



## Next Membership Meeting! ~ June 25th 7:30pm at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium. **Tropical “Air-Layering”, Improving Ramification on Deciduous Trees – Bill Heston and Jack Wikle.** Demonstration and Lecture

This program will be another “double-header” beginning with a discussion and demonstration of air-layering then concluding with a discussion of the variety of techniques useful in increasing branching and production of fine twigs on deciduous trees. Anyone who would like to put an air-layer on their own tropical tree under the guidance of Bill and Jack should bring their tree, tools and materials. Members who want advice and practice in shortening shoots and defoliating deciduous bonsai are also invited to bring them to this meeting.



### Upcoming Events

--July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008, 7:30pm Monthly AABS Meeting  
Focusing on Maples - Connie Crancer, Cyril Grum, Bill Heston and Jack Wikle.

Members growing maples of any kind as bonsai are invited to bring them for the enjoyment of others, for discussion and for advice from our four panelists and the audience as well.

--Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 7:30pm Monthly AABS Meeting  
Invited Guest Speaker – Pedro Morales – Demonstration and Lecture on Ficus.

--Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 4pm – 8pm. Room 125 Matthaei  
Pedro Morales Workshop – Bring your own tree. Bonsai material will also be available for sale from Mr. Morales. Details forthcoming. (Registration required: Contact Alfonso Tercero at [bonsai\\_cho@att.net](mailto:bonsai_cho@att.net))

### In This Issue

Notes From the Sidelines ~ April Minutes  
By Paul Kulesa pg. 2

Executive Board Minutes – April  
By Paul Kulesa pg. 3

#### CORRESPONDENCE pg. 4

More on Recycling  
Volunteer Needed – VA Hospital event  
Library Donation Acknowledgement  
Black Spot Fungus  
Bonsai Trees & Supplies at the Flower Market

Backyard Transformation pg. 5  
By Mike Simmons

Bonsai Soil for Sale! pg. 6  
(Repeated item but worthy of reminder!)

## Notes From the Sidelines

### May 28th, 2008 AABS Meeting Minutes By Paul Kulesa

Members of the club began to gather in the auditorium at Matthaei for the May General Membership Meeting by 6:45 PM. With the growing season beginning to warm, the talk was about bonsai, what else? President Bill Heston brought the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, welcoming forty-two members, one new member, Susan Fonda, and a visitor, Curtis Simmons, the son of Michael Simmons.

Ron Milostan brought in a flowering lilac. This particular bonsai was purchased at the last AABS Auction, September 2007. At the time, it may have appeared as a scruffy shrub. However, Ron has been able to transform this treasure into a bonsai with potential. This bonsai was typical of the material available at the club auction. Here is a bit of unsolicited advice; be sure to examine the material closely at this year's auction.



Larry Howard brought in ceramic pots he had made to be used with bonsai. These pots were fired hot to withstand the local climate and should perform well for years to come. Most of the pots available at the meeting were smaller and available in a variety of colors. If you are interested in these pots, they will be available during future meetings.

Bill Heston reminded the membership the Annual Show would take place October 4 & 5, 2008. The companion program scheduled by Matthaei Botanical Gardens for that weekend was cancelled for administrative reasons.

Alfonso Tercero reminded the membership of the upcoming BBQ at Lois Vorrath's home scheduled for June 14, 2008.

Alfonso also talked about the visit by Pedro Morales in the final week of August. He will lead a workshop on Thursday, August 28, 2008, from 4 – 8 PM at MBG.

Alfonso introduced this evening's program, a visit with Michael Hagedorn. Michael presented a video show of his thirty-month internship with Shinji Suzuki. Since this was a visual experience, you should have been there to appreciate his visit and work in Nagano, Japan. On Thursday, May 29, 2008, Michael conducted a workshop at MBG to conclude his visit with AABS.

With the approaching summer solstice, you have no excuse. Work on your bonsai!

## Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

### Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 28th, 2008, 6pm

By Paul Kulesa

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Heston with the following Executive Board members present; Alfonso Tercero, Mike Simmons, Joan Wheeler, Larry Hall, Jay Sinclair, Vicki Norfleet and Paul Kulesa. Roger Gaede arrived later and Hugh Danville was unable to attend due to a personal commitment. Joining the Board were two persons connected with Matthaei Botanical Gardens (MBG), Karen Sikkenga (Event Coordinator) and Carrie Riedman (non-staff Event Outreach Coordinator).

The meeting with the MBG representatives was to formally announce that MBG was discontinuing the Floral and Fauna Show, scheduled for the first weekend of October, the same weekend as the AABS Bonsai Show. Karen Sikkenga regretted any inconvenience this may cause the bonsai show. In an attempt to make amends, Karen offered the services of her office. This includes:

- publicity outreach
- web outreach
- gift shop services
- advertising to MBG membership
- workshop for children during the show

Karen Sikkenga has contacts with the Asian Language Society, the local news media and event food services. The Executive Board asked questions of the pair regarding the extent of the services offered and decided to discuss the

matter privately and contact them in the near future. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Karen Sikkenga assured the Board that in the future we could return to a late August date if we felt the October date did not or would not work out as well. The board will meet following the show and discuss our options. Perhaps members can discuss the pros and cons at the dinner Saturday evening following the show.

The Board members present thought this information was valuable for the Chairperson of the Annual Show, Hugh Danville, who was unavailable for the meeting.

### AABS Annual Show Reminder

October 4th-5th, 2008

Saturday and Sunday

Location: Matthaei Botanical Gardens,  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

This annual showing of Society member's trees displays over 100 beautiful trees from all sizes and species. Workshops, demonstrations and vendors, will be available. Visitors may vote in the *People's Choice Award* for their favorite bonsai selections from different categories.

Volunteers are needed for many activities including setting up and take down. This is a great opportunity to learn more about bonsai! To participate contact Hugh Danville for more details at [hdanville@comcast.net](mailto:hdanville@comcast.net)

## Correspondence

### More on Recycling



Alfonso Tercero reminds us of the importance to recycle and to practice “environmental mindfulness”. Alfonso suggests taking a look at the following Web site.

[http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/06/ecoogler\\_eco\\_search\\_engine.php](http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/06/ecoogler_eco_search_engine.php)

Maintaining an awareness, supporting, and practicing “green” activities is everyone’s responsibility.

### Volunteer Needed!



Robert Bryant, a former member of AABS and former newsletter editor, is currently a patient at the Ann Arbor

Veteran’s Hospital. He has asked if someone from AABS would take charge of a one day bonsai show at the hospital. If you are willing to take on this task contact Bill Heston at

[wheston3@comcast.net](mailto:wheston3@comcast.net)

### Library Donation



A special thank you to Bruce Baker for his very generous donation of more than 100 bonsai related magazines ranging from Bonsai Today,

Bonsai International Magazine, International Bonsai and others. The magazines will be added to our growing library for all members to read and enjoy. Bruce has also donated many bonsai pots that will be auctioned off at a forthcoming AABS

meeting (possibly at the auction meeting in October).

### Black Spot Fungus - Elms



Alfonso Tercero has been following a very interesting chain of emails concerning black

spot fungus on elms (*Ulmus* sp.) and how to treat it. He recommends the following link for details and treatment.

<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/pathology/pathcirc/pp189.pdf>



### Bonsai Trees and Supplies

Kurtis Smith ([flowerdude27@hotmail.com](mailto:flowerdude27@hotmail.com)), an AABS member, has extended an invitation to all AABS members to visit his greenhouse/nursery. Kurtis has indicated that one of the specialties of his shop is bonsai trees and supplies.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call The Flower Market directly at (734) 269-2660.

The Flower Market and Greenhouses  
8930 S. Custer Monroe, MI 48161

## Backyard Transformation

By Mike Simmons

I have created my own nightmare. As with so many special interests and hobbies sometimes they can become obsessions. Doubtfully, anyone involved with bonsai needs to be reminded of this.

If you are like me and I suspect many of you are, then you know that every visit to a nursery, greenhouse or even the gardening section of Wal-Mart know that you cannot help but view all plants as potential bonsai. This results in finding those deals you cannot resist and consequently another acquisition that must be “squeezed” into the already burgeoning collection.

I can officially say that I have reached a saturation point. I am out of space! More importantly to the health of my bonsai, I am out of space that has long enough durations of sunlight for healthy growth. In an attempt to increase growing area so that plants are not being tripped over I took an existing space that was not a productive spot in my backyard and transformed it. *[The space had previously been directly under a black walnut tree (Juglans nigra) and I suspect this contributed to the poor growth of plants in this area.]*



As can be seen from the before and after photos I was able to add 36 linear feet of bench space to house the various stages of bonsai in my collection. Total cost in lumber and hardware came to about \$150. This amount is a “best guess” as some of the materials were left over from previous projects.



Construction involved first taking down the old fence section that was in need of removal and then building the framework strong enough to hold the weight of potted trees.



Consolidation of many of the bonsai in my possession allows for greater “mindfulness” of health and growing conditions. Now I just need to figure out what to do with the rest of my bonsai!

## Bonsai Soil for Sale

By Alfonso Tercero (email correspondence)

Hello there!

I am sending you this email because after this past Saturday's workshop, I received an overwhelming amount of requests for more bonsai soil.

Given the fact that some nurseries are selling "bonsai soil" that I would not consider using in my own trees and that the limited soil sold at the Larch Forest workshop was a one time thing provided by AABS, I am taking the initiative of preparing and selling bonsai soil on my own. After carefully checking our AABS rules and with our president, I have been given the green light to be able to do so.

You can buy the soil with confidence as I will prepare it according to Jack and Bill's "magic formula" to ensure you get the best quality possible. Also, you will be able to further help the club, as 10% of the proceeds will be donated to AABS.

The bonsai soil will be available in one-gallon bags with two options: fine or coarse mix. If you are interested in ordering, simply email Alfonso Tercero at [bonsai\\_cho@att.net](mailto:bonsai_cho@att.net) and let me know how many bags you need and the type of mix. The price per bag is \$10. I can bring the bags of soil to AABS meetings or if you need it sooner, we can meet at Matthaei on Tuesdays between 12 and 4 pm. (greenhouse #5). Thank you in advance for your continued support.

## 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*(Only forthcoming events listed)*

---

### **June Meeting.....June 25th**

Tropical "Air-Layering", Improving Ramification on Deciduous Trees – Bill Heston and Jack Wikle.

---

### **July Meeting.....July 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Focusing on Maples – Connie Crancer, Cyril Grum, Bill Heston, Jack Wikle.

---

### **August Meeting.....Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>**

Pedro Morales Demonstration and Lecture on Ficus

---

### **August Workshop.....Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>**

Pedro Morales Workshop

---

### **AABS Club Auction.....Sept. 24th**

Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

---

### **2008 AABS Bonsai Show**

**Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday – Sunday**

Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Concurrent with the Flora & Fauna Show

---

### **October Meeting.....Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Problem Tree Review and Critique – Connie Crancer, Cyril Grum, Bill Heston, & Jack Wikle.

---

### **AABS Banquet & Mini-Exhibit**

**Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> Monday**

Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

---

### **December – NO MEETINGS**

**Happy Holidays!**

---

**NOTE: Always check the AABS website for changes and added details to this calendar.**

<http://annarborbonsaisociety.org>

## 2008 AABS EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President:** Bill Heston (734) 662-8699

**Vice-President:** Alfonso Tercero (734) 216-2708

**Program Chair:** Alfonso Tercero (734) 216-2708

**Corresponding Secretary:** Mike Simmons (517) 896-0076

**Recording Secretary:** Paul Kulesa

**Publicity Chair:** Bill Cavers (248) 477-0665

**Treasurer:** Joan Wheeler (734) 485-6306

**Librarian:** Vicki Norfleet

**Past President:** Roger Gaede (517) 592-2249

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

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

**Show Chairs:** Hugh Danville (313) 455-7922 & Pete Douglas (313) 867-8644

## 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:** John Parks

**Ways and Means Chair:** John Parks

**Web Administration:** Mike Simmons

---

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society ([www.absbonsai.org](http://www.absbonsai.org)) and the Mid American Bonsai Alliance.

Contact AABS at: [aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com).

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: [owheeler5@hotmail.com](mailto:owheeler5@hotmail.com)

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

## FOR SALE OR WANTED

10% of all sales go to the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. AABS Society Members' ads are free to publish in the Newsletter.

Send the information of your items for sale or wanted to [aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto: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 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.

---

**Please note:** All Society members are required to give 10% of the total sales for any items that are sold at AABS monthly meetings to the Society.

The 10% fee will apply to all sales at AABS Meetings or through the AABS Newsletter.

Deadline for submissions to the Newsletter is the 5th of the month.

Please send your comments or documents to [aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com).

## **Acknowledgements:**

MANY THANKS to Paul Kulesa, Alfonso Tercero, and others who frequently contribute to the newsletter. It is very much appreciated.



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:



**Next AABS Club Meeting is Wednesday June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 ~**  
**Tropical "Air-Layering", Improving Ramification on Deciduous Trees**  
 – Bill Heston and Jack Wikle.  
**at 7:30 pm ~ Matthaei Botanic Gardens Auditorium**  
 (Socializing begins at 7:00pm)

*Visit us on the Web:*

<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

**Support our AABS Vendors:**

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

**BONSAI HOUSE**  
 Bonsai Plant & Gift  
 (734) 421-3434

8653 Inkster Road - Westland, Michigan 48185  
 On Inkster between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail

*Bonsai*  
*Plants, Pots, Tools, Soil, Supplies, Books*

**DOWNTOWN HOME & GARDEN**

210 S. Ashley 7:30 - 7 Mon.-Sat., 11-4 Sun. 662-8122

Artistic Miniature Trees & Plants

**American BONSAI**

1602 Rochester Road  
 Royal Oak, MI 48067  
 (248) 542-2421

Jim & Marcia Kelly - Proprietors

Hours: Tues. thru Friday, 11 to 6 - Saturday & Sunday, 12 to 4 - Closed Monday

**Tropical Treasures**  
 Koi - Water Plants - Pond Supplies

*Tokonoma Bonsai*

Bonsai Supplies - Granite Lanterns - Bamboo -  
 Joshua Roth Distributor

34190 S. Gratiot  
 Clinton Twp., MI (586) 791-6595

Call for Appointments,  
 Show Schedules, and  
 Appraisals, Special Orders

**Ken's World of Bonsai**  
 "If you want it, I can find it!"  
 Trees, Pots, & Accessories From Around The World  
 Buy • Sell • Trade

Ken Huth - 330-896-9800  
 P.O. Box 51  
 Green, OH 44232  
 Q: For More Info.

Demos & Workshops  
 Available at Your Club,  
 Home, Office, Party, Etc.  
 E-mail: [KensBonsaiWorld@aol.com](mailto:KensBonsaiWorld@aol.com)

Tree & Collection  
 Maintenance, Other  
 Services Available

**Telly's Greenhouse & Garden Center**

3301 John R. Road  
 Troy, Michigan  
 48063-5656  
 www.tellys.com

Phone: (248) 689-8735  
 Fax: (248) 689-8730  
 hector@tellys.com

Hector DeBrabant  
 Bonsai Instructor