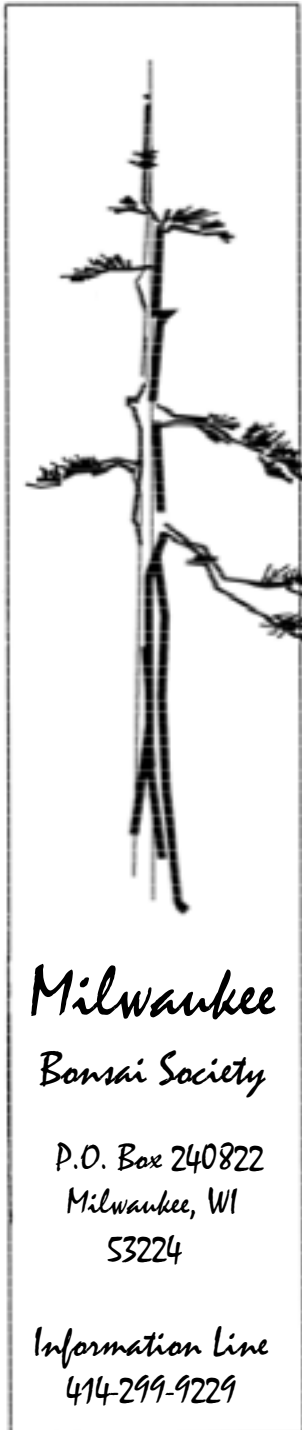


September 2011

# Bonsai News



## SEPTEMBER CLUB MEETING

Getting ready for the club show.....

Jack D, Jean S and Ron F will review preparations to show your tree. Besides learning how to clean your pot and top dress your soil, you will also see how stands and accent plants add to the artistic display of your tree.

Time permitting, stations will be available for you to have a hands-on experience with soil and pot preparations.

**NEXT MEETING**  
Tuesday Sept 6 - 7:00 pm  
Boerner Botanical Gardens

## 2011 Events

### SEPTEMBER

**September 2** - CLUB MEETING

How to exhibit your tree

**September 16-19** - CLUB SHOW

**September 16** - Reception for Suthin Sukosolvisit

**Sept 17** - PUBLIC WORKSHOP

**Sept 17-18** - SUTHIN workshops

### OCTOBER

**October 1-2** - Matson classes

**October 4** - CLUB MEETING  
Ted Matson - Gingkos revisited

### NOVEMBER

**November 1** - CLUB MEETING

Photo contest and  
Dead Tree Contest

**November 6** - Open workshop  
9:00-4:00, Boerner downstairs

**November 18-20**  
Holiday Folk Fair

### DECEMBER

**December 6** - Awards Banquet  
Meyer's Restaurant 76th and  
Forest Home

[www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)

# President's Message

## "Like Family"

Our club has experienced dramatic growth in our activities offered to members the past two years. It's a great privilege to serve as your president. But I might not have become president or even become a dedicated bonsai enthusiast if it were not for how my club treated me. I joined the Minnesota Bonsai Society because I was told that was the best way to get involved with bonsai. They put me in touch with the Milwaukee club. At that time the president, older and wiser than me, gave me an assignment that made me understand our mission of service. When I realized the happiness I brought to others, I became an enthusiastic bonsai supporter.

From my first days as a member my club treated me like a family member, caring for me, encouraging me, doing what was best for me. Our club needs to treat our members like family. Care for them, nurture them, look out for them.

Give members projects they can handle, projects they are interested in. If a member loses their job, try to cheer them up or alert them to job openings or people who may be able to help them.

***"I am a success today, because I had a friend who believed in me...." – Abraham Lincoln***

Our clubs should be like families. The source of our strength in our clubs is the relationships we have with one another. We need to believe in one another and take care of one another like families do. If we do this, we will have no problems with membership retention. Our clubs will be full of members who are enthusiastic about service to the bonsai community.

In January 2010, I wrote "I recognize that some people do not see the relevance of associations to their bonsai journey. I challenge our members to take time to honestly assess what MBS has to offer in terms of education, services, social activities and community involvement. If the classes and services are not meeting your expectations, I hope you will feel the obligation to come forward to forge improvements. If we are meeting your expectations, I hope you will be inspired to join in further advancing those successes." We need you to step forward to continue this momentum.

Our club show is right around the corner. Be sure to check our web site to see a full listing of events. These events fill up quickly, so the earlier you reserve a place, the better your chances are of obtaining a spot. And please remember, if your plans change and you cannot

attend an event for which you have signed up, please let us know as soon as possible to give another member the chance to attend.

*-Pam*

State Fair was another great success with Fair goers! The theme for 2012 in the Horticulture building is: "Rooted in Wisconsin".

What a great opportunity to show off trees native to Wisconsin. To that end, the 2nd show at State Fair 2012 will be dedicated ONLY to trees grown in Wisconsin (shows 1 and 3 will follow the usual rules). Also the requirement of owning a tree over 2 winters will be waived during the 2nd show so that members might find a treasure at the end of this season in local garden centers and develop it into a showable bonsai by next year. Anyone ever think of bonsai-ing a buckthorn?

Please use this website to determine if you have a native tree...

[http://www.uwgb.edu/biodiversity/herbarium/trees/tree\\_list01.htm](http://www.uwgb.edu/biodiversity/herbarium/trees/tree_list01.htm)

Have fun and we'll see you at the 2012 Fair!!

## Annual Exhibit Reminder!

by Steve Carini

Just three short weeks remain before our club will present it's 41st Annual Exhibit of our very best bonsai trees and trees in training. It was exciting that so many club members took part in the show at State Fair, and now that you all have the judges' comment sheets, you have some time to work on any suggested recommendations for improvement and present it again in September at our Annual Club Exhibit.

For the very first time, we have asked one of our favorite visiting artists, Suthin Sukosolvisit, to be present at the opening reception of our exhibit, to critique our trees. I have had the opportunity to attend a few critiques at various shows I have attended over the years, and they are a wonderful learning experience. Suthin will lead us through the exhibit and he will comment on many of the trees, offering praise for our hard work and describe changes that he feels will improve the compositions. (continued on next page)

This is planned to be a fun celebration and time to share our excitement for bonsai with other club member friends. There will even be a cash bar to make it feel like a real party. If time permits, Suthin will also comment on the two trees that he has been working on over the past two years. Both are Shimpaku junipers and have been cared for by club members since he originally began working on them.

Since this type of event usually requires a fee for participation, it is a "do not miss" event for FREE!

So look over your collection, pick out your favorite tree and tree in training, follow the instructions below for drop off, and I will see you there on Friday evening, September 16th, in the Multi Media Room on the lower level of Boerner Botanical Garden's Education and Visitor Center for the Big Show!

Pick your best tree to include in the Exhibit

Pick out one more tree that shows real promise for the future (tree in training)

September 15th, from 5-8PM... Drop off your trees at Boerner Botanical Garden  
Education and Visitor Center

9400 Boerner Drive  
Hales Corners, WI  
Lower level, Multimedia Room

September 16th, 6-8PM... Attend the RECEPTION WITH SUTHIN

September 17th and 18th, 10AM-5PM... See the display of club trees

September 18th, 4PM-5PM... Pick up your trees, RIBBONS, and critique sheets

THANKS for your participation! Have fun picking out your best to show!

#### ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

- Section 4. The First Vice-President shall assume the duties of President in his/her absence and be chair of the Program committee
- Section 5. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings in a suitable, permanent record book, and shall have the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members included in the permanent record.
- Section 6. The Second Vice-President's duties will be arranging workshops and Masters' visits.

#### Proposed Changes for 2011

- Section 4. The First Vice-President shall assume the duties of President in his/her absence and be chair of the Program committee. **Duties include driving activities for member services such as programs at the general meetings, workshops and classes.**
- Section 5. The Second Vice-President shall chair the Special Events Committee. **Duties will be to arrange community sponsored activities including State Fair and other exhibits, public workshops and shows.**
- Section 6. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings in a suitable, permanent record book, and shall have the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members included in the permanent record.

#### ARTICLE VII- COMMITTEES

- Section 1. Standing committees shall be: Membership, Program, Newsletter, Publicity, Refreshments, Library, and Special Events.
- Section 2. Committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President subject to approval by the Executive Committee. Each chairperson shall select the committee members.
- Section 3. The Program Committee shall be chaired by the First Vice President.
- Section 4. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President no later than the end of July and shall consist of three members subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

#### Proposed Changes for 2011

- Section 1. Standing committees shall be: Membership, Program, **Website/Newsletter, Publicity/Marketing, Social/Refreshments, Education/Library,** and Special Events.
- Section 2. Committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the President subject to approval by the Executive Committee. Each chairperson shall select the committee members.
- Section 3. The Program Committee shall be chaired by the First Vice President.
- Section 4. The Special Events Committee shall be chaired by the Second Vice President.**
- Section 5. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President no later than the end of July and shall consist of three members subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.



## Suthin (Su Tin) Sukosolvisit

by Pam W

Many of us have had the chance to work with our September guest artist. Many of us have observed and want the opportunity. So for this upcoming workshop we have plenty of **half day workshop slots available**. There are many advantages to half day slots, its cheaper, you need fewer trees. It's only a half day commitment. Please let us know if you like this opportunity by signing up soon. You can download the registration form from our website or complete this one. **You may be a silent observer of \$5 per am or pm session (\$10 for the whole day). Please pay at the door.**

### Contact Information

Please Print:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Name(s)          |  |
| Street Address   |  |
| City ST ZIP Code |  |
| Home Phone       |  |
| Cell/Work Phone  |  |
| E-Mail Address   |  |

### Please check appropriate Information and add up total

|  |           |          |
|--|-----------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Existing Member                     | No Charge | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non Member (join MBS)               | Add \$25  | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suthin Workshop (Sat 9-17 Full Day) | \$ 90     | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suthin Workshop (Sat 9-17 8:30 AM)  | \$ 50     | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suthin Workshop (Sat 9-17 1 PM)     | \$ 50     | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suthin Workshop (Sun 9-18 Full Day) | \$ 90     | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suthin Workshop (Sun 9-18 8:30 AM)  | \$ 50     | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suthin Workshop (Sun 9-18 1 PM)     | \$ 50     | \$ _____ |
|  | TOTAL     | \$ _____ |

### Payment

Please make your check or money order payable to: **Milwaukee Bonsai Society**

Mail to:

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

### Slate for 2012 MBS OFFICERS

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| President  | Steve Con |
| First VP   | Tony P    |
| Second VP  | Kris Z    |
| Secretary  | Ron R     |
| Treasurer  | Susan L   |
| Director   | Greg P    |
| Director   | John M    |
| Director   |           |
| Past Pres. | Pam W     |

The election will take place  
at the October club  
meeting.



# State Fair Results

O=Open, A=Advanced, I=Intermediate, N=Novice  
Show #1 - August 4 - August 6 - Judge: Ron Fortmann



← *Best of Show*  
Japanese Beech (O) - Jack D

## *Awards of Merit*

Smooth Leafed Elm (O) - Jack D  
Pyracantha (A) - Houston S  
Hinoki Cypress (A) - Jean S

## *Blue Ribbons*

Japanese Beech (O) - Jack D  
Smooth Leafed Elm (O) - Jack D  
Pyracantha (A) - Houston S  
Hinoki Cypress (A) - Jean S  
Purple Starflower (I) - Susan L  
American Larch (I) - Susan L  
Pohutukawa (A) - Houston S  
Golden Cedar (I) - Jim T

## *Red Ribbons*

Ficus (A) - Joe N  
Amur Maple (A) - Houston S  
Pomegranate (A) - Houston S  
Green Island Ficus (N) - Teri W  
Red Cedar (I) - Jim T

## *White Ribbons*

Scheffelera (A) - Joe N  
Chinese Ficus (N) - Scott K  
Maple (N) - Bill G  
Pacific Juniper (I) - Jim T

Smooth Leafed Elm  
(O) - Jack D



Pyracantha  
(A) - Houston S



Hinoki Cypress  
(A) - Jean S



# State Fair Results

O=Open, A=Advanced, I=Intermediate, N=Novice  
Show #2 - August 7 - August 10 - Judge: Tom Longfellow

## Best of Show

Chinese Elm (O) - Kris Z



## Awards of Merit

Bald Cypress (O) - Ron F

Bougainvillea (I) - Susan L

Pomegranate (I) - Greg P

## Blue Ribbons

Chinese Elm (O) - Kris Z

Bald Cypress (O) - Ron F

Bougainvillea (I) - Susan L

Pomegranate (I) - Greg P

Ficus (N) - Barb S

European Beech Forest (A) - Jean S

## Red Ribbons

Elm (N) - Tom F

Miss Kim Lilac (O) - Kris Z

## White Ribbons

Ficus Benjamina (I) - Susan L

Boxwood (N) - Joel P

Plum (N) - Barb S

Brazilian Rain Tree (N) - Rebecca S

Dawn Redwood Forest (I) - Steve Con



Bald Cypress (O) - Ron F



Bougainvillea (I)  
- Susan L



Pomegranate (I) - Greg P



# State Fair Results

O=Open, A=Advanced, I=Intermediate, N=Novice  
 Show #2 - August 11 - August 14 - Judge: Steve Carini



## Best of Show

Boulevard Cypress (A) - Tony P

## Awards of Merit

Cypress Cascade (N) - Barb S

Chinese Elm (I) - Susan L

Gingko (I) - Rob P

## Blue Ribbons

Boulevard Cypress (A) - Tony P

Cypress Cascade (N) - Barb S

Chinese Elm (I) - Susan L

Gingko (I) - Rob P

Juniper cascade (N) - Rocio S

American Tamarak (I) - Jim T

## Red Ribbons

Shimpaku Forest (N) - Teri W

Fukien Tea (I) - Dennis G

Juniper (I) - Rob P

Texas Ebony (A) - Jean S

Natal Plum (I) - Susan L

## White Ribbons

Maple (I) - Jerry N

Fukien Tea (I) - Dennis G

Mugho Pine (I) - Jorge R

Spruce (N) - Joel P

Ficus (N) - Lanny H

Cypress Cascade  
(N) - Barb S



Chinese Elm (I) - Susan L



Gingko (I) - Rob P



# Photographing Your Trees

By Pam Woythal

In our first installment we talked about the details of getting a good photograph. Today we will look at some examples.

## Show off the bonsai

Compare these photographs



The tree on the left is stunning but can you tell?

Even the Goshin in the middle has a distracting element in the background.

The tree on the right was taken in overcast natural lighting

## Flash by Night

Look at how much the lighting affects the texture of the tree. In the photo on the left, the tree is soft and lush. You could almost nap among the boughs. In the photo on the right, the foliage is spiky and harsh. The photos were taken 12 hours apart, and the tree hasn't changed at all --- it's all in the lighting. Sometimes you may wish to achieve something closer to the spiky appearance of the latter photograph, for artistic effect. Even if you do, direct light or strong reflected light is probably preferable to a head-on flash

Compare the photographs below.

The one on the left was taken with a black backdrop under natural daylight;

The one on the right was taken at night with a flash and no backdrop.





## Camera Height

Look at how much the lighting affects the texture of the tree. In the upper photo, the tree is soft and lush. You could almost nap among the boughs. In the lower photo, the foliage is spiky and harsh. The photos were taken 12 hours apart, and the tree hasn't changed at all --- it's all in the lighting. Sometimes you may wish to achieve something closer to the spiky appearance of the latter photograph, for artistic effect. Even if you do, direct light or strong reflected light is probably preferable to a head-on flash.

Compare the photographs below.

- The first picture below is taken from too high (and in distracting direct sunlight.)
- The second picture shows the same tree photographed from the proper height (and in the proper season.)



## Don't blame the camera

To illustrate, these kusamono photographs were taken with a very cheap one megapixel point-and-shoot digital camera or phone. You can find a better camera than this for under \$100.



# 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Exhibit

## Milwaukee Bonsai Society

September 16-18

GUEST ARTIST  
SUTHIN SUKOSOLVISIT

**Boerner Botanical Garden**  
**education and visitor center**  
9400 Boerner Drive  
Hales Corners



**Friday 6-8pm Opening Reception**  
**Critique & Demonstration**  
**Saturday & Sunday 10-5pm**

exhibit trees  
trees in training  
vendors  
raffles  
beginner workshop\*  
artist workshop\*  
\*Preregistration and Fee



P.O. Box 240822  
Milwaukee, WI 53224  
[www.milwaukeebonsai.org](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org)  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Meeting of MBS  
7PM, Tuesday, September 6  
Boerner Botanical Gardens  
9400 Boerner Dr  
Hales Corners, WI 53130

## 2011 MBS OFFICERS

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| President  | Pam W      |
| First VP   | John M     |
| Second VP  | Greg P     |
| Secretary  | Jorge R    |
| Treasurer  | Kris Z     |
| Director   | Steve Car. |
| Director   | Steve Con. |
| Director   | Pat B      |
| Past Pres. | Joe H      |

### Other Club Functions:

Newsletter - Kris Z  
Webmaster - Pam W  
Librarian - Tom A  
PAB Board - Ron F, Don G & Houston S



*Burning summer sun  
Ants scurrying - frenzied  
Hot feet - tip toeing  
- Joe Nemeec*