BONSAI NEWS

July, 2020

MBS Picnic-July 25th

Whitnall Park Beer Garden-Area 1-1A 10am-7pm

Now is your chance to mingle with your fellow bonsai geeks, attend a free workshop or two and have lunch that will be provided by MBS.

Social distancing will be taking place and wearing of masks is optional.

Everyone should bring their own lawn chair

A mini exhibit will also take place at the picnic. Keep it simple, just the tree.

Join in the fun, talk bonsai with your fellow enthusiasts and enjoy a good meal.

A schedule of events and a link to the Eventbrite sign up will follow shortly.

Next Meeting July 25, 10am— 7pm Whitnall Park Beer Garden, Area 1-1A



July July 25-Picnic (10am-7pm) Whitnall Park 8831 N Root River Parkway, Greendale





A day in the life....

By Melissa J (as told by my tiger bark ficus)

I had a happy life up to this point. I have an owner who took care of me and my brothers and sisters. We had a great spot on the dining room table with a southern facing window.



Some of us lived here longer than others but for the past 7 years someone lived a comfortable life on the table. There was that one time Mom went on vacation and had a friend take care of George. He didn't fare well, and barely made it out alive but we don't talk about that much.

Anyway, the point of my story is that for some reason Mom decided to banish some of us outside



I'm not sure what we did to deserve this treatment but I really don't think it's safe out here. I've seen cats and birds and a raccoon bigger than Mom's dog! Hopefully none of them tips me over.

If that wasn't bad enough I think Mom actually went bonkers the other day.

I was sitting in the sun, minding my own business (I'm actually getting use to the morning direct sun I get now and am growing quicker than ever before) when Mom takes me away to a different table. I wonder if I'm going to live in a new place now??? I have to say, I'm not liking moving all the time.



Then, do you want to know what she did to me? She put me back on the bench with the rest of my siblings and they laughed at my new haircut. Mom is sure my leaves will fill in quickly since I've been growing so well outside, but I sure do feel naked right now.

I still don't know why we were put outside, but I sure do like the sunshine on my leaves.

Now, I wonder what she's going to do? She has all these strange tools out; they look like they could cause a lot of pain. I don't think I like where this situation is headed. Mom must have turned into a crazy murderer. **How do I get out of here?**

After about an hour she finally stopped cutting away and wiring on me. I can't believe this is what I look like now.





MABA/MILWAUKEE 2020NE

WE COME TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES STRONGER THROUGH BONSAI

RE-FOCUS

On June 10-13, 2021, Bonsai artists and MABA members are heading to MABA/Milwaukee Convention<u>! Read</u> <u>more</u>.

CHALLENGES

As the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) outbreak continues, our commitment remains to you. <u>Read More</u>.

ARTIST / WORKSHOPS

Beginner friendly artist will help you get started. <u>Read More.</u> Workshop and material opportunities. <u>Read More.</u>

PLANNING

Learn from the Best is the first of 10 reasons to attend MABA Milwaukee regional convention. <u>Read More</u>.

VENDORS / EXHIBIT

The 2020 convention will feature a Thursday evening reception dedicated to the vendors. <u>Read More</u> And an innovative, world class MABA exhibit. <u>Read More</u>

FOCUS ON VENDORS

MABA 2020ne is trying something new for a convention, instead of allowing any vendor that wanted to sell at the event, the convention committee has selected 8 Vendors specializing in covering all your bonsai needs and wants. We looked for vendors that offer high quality goods and have had a relationship with the Midwest Bonsai communities for years and mixed in a couple of new comers. The following is a brief introduction to the 8 Selected Vendors for this convention:

Mark Fields – Bonsai by Fields LLC, Greenwood, Indiana

Mark has been a bonsai practitioner for years and works with many different trees. His booth will carry a wide variety of bonsai items from tools to pots and trees.

Byron Myrick – Myrick Bonsai Pottery, Moselle, Mississippi

Byron has been creating interesting bonsai pottery for years and makes pots ranging from very small (accent plants) to very large pots for large tree (in excess of 20") has a number of very creative glazes, textures and shapes.

Mark & Racie Rhyne – Stands and Stones, Cape Coral, Florida

Mark and Racie supply just what their company names states, Stands and Stones. Mark handles the Stands part of the business and he makes some very beautiful stands in many different sizes and styles. Racie handles the Stones part of the business and always has a wonderful collection of stones to choose from.

Jeff Schultz – The Hidden Gardens, Willowbrook, Illinois

Jeff is the owner of The Hidden Gardens and has a wonderful facility and has been bringing in top notch bonsai talent from around the world to conduct workshops.

Todd Schlafer – First Branch Bonsai, Denver, Colorado

Todd is the owner of First Branch Bonsai and will provide a variety of collected trees. His specialty is collected Spruce and Pines of various species.

Andy Smith- Golden Arrow Bonsai, Deadwood, South Dakota

Andy Smith is the owner of Golden Arrow Bonsai and has been vending at MABA conventions since his first one in Milwaukee in 1995. Andy always has a wide selection of collected trees from Ponderosa Pines to Black Hills Spruce and many other species.

Brian Soldano – Brian Soldano Pottery, Augusta, Maine

Brian is the owner of Brian Soldano Pottery and makes some very cutting-edge pieces. His pots have very creative textures and finishes and shapes. Look forward to adding a few of his pots to your collection. There is no end to this potter/tattoo artist creativity.

Andy Yountz- Superfly Bonsai, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Andy is the owner of Superfly Bonsai and for those of you who are not aware of him. Andy bought out Roger Lehman of Meco Bonsai when Roger decided to retire. Superfly Bonsai will have soils, tools, pots especially Mica pots which do really well in the Midwest winters. Don't forget he also carries the work stands and carts that Roger produced.

To get first looks at what the Vendors are offering make sure you are a Full Registrant as only full registrants will have access to this Meet the Vendors Event Thursday Evening.



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

Next MBS meeting will be July 25, 2020 at 10am-7pm **Boerner Botanical Gardens** 9400 Boerner Dr Hales Corners, WI 53130



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Other Club Functions

Newsletter Melissa J Webmaster

Pam W

PAB Board-Ron F, Houston S & Judy S



We have often heard and read that there is no such thing as an "instant bonsai". That is often not the case.

If a nursery or collected tree is carefully selected for its bonsai potential, it can with skillful pruning, wiring and potting, become an "instantly impressive" tree. One that can be enjoyed over subsequent years of refining.

It's the time that we spend with our trees that gives us enjoyment. ~Joe N