TIME IS RUNNING OUT

If you are interested in the Colin Lewis Weekend or the Novice Class 2008, you must register immediately.

You will find the information on the Colin Lewis Weekend elsewhere in the newsletter along with the registration form. Forms MUST BE RECEIVED by April 17. After that date, the workshop will be opened up to other clubs in the area. This will be a unique experience as Mr Lewis ventures out from the East Coast only twice a year. We are fortunate to have him in Milwaukee. Also note that MANY of Mr Lewis’ students have won the New Talent Competitions at National Conventions.

You must also sign up for the novice classes ASAP. The first class starts April 12. We need to get your “textbook” ordered, so please check out the info in this newsletter and send in your form or bring to the April meeting.

APRIL
Apr 1 - CLUB MEETING*
  Group SLASH
April 12 - Novice Class #1
Apr 19-20 - Ted Matson
April 26 - Novice Class #2

MAY
Mar 2-4 - Weekend with Colin Lewis
May 6 - CLUB MEETING*
  Guest Artist: Colin Lewis
May 10-11 - Marty Schmalenberg
May 10 - Novice Class #3
May 31 - Novice Class #4

JUNE
June 3 - CLUB MEETING*
  Bring trees to work on
Jun 27-July 2 - Ted Matson

JULY
July 1 - CLUB MEETING*
  Guest Artist: Ted Matson
July 31-Aug 10 - State Fair

AUGUST
  thru Aug 10 - State Fair
Aug 5 - CLUB MEETING*
  Guest Artist: Marty Schmalenberg

*Only meetings with an * are open to the public.
Hello to all MBS members and Friends,

This year’s bonsai calendar looks exciting for all levels of bonsai enthusiasts. Classes for advanced and intermediate classes are ready to begin. Novice classes are forming for this Spring. Please register at the April meeting if you are interested in the novice class series.

Again this year we will have the "Slash" at the April meeting. This is such a great way to start the Bonsai season. Bonsai trees are created from nursery stock by groups of "slashers," we have a judge pick the best trees, then we auction everything in a silent auction. There is always an exuberant, creative energy at this meeting, so I hope everyone will join us for an evening of fun and bonsai.

In May, Colin Lewis will be joining us for an Intensive Weekend Workshop. There are still several places open but registration forms and fees need to be entered immediately to insure a chance to participate. Please find the registration form elsewhere in this newsletter. Colin will also be joining MBS for the May 6 club meeting.

June will be a chance for members to bring trees and spend the evening on refinement and styling during the club meeting. This opportunity has been arranged by popular request.

At the July Meeting we will host Ted Matson for an evening of shohin bonsai and show preparation techiques. This will be a chance to pick up so tips before State Fair shows begin.

In August we will welcome Martin Schmalenberg for the club meeting. We hope he will entertain us with a presentation on Literati styling, regardless of the topic an evening with Marty will be delightful, artistic and great fun.

There are so many interesting programs that my intent here is to highlight a few to peak your interest in the 2008 MBS offerings. One of the best ways to become involved in our Society and actually get the most intense bonsai experience is to volunteer to help with club meetings, workshops and public events. At every meeting you will find opportunities to sign up as a volunteer. I hope you will consider putting your name on a list. Working at State Fair, public workshops, Folk Fair and helping at meetings is great fun and we meet the most interesting people.

I look forward to seeing you at all the MBS meetings and events during 2008.

Sincerely,
Jean

Interested in a Mugho Pine workshop with Colin Lewis?

Monday May 5 6:00 to 9:00
Location TBA

$60 - Fantastic deal! Look for registration form elsewhere in the newsletter.
INTENSIVE STUDY WEEKEND
MAY 2-4, 2008
with Colin Lewis

Friday evening (7:00 - 10:00).

Saturday (9-4, 6-9).

Sunday (9-5).

Workshop location: Homestead High School
Mequon, WI

REMEMBER that this weekend is limited to 12 participants. RESERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. The minimum cost of the weekend is $225. THIS AMOUNT MUST BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR RESERVATION FORM. It is possible that the cost could be a bit more.

Please bring this reservation form to the April meeting and give to Kris Z or mail to:
MBS P.O. Box 198, Brookfield, WI 53008-0198

INTENSIVE STUDY WEEKEND - Reservation Form
MAY 2-4, 2008
with Colin Lewis

DATE ________________________

Name __________________________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________ Zip _________________

Phone # __________________________ please circle cell home

Check amount ________________ Check # ____________

Please circle beginner novice intermediate advanced

Private / semi-private sessions

are available with Colin Lewis:
Friday May 2
Tuesday May 6
Cost is $450 per day.
Please contact Kris 262-512-1228 if you are interested.
It's time for NOVICE CLASS 2008!
THE FIRST CLASS BEGINS APRIL 12.
If you are brand new to bonsai, or even if you have been in for a few years but have never taken the Novice classes, this is for you!! A series of 4 classes (April 12, 26, May 10, 31) will give you terrific information about styles of trees, pots, tools, pruning, soils, fertilizing and much, much more. The first two sessions are classroom style. You will receive a workbook that has information galore. Instructors will share their experiences in bonsai. Session 3 will start out at Minors nursery for a “nursery crawl”, looking for potential bonsai prospects. After lunch other club members will be on hand to help you style your trees. Session 4 is BYOT (bring your own tree). You may use trees that you found at the nursery crawl or something you picked up from our vendors. Again club volunteers will be available for help. ALL OF THIS FOR ONLY $75 for the 4 sessions! We will be meeting at the church Saturdays from 9:00 - 12:00. Space is limited, so call or email Allen K (414-979-0821) (jsher46@wi.rr.com) to reserve your spot. Bring your check to the next meeting (April 1) or send it to P.O. Box 198 Brookfield, WI 53008-0198. You're sure to enjoy this educational experience!

MUGHO PINE WORKSHOP

If you are interested in working with Colin Lewis and a mugho pine fill out the registration form below.

The cost is $60 which includes the mugho pine, the facility and, of course. Colin Lewis!!

Monday May 5 from 6:00 - 9:00

From this:

To this...

Well, maybe after a few years...

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NOVICE CLASS 2008     or          Mugho Pine Workshop with Colin Lewis
If you wish to do both, please make a copy.

DATE ________________________

Name ________________________________

Address __________________________________________

City ________________________________ Zip ____________________

Phone # ___________________________ please circle: cell    home

Check amount ________________ Check # ____________

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Please take the time to contact our friends in Washington DC to save the National Bonsai Museum. Please take a few minutes to watch this important report.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxMHF0jJ3i4

PLEASE WRITE YOU REPRESENTATIVES AND EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS!!

The Honorable Hebert H. Kohl, Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture
119 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture
2362A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The administration Budget for FY2009 proposes this funding cut for the arboretum. It will cripple the whole arboretum and the National Bonsai Exhibit. Ask them to eliminate the downsizing of the budget for the gardens unit.

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO ALL YOUR BONSAI AND GARDEN FRIENDS.

Pauline Muth

American Bonsai Society President

Bonsai Clubs International Corresponding Secretary
Attention all Members

This year the MABA (Mid-America Bonsai Alliance) convention is in Indianapolis in June. Visit the website www.maba2008.org to find out more information about guest artists, workshops and special discounts that apply for registrations before March 31, 2008.

If you are thinking of going why not take the time to register and save some money that you can spend with the vendors or on a workshop.

Ancient Arts Bonsai will not be at the April meeting due to work conflicts. Come to the Open House on Saturday April 12th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Please come out to see all the potting materials, tools, pots, fertilizers, and plant materials. There will be a special 10% discount on many items during the open house.

Flyers with directions will be available at the April meeting or contact Ron at aabonsai@charter.net or 262-490-873.
Bonsai from your backyard

YEW - Taxus

Habit and Form
• evergreen
• medium-sized tree or large shrub
• depending on cultivar can also be dwarfed
• size varies from 2' to 20'; depending on cultivar
• growth characteristics vary widely between cultivars
• medium texture
• slow growth rate

Summer Foliage
• needle like leaves
• two-ranked
• blunt bud scales
• dark green color on upperside
• light to medium green on underside
• needles can be straight or curved
• leave apex is pointed

Autumn Foliage
• none, evergreen
• some winter discoloration occurs

Flowers
• dioecious
• form on previous years wood
• blooms in March and April
• ornamentally unimportant

Fruit
• slightly compressed, olive-brown seed
• seed is covered by a red aril
• mildly attractive

Bark
• scaly, flaky brown bark
• usually covered by foliage

Culture
• easily transplanted from B&B or container
• prefers moist, sandy, slightly acidic soil
• prefers well-drained soil
• sun or shade

Liabilities
• needle or twig blight
• scale
• nematodes

ID Features
• two-ranked needles
• red aril covering seed
• scaly bark
• usually massively pruned
• blunt bud scales
• pointed leaf apex

Propagation by cuttings

Cultivars/Varieties include
'Bean Pole', 'Brownii', 'Chadwickii', 'Densiformis', 'Hatfieldii', 'Hicksii', 'Sentinalis' (also listed as 'Sentinal'), 'Tauntonii' (also listed as 'Taunton'), 'Viridis' and 'Wardii
Next Meeting of MBS
7PM, Tuesday, April 1
Grace Lutheran Church
3030 W. Oklahoma

2008 MBS OFFICERS

The MBS Officers are:
President          Jean S
First VP           Joe H
Second VP          Allen K
Secretary          Susan C
Treasurer          Laura L
Director           Jerry N
Director           John M
Director           Michelle Z
Past Pres.         Kris Z

Other Club Functions:
Kris Z - Newsletter Editor/Distribution
Pam W - Webmaster
        - Librarian
Jean S - Telephone response
Mary T - Membership Chairperson

In the depths of winter,
I finally learned that there was in me
an invincible summer.

- Albert Camus