

**August Meeting:
Wednesday August 28th
Bonsai & Kusamono Pots
With Mark Passarello**

Mark will be discussing bonsai and kusamono pots. He is an active member of the Columbus Bonsai Society and is currently its President. He has also taken on pottery in recent years (Ancient Art Bonsai). Columbus Monthly wrote an article about Mark earlier this year. You can learn more about him there. Here is the [link](#) to that article.



We will continue with an early session ahead of the standard meeting for less experienced members to bring a tree and get advice and suggestions from more experienced members. This will begin at 6 pm.

The regular meeting will begin in the Matthaei auditorium starting at 7:00 pm.

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**President’s Perspective
Mark Hanner**

Greetings- What a great summer for bonsai in our area! Club members have been helping, and being involved in, a variety of terrific events, and we still have our annual show to look forward to. The Bonsai at the Zoo, our first collaboration with the Detroit Zoo, was a huge success, with 599 visitors counted going through the show room. Over 25 trees were displayed, generating lots of questions and discussions with children and adults enjoying the show. The workshops saw 34 people take part, and many of our members helped them trim their trees afterwards. And a large group of members did demonstrations through the day, with crowds of people watching, and more questions! Many smiles that day, and many thanks to all the members who helped with this fine event! Kudos to Bob Bauer for heading up the committee to tackle all the first-time-event issues!

Our annual show is next up, on August 24-25, from 10:00-4:00; Kurt Smith and Mike Bruneau have been working hard on preparing for the show, and I’m hoping everyone can attend, and those who can help, will find a way to do so. We still need a few folks to collect admission fees at the door, a few folks to bring trees and tools and help with the demonstrations, a few members to wear their name tags and be available on the show room to answer

questions, and, of course, members to register and bring a tree or two!

If you can help at the admission table, or bring a tree for demos, please email Mike at: theypsigypsy@yahoo.com. Trees must be registered by Wednesday, August 21, by completing the form Kurt emailed out to the membership, and sending it to him at: flowerdude27@hotmail.com. Or, take a photo of your completed form and message it to him at: 734-755-1160.

Our August meeting falls after the show this year, and should be a good program, on bonsai and kusamono pots, presented by Mark Passerello. Tree questions start at 6:00, raffle tickets available start at 6:00 (the last opportunity to get your tickets for the ponderosa pine from our earlier meeting), and program starts at 7:00.

One concluding note- looking ahead to the end of the year, I will be stepping down as club president, after a tad over 4 highly enjoyable years. I also need to hand over the treasurer's job to a new person, who can help the club by handling this role. And my wonderful wife and companion in bonsai life, Becky, is stepping down from Membership Coordinator. Please give some thought to how you can help the club continue to grow and succeed, by joining the board and filling one of these roles!

See you all soon,
Mark

July Meeting Minutes

Chris Kehrig

July 24th, 2024

AABS June Meeting

3 new members in attendance

Paul mentioned that the Aug 24th, 25th show needs volunteers and the auction is on Sept 25th

Bob provided directions for Bonsai at the Zoo show that took place July 27th

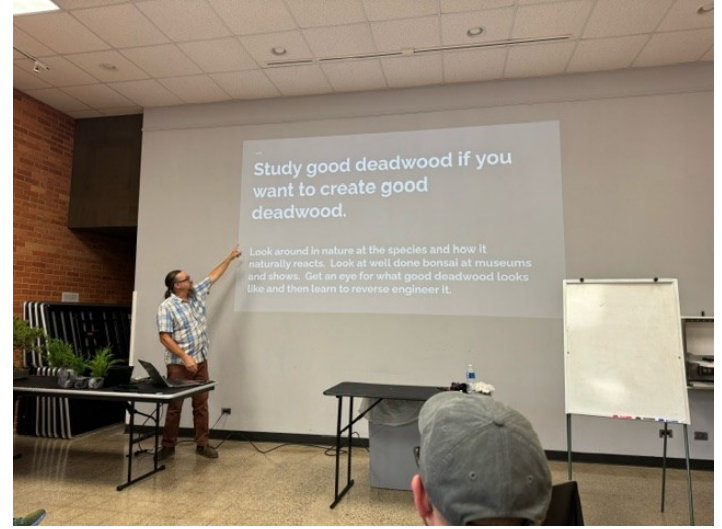
John said the Art of Bonsai was another success and thanks to all that attended

Happy Little Trees took place at Ann Arbor Library on July 28th

Cranbrook Japanese exhibit taking place on August 11th

John Eads from Left Coast Bonsai presented on Deadwood

John Eads Ann Arbor July 2024



Our August Bonsai Show !!!!!

Our club's show is now less than 2 weeks away, Saturday and Sunday, August 24th and 25th. You should have already received an email explaining the process for entering a tree, as well as a description of volunteer opportunities to help assure we have a smooth running, fun event for everyone.

For further information about entering your trees and volunteering – and anything else about the show, go to the webpage describing all the details –

<https://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org/2024-annual-show/>

The 2024 AABS Auction

Paul Kulesa

This is August and that means the return of our annual auction for bonsai and bonsai related items is fast approaching. This is a great opportunity to lighten your stock of bonsai containers, bonsai, pre-bonsai and all sorts of bonsai related materials. The corollary is that there will be plenty of bonsai and related material for you to purchase and add to your collection at this auction.

Members are invited to sell bonsai and bonsai related items at this auction. Offering items for auction is reserved for members of the Society. Of course, all are welcome to bid on items at this auction. The auction will be conducted in two formats, a silent auction and the live auction.

The success of our auction depends on assistance provided by our members. Help is needed for room setup and tear down, record keeping during the auction, registration of buyers and sellers and participation in the auction process. If you can help with the administration of the auction, contact Paul Kulesa at kulesap@gmail.com

In broad terms, the auction schedule is found below.

- 5:30 PM Setup of the auction floor - setting up table and chairs.
- 6 - 7 PM Registration of Buyers, Sellers and auction items.
- 6:30 PM The Silent Auction begins
- 7:00 PM The business meeting begins (10-15 minutes).
- 7:15 PM The Silent Auction resumes.
- 7:30 PM The Silent Auction wraps up and the Live Auction begins.

When the live auction wraps up, payment for auction purchases will begin. The treasurer will accept your credit card for payment, along with a check and US currency. There are no provisions to accept payment for purchases prior to the conclusion of the auction. To eliminate the crush of purchasers wishing to pay *right*

now, buyers will be called in succession by their Buyer ID Number, starting with #1.

Additional information and forms will be delivered by email.

Growing with Trees

Jack Wikle

This title now seems completely appropriate in summarizing my 59 year involvement with bonsai art and my membership in our Ann Arbor Bonsai Society since I joined early in 1974 (50 years ago).

As I remember, there were seven people present at the first meeting I attended who were trying to decide whether to continue meeting or disband since the man who had been serving as president was moving on, I think to another state.

After getting home and giving the situation a lot of thought I realized traveling to Ann Arbor for meetings would be easier and far less time consuming than the drives I had been making to East Lansing to attend meetings of the now long disbanded Bonsai Society of Michigan (first bonsai society in this state). So I called one of the Ann Arbor people I'd met and told her that if they could find someone to be president, I would be willing to accept the responsibilities of vice president and program chairman. Betty Anne Duff (the one individual I feel comfortable in naming, because there are so many I could point to) did accept the presidency responsibility and I did programming for some six years in those early days. This began a long cycle of intermittent growth spurts accompanied by a lot of group effort, in growing our Society to today's reality.

I expect to continue my personal support for our Ann Arbor Society but, necessarily, from a distance. As many readers already know, I moved in mid-July from the home in Tecumseh, where my wife, Jeannine, and I lived for 56 years until her passing last October, to a small apartment in Washington Woods a City of Midland senior living facility. This move was made to bring me closer to my daughter and son-in-law who have been Midland residents for years.

In the mid 1960's, when I first began experimenting with bonsai culture as a horticulturist with a long interest in trees, my thinking was that I would learn a lot about trees

and how they grow, and how to help them grow. That did happen but what also happened, almost completely unanticipated, was close involvement with interesting, enthusiastic, people, some who have become very close friends, and who I never would have met but for my personal bonsai involvement. Over time, a realization grew that, in many ways, the process of my bonsai experiment had become more important than the product. I was helping trees grow, but those trees were helping me grow in return.

I also expect to continue my longtime involvement with the display of bonsai at Michigan State University's Hidden Lake Gardens which began when I was fortunate enough to be hired as that Gardens' first Education Specialist. Being deserving of support was always a goal at HLG and the bonsai display there has matured over the years to become a very positive statement about bonsai art and a destination for visiting bonsai enthusiasts. To learn more about bonsai at Hidden Lake Gardens and its need for support, seek out our independent fund raising website jackwiklebonsailegacy.com

With feet in both bonsai worlds, I have also been heavily involved with the coming to reality of a bonsai garden open to the public here at Matthaei Botanical Gardens where this Society has always met. The University of Michigan and this facility have in my mind been hugely important in growing the dream of ongoing display of bonsai here into the reality of today's outstanding display of its outstanding collection.

Of course the some two and a half hour travel time from Midland to Ann Arbor and on to Hidden Lake Gardens in the Irish Hills, not to mention the infirmities that come with aging, will limit my direct interaction, but I expect to continue as a supporter of bonsai activity in those locations and all other public bonsai display, anywhere access by the public is ongoing.

Fortunately, I do have some longtime bonsai friends living in Midland and nearby who I expect to be interacting with, meeting regularly in a study group environment.

For those who would like to maintain contact, the familiar phone numbers (517-423-7893 and 517-662-0263) will still work. Outlook email access will eventually become unavailable and email to me will need to be addressed to wiklejack@gmail.com. My Washington Woods mailing address is:

821 Cambridge St., Apt. 375,
Midland, MI 48642.

Once again, I need to express my deepest appreciation to all of the many individuals who have helped me so much over the years as we have grown together in the emergence of bonsai culture as a significant art form regionally, nationally and internationally.

2024 AABS Program Schedule

Ellen Veselenak

Date	Speaker	Topic
8/24-5		AABS SHOW
8/28	Mark Pasarello	Pots/kanji
9/25		Auction
10/23	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 always 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 Rick McCoy at any meeting or email him at imrickmccoy@yahoo.com

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 Rick McCoy, 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

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Raffle Coordinator Rick McCoy
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: Rick McCoy

Web Administration: Bob Bauer

Nomination Committee:

Show Committee: Kurt Smith and Mike Bruneau

Annual Auction: Paul Kulesa

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>

Support Local Bonsai Vendors

Hours: Wed., Thurs. & Fri.; 11:00 am to 6:00 pm Sat., 1:30pm to 5:00pm
 CLOSED: Sunday, Monday & Tuesday

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