



OMAKE: an occasional newsletter of the Bonsai Society-Kalamazoo (BS-K)

Volume 26, Number 5

May 2007

April With Jack Sustic

The April 15th. BS-K meeting turned out to be another great bonsai learning experience. Present were Jack and Joung Sustic, Ed Greenleaf, Dawn and Scot Dailey, John Cerovski, Al Jacobs, Eric Newton, Ben Chien, Sechoing Lin, Carolyn Verweyst, Louis Vazquez, Ann Page, Jenny Grunberg, Jean McIlvenny, and visitors Cheryl Owens and Cat Nelson from Indiana.



Newt started out the meeting with a report on the upcoming West Michigan Bonsai Show. Exhibitors will need to fill out slips for all exhibits. Please let Newt know if you are bring an exhibit as we need to know how much room we need.

BS-K will be exhibiting at the Kalamazoo Art Hop, May 4th. from 5-9 pm. at the Park Trades/Saniwax Building. The club will have two tables. Let Newt know if you wish to bring bonsai.

The Girl Scout program is going well and we hope to be in our new permanent meeting room by this fall.

Show and Tell;

Newt brought a Texas Scarlet Quince, Procumbens, Shimpaku, a Mame, two Pines, and a Juniper. *Ann* showed her flowering Azalea and Honeysuckle.

Eric gave pointers on preparation of plants for show and then turned over the meeting to Jack Sustic.

Jack followed Eric by more suggestions for on creating good show plants and also taught us proper display technique. Jack's hand out is printed on page three of Omake.

BS-K would like to thank Eric for all his hard work, and also Jack and Joung for again making their long trip to share bonsai expertise with us.

There will be no club meeting in May due to all the shows. Our next workshop will be at Newton's Ranch with Ben Oki on June 16.

May Events

BS-K will not be having a meeting in May due to all the shows that will be taking place this month. Please see individual articles on this and the next pages.

The West Michigan Bonsai Club Presents the Ninth Annual Michigan All-State Bonsai Show

Please read Newt's letter on next page

Saturday, May 12 & Sunday, May 13, 2007
Vendors, Saturday 9 am-5 pm, Sunday 12-5 pm
Displays, Saturday & Sunday 12-5 pm.

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids
for information contact

www.meijergardens.org or call Anita, 269-792-4438

Presenters;

Jack Sustic Jack is the former curator of the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum at the U.S. National Arboretum In Washington, D.C.

Will Heath Will is an outdoorsman, archer, and amateur mycologist who first became enamored with bonsai by following his desire to capture pieces of nature he observed while in the forests of Michigan.

Vance Wood Vance has been involved with bonsai for almost 50 years.

We hope you will join the six West Michigan bonsai clubs at the Michigan All-State Bonsai Show in Grand Rapids, MI.

Throughout the weekend you'll have the opportunity to vote for your favorite bonsai to receive one of 3 "People's Choice Award".

On display will be bonsai and Suiseki. There will be demonstrations taking place while vendors are showing and selling their pots, tools, books, finished bonsai, pre-bonsai stock, and other supplies

You will also have the opportunities to attend a workshop either as a participant or an observer. Register early as they fill up fast. Below is a list of the workshops

Beginning Bonsai: A Lecture and Workshop, with Jack Sustic
Mugo Pine Workshop, with Vance Wood
Drop Branch Bunjin Workshop, with Will Heath
Mame Ficus Workshop, with Will Heath
Bring Your Own Bonsai, with Jack Sustic

For a copy of the complete program and workshops, visit <http://www.wmbonsai.org/allstateshow.pdf> or contact Anita Buckowing, Show Chair, at 269-792-4438 or visit meijergardens.org.

Update from Newt
The West Michigan Bonsai Club Presents
the Ninth Annual Michigan All-State
Bonsai Show

The show has changed quite a bit this year.

1. We can only show a total of 5 trees. 4 for the main display and 1 for the club display per participant. Accent plants are encouraged to accompany the main trees, the accent can be a Mame tree or Suiseki (or normal accent).
2. The main display area will no longer be divided by clubs.
3. Steve Lamar from the gardens will set up the main display.
4. BSK can set up a club display (4x8 table). The club displays will be separate from the main display.
5. All participants need to fill out a registration form that was in the fliers sitting out at the meeting (e-mail me if you need one).
6. Trees must be entered on Friday May 11th from 3-8 pm or Saturday from 8:30-10:30 am.
7. Evidently you can bring as many Suiseki (viewing stones) as you like.
8. The main display will not open until noon on Saturday.

I have asked a question about mame trees and have no answer yet. The question was: does a mame tree count as one tree even though it has much less visual weight? I have some mame trees that I would like to display but mame trees are usually displayed together on a stand with at least 5-9 trees in the same display. Maybe we could set this up as part of our club display?

Please let me know who would be interested in helping set up a proper display for the club at
ERIC_NEWTON@denso-diam.com or
bonsaisocietykalamazoo@yahoo.com

The presenter's will be Will Heath, Vance Wood and Jack Sustic. Plenty of room left in the workshops.

Workshops:

Beginning Bonsai: Jack Sustic, Saturday 10-11:30 am.
Mugo Pine: Vance, Saturday, 9:30-11:30 am.
Drop Branch Bunjin Workshop: Scots Pines, Sat., 2-5 .
Mame Ficus: Green Island Ficus; Sunday, 2:30-4:30 pm.
Bring your Own Tree: Jack, Sunday 2:30-4:30 pm.

Newt will do a Beginners Demonstration on Saturday at 10:30 am.

Bonsai Display
by Jack Sustic



A. Individual Bonsai Display

-Tokonoma

- ♦ Make a statement by symbolizing a natural scene.
- ♦ In this arrangement the seasons are often implied.

B. Group /Club Display

- All bonsai should be displayed at eye level.

- Proper viewing distance is 5 to 7 feet away.

- Should never display a bonsai without some type of stand.

- ♦ Just as a frame separates a painting from the wall, a stand makes the bonsai stand out from the floor of the display area.
- ♦ As with containers, stands should be in harmony with the tree and not distract from it.
- ♦ The container and stand should never be the same size.
- ♦ "The use of plastic, cement, cinder blocks, or slabs, or anything other than wood or bamboo is not considered appropriate.

John Naka

- Trees of the same height/style/species should not be displayed next to each other.

- ♦ Use stands to adjust height levels.
- ♦ Showing trees with wire is okay but not advisable.
- ♦ Try not to fill the display/exhibit with too many trees.

C. Getting your trees ready.

- Clean the trunk

- ♦ Over time the trunks become soiled with mildew and water deposits. Use an old tooth brush with warm water (a couple drops of soap is okay) and the difference will be dramatic.

- Remove all dead or damaged leaves/needles.

- Clean the pot

- ♦ A very light coat of baby/mineral oil is okay.

- Moss

2007 Coming Attractions.

May 11-13, 2007, All day, Michigan All State Bonsai Show, Fredrick Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, MI

May 19-20, All day, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe, IL Spring Japanese Exhibition and Bonsai Show

May 25-27, 2007 Rendezvous, Brussels' Bonsai, Olive Branch, MS

June 16, All day, Newton's Ranch, Ben Oki

July 8, 1:00 PM, Azalea Workshop

Aug 12, 10:00 AM, Gee Farms Nursery Crawl

August 17-19, Annual Fall show & Exhibition, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe, IL

September 6-9, 2007 Shohin Bonsai Symposium, Rochester NY

September 9, Ron Martin Workshop, pending.

Oct. 14, 1:00 PM, Pine Workshop

Nov 11, 1:00 PM, Club Dinner, Elections

December 9, 1:00 PM, Executive Meeting

Rendezvous

May 25, 26, & 27, 2007

Brussel's Bosai, Olive Branch MS

www.brusselsbonsai.com or 1800-582-2593



Join the folks at Brussels for a weekend of Great Bonsai, Fabulous Food and Southern Hospitality

Rendezvous is an annual convention held over Memorial Day Weekend. America's

top Bonsai masters will be on hand at America's Finest Bonsai Nursery.

Masters

Roy Nagatoshi, Kathy Shaner, Yasuo Mitsuya, Michael Hagedorn, John Powell, Kenji Miata, Dana Quattlebaum, and Brussel Martin

Elkhart Bonsai Study



Cheryl Owens has invited our members to attend an informal bonsai group that meets once a month at her house in Elkhart, IN. Bring one plant for critique from the other attendees. The next meet is Sunday, May 20th. at 2:00 PM.

Please contact Cheryl before making the trip at elkbonsai532@verizon.net

May 2007 Bonsai Exhibit Presented by the Midwest Bonsai Society May 19-20 Chicago Botanic Garden 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Illinois www.midwestbonsai.org

MBS is pleased to be able to resume their Spring show.

You will find the interval worth the loss of last year's show. The Chicago Botanic Garden has expanded its display space in order to showcase its collection, now considered one of the premier bonsai collections in the United States.

The new display has been called "the best in the world" by Susumu Nakamura. The stands he refers to hold a total of 45 trees in the two courtyards. At the Spring 2007 Exhibit, you will be able to see some of the Chicago Botanic Garden's collection.

There will also be trees entered by your fellow bonsai artists, workshops for all levels, as well as lectures and demonstrations.

Plan to submit an entry, attend the show, sign up for a workshop, and visit our vendors.

Don't forget our 30th Annual Bonsai Exhibit on August 17, 18, and 19 of this year. The Featured Artist will be Susumu Nakamura.

MBS is pleased to feature the following vendors:
Nature's Way Nursery, Meehan's Miniatures, Wildwood Gardens, Cass Bonsai Gardens, Custom Oriental Wood Craft, MBP Bonsai, and David Kreutz Satsuki Bonsai-en.

Workshops with Visiting Masters

Frank Mihalic-Juniper Procumbens, San Jose Juniper
David Kreutz-Beginning Azalea, Imported Satsuki Azaleas

Brian Ciskowski-Ezo Spruce, Children's Workshop, Ficus; Salicifolia

Jim Doyle-Kingsville Boxwood, Mikawa Japanese Black Pine

Martha Meehan-Korean Hornbeam Forest

Sean L. Smith- Visiting Master

This is usually a not to be missed event. Last year when I went to the August Show we drove along the lake from Stony Island Avenue. It was the perfect day for such a ride and fortunately we had a convertible. With stops for Latte, and food, and whatever, it quickly became an excellent day trip. With our second spring of the year just around the corner I hope to repeat last year's experience.



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Omake is available by email. To receive a copy by regular mail instead of email mail, contact the editor.
Bonsai Society-Kalamazoo can be found on web

BONSAI SOCIETY-KALAMAZOO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please fill out and mail or bring to a meeting.

Member since: _____

Membership Type: *select one* _____ Student \$10 _____ Individual \$15 _____ Family \$20

Name _____ **Address** _____

City _____ **State** _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____ **Mobile Phone** _____ **E-Mail** _____

_____ *Do not publish my address to general membership* _____ *Call ONLY if absolutely necessary*

Payment Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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