

October Club Meeting: Wednesday 25th Indoor Bonsai: Tropical, Subtropical, and Others. *Do not miss it!*

**SEPTEMBER MEETING
MINUTE REVIEW**

By Jerry Peters

7:30 PM PROGRAM MEETING

This year Ann Arbor Bonsai Society's Annual Auction was held, as usual, during our regular September club meeting.

Jimmy Whiteley president of Four Seasons Bonsai Club was the official auctioneer. Our club greatly appreciated Jimmy's experience as auctioneer and willingness to perform this function for our club.



Jimmy Whiteley's expertise was demonstrated in our annual auction.

There were 48 in attendance with active bidding from many of the attendees. Most went home with items they wanted. Some also went home without the tree they wanted due to crossed signals, unseen head nod or just unwilling to pay high dollar.



A great selection of trees, pots, tools and other bonsai related materials were entered in the auction.



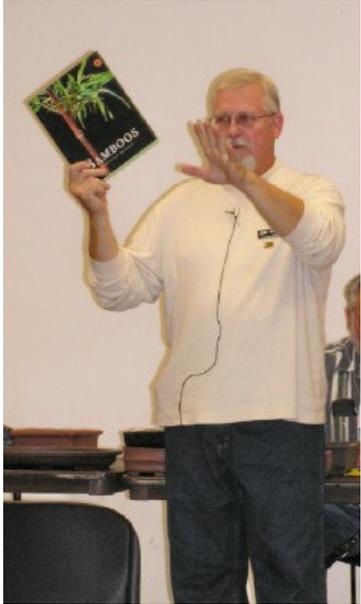
This year there were fine assortments of trees, pots, tools, books and magazines to bid on. I believe Four Seasons members brought many fine things to auction off and did their share of bidding as well.



It was a fun filled night and everyone had a great time. Many beautiful items were auctioned at great prices.

People wishing to bid filled out a form indicating what portion of the final bid would go to the club. I believe the percentage going to the club was from 20% to 100%. The final dollar amount going to the clubs account will be announced at our October club meeting.

Again, Thanks to Jimmy Whiteley and all who assisted Jimmy with this month's auction. It was a fun evening.



Inside this Issue:

- Slate of Nominee's*.....2
- Editor's Message*.....2
- Tips for growing moss*.....2
- 2007 ABS Learning Seminars*.....3
- Japan Bonsai Tour 2007*.....3
- Almost Free Presentation*.....3
- Preparing Bonsai for Fall at MBG*...4
- Trajectory of Cyclops*.....6

SLATE OF NOMINEE'S FOR THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

By Connie Cancer

President – Bill Heston

Vice President and Program Chair –
Alfonso Tercero

Corresponding Secretary – TBA

Recording Secretary – Paul Kulesa

Publicity Chair – Bill Cavers

Treasurer – Joan Wheeler

Librarian – Luciani Carvalho

Director for 2007-2008 – Arnold
Wingblad

Director for 2007 – Larry Hall
continues with this position

Show Chair – Hugh Danville

Note that Corresponding Secretary is not filled as yet. We need someone to take this position. It is a critical position for our club members. This position is responsible for getting the words out about our meetings. Through the years this position evolved into a newsletter editor position and with each newsletter editor our newsletter has gotten better. Don't let this deter you. The core responsibility is to simply give our membership a written notice of our meetings. If you want to continue the newsletter in its present format and caliber, Alfonso Tercero will be glad to help you (see article in newsletter from Alfonso). Please call me if you would like to take this voting position on our board.

Bylaws of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society, Article 1, Duties of the Executive Board Members:

The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for preparing and mailing regular meeting announcements and other information to all members as directed by the Executive Board.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

By Alfonso Tercero

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that November's edition will be my last opportunity to address you as the Newsletter Editor.

I was approached by the nominating committee during our last AABS meeting and was offered the position of Vice President & Program Chair of the club.

I was humbled by this important offer and I could only accept with great emotion and excitement to be able to serve you during the coming term.

I think it is natural to reflect on this year where I was honored to produce the monthly newsletter. Certainly each editor brings his or her own perspective and experience to this position; however, I firmly believe that the newsletter was brought up to a new level and that our previous editors have contributed to have it where it is.

Personally I have relied on my experience as a business person and as a graphic designer from my College years (I was the general editor of our College magazine for two years) to create the newsletter and bring it to your homes every month.

This position has allowed me to meet many great people who are very dedicated to bonsai and have shared their experience and knowledge with me.

Over this time I was in contact via the internet with renowned bonsai authors who allowed me to reproduce their articles in the newsletter and I would not trade these moments for anything in the world.

Now it is time for me to pass the torch to some other lucky avid bonsai enthusiast who will enjoy unforgettable moments and will have a chance to expand his or her

own knowledge in the search of information about maintaining and styling bonsai.

If you are interested in this position and would like to know more about it, contact me at aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com. Some computer experience is preferred and I will offer training and mentoring to the new editor to produce the newsletter until it is needed.

TIPS FOR GROWING MOSS

By Joan Wheeler

To effectively grow moss follow the next steps and you will be rewarded with beautiful green moss.

Materials:

12 ounces of beer (any brand)

1/2 tsp. white sugar

Few clumps of dry moss

1 Empty large coffee can

1 Old and clean paint brush

Procedure:

Place all ingredients in the coffee can. Blend together with a drill powered paint mixer. Make sure all ingredients have been mixed thoroughly and no lumps are sitting at the bottom.

Paint over stone or wood or bird bath, or any surface. If you want to use in bonsai, you may want to grow it separately over a fresh and sterilized layer of soil before transferring into your bonsai pot.

Keep moss damp at all times in a shady place. With little care you will be rewarded with a vibrant lush carpet of moss for all your needs.



ANNOUNCING THE ABS LEARNING SEMINARS FOR 2007



June 21-14, 2007 in Virginia Beach VA at the Cavalier Hotel on the beach.

If you attended our last Leaning Seminars in Saratoga, you already know that the seminars are the best learning experience in the North American bonsai world. If you did not attend you have heard the news on the ABS forum and from other attendees... so now join us all in Virginia Beach and experience the best!

The Learning Seminars are the annual meeting and convention for the American Bonsai Society so we hope that all of you can attend!

The seminars contain classes and workshops for all levels of bonsai artists from raw beginners to old timers looking for more to learn.

The ABS web site (<http://www.absbonsai.org/>) is a bit behind and is currently not up for the seminars, but snail mail works to register and remember to make you reservations at the hotel right away.

Last year people waited and found themselves without a room at the convention hotel. Remember you can cancel a reservation at a hotel BUT you can not get a reservation once the rooms are sold out.

We hope to see you all there...

Questions? Email or call me.

Also we are looking for the best in bonsai to display at our exhibit. Take pictures now and submit them!! You may display photographs or live bonsai.

Pauline Muth and the ABS Board of Directors. ABS@pfmbonsai.com

For registration and a list of schedule events visit:
<http://freeplone2.openia.com/abs/abs-seminars>

JAPAN BONSAI TOUR 2007



After yet another fantastically successful Japan Bonsai Tour, Japan Journeys (a UK-based company) is again offering Bonsai fans and professionals a unique insider's view of Japan with their Japan Bonsai Tour 2007 (6-15 February 2007). See the full itinerary details for our "Land-only" package at:

www.japanjourneys.co.uk

Highlights of the tour include:

- Entry to the amazing Kokufu Bonsai-ten – the biggest annual Bonsai show event in Japan
- Visits to the wonderful Kinashi Bonsai Village & Omiya Bonsai Village
- Guided tours of the exquisite gardens and temples of Kyoto, Tokyo and Nara
- A visit to beautiful Korakuen – one of Japan's top 3 most celebrated gardens
- Travel on Japan's famous Bullet Train.

The tour costs include 9 nights hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, all entrance fees and the services of a Japan Journeys guide throughout.

For further details on all our Japan and China tours, please visit:
www.japanjourneys.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Japan Journeys
Japan Journeys Limited
Cameo House 11 Bear Street
London WC2H 7AS
United Kingdom

ALMOST FREE PRESENTATION

Jack Wikle will be giving a basic talk on Growing Plants Indoors under Fluorescent Lights for the Master Gardener Association of Lenawee County on Thursday, November 9th at 7 p.m.



Roger Gaede receiving instruction from nationally known bonsai expert, Jack Wikle. Jack worked at Hidden Lake Gardens prior to his retirement.

This meeting will be held in the Visitor Center at Michigan State University's Hidden Lake Gardens, 6214 Monroe Hwy (Rte.50) – about 2 miles west of Tipton on Rte 50.



Non-members are welcome to attend but will be charged a \$3.00 per person fee.

PREPARING BONSAI FOR FALL AT MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS

By Alfonso Tercero

Have you ever wondered where all the bonsai trees from the MBG collection go when they are not at the exhibition at the conservatory?



Exhibit area at Matthaei Botanical Garden

Well, this time you will have an exclusive view at what happens behind the scenes and where these gorgeous trees are kept.

First of all, all bonsai trees are under the ever watchful eye of Connie Crancer (Bonsai Curator) and there is also a group of very dedicated volunteers who meet every week to take care of them.

The trees are located inside the MBG grounds in a well protected area where they are constantly maintained and cared by the volunteers.

At this time of the year all work shifts to prepare the trees for fall and winter.

The following pictures illustrate how trees are moved from their regular stands to a place where they can receive more sun and gain more strength before entering into their hibernation mode for winter.



When not in the exhibition area, all bonsai trees sit comfortably in this special area where they are placed according to their unique shading needs. They are frequently rotated to ensure proper growth in all sides.



Sun loving trees are placed at the front row and medium-sun trees are farther in the back. The ceiling trellis is arranged in such way to allow more or less light into the area depending in which row they are located.



In another secluded spot closer to the conservatorium there is the "pit": A specially designed structure where bonsai trees are stored over the winter. It was specifically built to bury the trees in the ground and cover them with sand. The top has an inclination to allow some water and snow in, but not sunlight to avoid 'awakening' the trees before it is time.



A close look let us appreciate the inner site of the pit.

These are the 4 covers that will protect the trees during the harsh months of winter.





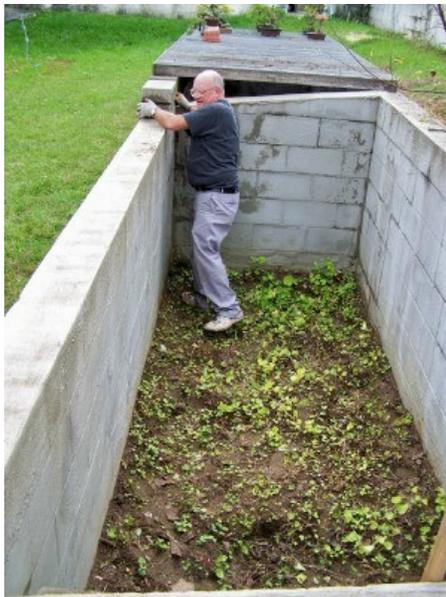
Bob Thatcher and Alfonso Tercero prepared the pit to temporarily receive the trees on top of the structure. It will give more sun exposure to all the outdoor bonsai and the leaf color change will be more accentuated.



Connie Crancer decided to remove all weeds from the bottom of the pit to avoid them growing into the pots once the trees are buried and covered with sand. Bill Heston is diligently supervising Connie's work to make sure no weeds are left behind. ☺

This is hard work, make no mistake about it, but we are very dedicated to the bonsai collection.

Since there is a declination in the front wall, we placed a cinder block to compensate and level the 4 covers.



After a couple of hours all trees are placed in their temporary location. They will stay there for a few more weeks until they are ready to be placed inside the pit. Leaves will drop and needles will change color. Five months will pass before they are retrieved and the whole cycle will begin again.

We would like to recognize the volunteers' dedicated work and if you would like to know more about becoming one, you can email Connie Crancer at: ccrancer@umich.edu



Now the trees could be moved and placed evenly over the pit. Note that the trees have sufficient space in between and they do not touch each other.

Thank You!

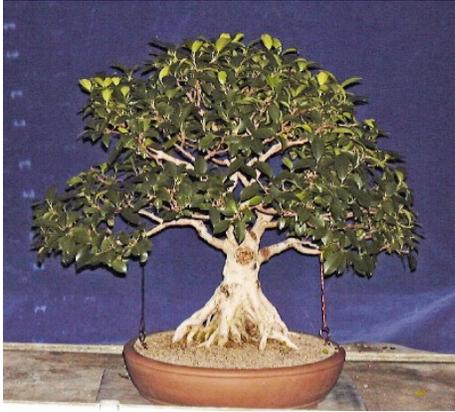
*Bill Heston
Joan Wheeler
Joan Overmire
Bob Thatcher
Ruth Heyn*

*Louise Newman
Bill Cavers
Larry Hall
Jay Sinclair
Alfonso Tercero*

TRAJECTORY OF 'CYCLOPS'

This well known tree has been in the bonsai collection at MBG for many years.

It is a *Ficus Retusa* of the Moraceae Family donated by John Curtin in June 1998. It was estimated that it had 20 years in training. It was donated in a deep, oval rust colored pot with calligraphy on the side.



This tree has gone under many refining & styling sessions over the years by experienced hands: Bill Heston, Hugh Danville, Connie Crancer, etc.

There is one defining characteristic of this tree: it has a large cut in the middle part that resembles a huge eye, hence the 'Cyclops' nickname.



For many years the front of the tree was the back as it was intended to hide the 'eye'.



Close look at the trunk and roots of the tree. To lower the main branches many guide wires were used.

During a recent repotting session the tree had a major root-pruning process. August 2006.



Large roots crossing over other were removed and the overall root ball was reduced by more than 50%.



In this photo we explored the possibility of changing the pot to a square one. We superimposed a cardboard figure according to its ideal dimensions.

It was decided to leave the tree in its current pot and compact the canopy as it was starting to outgrow its optimum size. We can expect more to come in this tree's trajectory.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January Club Meeting.....Jan 25th

Slide show & discussion of the National Bonsai & Penjing collection by Jack Sustic

February Club Meeting.....Feb. 22nd

Fertilizer & Pest Management. Presentation by Dr. Dean Krauskopf

March Club Meeting.....Mar. 22nd

Everything you ever will want to know about the Larch with *Mr. Bill Heston*

April Workshop.....Apr. 5th

Deciduous Forest or Clump Workshop. From 6:30 to 9:30 in room 125 at MBG.

April Workshop.....Apr. 12^h

Larch Forest Workshop, Wednesday's evening 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Larch Forest Workshop with Cyril Grum. We will update our existing Forest(s) and help people start new ones. Room 131 at MBG.

April Club Meeting.....Apr. 26th

Heavy Pruning Branch and Root

May Workshop.....May 4th

Marco Invernizzi Workshop, Bring Your Own Tree. From 6:30 to 9:30 pm in room 139 at MBG.

May Club Meeting.....May 24th

Bring your own Tree

June Workshop.....June 19th

Schefflera Over Rock -- with (still our own) Jerry Meislik at 6:30 pm, Room 125

June Club Meeting.....June 28th

Refinement Pruning

July Club Meeting.....July 26th

Penjing Landscape with Robert Bishop

August Club Meeting.....Aug. 23rd

Bonsai & Garden Art Images

August Bonsai Show.....Aug.26th & 27th

September Club Meeting.....Sep. 27th

2006 AABS Bonsai Auction

October Club Meeting.....Oct. 25th

Indoor Bonsai: Tropical, Subtropical, and Others.

November Club Meeting.....Nov. 22nd

Pot Luck

2006 AABS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Bill Heston (734) 662-8699

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Program Chair: Alfonso Tercero (734) 216-2708

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Recording Secretary: Paul Kulesa

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Treasurer: Joan Wheeler (734) 485-6306

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Director for 2006: Arnold Wingblad (313)255-1769

Director 2006 & 2007 - Larry Hall (248) 477-0665

Show Chair: Hugh Danville (313) 455-7922

Pete Douglas (313) 867-8644

AABS AD HOC COMMITTEES

The AABS President, Bill Heston, is ex-officio member of all committees except the Nomination Committee.

Auction Chair: TBD

Membership Chair: TBD

Show Staging: Paul Kulesa

Demonstrations: John Parks

Ways and Means Chair: John Parks

Web Master: Jarrett Knyal

(webmaster@annarborbonsaisociety.org)

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society (www.absbonsai.org) and the Mid American Bonsai Alliance.

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the 5th of the month. Contact us at: aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com.

You can pay your Club's dues at the next AABS meeting or mail it to:

~Joan Wheeler

2295 North Harris

Ypsilanti, MI 48198

(734) 485-6306

Email: owheeler5@hotmail.com

Please make your check payable to AABS for \$25.00.

FOR SALE OR WANTED

10% of sales go to AABS Club.

Member Ads are free

Send the information of your items for sale or wanted to

aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com include a small digital file if available.

Wanted. If you have a tree, bonsai pot, tool or anything else bonsai related that you don't need anymore and it is still in good condition, consider donating it to our club.

Donations to the club are always accepted. In most cases many donated trees or other materials have been raffled among the attending members during our monthly meetings.

We want to remind all club members that everyone is required to give 10% of the total sales for any items that sell at our monthly meetings.

This is a long standing policy that has not consistently observed, since it is starting to fade from our collective memory.

The 10% fee will apply to all sales at our meetings or through this newsletter until the board approves a change.

Please send your comments or documents to aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com. Don't worry if you don't have a "finished" article, we'll help you to make it right. We will publish them going forward in the member's corner section.

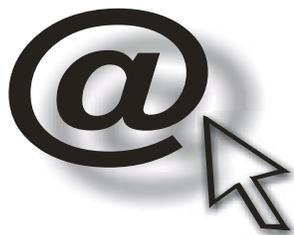
Together we can further improve this newsletter for our reading pleasure.



Place
Stamp
Here

Ann Arbor Bonsai Society
1800 North Dixboro Road ~ Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9741
The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society and the Mid-American Bonsai Alliance.

Send To:



**AABS Next Club Meeting is Wednesday
September 25th ~ Indoor Bonsai: Tropical,
Subtropical, and Others.
Do not miss it!!!**

Visit us on the Web:

<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

Support our AABS Vendors:

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

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