

**February Meeting:  
 Repotting and Soils with Jonas Dupuich -  
 Wednesday February 28th**

This will be a Hybrid Zoom meeting – join us in person at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens (room next to the gift shop), Jonas will be joining virtually from Zoom to present.

Taken from Bonsai Tonight -

I got my start in bonsai over twenty years ago when I met Boon Manakitivipart while working at my family's nursery. After seeing a tree he had styled – a neglected black pine – I was hooked.

That experience kicked off more than two decades of study with Boon. During that time, I became a founding member of his club, Bay Island Bonsai, and I started this website – the Bonsai Tonight Blog.

In 2015, my hobby became my profession. I now teach classes, work on trees, and run a small bonsai business full-time.

My primary aim in bonsai is the same now as it was more than twenty years ago: to help as many people as possible appreciate beautiful bonsai.



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-

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming meeting, and getting a great seasonal schedule started. Ellen Veselenak, VP/Program Coordinator, has a good-looking lineup for the year. February will be one of our collaborative meetings, part-Zoom, part real-world, with the link available for those that can’t make the trip. February has been like that in recent years, but this year, hard to know!

We held a zoom board meeting early January, and looked at some issues for improvement ahead. One area involves subtle changes for the presentation of our annual show, including repainting the stands used for the trees not displayed on tables, and background color for the drapes around the room. Still thinking on these. Another item which was determined was increasing the annual dues, from \$25 to \$30, taking effect for 2025. Speaker fees and expenses have grown, and dues have remained the same forever. We rejected increasing annual show fees, leaving that at \$3.

At the time of writing, I’m almost recuperated from a nasty cat bite infection, and a tad foggy, so I’ll close this out. It will be great to see you all soon!

## October Meeting Minutes

Chris Kehrig

10/25/23 Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Notes Chris Kehrig

1 new person in attendance  
Recent audit went well  
Peter Molesa is the new treasurer  
Rick McCoy taking over the raffle from Bill  
Last meeting of the year / Next meeting is Feb 28  
Jay Sinclair presented on trip to Japan from Feb 2023  
He went with Tim Cox, Kurt and Lita Smith, and Jack Sustic  
14 hour flight to Japan  
First stop was Kokofu-Ten & Omiya Bonsai village show with host Mr Toru Suzuki  
Around 200 trees with many of them being Black Pines  
The Quince were in bloom  
Deciduous trees were in silhouette  
Trees are in the show for 2 weeks  
A Suisake stone show was also going on  
The vendors at The Green Club are a few blocks away  
Omiya Bonsai Museum was next  
They had indoor/outdoor exhibits with very old trees  
Fuyo-En Horoshi Takeyama Nursery had some for sale  
They also had the famous Ascending Dragon tree on display  
Kimura Bonsai Garden had everything out on benches during Feb  
The famous slanted tree forest was there  
Pines with lots of deadwood  
They were not able to view the production area, but were shown the koi  
Rows of amazing trees  
Shunkaen Bonsai Museum like many others moved into country years ago, but Tokyo has caught up  
Omiya had plenty of Ginkos  
Food was great with combo of meats, fish, and vegetables  
Nice presentation of steamed clams and beer  
Kowagoe was touristy  
Had a festival museum  
Homes have sculpted landscapes

They visited the Hikawa Shrine where wishes are left on cards

Final day

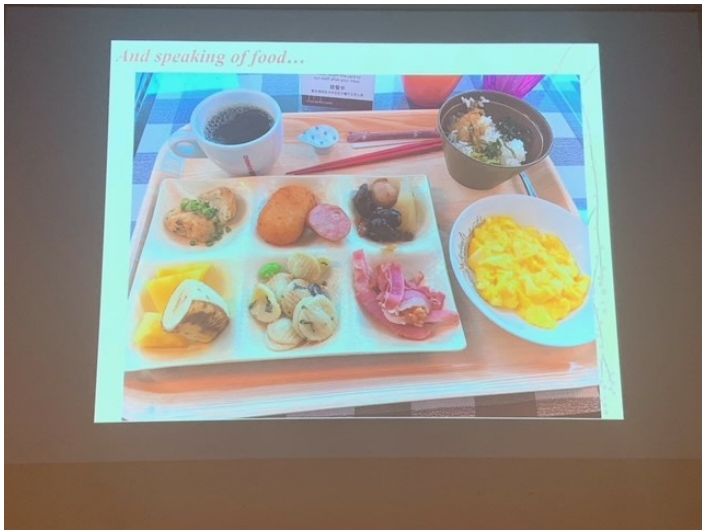
Rode the bullet train which is on time and fast

Saw the snow monkeys

Gift giving was everywhere and is encouraged

Great trip and wishes to return





## Tentative 2024 AABS Program Schedule Ellen Veselenak

Date	Speaker	Topic
2/28	Jonas Dupuich	Repotting and soils
3/27	Jason Parrish	Maple grafting or tropicals
4/24	Ryan Huston	Grow lights and tents
5/22	Francelle Nieto-Wiring	styling of Brodnick Pine or juniper
6/26	Mike Lane	TBD
7/24	John Eads	Deadwood
8/24-5		AABS SHOW
8/28	Mark Pasarello	Pots/kanji
9/25		Auction
1/23	Ted Bentley	Moss

Additional details and information about upcoming workshops will be provided when they are finalized.

## Membership News Becky Hanner

Be sure to keep your newsletters coming, by renewing your dues for 2024. 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!

**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)

## 2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President .....	Mark Hanner
Vice President/Program Coordinator.....	Ellen Veselenak
Past President .....	Ron Milostan
Recording Secretary .....	Chris Kehrig
Show Chair .....	Kurt Smith
Treasurer .....	Peter Molesa
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

## **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  
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*Visit us on the Web:*

<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

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