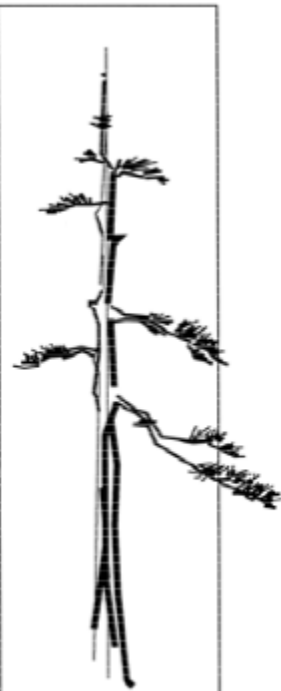


# BONSAI NEWS

December 2020



*Milwaukee  
Bonsai Society  
PO Box 240822  
Milwaukee Wi  
53224*

*Information Line  
414-299-9229*

The December 1st ZOOM meeting will be at 6:30pm.

We will have a mix of speakers, each talking for 10-15 minutes.

After everyone gets settled into ZOOM I will start with an intro, info and a few comments followed by the election..

Below is the list of speakers:

Jack will talk about insect control

Brian will talk about Soji before winter storage

Steve will talk about spraying prior to winter

Bryan will talk about Peter Tea's "Rhythm of tree growth and the wall of death"

Bonnie will talk about how she cut her ficus in half and then show how it's growing

Finally, Q&A if we can be organized

The ZOOM link will be sent via email.

~Bryan L.

**December**

Dec 1-MBS meeting

Via **ZOOM** (6:30pm)

**Further Activities On Hold**

**Next Meeting**

**Dec 1 6:30pm**

**\*\*via ZOOM\*\***

**zoom**

**Tuesday**, December 1st - Zoom meeting. 6:30PM ( Link will come out later ) It will be a fast moving, 10-15 minute segments with some members talking about things of interest in bonsai or about one of their trees.

Here is a link to Zoom to download (<https://zoom.us/download>) - do this before the meeting. More instructions will follow with the link to the meeting. The one problem with large groups is people talking over others. So all microphones must be silenced unless you are one of the planned speakers for the night. So far we have Steve, Brian, Rick and Bonnie for speakers. Maybe we will have one or two more if time permits.



## Joe Nemec MBS Lifetime Member

By Pam W.

On Sunday, October 25, 2020 at age 94, our long-time member Joe Nemec passed away. Joe was married to his wife Eleanore for 65 years, taught at Milwaukee public schools for 33 years and was a member of MBS for around 50 years.

As one of the founding members of MBS (member ID number 4), he served on the board with other MBS Founding members to ensure MBS' success. Joe continued to serve the bonsai community in many capacities throughout MBS early years, middle years (Vice-President from 1983 through 1986) and more recently served as mentor for many of us.

You may know him from the numerous workshops and beginner classes he participated as teacher. It was this service to MBS that he was awarded the June Kelly Award of Merit and lifetime membership in recognition of sharing his time and talent with members of MBS. Eleanore said Joe was especially proud of this accomplishment.

Joe had a distinct down-to-earth approach to caring for bonsai. He often wrote articles and taught us of his fertilizing, soil mix and philosophy. With the years much of his approach is now being re-considered by us. He often suggested to me and others early on that we repotted our trees way too often. I finally heeded his advice in the last few years with great success. I am lucky to have known Joe, and as he insisted, I am caring for one of his beloved bonsai. I am also lucky to have his schefflera with his particular technique to keeping the leaves small.

Having authored many haiku through the years, this haiku in the November 2020 issue of MBS newsletter is Joe's last.

A season ended  
Sun is low-tools put away  
Bonsai set to rest

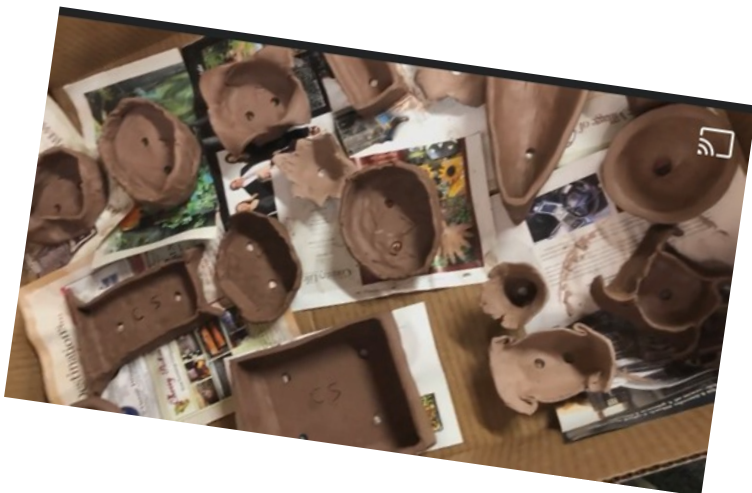
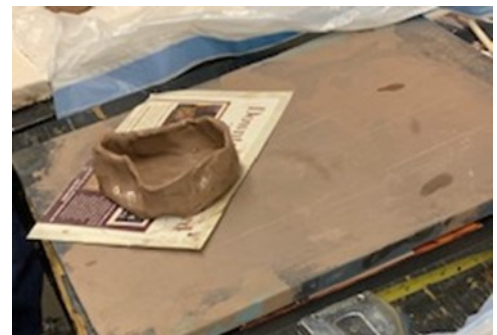


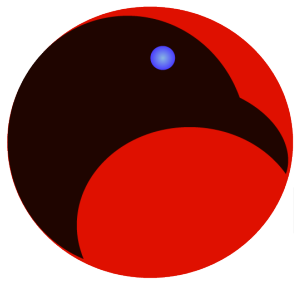
## MBS meeting, November 21

### Kusomono pot making workshop

Recently a few members got together to learn how to make “pinch” pots or Kusomono pots with Bryan L. We met at a flower delivery warehouse where there was enough room to socially distance and everyone wore masks. These pots are all unique, one-of-a-kind creations that the members will have to remember the distinctive experience each had at this meeting. Thank you Bryan for organizing the class. It was a fun and interesting afternoon!

More pictures can be found [here](#)



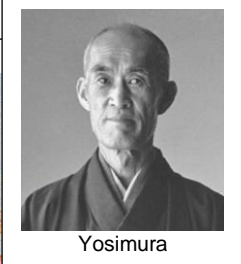
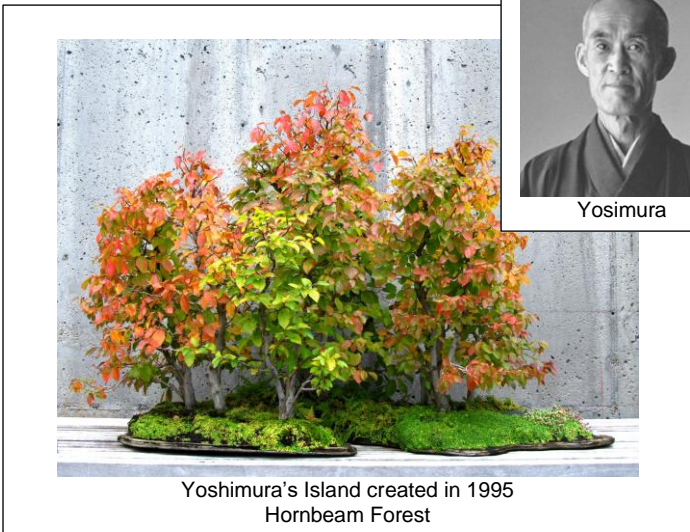


# Bonsai Artist Legends

*Quiet Crow Bonsai is a collection of articles, essays, and views for bonsai artist, devotees and supporters. [www.QuietCrowBonsai.com](http://www.QuietCrowBonsai.com).*

Although this list stems from a study of bonsai artist, their contribution to Western bonsai, and their influence on later artists; I am aware that objectivity does not exist in Art, so you may not agree 100% with this list. In any case, QuietCrowBonsai.com assures that this list is only intended as a tribute to bonsai and the artist who have made it unforgettable.

**Yuji Yoshimura (1921-1997)** was responsible for the West learning classic Japanese bonsai. Besides his very influential and still relevant book from 1957, *The Japanese Art of Miniature Trees and Landscapes* (co-written with his student Giovanna M. Halford), and his 1984, *The Japanese Art of Stone Appreciation, Suiseki and Its Use with Bonsai*, which he co-wrote with Vincent T. Covello. For more on Yuji Yoshimura, you can head to National Bonsai Foundation's [Influential Bonsai Masters Yuji Yoshimura](#).

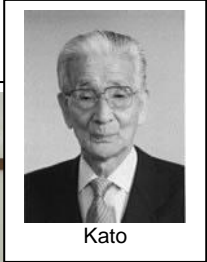


Yosimura

Yoshimura's Island created in 1995  
Hornbeam Forest

**Saburo Kato (1915-2008)** as owner of a third-generation nursery in the village of Omiya Japan, opened doors throughout Japan and Americans got to see the finest potters, tool-makers, exhibitions, bonsai nurseries, as well as those who collected and provided field-grown prepared bonsai stock. He provided a detailed insight into the division of labor of Japan's craft-oriented bonsai industry. Saburo Kato call for bonsai as an instrument for world peace and went on to create international bonsai and the World Bonsai Friendship Federation in Omiya, Japan in 1989.

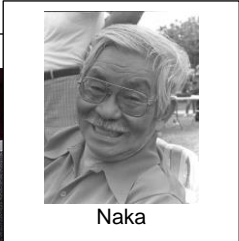
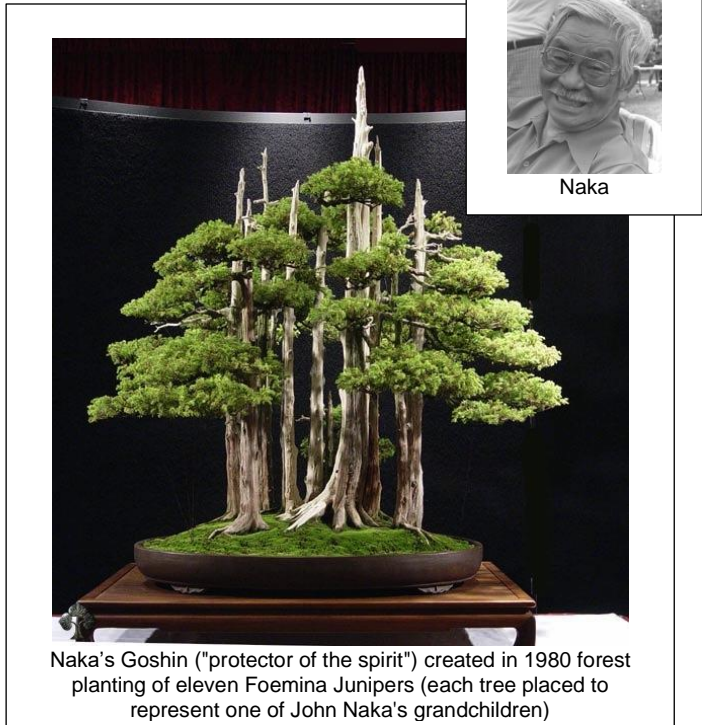
Saburo Kato was especially known for his large forest arrangements of Ezo Spruce. His classic book *Forest, Rock Planting & Ezo Spruce* was first published in Japan in 1963 and remains a recommended book today. He was a bonsai master, but for me he was an important philosopher. The core values of bonsai can be found in his extraordinary vision. Please check it out at "[Bonsai no kokoro \(The Spirit & Philosophy of Bonsai\)](#)". And for more Saburo Kato, head to [International Bridge Builder](#)



Kato

Kato's famous Ezo Spruce planting is about 5 feet wide and as tall.

**John Naka (1914-2004)** dedicated his life to spreading the joy of bonsai throughout the world. He published two definitive books on bonsai technique, entitled *Bonsai Techniques* and *Bonsai Techniques II*, texts that are revered as being the bibles of western Bonsai to many artists. These books would be translated into French, German, Italian, and Spanish by 1990. And would inspire hundreds of students. Head to [Celebration of a Grand Master's Life](#) for more information.



Naka

Naka's Goshin ("protector of the spirit") created in 1980 forest planting of eleven Foemina Junipers (each tree placed to represent one of John Naka's grandchildren)

It is once again election time..

The slate of committee members is listed below. The actual vote will take place during the December 1st meeting that will take place via ZOOM. The meeting will start at 6:30pm and the vote will be one of first orders of business. The Executive Committee has been working hard through out the year in order to keep the club together in these trying times. Log on to the ZOOM meeting to cast your vote.

#### Slate of Executive Committee

President—Bryan L	1st VP—Randy W
2nd VP—Erich B	Director—John N
Secretary—Rick W	Director—Greg R
Treasurer—Clif O	Director—Dave M

Please contact Stacey L if interested in one of the above positions

\*\*\*\*Contact Bryan L with any pictures, videos or stories about your trees that you would like to share.\*\*\*\*



**For example:** My trees are all on my dining room table now. The picture on the left shows how all the trees are on the same level. The trees in the back were really not getting any sun.

In order to solve that problem, I had a friend build a stand for me so I could put the 2nd row of trees up higher. (see the picture on the right).

All my trees are happy now and they all get sun without fighting.



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

Next MBS meeting will be  
 Dec 1, 2020  
 6:30 pm  
 \*\*via ZOOM\*\*

2020 MBS OFFICERS

- President [Bryan L](#)
- First VP [Randy W](#)
- Second VP [Erich B](#)
- Secretary [Rick W](#)
- Treasurer [Clif O](#)
- Director [Phil R](#)
- Director [Greg R](#)
- Director [Dave M](#)
- Past Pres. [Melissa J](#)

Other Club Functions

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

PAB Board—Ron F, Houston S & Judy S



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HIS JOURNEY BEGINS,  
 MOVING THROUGH SOFT VEILS AND MISTS,  
 PILGRIMAGE HOMEWARD

~JUDITH ANGELL MEYER

IN HONOR OF JOE N.