



Kongetsu

West Michigan Bonsai Club Newsletter

Vol. 12 No. 4

June 2008

Mollie Hollar, Editor

2008 Schedule of Events

Thurs, June 19: Japanese maples workshop/lecture/demo

Sat, July 19: Trip to Stone Zone

Thur, July 24: Tropicals

Thur, Aug 14: Bring Your Own Tree (BYOT)

Sun, Aug 24: Silent Auction

Thur, Sept 18: Show prep/BYOT

Sat & Sun, Oct 11 & 12: Fall Show

Thur, Oct 16: 2009 Planning meeting

Thur, Nov 20: Winterizing

All events are held at Frederik Meijer Gardens unless otherwise noted.

Mid-Michigan Bonsai Club

The first official meeting of this new bonsai club took place on June 1 at Gee Farms. I was thrilled with the turnout with almost half of the people on my contact list attending, and we had volunteers for positions of both president and treasurer. We've set up a schedule of events for the next few months, and I'm pretty sure we'll be ready to take part in the All-State Show by next May. It has been a goal of mine for several years to be able to establish a club that will be more convenient for central-Michigan people to join.

This Month's Event

I am thrilled with this month's program for many reasons: first because Steve Jetzer, bonsai sensei in Grand Rapids and organizer of this area's newest bonsai club Yasuragi Bonsai Society will be our presenter; second because we'll be working on one of my two favorite trees; and third because we all have a choice of how we want to take part.

Please note that the day and time have been changed. Due to Steve's work schedule, we'll be meeting on **Thursday, June 19 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.**

Steve will be talking to us about Japanese maples before we work on them. And here's where your choices come in. You can come and just observe, in which case the workshop will be free. Or you can bring your own tree to work on, which will also be free. Or you can buy one of the maples that I will be buying from Jeri Kiel's Heritage Laurels. If you choose the latter, your only cost will be the price of the tree, which will be between \$40 and \$100. **If you want to purchase a tree, you must let me know by Sunday, June 15.**

Please note that if you are an inactive member of the Club and you want to participate in this workshop in any way, there will be a \$10 charge whether you observe or work on a tree.

We will not be working on the roots of the trees at all. If you are bringing a maple, do not repot it between now and the workshop. You won't be repotting it until at least next year. This will give the tree plenty of time to recover its strength.

Shows Coming Up

On page two you will read about the Mid-America Bonsai Alliance 2008 Convention in Indianapolis this coming weekend. It is not too late to register and sign up for workshops if you hurry. I'll be going to vend, with the help of my granddaughter. We're really looking forward to the trip!

Then on the weekend of June 21 & 22 the Four Seasons Bonsai Club from the Detroit area will be hosting their annual show at Telly's Greenhouse & Garden Center in Troy. Their guest artist this year will be Master Roy Nagatoshi from California. I did a workshop with Roy last year at Brussel's Rendezvous (which by the way was wonderful again this year) and gained an enormous amount of knowledge about bonsai in general and specifically about the Korean hornbeam we worked on. I strongly recommend that you get over to Telly's for at least one day. More information about the show is on page 2 & 3 in column 1. I highly recommend that you consider going to this show. There are still spaces left in both workshops, so take advantage of this incredible opportunity and call to register for one or both!

**36th Annual Four Seasons Bonsai Show
June 21-22, 2008**

Telly's Greenhouse and Four Seasons Bonsai Club of Michigan Present
Bonsai Master Roy Nagatoshi
Creator of the Bonsai Trees from the Movie Karate Kid III

Explore the ancient art of miniature Japanese trees. See the bonsai exhibit and beginner-friendly presentations on growing your own bonsai. Bonsai, pots, tools, and accessories for sale. Enter bonsai raffles. One lucky winner will take home the Roy Nagatoshi-styled demonstration bonsai.

For more information on Roy, including photos of some of his own bonsai, go to <http://www.fourseasonsbonsai.com/pages/nagatoshi.html>.

Show Hours

Saturday, June 21, 9 am-9 pm
Sunday, June 22, 9 am-5 pm

Demonstrations

Beginner demo: Saturday, June 21, 11 am
Roy Nagatoshi demo: Saturday, June 21, 2 pm
Beginner demo: Sunday, June 22, 1 pm

If you are new to bonsai, you'll probably want to see one of past-president Jimmy Whiteley's beginner-friendly demonstrations.

Bonsai enthusiasts of all experience levels will enjoy seeing Roy's demo. Roy will shape a raw tree into a styled bonsai and share some of his philosophy on bonsai during his Saturday demonstration. The show and all three demonstrations are open to the public and free of charge.

(cont page 3 column 1)

**MABA2008
CONVENTION**

Hosted by the Indianapolis Bonsai Club
June 12 – 15 2008

THE MARTEN HOUSE HOTEL HAS REDUCED THE ROOM RATE TO \$81 PER NIGHT

This offer is good through the convention. Those who have already made reservations will also receive this reduced rate

Call 1-800-736-5634 Now & Request Special MABA Room Rate of \$81

**The Marten House Hotel and Lilly Conference Center
1801 West 86th Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46260**

Registrations are now being accepted
Go to www.maba2008.org to register

FULL REGISTRATION INCLUDES

- Attendance at Thursday Night Welcome Reception to meet the Artists, Vendors and Other Participants
- Sit in and view any or all 5 Demonstrations
- Entry to the Bonsai / Suiseki Exhibit
- Participate in Twice Daily Raffles
- Chance to Purchase Raffle Tickets for the Demo Trees
- Visit and Purchase Items in the 4000sq ft Vendor Area
- Saturday Evening Banquet Ticket
- Attend Workshops as a Silent Observer
- Sunday Morning Breakfast

Active Participation in Workshops and Exhibit Critiques are available for Additional Fees
For Details visit the Website at www.maba2008.org and click on *Schedule or Workshops*
Daily registrations are also available

With just a few weeks remaining until the MABA2008 Conventions begins we have a clarification on the Bonsai Exhibit. You can bring a maximum of 4 bonsai, 2 for the judged exhibit and 2 for the un-judged category. All we ask is you notify us on how many total you are bringing as space is limited. You do not have to tell us what trees you are bringing until you arrive. Those who have already registered trees do not have to repeat the process.

Email Don Helmer @ www.donibc@mac.com with your info.

There are still some openings in most workshops and surprisingly we have a couple spaces remaining for the Danny Use BYOT workshops. If you have not signed up because you do not have a tree to bring, remember we have a 4000 sq ft Hall full of vendors with plenty of trees.

Workshops

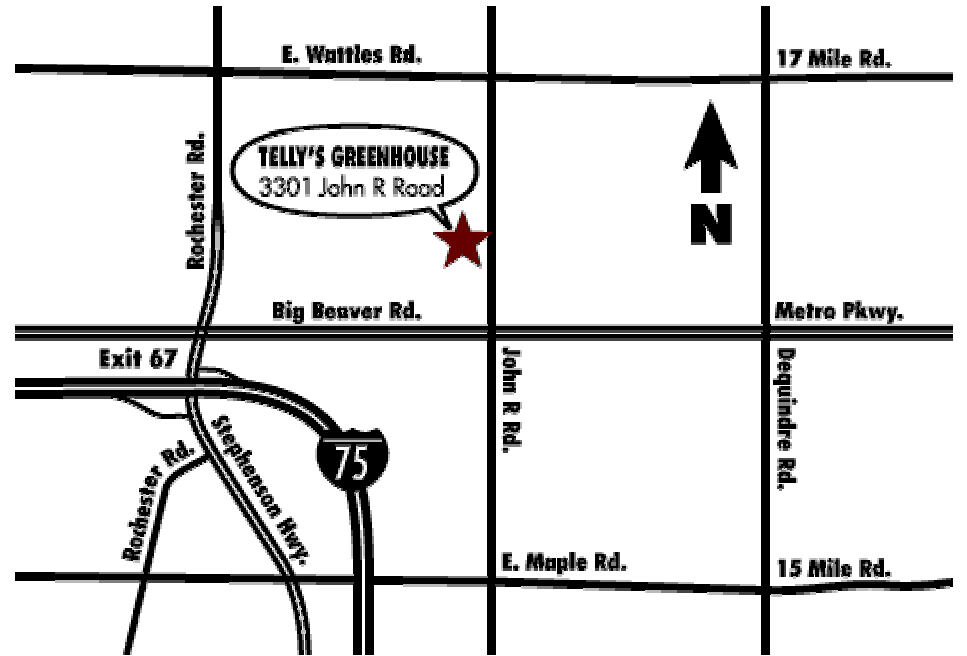
Roy leads two workshops on Sunday, June 22, where participants style their own bonsai. (Paid participants only.) Each workshop is limited to 10 participants, so reserve your space early.

Workshop #1, 10 a.m. - Noon:
Shimpaku Juniper.

Workshop #2, 3 - 5 p.m.:
"Miss Kim" Dwarf Korean Lilac, *Syringa meyeri Palibin* or Potentilla, *Potentilla fruticosa*. Cost for any workshop slot is \$75. (Includes tree, use of club wire and instruction by Roy Nagatoshi. Trees will not be repotted during this workshop. Pots will not be supplied.) To reserve your place, contact Hector DeBrabant by phone at 248-376-3190 or email hecdebrabant@sbcglobal.net.

Four Seasons Bonsai Club Show Location

Telly's Greenhouse
3301 John R., (between Big Beaver and Wattles), Troy, Michigan.
Telly's phone: 248-689-8735. Website: www.tellys.com.



All-State 2008

I received an e-mail from the 2007 chair of the All-State Show giving the following details:

"We had 127 trees exhibited by 43 exhibitors. We had trees from SEVEN clubs (Bonsai Society of Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor Bonsai Society, West Michigan Bonsai Club, Sakura Bonsai Society, 4 Seasons Bonsai Club, Yasuragi Bonsai Society, & Association of Independent Bonsai Artists); we also had some trees exhibited from people that did not list any club membership/affiliation. "

Apparently no one from our Club helped with the show or won a People's Choice award since we weren't mentioned in either category. Also no mention of numbers of visitors to the show.

2008 Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phones: Home _____ Work: _____

E-mail: _____

(Check one:)
 Active membership (\$25.00) Inactive membership (\$6.00)

(Check one:)
 I prefer that my newsletter be e-mailed to me.
 I prefer a snail-mail copy of my newsletter.

Please make check out to:
WMBC
and mail to:
Ed Spaans
947 Orchard SE
East Grand Rapids MI 49506