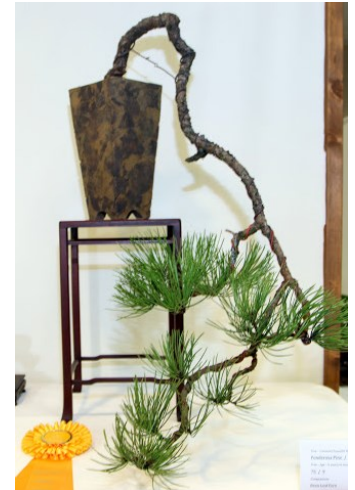
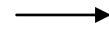
Robert Plichta
Intermediate
Ginkgo



Kevin Stoeveken
Novice
Spekboom



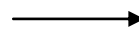
Steven Carini
Advanced
Ponderosa Pine



Penny Timm
Intermediate
Natal Plum



Kathy Kopydlowski
Novice
Scots Pine



September MBS Meeting

Jin and Shari



Photos courtesy of Jean S

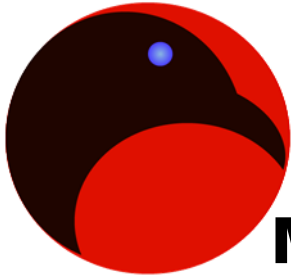


I've got the bonsai bug. What do I do in winter?
-Kris Z

Ah, there's lots you can do during winter. As you are watering your trees in the last weeks of autumn, really look to see if the water is draining through nicely. If not, your tree may need a re-pot. This is list-making time!

- *Most important is to have a place to store your trees in winter. If you have any questions, please come to the November meeting when the curator of the Chicago Botanic Garden bonsai collection, Chris Baker, will be giving a presentation on over-wintering trees (including those at the Chicago Botanic Garden).
- *Make sure your storage area is nicely cleaned out of old leaves, dirt, cobwebs, etc. (I use a leaf blower!)
- *Make lists which trees need to be repotted. Maybe you have a tree that has been in the same pot for a while and you would just like to see it in another pot. Or a judge commented that it would look much nicer in another sort of pot.
- *Start looking for pots to fit the trees you would like to repot. See our vendors or try your hand online.
- *If you have the pots, winter is the time to clean them. (I find cleaning them while watching TV is quite relaxing!)
- *Start stocking up on soil for your repotting. You'll be surprised how fast the re-potting time in spring comes and goes! (Tropicals... you have til July).
- *You may have an idea to expand your outdoor bonsai area. Think about building some bonsai benches. If you have a basement, you can spend part of the winter doing this. Or visit resale shops, Goodwill, etc for any sort of outdoor table that might work.
- *Winter may be a good time to re-wire some of your trees... or de-wire. You may need to get advice on this if you are unsure.

These are just a few suggestions to keep you going during the winter. There are others...!!?? :o)



Maintenance Pruning Tips

Quiet Crow Bonsai is a collection of articles, essays, and views for bonsai artist, devotees and supporters.
www.QuietCrowBonsai.com

Last article explored general pruning tips. We discovered that we prune in two stages maintain plant health and pruning for aesthetics.

When pruning a plant, do the maintenance pruning first, and the aesthetic pruning second. By doing the maintenance pruning first, you have removed the material that MUST be removed and it will help define how to prune for aesthetics.

Steps for Maintenance Pruning ensure we maintain the health of the bonsai. The following steps are what I use in my monthly review of each of my trees on my benches. Keeping all the general pruning tips in mind, let's get started:

1. Prevent Spreading Disease. Sounds just like tip number 1 from the last article. But this time examine the tree for disease and insects. I found a very useful 60x pocket microscope with LED light on Amazon. Bugs move, dirt is stationary. Remove diseased material (Always sanitize your pruning shears in alcohol after each cut, whenever cutting diseased plants.) Shake a limb over a white sheet of paper, are the spots moving? Treat for insects or remove infested area. Burn, or otherwise dispose of diseased material. Do not leave it lying around since many diseases continue to spread for years from the debris.

2. Think twice, cut once. Again sounds just like tip number 3 from the last article. You cannot cut a limb back on. Start thinking about how you want the bonsai to look. Use a turntable and look at the tree from all sides several times.

3. Remove Dead Branches. Clean out old leaves/needles from the tree's interior. Dead or diseased limbs can be removed at any time of year, and should be removed at the earliest opportunity (especially diseased material). Sometimes it is difficult to identify dead limbs, and all too easy to cut off live limbs thinking they are dead. In these cases it is best to wait till bud break, so the dead/live limbs are easily distin-

guished from each other. On the other hand, you can (with some experience) learn to identify dead limbs by examining bark color, looking for shriveled bark, off-color buds, etc. As a last resort, you can scratch the bark and look for the green layer underneath the bark as a sign that the limb is alive.

Likewise some plants have major color changes during dormancy and/or may look dead until they break bud. A good example is some varieties of arborvitae that turn absolutely dead-brown in winter. Other plants may have suffered winter damage that prevents them from breaking bud at a normal time of year. I have seen hornbeam wait until late June to break bud. If in doubt, WAIT, remember step 2, you can't cut it back on.

4. Remove Unwanted Branches. Removing these unwanted branches helps you see the tree. Remove sucker branches. These branches may be growing straight up, or growth that is reverting back to root stock at the base of the tree or branches forming in crotches. Remove cross over branches. Remove branches that are damaged or malformed. If you are not sure, remember step 2 and wait



5. Remove Congested Growth. Open up the interior of the tree. Not only does it improve the bonsai air circulation, ensures sunlight can reach the interior branches, it is needed for our next stage. Pruning for aesthetics





PO Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Www.milwaukeebonsai.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Meeting of MBS
Tuesday October 6, 2015
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130

2015 MBS OFFICERS

President [Greg P](#)
First VP [Kris Z](#)
Second VP [Judy S](#)
Secretary [Julie McN](#)
Treasurer [Barbara S](#)
Director [John Me](#)
Director [Teri W](#)
Director [Susan L](#)
Past Pres. [Steve Co](#)

Other Club Functions

Newsletter [Melissa J](#)
Webmaster [Pam W](#)

Director of Children's Education—Jean S

PAB Board—Rob P, Ron F & Houston S



Autumn birds flocking
Dipping and weaving as one
Ballet in the sky
-Joe Nemeo