

NEXT CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday, October 18th, 2017

Note - this is a week earlier than usual!

Walter Pall spent Wednesday 10/11 at Matthaei in a joint meeting of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society and Four Seasons Bonsai Club. The theme was Tree Inspiration. He spent over two hours providing comments and insights into improving the dozens of trees brought by members of both clubs. Thank you Walter!



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE:

Ron Milostan

Well I really loved the auction. Went fast and furious. Lots of trees, pots and stones and art pieces. One of our top auctions. \$10 dollar trees to \$400 dollar trees. Remember early meeting (Oct 18) this month. Guest speaker and demo.

October what to do... Well here is my list.

Clear and ready my wintering area for trees. Get Decon pellets.

Remove all wire from this summer as needed. Pay close attention to wire near the branching intersections since faster swelling occurs here.

To facilitate easier wiring of deciduous trees remove all leaves.

Wire all trees. There is rarely a bonsai tree that does not improve with some wire all the time. It is my opinion that if you did not wire a particular tree this year you have wasted another growing season of that tree. It's not necessary to wire the total tree but surely a branch or two needs to be adjusted.

Even show trees have wire on them. Sometimes it is removed for the show but you can be assured it was replaced right after the show.

This is also a very advantageous time to fertilize the tree to encourage root growth during the fall and winter. Also a good time to remove end buds on every branch to encourage spring back budding.

Pines need old needle removal and some new needle removal to adjust the growth in weaker areas.

Write down what you did this fall and what is needed for that tree next spring. Fertilizer (not all trees get a spring shot of fertilizer) Why not. Ask me...?? Repot?? New pot?? Using Systemic??? What kind?? Insect and or Fungicide?? Why?? When to apply?? Use our Facebook Page and ask me these questions.

October Meeting preview By Peggy Kubitz

Mauro Stemberger

What a privilege to have Mauro Stemberger as our October speaker! A visit to YouTube will introduce you to this amazing bonsai artist, as he has many worthwhile videos for you to view! He has been a recognized Bonsai Club International Bonsai Instructor since 2008. Mauro Stemberger was born in Feltre, Italy and became mesmerized by the art of bonsai in his early teens. The local Bonsai Club Feltre fueled his interest. He continued to improve his interest in bonsai, under the guidance of mentors he met there, while studying architecture at the IUAV University in Venice.

When he was only 27, he founded the Italian Bonsai Dream, a workshop place where enthusiasts could work and share their passion for bonsai. Later, he graduated and began working as an architect. From 2008 to 2010 he was President of the Italian Bonsai Association and director of their bonsai magazine.

Mauro Stemberger has written countless articles and appeared at many events worldwide. He was awarded many photography recognitions, and is an accomplished artist in this realm, as well. During the past several years, he has been doing demonstrations and workshops all over the world. He has a fondness for conifers and especially Larch. He is mindful of the difficult task in perfecting a bonsai within the short time span of human life. That is why he feels honored to appreciate this living art! We are

also honored to have him present with us at our October meeting!

(A note to the membership - We still don't have a recording secretary, so if you'd like to get a little more involved in the club, this would be a great way to do it. Just let Ron Milostan know, or let us know at the next meeting).

Our Annual Auction by Paul Kulesa

This year's auction was (from my perspective) as successful as any recent auction. The proceeds from this auction will fund future programs for the membership and visitors. A summary of statistics about the auction is a great place to start describing this success.

- There were 14 members who offered 57 items for the live auction and 45 items for the silent auction.
- There were 47 persons who registered as auction buyers – 31 of those purchased something at the auction.
- There were 10 members who assisted with the auction operations.
- The *Bill Heston Estate* donated all proceeds from the sale of bonsai related items to the AABS.
- Ron Milostan sold a handful of material leftover from AABS Bonsai Workshops with all proceeds returned to the AABS operations fund.

Buyers and sellers of bonsai and bonsai related items are part of what makes this annual event a success. This year there were several members who worked hard to see that this event proceeded smoothly. Working behind the scene were members who gave their time to ensure the auction succeeded. We should give these members our thanks.

Aaron Binns, John Cerovski, Michael Field, Hannelore Hughes, Tom McCue, Andy Miller, Tamara Milostan, Jay Sinclair, Bill Struhar and Vince Vitale (and his spouse). In addition there were un-named many who help put away tables and chairs following the auction.

THANKS!

UP FOR DEBATE:

By Aaron J. Binns

Fall is No Time To Rest

Fall is here once again. You should take time to enjoy the cool weather, admire the beauty of a maple tree, and observe the squirrels frantically trying to collect all of the acorns that litter your yard. Sit outside with a lemonade or a Coca Cola and breath it all in. Personally, I love visiting the orchard. There is nothing better than a sugar coated cider mill doughnut fresh from the bakery and still warm to the touch. Whatever you do... don't stop working on your trees! Not yet anyway.

There are a handful of chores that I perform every fall and with the exception of spring there is no busier time of year. In fact, with a bit of planning you can use the fall to reduce your work load come spring. First, don't miss the opportunity to remove large branches from variety that may lose too much sap at other times of year. Pines are the prime example of this but I also remove large branches from spruce. Other varieties (like apple) can handle the removal of large branches at other times of the year, but prefer the fall. You should consult your favorite Bonsai book for each species you own to determine if there are advantages to pruning the trees in your collection in the fall.

Wire, wire, wire... especially pines. All trees benefit from wire but none so much as pines. Since you are making design decisions by pruning unnecessary growth you should also take time to fully wire and shape your pines. Since wiring is almost impossible when a tree is fully leafed out, take advantage of the fact that your deciduous trees will soon be bare. Remember, any work you can do now will reduce the number of chores that need to be done in spring. One word of caution though; be very careful not to destroy the buds that your trees have already formed.

I also find it absolutely necessary to work my tropical trees in the fall. First, since I keep my tropicals outdoors in the summer and my wife doesn't love it when I bring them back inside with bugs... I spray them with a general insecticide, at least twice with one week in between applications. I keep my tropicals close to a window but supplement with fluorescent light throughout the winter

months. They don't always have an easy time with dark Michigan winters. Since I have limited space underneath my lights, I make sure none of my trees need to be trimmed before I bring them in. Many trees will drop some leaves when they are moved and it is better to remove unwanted branches and larger leaves then to allow the tree to choose a branch to sacrifice.

One last word of advice. Start thinking about winter protection now. Get everything ready because you will undoubtedly wait to the last moment and be forced to put your trees away in the beginning of a freezing rain. When that happens you want to be able to quickly get the trees put up so you can go inside and drink hot cocoa. (Not that that has ever happened to me.)

FOR SALE OR WANTED:

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)

2017 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

Visit us on the Web:

<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

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 for membership fees and other AABS activities. Please talk with the Treasurer at the next meeting.

Tamara Milostan – Treasurer AABS
4228 Highcrest Dr.
Brighton, Michigan 48116

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>

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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