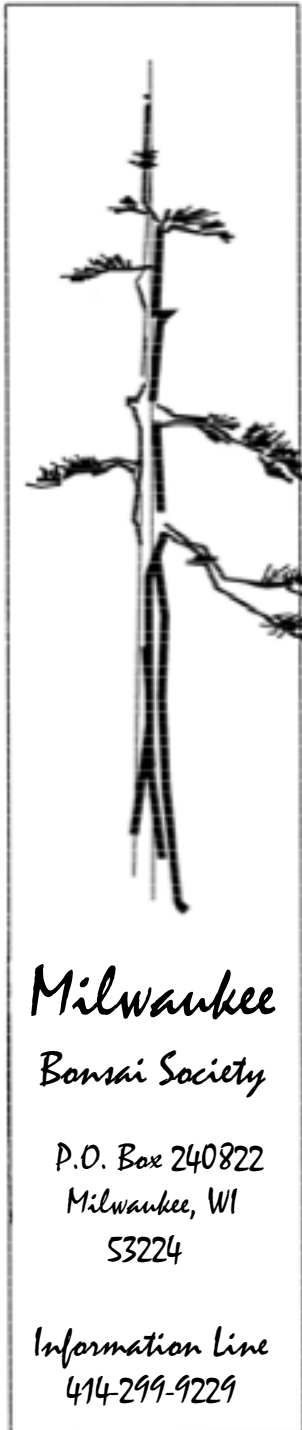


JULY 2012

# Bonsai News



*Milwaukee  
Bonsai Society*

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

*Information line  
414-299-9229*

## NO TUESDAY EVENING CLUB MEETING IN JULY!!

Instead, there are a variety of activities to keep yourself "bonsai busy".

**\* Bring your tropical trees and join others in the repotting session on Saturday July 7.**

Take a tour of the beautiful gardens in the Wauwatosa Garden Tour. See <http://www.wbc-wi.org/7.html> for more information.

The Club picnic is a wonderful event for sharing your bonsai enthusiasm with other club members. Don G will again be hosting this super event. Walk around his extraordinary train layout! And bring a dish to pass. -Directions on next page-

## 2012 Events

### JULY

No Club Meeting

- \*July 7 - Tropical repotting workshop 9-1 Boerner
- July 14 - Wauwatosa Garden Tour and bonsai exhibit
- July 15 - MBS picnic.

### AUGUST

- August 2-12 - State Fair
- August 7 - Club Meeting AUCTION!!
- August 17-19 - Chicago Show

### SEPTEMBER

- Sept 4 - Club Meeting Fall maintenance discussion
- Sept 15 - Public Workshop
- Sept 14-16 MBS Annual Show

### OCTOBER

- Oct 2 - Club Meeting Hemlocks & spruce

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

### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday Aug 7 - 6:30 pm  
Boerner Botanical Gardens

## President's Message

Please be aware that there is no monthly meeting in July. There will, however, be an MBS sponsored picnic on Sunday July 15th. See details and directions in another article in this newsletter.

On Saturday June 15th three members organized and staffed a small bonsai exhibit at the Wisconsin Athletic Club in Wauwatosa (see details elsewhere in this issue). We used this event as a test of how well a small exhibit could be handled and to determine through feedback whether the effort is worthwhile. Those of us there thought that a reasonable amount of interest in bonsai was generated not only by those who stopped by the exhibit but also from Wisconsin Athletic Club management. If you would like to organize and staff a small exhibit and have it sponsored by MBS all The Executive Committee asks is that you notify a Committee member of your intentions. MBS will make brochures, bookmarks and business cards available for your exhibit. Small exhibits like this are a great way to promote awareness in our club, go for it!

To allow our club to provide workshops, a newsletter, promotional material and the annual exhibit among other things, we need an operating budget. In addition to membership fees, our auctions and raffle are ways we generating income. With the annual exhibit in the near future we are asking for donations for raffles that will take place during the exhibit. Further information will come at the Aug meeting.

I am in charge of the tree sitting schedule for State Fair again this year. If you haven't confirmed a time yet, the sign up sheets will be available at the picnic in July and at the

Aug meeting. If all the tree sitting slots are not filled at that time I will start calling.

Be sure to pay special attention to the MBS42AE article and in particular the workshop schedule. There are three "material provided" levels and they are limited to only 6 students each workshop. Please be prompt in signing up so you don't mis out.

*-Steve*

### THE BURNING

For those who were at the last meeting and saw Tom Longfellow working on the jin on the club hemlock, you know that he mentioned burning the jin to make it look more realistic. We have set up a field trip to Tom's house in Illinois to experience the "burning". We'll leave Milwaukee area around 10:00 Sunday July 22, have lunch along the way, and get to Tom's about 1:00. During the "burning" we'll roast marshmallows and have some s'mores! We should leave Tom's before 3:00. This is limited to only 10 people, so please call or email ASAP.

[hagr8d@mac.com](mailto:hagr8d@mac.com)

262-512-1228

## INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Just a reminder that your next classes will be on July 7 and August 11

MBS42AE

Plans are progressing very well for our upcoming Milwaukee Bonsai Society 42nd Annual Exhibit. The committee has just met again in late June. We have discussed and approved all the workshops, materials, and fees. As I shared at the June meeting with all who were present, our club is also planning four evening workshops which will be free to all members. I will be telling you more about these four evenings in the August edition of the club newsletter. I hope all members realize the opportunity we have here to work with Peter Tea, and take part in this very cool event! It will be a fun filled bonsai week.

It has taken many e-mails, a few calls, and some disappointments, and I am very happy to report that we have secured material and by the time you are reading this, will have received, all the trees for our workshops with Peter for this fall. The entire list of private sessions, BYO material and material provided workshops are all listed below. Please look them over and sign up right away. Our club members will have one month to evaluate the list, and sign up for one or more workshops. All workshops will be limited to 6 people. Remember that I plan to announce these workshops to other greater area bonsai clubs on or about August first. Yes... that means you have about three short weeks to send in your registration, along with your check to cover your registration fee, thereby securing your spot in one or more of eleven workshops with Peter Tea. Each will be awesome. If you choose to sign up for a private session with Peter, it will be at your home and it will be your responsibility and joy to provide lunch or dinner for Peter.

Here they are!!! Fill out and send in your registration very soon. See you at the Exhibit!

Any questions:  
Steve Carini  
414-617-9162  
[wenrenbonsai@me.com](mailto:wenrenbonsai@me.com)

9/13 Thursday 8-12 Private Session 1  
\$200 at your home, you provide lunch

9/13 Thursday 1-5 Private Session 2  
\$200 at your home, you provide dinner

9/14 Friday 1-4 Workshop 1  
Bunjin Japanese Black Pine \$210 at BBG

9/15 Saturday 9-12 Workshop 2  
Japanese Red Pine \$360 at BBG

9/15 Saturday 1-4 Workshop 3  
BYO Material \$60 at BBG

9/16 Sunday 9-12 Workshop 4  
BYO Material \$60 at BBG

9/16 Sunday 1-4 Workshop 5  
Juniper \$110 At BBG

9/17 Monday 8-12 Private Session 3  
\$200 at your home, you provide lunch

9/17 Monday 1-5 Private Session 4  
\$200 at your home, you provide dinner

9/18 Tuesday 8-12 Private Session 5  
\$200 at your home, you provide lunch

9/18 Tuesday 1-5 Private Session 6  
\$200 at your home, you provide dinner

42 annual exhibit  
milwaukee bonsai society

EXHIBIT TREES  
TREES IN TRAINING  
VENDORS  
RAFFLES  
BEGINNER WORKSHOP \*  
ARTIST WORKSHOP \*  
\* PREREGISTRATION AND FEE  
Friday 6-10 pm Reception & Critique  
Saturday & Sunday 10-3 pm  
[www.milwaukeebonsai.org/42ae](http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/42ae)

Peter TEA  
2012 september 14-16

BOERNER BOTANICAL GARDENS  
Boerner Botanical Garden Education & Visitor Center 9400 Boerner Drive Hales Corners WI

# Milwaukee Bonsai Society

## 2012 Annual Exhibit Workshop Registration v1



### Contact Information

Please Print:

Name(s)			
Street Address			
City ST ZIP Code			
Cell/Home Phone			
E-Mail Address			
Memberships	___ MBS	___ FBBG	Other Club: _____

### Please check appropriate information and add up totals

*In the first column please indicate your choice 1, choice 2 and so on if you are interested in more than 1 workshop. Please also indicate the total number of workshops you are interested in taking if you have a maximum. If it is not indicated choice is made by MBS42AE committee.*

Choice			
___	Peter Tea Private session your home, you provide lunch (Thu 9-13 8 AM to 12 PM)	\$200	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Private session your home, you provide dinner (Thu 9-13 1 PM to 5 PM)	\$200	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Workshop Japanese Black Pine ( <i>Pinus thunbergii</i> ) in Bunjin style at BBG (Fri 9-14 1 PM to 4 PM)	\$210	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Workshop Japanese Red Pine ( <i>Pinus densiflora</i> ) at BBG (Sat 9-15 9 AM to 12 PM)	\$360	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Workshop Bring your own material at BBG (Sat 9-15 1 PM to 4 PM)	\$60	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Workshop Bring your own material at BBG (Sun 9-16 9 AM to 12 PM)	\$60	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Workshop Shimpaku ( <i>Juniper chinensis</i> ) at BBG (Sun 9-16 1 PM to 4 PM)	\$110	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Private session your home, you provide lunch (Mon 9-17 8 AM to 12 PM)	\$200	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Private session your home, you provide dinner (Mon 9-17 1 PM to 5 PM)	\$200	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Private session your home, you provide lunch (Tue 9-18 8 AM to 12 PM)	\$200	\$ _____
___	Peter Tea Private session your home, you provide dinner (Tue 9-18 1 PM to 5 PM)	\$200	\$ _____
	<b>Maximum Number of workshops I wish to take. COUNT</b> _____	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b> _____

### Payment

Please make your check or money order payable to: **Milwaukee Bonsai Society**. Any credits or over payment will be returned at the time of the workshop. Mail to:

Steve Carini  
222 Franklin Street  
Port Washington, WI 53074

# 2012 MBS Cook Out

MBS will not have a July meeting this year. But do not despair bonsai fans, there will be a MBS cook out at Don Gumieny's Home (W286S4684 Woods Road, Waukesha) on Sunday July 15th. We will gather at 2 PM and eat about 3PM. Burgers, Brats and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share, a bonsai tree for show and tell, and a lawn chair to sit on. Collect moss for your trees and talk bonsai with friends till ????. Map and directions are below.

## RSVP to Don by 7-12-12

262-548-0480 Office  
414-651-7416 Cell

### From Milwaukee:

I94 West to Exit 297 (near  
Barker Road)

West on Hwy 18

(Moorland Blvd - Waukesha)

1.8 miles to Hwy 164

South on Hwy 164 (joins Hwy 59)

9.2 miles to Woods Road

South on Woods Road .4 miles to Don's

(look for the American Flag-East side of road)

### From Beloit or Kenosha:

Exit I43 at Hwy 83 Hwy 59

Take Hwy 83 north through Mukwonago to Hwy 59

Drive east on Hwy 59 2 miles to Woods Road

Go South on Woods Road .4 miles to Don's

(look for the American Flag-East side of road)

### From Madison:

I94 East to Hwy 83

South on Hwy 83-7.2 miles to Hwy 59

East on Hwy 59 2 miles to Woods Road

South on Woods Road .4 miles to Don's

(look for the American Flag-East side of road)



## Bonsai Exhibit at the Wisconsin Athletic Club

by Rob Plichta

Arrangements were made with the Wisconsin Athletic Club to have a bonsai exhibit at their Wauwatosa Club. Rob P, Anna S and Steve Co provided trees and staffed the exhibit from 9 to 1 on Saturday June 16, 2012. There was a large yoga class at the Club at this time and several of the attendees were very interested in the bonsai, in fact the instructor and several students are planning on taking the public workshop in September.



This event was a great way for MBS to get exposure to the community with a small amount of effort.

The management at the Wisconsin Athletic Club expressed their appreciation for our efforts and invited our Society to exhibit again at this and also their other clubs.

# The Care and Raising of Bonsai

By Pam W

In Japan bonsai has an ancient history borne of nature. Bonsai is enlightenment and brings peace. It is well known and appreciated. It's the duty of all of us that love bonsai to keep alive this "torch of peace".

People who love bonsai appreciate the beauty of nature and plant trees in small containers. In doing so, they learn from nature and learn a philosophy of life. Even a person who doesn't understand bonsai can appreciate and be moved by its beauty. The power of bonsai is in its ability to portray the utmost beauty of nature. This is the goal for all who grow bonsai

To raise bonsai it is very important to learn the strong and weak points of each plant. Raising bonsai is like raising children. Be a teacher and a guide but with patience and loving care. Treat your plants as you do your family.

Bonsai is a living thing in the roots and even in the leaves. Every day that you are attending your bonsai, although the plant cannot speak to you, you'll sense that the plant is trying to tell you something. You'll one day know a plant is asking for water or fertilizer. When you come to that stage, you'll have developed a close bond. Bonsai responds to your love and becomes like honest friends with no human falsehood or



betrayals. If your tree sheds an abnormally high amount of leaves, or the leaves are yellow, it is symptomatic of three things; too much water, too little water or not enough sunlight.

Bonsai are loyal if you water and fertilize regularly with loving care. Life is more meaningful when we attend these little plants. We learn the essence and dignity of life! Even the life of a bonsai is older than us.

So bonsai must be passed on to the next generation to preserve the life in the tray. This is important.

Bonsai is a god-given gift to man. This form of nature is closest to man and portrays the drama of life. Bonsai is nature without an end. So those who grow bonsai have a responsibility to be diligent and a duty to continue to carry on.

In conclusion, I hope that the art of bonsai will never die and will keep the torch of peace burning throughout the world. I hope closer and deeper friendships will tie us together.

The above essay was translated and edited from a presentation by Saburo Kato

## Three Considerations – Roots, Trunk, Branches Soil

First, the roots. The foundation and strength of the tree starts at the roots. Bonsai culture differs tremendously from growing trees in the ground. Everyone is looking for the magic "soil recipe". What is needed is: a soil that is free draining oxygenated and retains moisture. These requirements are not met

using nursery “potting soil”, good bonsai soil combines the right amount of organic matter (nutrients and moisture retention) and inorganic components (which provide for good drainage and root development).

## Water

Second, the trunk and the way it's formed. In the case of a solitary tree, it's especially important as to how the trunk emerges from the roots and the rising taper that it develops. How it transports food and energy between roots and leaves. After many years the aged characteristics and bark appear and you can sense the added character and personality of each tree.

One would think watering is a simple task, but in raising bonsai nothing can be further from the truth. Watering is probably the most complex component of nurturing our trees. Basic watering can be described as the effects of watering and rain and, what to do on holidays. As a guideline, watering occurs daily, sometimes twice a day during the summer months. Fertilizing bonsai is also important since it grows in such limited soil. Feeding your trees or providing them with the appropriate nourishment for them to be healthy and thrive. Too little and our trees are under nourished and will put on a sickly appearance, too much results in all kinds of problems, including death. Fertilizing your bonsai is critical, the application and what to apply will vary with the seasons and whether the tree is under development or a mature tree.

## Sunlight

Third, the branches, these face the sky and are balanced and must have sunlight to flourish. Because branches and leaves are

growing strongly, feeding the roots, beautiful flowers can bloom. Even though growing vigorously and flowers are blooming, you must not be complacent and must be very diligent in the care of your bonsai. This care is important. Make sure your tree is placed in an area where it gets six hours of direct light exposure daily. Some trees, depending on the species, can suffer from too much shade. Simply put, many conifers and hardwood trees have to be in full sunlight most of the day to survive.

## Next Steps

After you have cared for your bonsai and have used these basic tips for properly caring for the tree, you will probably get interested in shaping, training and pruning to transform your young tree into a work of art. Re-potting and trimming also helps to keep the tree beautiful by keeping it miniature. The bonsai journey is a long one, and full of rewards. It will take you at least two years to learn the basic skills required. Your mind set after that period will have changed. If you are able to resist (very difficult) creating “bonsai” overnight, your rewards will be tenfold; there will be plenty of time in the future to learn and apply advanced skills and techniques. The following is a short list of reading for anyone serious in practicing bonsai:

### **Bonsai It's Art, Science, History and Philosophy**

by Deborah Koreshoff

### **Bonsai techniques Vol I**

by John Yoshio Naka

### **Bonsai techniques Vol II**

by John Yoshio Naka



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

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

## 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, Anna S & Houston S



Droplet of water  
Nestled in the thick green moss.  
Slurp. The bonsai drinks.