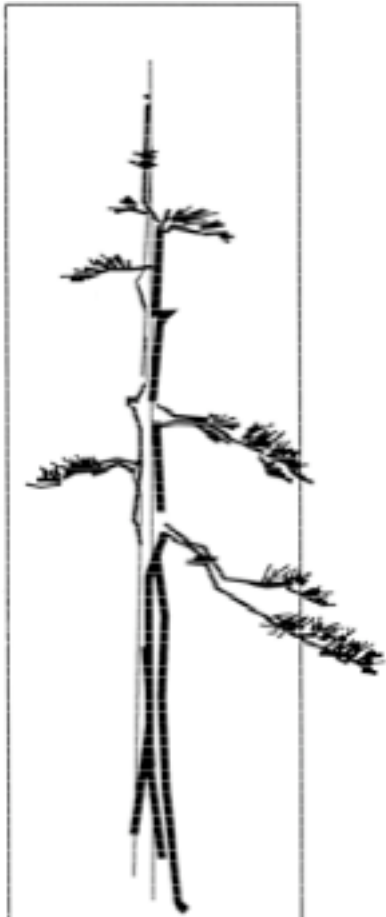


August 2009

Bonsai News



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society*

*P.O. Box 198
Brookfield, WI
53008-0198*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

The August meeting of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society will feature the visiting artist Suthin Sukosolvisit. Suthin has been involved in bonsai in Thailand 35 years ago, and moved to this country 17 years ago. His nursery is located in Stoughton MA and offers a fine collection of pre-bonsai, bonsai, and specimen trees. His work can be viewed at:

www.royalbonsaigarden.com

You won't want to miss this opportunity to see one of the best shohin bonsai artists around.



NEXT MEETING
August 4 - 7 pm
Grace Lutheran Church

AUGUST

August 4 - CLUB MEETING

Guest Artist:

Suthin Sukosolvisit

Exhibit Shohin trees -

Workshops with Suthin

Wednesday 8-4 and 6-9

August 6-16 - STATE FAIR

SEPTEMBER

Sept 1 - CLUB MEETING

MBS Club Show

Sept 19 - Public Workshop

Sept 19 - Open Workshop

OCTOBER

Oct 6 - CLUB MEETING

Guest Artist: Ted Matson

Exhibit fall coloring trees

NOVEMBER

Nov 3 - CLUB MEETING

grafting techniques by

Mike Yanny of Johnson's

Nursery

DECEMBER

Dec 8 - CLUB MEETING

MBS Club Holiday Pot Luck

President's Message

Wow, it's unbelievable the amount of talent we have here in our own club. Houston Sanders led things off at our May meeting with a really great root over rock demo. Afterwards he donated tons of trees for the raffle so we could try our luck creating our own root over rock bonsai. Thanks Houston! If that act wasn't enough last month Michelle Zimmer followed up with her second demo of the year with a awesome kusamomo workshop / demo. What a fun and interesting hobby. Who knew from the most meager materials you could create such beauty. The workshop was a gas, even us rookies came away with really wonderful creations. Michelle donated some of her own kusamomo's to the raffle afterward where almost everyone went home with one. So big up's to Michelle as well. These two could take their acts on the road for other clubs. The M.B.S. board members are working at putting together next year's schedule so anyone interested in doing a demo or talk at one of our monthly meetings let us know as early as possible. We spend tons of money bringing in visiting artists that sometimes don't really show us anything that some of our own members could. We have some really outstanding bonsai artists right here in our club and we would all like to see what you do, and how you do it, so please sign up for a spot next year.

- Joe H

Need Wire? - LAST CALL

The Milwaukee Bonsai Society is holding a club wire buy. You can order copper or aluminum in any size. We are hoping for a nice discount by buying quantity. Wire costs are yet to be determined. The deadline for your orders is at the August meeting. A sign-up sheet will be available. Get your order in now.- Joe H

Shohin is an Art in Itself

By Pam Woythal

A Shohin-bonsai can be made in the same styles and forms as larger bonsai. Everything is just scaled to reveal simplicity and illusion. Shohin bonsai take up little space, and are easy to carry around. They require less water and are cheaper to grow (stock, soil, pots, and wire). And finally..... Growing shohin bonsai is easier. **Don't you believe it!**

It demands a very high level of precision by the artist when arranging branches, forming dead wood and so on. Just a few misplaced branches or leaves can affect the harmonious picture, and might spoil the impression and visualization of a tree. Because they are so small, they have to have a very definite point of attraction. It can be a nice trunk movement, a slant, some carefully balanced asymmetry, beautifully fine foliage pads, a striking jin or shari. There are many ways to give a shohin the extra zip to enhance its attraction. It also demands perfection in grooming. The most important aspect here is just to have the impression of a tiny tree. And that includes the ability to hold the tree in just one hand.

Is it a wonder, that the growing of shohin is an art in itself? And we have the opportunity this August to learn from Suthin Sukosolvisit arguably a master in Shohin, which will benefit our general bonsai work!

**If you have a Shohin tree,
please bring it to display
at our August meeting.**

Workshops for Suthin's visit

The **all day workshop** will be on Wednesday August 5, 2009 at the Longacre Pavilion in Fox Point, from 8:00 – 4:00. Total cost for all day is \$110 .

If you are not able to be a part of the workshop, you can still benefit from Suthin's expertise. Do come as a silent observer (pay \$5 at the door).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR STATE FAIR 2009

There are still opportunities available to share your excitement about Bonsai with visitors to the Bonsai exhibit during STATE FAIR 2009.

Please consider signing up to greet folks during a shift (or two) Aug 6-16.

Contact: Jean S. 414-979-0281, John M 262-560-0418 or Kris Z 262-512-1228
This is a great way to help MBS at the exhibit and see the FAIR!

PICK -UP VOLUNTEER TICKETS for STATE FAIR

If you have signed up to volunteer at State Fair 2009, please stop and pick up your ticket at the info table during the August meeting.

If you can not pick up your tickets for the shifts August 6-9 please contact Jean S at 414-979-0281.

Any tickets for shifts August 10 -16 not claimed during the meeting will be mailed.

Public Workshop

Saturday, September 19.

9:00 - 12:00

Grace Lutheran Church

Please consider helping some one new to create a bonsai during a morning workshop.

SIGN UP SHEETS will be available at the August and September meetings.

This is a great way to meet new people trying the art of bonsai!

And after the Public Workshop...

Saturday Sept 19, 1:00 - 5:00

There will be an "OPEN WORKSHOP". You are free to bring in trees and work on it with other members.

Do you... ?

...have questions on the health of a tree?

...want some direction on wiring, design or selecting a pot?

...want to enter your first tree in the Wisconsin State Fair in August and have some questions on how to complete your presentation?

...want to show up and take funny pictures for the newsletter?

There is no fee for the workshop and vendors are welcome to be present for you to purchase any items you need. Many of you have asked for help with trees so this is your chance to get it... for FREE. Hope to see you there.

-Steve C

IDEA BOX

Do you have suggestions for MBS programs? Workshops? Presenters?

Is there anything you would like the board to know about and feel the membership would benefit from?

If so, please contact Steve C at:

stefanoo@att.net

ph 414-837-5953

c 414-617-9162



TREES NEEDED FOR DISPLAY AT STATE FAIR 2009

- By Jean S and Kris Z

Consider showing a tree in this year's BONSAI EXHIBIT. Judges will critique/comment about your tree. You will receive a written copy of this critique. The judges ideas are always interesting.

Trees are needed for Show #2 August 9-12 and SHOW #3 August 13-16. Please contact one of the State Fair Team for entry information. If you have never exhibited before, please consider doing so this year. Classes are: Youth, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Open.

Our space is smaller than in previous years, so it will be necessary to limit the number of trees to about 20 per show, **You must sign up at Club meetings or call Jean S 414-979-0281, John M 262-560-0418 or Kris Z 262-512-1228 to participate.**

STATE FAIR EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

Exhibit #1 - (August 6 - August 8)

Deliver trees to **

Wednesday, August 5 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Sunday, Aug 9 from 9am - 10am

Exhibit #2 - (August 9 - August 12)

Deliver trees to **

Saturday, Aug 8 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Thursday, Aug 13 from 9am - 10am

Exhibit #3 - (August 13 - August 16)

Deliver trees to **

Wednesday, Aug 12 from 6pm - 7pm

Pick up trees from **

Monday Aug, 17 from 9am - 10am

**** Strip mall parking lot approx. 102nd and National, just west of Baker's Square. Turn in by the Sentry/Fashion Bug sign. Meet in the area nearest the street (National)**

When checking in please bring:

- + your list of scientific names and common names,
- + the approximate age of the tree,
- + stand, accent, sketch of display, and the proposed style of tree.

It is also wise to mark all components of your display with your name.

(an address sticker is usually adequate)

Note: If the drop off/pick up schedule is not good for you, please make personal arrangements for your trees with someone who will care for them. YOU must alert the crew about these arrangements so trees will not be misdirected, lost or stolen.

Call or email

Jean S at 414-979-0281

jsher46@wi.rr.com

John M at 262-560-0418 or

Kris Z at 262-512-1228 -

hagr8d@mac.com

Tips for getting your bonsai ready for State Fair 2009:

-By Kris Z and Jean S

This is your chance to enter trees for critique by a certified judge. While the ribbons are nice, the information and perspective gained from comments about our trees from knowledgeable judges is priceless. If you are considering entering a bonsai or two, here are several tips about displaying a tree.

#1 Clean pots are more attractive for display. Wash the pot, dry it with a soft, non-fuzzy cloth. An application of light oil will allow the true color of the pot to shine through. Some people use mineral or baby oil to oil pots. Be sure to wipe off the excess oil with a soft cloth that will not leave fuzzies. This gives a nice sheen to the surface of the pot. Water marks and chemical build up need to be removed from the legs and bottom of the pot.

#2 Dress the soil surface with small particle gravel, grit or soil. The smaller particles in the soil surface make the roots and trunk look larger. Add some small areas of moss to add interest and dimension. Remove all weeds and debris from the moss and soil with tweezers or a small bonsai brush.

#3 Use the stand to "frame" the tree and pot. This means attention to details of the stand. Lower stands are usually used to display taller trees, saikei and forests. Taller stands are used to

display semi-cascades, full cascades and low trees. The color of foliage, pot and stand need to be considered as a unit and add interest, and color balance to the composition.

#4 Accents (plants, figurines or scrolls) need to harmonize with the display of the tree. Accent plants are put on very low stands usually so that they will form a complementary display. Choice of an object as an accent must be very carefully thought through. Accents can be used to depict a season, a geographic location, an elevation and an environment in which the tree might grow.

#5 Possibly the most important step in display preparation is the cleaning of the tree itself. Dead, brown and damaged needles or leaves must be removed. Leaves and needles that extend beyond the desired profile of the tree should be take off. A last minute check of the surface of the soil and moss, the pot and the profile of the tree will make a good tree look exceptional.

**Good luck at State Fair 2009!
Your tree may be this year's
BEST of SHOW!!**

**WISCONSIN
STATE FAIR
AUGUST 6-16**

GOLDEN STATE BONSAI FEDERATION

I'm writing to all my bonsai friends around the country to extend a personal invitation to join me and other bonsai and viewing stone enthusiasts in Southern California at the Riverside Marriott and Convention Center on November 4-8, 2009, for GSBF Convention XXXII, "A Southwest Bonsai Journey." I think we've got one of the most varied, loaded and affordable bonsai events in recent years.

We're featuring a lineup of internationally known bonsai artists in headliners Dan Robinson, Kathy Shaner and Roy Nagatoshi, along with special guest Peter Adams, who will be joined by other top and rising talents from California and the west. We're offering the widest range of activities ever for both bonsai stone lovers alike. Among the highlights are multiple demonstrations, intense learning seminars, a full slate of workshops (with material provided by the instructors, so you know it will be good!), plus critiques, and trips to collect grapes (two half-day collects) and desert stones (one full-day trip to the Yuha, and one half-day trip to virgin territory near Palm Desert) and to visit the private collections of Lindsay Shiba and Tak Shimazu. In addition, we will stage two styling events including the Joshua Roth New Talent Competition (which is a first-ever opportunity for emerging bonsai artists in the west).

Our program will emphasize refinement, in both technique and philosophy. We're doing that by offering a series of intense seminar programs on styling, design aesthetics and display. Even Dan Robinson's demo will feature his follow-up work on a tree he initially styled over 30 years ago. And, we will offer several critiques of both trees and stones from a "not-so-typical" masterpiece exhibit that will feature a personal selection of

some of the finest bonsai and viewing stones from throughout the state in a unique display setting that emphasizes the dramatic sculptural qualities of both. This is one exhibit you won't want to miss.

All this is on top of our typical GSBF convention offerings, like a great selection of bonsai materials and supplies in our extensive vendor bazaar and benefit drawings, great meals and more. We're in a great facility, which features a recently renovated hotel (you can build your Marriott Points if you're a member) and attached convention center. We typically have terrific Southern California weather in early November for those of you hoping to stave off the long winter. And, the best thing... it will be the most affordable GSBF convention in years, with an early-bird registration of \$225, and hotel rooms at \$100.

Registration information is published in Golden Statements, the official magazine of the Golden State Bonsai Federation. In addition, you can get read all about the event get registration forms, and even register for the event itself online at www.GSBF-bonsai.org. Just hit the link for the Riverside convention and you're on your way.

I know that you have many choices for bonsai events these days, and certainly the economy is making our spending decisions that much harder. However, I'd also hope that you recognize the value we're offering in this GSBF convention, and include it in your plans for this year. I promise: it will be a memorable event, for all the right reasons. I hope to see you in November.

Sincerely,

Ted E. Matson



P.O. Box 198
Brookfield, WI 53008-0198
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Meeting of MBS
7PM, Tuesday, August 4
Grace Lutheran Church
3030 W Oklahoma

2009 MBS OFFICERS

President	Joe H
First VP	Jeff M
Second VP	John M
Secretary	Pam W
Treasurer	Laura L
Director	Jerry N
Director	Steve C
Director	Michelle Z
Past Pres.	Jean S



Other Club Functions:

Kris Z - Newsletter Editor/Distribution
Pam W - Webmaster
Tom A - Librarian
John M - Telephone response
Don G, Leo S, & Houston S - PAB Board

**WISCONSIN STATE FAIR ...
THREE GUYS EXHIBIT BONSAI.
WE THREE. WEE TREE. WHEEEE!**