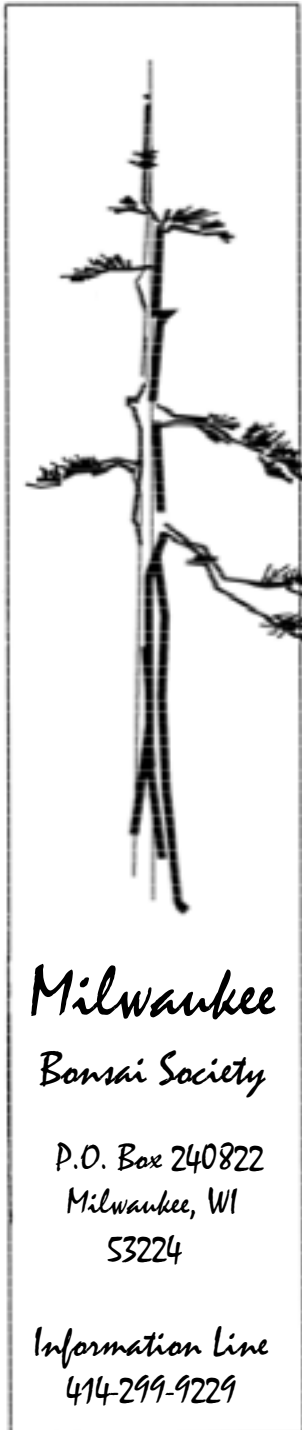


MARCH 2012

Bonsai News



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society*

*P.O. Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

WELCOME, Ted Matson

We again welcome our sensei, Ted Matson to our March 6 club meeting. Ted will be sharing tips on how to care for your Hemlocks and Pines this spring.

Please bring in your pines or hemlocks for Ted to look at and to give comments.

Ted has recently received two great honors in California. He has been named the curator of the Bonsai Collection at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens. He has received the Golden State Bonsai

Federation's Golden Diamond Award for his dedication and services to the bonsai community. Join us in congratulating Ted on these accomplishments!!

2012 Events

MARCH

March 4 - Silhouette Show at the Domes

March 6 - **Club Meeting**
Ted Matson - Hemlock & Pine
Spring care

March 9-11 - **WORKSHOPS**
WITH TED MATSON - **SEE**
DETAILS ON PAGE 4

March 24 - Novice Class #1
9:00 - 1:00

APRIL

April 3 - **Club Meeting**
Repotting Demo

April 14 - Novice Class #2
8:00 - 12:00

Open workshop - repotting
12:00 - 4:30

Mark Sunday July 15 on your calendar for the MBS picnic.

www.milwaukeebonsai.org

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday Mar 6 - 6:30 pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens

Please see articles about these awards on page 3.

President's Message

Greetings to all MBS members,

A situation evolved at the February Society Meeting that needs to be addressed. There were several members who came to BBG for the MBS Meeting to find that the doors were locked. Since some of our meetings are held at a time when BBG is not open to the public, there are no BBG employees on duty so they require that the door be locked. We must be responsible for allowing members access to our meetings. This can be accomplished several ways. The easiest solution would be to have someone stationed near the door to allow members access to the building. Another solution would be to have a system to alert those inside that a member outside needs access. This could be a wired or wireless system. I have already purchased a wireless chime system to test. The ultimate solution may be a cell phone repeater system that would allow cell service throughout the lower level at BBG. If anyone has any alternative ideas, please bring them to my attention. I apologize to any member who was not allowed access to our February meeting. This will not happen again no matter what the solution is.

We also have a similar challenge with access to our library collection, at least at this time of the year when BBG is operating on "winter" hours. The head library volunteer has hours only on Thursday afternoons but sad to say he is not always there. The best we can do at this time is to have the library open for our members during our monthly meetings. If you want to use the library at any other time, please call ahead to be sure there is someone there.

The number for the desk at BBG is 411-525-5601. I will continue to try to expand these hours.

-Steve

Looking for a Few Helpers

by Ron Fortmann

I am looking for about 4 or 5 individuals to help me repot one of the club trees.

This is a Shimpauku Juniper that was styled by Andy Smith at the 2010 MABA

convention. The tree is still in a cut down nursery pot (about a thirty gallon pot) it is



large. Just to help you scale its size it took up most of the back of my PT Cruiser when I brought it home. It was pulled out of the car and put on a four wheel cart where it has sat for the last two years because it is too heavy to move by myself. Steve Carini has built a new cedar box for its next home. We need some help to get it out of the heavy clay dirt it is currently growing in, and replace that dirt with bonsai soil so it has a couple of months to recover. This way it should be ready for Andy to work on this fall when he comes to our Annual Show in September. Two possible dates are April 7th or April 14th. If you are available to help please see me at the March meeting or call me at 262-490-8733 or email at aabonsai@charter.net. I would guess that this will take between 2 to 4 hours, it will be messy and there will be heavy lifting involved, but we will have fun and have a great learning experience.

MBS SENSEI HONORED

By Pam Woythal

We are all excited about the recent award to honor and recognize Ted Matson for the great service to Golden State Bonsai Federation that also recognized his great service to the art of bonsai; someone who had extended their influence beyond the efforts of GSBF to promote the art of bonsai and encourage cooperation and unity of effort to achieve excellence within the entire bonsai community. To impress the significance of this award, we should note only one other person has ever been bestowed this award and that was John Naka.

Ted's service extends to our club. We owe a great deal of our continued growth and success to him. Ted has been our clubs sensei (Japanese title used to refer to or address for master instructor) for the past 9 years. All of the novice and intermediate instructors at Milwaukee Bonsai Society have been students of Ted.

This year we will present Ted with a Japanese Black Pine (*Pinus thunbergii*) to style. Pines are one of the classic tree genera used for bonsai throughout the world, however they are also one of the most difficult to understand how to style and prune. Ted will begin his staged

development of this tree as it is owned by the club and in the foster tree program. He will discuss/analyze this tree with an eye toward future refinement. He will highlight specific structural elements or processes that help to create the highest levels of bonsai expression. The preliminary shaping and critique of the trees potential will be the elements or processes that help to create the highest levels of bonsai expression. Japanese black pine bonsai. In future programs we can look forward to Ted repotting, refining, and explaining the tree's development.



Ted Matson accepts the GSBF President's Gold Diamond Award from President Bob Hilvers at the GSBF 2011 Riverside Convention XXXIV for his dedication and services to the bonsai community

Matson Becomes Curator

by Steve Carini

Our own sensei Ted Matson has been named Curator of the Bonsai Collections housed at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California. Both the Huntington Library and the Golden State Bonsai Federation have separate collections of bonsai trees housed at this museum. Ted shared this with me at the California Shohin Society's Seminar 2012, in Santa Nella, California, where Ted was the workshop chairperson and I attended. He was deservedly very excited about this appointment and wanted me to share it with all his friends back in Wisconsin.

I know that I spoke for all of us in MBS when I congratulated Ted for this awesome appointment. So the next time you see Ted, show him how happy you are for him.

Congratulations Ted!

TED MATSON WORKSHOPS

There are still a few workshops available with Ted, Friday March 9, Saturday March 10 and Sunday March 11 at Boerner downstairs. This may be your only chance to work with a guest artist until our Annual Club Show in September.

Ted is a wonderful teacher (talk with members who have taken classes with him), so bring a notebook or tape recorder so you're sure to get down great information about your trees and others.

The workshops:

Full day workshops - 8:30 - 4:30 with a lunch break \$110

Half day workshops - 8:30 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 4:30 \$60

Please fill out the following form and bring it to the March meeting with your check or send to our P.O. Box 240822 Milwaukee, WI 53224

Silent observers:

\$5 - 1/2 day, \$10 full day

Pay at the door

REMEMBER - YOUR MEMBERSHIP MUST BE CURRENT TO PARTICIPATE

Ted Matson Workshops - March 9 - 11, 2012

Name _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

email _____

Choice of workshop day(s) (1st, 2nd, 3rd choice)

Friday _____ Saturday _____ Sunday _____

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!

Full Day \$110 - check # _____ or cash _____

1/2 day \$60 - check # _____ or cash _____

circle one am pm

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

2012 NOVICE CLASSES

by Ron Fortmann

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 lead by Steve Carini and Ron Fortmann. This series of four classes will review a number of topics in each session and you will also work on a provided tree in the forth session. We will work from a text that will be provided as part of the classes. A general outline of what we will cover is as follows:

- Session One March 24 at Boerner Botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room
 - Introductions and expectations from students and leaders
 - Bonsai History
 - Bonsai Tools
 - Bonsai Terms
 - Bonsai Styles
 - Bonsai Horticulture
 - Declaration of tree selection for the forth session
- Session Two April 14th at Boerner Botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room
 - Review Styles and their application
 - Bonsai Rules
 - Bonsai Development
 - Pot Selection
 - Discussion about Taper
 - Wire and Wiring
- Session Three May 5th at Boerner botanical Gardens – Grandparents Room
 - Bonsai Soils
 - Bonsai Fertilization
 - Potting/Repotting practices
 - Repotting Workshop
- Session Four - Date and Location To Be Determined
 - Review previous sessions
 - Work on your class tree

SILHOUETTE SHOW

A few trees are still needed for the Silhouette Show at the Mitchell Park Domes on Sunday March 4. Please contact Kris at 262-512-1228 or hagr8d@mac.com.

The cost of these four classes is \$100.00 which must be paid by the first session to reserve your space. Class participation will be based on first paid first included basis. Class size will be limited but if there is enough interest there may be a second session planned to accommodate all those who are interested.

If you are interested please let me know by phone 262-490-8733 or email aabonsai@charter.net and have your payment at the March meeting or send it to the Milwaukee Bonsai Society, PO Box 240822, Milwaukee WI 53224

A Year in the Life, March 2012

by Ron Fortmann

At the February meeting I brought in our subject tree that we will follow throughout 2012. The tree type is a Lilac, *Syringa vulgaris*, 'Prairie Petite', I selected this tree up at a Stien's Garden Center at the end of last season. It had no leaves or tag on it to even tell me what color the blooms may be. Looking on the internet this is what I found about this particular cultivar.

- A true dwarf growing 3' - 4' tall by 3' - 4' wide
- Flowers are light lavender growing clustered in upright panicles blooming in spring (another site states the color as pink) so we will see what we have when it flowers.
- Developed by the University of Nebraska it tolerates heat and dry conditions as well as cold
- Hardy in Zones 3 to 8

I picked this tree as it has a well defined base that should make a very nice clump style tree. To remind all "clump style" is typically a tree that exhibits multiple trunks coming from a common root system or base, and I thought that this tree has that main attribute. As lilacs are a basal dominant shrub this tree should take style direction very well and not fight what we are trying to do with this tree.

The intent for what to do in March is to take this tree from the nursery container and clean out the roots and pot it in bonsai soil.

Picture of tree in current state.



State Fair 2012

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 who found a specific tree at the end of last season in local garden centers and those who already have a tree on the following list may show in the 2nd show.

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

http://www.uwgb.edu/biodiversity/herbarium/trees/tree_list01.htm

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

If you don't already have one, ask for a State Fair ribbon to remind you of this great upcoming event!

milwaukeebonsai.org/42ae

So what does that mean?

It is the web address you will soon be able to access, anytime, for information about your club's next annual exhibit... that is, our 42nd Annual Exhibit(MBS/42AE). For the third year in a row, we will be holding this premier event of our bonsai year at Boerner Botanical Garden's Education and Visitor center, on September 14-16, 2012. Watch this newsletter or the above link to our website for all the information you will need to prepare for, enter, and attend this pinnacle event. More details will be announced each month.

For now, we'd like you to know that a committee is currently being formed for MBS/42AE, and I would like to personally invite each and every one of you to give some thought to help plan, organize, and be a part of the committee that will be responsible for presenting this year's event.

We need your help... NOW!

Last year we had a few members volunteer to help the board with set up and tear down of the exhibit, and assist the club through out the weekend. This year, we are asking the membership to stand up and get involved in the committee. This commitment might include about four Saturday morning meetings between now and September first. The more involvement from the membership, the more this exhibit becomes YOURS and the BETTER it will be.

So give it some thought... not too much, and CALL ME (Steve Ca.) at 414-617-9162 or e-mail wenrenbonsai@me.com and VOLUNTEER!

Membership Badges

By Pam Woythal

Membership Badges are used not only to identify members, but to help us get to know each other. The 2012 badges are in the making and should be available for pick up at the March meeting.



Vendor News

Ancient Arts Bonsai will be able to accept major credit cards for your purchases in 2012, see Ron F for exact details.



P.O. Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
www.milwaukeebonsai.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

**IT'S TIME TO
RENEW!!**

2012 MBS OFFICERS

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

Other Club Functions:

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



February snows...

*Benches waiting to display
their bonsai treasures...*