OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

At our October meeting, Jack Douthitt will be working on an Englemann Spruce. It was collected by Andy Smith in June of 2009 at 11,000 feet, and is estimated to be about 80 years old. Jack and Michelle selected this tree when they visited with Andy at his home in Deadwood, South Dakota in 2010. It often takes two or three years, sometimes more, for a tree to recover from the trauma of being collected. Last year this tree was not strong enough to live through the stress of styling.

This year the tree is much healthier. It had new growth this spring and has lots of visible buds for next year, so it is safe to proceed. A couple of smaller branches died over the winter which will affect the design, but there is plenty left to make it into a unique and satisfying bonsai.

In Jack’s opinion, it is more than boring to sit and watch someone wire, so he is bringing the tree to the meeting completely wired. But the styling of the tree will be done during his demonstration. This approach will allow time to discuss different design options, style the tree, and still stay within our time constraints. It will also give us time to talk about how to care for the tree in the future.

Don’t miss Jack’s exciting demonstration.

2012 Events

OCTOBER
Oct 2 – Club Meeting
Jack Douthitt-Engelmann spruce

NOVEMBER
No Tuesday Club Meeting
Sunday Nov 11 – noon – 4:00
Winter Wrap-Up meeting
Nov 16-18 – Holiday Folk Fair

DECEMBER
Dec 4 – Awards Banquet / Holiday Celebration
at Meyer’s Restaurant
75th and Forest Home

www.milwaukeebonsai.org

NO TUESDAY EVENING CLUB MEETINGS IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY
I sincerely wish that you all were able to experience our 42nd Annual Exhibit. It was a rousing success in my opinion. The reception on Friday evening was a great time, I had a lot of fun. Attendance by the public was way up this year. The raffle had many items and the proceeds helped us to actually make money this year, at least by early calculations. All of the workshops with Peter Tea were sold out. The free evening workshops for members were well attended and very informative. All the new vendors expressed their appreciation for being invited and said they would like to be invited back again for next year’s exhibit.

Overall we had a bigger and better exhibit than last year. We were better but there is still room for improvement. There were several ideas mentioned on the survey/people’s choice award that many of the attendees filled out. These will be seriously considered for next year’s exhibit.

Congratulations to Michele Z for winning best of show. We all also want to thank Jack D for exhibiting his fabulous award winning trees. The Bonsai Club at Mahone Middle School also deserves a shout out for displaying their two time award winning tree.

We want our Annual Exhibit to continue to grow. This will happen but as the event gets bigger so does the number of helpers needed to make it successful. If you were not on the list of volunteers this year, please consider donating a few hours to the event next year.

- Steve

Well it is Monday, September 24th, and I am about caught up on my sleep. Last night I sat down and finally began to go through the over 600 comments that we received from visitors who voted in the Peoples Choice Competition... winner by the way was Ron F, with his beautiful Yew. It was wonderful to read through many of the very thoughtful and complimentary comments penned by all who came to share in our excitement to view the Annual Exhibit. It was a huge success. We had 5 happy vendors who enjoyed seeing so many people come to purchase items for their collections. The County of Milwaukee was very happy as well to see so many visitors, not only for the Exhibit, but also that our Bonsai Trees were a draw for the Garden itself. Mike, a county employee, was very fascinated with the entire event and personally took photos for the County’s website. And your 9 member committee was pleased that so many visitors came to view the result of all their hard work.

And Peter Tea... was he not the greatest!

So many members from our club as well as MBS in Chicago and Prairie State Bonsai at the Morton Arboretum came to listen to Peter teach us all about setting up an exhibit, distinguishing between Chinese and Japanese pots, and developing a good branch... all for free at the 3 Free Evening Workshops. Not to mention the fun we all had listening to Peter take us through the Exhibit at the Free Critique on Friday evening. And who were those two guys dressed so funny?

Anyway, I am sincerely grateful for having such a great committee to help me present and enjoy such a fine Annual Exhibit... and to all of you for supporting this event.

Next month, I will put together another post congratulating all the winners and sharing more of the comments from both members and non-members.

Steve Carini
Chairperson
MBS42AE

P.S... check out the website ofbonsai.org and you will be surprised to see videos of some of Peter Tea’s lectures posted for us all to watch again.
Bits and Bobs from Peter Tea

Calluses - Part 1
Kris Z

I purchased this Japanese Hornbeam especially to work with Peter. I knew that I wanted the ‘winged roots’ to be cut off. This was not the time of year to do that, but we could get started. Notice the cuts made on each ‘wing’. Doing that now will direct the water / nourishment to find a different way to the rest of the tree. In spring, I can cut both ‘wings’ off with confidence.

Calluses - Part 2
Kris Z

A large crepe myrtle needed to be downsized a bit. We chiseled out a wedge on the straight trunk that eventually will be removed. Then, the lower portion was cut-pasted to induce a nice callus on the trunk to be kept. If the callus under the cut paste looks good next year, I’ll cut a deeper wedge in the straight trunk. Put cut paste on the kept trunk and wait til the next year to see how the callus looks. If it is not callusing over properly, the cut paste stays on for another year.

Calluses - Part 3 next month on conifers
Next Meeting of MBS
Tuesday, October 2, 2012
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 - Rob P, Anna S & Houston S