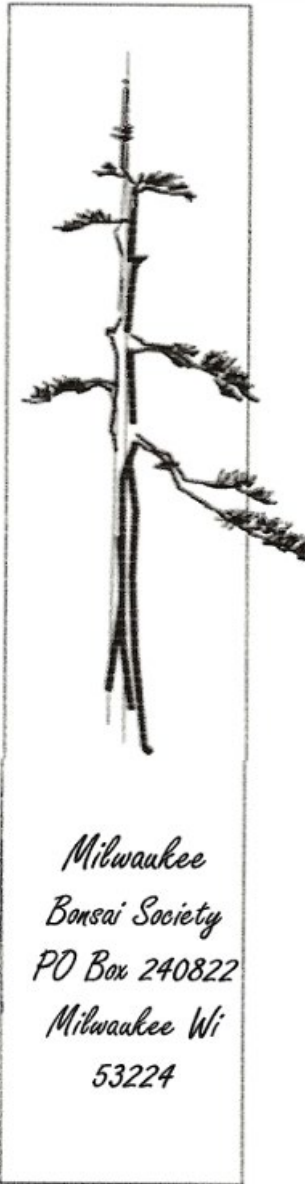


BONSAI NEWS

February 2023



Next Meeting
February 4, 2023
9 am
Boerner
Botanical

Upcoming Meeting Bonsai Tools - Things to consider for your bonsai toolbox

This month's Novice topic
revolves around tools

We will discuss those tools
that one should consider
when filling your toolbox and
why they are important.

Like all other topics there
are many opinions of what
are the essential tools. I will
refer to my 28 years of
experience and explain what
I feel are the 10 most
important tools you should
consider adding to your
toolbox.



Meeting Schedule

February

February 4 – Root-over-Rock

February 11-Workshop-How Do I
start to show my trees?

February 18 – Novice Class #1*

February 26 – Winter Silhouette
Show (Milw Domes)

March

March 4 – Guest Artist-Rick
Garcia/Repot basics

March 4 – Workshop-Azalea
Critique & Discussion*

March 5 – Workshop-Azalea Spring
Maintenance*

March 11 – Novice Class #2*

March 18 – Workshop-Root-over-
Rock*

March 25 – Novice Class #3*

April

April 1 – Watering, fertilization &
pest mngt/bringing trees out
of winter

April 1 – Workshop – Yamadori Dig

May

May 6 – Air Layering/Repotting
Tropicals

*Open to MBS members only

President's Message

Happy February!

Only one month or so to go before we can get back to working on our trees! Woo hoo!

I try to use these winter months to plan for what I need to do with each tree in spring. If you're not sure what to do on a tree or many trees, bring them to our club meetings to get some feedback. Better yet, sign up for the How do I Start to Show My Trees class on Sat February 11th. Not only will there be discussion on how to prep your trees for showing, there will also be feedback on what pot would be best, styling your tree, what type of stand to use, and much more. Lunch is also included. What a deal! Speaking of classes, we have a ton of classes that would make a great gift for Valentine's Day, birthdays, Easter basket stuffers, or any special occasion gift.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next club meeting.

Erich

Member's Corner

By Steve C

This is a new highlight of the monthly MBS Newsletter.

The editor, Melissa J, has agreed to run a monthly article that will highlight our members events, projects, or classes. If you are attending an event or convention to further your bonsai interest, tell the rest of us about it. Maybe you are sponsoring a bonsai dig or putting on a class that members might like to attend, talk about it here. Or maybe you just finished a report into that sweet pot you picked up from Bryan L or in Chicago, send in a picture of it and we will post it here.

If you have something you want to post, write a paragraph or take a pic and send it to Melissa at missyuc2@yahoo.com.

So I'll start it off...

In late January, I attended the first Shohin School weekend offered by Jonas Dupuich of Bonsai Tonight, Andrew Robson of Rakuyo Bonsai in Portland, OR and Daisaku Nomoto from Miyazaki, Japan. The lecture/workshop will be held in Milwaukie, Oregon... yes you read that right ! I have met Daisaku before when I attended classes with Boon out in CA. He communicates well in English and has many years of experience with Shohin Bonsai, which have a max height of 7-8". It was a interesting and informative workshop.

HOW DO I BEGIN TO SHOW MY TREES?

When we go to a bonsai exhibit it's hard not to marvel on how beautiful the displays are. But how do they get that way? That information is what our upcoming workshop on Saturday February 11 will provide. This is not a workshop for you to design your tree. We will help you take your tree and get you started on the appropriate display for that tree.

To be covered:

How do I choose the correct pot for my tree?

Feminine / masculine trees and pots

What are accents for?

Types of accents and placement in the display

What stand is right for my tree/pot?

Size / color / type

Why is moss used?

Actual mossing of the tree/pot will be covered in a future workshop

What do the items on the evaluation sheet mean?

THE WORKSHOP

Saturday February 11 - 9:00 - 3:00-ish

Lower level at Boerner - Multipurpose room

Bring one or two trees with which to work

Cost - \$25 (includes lunch) / \$10 SILENT observers (no lunch included)

Participants - limited to 12 (more possible if we have enough volunteers to assist).

Go to [Eventbrite to register](#).

Happy 2023!!





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

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 OCCAISIONALLY HAVE OTHER RAW SUBSTRATE COMPONANTS AVAILABLE (PUMICE, LAVA, ETC).

SEVERAL SIZES OF KANUMA NOW AVAILABLE !!!

GOT ORCHIDS ? WE HAVE A SUBSTRATE FOR THOSE TOO !!!

WiscoBonsai@gmail.com

414-248-3827

www.WiscoBonsai.com

INSTAGRAM @wisco.bonsai

THE SHOP NOW HAS REGULAR HOURS IN THE SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL. HOURS ARE UPDATED WEEKLY ON MY GOOGLE INFO SITE. OR, TO BE THE AMONG FIRST TO KNOW ABOUT ALL THE WORKSHOPS AND OTHER FUN GOING DOWN AT WISCO BONSAI, JUST SHOOT AN EMAIL AND I WILL ADD YOU TO THE EMAIL LIST.

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

Upcoming Workshops

The club is offering many workshops and classes in the next few months that the Executive Committee would like to make sure you are able to take advantage of. None of these events are quite full yet; there is plenty of room for more participants. Below is a list of the events and the current number of students along with the capacity of the workshop or class. Each event can be found on Eventbrite or by clicking on the below links:

Workshop/Class	Start Date	Number signed up	Capacity
How do I start to show my trees?	2/11/22	3	12
Novice Class	2/18/22	4	12
Root-over-Rock	3/18/22	3	10
Bonsai Skills 101	3/25/22	7	12
Bonsai Skills 201	3/26/22	5	6

Root Over Rock Bonsai

by PAM W

Traditionally, practitioners of bonsai incorporated rocks into their designs to symbolize craggy mountains and to help create an entire mountain scene in miniature. Contemporary root-over-rock bonsai emphasizes the dramatic look of the roots themselves. A more balanced approach gives equal emphasis to both the dramatic rock and the draping roots so as to create a unified composition.

Be prepared to spend from three to 10 years on your root-over-rock bonsai. The roots of the bonsai must be grown in such a way that they grip the rock or stone securely for both the stability of the tree and the integrity of the piece.

A suitable rock needs to be found to provide the tree with space to grow roots. You have to start with material that has young flexible roots, usually 1–2-year-old cuttings or seedlings. The selected trees should be healthy and have long roots, therefore plant them in a large container at least a year before using them to create a rock planting.

To ensure that the roots remain in the desired position, you will secure the roots well against the rock surface and then place something to set the roots in place. Houston S., this month's speaker has the secret to this technique.

Why Houston? Not only does he know the secrets to success, he has the success! In 2009, Houston's Juniper over Rock took Best of Show AND People's Choice. This feat has not been repeated since. Below is a picture of his award-winning bonsai from the 2007 Master Class.



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

MBS Oval Pot Making Class



Thirteen members came to make a pot for their future burning bush forest. Thirteen of them were happy and successful. Talk to the members and find out how much they liked the activity and meeting new friends. Most of the pots were about 15" by 13" with walls in whatever height they wanted. They detailed the outside in many different ways and made the pots formal and organic. Zoom into the pictures to see the details. They took their pots with them to slowly dry them over the next month and will flip them to put feet on. Then they will give them back for firing glazing and a second firing.

See additional pictures in this link. <https://photos.app.goo.gl/6iEkwExR4rVD4ZDF9>

Bryan

A few pictures from the Oval Pot Making Class:



Winter Silhouettes Bonsai Display

by Pam W and Michelle Z

In addition to the joys of snow during the winter and early spring months, we in the Midwest have an opportunity to view our landscape in the 'raw', that is, without the dressing of buds, leaves and flowers.

Several things happen in this season: the evergreen conifers become more noticeable since they retain their greenery, and the skeletons of the deciduous trees and shrubs are revealed. When viewed at a distance, these skeletons appear as a rather uniform brown-gray cloud of brush and twigs, but when examined closely, each individual tree has its characteristic shape, bark, twigging character and dormant bud detail that allow its identity to be known.

It is these leafless features that we will be celebrating in the upcoming "silhouette" bonsai show which MBS will present to the public on Sunday February 26 at Mitchell Park (a.k.a. "The Domes").

Only deciduous trees will be featured in this event. Maples, hornbeams, elms, hawthorns, apples, crabapples, pomegranate, crape myrtle, ginkgos, larches and swamp cypress are some of the species which would be suitable.

This one-day show starts at 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM We hope to show 15 – 20 specimens, depending on size, and will set a formal display using our club backdrops, table covers and skirts.

A committee of club members is needed to help with this exhibit. We will need people to setup set up and take down the display and tree sit during the event. But more importantly, we need trees to display! (You can just drop your tree off with Rob.)

Rob S, MBS 2nd VP club director, will be chairing this project, so if you are interested in helping, please contact him at robert_sunderlage@yahoo.com Or Sign up at Eventbrite [On-Line.](#)



MBS is excited to announce a new logo item that will be available for purchase. We have logo travel tumblers available for \$20 each. The tumbler, pictured below, holds 16 oz of fluid (hot or cold) and features the snazzy MBS logo. Melissa J. will have a sample at the March meeting if you would like to see one. We will be ordering them later in March; don't delay....make sure to place your order with [Melissa J.](#) or an Executive Committee member today!



Bryan's Bonsai Pots



Will be for sale at the next meeting

I will be bringing my inventory of more than 25 pots to the February 4th meeting.

Please bring cash or checks because I don't know if my square will work in the basement.

Reasonably priced earthy bonsai pots.





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

Next MBS meeting will be
February 4, 2023 @ 9am
Boerner Botanical Gardens

2023 MBS OFFICERS

President [Erich B](#)
1st VP [Pam W](#)
2nd VP [Rob S](#)
Secretary [Rick W](#)
Treasurer [Clif O](#)
Director [John N](#)
Director [Irene H](#)
Director Mike B

Other Club Functions

Newsletter [Melissa J](#)
Webmaster [Pam W](#)
Librarian [Greg R](#)

PAB Board-Ron F, Houston S & Judy S



Glittering flakes:
The wind is breaking
Frozen moonlight

~Horiuchi Toshimi