

April 28th meeting – Bring-Your-Own-Tree workshop at the Flower Market:

This will take place April 28th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

We will set up tables in the studio and hoop house to ensure good ventilation and social distancing, and masks will be required. This workshop is open only to current members of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society and is free to attend.

During the workshop, Ghazi Zouaoui, long-time bonsai practitioner with extensive knowledge and experience, will be around to give attendees advice and guidance on their trees. Many AABS members know him from his work at The Flower Market. This workshop is suitable for beginner, intermediate, and advanced bonsai growers. If you have a tree to work on or if you would like to provide guidance and advice, please pre-register for this event:

Registration is required for the BYOT workshop in order to help us estimate the number of participants. Please use the link below to complete registration.

<https://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org/event/bring-your-own-tree-april-workshop/>



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Mark Hanner

Greetings –

April feels like the month that defines the sport of gardening in general, and bonsai in particular. Those of us who grow indoor plants that would really rather be outdoors, like begonias, mangaves, agaves, etc., are also trying to parse out the safe weather, temperature wise, for getting our trees out of their winter quarters. Living in Michigan, we know anything can happen in April and May, but the recent warm stretch has us getting everything out, and in the back of our minds, considering what might need to be done if a freak blizzard or cold snap blows through. Some 10 years or so ago, our hoop house was partially collapsed while we were out visiting Longwood Gardens on April 20, and back home in Otisville, they were getting 12" of snow! Sure hope we don't see anything like that this year.

I've been frequently referring back to my notes from our last presentation, and other conversations, with Ghazi, as spring tree work progresses. If you're interested in some specific tree suggestions, be sure you register for our April

'Bring Your Own Tree' session on the 28th, being held at The Flower Market. If you can provide help to others, please consider registering and lending a hand to the folks bringing trees in.

Hope to see you all soon,
Mark

Notes from the March 24th meeting with Ghazi Zouooui: Chris Kehrig

3/24/21 3rd AABS Bonsai Meeting

4/28/21 Next meeting at the Flower Market in the hoop house – Bring Your Own Bonsai for members only

5/26/21 Andrew Robson returns

5/27/21 Korean Hornbeam workshop cost TBD

6/24/21 Japanese Hornbeam workshop cost TBD

Ghazi presented Pines as Bonsai

Zoom connection with Ghazi was intermittent – may have missed some of the details

Most everyone in bonsai has a pine/s in their collection or tried one. There are over 100 species mainly in the northern hemisphere. They can grow where other trees have trouble with the cold and lack of water IE high altitude and rugged conditions.

Pines require well drained soil and plenty of sunshine. All pines require at least a few hours of direct sunlight. For the soil, a lava, pumice and akadama mix, well sifted, works well for drainage. Akadama retains moisture so reduce if pine is in wetter area.

There are 3 different types of pine: single flush short needle IE Scots Pine, single flush long needle IE Japanese White Pine / Ponderosa, and double flush pine IE Japanese Black Pine and Red Pine. The single flush, such as the Japanese White Pine, grow in the interior portion of the country in the mountains, not in the coastal area.

Pines in general don't require fertilization until the needles are hardened off towards Fall. If fertilized too early in season it will force longer needles. Hardened needles will not pull out easily. Pre-bonsai should be fed in Spring and Fall since they have less concern for longer

needles and need to push the growth. No fertilizer in summer and less water to avoid cooking the roots.

Springtime is when single flush long needle pines require water, but no fertilizer to avoid longer needles. Never decandle a single flush pine as this weakens the tree. Scots Pine can handle it better, but not year after year.

Pines are apically dominant in that the top will grow faster than the lower branches.

Double flush pines have 2 flushes of growth per season. The candles can be removed in Spring, but don't fertilize in Spring. Second flush in Fall is when to fertilize.

Summer is the time to leave the trees alone and just keep watered.

Fall is the time to clean old needles off and shorten or remove branches. This is also the time to fertilize generously. Organic fertilizer such as Cottonseed Meal works well. Liquid seaweed can be used as a spray for the foliage. Fall is also a good time to clean and preserve deadwood. When wiring, be careful of the bark. Save any bark that chunks off to glue back on.

Winter is a good time to expose the pines down to 25F before putting them away for the winter. High altitude such as Ponderosa Pine want some frost first before going into storage. Black Pines which can be grown in California don't require winterization as much.

Repotting should be done in Spring. Never bare root and leave half of the soil on the roots. You should avoid heavy manipulation during extreme heat or cold.

When asked what a good starter pine is it was answered unanimously with Scots pine. They have short needles, don't require a lot of work, and can be purchased reasonably.

WMBC April meeting available to AABS members:

The West Michigan Bonsai Club is making their meeting this month available to members of the AABS. William Valavanis (aka the Dean of Bonsai in the US) will be doing a presentation on How to Bring your Bonsai Tree to the

Next Level. After his presentation he will take us on a virtual tour of his garden. You don't want to miss this one. April 20th 6:30pm. Link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88585776400?pwd=b2NjNU5qT2lTY3lhb081Ynh2cFJhdz09&fbclid=IwAR3SEkherNsbGVc3sHSvCnoBGyFeL3gNvCSqsMJmMJOe1y6oPs43yev-VFs#success>

Membership

Will Faison

Greetings from Membership!

One day, we will all meet again in person, admire each other's trees, and be awed by the newfound delight in seeing facial expressions. Despite the uncertain beginnings this year as far as in-person events, we will be enacting dues again for 2021 as we ramp up pursuit of Zoom events, workshops, and guest speakers.

Dues can be paid via paypal on the AABS website ([link here](#)), or checks can be mailed to our new treasurer, Katie Norder. Her address is below. I would encourage members to pay via PayPal however, as that will streamline the process, especially as we continue to navigate everything remotely and electronically.

Katie Norder
Attn: AABS Membership
13143 Hadley Road
Gregory, MI, 48137

Bonsai Heresy by Michael Hagedorn

Club members may be interested in this new book now available by Michael Hagedorn. The following introduction to the book is an edited version of the one found at stonelantern.com, one of many places you can purchase the book.

Bjorn Bjorholm bonsai artist and educator, who like Michael Hagedorn apprenticed in Japan wrote...

"Not only does Michael dispel long-held bonsai myths,

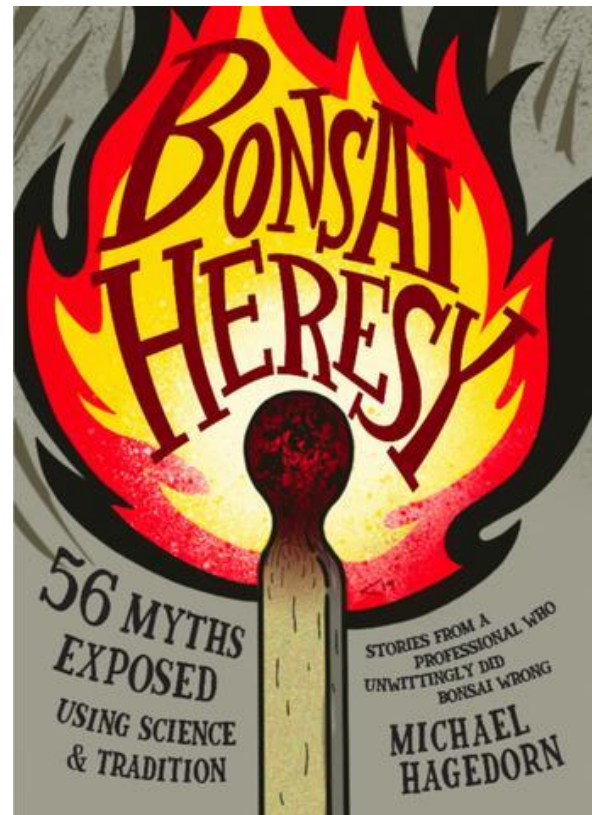
but he wonderfully weaves personal, often self-deprecating anecdotes into the mix.

Well written, deeply researched, and perfectly timed, Bonsai Heresy is a must-read for every bonsai enthusiast."

Michael Hagedorn has long been our go-to source for accurate and clear advice when it comes to bonsai and bonsai related questions. His skill and depth of knowledge, as well as his on-going innovation in the art of bonsai, place him among the very best of our North American bonsai artists, teachers and, needless to say, authors

Michael apprenticed with bonsai master Shinji Suzuki in Obuse, Japan from 2003-2006 and now resides and practices bonsai in Portland Oregon, where he founded his Crataegus Bonsai garden and the Portland Bonsai Village. Michael is also the Bonsai Consultant for the Portland Japanese Garden, teaches classes to students from around the world at his garden, and blogs weekly at www.crataegus.com.

Michael's first book Post-Dated: the Schooling of an Irreverent Bonsai Monk has long been a favorite and in our opinion is the best bonsai read in the English language... at least until Bonsai Heresy



Bonsai Heresy: Paperback, 5" x 7" 360 pages, color illustrations by Sergio Cuan

Ads in the Newsletter: 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.

Prizes for the Raffle: We are soliciting donations suitable for prizes to be raffled during each general meeting, and, for the Annual Bonsai Show Raffle. If you have a tree, bonsai pot, tool or anything else bonsai related, that you do not use anymore and is still in good condition, consider donating it to the Society. Please see Bill Struhar at any meeting, email Bill at wm.struhar@mail.com or call (586) 468-7169.

Club Logo Now Available: we will embroider the club logo on your garment for \$12 (plus modest additional charge for lined garments).

The logo comes in two forms; light green tree on dark green background, or dark green tree on light green background, with a border on both combinations and AABS lettering and Chinese characters with appropriate contrasting color depending upon the garment color.

Bring your garment in a clear plastic bag to a meeting, select your colors, pre-pay Bill Struhar, and your garment will be ready one or two meetings later. (The vendor may require a minimum of five garments per order)

2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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AABS AD-HOC COMMITTEES

The AABS President is an ex-officio member of all committees with the exception of the Nomination Committee.

Fund Raising: William Struhar

Web Administration: Bob Bauer

Nomination Committee:

Show Committee: Ron Milostan and Paul Kulesa

Annual Auction: Paul Kulesa

Membership dues are \$25. Please pay by check, written to Ann Arbor Bonsai Society or bring your credit card to the meeting and pay. AABS now accepts credit cards and paypal for membership fees and other AABS activities. Please talk with the Treasurer at the next meeting.

Katie Norder – Treasurer AABS
Attn: AABS Membership
13143 Hadley Road
Gregory, MI, 48137

AABonsaiSociety@gmail.com

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society: <http://absbonsai.org> and the Mid-American Bonsai Alliance: <http://mababonsai.org>




Ann Arbor Bonsai Society
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Visit us on the Web:

<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

Support Local Bonsai Vendors


Hours: Wed., Thurs. & Fri.: 11:00 am to 6:00 pm Sat., 1:30pm to 5:00pm
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