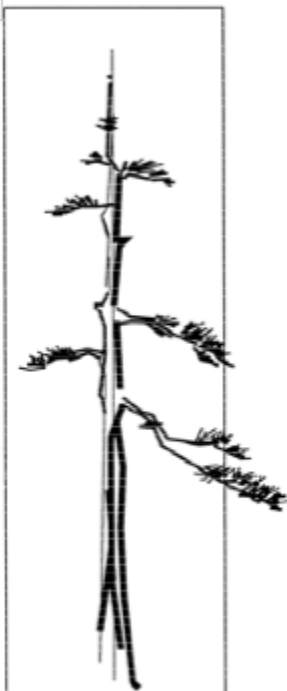


BONSAI NEWS

April 2019



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

**Next Meeting
April 2, 2019
6:45 pm
Boerner Botanical
Gardens**

April Meeting

At our April 2nd meeting we will be having Mark Fields will do a demonstration on how to make a bonsai. You will see a great transition. He will be working on either a Spaan's Dwarf Coastal or a Itoigawa Juniper. Along with this he may have left some of his trees that he is bringing for his workshops on Sunday and earlier in the day on Tuesday. He is bringing junipers, dwarf Hinoki, Scots pine, Trident maple and Sekka.

Mark Fields began in bonasi when he was 9 years old. His dad was in the landscape business, as is Mark, and his dad would bring trees that he had dug up home for Mark. He has studied with more than 60 artists from around the world. He has worked with names such as Yuji Yoshimura, Danny Use of Gingko Bonsai in Belgium and Masahiko Kimura — superstars in the bonsai world. More recently Mr. Fields has been traveling to Japan to visit and study bonsai nurseries and working with Bjorn BJORHOLM, an artist certified by the Japanese Bonsai Association.

Mark was here a couple of years ago and did a great demo of a Juniper. A member bought it in an auction after he was done and its doing well. Tuesday's tree will be auctioned off also.

So bring some cash or check book to buy a great tree

April

- April 2—**MBS meeting**
Mark Fields demo
- Apr 6—Novice Class*
- Apr 13—Novice Class*
- Apr 27—Intermediate Class (A)*
- Apr 28-Intermediate Class (B)*

May

- May 7—**MBS meeting**
Member's trees
- May 11 or 18—Novice Class*
- May 11-12 — Chicago Exhibit

June

- June 4—**MBS meeting**
Pines
- June 22—Intermediate Class (A)*
- June 23-Intermediate Class (B)*
- June 29-30 — Advanced Class w/
Peter Tea

July

- July 13—**MBS picnic**

August

- Aug 1-11—State Fair
- Aug 6 — **MBS meeting** TBD
- Aug 10—Intermediate Class (A)*
- Aug 11-Intermediate Class (B)*

President's Message April 2019

Well, it is time for another president's message and I am slightly out of ideas as to what to talk about. I could talk yet again about the weather and how things seem to finally be warming up, but I've done that in previous messages and we seem to get hit with a major snowstorm afterwards. I could also talk about how I'm sure everyone is getting antsy to work on their trees, but I'm sure that would just be stating the obvious.

So I think I will talk about how everything I really needed to know about bonsai I learned by being patient. Bonsai is an art where waiting is key. We trim and wire and then wait for the tree to grow. We repot and then wait so the tree can become accustomed to its new home. We first get a tree and have to wait before working on it (at least I do) so the tree can get acclimated to my environment.

What other hobby, or way of life, involves so much waiting?? Stamp collecting offers instant gratification and so do many sport hobbies. I know when I bowl I am rewarded with a measure of how I did once the game is complete and I can see how well or not so well I've done. There is not much waiting involved at all.

My trees, even when I try to will them to grow faster, always seem to grow at their own pace and on their own time schedule. Unfortunately that schedule is not always the same as mine.

I think our trees and our wonderful bonsai hobby can teach everyone on "the outside" a lesson in patience. The world can use more people who have patience with each other. Some times people in the world need to think before they speak or act. I know many situations may have turned out on a positive note if the people involved had waited before sending an email or text or even by thinking before acting.

I think the morale of this message is for all of us to take that same patience we have with our trees and to use that behavior with other people. Kindness grows exponentially and if all of us treat one person better and that person shows patience and kindness to one person pretty soon the world would be a better place for everyone.

Moving on, I read an interesting article on moss the other day that my friend Bonnie P passed on to me. She follows the Appalachian Voices and forwarded the article on to me. If anyone is interested in learning more about moss you can find the article [here](#).

Don't forget to attend the April Tuesday meeting where Mark Fields will be demonstrating on a very nice tree he picked out especially for us. We will be auctioning off the tree at the end of the meeting also.

Lets all practice patience with each other so others can learn from our example!

Melissa J.

Adventures in Making a Blended Tree

by Kris Z

For those of you looking for a fun adventure in creating a bonsai, I'd like to share with you the blended tree method. You start with an odd number of whips (straight seedlings) and start binding them at the bottom with tape. Bind up to where you want your first branch, then take that whip out of the binding process. Then bind to the second branch, then to the back branch, etc. You can put future branches where you want them. I have done this with Amur maple (see photo #1). This is a combo of three blended trees that I put together over the years. The second one I did was a combo of Japanese and Korean hornbeams (pic #2). This year I'm putting together a blended tree with 3 different types of azaleas (I got the whips last year when Dave Kreutz came to Milwaukee) (pic #3). I need to put this one together quickly as they are starting to bud out!

I first learned about blended trees from Pauline Muth at an ABS convention. That's where I made my first blended trees (3 of them) with the Amur maples. If you are interested, please email me (hagr8d@mac.com) and I can send you Pauline's instructions (I do have permissions to copy the instructions).

I am including a [link the website](#) where I get my whips. If you are interested in starting a forest, these whips/seedlings would also work out well



Photo #1

Photo #2



Photo #3



WISCO BONSAI
www.WiscoBonsai.blogspot.com
www.WiscoBonsai@gmail.com

WISCO BONSAI

DELIVERY TO MBS MEETINGS AVAILABLE.

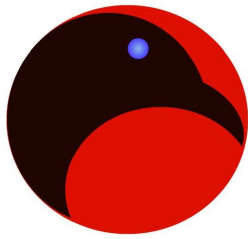
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Control Pest Species L

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

Last month a full page was devoted to controlling mites. This month we will cover a few more tree species that I also have experience with controlling pest.

Liquidambar - Sweet Gum

Sweet Gum Scale – This minute, circular to oval female, lemon yellow, lives in a pit on the lower side of the leaf. The area above becomes a small round mound. The pits are usually near intersections of veins and mid-rib.

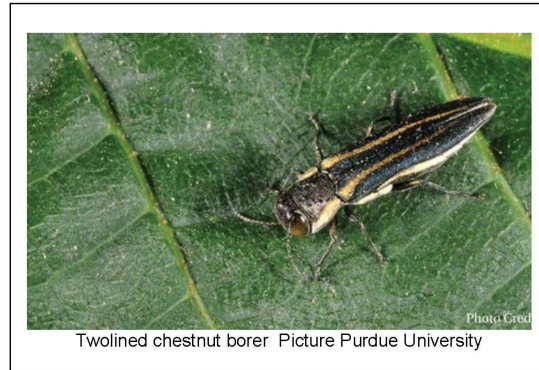


Damage from sweetgum scale on upper leaf surface
Picture Jeffrey W. Lotz, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org

Dabbing individual pests with cotton swab soaked in neem oil will work when infestations are light work by suffocating the insect. I have also had success spraying in May with Azamax which is a broad spectrum insect and spider mite control. AzaMax contains 1.2% Azadirachtin, an anti-feedant and insect growth regulator (IGR) — controls pests through starvation and growth disruption. This concentrated spray is approved for organic use, works as well as synthetic insecticides, and offers multiple modes of action, making it virtually impossible for pest resistance to develop. Best of all, it's non-toxic to honey bees and many other beneficial

Ostrya – Ironwood and Hornbeam

Twolined Chestnut Borer – Adult borers are slender, black beetles with a bluish to greenish hue with two faint, yellowish stripes along their back. Twolined chestnut borer larvae live under the bark in cylindrical, winding tunnels tightly packed with fine grain sawdust and excrement

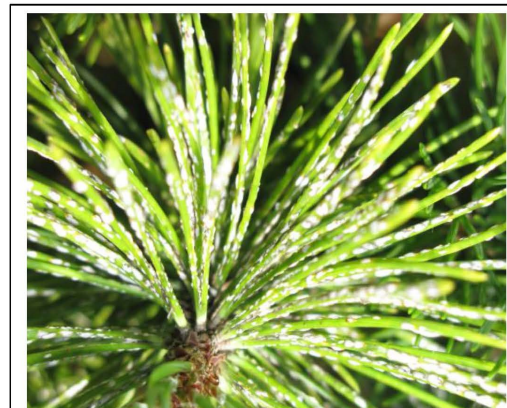


Twolined chestnut borer Picture Purdue University

Twolined chestnut borer attacks oaks, beech, hornbeam and chestnuts that are stressed by drought, soil compaction or other insects or diseases. Bonsai can be killed in the first year of attack; however, death usually occurs after the trunk is infested during the second year. Understanding that two-lined chestnut borer primarily attacks stressed trees helps in designing an effective treatment program. While alleviating the stress on infested trees through watering and fertilizing will support the trees natural defense system, the use of insecticides is recommended to get an infestation under control. Preventative treatments with insecticides need to target this pest where it feeds - the conductive tissues of the tree. Soil applied systemic insecticides such as Imidacloprid, (Merit or Bayer Tree and Shrub Insect Control), will control the larvae inside the leaves and does not require precise timing.

Pinus - Pines

Pine needle scale – is a small armored scale that feeds on the sugars contained in the needles of pines, spruce and fir trees. The insect attaches itself to the needle and produces a hard waxy shell to protect itself from predators and environmental conditions. Visible to the naked eye when covered with the shell, pine needle scales appear as oyster shell-shaped white blisters on the needles of conifers, often so numerous they envelop the entire needle. Pine needle scale is a serious pest and cause disfiguration and often death of the infested needles as well as general decline of the whole bonsai. For treatment use, Orthene, and Malathion. (See control for Cedrus Cryptomeria Scale)



Pine Needle Scale

Prunus – Plum, Cherry

Obscure Scale - As its name implies, is difficult to detect, particularly when it occurs on trees with dark-colored bark. The protective cover above the insect is typically gray but is often the same color as the bark. Crawlers tend to settle close together, resulting in patches of scales several layers deep. Obscure scale is an armored scale insect that attacks the trunk and large limbs of both young and mature trees. This is a serious pest, which causes dieback of branches, limbs, and can eventually kill bonsai. The Oaks are the primary host, but it has also been reported on chestnut, pecan, beech, walnut, willow, maple, hickory, and other trees.



Obscure Scale Picture Kris Braman UGA.

Several factors contribute to the difficulty of controlling obscure scale: (1) the scale's waxy cover provides protection against pesticide exposure; (2) crawlers tend to settle under the protection of older scale covers, thus producing a layering or encrusting effect; and (3) crawler activity extends over a long period of time. Dormant oil can be applied to the overwintering stages. Imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden Tree & Shrub Insect Control) applied to the soil as a systemic can provide season-long control.

Planthoppers – Hoppers are agile insects that can move with equal ease either forwards, backwards, or sideways like a crab. The crab-like motion distinguishes hoppers from most other insects. In addition, they can hop to escape danger or to move to another host plant. Feeding damage from some species causes small white spots (stippling) to appear on the upper leaf surface, usually beginning near the leaf midrib. Some leafhopper species cause curling or stunting of terminal leaves with their feeding. The damage is not serious on landscape trees but can be a real problem on a bonsai. Insecticidal soap can control leafhoppers if applied when the insects are small. Be sure to spray the underside of leaves as the immature leafhoppers are usually found there.



Flatid Planthopper Picture Mike Deep

Salix - Willow

Aphids— There are numerous aphids which attack our weeping willow bonsai. Look for misshapen, curling, stunted, or yellowing leaves. Be sure to check the undersides of leaves; aphids love to hide there. If the leaves or stems are covered with a sticky substance, that is a sign that aphids may have been sipping sap. This "honeydew," a sugary liquid produced by the insects as waste, can attract other insects, such as ants, which gather the substance for food. The honeydew can sometimes encourage a fungal growth called sooty mold, causing branches and leaves to appear black. All are controlled easily but expect several generations a year. (See control for Acer Aphids) in the first article.



Willow leaves covered by black sooty mold fungi growing on honeydew secreted by willow aphid.
Picture: Tim Holmes © Plant & Food Research

Striped Cucumber Beetle – If your weeping willow shows signs of leaf eating insect, that is damage you might expect from a caterpillar, chances are you are looking at the damage caused by the cucumber beetle. Adults feed on leaves and can stunt plant growth. Look for holes and yellowing and wilting leaves. Cucumber beetles Do not live through the winter in the Midwest, adults migrate from the Southern U.S. in late June or early July. Striped cucumber beetles can carry the bacteria that causes bacterial wilt. The bacterium infects the plants' vascular system and causes plants to wilt. Once the plant is infected, it cannot be saved. Striped cucumber beetles pick the bacterium when they feed on infected weed hosts.

Watch your plants regularly for striped cucumber beetles. If you find two or more beetles on your bonsai, apply a pesticide. My preference is a product containing Spinosad, the active ingredient in Monterey Garden Insect Spray, is a relatively new insect killer that was discovered from soil in an abandoned rum distillery in 1982. A bacterial product produced by fermentation, for use on ornamentals and edible plants up to the day of harvest. It works fast! After ingesting Spinosad, insect pests die within 1 to 2 days, it does not persist in the environment and is classified as an organic substance. One note of caution: after being mixed with water it is only effective for 24 hours, so only mix as much as you will need per application.

Next month, a look at Taxus – Japanese Yew and wrap up the series.

Celebrate 2019 WORLD BONSAI DAY with the Milwaukee Bonsai Collection

In 2018, the Milwaukee Bonsai Collection at Lynden Sculpture Garden celebrated World Bonsai Day with a “Special Exhibit” of bonsai drawn from the personal collections of Milwaukee Bonsai Society members. All the bonsai of the permanent collection were removed from the display area and were replaced with the World Bonsai Day Exhibit bonsai. It was a “win-win” situation. It gave the participants an opportunity to show their bonsai in a museum setting, and it gave the Lynden patrons a chance to view bonsai that they would not normally see. The World Bonsai Day Exhibit ran for eight days and was a great success. So we are staging another “Special Exhibit” in honor of World Bonsai Day in 2019. This year we are also inviting members of other bonsai clubs in the area to celebrate WORLD BONSAI DAY with us.

The “2019 World Bonsai Day Exhibit” will focus on bonsai created from collected material.

We all have some, and they create a special interest in viewers. Twenty of the best bonsai submitted will be invited to participate in the 2019 World Bonsai Day Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Garden.

Important information:

1. It is an outdoor exhibit area that is enclosed. The trees will be under 40% shade cloth.
2. The exhibit is manned during all open hours, and the bonsai on display will be cared for by experienced bonsai artists of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society. Your care instructions (watering, etc.) will be followed explicitly.
3. Any member of your club can submit bonsai for consideration.
4. There are no restrictions related to length of ownership and no classifications as to level of experience. No awards will be given.

How to Enter:

1. Send a folder containing snapshots of your entry. The pictures do not have to be of studio quality, they can be just snapshots. But they should show the best attributes of your bonsai.
2. Put the pictures in a folder with some basic information about the bonsai – species, size, estimated age, history, etc. Make one folder for each bonsai you want to be considered.
3. Put your name, address and contact information in a sealed envelope and put it in the folder with the pictures and mail to:
Milwaukee Bonsai Foundation
7026 N. Lake Dr.
Fox Point, WI 53217
4. You may submit up to three entries per person. Entries may all be mailed in one package.
5. Submissions that are accepted for the Exhibit will notified by email or telephone.

Important Dates:

Monday April 15 - Submissions due

Monday April 22 – Acceptance notices will be sent out

Friday May10 – Accepted trees must be delivered to the exhibit area (pickup of accepted trees may be arranged for earlier dates)

Saturday May 11 – World Bonsai Day Exhibit opens with a reception and a demonstration

Saturday May 18 – Last day of the Exhibit

Sunday May 19 – trees may be picked up (delivery of accepted trees may be arranged for later dates)

Lynden Sculpture Garden is a very special place. Originally the estate of the Milwaukee industrialist Harry Bradley, it is world famous for the extent and quality of the sculpture in its collection. And the bonsai exhibit has become an integral part of the sculptural fabric of Lynden. In the first year the bonsai exhibit was open, visitors from 23 states and 7 foreign countries signed our guest book! More information about Lynden can be found on their website. [Lynden Sculpture Garden](#)

Submit your bonsai today and you can be a part of the 2019 WORLD BONSAI DAY celebration in a museum setting that is world famous!!!!!!!!!!

Any questions call Jack at 414.248.6913.



World Bonsai Day

May 11, 2019 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm





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

Next MBS meeting will be
April 2, 2019 at 6:45pm
Boerner Botanical Gardens
9400 Boerner Dr
Hales Corners, WI 53130

2018 MBS OFFICERS

President	Melissa J
First VP	Bryan L
Second VP	Erich B
Secretary	Leo S
Treasurer	Wally V
Director	Rob P
Director	Rick W
Director	Phil R
Past Pres.	Judy S

Other Club Functions

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



Things in readiness
With budding trees, pots and tools
The season begins

~Joe N