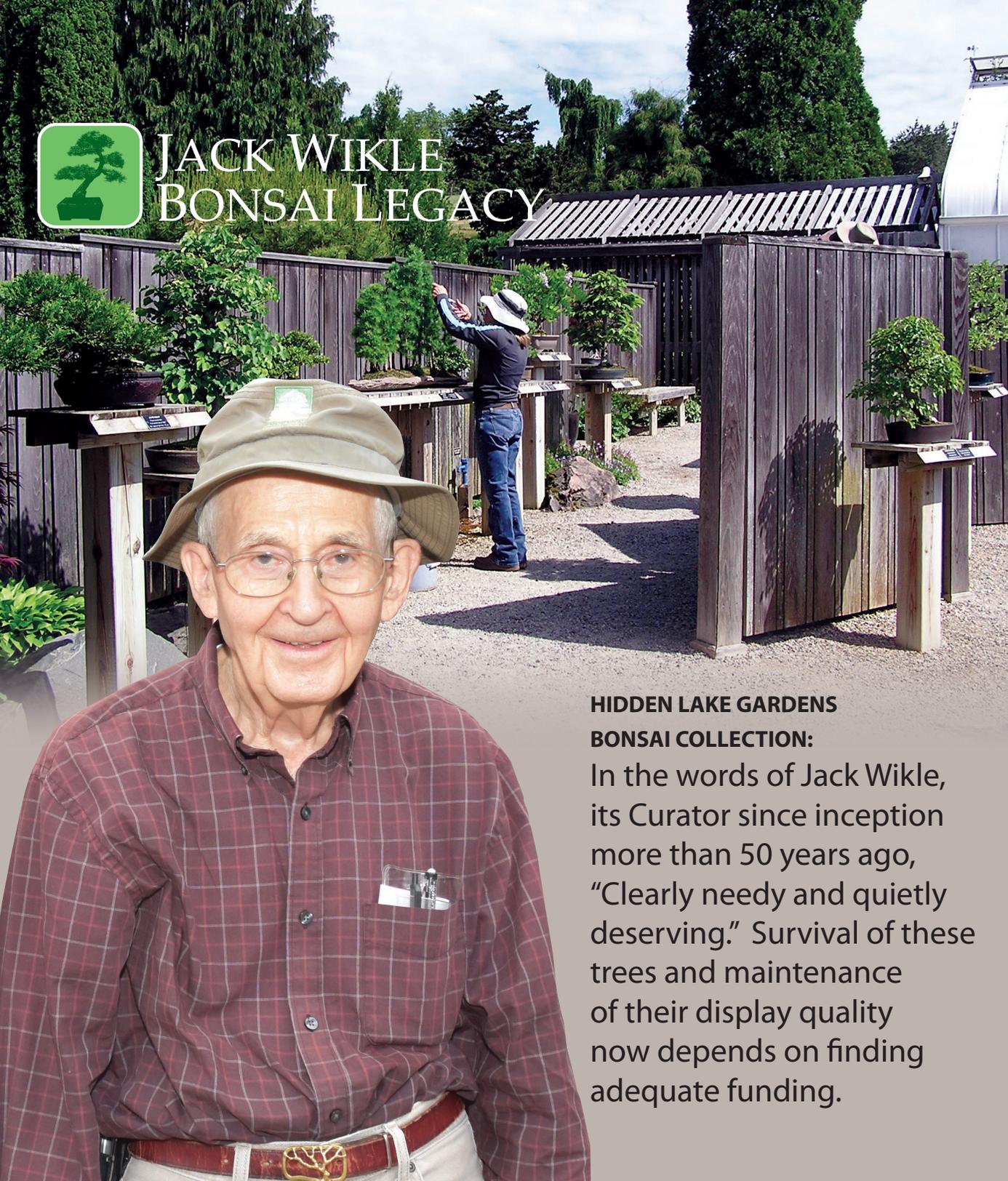




JACK WIKLE BONSAI LEGACY



HIDDEN LAKE GARDENS BONSAI COLLECTION:

In the words of Jack Wikle, its Curator since inception more than 50 years ago, "Clearly needy and quietly deserving." Survival of these trees and maintenance of their display quality now depends on finding adequate funding.



Jack Wikle in 2010 at the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society's Annual Show. On display are some of his small bonsai grown indoors relying completely on artificial light. He has been a pioneer in this practice of bonsai art.

Jack Wikle's contributions to the ever-increasing community of bonsai artists in the United States are beyond measure. His modesty about the scope of these endeavors is equally impressive.

He has been speaker and exhibitor at a number of national-level events. In addition, he has taught classes regularly, conducted bonsai workshops, done hundreds of in-person presentations and written dozens of articles on bonsai subjects.

Jack served as Program Chairman for two of the American Bonsai Society organized, Annual Learning Seminars in the 1980's. Subsequently, he edited the ABS Quarterly Journal for four years, 1988 through 1991.

At this writing, Jack is the longest active member of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. He has been repeatedly recognized for his early and ongoing contributions to that organization.

Finally, there are the countless one-on-one "collaborative interactions" between Jack and individuals seeking his help and wanting to learn. These interactions typically involved two people learning together as bonsai artists. Jack's assessment of these sessions, "Our trees were helping us grow."



White-cedar (Arborvitae). Collected by Elsie MacCready "up north" and first potted as a bonsai about 1983. Now thought to be at least 150 years old. (Photo taken 2016.)



Japanese White Pine grafted on Japanese Black Pine rootstock. Imported from Japan for Howard Wright, who wanted a large pine, about 1998. (Photo taken 2017.)



American Beech. Collected by Jack Wikle very early in his bonsai experiments and first potted as a bonsai in 1967. (Photo taken 2013.)



Pond Cypress. Collected by Clive Taylor near the Florida Keys and first potted as a bonsai in 1986. (Photo taken 2015.)



American Larch (Tamarack). Seedlings in this "forest" planting were collected in southern Michigan by Bill Heston and first potted as a bonsai in 2003. (Photo taken 2017.)



The Legacy

Hidden Lake Gardens' bonsai collection began in 1968 with the hiring of Jack Wikle as the Gardens' first Education Specialist. It was a fortuitous rather than a planned venture. Jack was invited to display a few of his "little trees" in one corner of the newly built Conservatory's Temperate House.

Jack also conducted bonsai workshops and did hundreds of community presentations on the art of bonsai. The collection has grown over the years thanks to Jack's personal involvement with the bonsai world and his generous capacity to share his extensive knowledge and enthusiasm with others.

Now there is a Bonsai Courtyard at Hidden Lake Gardens. It is a gem of quiet and astonishing beauty. A wonderful variety of miniature trees in pots invite the visitor to see the intimate interaction of the natural world with the human hand and artistic imagination. Gifts from numerous accomplished bonsai artists grow there sustained by ongoing and constant care.

For well over 50 years, Jack Wikle's attention and spirit have been at the heart of this endeavor. We now need your help in making sure that this unique collection has endowed funding to carry on his dedicated work.



JACK WIKLE BONSAI LEGACY

TO DONATE OR LEARN MORE:

JackWikleBonsaiLegacy.com

Jack Wikle Bonsai Legacy Fund
Lenawee Community Foundation
1440 West Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221

Phone: 517-263-4696 (Ask for Paula)

(Make check payable to:
LCF Jack Wikle Bonsai Legacy Fund)

Email: JackWikleBonsaiLegacy@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE: JULY 9, 2022 JACK'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND LIVE AUCTION AT HIDDEN LAKE GARDENS

The Jack Wikle Bonsai Legacy Fund is a component fund at the Lenawee Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and therefore is a nonprofit organization through this relationship.

Hidden Lake Gardens is owned and operated by Michigan State University. All photos by Jack Wikle, except where noted. Cover photo of Jack by Michael Field.