



AABS February Monthly Meeting

presents

Julian Adams

Presentation ~ "The Art of Bonsai"

7:30pm at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium.

Join fellow AABS Members, new and returning, to see, hear and listen to Julian Adams discuss the "Art of Bonsai". Julian Adams will be visiting with the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society from Lynchburg, VA. He will provide an interactive presentation for those gathered.

To learn more about Julian Adams visit his website at:

<http://www.adamsbonsai.com/>



Julian Adams seen here pruning an Azalea

Upcoming Events

--Feb. 25th, 2009, 7:30pm Monthly AABS Meeting
Invited Guest Speaker - Julian Adams - Presentation on "The Art of Bonsai" at the MBG Auditorium.

-- February/March - Beginner/Intermediate Bonsai Classes - Feb. 28th, Mar. 7th, & Mar. 14th, 2009

Very informative classes for all levels. (Registration required: Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net)

-- March 27th, 2009, 7:30 Monthly AABS Meeting
Video Presentation of the Shinji Suzuki DVD with Bill Heston at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

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Notes From the Sidelines

Minutes of the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society
January 28, 2009
Paul Kulesa

Members began to gather in the Auditorium at Matthaei Botanical Gardens at 6:45 PM. Alfonso Tercero was completing the setup of the audio-video equipment to record the evening's events while Dustin Mann, Trudy Bulkley and Robert Bishop had brought in and displayed their bonsai for the evening's program. By time the meeting started several members brought in bonsai for evaluation. Mendocino cypress (Cupressus pigmaea) cuttings were available for purchase. The two-dozen (or so) potted cuttings were picked over



and became part of someone's future vision of a beautiful shohin well before the start of the meeting.

Bill Heston, President of the Society, brought the meeting to order at 7:30 PM welcoming thirty-eight members and three guests. A new member, Paul Sharkey, introduced himself and was welcomed by the membership.

Jack Wikle brought in at least four shohin bonsai for Show & Tell. These bonsai

included a flowering Suzuki azalea, and three Mendocino cypresses. Trudy Bulkley brought in a number of shohin bonsai for the evening's program and took time to highlight two. These bonsai included a Mendocino cypress and a Serissa foetida, a snow rose.

Alfonso Tercero, Program Chair, was introduced and discussed the February meeting plans and the upcoming Beginner and Intermediate classes beginning in late February. Registration is required for participation. Alfonso introduced a new program he is experimenting with this year. "Apprentices" to the monthly meeting and events is an opportunity for members to become involved in club activities and presentations. You can participate in this program and get additional information from Alfonso.

Annual membership dues are \$25. You can talk with the treasurer at the next monthly meeting or payment can be mailed to the treasurer. Check the web page for a mailing address.

Alfonso introduced the evening program and speakers, Trudy Bulkley, Dustin Mann and Robert Bishop. These speakers would discuss their experiences while raising indoor bonsai.

Dustin Mann, a resident ficus grower, began the evening program presenting a number of bonsai that he brought along to share with the membership. He also

brought along a number of photographs showing interesting trees encountered during trips to South America. While the evening program continued with Trudy and Robert, Dustin was going to work on a collected Green Island ficus. Dustin had been considering two designs for this ficus, a ficus on a rock and a banyan ficus with aerial roots. Dustin thought he could best accomplish his objectives by severing the root mass into two. Later in the evening, Dustin discovered this was not a workable plan.

Trudy was next to discuss her shohin bonsai. In addition to the bonsai, Trudy displayed the fluorescent lighting system that she uses for indoor bonsai. This system utilizes twin 40-watt fluorescent tubes to provide sixteen hours of light each day. The cool light tubes are changed annually and positioned just above the bonsai tops to maximize their effects. Several of the shohin bonsai on display included a false heather (Cuphea hyssopifolia), a Mendocino cypress, a snow rose (Serissa foetida) and two pyrachantha.

Robert Bishop discussed his experiences working with indoor materials. He presented photographs of his basement growing area and storage shelving, showing the growing conditions he works with to raise his bonsai. His ambient basement temperature is 70°F, a bit warm for some material. Robert likes to make

use of young material in mass plantings, known as forest or grove plantings.

Indoor materials are affected by a variety of pest that are controlled to varying degrees with environmental and chemical manipulation. Plant and insect problems can be best examined using a magnifying glass (10X power loupe).

Dustin explained that his tropical bonsai are kept indoors year-round. The benefits include less insect predation and uniform temperatures of 70°F and above. The biggest problem he has encountered with indoor bonsai is excessive watering.

Robert continued with a critique of several trees that were brought in by members. Some of the bonsai evaluated include a Fukien Tea plagued with a fungus fly, rosemary, an olive tree and a jade plant.

In summary . . . To enjoy and produce beautiful indoor bonsai there are several variables that you can manipulate within reason. These include soil mix, watering and the water used, ambient temperature, lighting and fertilizing. Experiment with these elements and you will enjoy and better understand your bonsai.

There is no excuse! With winter winding down, continue working with your indoor bonsai and begin planning your *Spring Opener*.

2009 Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Programs

The goal of educational programming this year will be to improve member's collections into more evolved and styled bonsai, hence the numerous BYOT (Bring Your Own Tree) events. In the past the focus has been in providing members with opportunities to acquire more trees through workshops, but after considerable feedback from AABS members, many do not know what to do with their trees after they have acquired them. More instruction has been requested for refinement techniques of pruning, wiring and general styling. Members will be encouraged to participate by bringing their trees for show and tell, critique and exposition.

Also in 2009, look forward to the Invited Guest Speakers. In June, AABS welcomes Roy Nagatoshi of California who owns Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, outside of Los Angeles. Mr Nagatoshi holds a Bachelors Degree in ornamental horticulture, and makes frequent appearances, teaching and demonstrating bonsai all over the U.S. Mr. Nagatoshi was credited for creating bonsai for a major motion picture, Karate Kid III, in 1990, and was also involved in a bonsai educational video professionally produced by Puget Sound Bonsai Association, with funding provided by Weyerhaeuser Company of Tacoma, Washington. Mr. Nagatoshi will provide a lecture and workshop using Shimpaku Juniper.

And, to round out the rest of the 2009 AABS Calendar of Events, you do not have to look very far to obtain quality instructors. AABS members possess a wealth of knowledge that they have selflessly shared for many years with other members. AABS members, Jack Wikle, Bill Heston, Connie Crancer, Cyril Grum and others will lead dynamic discussions, critiques and workshops on a variety of topics. Of special interest is a photography workshop with Carlos Diaz, a collecting trip to the Ypsilanti area, and a field trip to Gee Farms. Make note of these dates as you will not want to miss these unique events. Last, but certainly not least, the Annual Show and Auction are to be noted, promoted and definitely attended. All of these events and many others provide AABS members with numerous opportunities to fine tune their bonsai skills. Please join us!

Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Monthly Meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month with the exception of November and December. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the November meeting is the Society's Banquet and Mini-Exhibit, which is typically held earlier in the month. There are no meetings in December. **All Society Monthly Meetings are at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium beginning at 7:30pm with members usually gathering at 7:00pm to share bonsai stories.**

Also during the year there are classes, workshops, special events, an auction and the AABS Annual Bonsai Show. Locations and times are indicated below. In some instances additional fees may apply to classes, workshops or special events. Registrations and payment should be made ahead of time as space is often limited. Contact AABS Programming Director **Alfonso Tercero** at bonsai_cho@att.net or register at a monthly Society Meeting.

Use the following calendar to plan your attendance.

(Check this calendar before traveling. Dates and programming subject to change.)

2009 Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Calendar of Events

January AABS Monthly Meeting

Jan. 28th, 2009

Indoor Bonsai Critique - BYOT with Robert Bishop and Dustin Mann

Members are encouraged to bring their own trees for review and critique to help them improve overall design.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

February AABS Monthly Meeting

Feb. 25th, 2009

Julian Adams -- Guest Speaker -- "The Art of Bonsai"

Renown bonsai expert, Julian Adams, will visit the AABS from Lynchburg, VA. He will provide an interactive presentation to the audience about the "Art of Bonsai". To learn more about Julian Adams visit his website <http://www.adamsbonsai.com/>

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

February/March Beginner/Intermediate Bonsai Classes

Feb. 28th, Mar. 7th, & Mar. 14th, 2009

Registration Required To Register:

1. Send an email to **Alfonso Tercero** at **bonsai_cho@att.net**
2. Attend an AABS monthly meeting and sign up

Cost is 3 classes/\$25. Attend 1 or all 3 for the same price!

All Classes are on Saturdays, 9:00am - noon. Registered participants will be contacted in the event of inclement weather or other changes to the schedule.

Note regarding the Beginner/Intermediate Classes:

These are extremely informative sessions that allow time for questions, hands-on experience, expert advice and excellent teacher to student ratio. If you are new to bonsai these workshops are not to be missed. Even for those who have been growing bonsai for years may find many of these workshops worthwhile.

Feb. 28th - Beginner and Intermediate Classes, Part I -- with Connie Crancer

Introduction to Bonsai Theory & Culture . Participants are encouraged to bring small ficus, serissas, kingsville, etc from local bonsai vendors. How to keep a potted tree healthy. Pruning and potting demonstration. Suggestions regarding post-potting recovery for the new bonsai. Seating is limited. Registration required, see above.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Greenhouse #5

Park in the rear next to the greenhouses.

March 7th - Beginner and Intermediate Classes, Part II -- with Bill Heston.

Ongoing Care and Cultivation. Routine maintenance pruning, repotting, watering, wintering, etc... Bring Your Own Tree to receive advice and help on this hands-on class.

Seating is limited. Registration required, see above.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Greenhouse #5

Park in the rear next to the greenhouses

March 14th - Beginner and Intermediate Classes, Part III -- with Cyril Grum

Bonsai Design, Style and Wiring. After a review of basic styling concepts, including some "guidelines", participants will be assisted as needed in creating their own beginning bonsai to take home. Wiring techniques will be presented and practiced on trees.

Seating is limited. Registration required, see above.

**LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Greenhouse #5
Park in the rear next to the greenhouses**

March AABS Monthly Meeting

March 27th, 2009

Video Presentation of the Shinji Suzuki DVD with Bill Heston

A DVD chronicle of a year in the life of bonsai master Shinji Suzuki; how he faces and overcomes challenges in the creation of masterpiece bonsai and the preparation of a bonsai for Kokufu-Ten. Those who attended the Michael Hagedorn presentation in 2008 may recall that his 2 1/2 year apprenticeship was with Shinji Suzuki.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

April Special Event

Apr. 11th, 2009, 9am – 2pm

Collecting Trip to the Ypsilanti Area -- with Jack Wikle and Alfonso Tercero

A small group of members (10-12) will be allowed to collect wild trees from a member's property area. Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net to sign up.

LOCATION: To be disclosed during the prior monthly meeting of March 25.

No cost, but this event requires registration. (limited group size)

Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net

April AABS Monthly Meeting

Apr. 22nd, 2009

Challenging Trees Review -- with Eric Newton.

Members are encouraged to bring their most challenging trees for review and critique to help them improve overall design with Eric Newton. BYOT

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

May AABS Monthly Meeting

May 27th, 2009

Working Critique -- with Cyril Grum, Bill Heston, and Jack Wikle.

Members are encouraged to bring their most challenging trees for review and critique to help them improve overall design.

Pruning and wiring techniques will be demonstrated. BYO wire, tools, stand, etc. BYOT

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

June Special Event

June 13th, 2009

Annual Pot Luck / Picnic

Members are invited to this annual Potluck. Bring a dish to share. Contact Lois Vorrath for more details. Members are encouraged to bring a small bonsai to admire. **LOCATION: Lois' Home.** (*Map will be distributed personally during the previous monthly meeting on April 22.*) **No cost, but this event requires registration. Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net.**

June AABS Monthly Meeting

June 24th, 2009

Roy Nagatoshi – Guest Speaker – Demonstration – Shimpaku Juniper

Roy Nagatoshi of California owns Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, outside of Los Angeles, California. holds a Bachelor Degree in ornamental Horticulture, and makes frequent appearances, teaching and demonstrating bonsai all over the U.S. Roy was credited for creating bonsai for a major motion picture, Karate Kid III, in 1990, and was also involved in a bonsai educational video professionally produced by Puget Sound Bonsai Association, with funding provided by Weyerhaeuser Company of Tacoma, Washington. He is the President of the California Bonsai Society and a favorite of John Naka.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

June Workshop

June 25th, 2009 4pm-8pm

Roy Nagatoshi -- Workshop Leader -- Shimpaku Juniper.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Room 125

Cost - \$35.00 plus tree. This event requires registration.

Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net.

July Workshop

July 11th, 2009, 9am – noon

Learn How to Photograph your Bonsai -- Workshop with Carlos Diaz

Carlos Diaz, professional photographer, will lead a workshop to teach attendees how to best photograph their bonsai. He will explain the basics of light exposure, position of the camera, utilization of photographic material. Matthaei's bonsai trees will be photographed, but attendees are encouraged to bring their own tree as a model. BYOT

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Room 125 -- (NOTE: PARK IN BACKLOT BY GREENHOUSE #5.

THERE IS A WEDDING AT MATTHAEI THAT MORNING)

No cost, but this event requires registration.

Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net

**July AABS Monthly Meeting
July 22nd, 2009**

Focusing on Pines -- with Bill Heston and Paul Kulesa

Our in-house conifer experts will step up and graciously answer questions about pines. Members are encouraged to bring their conifer bonsai for show and tell, and to get expert advice in how to improve their tree. BYOT

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

**August AABS Monthly Meeting
Aug. 26th, 2009**

Prospecting Challenges and Opportunities -- with Jack Wikle.

Jack will talk about how to find and recognize useful bonsai material including where to look, what to look for and seasonal impact on availability.

Insights from the audience will be invited also.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

AABS ANNUAL BONSAI SHOW

August 29th – 30th, 2009, Saturday and Sunday

Location: Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Annual showing of Society member's trees. Over 100 beautiful trees from all sizes and species will be on display. Workshops, demonstrations and vendors, will be available. Visitors may vote in the People's Choice for their favorite bonsai selections from different categories

**September AABS Monthly Meeting and Auction
Sept. 23rd, 2009**

2009 AABS Club Auction

Annual auction event with club member's bonsai material: pre-bonsai material, tools, pots, magazines, etc at great prices. Members are encouraged to bring their surplus bonsai material to this meeting. Small items should be grouped to increase chances of selling. Provide as much information as possible. All sales are finals and payment is expected at the end of the auction. 10% donation to the AABS.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

**October Special Event
Oct. 10th, 2009, 9am – 1pm**

Visit to Gee Farms Nursery -- "Field Trip / Bargain Hunting" -- with Jack Wikle

AABS trip to Gee Farm searching material for bonsai at great prices. Jack Wikle will lead this little expedition to provide his expert advice in how to get the best tree at Gee Farm. Car pooling and travel details will be discussed at the September AABS Meeting.

LOCATION: Gee Farms, Stockbridge, MI

Map, directions, and much more at the Gee Farms Nursery Web site!

No cost, but this event requires registration.

Contact Alfonso Tercero at bonsai_cho@att.net

**October AABS Monthly Meeting
Oct. 28th, 2009**

Growing / Training Indoor Shohin Bonsai -- with Connie Crancer and Jack Wikle.

Perfect Opportunity to have an indoor bonsai to chase away the winter blues. BYOT for review, critique and help styling your tree with the expert guidance of our most experienced members.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

**November Banquet / Special Event
Nov. 9th, 2009, 6pm – 8pm**

2008 AABS Annual Banquet and Mini-Exhibit

Banquet provided by the AABS club and members, including a bonsai mini-exhibit per table. Raffles and other great prizes.

Members bringing their own trees for the mini-exhibit will receive courtesy raffle tickets.

LOCATION: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium

**No Meetings in December. Happy Holidays.
See you at the January 2010 Meeting!**





2009 AABS Membership Application
(Please Print Clearly)

Renewal

New Member

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Please indicate your preference below.

Save a tree! Send me the monthly newsletter by email. (Also published on the Web.)

I don't have email, send me the monthly newsletter by U.S. Mail.

Send me the monthly newsletter both by email and U.S. Mail.

Annual AABS membership dues are **\$25.00**. Pay by cash or check made out to the
Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

Bring this membership application and payment with you to the next Society meeting, or mail to:

Joan Wheeler
2295 N. Harris Road
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is on the Web at: <http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>
Questions or comments may be directed to: aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com

2008 AABS EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Bill Heston (734) 662-8699
Vice-President: Alfonso Tercero (734) 216-2708
Program Chair: Alfonso Tercero (734) 216-2708
Corresponding Secretary: Mike Simmons (517) 896-0076
Recording Secretary: Paul Kulesa
Publicity Chair: Bill Cavers (248) 477-0665
Treasurer: Joan Wheeler (734) 485-6306
Librarian: Vicki Norfleet
Past President: Roger Gaede (517) 592-2249
Show Chairs: Hugh Danville (313) 455-7922 & Pete Douglas (313) 867-8644

AABS AD-HOC COMMITTEES

The AABS President is exofficio member of all committees with the exception of the Nomination Committee.

Auction Chair: TBD
Membership Chair: TBD
Show Staging: Paul Kulesa
Demonstrations: John Parks
Ways and Means Chair: John Parks
Web Administration: Mike Simmons

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society (www.absbonsai.org) and the Mid American Bonsai Alliance.
Contact AABS at: aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com.

Society Membership is for the calendar year. Use the membership form on the Web and bring it to the next AABS meeting or mail it to:

Joan Wheeler
2295 North Harris
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
(734) 485-6306

Email: owheeler5@hotmail.com

Please make your check payable to AABS for \$25.00.

FOR SALE OR WANTED

10% of all sales go to the Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.
AABS Society Members' ads are free to publish in the Newsletter.

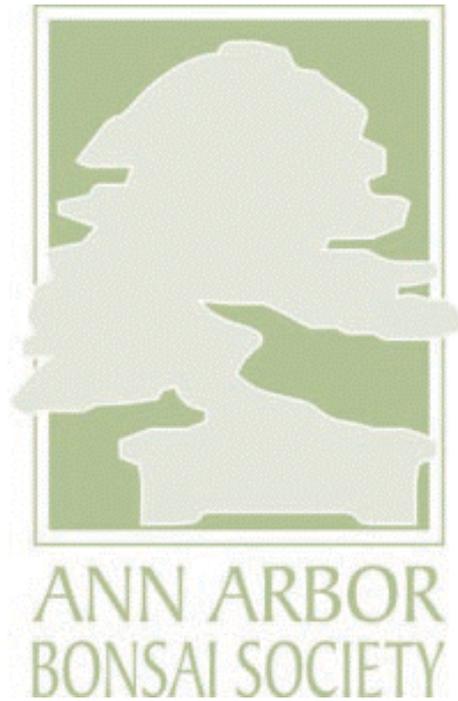
Send the information of your items for sale or wanted to aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com include a small digital file if available.

Wanted. If you have a tree, bonsai pot, tool or anything else bonsai related that you don't need anymore and it is still in good condition, consider donating it to the Society. Donations to the Society are always accepted. In most cases many donated trees or other materials have been raffled among the attending members during our monthly meetings.

Please note: All Society members are required to give 10% of the total sales for any items that are sold at AABS monthly meetings to the Society. The 10% fee will apply to all sales at AABS Meetings or through the AABS Newsletter.

Deadline for submissions to the Newsletter is the 5th of the month.

Please send your comments or documents to aabsnewsletter@yahoo.com.





Place Stamp Here

Ann Arbor Bonsai Society
1800 North Dixboro Road ~ Ann Arbor, MI 48105-9741

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society is affiliated with the American Bonsai Society and the Mid-American Bonsai Alliance.

Send To:



Next AABS Club Meeting is Wednesday February 25th, 2009
~ Julian Adams Presentation "Art of Bonsai"
at 7:30 pm ~ Matthaei Botanic Gardens Auditorium
(Socializing begins at 7:00pm)

Visit us on the Web:
<http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>

Support our AABS Vendors:

Hours: Mon - Fri: 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sat: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Closed Sunday & Tuesday



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hector@tellys.com

Hector DeBrabant
Bonsai Instructor