

**September Meeting:  
 The 2024 AABS Auction!!!  
 Wednesday September 25th  
 Held in the Auditorium of MBG**

This is September and that means the return of our annual auction for bonsai and bonsai related items. This is a great opportunity to lighten your stock of bonsai containers, bonsai, pre-bonsai and 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.

After many years acting as the auctioneer, Tom McCue has asked to retire from the position. I want to thank Tom for his many years of service to the club. Following a search to replace the auctioneer, I have been able to convince a long time club member to take on the position of auctioneer;



Cyril Grum - This Year's Auctioneer  
 (continued on page 2)

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**President's Perspective  
 Mark Hanner**

Greetings- What a fabulous bonsai season 2024 has presented, and the occasional fall temperatures telling us it's coming to an end pretty soon. I, for one, look forward to wrapping up a season with the garden, and the bonsai, and taking the break which the winter season provides. One way to conclude the season is participating in our club's annual auction, as buyer and/or seller; either picking up trees and pots to contemplate over the winter break, or lightening our load of things, and passing them along to someone else. See the program article for further information.

This October, we have our election of board members, which is an opportunity to remind everyone my term as president is coming to an end. It has been a great pleasure serving as your president, and working with such a fine group on our board, but this, too, has reached the end point. If you have been thinking this would be a good time to step forward and help run the club's meetings and assist with activities, you are right! Please contact me with any questions, or to volunteer for this role.

Brian Shepard recently offered to take over as Treasurer, and was approved by the board, so one spot has been filled. Thanks so much, Brian! We still have an opening as Membership Coordinator, since Becky Hanner is retiring

from this job at the end of our season.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon,  
Mark

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## ***Auction information continued...***

The success of our auction depends on assistance provided by our members. If you can help with the administration of the auction, contact Paul Kulesa at [kulesap@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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## ***August Meeting Minutes*** ***Chris Kehrig***

August 28th, 2024                      AABS August Meeting

6 new members in attendance

11 people joined at the show

653 people attended the show

Next month is the auction

Mark Passarelli presented on Clay and Bonsai

He started in bonsai 35 years ago

Mark has been influenced by Jack Wikle

Mark has always liked small bonsai trees

Raw clay is basically mud

It has plasticity and needs to be heated for durability

Purchased clay is consistent

Terra Cotta pots are not durable and are absorbent

Stoneware has 1% or less absorbency

Vitrified pots are highly durable

Cones are a standardized way to measure temperature in a kiln

Forming can be done by hand or mold

Slip molding and press molding

Wheel throwing and hand slabbed

Mark likes visible seems for interest and keep the pots from being the same

Kiln can be wood, gas, or electric

Clay is unpredictable when firing

Wood kiln has variables that can give interesting results in the pot

Electric is reliable and accessible

Pots can be masculine IE square, rugged texture or feminine IE round and glazed

Kusamano is mixed plantings and displayed on own

Accent plants are usually single plants

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# Trudy Bulkley, 1942 – 2024

by Jack Wikle

Trudy Bulkley, 1942-2024

Many of us in the bonsai community are saddened by the sudden loss, Sunday, August 18, 2024 of Trudy Bulkley

Trudy's hands-on involvement in bonsai art began some 34 years ago when she and her husband, Jonathan, participated in a series of introductory bonsai classes at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. She went on to become a member and strong supporter of our Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. For years she was part of the last minutes-before-show-opening, watering and "touch up" team

Trudy was also co-author of at least one article published in the American Bonsai Society's Quarterly Journal, and she contributed wording and editorial skills regularly in generating much of locally distributed writing about bonsai art.

Over time, Trudy became an active bonsai volunteer at Michigan State University's Hidden Lake Gardens for a number of years. Most recently, she served on the five member, Jack Wikle Bonsai Legacy Fund Steering Committee, a fundraising and endowment building group supporting bonsai display and related programming at the Gardens.

Always a delight to associate with and ultimately a treasured friend to most people she interacted with, Trudy also was owner/ caregiver for some very nice bonsai, truly works of art, personal statements, she was justifiably proud of.



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## 2024 AABS Program Schedule

Ellen Veselenak

Date	Speaker	Topic
9/25		Auction
10/23	Ted Bentley	Moss

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

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## 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!

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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 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](mailto: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)

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## 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 ..... Brian Shepard  
Communications & Marketing ..... Lita Smith  
Webmaster..... Jay Whitehouse  
Membership Coordinator ..... Becky Hanner  
Raffle Coordinator ..... Rick McCoy  
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:** Rick McCoy

**Web Administration:** Bob Bauer

**Nomination Committee:**

**Show Committee:** Kurt Smith and Mike Bruneau

**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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