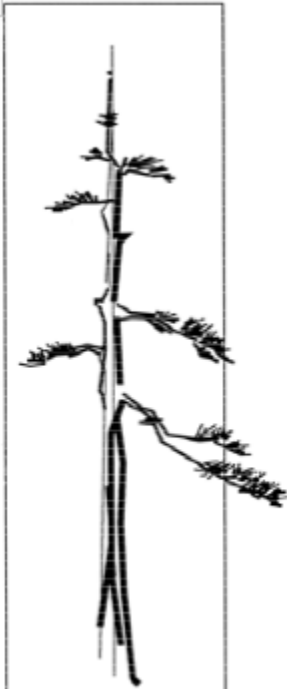


BONSAI NEWS

May 2022



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

Upcoming meeting

This month's meeting will be a hands on lesson for all to take part in.

Come and put your hands on some wire and learn how to place it on a branch.

Steve will do a short demo for you to watch on the screen and you can try it out on some tree branches for yourself. Wire, and tree branches will be provided. You bring the hands and have some fun.



May

May 7 — Wiring

May 14 — World Bonsai Day

May 21 — Bonsai Skills Building*

June

June 4 — Wiring demo on branch samples

June 23-26 — MABA

July

July 2 — Basic Styling

August

August 4-14 — State Fair

August 6—Summer cutback

August 7 — Bonsai Skills Building*

August 27-28 Annual Exhibit
Lynden Sculpture Gardens

September

Sept 3 — Wire a tree

October

October 1 — Selecting
Nursery Material

Next Meeting

**May 7, 9am
At Boerner
Botanical
Gardens**

*Open to MBS Members Only

President's Message

Happy spring!....finally. Exciting things are happening for the club this year, kicking off with the Mid America Bonsai Alliance (MABA) convention June 23-26. If you haven't checked it out yet, go to the link on the club website to see what's happening and who we have coming.

Next will be State Fair, followed by our 51st annual exhibit August 27-28 being held at Lynden Sculpture Gardens again this year. Wrapping will be our beginner class at Boerner with up to 30 new members attending their first class.

Almost forgot, we are also planning our club picnic in July. Keep an eye out for details on each event as we get closer to them. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our best club meeting on Sat May 7 at Boerner.

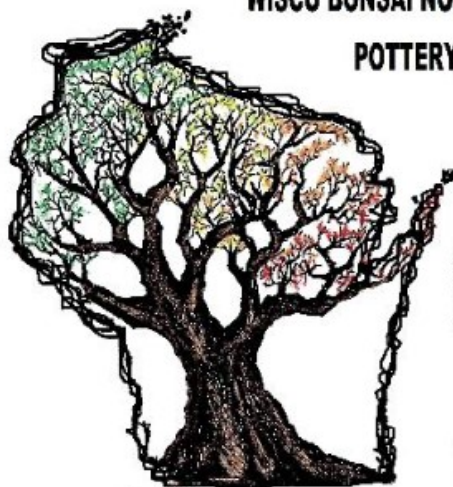
Erich
President



*Save
the
Date*

June 3-5, 2022 the Bonsai Garden at Matthaei Botanical Gardens will feature a free exhibition of outstanding Satsuki Azaleas in Bloom. Plus, on Sunday, June 5 we will host 2 workshops for beginner to advanced level participants by expert David Kreutz. For more information visit: mbgna.umich.edu/bonsai-in-bloom. Registration is coming

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



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 COMPONANTS AVAILABLE (PUMICE, LAVA, ETC).

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

WiscoBonsai@gmail.com

414-248-3827

www.WiscoBonsai.com

WISCO BONSAI
www.WiscoBonsai.com

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

Burning Bush Yamadori in Greenfield

Was a great success!!!



We had a great time digging up some burning bushes that will become bonsai. We came home with many unique treasures. The kind of distorted unique plants that you can't find at a garden center. They were free and unwanted in this forest. Fifteen to 20 people were there and maybe we took home 40-50 trees. There are more there for the digging. Here is a link to more of the pictures.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/mGPNPvmg3DTJbehb6>

If the weather stays cool enough, we could meet again on Sunday May 1st. Please contact me in you are interested. bryan1llor@gmail.com.

I would also like to ask about who would be interested in having a “study” group that would meet 2-3 time a year to show, discuss and share information about burning bushes. Please reply to the above email if you are interested in this learning opportunity.



LSG Volunteers Needed 2022

MBS members wishing to volunteer at the bonsai exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden (LSG) for the 2022 season are asked to meet for an orientation/ cleanup meeting at **noon, Saturday, April 30 or Sunday, May 1** on the bonsai patio at the exhibit @ LSG. Raindate: noon, Saturday, May 7.

No experience is necessary.

Please bring your calendars and be prepared to sign up for May and June dates. The exhibit is open on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays during usual LSG hours.

Wear old cloths and bring your tools and maybe a tabletop turntable.

We will be refreshing the exhibit area, patio, gates and changing house, cleaning, weeding, raking gravel and sanding display benches.

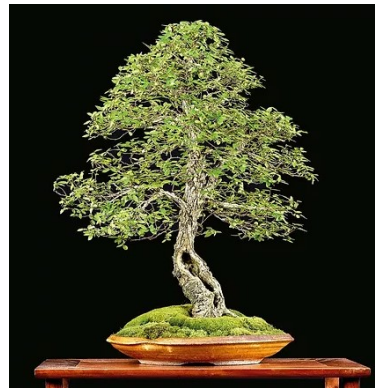
We will prepare the bonsai for exhibit. We can work until the garden closes at 4 p.m.

We plan to open the exhibit to the public on **World Bonsai Day, Saturday, May 14**. If all goes well, we may be able to host a soft opening on Sunday, May 8 for Mother's Day.

Anyone interested, please contact Michelle Z. (mgaz.md@gmail.com) so I'll know how many to plan for.

Can't wait to get started!

<https://www.milwaukeebonsaifoundation.org/>



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
Email – aabonsai@charter.net
Phone – 262-490-8733

MABA Convention

by PAM W

As you already know, our club is hosting the Mid-America Bonsai Alliance Convention (MABA) June 23-26. It is rare that a regional bonsai convention is held in Milwaukee, so it is a very exciting time for bonsai enthusiasts.

It is also a fantastic opportunity to learn from five of the most highly regarded bonsai teachers in the country.

François Jeker from France is best known for his work on dead wood and is always willing to share his methods and techniques with others. Mr. Jeker is not only a complete bonsai artist, but also a teacher and creator of seven bonsai schools around the world.

Ted Matson from California is the curator of the Huntington Bonsai Collection in greater Los Angeles. We are very fortunate to have Mr. Matson at our convention as he maintains a busy schedule and has limited his travel outside of California.

Todd Schlafer from Colorado is an avid collector of Yamadori. He recently won the American Bonsai Society Finest Native North American Species tree at The 5th US National Bonsai Exhibition. Ryan Neil recently said that Todd Schlafer is now considered the most sought after bonsai artist in United States.

Mark Fields from Indiana is well regarded artist having several tree displayed at the US Nationals as well as having trees win Best of Show at American Bonsai Society Convention and at Midwest Bonsai Society Professional. Mr. Fields is also a strong believer of giving back to the bonsai community where he is currently the President of the American Bonsai Society

Jennifer Price from Illinois has taught workshops and given demonstrations worldwide and recently was in Germany to be a part of Generation Bonsai and on to represent America at an international bonsai convention in Shanghai, China

Each of these outstanding teachers will present one demonstration and at least two workshops. Each workshop is limited to seven or less people each, so that each student can get more time with the teacher. The teachers have been involved with selection of the material used in the workshops, so you KNOW that you will be getting outstanding material.

The Convention features another way to learn more about our favorite art form. The critique is an event where 20 people join one of the headlining artist and take a private tour of the bonsai exhibit. The artist discusses each tree in the exhibit and explains what he, or she, likes about the tree and how the tree could be made better. It is a great way to learn a lot in a short time and at minimal expense.

The only thing that you must do in order to participate in this outstanding event is to register. You can register for the entire convention or you can register for one day only. In order to take full advantage of the opportunity, a full registration is the best bargain. Registrants can watch all of the demonstrations and are granted "silent observer" status for every workshop! So, one full registration permits the registrant to watch and participate in every aspect of the Convention.

Make a Donation

by PAM W

There are five raffles during MABA/Milwaukee 2022. Silent Auctions and a Live Auction. Your generous donations and continued support make a world of difference in our Bonsai community. Give back to your MBS bonsai community today by helping us support the MABA/Milwaukee 202Two Convention. Your support allows us to continue to offer bonsai programs and horticulture education for our region of the country.

MABA and MBS are well run and have good plans for the future. MABA has provided all the funds to bring in this year's headliner from France. Let's help this organization to continue bringing talent to areas that are drivable for us in middle America. Help keep MABA and MBS sustainable by donating items to the convention raffle and auctions.

Donations to the raffle may be tax-deductible. If you want a receipt, turn in a note with your name, donated items, and the estimated value to the Raffle Manager (me) or the Treasurer. Or bring them to the meeting! "Big hits" in the past have included:

- Artwork such as scrolls or jewelry
- Tool roll with tools
- Sara Raynor or large pots
- Bonsai themed Baskets or Wine
- Memorabilia or Collectibles like autographed books or aprons
- Gift Certificates
- And of course, Bonsai

Have an item that you may want to donate but it is just too much money? Consider offering it as an item for Silent Auctions at one of the 5 Raffles. Talk to us, suggest an opening bid which is what you would expect as payment. Items suggested would be:

- Special tree
- Complete set of tools
- Unique stand
- A year of Private Instructions

Finally, I'll need help on the RAFFLE COMMITTEE. This committee will help by taking responsibility to collect donated items and cull out diseased or undesirable items, see that raffle tickets get sold, and run the actual drawing. This could be a job for more than one person, rotating the raffle among two or three people would ease the work load. Any volunteers? Please leave a message for me at 414-352-7799, or see me at the meeting. And remember, support the convention raffle – donate items, and buy raffle tickets at the convention.

[MABA/Milwaukee 202Two \(milwaukeebonsai.org\)](http://milwaukeebonsai.org)

ABSTRACTS is published quarterly for the benefit of members. We are always in search of short news items, opinions, and photographs pertaining to bonsai in North America. In addition, we want to bring you up to date on up-coming shows, exhibitions, meetings, etc.

The Best of Bonsai Times, and Nearly the Worst of Bonsai Times.

By Bryan Lorentzen, President, Milwaukee Bonsai Society

Figure 1: Above right,

Figure 2: Below right,

Due to COVID, the date for the Milwaukee Bonsai Society's 50th Annual Exhibit to be held during summer 2020 had come and gone. In November 2020, there was the promise of a vaccine and possible eradication of COVID. As we began to plan for the next annual exhibit, we would need a bonsai artist and a venue that would be safe or at least safe enough for our members and the public.

Who is the first bonsai artist that we called? It was Mark Fields - someone who knows science and bonsai. He has been studying bonsai since he was nine years old, learning from bonsai artists around the world. I asked him "What do you think about coming to an exhibit in late August 2021?" I don't remember him hesitating. Our minds were on the same track and he agreed.

Then we needed to find a venue. A few months passed and we kept getting a negative response from the people who run the Milwaukee County building where we normally have our meetings and have our annual exhibit. We then contacted The Lynden Sculpture Gardens. We have a great, symbiotic, working relationship with them. They have 40 acres of land on the north side of the county. They have developed a great natural area filled with trees and giant sculptures from many famous artists. The staff helped us a lot with the building of our county's only permanent collection of about 30 bonsai.





Figure 3: Top left,

Figure 4: Top right,

Figure 5: Bottom left,

Figure 6: Bottom middle,

Figure 7: Bottom right,

We called and talked to Polly, the administrator, and told her what we were looking for. She suggested that we have our exhibit the day after their BBQ night on Thursday August 26th. That way she could give us free use of their two 60x40 foot tents. Who doesn't like free? So, that was the hard part, or so we thought. We normally set up for the exhibit on a Thursday and then on Friday have the bonsai tree set up, judging and a social. Then on Saturday and Sunday we would open up to the public. Now we would have to do the set up at a new outdoor venue and tree collection all on Friday!

Through the spring we had contacted some TV and radio stations trying to get some exposure for our event and promotion for bonsai. We got a nibble from one of the TV stations. But then they didn't answer emails and I thought that we had lost the possible promotion. Two weeks before the event we heard back from the TV station. They wanted to come and videotape the exhibit and do an interview, which sounded great. The reporter asked when would be best to

do the interview? We thought around 3:00-4:00 p.m. on Friday or during our evening social. He said that he needed to be there much earlier at 11:00 a.m. to do the videotaping and then edit it in time for that evening's program. Because the BBQ was the night before, we couldn't set up until Friday morning. We would have just three hours to do the set up. We started to set up at 8:00 a.m. and were done by 11:00 a.m. with tables, signs, backdrops, table cloths, displays of 60 trees, all of the accents, and an educational area. Twenty members chipped in and worked hard to get it done in time. The videotaping went smoothly and that evening's TV program was seen by many people in the Milwaukee area.

Our exhibit was the week before Labor Day. It's normally a time when the weather in Wisconsin is cooling down and gets refreshing. That didn't happen. Both Saturday and Sunday were in the 90's. Saturday night, just before the last



Figure 8: Above,

of the volunteers were leaving, a rainstorm and wind came to visit. We had brought some plastic bags to cover the bonsai tables, but the wind blew hard.

On Sunday we got more rain on and off, and we worked to protect things. Between the rain showers, as hardy Wisconsinites do, people came out to see the show.

During the event, we do a public vote for the nicest tree and we took in more than 200 votes. I'm just guessing, but maybe one-half to two-thirds of the people who came voted. So, maybe 300-400 people came to see the exhibit. It was a success!

Through wind, rain, thunder and lightning, the branches of Milwaukee Bonsai Society grew a little tougher and closer together. Our club may have gained an additional jin and a shari from this exhibit. They will add to the beauty of our 50+ years of being a bonsai society.



NEW
ENGLAND
BONSAI
GARDENS

www.nebonsai.com

Home of the Kaikou
School of Bonsai.
Direct importers.
Yamadori.
Tokoname pots.
All accessories.
Workshops.
Guest artists.
Special events.
Reasonable prices.
Stellar service.



in bonsai since 1987

excellence

914 South Main Street, Bellingham MA 02019, 508 883 2842



Golden
Arrow
Bonsai

*Andrew Smith, 22473 Alpine Acres Dr,
Deadwood, South Dakota 57732*

The largest distributor of fine quality
yamadori trees for bonsai in North
America. Specializing exclusively in
old collected specimens.

Visit us online at:

goldenarrowbonsai.com

605-342-4467

盆 金
栽 矢



PO Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Next MBS meeting will be
May 7, 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



Bee pollinates blooms
Hummingbird nips at nectar
Flurry of wee wings

~Carolyn Devonshire