

**October Meeting:  
 Japan trip report - Wednesday October 25th**

Back in February of this year a few folks, including Jay Sinclair went on a trip to Japan arranged by Jack Sustic.

Jay will give a presentation of the trip. Others who took part in the trip may add to the presentation as well.



As always, the meeting will begin at 6:30 pm at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium and the program will start at 7:00 pm.

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**President’s Perspective  
 Mark Hanner**

Greetings-

As we are winding down our year, about to conclude another fine year of programs and workshops, it is fitting our final program is a presentation by Jay Sinclair, about the trip he took to Japan earlier in the year, led by Jack Sustic. Jay has been providing for our programs and workshops in recent years, and just last month retired from his role as Vice-President/Program Coordinator. Many thanks, Jay, for the fine work you’ve done for the club!

Meanwhile, Ellen Veselenak raised her hand to answer the call for assistance with club activities, and is our new VP/PC; thank you, Ellen, for stepping up to this job. Programs are a critical function of a club like ours, and it’s reassuring to know you are taking over this position.

Speaking of retiring, I am about to retire as Treasurer, thanks to another member offering to help out with a critical job, Peter Molesa. We still have some ‘i’s to dot and ‘t’s to cross with the bank, but we are getting closer to this transition. Thank you, Peter, for your willingness to help out with this important role.

Clubs are successful, or not, depending upon the

contributions of its members, and spreading the work out among 'many hands' lightens everyone's load, and creating a fun and interesting environment for the members. We still have a couple roles where the current occupants would like to step aside, and let someone new take over. At a minimum, we are looking for someone to handle the raffles, which add value and fun to the meetings, and someone to take over as Communications Secretary.

If you have been wondering how you might help our club continue to grow and prosper, please contact me, and we'll work something out ([mhanner@aol.com](mailto:mhanner@aol.com)).

Hope to see you all for our October meeting,  
Mark

## September Meeting Minutes

### Chris Kehrig

9/27/23 Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Notes Chris Kehrig

The annual show went well according to Kurt Smith

No Matthei trees were needed to fill in

~640 people came through the show

Jay Sinclair is moving to Director At Large

Ellen Veselenak is the new VP and program coordinator

Auction was reduced to a 5% surcharge – lowest ever

Most silent auction items since I have been a member

Live items:

Schefflera	\$40
Juniper	\$55
Blue pot	\$30
Hinoki Cypress	\$85
English Yew	\$155
Larch	\$65
Large pot	460
Quince	\$40
Narrow Leaf Ficus	\$45
Verigated Ficus	\$55
Gold Juniper	\$215
Honey Locust Slab	\$35
Lantana	\$70

Green glazed pot	\$40
Large Juniper	\$70
Square unglazed pot	\$40
Japanese Maple	\$40
Quince	\$30
Serissa	\$35
Weeping Cherry	\$50
Juniper Cascading	\$370
Tall Turntable	\$75
2 Azaleas	\$45
2 pots signed	\$70
Japanese Maples	\$230
Slab	\$40
English Oak	\$35
Japanese Maple	\$60
Narrow Leaf Fig	\$50
Pot	\$40
Forsythia	\$55
Yew	\$95





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## Summary of The AABS Annual Auction - A Perspective

*Paul Kulesa*

This past September, our annual auction took place at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. From my perspective the event was a qualified success. I hope purchasers were pleased with their purchases and the sellers were happy with their sales.

Those who volunteered to set up and take down the auditorium and those who assisted with administration of the auction are responsible for the success of the program. They made the program a seamless positive experience for our members and visitors. THANKS, I am grateful for your assistance.

Our annual auction is a service for our members and visitors. I have held the understanding that this program should be self funding, covering the cost to operate the program with a minimum of additional money drawn from the membership to add to the club's general fund. The relevant news of this auction involved the seller's surcharge, a reduction from 10% to 5%. Mark Hanner, our President, and Jay Sinclair, our Vice President, were responsible for this reduction.

Some information that may be interesting includes

- There were fifty-one buyers
- Twenty-one sellers
- Thirty-three persons purchased items at auction
- There were 33 live auction items
- And sixty-one silent auction items

If the buyers, sellers and anyone for that matter, has a question or concern, please contact me. In addition I will be in the auditorium prior to the October meeting to answer your questions.

Paul Kulesa  
kulesap@gmail.com

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## Membership News

### Becky Hanner

Be sure to keep your newsletters coming, by renewing your dues for 2023. You can visit our website, and use PayPal, or see me at a meeting, where we can take a credit card, or send your check to: Membership, 10414 Oak Rd., Otisville, MI 48463.

Thanks so much!

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**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](mailto:wm.struhar@mail.com) or call (586) 468-7169.

**Club Logo Now Available:** we will embroider the club logo on your garment for \$15 (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)

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## 2023 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President ..... Mark Hanner  
Vice President/Program Coordinator..... Ellen Veselenak

Past President ..... Ron Milostan  
Recording Secretary ..... Chris Kehrig  
Show Chair ..... Kurt Smith  
Treasurer ..... Mark Hanner  
Communications & Marketing ..... Lita Smith  
Webmaster..... Jay Whitehouse  
Membership Coordinator ..... Becky Hanner  
Newsletter Editor ..... Don Wenzel  
Director – Publicity ..... Dana Hermann  
Directors at Large ..... Denise Bellinger and Mike Bruneau

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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

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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  
 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9741


*Visit us on the Web:*

<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

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