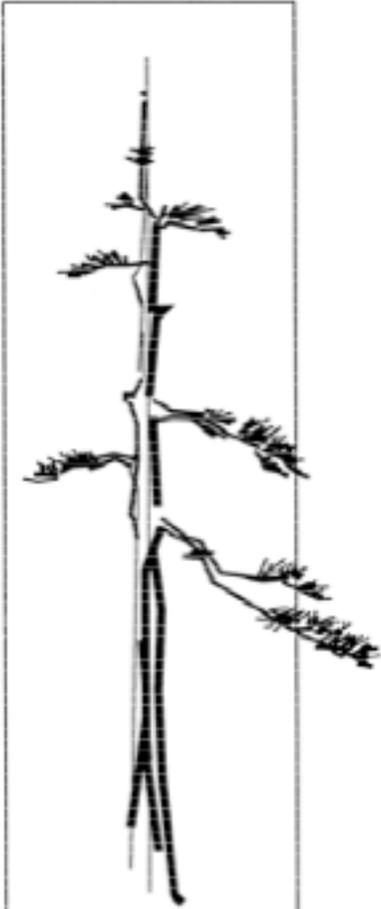


October 2007

# Bonsai News



*Milwaukee  
Bonsai Society*

*P.O. Box 198  
Brookfield, WI  
53008-0198*

*Information Line  
414-299-9229*

*The Students of MasterClass 2005-2007  
Request the Honor of Your Presence  
at  
The MasterClass Finale Exhibit*

*A formal exhibit of bonsai showcasing trees  
worked on with Sensei, Ted Matson,  
over the last 3 years.*

*Date: Tuesday, October 2, 2007  
Time: 7:00 p.m.*

*Location: Grace Lutheran Church,  
Milwaukee, WI*

*Feel free to dress for a party.....  
..... this is a celebration!*

*Please enter through the main (East) Church  
door. Refreshments served.*

## President's Message...

On Saturday, September 15th I had the pleasure of attending the MBS Public Workshop. It was a unique experience. Many people were there because they were so astounded by our bonsai exhibits at this year's Wisconsin State Fair, and came to this workshop with "bonsai fever." The mix of singles, young couples, older gardeners, mothers with children, grandparents with grandchildren and friends with friends generated such wonderful bonsai energy. Many thanks to all the 16 volunteers who gave their morning to help style and repot and guide 40 new members in their first bonsai adventure. What a great way to pass along the enjoyment of this art of bonsai as living sculptures.

Begin planning for winter storage of trees. It is easy to be lulled into complacency with the dog days of summer. But the cooler nights and changing weather will soon remind us to prepare for the winter ahead. This is the time to clean out and collect items for the White Elephant auction at the November MBS meeting. Your "junk" may be someone's "treasure."

In November we will also be hosting an exhibition of trees under development by students of the Intermediate Classes. These students have worked under the direction of Pam W., Michelle Z. and Scott H during the past few months. I believe we are in for a treat when they share their trees with us!

I hope all of you will attend the October meeting to experience the presentation of trees by the Master Class. This festive event is the celebration of three years work under the direction of bonsai artist, Mr. Ted Matson. He will be there to comment on the exhibition and enjoy a festive evening. Remember to enter through the church's main entrance.

As always, enjoy your bonsai.

Jean



↑ Investigating their trees at the Public workshop ↓



Huge Green Island Ficus (and people, too)

## What's coming in November?

### White Elephant Auction

Once again, it's time to clean out your bonsai area and bring your unwanted goodies to the club meeting for the WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION at our November 6 club meeting. Come prepared with a list of the items you are bringing and the lowest price you will take for each. If you have smaller items, you might consider grouping them into a "lot", i.e. 3 or 4 small pots sold together. Check them in, then get your bidding paddle and enjoy the fun. Remember: **10% of your total will go to the club.** Our skilled treasurer and her assistants will figure everything out so that you will have a check or cash by the end of the evening. This was a great hit last year. We're looking forward to another exciting evening.

### Intermediate Class to Show Their "Stuff" By Michelle Zimmer

Fifteen intermediate students have completed 4 classes with their club instructors this past summer and propose to show the club membership what they have learned. All agreed that they have learned a lot and many want to continue their study in a second year of intermediate level classes. Others have decided to move on to the new advanced classes that are forming for 2008.

Techniques, wiring, principles of design, wiring, horticulture, wiring, off season care and proper timing of the various steps in creating a bonsai were reviewed. The students selected their teachers-- the team of Michelle Zimmer and Pam Woythal taught 9 students, and Scott Hurula taught 6 students. A friendly competition developed between the classes, and the winner will be

the class who used the most wire per person per hour. Calculations are in progress.

A proposal to continue the club sponsored intermediate class is pending before the PAB and a decision will be made before the start of the 2008 Bonsai season. Watch the newsletter and the website for announcements

#### Election of 2008 Officers

The following have agreed to run for office for the vacant positions in 2008.

1st Vice President - Joe H

2nd Vice President - Allen K

Treasurer - Laura L

Director - Jerry N

The following have agreed to continue in their current positions

President - Jean S

Secretary - Susan

Directors - Michelle Z & John M

Voting for officers will occur at the October meeting.

If you have any questions about your bonsai, be it wintering, pruning, potting, etc., Joe Herbert has signed on to be our resident expert to answer your questions. Email your questions to: [tree.stump@yahoo.com](mailto:tree.stump@yahoo.com). We'll put as many questions/answers in the newsletter as possible. Ask away!!!!

# Bonsai from your backyard

## Privet

**General Information:** Privet was originally the name for the European semi-evergreen shrub *Ligustrum vulgare*, and later also for the more reliably evergreen *Ligustrum ovalifolium* (Japanese privet), used extensively for privacy hedging (hence "privet", private). The term is now used for all members of the genus *Ligustrum*, which includes about 40-50 species of evergreen, semi-evergreen or deciduous shrubs and small trees, native to Europe, north Africa, Asia and Australasia, with the centre of diversity in China, the Himalaya, Japan and Taiwan. They are placed in the olive family *Oleaceae*.

The flowers are small and fragrant and borne in panicles. They have four curled-back petals and two high stamens with yellow or red anthers, between which is the low pistil; the petals and stamens fall off after the flower is fertilized, leaving the pistil in the calyx tube. Flowering starts after 330 growing degree days. The fruits, borne in clusters, are small purple to black drupes, poisonous for humans but readily eaten by many birds. In favorable growing conditions, individual shrubs may produce thousands of fruits.

*Ligustrum*, or Privet are found in many species and cultivars with a diversity of leaf colors, leaf forms and growth habits. All are tolerant of heavy pruning. The white flowers are attractive during late spring and early summer.

**Family:** *Oleaceae*

**Lighting:** Part shade to full sun

**Temperature:** Zones 7 - 11.

**Watering:** Adequate water to keep from drying out and remaining dry.

**Feeding:** General purpose fertilizer.

**Pruning and wiring:** Branching can be encouraged by pinching the stems.

**Propagation:** Cuttings, grafting and seeds.

**Repotting:** The tree needs annual repotting. Not particular about the type of soil, however it should be well drained.

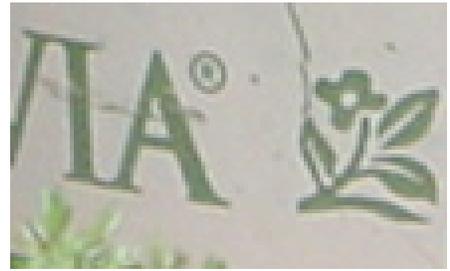
**Pests and diseases:** Aphids, scale, white fly and spider mites. Diseases include leaf spot and root rot.



### \*\*\*SURVEY\*\*\*

If you could only teach one thing to those interested in bonsai, what would it be?

Please click on the following email address to send your responses:  
[hagr8d@mac.com](mailto:hagr8d@mac.com) Results will appear in the November newsletter.



Mystery Picture. What is this?  
Tell Kris Z at the next club meeting to receive 1 free raffle ticket.

#### 2007 MBS Schedule

##### NOVEMBER

November 6 - Club Meeting  
WHITE ELEPHANT  
AUCTION

November 16-18  
FOLK FAIR

##### DECEMBER

December 4 - Holiday Party  
Meyer's Restaurant



Every table was bustling with excitement.

*Thanks again...*

to all the volunteers who helped to  
make this year's  
Public Workshop a success!!



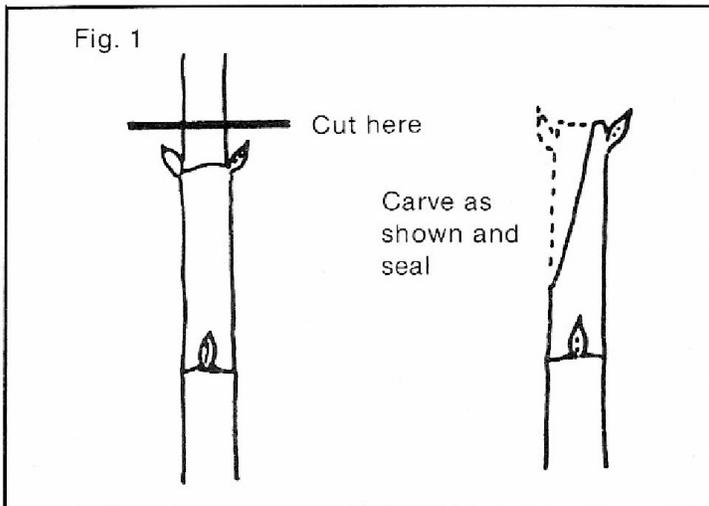
Full house at the Public Workshop

# Quick Snips by David DeGroot

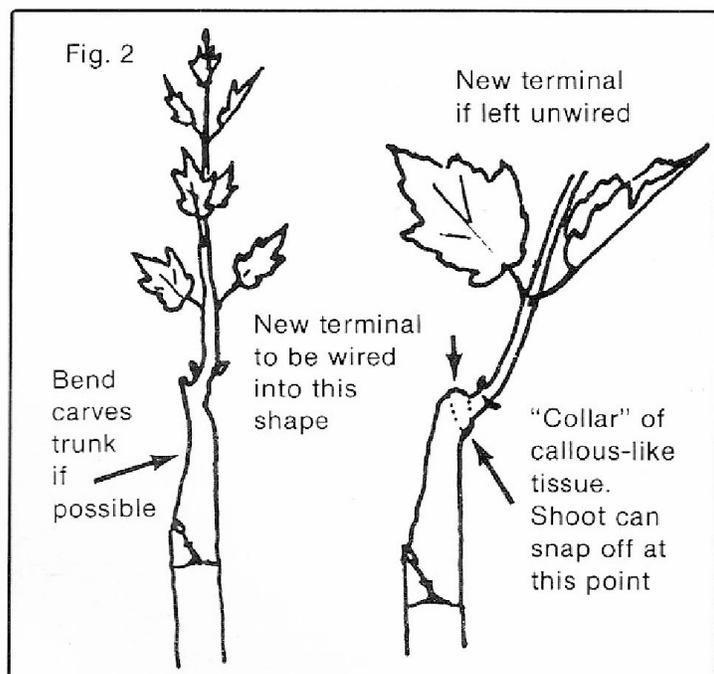
With Maples becoming more available and less expensive all the time at most home improvement centers, I thought this article was worth reprinting.

Published by Bonsai Clubs International in 1984. David DeGroot has graciously given permission to reprint it.

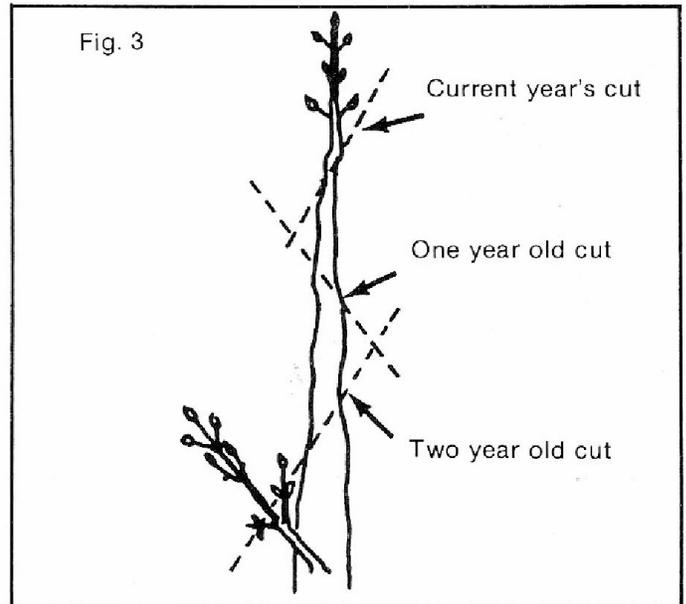
Developing a straight new terminal on a Maple trunk is not easy. Opposite bud arrangement, and the tendency of Maples to swell at nodes, make a smooth transition between trunk and new terminal difficult at best. When cutting a trunk back to reduce its height, it is necessary to sacrifice one of the buds and carve the trunk to create taper, even with fairly small material. (Fig. 1) After the remaining bud has developed into a



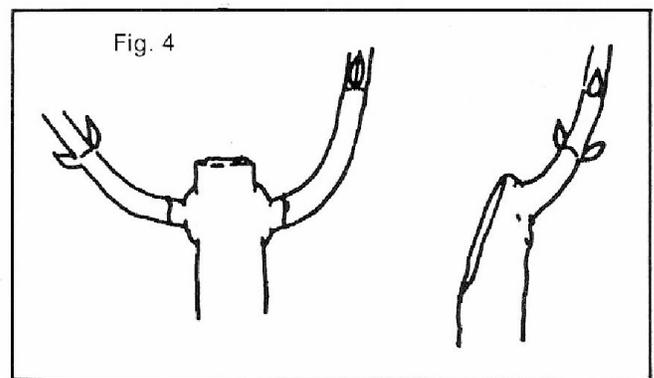
shoot, it is necessary to wire it up straight while it is still quite small and flexible, especially *Acer rubrum*, the branches of which develop a swelling at the base which become a brittle point (Fig. 2) New Maple shoots grow with such vigor that wire



Must be checked almost daily for signs of girdling, but with careful attention, a convincing new apex can be developed (Fig. 3).

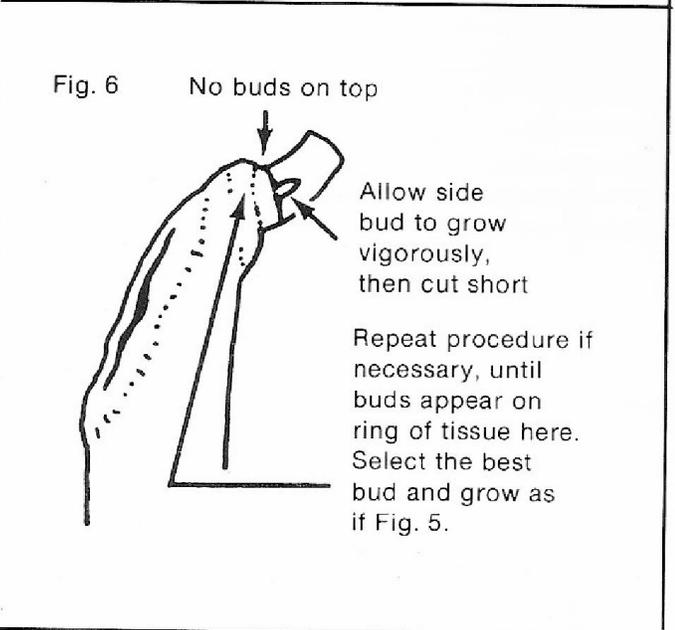
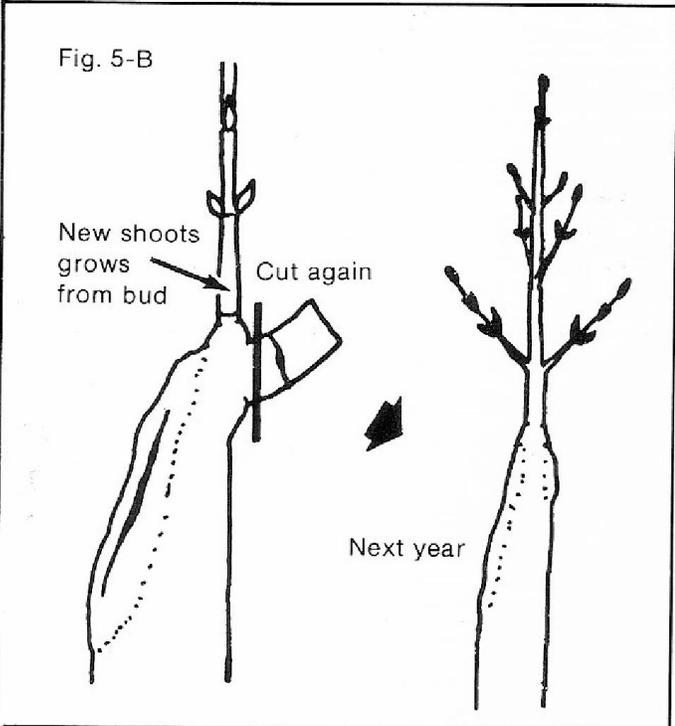
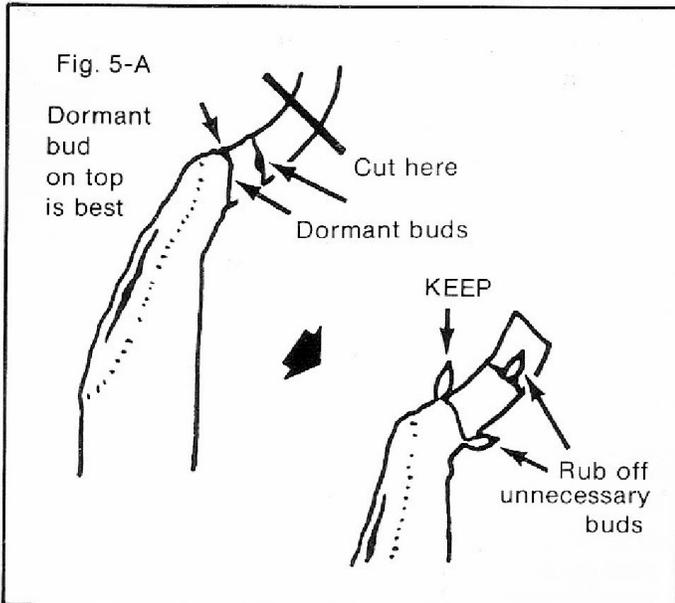


Most of us with Maple trees in our collection have one or more that have "gotten away" from us—trees which we maybe clipped in passing and not taken the time to care or wire. They will look like the terminals in Fig. 4; however, even the worst looking curved terminal can usually be sal-



vaged.

The reason is that most Maple shoots, regardless of how long their internodes are, have at least one, and often two, very short internodes near their base. After the overgrown terminal is cut, the dormant buds at the base of the shoot will sprout. (Fig. 5) If an upward facing dormant bud does not exist near the trunk, allow whichever buds do exist to grow vigorously, then cut them back very short. Eventually, buds should appear on the ring of tissue that surrounded the original "bad" terminal. Grow the bud having the best position (Fig. 6) Do your deciduous trees need to be wired or reworked? If so, you should plan to do it as soon as possible. Now, which the trees are fully dormant, the buds are small and tight (*note article was published March/April*). Now, while the trees are fully dormant, the buds are small



Many deciduous trees will have already begun to swell and become tender, and can be easily rubbed off during wiring.

If you do some pruning while re-wiring your trees, remember to seal the pruning cuts.

*Originally published in the Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society Newsletter, New Orleans, Louisiana.*

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**Buddy Bucks** are points that you can accumulate when helping out at a function such as State Fair, Public workshops, Folk Fair etc. Each 3-4 hour session earns you 1 Buddy Buck. Each Buddy Buck counts for \$3 towards the Holiday party in December. Earn 5 Buddy Bucks and your dinner and delightful evening of entertainment are paid for.

MANY THANKS TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS...

#### WAUWATOSA GARDEN TOUR

##### 2 Buddy Bucks

Jean Sher, Kris Ziemann, Camrin Lafond

#### STATE FAIR 2007:

##### 1 Buddy Buck

Ken K, Jim W, Jim G, Delores D, Houston S, Jerry N, Gen M, Dorothy S, Ron F, Jack D, Susan C, Elli W, Jim A, Bernie M, Rita L, Christine D, Don G, Karen G, Pam W, Laura L, Scott H Jr, Joe N and Allen K

##### 2 Buddy Bucks

Pauline J, Susan L, Michelle Z, Brian K, Pat B and Scott H

##### 3 Buddy Bucks

Dennis G

##### 4 Buddy Bucks

Ken J, Gregg W

##### 5 Buddy Bucks

John M

##### 8 Buddy Bucks

Tony P and Kris Z

##### 10 Buddy Bucks

Jean S

#### PUBLIC WORKSHOP:

##### 1 Buddy Buck

Tony P, Delores D, Jeff M, Ron F, Houston S, Kris Z, Jean S, Jack D, Jerry N, Allen K, Judy H, Chris H, Erskine T, Rita L, Steve C, Joe H and Joe N.

Anyone who has earned more than 5 Buddy Bucks will receive 1 raffle ticket for each BB over the 5 needed for the Holiday Dinner. These raffle tickets can be used anytime during 2008. So, here is our listing: (Please let us know if we have missed you)

##### 1 Buddy Buck (\$3 off dinner) - Leo S, Yvonne S,

Marilyn Mc, Jorge R, Rocio S, Ken K, Jim W, Jim G, Dorothy S, Jim A, Bernie M, Christine D, Don G, Karen G, Pam W, Jeff M, Judy H, Chris H and Scott H Jr

##### 2 Buddy Bucks (\$6 off dinner) - Elli W, Gen M,

Laura L, Steve C, Pauline J, Ron F, Joe Nemeč, Camrin L, Susan L and Brian K

##### 3 Buddy Bucks (\$9 off dinner) - Jack D,

Erskine T, Joe H, Jerry N, Pat B and Dennis G

##### 4 Buddy Bucks (\$12 off dinner) - Ken J and

Houston S

##### 5 Buddy Bucks Complimentary dinners go to:

(REMEMBER - YOU MUST STILL TURN IN A RESERVATION FORM) Delores D and Jim T

Complimentary dinners and raffle tickets go to:  
(REMEMBER - YOU MUST STILL TURN IN A RESERVATION FORM)

7 Buddy Bucks - Michelle Z, Rita L, Susan C and Scott H

9 Buddy Bucks - Gregg W

11 Buddy Bucks - Allen K

13 Buddy Bucks - Tony P

15 Buddy Bucks - John M

21 Buddy Bucks - Kris Z

28 Buddy Bucks - Jean S

## HOLIDAY PARTY 2007

Our annual Holiday party will again be at Meyer's restaurant at 74th and Forest Home. It's a festive occasion and folks always have a great time. In the spirit of the holidays, please bring a wrapped gift for our door prizes. Please fill out the reservation form below and bring it with a check to the October or November meeting or send to our mailbox: MBS P.O. Box 198, Brookfield, WI 53008-0198.

Date: Tuesday December 5, 2007  
Time: 6:00-7:00 cash bar  
7:00 Family Style Dinner  
Place: Meyer's Restaurant 74th and Forest Home  
Price: \$15 per person

**REMEMBER: EVEN IF YOU RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY DINNER,  
YOU MUST FILL OUT A RESERVATION FORM!!!**

..... HOLIDAY PARTY Reservation Form .....

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dinners \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Buddy Bucks \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$3 each = - ( \$ \_\_\_\_\_ )

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Milwaukee Bonsai Society (MBS). Bring check to October or November meeting or send to the P.O. Box 198, Brookfield, WI 53008. Reservations must be RECEIVED by NOVEMBER 25, 2007

## Milwaukee Bonsai Society Membership Form 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

for (circle) **Single** 1 year \$25 2 years \$48 3 years \$70

**Family** 1 year \$35 2 years \$68 3 years \$100

Please confirm your e-mail address here for your monthly online newsletter:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(This e-mail address will not be shared with other parties and is for MBS Board use only.)

Do you have any hidden talents / interests that you would be willing to share with our members?  
If so, please describe:



P.O. Box 198  
Brookfield, WI 53008-0198  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Meeting of MBS  
7PM, Tuesday, October 2  
Grace Lutheran Church  
3030 W. Oklahoma

REMEMBER TO ENTER THROUGH THE CHURCH'S MAIN (EAST) DOOR!

## MEET THE 2007 OFFICERS

The MBS Officers for 2007 are:

President	Jean S
First VP	Scott H
Second VP	Gregg W
Secretary	Susan C
Treasurer	Mary T
Director	Allen K
Director	John M
Director	Michelle Z
Past Pres.	Kris Z

*Autumn birds flocking  
Dipping and weaving as one  
Ballet in the sky  
-Joe Nemeec*



### Other Club Functions:

Kris Z - Newsletter Editor/Distribution  
Pam W - Webmaster  
Laura L / Josh R - Librarians  
Jean S - Telephone response  
Mary T - Membership Chairperson