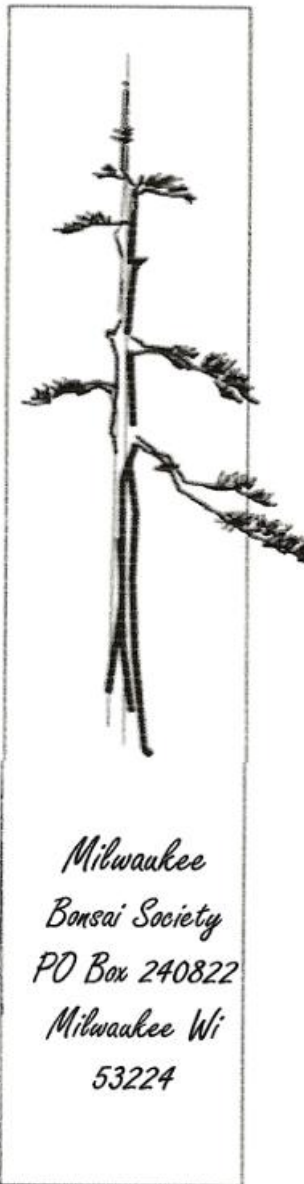


BONSAI NEWS

MILWAUKEE BONSAI SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

June 2025



Upcoming Meeting

How are your trees waking up this year? Are they all leafed out? Join us at this month's meeting for an all-important discussion of post-flush cutbacks on deciduous trees.

Effective pruning can benefit both the health of the tree and push the style forward. As a bonus topic, we will also be discussing multi flush pines and how to care for them. Don't miss these timely presentations.



Next Meeting

June 7, 2025

9 am

Boerner

Botanical

June

June 7 – General Meeting: Post Flush cut back deciduous/Boxwood work

June 14-15 – 54th Annual Exhibit
Lynden Sculpture Garden

June 28 - Class: Skills 101*

June 29 – Class: Skills 201*

July

July 12 – General meeting: ***Change-Picnic/swap meet (see page 3)

July 31-Aug 10 – WI State Fair Exhibits

August

August 2 – General Meeting: Guest Artist – David Cutchin

August 2 – Workshop: Critique & Discussion with David Cutchin*

August 3 – Workshop: Bring your own Tree with David Cutchin*

August 16 – Class: Skills 101*

August 17 – Class: Skills 201*

September

Sept 6 – General Meeting: Pondarosa Deep Dive/Late Summer-Early Fall /work and Wire, Wire, wire

*Open to MBS members only

President's Message

On Saturday, May 10, we commemorated World Bonsai Day with our first-ever display in the atrium of Boerner, and it can only be described as an enormous success. Our goal was to have eighteen trees in a display similar to what we do for the Silhouette Show in February, and I think we ended up with closer to twenty-five. We had them all —conifers, azaleas, other flowering trees in bloom, tropicals, and some really great deciduous trees. Even though they were not required, accent plantings were especially interesting. We also for the first time had some members bringing really nice suiseki stones to display, a trend that I hope accelerates in the future. Pam very thoughtfully stopped by to take pictures, which are now on the website.

My personal thanks go out to the hardy few who helped with all the work involved. The public relations value of this display was enormous. We have no way of knowing the exact number of people who saw the trees, but the beautiful weather brought a lot of traffic to the garden.

Since we were immediately adjacent to the admission counter, everyone coming into the garden had at least a brief look, and many took the time to go around the entire exhibit. The entire event was given a somewhat surreal character in late afternoon, when a couple of hundred high school couples-and their very watchful moms-came in to have prom pictures taken in the garden.

Boerner management was very pleased with what we put on, and they have asked that it be an annual event. Since it's just an exhibit, and not judged, it will make another low-pressure opportunity for people to get comfortable with displaying their trees.

It's almost Memorial Day weekend, and then it's just a couple of weeks to our Annual Exhibition at Lynden. This year we are very fortunate to have Jennifer Price as our guest artist and judge. If you have not had the experience of Jennifer critiquing a tree, suffice to say that she has a very positive, constructive approach, and goes out of her way to point out what you're doing right, and what is really attractive in your tree. I know that I must sound monotonous as I continually pound on why you should show your trees, but trust me, constructive criticism from a qualified judge is one of the very best ways to learn and to advance the quality of your art.

Even if you're not displaying a tree, talk up the exhibit among family and friends. Get them to come and see exactly what it is that bonsai means, and to understand why you are so passionate about it. Personally, I've spent God-know-how-many hours at dance recitals and Christmas pageants for the benefit of nieces and nephews, and I intend to spend that currency on getting family to the exhibit. I've also been telling folks that if they show up, they can ask for me and I'll give them the nickel tour.

I would also strongly encourage signing up for one of Jennifer's bring-your-own workshops. I have a large quince that has me stumped (intended), and I just don't quite know where to go from here. It will be interesting to get an entirely new perspective on what possibilities exist.

Happy summer, and happy bonsai!

Rick

Announcement

The July 12th General meeting is being changed to a member picnic/swap meet/bring a tree event at Whitnall Park, close to the Beer Garden location (see the map below—we will be in the vicinity of the red square).

Bring items for a swap meet, bring a tree to talk about or get advice on or just bring yourself and enjoy the company of other bonsai members.

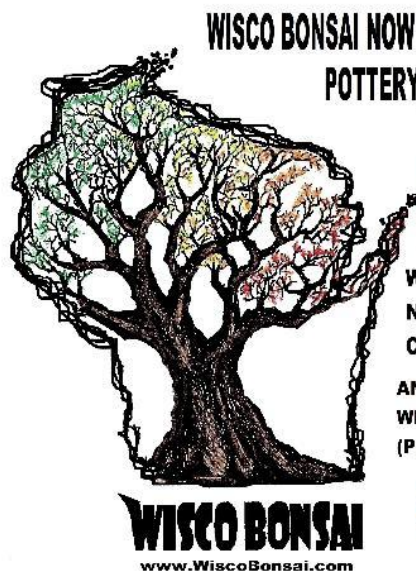
The swap meet is a great time to bring bonsai items or trees you are interested in selling or trading to other members. This is also an excellent time to acquire items for yourself.

Bring your own tables and lawn chairs.

Food will be provided but bring your own beverages. The Beer Garden does open at 11am.

Set up will begin at 10am, food served around 11:30am. The party ends when everyone goes home!!!





WISCO BONSAI NOW HAS THE AREA'S LARGEST SELECTION OF ARTISIAN, HANDMADE BONSAI POTTERY, MUCH OF WHICH CONSISTS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL ARTISTS.

SPRING HOURS:

FRIDAYS 12-4

SATURDAYS 10-4

SUNDAYS 10-3

THRU MEMORIAL DAY

SOME EXCEPTIONS TO SHOP HOURS:

WORLD BONSAI DAY CLOSED (5/10)

AND SOME FRIDAYS MIGHT BE CLOSED...

HOURS ARE UPDATED EVERYWEEK ON THE

WISCO BONSAI GOOGLE PAGE

FEEL FREE TO CALL BEFORE STOPPING OUT

WE ALSO NOW CARRY A LINE OF TOOLS GEARED TOWARD THE BEGINNER AND NOVICE AMONG US, ALONG WITH ALL MANNER OF BONSAI SUNDRIES, SUCH AS, COPPER & ALUMINUM WIRE, JIN SEAL, WOUND PUTTY, ETC.

AND OF COURSE THERES THE SUBSTRATE, WISCO GOLD... THE BEST NON-JAPANESE MIX AROUND WE ALSO OCCASIONALLY HAVE OTHER RAW SUBSTRATE COMPONENTS AVAILABLE (PUMICE, LAVA, ETC). SEVERAL SIZES OF KANUMA NOW AVAILABLE !!!

WiscoBonsai@gmail.com

414-248-3827

www.WiscoBonsai.com

INSTAGRAM @wisco.bonsai

"BONSAI IS THE ART OF NATURE, GUIDED AND NURTURED BY HUMAN HANDS" - KMS

Annual Exhibit - Raffle Donations Needed

The Annual Exhibit is June 14-15th this year and is quickly approaching. The raffles go a long way to help provide funds for the club. We use the money raised for many different projects throughout the year. Every donation is appreciated and is tax-deductible. Gently used bonsai items are always welcome. Bring items to the next meeting or contact Melissa J. to make arrangements for pick-up. Missyuc2@yahoo.com text: 414-350-3924



Annual Exhibit Workshops

June 14-15

The Annual Exhibit at Lynden Sculpture Gardens offers 3 opportunities to work with our guest artist, Jennifer Price.

Saturday morning (9am-12pm) there is a material-provided workshop with Shimpaku Junipers. The trees are currently in 3 gallon pots. The cost is \$125. Sunday there are 2 workshops, one in the morning (9am-12pm) and one in the afternoon (1-4pm). Each workshop is a bring-your-own tree workshop and the cost is \$75.

Participants for each day must bring their own tools and wire.

Registration links are below:

[Saturday material provided workshop](#)

[Sunday AM bring your own tree workshop](#)

[Sunday PM bring your own tree workshop](#)

There will also be a New Talent Contest Saturday morning (9am-12pm) for members who have less than 5 years of Bonsai experience and have attended at least 1 MBS class (Fundamentals, Skills 101). The cost is \$30 and you keep the tree you style. Check out the complete information on the Eventbrite registration page.

[New Talent Competition](#)

Call for Trees

The Annual Exhibit wouldn't be an exhibit without trees. We need trees to show off. Your tree does not need to be the perfect Japanese picture of a bonsai. This art form is for you to express your style and show what you enjoy. Do not be afraid to sign your tree up to display. Jennifer Price is an accomplished artist and has great advice to offer. Her comments will only help you in styling your tree.

[Tree Registration](#)

Volunteers are also very important to the Annual Exhibit. The club needs help to run this event. Consider helping out in any way you can. There are a variety of opportunities where you can help. Click the "Get Tickets" button once on the Eventbrite page for the list of available openings.

[Volunteer Registration](#)



World Bonsai Day-Boerner Botanic Gardens

May 10, 2025

The first World Bonsai Day exhibit at Boerner was a huge success for everyone involved. The folks at Boerner appreciated all the hard work MBS put into making the event world class and are looking to host this exhibit every year going forward. The goodwill created from having this event helps to strengthen the partnership between MBS and Boerner. All the trees looked great! Thank you to everyone who brought a tree, helped set up, tear down or greeted guests to the exhibit.

All photos by Rick W.





SALE

Bonsai trees, pots and stands

Hard to find mini hosta for accent plants

Yard art

Garden tools

House plants

Decorative pots



Saturday May 31

10:00 - 1:00 Rain or shine

At my house in Mequon

Please email me for address and directions

Kris Z.

hagr8d@mac.com

Ancient Arts Bonsai

Bonsai Supplier Established
in 2005

Bonsai a Growing Hobby
Wisconsin's Leading Full Line Bonsai Supplier

Tools, Wire – Aluminum & Copper, Pots, Fertilizers
Soils – Akadama, Lava, Pumice, Kanuma, Blends
Trees – Tropical, Deciduous, Conifers, Evergreens
Services – Lessons, Consults, Repotting, Wiring, Boarding

See our updated Website: aabonsai.com
Email – aabonsai@charter.net
Phone – 262-490-8733

New videos are now available!

A number of new videos have been added to the library!

Remember, as opposed to videos that you might find on YouTube and other sites, these videos cover topics for trees we need to care for in our climate.

Here's what's new:

Monthly Meeting

November 2024 Meeting Main Topic - Wiring Concepts - by Steve C and Ron F

February 2025 Meeting Main Topic - Selecting the Front of Your Tree - Revisited - by Bryan S, Steve C, and Camrin L

February 2025 Meeting Main Topic - Repotting Tips and Techniques - by Bryan S, Steve C, and Camrin L

February 2025 Meeting Main Topic - Juniper Styles - by Bryan S, Steve C, and Camrin L

March 2025 Meeting Main Topic - Collecting Trees in the Wild - by Guest Artist Andy Smith - Golden Arrow Bonsai

May 2025 Meeting Main Topic - Selecting Stands and Accent Plants when Displaying your Trees - by Scott D

Focus Topic Presentations

Energy Positive vs Energy Negative Yet Again! - by Steve C

Pinching vs Pruning - by Steve C

Overwintering Ideas - by Judy S, with a little help from Steve C and Ron F

Soil Sifting - by Ron F

Remember, the site is password protected, and we ask that you do not share the login information with anyone outside of our organization. If you have lost or did not receive your login information, email Newsletter@milwaukeebonsai.org.

Additional videos are added regularly!

Bonsai Events

June 21 – **Boerner Botanic Garden**
Beginner Class-Chinese Elms
Contact: [Bryan L](#)

August 15/17 – **Chicago Botanic Garden**
[47th Annual Mid-America
Bonsai Exhibition](#)

September 12/14 – **Rochester, NY**
[ABS Learning Seminars](#)

September 13/14 – **Rochester, NY**
[9th US National Bonsai
Exhibition](#)

September 26/28-[Wisco Bonsai](#)
Workshop Intensive Weekend



PO Box 240822
Milwaukee, WI 53224
www.milwaukeebonsai.org

Next MBS meeting will be
June 7, 2025 @ 9am

2025 MBS OFFICERS

President [Rick W](#)
1st VP [Valerie S](#)
2nd VP [Rob S](#)
Secretary [Greg R](#)
Treasurer [John N](#)
Director [Joe T](#)
Director [John R](#)
Director [Mike B](#)
Past President [Erich B](#)

Other Club Functions

Newsletter [Melissa J](#)
Newsletter@milwaukeebonsai.org
Webmaster [Pam W](#)
Librarian [Greg R](#)
Social media [Jenna W](#)

PAB Board-Ron F, Houston S & Judy S



*swaying sunflowers
stay lovely as petals shine
savoring warm breeze*

~Beata Agustin