



NEXT CLUB MEETING: Wednesday, MARCH 28, -7PM

This is a presentation on Potting And Repotting, Things To Watch For And Concerns.

This timely presentation will begin with a brief introduction to repotting and root pruning by Robert Bishop, followed by a presentation by Lary Howard. Lary will demonstrate a repotting technique, he first saw at the ABS Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, June 2011.

This technique effectively secures a root mass in a bonsai pot while minimizing damage to the roots. The evening will be rounds out with a demonstration by Diane Faust, William Struhar and Louise Neuman. These members will demonstrate how they repot their bonsai

Repotting, Root Pruning - A Presentation and Demonstration



By Cherie Brunetti

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TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership expires at the end of March. Please, renew your membership by the next meeting. Pay by check, \$25, written to Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. Talk with the treasurer at the next meeting or do it by mail (see page 7 of newsletter for more info).

NOTES FROM THE SIDELINES (February Meeting)

Paul Kulesa – VP/Program Chairperson
Almudena Veiga-Lopez –Recording Secretary

Jay opened the meeting at 7 PM welcoming 57 members and visitors for this meeting. Jay welcomed the four new members that were in the audience. With the seating of the 2012 Board Jay acknowledged the transition to the new board by thanking:

- those who have left board service (Bill Heston-past Pres, Dustin Mann-Director-at-Large, Vicki Norfleet-Librarian, Ryan Liu-Newsletter Publisher).
- those who have joined the Board (Michael Field-Director-at-Large and Ray Domzalski-Librarian).

- those who continue to serve (Joan Wheeler, Almudena Veiga-Lopez, Lary Howard and Raquel Vega).
- those who perform task for the club at the Board's direction, Hugh Danville - Fundraising and Roger Gaede – Auction.
- and thank Alfonso Tercero for his two years of service at President.

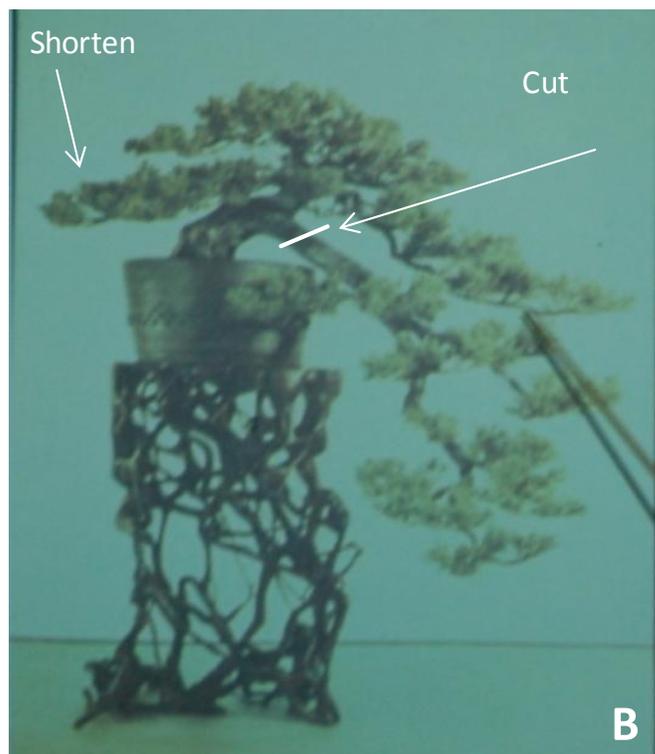
The program started at 7:00pm Martin started his presentation talking about how to train and develop an eye for bonsai styling. He went over a few basic concepts, such as the 'line of the tree', 'sense of balance', 'sense of proportion', 'necessary space', 'sense of movement', 'branch structure, 'unity', etc... He also described a few techniques when styling different types of trees (evergreens vs. deciduous).



Martin presenting at MBG in AABS February Meeting.

These concepts seem relatively easier when Martin explained them in theory. But it became evident that they are very difficult to put them into practice as he demonstrated in the second part of his talk when he showed a few styling examples. Martin went over a series of images of bonsais and in a very interactive way asked the audience what is that they thought was wrong about the bonsai that was on the screen.

Several of these images are shown in images A to H. For instance, regarding tree in image A, Martin mentioned that he would remove the jin on the top of the tree since it only drives the attention away from the tree. Martin then moved onto an example (image B) in which the cascade tree could be shortened to a semicascade by



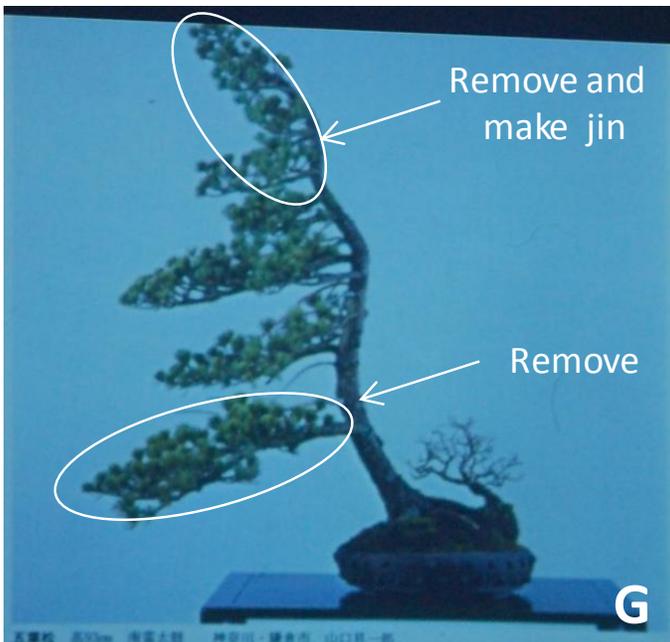
removing the lower branch that destabilizes the balance of the tree. The tree also needs some trimming on the lower left branch.

For the tree in Image C, Martin recommended tilting the tree to the right and reducing the foliage of the left side of the tree. A very interesting debate started when Martin showed the pine on Image D. He asked the audience which of the foliage patches should be removed, if any. AABS members were quite divided in choosing an option.



Although Martin would have left on the tree only the middle branch, he said that in this case there are other potential good options such as leaving only the low right branch or even taking the middle branch out leaving the other two. On the next pine tree (Image E), Martin suggested to remove part of the lower foliage. He showed a beautiful example (Image F) where he would thin out the top of the tree and also may be remove or lower the lower right branch. Also, specifically provoking was the next tree (Image G). The audience was again divided with regard to which ones of the branches should be removed or left on the tree. He suggested that the lower branch may be removed and the top branch may be styled into a jin. In another pine tree, Martin showed two different options to avoid the lack of taper in the top section of the tree (see Images H1 and H2 for the silhouettes of the two different options). We all felt that there is still a lot that one has to learn when it comes to styling bonsai. Thank you Martin for such interactive meeting!

During this program a raffle had place. The winner of the raffle was Paula Bard (see next page) which was the fortunate member to take home Martin Schmalenberg's book, '*North American Bonsai*'. Thank you Martin for the generous gift and thank you all for participating! See you next month!





Martin Schmalenberg signing his book *'North American Bonsai'* to the winner of the raffle Paula Bard.

WIKLE BONSAI SALE ANNOUNCEMENT

By Jack Wikle

Looking back at more than 45 years of pleasure and personal satisfaction in "growing" bonsai, and with my 80th birthday rapidly approaching (July 2012), my wife, Jeannine, and I have decided it is time to pass on the bulk of my outdoor bonsai collection (some 90 trees or groups of trees in bonsai pots) before changes in our health or other circumstances make this transition more difficult. After having these bonsai independently appraised, they will be available for sale at 40% off from the appraised values --- first to these public gardens: Hidden Lake Gardens, Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Frederik Meijer Gardens and then to individuals --- until Labor Day, 2012.

Our plan is to host the last of our Wikle Bonsai Open Houses, open to everyone, Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day Weekend. Until that time, we will continue to welcome visitation by appointment. If you would like to come and see us and the bonsai in Tecumseh, Michigan, call us at 517-423-7893.

SALE OPENING TO INDIVIDUALS, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, TIMING AND PROCEDURES

Attempting to limit confusion and equalize buying opportunity for everyone, this plan will be followed:

--- Visiting before our Saturday, April 28, 40% off sale opening date to see the bonsai and consider purchase possibilities will be welcomed. Call us to let us know when you would like to come.

--- Bonsai will not be "held" or "reserved" for individuals prior to the April 28 sale opening.



--- 8:00 am, April 28, gates will be opened, again giving visitors opportunity to enjoy the bonsai and consider purchase possibilities.

--- 12:30 pm, April 28, drawing names of people interested in buying (present in person or by proxy*) to assign buyer numbers will begin. Potential buyers arriving after 12:30 will receive buyer numbers in order of their arrival.

--- When buyer number assignment has been completed, the sales process will begin with buyers being offered, in numerical order, an opportunity to select a bonsai for purchase.

THE SECOND ROUND OF SELECTION OPPORTUNITIES WILL TAKE PLACE IN REVERSE NUMERICAL ORDER, the third round in numerical order and the fourth round in reverse numerical order, etc., until there is no further interest in buying.

--- Full payment, cash or check, will be required day of sale (we will not be able to accept credit cards). Michigan sales tax (6%) will be collected.

--- Bonsai unsold by Labor Day will be donated to Hidden Lake Gardens, Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Frederik Meijer Gardens.

* PURCHASE BY PROXY WILL BE POSSIBLE for buyers not able to be present on April 28. To purchase by proxy, your name, contact information and a check on deposit for the selling price of the desired bonsai plus Michigan sales tax, will be needed. If the desired bonsai is not available when your number comes up, your deposit check will be returned or destroyed as you choose.

Call us if you have questions.

Jack and Jeannine Wikle, 517-423-7893

CALL FOR ARTICLES!

Almudena Veiga-Lopez – Recording Secretary

Dear AABS members,
Well, Spring is almost here! At least, looks like that based on last weeks temperatures. So, while you are bringing back you trees from the Winter storage or when you visit a botanical garden, etc... share that bonsai experience with other AABS members. Your bonsai experience as beginners, intermediate, or proficient bonsaists will be helpful to our bonsai community.

Whether short or long, your stories are most welcome in the newsletter. Please, enjoy, write, and share!
Contact me if you have any questions at:
newsletter@annarborbonsaisociety.org

UPCOMING AABS EVENTS

Paul Kulesa – VP/Program Chairperson

Saturday, March 31, 2012, 10 AM – 1 PM

A Saturday Workshop - Repotting Your Bonsai

Bring your bonsai to repot, along with your pot and tools. Soil mix, wire, screening for drainage holes and guidance will be provided, a limited selection of pots will be available. We will work in Greenhouse #5. Workshop fee and supplies - \$20, pots are individually prices.

Saturday, April 14, 2012, 10 AM – 1 PM

A Saturday Workshop – Wiring Your Bonsai

Bring your bonsai to wire at this Saturday morning workshop. Experienced members will be on hand to work with you to wire your bonsai. Bring your tools and bonsai. Wire and experience will be provided. We will work in Greenhouse #5. Workshop fee and supplies are \$20.

April Meeting – Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Erik Wigert presents, The Care, Cultivation And Maintenance Of Tropical Bonsai

Erik Wigert will present a lecture on tropical and subtropical material. He will discuss issues related to health, maintenance, repotting, wiring and general care. Starting at 6 PM, Erik will be available to discuss with you issues related to your tropical bonsai. Erik will have time to spend with members on a "first come" basis until the start of the meeting at 7 PM.

Erik Wigert will lead a workshop using material specially developed for this workshop. Willow leaf fig grown in Florida with a large caliper trunk have been cut back to a stump and allowed to sprout new growth. The workshop is limited to 12 participants. We will work in Greenhouse #5. Workshop fee - \$25, willow leaf ficus - \$25.

BONSAI CONVENTIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

- ✓ **Michigan All-State Bonsai Show** May 12 - 13, 2012
Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Go to:
<http://www.meijergardens.org/calendar/event.php?id=844> for more information.
- ✓ **Midwest Bonsai Society Spring Show** May 19 – 20, 2012, Chicago Botanic Garden. Go to:
www.midwestbonsai.org/show.htm for more information.
- ✓ **3RD U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition** June 9 - 10, 2012 Rochester, New York. Got to:
http://www.internationalbonsai.com/store/1708315/uploaded/2012_national_exhibition/index.html for more information.
- ✓ **“Visions of the American West”** - A Convention sponsored by The Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, American Bonsai Society and Bonsai Club International June 21-24, 2012 Denver, Colorado. Go to: <http://www.bonsai2012.org/> for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 24 - Beginners Bonsai Class #1

- Introduction To Bonsai

March 28 - Monthly Meeting

- Repotting & Root Pruning - A Presentation And Demonstration

March 31 - Saturday Morning Workshop

- Repotting & Root Pruning - Members can repot their bonsai with the help of an experienced hand.

April 21 - Saturday Morning Workshop

- Wiring Your Bonsai - Members can wire their bonsai with the help of an experienced hand.

April 25 - Monthly Meeting

- Tropical Bonsai Lecture - Erik Wigert from Florida will discuss the care, cultivation and maintenance of tropical bonsai.

April 26 - Thursday Evening Workshop

- Erik Wigert will lead this workshop using willow leaf fig grown in Florida.

April 28 - Beginners Bonsai Class #2

- Introduction to Bonsai

May 12 -Beginner's Bonsai Class #3

- Introduction to Bonsai

May 23 - Monthly Meeting

- A Dawn Redwood Forest With Kurt Smith.

May 26 -Saturday Morning Workshop

- Design your own forest or clump using dawn redwood, lead by Kurt Smith.

June 16 -Beginner's Bonsai Class #4

- Introduction to Bonsai - Bring Your Own Bonsai Workshop – Members can work on their bonsai with the assistance of more experienced members.

July 7 -Beginner's Bonsai Class #5

- Introduction to Bonsai

July 25 - Monthly Meeting

- A Three Member Panel will offer advice and discuss design options for members who bring their bonsai to the meeting

August 22 - Monthly Meeting

- Fertilizing Your Bonsai – This presentation will discuss feeding your bonsai, feeding options and current concern of our fertilizing practices. Producing fertilizer balls will be demonstrated.

August 24 - Annual Show Setup

August 25-26 - Annual Show

September 26 - Monthly Meeting

- Annual Auction

October 24 - Monthly Meeting

- A Study of Bonsai In Winter Silhouette

November 5 - Monthly Meeting

- Annual Banquet and Critique of Bonsai

MEMBERSHIP

Society Membership is for the calendar year. Use the membership form on the Web and bring it to the next AABS meeting or mail it to:

Joan Wheeler
2295 North Harris
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
(734) 485-6306

Email: treasurer@annarborbonsaisociety.org. Please make your check payable to AABS for \$25.00.

2012 AABS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Jay Sinclair

Vice-President: Paul Kulesa

Corresponding Secretary*: Almudena Veiga-Lopez

Recording Secretary: Almudena Veiga-Lopez

Publicity Chair: Lary Howard

Treasurer: Joan Wheeler (734) 485-6306

Librarian: Ray Domzalski

Past President: Alfonso Tercero

Director 2011 & 2012: Raquel Vega

Director 2011 & 2013: Michael Field

Show Chairperson: Jay Sinclair

*Will serve in a temporary position until a replacement is elected.

AABS AD-HOC COMMITTEES

The AABS President is exofficio member of all committees with the exception of the Nomination Committee.

Auction Chair: TBD

Membership Chair: TBD

Show Staging: Paul Kulesa

Demonstrations: TBD

Ways and Means Chair: Hugh Danville

Web Administration: Raquel Vega

FOR SALE OR WANTED

All members can offer for sale any bonsai and bonsai related materials in the newsletter or at the monthly meeting with no sales fee. AABS Society Members' ads are free to publish in the Newsletter. Deadline for submissions to the Newsletter is the 5th of the month. Please send your comments or documents to newsletter@annarborbonsaisociety.org.

Wanted. If you have a tree, bonsai pot, tool or anything else bonsai related that you don't need anymore and that is still in good condition, consider donating it to the Society. Donations to the Society are always accepted. In most cases many donated trees or other materials have been raffled among the attending members during our monthly meetings.

Help Spruce Up Our Web Page Appearance

Raquel Vega, AABS web master, is soliciting photographs of members' trees to appear on one of the many pages of our web site. You can hand deliver a photograph of your favorite bonsai to Raquel at the meeting or send a photo via email to her.

members-owner@annarborbonsaisociety.org



Place
Stamp
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Ann Arbor Bonsai Society
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The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society and the Mid-American Bonsai Alliance.

Send To:

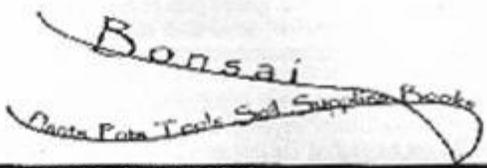
Visit us on the Web:
<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

Hours: Mon - Fri: 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Sat: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
 Closed Sunday & Tuesday



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