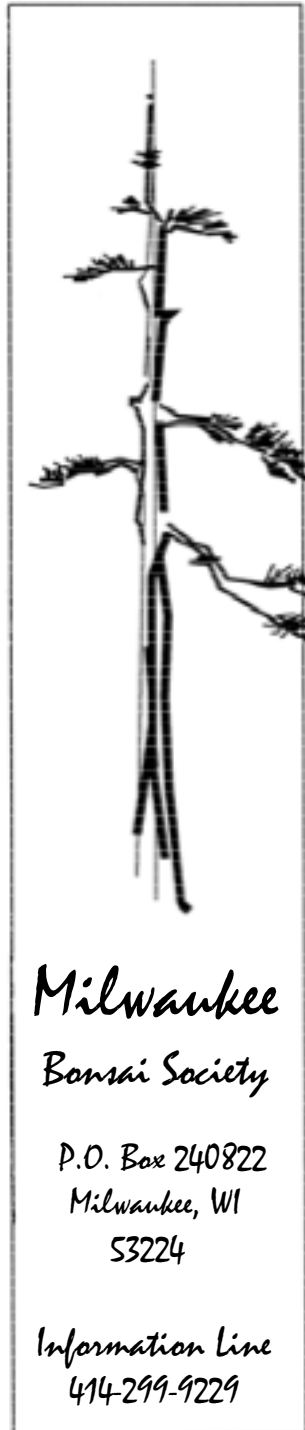


APRIL 2013

Bonsai News



TED MATSON IN APRIL



Ted will be working on a black pine at the Tuesday evening, April 2, society meeting. Ted has a wealth of information about black pines as well as other trees. There are still a few openings in the workshops Saturday April 5 and Sunday April 6. Please see the reservation form on page 3.

STARTING IN APRIL
Come to the society meetings at 6:00 for social time and to work on trees. See the short article on page 2 for a special event during April's social time!

2013 Events

APRIL

April 2 - Club Meeting
Guest Artist Ted Matson -
Black Pine styling Demo

April 5-7 - Ted Matson
workshops

April 14 - Novice Class #2 9-12
and repotting workshop 12-2:00

MAY

May 4 - Spring Public
Workshop

May 4 - Novice Class #3

May 7 - Society Meeting
Blended Tree Demo/Workshop

May 10 - National Public
Gardens Day at Boerner
Botanical Gardens

May 11 (Sat) - Forest workshop

May 18-19 - Bonsai Shows in
Chicago and Madison

JUNE

June 4 - Society Meeting
New thinking in fertilizers

June 16 (Sun) - Boerner's
Fathers Day in the park

June 22 (Sat) - Intermediate
Class #1

www.milwaukeebonsai.org

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday April 2 - 6:00 pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens

President's Message

Happy Spring??? Is this really April? All the outdoor trees are getting a much longer rest this year compared to last.

Impressive! MBS has some very dedicated members. On Tuesday March 5th, 32 of us braved the terrible weather only to wait for an hour in the parking lot until the facilities were opened (an hour late)! For those who did persist it was worth it. The demonstration by Colin Lewis was excellent. The juniper that he worked on is much smaller now and shows a lot of promise as a bonsai. His use of a torch to add years to the look of the tree was successful and luckily the smoke alarm and sprinkler system were not activated. I even received an email from Colin indicating how impressed he was with the turnout.

Beginning with the April meeting, we will start the monthly meetings at 6 PM (on a trial basis) with a social time where members can bring trees that they have questions about and would like advice from other members. Coffee will be served and maybe a snack. The library will be open at this time also to allow members to check out or return books from the MBS collection. We will also have a table with a few items for sale like pins and aprons.

There are still a few openings to work with Ted Matson on Saturday April 6th and Sunday April 7th. Check with Kris

Z at the meeting on April 2 if you are interested.

A reminder to those of you who are interested in the intermediate class this year, the first meeting will be on June 22nd at BBG. More information at the April meeting.

"Trees are always a relief, after people" - David Mitchell

Steve

*Come one, come all...
to our first social before the
April meeting. We'll have
coffee, tea and munchies.*

*Bring along a tree to work on
or to receive advice on.*

*We will also be offering a
swap / sale of any pots you
may want to bring. If you
have pots you won't be using
bring them along. If you need
pots for repotting, bring along
some cash :o)*

*All the fun starts at 6:00,
Tuesday April 2*

TED MATSON WORKSHOPS

We will have 3 days of workshops with Ted, Friday April 5, Saturday April 6 and Sunday April 7 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 \$115

Half day workshops - 8:30 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 4:30 \$65

Please fill out the following form and bring it to the February 24 workshop or 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 - April 5-7, 2013

Name _____

Home phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

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

Friday _____ Saturday _____ Sunday _____

Full Day \$115 - check # _____ or cash _____

1/2 day \$65 - check # _____ or cash _____

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!

If you choose 1/2 day, please indicate am or pm

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

Blended tree workshop at the May 7 Society Meeting

10 participants are needed to demonstrate how to create a larger tree by using whips. Ron F and Kris Z will be instructing the participants while meeting attendees look on. We will start with 6 'whips' (dwarf flowering crab or hornbeam). By melding them together a larger trunk and branch placement may be accomplished in a shorter period of time. Once you understand how this is done, you can experiment with other varieties of trees. See the reservation form at the bottom of this page to reserve your spot.



Forest workshop coming May 11

Workshop will be limited to 6 paying participants who will need to bring along a partner (at no cost) to hold trees in place while planting.

Jean S, winner of several awards for her forests, will be the instructor.

Please indicate your interest to Jean S jsher46@wi.rr.com ASAP (to determine the number of trees needed).

Material and cost TBD

See next month's newsletter for the reservation form. 1st come...

Blended tree workshop - Reservation form

Name _____

Home phone # _____

Email _____

Cell phone # _____

Cost = \$22

check # _____ for \$22

Please send to: MBS P.O. Box 240822, Milwaukee, WI 53224
or bring to the April Meeting

Current MBS Membership Booklet...

By Pam W

Are you curious about your club? What is the history of MBS? What are the club's seven standing committees? What activities do we plan for the Southeastern Wisconsin community? What are MBS policies? What is the difference between a workshop and a class? These are several questions that are answered in MBS Membership Booklet. This twenty-eight page booklet can be read online or downloaded in pdf format for printing.

It's free for all MBS members. To read go to membership page on the website or use this link to directly get it:
http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/Newsletters/MBS_Membership_Handbook.pdf

Milwaukee Bonsai Society Membership Form 2013

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # (home) _____

(cell) _____

*Email

Check # _____

for (circle)

Single 1 year \$25 2 years \$48 3 years \$70

Family 1 year \$35 2 years \$68 3 years \$100

(*This e-mail address will not be shared with other parties and is for MBS Board use only.)

Do you have any hidden talents / interests that you would be willing to share with our members? If so, please describe:

MBS Members

Interview with Pat B.

Our current membership has the growth opportunities because of several past efforts by many individuals. This column will offer a look at them with a short interview so we can get to know our members and heroes.

Can You Tell us a Bit about Who You are

My most important job is as wife and mother. I also am an elementary school teacher and reading teacher. Currently, I am a substitute teacher for Teachers On Call.

In your bonsai career, what failure or lesson have you experienced that has changed how you do bonsai today?

The most valuable lesson with regards to Bonsai is that patience is the key to success. You cannot expect to have an instant Bonsai. It may take years to see your concept for the tree take shape.

What technique are you finding most difficult?

The technique that I find most challenging is developing proper feeding regiments for the different varieties of trees.



When it comes to Bonsai, What Do You Think is the Coolest Thing You've Seen Done?

The coolest thing that I have ever seen done to a Bonsai was at a Bonsai Show. The artist had a large Chinese Elm with a twelve inch diameter trunk. It was such a perfect example of a "tree in miniature" that I felt small in its presence.

Repotting Additives

by Pam W

Recently we have been learning how important various additives and nutrients are for our bonsai. New products and thinking are always being discovered and discussed. Not long ago I was using Osmocote as an additive during my repotting until I experienced several trees that reacted badly (including died) to this flush of fertilizing early in spring.

Today, I have been using several natural products with no additives, synthetics or fillers. They do not burn my trees and will not restrict aeration or water penetration. I am also experimenting with plant activators. I am sharing my approach to ensuring bonsai health throughout the years between repotting.

continued on next page

Mycorrhizae are fungi that have a symbiotic relationship with tree roots. Over 95% of plant species form symbiotic relationships with mycorrhizal fungi. The fungi provide nutrients and water to their host plants in exchange for carbohydrates and other goodies. To explore US Government funded research related to mycorrhizal inoculation see

<http://search.usa.gov/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&sc=0&query=mycorrhizal&locale=en&=&embedded=&affiliate=usagov&filter=moderate&commit=Search>

Many times you can find and collect the fungi in soil of established trees. Pine trees are the obvious choice. It can be spotted by its white color in the soil. To inoculate your soil, dig core samples from the root area of the established tree and mix it in with your soil. I purchase my Mycorrhizae inoculant from various bonsai vendors. Lately I sprinkle Chappy's Power Organics Root Booster directly on the roots.

Trace Minerals is natural mined rock. I use Azomite from a specific volcanic deposit in central Utah. Mineralogical, the material can be described as a rhyolitic tuff breccia, which is a hard rock formation formed from the dust of a volcano that exploded, much like when Mount St. Helens did in 1980. Its uniqueness stems from the multitude of trace minerals found in the deposit. Azomite has 67 major and trace elements, so its trade name means "A to Z Of Minerals Including Trace Elements. Chemically, it is a hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCAS) containing other minerals and trace elements. I have been sprinkling this pink powder (trace elements) into my soil mix when repotting for several years.



Thiamine (Vitamin B1), Naphthalene acetic acid (NAA) and Indole acetic acid (IAA) are beneficial following root trauma. These plant hormones stimulate root tip growth and division; we use them commonly for cuttings and for most potted plants after replanting. That is how we stimulate roots to form from a callus in tissue culture.

Plants need Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Potassium, Iron, Manganese, Magnesium, Zinc, water and sunlight to grow. These elements are essential for photosynthesis. I would add that plants get most of these elements through fine roots- so if you have traumatized the roots it will help to encourage new root growth.

One delightfully pragmatic rooting stimulant is homemade willow water. Operating on the theory that because willow branches root so easily when stuck in soil, some gardeners soak cut willow branches in water, and use that water as a root stimulant for all their vegetable sets and other transplants, including bonsai.

You can buy B1, NAA and IAA in solution under the names Rootone (made by GardenTech) or Growth Formula (made by Agricrop). I use Superthrive and on occasion HB101. I just add several drops to my water and water the newly potted trees until the water flows freely through the pot.

In a future article I will share some of the discoveries of Plant Activators and Strengtheners.



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

Next Meeting of MBS
Tuesday April 2, 2013
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130

2013 MBS OFFICERS

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

Other Club Functions:

Newsletter - Kris Z
Webmaster - Pam W
PAB Board - Rob P, Anna S & Houston S



Cold northern winds cease.
Gentle breezes from the south
Calmly waft in spring.