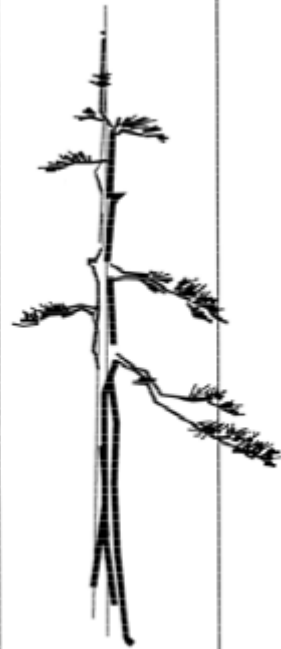


BONSAI NEWS

March 2016



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

March Meeting

We have had a number of presentations on how to put your trees into winter storage, but what about how to take them out of storage in the spring? In Wisconsin, our late winters / early springs are unpredictable. Right now it's in the 50's, yet in a week it's predicted to drop back in the 20's. Crazy time for trees.

To help us out, Michelle Z, Jack D, Houston S and Ron F will be on hand to share their experiences and advice on how to get through this tricky time. Bring any questions you may have.

March

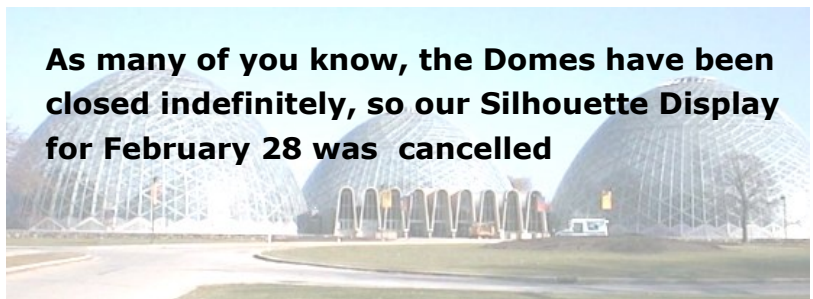
- March 1-MBS Meeting, taking bonsai out of storage/framing you bonsai
- March 5-Novice Class**
- March 12-13-Sean Smith workshop/presentation
- March 19-Novice Class/Bonsai basics**
- March 19-Intermediate Class**

** Members only



Next Meeting
March 1, 2016
6:45pm
**Boerner Botanical
Gardens**

As many of you know, the Domes have been closed indefinitely, so our Silhouette Display for February 28 was cancelled



President's Message March 2016

Usually the first exhibit of the year is the Silhouette Show. We have had great success presenting this show at The DOMES concurrent with the Train Show. Unfortunately, as of this time, all shows are canceled through April. It's really short notice to relocate, so we will turn our thoughts to the Silhouette Show for 2017.

Our March meeting will be on the proper techniques to use when waking up your trees from winter dormancy. This is always a tricky thing to do. This year, with El Nino, it's even trickier. As you know, the weather can be 20 degrees on one day and in the 40s on the next. Then the next front coming through brings another cold snap. Local members with years of bonsai experience will be presenting.

We will also have a very special treat. After many months of hard work, MBS has scheduled Sean Smith for mid-March.

The "About the Artist" reads from his website

Sean Smith lives in the United States in Marysville Pennsylvania, where he owns and operates Custom Oriental Wood-craft. With a passion for bonsai and suiseki for over 20 years, and an extensive background in carpentry, Sean took the two, put them together and started his own business in 1994. He makes bonsai display tables, and carves daiza for renowned bonsai and suiseki enthusiasts all over the world.

Sean will be doing two half-day workshops and then will do a club presentation. See the newsletter for details.

The Excellence in Bonsai committee has been working at bringing in top bonsai artists to Milwaukee. Mauro Stemberger was the first in the series last May. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, it looks like we may have to wait until 2017 to bring in another artist for this series. Stay tuned for details.

Last, but certainly not least, for our April meeting, Peter Tea will come in to discuss spring work on your bonsai. Peter will be the Guest Artist for September's Annual Exhibit. He is also the instructor for our Advanced Class. Plan to attend and get a taste of what he has to offer in the way of bonsai knowledge.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meeting on Tuesday, March 1.

Judy

Our first meeting of 2016 with Tom Longfellow was great fun. Lots of food, comradery, a very large maple and woodworking tools. Enough people were interested in doing this with their trees, so a workshop was set up for the following Saturday February 20. Into the woods... :o)



Tom Longfellow at work on a "Fairytale" tree during the meeting



Three MBS meeting participants examining the intricacies of the carving done by Tom Longfellow during the meeting.

Sean Smith - Special Guest Artist for March Workshops

Sean lives in the United States in Marysville, Pennsylvania, where he owns and operates Custom Oriental Wood-craft. Sean took his 20 year passion for Bonsai and Suiseki along with his extensive background in carpentry and put all them together to start his own business in 1994. He currently creates Bonsai display tables, and carves Diaza for renowned Bonsai and Suiseki enthusiasts all over the world. As a result of this work many awards have been bestowed upon him for his craftsmanship as well as his strict adherence to these ancient Japanese art forms. Following are just a few of his awards.

- In 2001, Mr. Arishige Matsuura, President of the Japanese Suiseki Association, proclaimed Sean the number one Diaza carver outside of Japan.
- In 2003, Sean was the first American to exhibit an American Suiseki in the Japanese National Suiseki Show at the Meji Shrine in Tokyo, Japan.
- In 2008 Sean was given recognition by the World Bonsai Friendship Federation for promoting and expanding the Japanese art of suiseki

Sean will be here for **two workshops on March 12**. All participants in both workshops must have a dremel to use. Also please bring safety glasses and a dust mask.

Sean will have a powerpoint presentation before each workshop.

morning - diaza carving - stone and wood provided

afternoon - cascade stand carving - stand is about 6" wood provided



Sunday March 13

Sean will be at Boerner from 10:00 - 1:00 for a presentation on his experiences with suiseki and diaza around the world. Free and open to all.

Registration form:

Name _____ Phone contact # _____

Email address _____

Please check: Diaza workshop \$125 Root Stand workshop \$125 Both \$225

Bring to the March meeting or send to:
Milwaukee Bonsai Society,
P.O. Box 240822
Milwaukee WI 53224

milwaukee bonsai
FOUNDATION

January 30, 2016

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

Dear MBS Board Members,

Significant progress was made in 2015 towards our collective goal of establishing a public bonsai collection in Milwaukee.

In December of 2014 the architectural students from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) made their final presentation in the lobby of the Lynden Sculpture Garden (LSG) main building. The event was a great success. Not only did they create many wonderful ideas for the final design of the bonsai exhibit space, they also generated great enthusiasm from LSG, and the bonsai community, about the quality of what we are trying to accomplish.

In May of 2015 the Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation (MBF) staged an outdoor bonsai exhibit at LSG in honor of their Fifth Anniversary of becoming a public institution. The exhibit was a great success and was featured in the July, August September issue of the Bonsai Clubs International *Bonsai & Stone Appreciation Magazine*.

There were two children's bonsai workshops at LSG in 2015, and they were well attended. LSG has requested that similar workshops be available for their patrons during 2016.

During the summer we also entered into contract negotiations. The Board of Directors and the Executive Director of LSG have made it very clear that they want us there, and we feel a satisfactory contract will be reached in the very near future.

This fall we repurposed an existing pit at LSG into a cold frame for the winter storage of bonsai and put fourteen trees in it. So far it has been very successful although there has been a water seepage problem. We are pumping the water out while investigating ways to solve the problem on a more permanent basis.

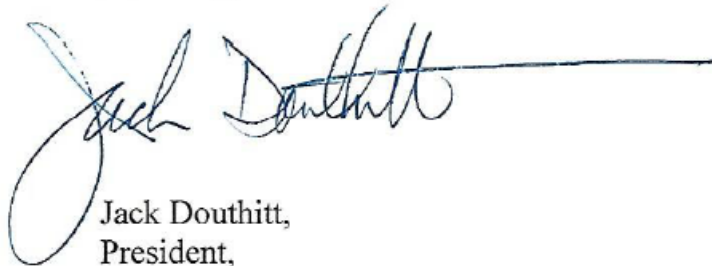
The staff at LSG did a significant amount of the work necessary to repurpose the pit into a cold frame. And since the cold frame has been in use, they have actively monitored conditions in it for us.

Kyle Talbott, the UWM professor of Architecture, whose class used our bonsai exhibit space as a semester project, has been very busy designing the bonsai exhibit facility for us. He is very talented and we are excited about the direction the design is taking.

We are very confident that we will have an acceptable contract before the end of winter. And we believe it is entirely possible that we could begin construction of the exhibit space this spring.

We are starting to get excited.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Douthitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Jack Douthitt,
President,
Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation, Inc.

**We are getting very
close
to making the
Public Bonsai Collection
in
Milwaukee Wisconsin

A Reality**

If you wish to make an additional donation please complete the remainder of this page, and return in the enclosed self addressed envelope.

Donor Recognition

All gifts to the Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation will be acknowledged in a public campaign report. Gifts from an individual or an organization of \$1,000 or above will appear on the Collection's donor recognition wall. Gifts may be made In Memory of or In Honor of a person.

I enclose a contribution in the amount of \$ _____ to the Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation.

Donor Name _____

Name(s) to be listed for recognition
purposes _____

This gift is made In Memory of _____

This gift is made In Honor of _____

_____ Please check here if you wish your gift to be listed as anonymous.

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please make all checks out to: The Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation
The Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible

Thank you for your support.



PO Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Www.milwaukeebonsai.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next MBS meeting will be
March 1, 2016 at 6:45pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130

2015 MBS OFFICERS

President	Judy S
First VP	Kris Z
Second VP	Tony P
Secretary	Leo S
Treasurer	Wally V
Director	Rob P
Director	Susan L
Director	Bryan L
Past Pres.	Greg P

Other Club Functions

Newsletter	Melissa J
Webmaster	Pam W
Director of Children's Education	Jean S
PAB Board	Steve Co, Ron F & Houston S



March is vanishing
with the leafless winter trees
- each week is greener
~Peter S Quinn