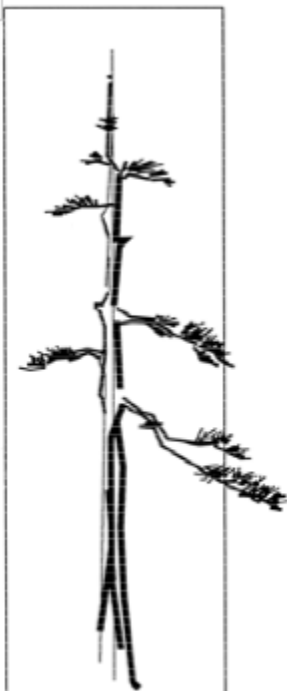


# BONSAI NEWS

January, 2022



*Milwaukee  
Bonsai Society  
PO Box 240822  
Milwaukee Wi  
53224*

## Upcoming meeting

The January meeting will be held on the **2nd** Saturday instead of the first due to New Year's Day being the 1st Saturday.

At this meeting, our new president, Erich B will talk about all the exciting events planned for 2022. This year promises to be very busy for everyone.

The last part of the meeting we will hear from Ron F who will get us "thinking about repotting". See the short article further in the newsletter explaining more about this. I'm sure everyone will leave the meeting with a new perspective on potting.

## January

Jan 8—"Thinking about repotting"

## February

Feb 5—Review of repotting the club's Ponderosa Pine

Feb 19—Novice Class\*

## March

March 5 — Repotting demo "bonsai pot to bonsai pot"

March 12—Novice Class\*

## April

April 2 — Demo of repotting from a nursery container

April 9—Novice Class\*

## May

May 7 — Horticulture

May 14 — World Bonsai Day

## June

June 4 — Wiring demo on branch samples

June 23-26 — MABA

\*Open to MBS Members Only

## Next Meeting

**January 8, 9am  
At Boerner  
Botanical  
Gardens**



Hello everyone. For those of you that haven't heard yet, I have been elected as the new club president. I have been a member of the club for about five years now and previously served on the executive committee as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. I'm looking forward to my new position and continuing our efforts to move our club forward. In the coming year we have a lot of exciting events planned, tons of information being provide at our regular club meetings and are still looking at some additional opportunities for members to participate in. I also want to encourage everyone to feel free to contact me or any other executive committee member if you have any ideas for club activities, if you would like to have a specific topic addressed at one of the meetings, would like to see if we can get a bonsai artist to come and do a presentation, or any other ideas or questions. We want your experience to be fun and to be able to provide education and information that you need to become a better bonsai hobbyist and beyond. My personal email address will be included in every newsletter. Please be sure to take a look at the schedule of events in every newsletter as we will be adding new offerings throughout the year.

Looking forward to serving you, Erich (pronounced Eric)

~~~~~

## Thinking about Repotting Ron F.

-Are you prepared to repot?

We often think of repotting as a task that needs to be done in spring, but are you truly prepared to take on this task? My goal of this presentation is to get you thinking of all the scenarios that you may encounter during your repot and have you considering all the variables and items you would want to have ready for use if needed. Repotting is like open heart surgery for a human, so you need to be equipped to react effectively and efficiently. Can you imagine what it would be like if your surgeon suddenly needed a specific instrument and it was at the other end of the hospital? Your repotting session should not be treated any differently.

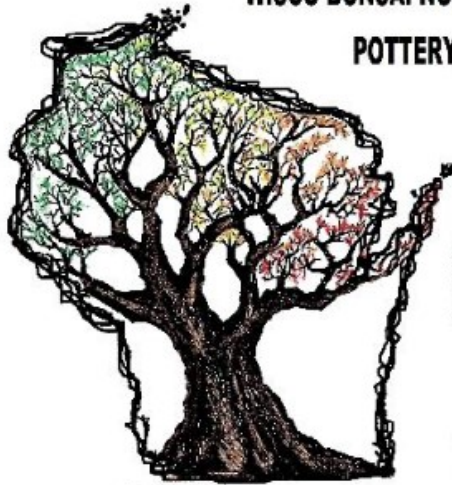
Like a good Boy Scout "Be Prepared", this will highly increase you chance of a successful and less stressful repotting session.

-What do you think about this pot?

The second part of my presentation will look at "POTS", what considerations should you be thinking about when you are looking for a pot for your tree. There are many variables that should be part of your decision making beyond Glazed or Unglazed, Pot shape and size. We will go through the many aspects that make up a pot and why you should be thinking about how they may affect what will look OK, and what will make a much better selection to showcase your tree.

I hope both of these subjects are going to get your thoughts going into the 2022 potting season that will be on us sooner than you think

**WISCO BONSAI NOW HAS THE AREA'S LARGEST SELECTION OF ARTISIAN, HANDMADE BONSAI POTTERY, MUCH OF WHICH CONSISTS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL ARTISTS.**



**WISCO BONSAI**  
www.WiscoBonsai.com

**WE ALSO NOW CARRY A LINE OF TOOLS GEARED TOWARD THE BEGINNER AND NOVICE AMONG US, ALONG WITH ALL MANNER OF BONSAI SUNDRIES, SUCH AS, COPPER & ALUMINUM WIRE, JIN SEAL, WOUND PUTTY, ETC.**

**AND OF COURSE THERES THE SUBSTRATE, WISCO GOLD... ASK FOR IT BY NAME !!! WE ALSO OCCAISIONALLY HAVE OTHER RAW SUBSTRATE COMPONENTS AVAILABLE (PUMICE, LAVA, ETC).**

**GOT ORCHIDS ? WE HAVE A SUBSTRATE FOR THOSE TOO !!!**

[WiscoBonsai@gmail.com](mailto:WiscoBonsai@gmail.com)    414-248-3827    [www.WiscoBonsai.com](http://www.WiscoBonsai.com)

**DUE TO COVID, SHOP CURRENTLY OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY AND ALL SAFETY MEASURES ARE IN PLACE.**

### **Sharon Schmidt - MBS Unsung Hero**

By Pam W.

Many of us have served with MBS member Sharon Schmidt. Sharon served as President in 1997-8, as a director in the mid to late 90's again in 2003-2004, Treasurer in 1994-1995 and again in 2005 and Secretary in 2006. As you can tell, Sharon stepped up whenever asked to serve. Sharon and I served together on both the 2002 and 2006 conventions. She had a humble fun approach to bonsai. Many remember her quick wit, great sense of humor and fun to be around!

After 40 years of living with severe arthritis, and 18 years of living with cancer, Sharon passed on December 7, 2021, at the age of 73. Sharon was instrumental in keeping our club flourishing even during her tough times and more importantly she was always in great spirits, made sure things went smoothly and that we all had fun. And in her unsung hero way she asks that there "be no service, but someday when you're having a good time, think of me and raise your glass!" And her toast to us "May the force be with you all!"



<https://www.jsonline.com/obituaries/mjs054761>

## **Ancient Arts Bonsai**

Bonsai Supplier Established  
in 2005

Bonsai a Growing Hobby  
Wisconsin's Leading Full Line Bonsai Supplier

Tools, Wire – Aluminum & Copper, Pots, Fertilizers  
Soils – Akadama, Lava, Pumice, Kanuma, Blends  
Trees – Tropical, Deciduous, Conifers, Evergreens  
Services – Lessons, Consults, Repotting, Wiring, Boarding

See our updated Website: [aabonsai.com](http://aabonsai.com)

Email – [aabonsai@charter.net](mailto:aabonsai@charter.net)

Phone – 262-490-8733



The Annual Exhibit in August may seem to be a long way off, and August is quite a few days from now, but the Exhibit takes a lot of planning before it can be a success.

Would you like to help make this year's Annual Exhibit at Lynden be as good as it can possibly be? Do you have ideas that you would like to share to make the event even better than in the past? Or would you like to just give a few hours of time to help the club out in any way possible?

Now is your chance. The Annual Exhibit Committee is looking for members. We need people to arrange for vendors, help find sponsors and entertainment, head the volunteer committee, arrange the raffles/auction and coordinate the AE dinner.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact [Erich B](#) or [Teri W](#) for more information.

# Milwaukee Bonsai Society

## 2022 Novice Classes



If you are in the early stages of learning about the bonsai hobby, these classes will help expand your knowledge of understanding of bonsai styles, practices and techniques and set the foundation on which your future bonsai experiences and lessons will build.

Novice classes this year will be led by Ron Fortmann. This series of five classes will review a number of topics in each session and you will also work on a provided tree in the fourth and fifth sessions. We will work from a text that will be provided as part of the class.

Session 1 Saturday February 19 (9-2 PM) at Boerner Botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Introductions and expectations | Bonsai Terms        |
| Bonsai History                 | Bonsai Styles       |
| Bonsai Tools                   | Bonsai Horticulture |

Session 2 Saturday March 12 (9-2 PM) at Boerner Botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room

|                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Review Styles and their application | Pot Selection               |
| Bonsai Rules                        | Potting/Repotting Practices |
| Bonsai Development                  | Repotting Workshop          |

Session 3 Saturday March 26 (9-2 PM) at Boerner Botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Bonsai Soils         | Discussion about Taper |
| Bonsai Fertilization | Wire and Wiring        |

Session 4 Saturday April 9 (9-2 PM) at Boerner Botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room

|                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Work on your class tree | Review previous sessions |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|

Session 5 Saturday May nn (9-2 PM) Nursery Crawl and Ron’s Studio - Oconomowoc

|                                             |                         |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Evaluate nursery stock for potential bonsai | Work on your class tree |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|

Now that your feet are wet..... Jump in! Begin your own Bonsai journey! Cost is \$200

Please include your tuition payment with your application. Class participation will be based on first paid first included basis and includes a tree. Each class will be limited to twelve students and you must be an MBS member to enroll.

Renew or Join at [Membership Application](#)

### Contact Information

Please Print:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Name(s)          |  |
| Street Address   |  |
| City ST ZIP Code |  |
| Phone            |  |
| E-Mail Address   |  |

### Payment

Sign up on [EventBrite](#) (search for Bonsai) or make your check or money order payable to: **Milwaukee Bonsai Society**  
Bring to a meeting or mail to:

Milwaukee Bonsai Society  
P.O. Box 240822  
Milwaukee, WI 53224

## Overwintering Tender Trees (Tropicals)

I created an indoor green house in my basement... I repurposed the room I used for storing my yarns. 2x4's, plywood, fluorescent lights, plastic sleds and pea gravel. (See pix below). I kept the lights on 12 hours a day using timers. I used one warm and one cool florescent light. The temperature in the basement is pretty stable at 60°. For more light and a bit more heat, I used halogen lights in the center of the room facing in both directions. I used the water from the dehumidifiers in the basement (fewer metals than in the tap water). I sprayed each tree with dormant oil. No bugs since I started doing this!

But my trees didn't seem to be thriving when spring came.

I had the opportunity to discuss this with Martha Meehan (vendor for years at the Chicago show - small plants and bonsai trees - many tropicals). She gave me a formula that has worked for me since. When I bring my trees inside in the fall (I wait until the nighttime temperatures are mainly in the 40's) I limit the lighting to 8 hours a day. Martha said that the trees need to have a bit of dormancy. In January I increased the light to 9 hours and added an hour per month until the trees went outside in the spring. I started to fertilize in March.

This proved to be very successful for my trees. I am still using this formula. Right now, my trees are nicely tucked in for the winter with 8 hours of light per day.

I hope this helps

Kris Z



# General Meeting - Saturday, December 4, 2021





PO Box 240822  
Milwaukee, WI 53224  
[www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

Next MBS meeting will be  
January 8, 2022 @ 9am  
Boerner Botanical Gardens

#### 2022 MBS OFFICERS

President [Erich B](#)  
1st VP [Pam W](#)  
2nd VP [Teri W](#)  
Secretary [Rick W](#)  
Treasurer [Clif O](#)  
Director [John N](#)  
Director [Greg R](#)  
Director [Irene H](#)  
Past Pres.

#### Other Club Functions

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

PAB Board—Ron F, Houston S & Judy S



Silhouetted tree  
Respite for traveling birds  
Winter afternoon

~Thalia Dunn