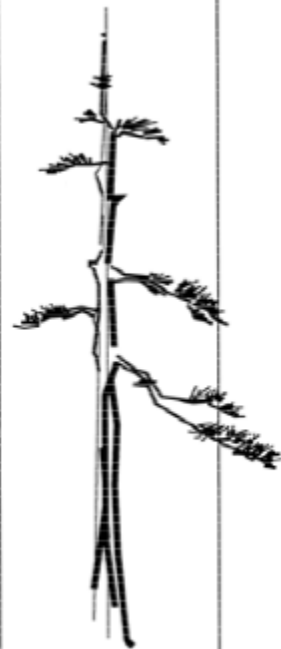


BONSAI NEWS

February 2019



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

February Meeting

Chris Baker will be joining us for our next meeting. This is our Kickoff meeting for the year which happens on a Saturday in case there is some Wisconsin weather. It begins at 9am and goes until noon.

Chris has a lot of knowledge about bonsai and this time will talk about pot selection. Pots are a very important part of bonsai both artistically and for the health of the trees. Please bring a few trees along to get Chris' opinion on which pot would be best and if it is ready for repotting. He may have the time to talk to us on grafting, depending on how many questions we have for him.

Come and show your trees to a fellow member and get help from our own experts. Our club has a lot of knowledgeable people to help you along in our art. We have a lot of new members in our club.

All of us are happy to guide you to your next level in bonsai. The garden centers will be opening soon and you can begin to shop for your next tree.

The meeting will be in the "Grandparents" room across from our normal big meeting room.

February

Feb 16—**MBS meeting**

Chris Baker-pot selection

Feb 17—Silhouette Show-Domes

Feb 23—Novice Class*

March

Mar 5—**MBS meeting**

Jennifer Price-the art of bonsai

Mar 9—Novice Class*

Mar 9-Jennifer Price study group (A)*

Mar 10-Jennifer Price study group (B)*

Mar 16-Jennifer Price study group (A)*

Mar 17-Jennifer Price study group (B)*

Mar 23 — Novice Class*

Mar 23—Intermediate Class (A)*

Mar 24-Intermediate Class (B)*

April

April 2—**MBS meeting**

Mark Fields demo

Apr 6—Novice Class*

Apr 6-Jennifer Price study group (A)*

Apr 7-Jennifer Price study group (B)*

Apr 13—Novice Class*

Apr 27—Intermediate Class (A)*

Apr 28-Intermediate Class (B)*

Next Meeting
February 16, 2019
9 am
Boerner Botanical
Gardens

President's Message February 2019

Happy 2019 fellow Bonsai lovers!! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is anxiously awaiting Spring in order to start working on your trees! I know I am having a difficult time waiting for the warmer weather so I can spend time with my trees.

2019 promises to be another exciting year for MBS members. The Executive Committee recently met and planned out the topics for the monthly meeting for the year. Between monthly meetings, workshops and study groups we have a wide variety of artists, demos and member participation activities planned.

The February meeting on Saturday the 16th at 9am starts 2019 off with us welcoming Chris Baker as our first guest. Chris is the curator of the bonsai exhibit at the Chicago Botanical Gardens and will be talking to us about pot choices and grafting of trees.

March also guarantees a sensational meeting when we welcome Jennifer Price to our Tuesday meeting for her to talk about the art of Bonsai. The rest of the year is going to be equally as thrilling so stay tuned for more updates in future newsletters and on the web site.

Late in 2018 the Bryan L sent out a survey asking for information from members about workshops and classes. The over whelming response was that MBS should offer more workshops or even a study group on the weekend. We listened and have made arrangements with Jennifer Price to lead a 3 part study group for members starting March 9th or March 10th if you are interested in a Sunday group instead of Saturdays.

Unfortunately, sign up for this group has been slow and there are many spots available yet. It would be a shame to have to cancel this opportunity because of lack of participants. If you are thinking about attending this 3 part study group please follow the Eventbrite links and sign up for either the [Saturday sessions](#) or the [Sunday sessions](#) and learn from an international Bonsai artist. We are lucky to have secured space on Jennifer's busy calendar this year!

Speaking of learning opportunities, there are still 2 spots left in the Sunday [Intermediate class](#) and a few spots available in the [Novice class](#). Although space in the newsletter did not allow for including the flyers/sign up sheets this month, each class can be found on Eventbrite by clicking on the above class name.

Another piece of information that you may find helpful is a timeline for preparing your bonsai for display. I am including a few supportive suggestions for what should be taking place before you place a tree in an exhibit.

90 days before the exhibit you should read the show rules and select the tree you would like to enter. 90-75 days prior to the exhibit complete major pruning and wiring. Using this time frame for State Fair, our first exhibit opportunity, the above tasks should start in May. I will be including more details of the timeline in subsequent newsletters.

Also in February MBS has been asked by the Milw County Domes to bring some of our member's deciduous trees to the Domes for the public to see on Sunday, February 17th. This is not an exhibit, it is just a chance to show non-bonsai people what some of our trees look like in winter. Many people will not believe the trees are alive since there are not any leaves right now. If you are interested in helping out by bringing a tree to the Domes, volunteering to tree sit for part of the day or even help with set up or tear down please contact [Erich B.](#)

With Spring hopefully around the corner the Bonsai exhibit at Lynden will be opening soon. Volunteers to help out there are always appreciated. Look for more information about the permanent exhibit in the following pages of this newsletter. You can also look for Jack D at the February meeting. Jack will be able to help answer any questions you may have and will be able to give you more information on this opportunity.

I hope to see everyone at the kick off meeting on Saturday, February 16th at 9am. As always, if you have suggestions for an upcoming meeting or workshop talk to one of the board members.

Keep thinking warm thoughts on these chilly days!

Melissa J

Join and Pay On-Line at:
otherwise print, pay and mail in.

[Eventbrite](#)



Milwaukee Bonsai Society

2019 Membership Application

Contact Information

Please Print:

Name(s)	
Street Address	
City ST ZIP Code	
Home Phone	
Cell/Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

Membership Type

New or Renewal:

Individual 1 year \$35 Individual 2 years \$62 Individual 3 years \$89
 Family 1 year \$47 Family 2 years \$86 Family 3 years \$125

Overpayment of dues will be considered a donation to the club. MBS is a non-profit organization under 501(3) (c)

Interests

Tell us in which areas you are interested in volunteering

Events Administration Other (let us know your interest)
 Fundraising Newsletter production
 Tree Exhibiting/Sitting Volunteer coordination

Payment

Please make your check or money order payable to: **Milwaukee Bonsai Society**

Mail to:

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

Our Policy

This information will not be published or otherwise distributed to the public and is for MBS Board members only. MBS membership applications are also accepted at monthly meetings, which the public is always invited.

Thank you for completing this application form and for your interest in joining and volunteering with us.

Quality Bonsai... Quality Guest Artists

Walter Pall March 26
Will Baddeley March 30-31
Owen Riech April 13-14
Mauro Stemberger May 18-19
Todd Schlafer August 10-11
Walter Pall October 18-20
Jan Culek October 26-27
Mauro Stemberger November 9-10

Workshops fill up fast, register NOW!!



Willowbrook, IL (I-55/Rt.83) • (630) 655-8283
One hour and 30 minutes from Milwaukee!



www.thehiddengardens.net

2018 Folk Fair award for the Bonsai exhibit being the most interactive with attending crowd



The Bonsai Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden

Jack Douthitt

The Bonsai Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden had an excellent year in 2018. It opened on World Bonsai Day with a “special exhibit” of bonsai drawn from the collections of Milwaukee Bonsai Society members. Jennifer Price selected the bonsai for the exhibit and on Opening Day, gave a short demonstration and a critique of the trees in the exhibit to an appreciative audience. The exhibit ran for eight days and was very well received.



During the year, the bonsai exhibit was an active participant in all major Lynden events. In addition, there was a wedding vow renewal on the patio (they wanted the exhibit open for their celebration!), we had several children’s art classes make “official” visits to the exhibit, and we had a public workshop with a waiting list! Lynden was also part of **Doors Open Milwaukee**, which is a two-day public celebration of Milwaukee’s art, architecture, culture and history. This year over 1400 people came through the bonsai exhibit during that event.



In July, the six Volunteers who worked the most shifts in 2018 were rewarded with an all day workshop with Suthin Sukosolvisit. They worked on the trees in the collection and it was a win, win situation for everyone – the trees in the Collection looked better, the participants learned unique and valuable skills in maintaining and refining exhibit quality bonsai, and everyone had fun!

This year three new bonsai were added to the collection. The first was an excellent Scots Pine from Jim Doyle who is the owner of Nature’s Way Nursery in Harrisburg PA, and very well known in the bonsai world. Pauline Muth, a well-known teacher and owner of PFM Bonsai Studio in West Charlton, NY, donated a beautiful land penjing of Chinese Elms on a white marble tray. And Walter Pall, an internationally known bonsai artist from Germany, and his protégé Jennifer Price, donated an exceptional collected Ponderosa Pine.

Soon it will be time to start preparing the bonsai, and the exhibit area, for 2019. Trees need to be repotted, trimmed and wired. Pots need to be cleaned along with all those other things that have to be done to get a bonsai ready for exhibit.

Being a Volunteer at the Bonsai Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden is an opportunity to work on exhibit quality bonsai, be a part of the experience at Lynden, and maybe even get a workshop with an outstanding bonsai teacher. If you would like to become a Volunteer at Lynden, applications will be available at the February meeting



Submitted by Judy S and Wally V, an interesting article from the Master Gardeners:

From apples to zucchini – no matter what types of plants you grow – it's likely something spider mites will attack. The most common spider mite, the twospotted spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae*), is a general feeder that attacks a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals. Learn about this the biology of this tiny pest, the type of damage it causes and how to manage it in this article at <https://wimastergardener.org/article/twospotted-spider-mite-tetranychus-urticae/>



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www.WiscoBonsai.blogspot.com
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WOOD FIRED STONEWARE BONSAI POTS

Wood fired means these pots were fired by hand, in a wood fired kiln. After loading the wares into the Kiln and bricking up the door. You begin a small fire in the fire box, which you build up very slowly. At the start you are aiming for about 50-100 degrees per hour for the first 16 to 18 hours. After 24 hours the temperature reaches 1950 - 2400 degrees. The last firing, we did, we fired for 41 hours. During this firing we burned 2 cords of wood. After finishing the firing, you wait a week for the kiln to cool down, and unload. Wood firing offers great effects on your wares. Although, you can have up to 40 % loss in the process of wood firing.

Stoneware is a high fired clay usually with some grog. I have used several varieties of clay in my work.

After 39 years of studying the art of Bonsai, I decided to make some Bonsai pots. I began with simple low fired works. My teacher introduced me to wood firing. I loved the effects of wood firing on the clay. Many of my works have no glaze applied to them, the glaze is formed from silica in the clay and wood ash. Which combine in the firing process. The end results often amaze even experienced potters. When I decided to go with wood firing, I began with slabs formed over rocks and deadwood. Did a few 'more traditional pieces. Then decided to branch off to more non-traditional works. These new works will be fired in the spring of 2019. And will be available at my spring sale. Date to be determined.

Phil Malhiot 708-705-7768 bonsaiphil@gmail.com malhiot.com



Planted accent log



Round



Log pots



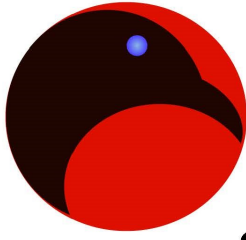
Various slabs



Cascade round



Glazed round



Control Pest Species A - B

Quiet Crow Bonsai is a collection of articles, essays, and views for bonsai artist, devotees and supporters. www.QuietCrowBonsai.com.

Controlling pest is a common task for keeping our bonsai healthy. This year let's explore some specific type of trees that I have, describe the typical pest and the symptoms and what I have learned to control them.

Acer - Maple

Aphids – small green, yellow, red, black or brown sucking insects. Look for them on new growth.



Aphids attaching Maple picture from Peter Tea

When found, spray with Malathion which is a man-made organophosphate insecticide that is commonly used to control mosquitoes and a variety of insects that attack fruits, vegetables, landscaping plants, and shrubs. Malathion is an insecticide of relatively low human toxicity. Orthene can be used in resistant cases. Acephate, Orthene's powerful active ingredient, is commonly used to protect trees, turf and ornamentals from a variety of insect pests. Acephate is an organophosphate foliar insecticide of moderate persistence with residual systemic activity of about 10–15 days at the recommended use rate. It is used primarily for control of aphids, including resistant species, in vegetables and in horticulture. Orthene Spray works effectively in two complimentary ways: first, controlling insects on contact, then penetrating plant tissue for local systemic. Plants usually absorb Orthene within 24 hours, so its stopping power is unaffected by rain, irrigation or sprinklers. Low oral and dermal toxicity, plus low vapor pressure and volatility means Orthene Spray can be applied without a mask, however it is toxic to bees, birds, aquatic life, and pets.

Azalea - Rhododendron

Azalea Bark Scale – White cottony sacs enclosing dark red females and their eggs. Azalea bark scale looks like, and is often mistaken for mealybugs. Eggs are laid in late April and a new batch of this azalea pest hatches in about three weeks. They are present in forks of branches and twigs. Foliage and twigs are often covered with black sooty mold growing in secreted honeydew. Azaleas appear yellow and weak.



This scale is most obvious from May through June when white egg sacs may be found in twig and stems. Picture from rhodyman.net For more complete information see <http://rhodyman.net/rhodynho.php>

To fight the azalea scale, the most effective weapons in your arsenal are horticultural oil or dormant oil and insecticidal soap. Imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden Tree & Shrub Insect Control) applied to the soil as a systemic can provide season-long control.

Azalea Lace Bug - They have thin lacy outgrowths on their thorax, and have delicate lace-like forewings. Nymphs and adults generally live and feed on the underside of leaves, causing damage by piercing and removing cell contents from leaf tissues. Because of the removal of most of the chlorophyll containing tissues located near the upper epidermis, the leaf surface become stippled, bleached, or chlorotic appearance of the upper leaf surface.



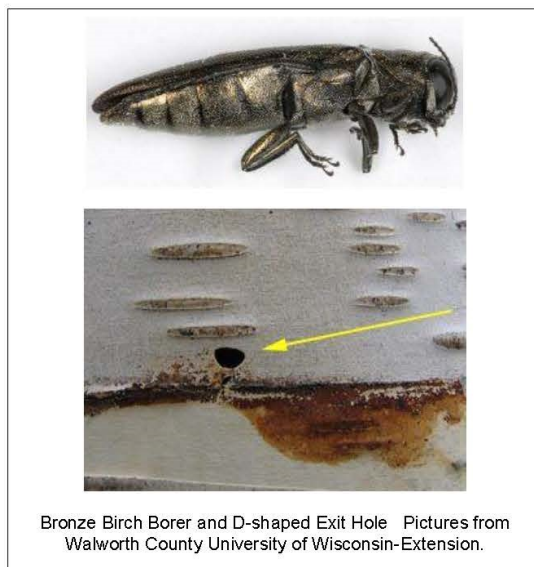
Azalea Lace Bug picture from Oregon State University

Spider Mites - The mites feed on leaf surfaces, grating the epidermis. Leaves turn grey or brown as feeding continues. The damage is seen but the insect is too small to see. Identify by shaking foliage over a sheet of white paper. Mites are detected by crawling, appear reddish or black smaller than a grain of salt. Warm season mites thrive in temperatures above 80 degrees and can double in half the time when it is 75 degrees. Control for these are needed in hot summer months. The Azalea white mite activity takes place during the cooler weather of spring and fall. During the heat of summer, the life cycle is in the egg stage. For all mite's treatment includes spraying them off with water, checking the undersides of leaves and spray or wipe them again. Heavy infestations require products designed specifically for killing spider mites.

Betula - Birch

Aphids – see Acer.

Bronze Birch Borer - is a beetle, olive to brown in color with a coppery metallic reflection. Both larvae and adults are difficult to find. Signs of the insects' damage are easier to detect than the actual insects, which spend most of their lives inside the tree. Wilted leaves near the top of the tree are often the first identifiable sign of the borer's presence, followed by twig and branch dieback. Larvae hatch from eggs laid on the surface of the birch tree and bore into branches or the tree trunk. Larvae feed in the cambium layer of the tree. The cambium is where the tree's nutrient and water transport systems are located. Extensive feeding by bronze birch borer larvae disrupts the flow of water and nutrients in the tree and kills roots, branches, and eventually the entire tree. Larval development takes 1 to 2 years, depending on the climate and length of the growing season. Adults emerge out of the pupal casings and feed on the leaves of the tree but rarely cause extensive damage. The D-shaped exit hole made by the adult emerging from the tree is another sign of the insect's presence it is sometimes accompanied by brown staining on the bark. The emergence holes are often undetected until well after damage in the canopy is apparent.



Bronze Birch Borer is a serious pest of birch trees in the Midwest. They attack stressed trees, and the source of the stress can anything from drought, flooding, or defoliation, to old age. To fight borers, I use a paint method. Cygon is a systemic insecticide. It works by moving into the plants vascular system and invading all the plant cells. Insects that feed off the plant ingest the chemical through plant saps and die. Cygon is painted onto the bark of a tree and it will be absorbed through the cambium and into core tissue. This is useful when dealing with insects that live in the tree. To apply, paint a band of undiluted SA-50 Cygon 2E Dimethoate Systemic Insecticide around the trunk of the tree below the lowest branches. The width of the band must be equal to the thickness of the trunk at that location (maximum 6"). Make first treatment at bud break. Weather conditions are important for the correct timing of treatment. If weather is warm and buds break fast than apply when green tips are visible. If weather is cold apply when leaves are almost completely unfolded. Make a second application 6 weeks after the first. Do not make more than these two applications per season. Imidacloprid (Merit) is a systemic insecticide that can be applied as a soil injection or soil drench at the base of the tree. Treatments can only be once per year.

Buxus - Boxwood

Boxwood Mite – Boxwood spider mite feeding causes fleck-like scratches on the upper leaf surface (see below left). Generally, there is no webbing associated with this mite. See Azalea Spider Mite for treatment.



Boxwood Leaf Miner - leaf mining by larvae (small maggots) creates oval yellow areas similar to blisters on infested leaves (see above middle). When abundant, damage can cause premature leaf drop, twig dieback, and increased susceptibility to winterkill. Chemical control is difficult because the application must be timed with the emergence of the adult flies. An application of Malathion or other insecticide spray when the adult flies emerge (when weigela is in bloom) can reduce populations. Imidacloprid, a systemic insecticide (Merit or Bayer Tree and Shrub Insect Control), will control the larvae inside the leaves and does not require precise timing. This product should be applied in mid- to late April.

Boxwood Psyllid - is a less serious pest. It causes cupping of leaves (see above right) and may affect twig growth, but the damage caused is purely aesthetic and not as destructive as other boxwood pests. This minor pest can be controlled with many of the insecticides mentioned above for other boxwood pests. An application should be made when young psyllids are present, in early May.

Next month we will cover my greatest continued nuisance on Shimpaku Junipers.



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

Next MBS meeting will be
February 16, 2019 9am
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130

2018 MBS OFFICERS

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Second VP [Erich B](#)
Secretary [Leo S](#)
Treasurer [Wally V](#)
Director [Rob P](#)
Director [Rick W](#)
Director [Phil R](#)
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Other Club Functions

Newsletter [Melissa J](#)
Webmaster [Pam W](#)

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



thick blanket of snow
snuggling the flowerbeds
with a winter wrap

~Jan Allison