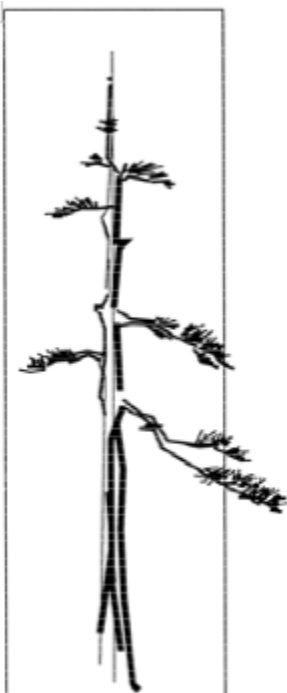


BONSAI NEWS

March 2018



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

March Meeting

We are pleased to announce that Chris Baker will be joining with us on March 6th 2018 to talk about bringing your bonsai out of winter hibernation, transplanting, soils and fertilizers for young growing trees and mature show worthy specimens. He is a great communicator of bonsai information.

In April 2014, Chris Baker began work as the first full-time curator of bonsai at the Chicago Botanic Garden, where he maintains approximately 289 bonsai trees.

Baker has been studying and working on bonsai for more than 13 years. In 2011 to early 2014, he was an intern and volunteer at the United States National Arboretum's National Bonsai and Penjing Museum in Washington, D.C. As an active member of the Maryland bonsai community, Baker gave many demonstrations and talks at the Potomac Bonsai Association Spring Show in Washington, D.C., as well as to garden clubs. Baker spent six months in 2012 studying bonsai with third-generation bonsai master Tohru Suzuki at the Daijuen Nursery in Okazaki, Japan.

This will be a great informative "show" with information about MBS events, a library full of bonsai books, vendors selling tools and trees and a raffle.

March

Mar 3-Novice class*
Mar 6—**MBS meeting**
Chris Baker
Mar 17-Novice class*
Mar 24-Intermediate class*

April

April 3—**MBS meeting**
Austin Heitzman-
Displays
April 7-Novice class*
April 28-Intermediate class*

May

May 1—**MBS meeting**—David
Kreutz-Azaleas
May 26-Novice class*

June

June 5 —**MBS meeting**
Todd Schlafer
June 16-Intermediate class*
June 23-Raft workshop*

July

July 3—**No MBS meeting**
July 14-Picnic

August

Aug 2-12—State Fair
Aug 7—**MBS meeting**
Tropicals

*Open to MBS members only

Next Meeting
Mar 6, 2018
6:45pm
Boerner Botanical
Gardens

Connect with MBS
@Milwaukeebonsai.org



President's Message March 2018

Spring is here! Wait, no it is still winter. Wait again, it might be spring. Oh gosh I just don't know what season it is anymore. Our trees are just as confused by the weather as we are! One day its 50 with rain and the next we have snow and 20 degrees, but that is life in Wisconsin.

The weather along with bonsai require patience. Bonsai is an art based on patience that can bring peace and harmony to your life. Many people get frustrated when growing a bonsai because they want to see results right away; it's a very common mistake. Bonsai trees can live way longer than a human being. In Japan there are some trees as old as five hundred years; meaning that they have been cared for by many generations. Results take time and the more time they take the more rewarding they will be. Enjoy the process as a whole and remember that it's all about patience, something that we need in a world that's going very fast.

While the weather and our bonsai require patience, we won't need to wait much longer to have Chris Baker from the Chicago Botanic Garden at our Tuesday meeting. Chris will be here March 6th to talk about a variety of topics from soil to fertilizer. April brings Austin Heitzman to our monthly meeting to talk about bonsai displays and May will feature David Kruetz and Azaleas.

There is still time to sign up for the Intermediate class which starts at the end of March. The full application can be found on line on the classes page of the MBS web site. Also, don't forget to like MBS on Facebook. Keep up to date on the MBS schedule via our Facebook page.

Remember, patience is a bitter plant, but it's fruit is sweet.

Melissa



WISCO BONSAI

www.WiscoBonsai.blogspot.com
www.WiscoBonsai@gmail.com

WISCO BONSAI

DELIVERY TO MBS MEETINGS AVAILABLE.

(ALSO TO THE GENERAL METRO AREA WITH MINIMUM PURCHASE OR SMALL FEE)

**PROVIDING SUPERIOR BONSAI
PRODUCTS SUCH AS U.S. SOURCED
SUBSTRATES, U.S. MADE CUT-PASTE
AND CUSTOM BLENDED FERTILIZERS.**

SEE ALL THE PRODUCTS: www.WiscoBonsai.blogspot.com

**ALSO TAKING ORDERS FOR LARGER QUANTITIES OF PRESIFTED & SIZED
SUBSTRATE ORDERS FOR SPRING 2018•DON'T BE CAUGHT UNPREPARED !!!**

contact: WiscoBonsai@gmail.com

EXHIBIT ONE OF YOUR TREES AT LYNDEN

Exhibit your bonsai in **the Bonsai Pavilion at Lynden Sculpture Garden** in celebration of World Bonsai Day.

The bonsai in the permanent exhibit will be removed and this special exhibit of MBS member bonsai will be placed on exhibit from Saturday May 12th through Sunday May 20th 2018.

To enter:

Photograph the tree you want to enter (snapshots are acceptable)

Put the photos into a folder along with:

basic information about the bonsai (species, size, estimated age, history, etc.)

your name and contact information in a sealed envelope

Give the folder to Jack D. no later than April 3, 2018.

Each MBS member can submit up to three entries. Please place each entry in a separate folder. All entries will be judged by an experienced bonsai artist who is not a member of MBS.

Twenty bonsai will be selected by the judge to be placed on display in the Bonsai Pavilion at Lynden to celebrate World Bonsai Day. One of them could be yours!

There are no restrictions related to length of ownership and no classifications as to level of experience. No awards will be given.

Email entries cannot be accepted.

The Opening Reception will be held on the afternoon of May 12 and is open to all.

A demonstration will be given and refreshments will be served.

You do have to enter if you want your bonsai to be considered for this exhibit! So photograph your best trees, prepare your entries and get them to Jack by April 3, 2018.

Any questions call Jack at 414.248.6913



For complete application see the website under classes



Milwaukee Bonsai Society

2018 Intermediate Classes

MBS will again sponsor an Intermediate Class in 2018. This class is recommended for those members who find that they are committed to furthering their understanding and enjoyment of the art of Bonsai. It is designed to deepen the principles that you have learned in the Novice Class or with previous experience. The class will incorporate lecture, handouts, discussion, demonstration, review, repetition, critique, and hands on work with your own trees and each other's. Many members find that they enroll in this class more than once.

The Intermediate Class will be led for the third year by Steve Ca, and will be held in his home studio. Each of the six sessions will center around one of the three important seasons of bonsai work: Spring repotting and cut back, Summer tree and branch development, and Fall assessment, cut back, and preparation for next year's growth expectations. Each class will be specific to the season, and all will include an understanding of why we do certain things at this time, horticultural principles, and most importantly, DESIGN. This will be our second year as a 6 session class series, allowing time to focus on display and wiring.

As a course requirement, you will have the opportunity to stretch your new understanding of bonsai principles by providing teaching assistance at the club's Beginner Workshop, to be held at BBG on September 8, 2018, from 9-12. Under the supervision of experienced club members, you will be challenged to share what you have learned with new bonsai hobbyists.

The Intermediate Class is limited to six students per class. Each member is required to bring their own trees, tools and lots of questions to each class. A binder for handouts, soil for one tree repotting as well some practice wire will be included in the class fee. After completing this class, you will be better prepared and encouraged to participate in special club workshops with visiting guest artists, not to mention... you will grow in your enjoyment of Bonsai!

Repotting 1 Saturday March 24 (10-4 PM) – Steve's Studio

Why we repot

Repotting 2-3 trees focus on deciduous

Introduction to branch development

Soil

Fertilizing and Design

Next step for repotted trees

Repotting 2 Saturday April 28 (10-4 PM) – Steve's Studio

Repeat of all of Repotting 1 with focus on conifers

Repotting 2-3 trees

Summer 1 Saturday June 16 (10-4 PM) – Steve's Studio

Branch development review

Wiring and Jin

Fertilizing and Design

Discuss your trees

Summer2 Saturday August 11 (10-4 PM) – Steve's Studio

Repeat of all of Summer 1

Discuss your trees

Fall 1 Saturday September 29 (10-4 PM) – Steve's Studio

Preview of necessary fall cutback

Branch development review

Any necessary fine wiring

Fertilizing and Design

Soji

Discuss your trees

Design MBS Beginner Workshop September 8 (9-12 PM) at Boerner Botanical Gardens

Fall 2 Saturday October 27 (10-4 PM) – Steve's Studio

Repeat of all of Fall 1

Evaluations

Perform appropriate fall cutback

February 10, 2018 MBS Kick off Meeting





Better Bonsai Through Records

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

One important tool that many bonsai artist neglect is the handwritten field notebook on your tree's progress. By field notebook I mean a record or journal that can adopt standards while also providing a unique record of our personal experiences with our trees.

With collecting comes the need to record. I realized early in my bonsai career, that the circumstances of acquiring the tree, even the feelings and the experiences surrounding the event were important. Each tree has a story and with record keeping you can provide this story for future development.

Taking Notes for a More Complete Picture

Note taking makes you look more carefully at your tree and workshop experience, it requires that you pay attention to every detail -- even the seemingly unimportant ones. Writing is a way of bringing to the forefront of your thoughts, events, and incidental details, which allows an account of the events to be expanded into something that can be used in the future. In observations as well as written record keeping, you never know what will turn out to be important.

These resulting field notes have provided me with the opportunity to see what has changed during my care. At this point I want to emphasize what I believe will ultimately be the greatest purpose of record keeping. This value will not be realized until a few more years down the road. This value is that the collector of the future will have access to the original record of my bonsai, its conditions in Milwaukee, the history, the number of years in training and relative progress of the bonsai.

What Should Be Included

Notes should be written as soon as possible after working on your tree or at a workshop. Even though we may not think so when we are participating and observing, we are all likely to forget important details unless we write them down quickly.

Jottings are the brief words or phrases written down while working or at the workshop; more complete notes will be written later. Jottings including date, location, people involved, insider language which is intended to help us remember things we want to include when we write the full-fledged notes.

Description of the activity, everything you can remember about the tree and technique you are writing about -- the cause, a sequence of activities. While it is useful to focus primarily on things you did or facts which relate to the activity, some amount of general information is also helpful.

Reflection on what you learned of a personal nature. What was it like for you to be doing this technique or repotting? What felt comfortable for you and what felt uncomfortable? In what ways did you connect with the guiding artist, and in what ways didn't you?

Analysis of what you learned and other related points. What questions do you have to help focus your observation on subsequent work? Can you begin to draw preliminary connections or potential conclusions based on what you learned?

Future Action or the to-do list including a timeline on when to get it started. When to schedule the next repotting, wiring, increase in fertilization.

My Record Taking

Taking solid notes was my way of staying focused and I have countless notebooks. I am also an early adopter of technology -- and I love my computer! I love taking photos and find them all extremely useful. However, there are some record keeping skills that I think are still extremely important to learn. It is not important if you use a smart-device to capture this information or a written notebook -- as long as you can find it all in one place. I transfer my note taking to a word document with a listing for each tree stored in two files one for deciduous and the other for conifers. I can print it entirely or just the updated pages. By keeping this record close, I can record jottings and again transfer it to the Word doc which serves as the permanent record. Check out the template on page 2. The first box is my identification number and nickname. Contact me if you would like the word doc or more information.

Why do I recommend it?

By now you have an idea of how taking notes can give your bonsai a real boost. Taking notes isn't just so you can remember afterwards; it's also about slowing yourself down and being deliberate about your practice. The purposefulness that note-taking creates is something that leads to getting better at bonsai.

If we consider that our bonsai is, in many occasions, a reflection of how we interact with nature, written notes with your thoughts and descriptions can enhance the experience, not only for you, but for the people you share your bonsai adventures with later.



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

Next MBS meeting will be
March 6, 2018 at 6:45pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130

2018 MBS OFFICERS

President [Melissa J](#)
First VP [Bryan L](#)
Second VP
Secretary [Leo S](#)
Treasurer [Wally V](#)
Director [Rob P](#)
Director [Bonnie P](#)
Director [Phil R](#)
Past Pres. [Judy S](#)

Other Club Functions

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

Director of Children's Education—Jean S
PAB Board—Ron F, Houston S & Jean S



Cherry blossoms bloom
Rumbly showers from the sky
Peace out winter gloom!