March Meeting

Chris Baker will be coming to the MBS meeting on March 7th. The meeting is at the regular time 6:45pm-8:30pm in the lower level of the Boerner Botanical building in Whitnall park. He will be talking about taking your trees out of winter storage.

Bryan L went to Chicago and saw him working with Walter Paul. So you know he will have some good stories too. Come and join us and learn what to do and what not to do when taking your trees out of hibernation.

~See page 2 for a Bio of Chris Baker

Next Meeting
Mar 7, 2017
6:45pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens

March
Mar 7—MBS meeting—Taking bonsai out of storage
Mar 11—Novice Class #3*
Mar 17/18—Intermediate Class #1*
Mar 24-28—Peter Tea Classes #1*

April
April 1—Novice Class #4*
April 4—MBS meeting—Jin/Shari/Carving
April 8—Jin/Shari/Carving workshop Ted Matson*
April 15—Intermediate Class #2*

May
May 2—MBS meeting—Plant diseases
May 6—Novice Class #5*

June
June 2-6—Peter Tea Classes #2*
June 6—MBS Meeting-Pots & Stands
June 17—Intermediate Class #3*

July
July 4—No MBS Meeting
July 8 — Wauwatosa Exhibit
July 7-9 — MABA Convention—Indianapolis
July 15 — Intermediate Class #4*
July 15—Repotting workshop
July 22 — MBS picnic & Swap meet

*Open to MBS members only
President’s Message March 2017

I hope that you and your trees have survived our short taste of spring the last few days. Back into the deep freeze we go. Please protect your trees from the cold temperatures if they get near freezing. If they have experienced warmer temperatures and have begun to come out of dormancy, they are not as cold hardy as they were in January. This is when I have lost trees. The young shoots are tender and will damage easily. It is better to keep them cooler and protected than to take them out on nice days.

This brings us to the next topic for our monthly MBS meetings. Chris Baker, Curator of the Bonsai Exhibit at the Chicago Botanic Gardens, will be speaking on “Bringing Your Bonsai Trees Out of Dormancy”. This will be on Tuesday, March 7th at Boerner in the lower level. The meeting will begin about 6:45 with the talk beginning around 7 PM. Please come early to check out the vendors’ tables and to socialize. Don’t forget to sign the attendance book at the Greeter’s Table and pick up your name badge. MBS shirts are available for purchase.

Our April meeting will allow you to get more experience creating deadwood on your trees. We will have a number of trees available to practice on and to ask questions about. Ted Matson, long time friend of MBS and the Curator of the Bonsai Exhibit at the Huntington Museum in CA, has agreed to do a Saturday workshop in early April on making shari and jin. During this workshop, you’ll be able to bring your trees in for help in adding this interesting feature. This workshop will be limited to 6-8 people. Silent Observers are welcomed. Sign up forms are available in this newsletter. You can bring the completed forms and your check to the March 7th meeting or send it in by mail.

Other upcoming events are the opening of the Public Bonsai Collection at Lynden sometime in June and the Mid-American Bonsai Alliance (MABA) conference that will be held on July 6 & 7 just outside of Indianapolis. Search mabbonsai.org for more information.

I hope to see you on March 7th.

Thanks.
Judy

From Page 1 — Chris Baker Bio

In April 2014, Chris Baker began work as the first full-time curator of bonsai at the Chicago Botanic Garden, where he maintains approximately 175 bonsai trees. Baker has been studying and working on bonsai for more than 13 years. Previously, from 2011 to early 2014, he was an intern and volunteer at the United States National Arboretum’s National Bonsai and Penjing Museum in Washington, D.C. As an active member of the Maryland bonsai community, Baker gave many demonstrations and talks at the Potomac Bonsai Association Spring Show in Washington, D.C., as well as to garden clubs. Baker spent six months in 2012 studying bonsai with third-generation bonsai master Tohru Suzuki at the Daijuen Nursery in Okazaki, Japan.

Baker has always had an interest in horticulture, but his introduction to bonsai started with his purchase of a bonsai juniper as a gift for a friend. When asked why he is so passionate about bonsai, Baker says, “Bonsai is a representation of the beauty and power of nature; it’s the perfect mix of artistry, horticulture, and mechanical skills—it’s living art.”
This will be a challenging winter for our bonsai trees. Warm, cold, warm etc.... Unfortunately we may lose some of lovely trees. Never fear. If they are something that you want to remember, save them for a pop-up workshop later in the year. We’ll reincarnate the trees with leaves and/or fronds. Memorializing them... never to be watered again...

HURRY

There are only 2 spots left in the two Intermediate Classes - to begin on Friday/Saturday March 17/18. Please send in your reservation form ASAP (download form from website under Classes).
The steel for the shade structure is being now being fabricated. If all goes according to schedule, the
installation of the steel framework of the shade structure will be completed around March 31st.

The existing Changing House will serve as a small office and work area. Last fall a group of
dedicated volunteers demolished the interior of the building and work has already begun on the
interior renovation.

The new “fence” around the exhibit area was built and installed last summer. The display pedestals have all
been fabricated and are awaiting final placement.

The large teaching patio was completed last summer. The butterfly garden around the north and east side
of the exhibit area was started last fall and the final plantings will be installed in May.

The Opening Reception is being planned for June 2017.

I hope to see all of you there!

Sponsor A Decorative Gate at the Bonsai Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden
There are six decorative stainless steel gates in the enclosure of the exhibit area. One is the main entry
gate and the other five open to the teaching patio.

It has always been intended to honor the memory of Anna Stadnicka with a gate. The main entry gate has
been sponsored in honor of Steve Contney. Recently two more people have stepped up to honor family
members by sponsoring a gate.

That means that we have only two gates left to be sponsored. It can be in your own name or in memory of a
loved one. If you are interested in sponsoring a gate please call Jack at 414.248.6913 before the 15th of
March for more information.
Volunteers Still Needed for the Bonsai Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden

Volunteers at all skill levels are welcome! If you are interested in being a volunteer and helping maintain the bonsai in the collection and/or guiding people through the exhibit please call Jack at 414.248.6913 or complete and return the below application.

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FOR BONSAI AT LSG

Name ____________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________
Telephone Number ___________________________________
Email Address _____________________________________

I would like to volunteer for:
(Check all that are applicable)
   ____ Working with the bonsai in the collection
   ____ Manning the exhibit
   ____ Leading special tours through the exhibit

I am available:
   ____ During the week
   ____ Weekends

I have been doing Bonsai for _______ Years

Any special interests or talents __________________________________________

Signature _______________________________ Date ________________________

Please return to:
Bonsai at LSG
Milwaukee Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Next MBS meeting will be
Mar 7, 2017 at 6:45 pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI  53130

2017 MBS OFFICERS

President   Judy S
First VP     Bryan L
Second VP    Kris Z
Secretary    Leo S
Treasurer    Wally V
Director     Rob P
Director     Penny T
Director     Melissa J
Past Pres.   Greg P

Other Club Functions

Newsletter   Melissa J
Webmaster    Pam W

Director of Children’s Education—Jean S
PAB Board—Ron F, Houston S & Jean S

All at readiness
With budding trees, pots and tools
The season begins
~Joe N