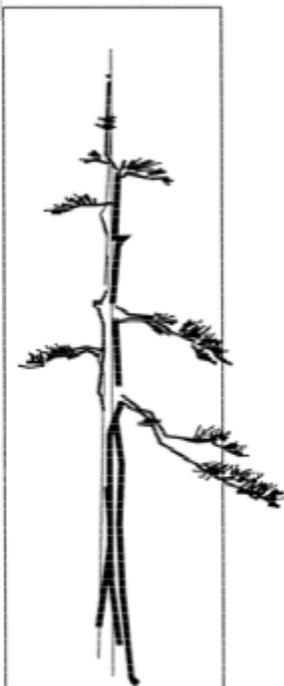


BONSAI NEWS

November 2020



*Milwaukee
Bonsai Society
PO Box 240822
Milwaukee Wi
53224*

*Information Line
414-299-9229*

MBS President, Bryan L, has been doing a great job thinking up ways to keep our members connected during these trying times when we cannot have regular meetings.

Two of those new ideas are mentioned later in this newsletter, a mini workshop and a ZOOM meeting.

Another one of those ideas Bryan had was to have a few members create short videos to share with us. Below are 4 of those videos.

Enjoy watching the videos and remember that Bryan and your Executive Committee are doing everything they can to keep the club active while remaining safe.

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

[Video 3](#)

[Video 4](#)

November

Nov 21-Kusomono workshop (1-3 pm)
Florist Delivery Bldg
733 N 35th St

December

Dec 1-MBS meeting
Via **ZOOM** (6:30pm)

Further Activities On Hold

Next Meeting

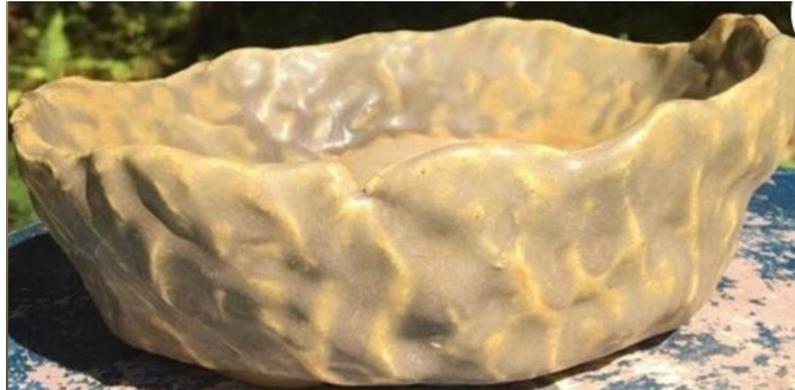
**Nov 21 (1-3)
Florist delivery
bldg.
733 N 35th St**

****Saturday****

Two opportunities for MBS members

Kusomono workshop. **Saturday**, November 21st from 1-3PM at the very large florist delivery building, 733 N 35th St. Some members came to the first meeting there and felt very safe with the size of the old car repair garage. The space we have to work in is 150 feet by 80 feet and has a tall ceiling. The whole area inside is even bigger than that.

At this workshop you will learn to make simple pots for your accent plants in bonsai. The clay, glaze and firing is all **FREE!** Look up pictures of these pots to get ideas on what you would like to make. You will get about 1 square foot of rolled out clay to work with. This could make 3 or more pots. You can choose between 3 colors of glazes. Dress warm for this workshop; as if you are going to a football game. The building is heated to 45*. Follow the [Eventbrite link](#) to sign up for this free class. Masks are mandatory.



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.



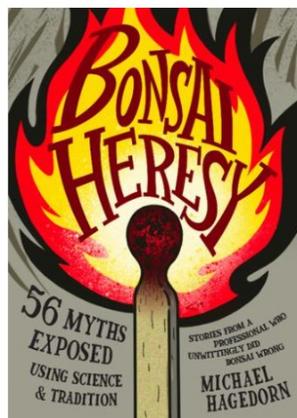
Root Hardiness by Judy S

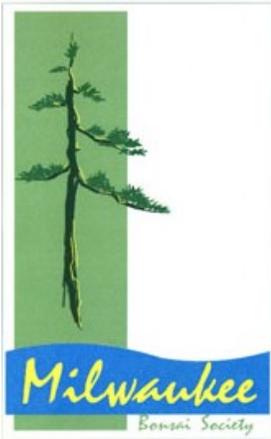
For those of you who have yet to read Michael Hagedorn's *Bonsai Heresy*, I highly recommend that you spend some time studying it. I have been digesting it in small chunks over the last few months and there is one section in particular that I'd like to share with you. We're at the time of the season where we are all thinking about where to store our trees so that they successfully make it through the winter. Hagedorn caught my attention with his thirteenth chapter entitled "Plant hardiness zone corresponds to root hardiness". The point that he makes is that a tree that has a hardiness of zone 3 does NOT have a root system that is hardy to zone 3. Trees that are purchased at a nursery are meant to be placed in the ground where the earth protects the roots from the cold. This is certainly not the case for small trees in pots.

Hagedorn searched for data on root hardiness of trees and found an unpublished list from the Oregon State University's horticulture department. The Iseli Nursery, which is famous for their miniature trees, uses a modification of this list. The chart lists the root kill temperatures for a range of trees. Trees such as *Acer palmatum*, a zone 5 tree, has a top that is hardy to -20°F, but the root system begins to die at +15°F. The list goes on for three pages and what can be taken away is that the root kill temperatures have little relationship to plant hardiness zones. The roots are far more susceptible to cold than are the trunks and branches. Hagedorn recommends limiting cold exposure to 18° F for very hardy trees and 23° F for the rest. If the situation arises where the tree is subjected to root kill temperature for an hour or two, there may not be a problem. But, if this goes on for 48 hours, you may lose the tree.

Hagedorn reminds us that these root kill temperatures are for **dormant** trees. Non-dormant trees are much more susceptible to cold.

What should we take away from this discussion? We may want to give our trees more protection than we might otherwise think they need. The hardiness of the roots determine the hardiness of bonsai trees. And, when we see "polar vortex" on our weather maps, we may want to consider using seed mats for the trees that we definitely don't want to lose.





PO Box 240822
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 Www.milwaukeebonsai.org
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Next MBS meeting will be
 Nov 21, 2020
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 733 N 35th St
 Milw, WI



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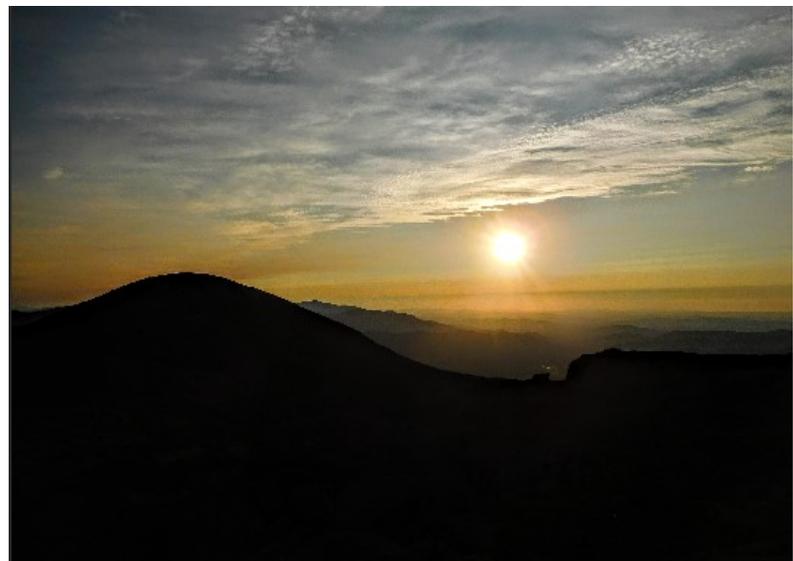
2020 MBS OFFICERS

- 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



A SEASON ENDED
 SUN IS LOW-TOOLS PUT AWAY
 BONSAI SET TO REST

~JOE N