Volume 22, Issue 3
April 2025



#### **Meetings**

The Ann Arbor
Bonsai Society
meets on the fourth
Wednesday of the
month at the U-M
Matthaei Botanical
Gardens, 1800 N.
Dixboro Road, Ann
Arbor. Please join
us at 6:30 PM to
meet friends and
members. Program
starts at 7:00 PM.

## **April Meeting: Yews with Don Lindstrom**

**Join Us** on April 23rd to learn how to work with Yews (Taxus) and enjoy a demonstration with Don Lindstrom. Lindstrom is known for his demonstrations and teachings on using yews as bonsai, highlighting their unique ability to back bud profusely and adapt well to bonsai techniques. He has expertise in shaping and styling yews to achieve desired bonsai forms, including incorporating elements like shari (bark stripping) and deadwood for character.

If you are interested in attending the April 24th (Thursday) workshop with Don we will be accepting registrations for the limited seats still available at the Wednesday evening meeting.



Yew grown from a cutting by Don Lindstrom

#### President's Perspective — Don Wenzel

It looks like the worst of the frost scares are behind us. My trees are now on the benches. I'll be keeping my eyes on the night time temps and do the spring bonsai dance with my more sensitive trees, including those recently repotted.

I wanted to thank the many people who assisted with our Social and Book Sale at the March meeting. They include in no particular order; Michael Bruneau, Ellen Veselenak, Chris Kehrig, Denise Bellinger, Rick McCoy, Paul Kulesa and Anne Evans. Apologies to anyone I missed. I had several people let me know that they really enjoyed the meeting. The book sale raised over \$450 as well. I currently have listed a number of the rarer books on eBay and will report on how that goes, once the auctions are complete.

This year the AABS has received 6 inquiries by various groups asking about the possibility of our providing a talk/demo/workshop about bonsai. In some cases I've referred them to groups that are located closer to the request origin. I did that with two requests that were in the Lansing area. Mike Simmons, president of the Mid-Michigan Bonsai club generously agreed to handle those requests earlier this year. Another I referred to the Four Seasons group as the request came from West Bloomfield. Other requests we do take on. Chris Kehrig and I will be showing a few trees and talking about bonsai at a Japanese themed event at Tollgate Farms on Sunday, May 4th. In preparing for it, I was assuming it would be board members who would be manning the event, but there is no reason that needs to be the case. It would be great if we had a list of a few members who would be willing to volunteer for outreach events. We could match people's skills and availability with the event request so the volunteers feel comfortable with what is being asked of them. If you'd be interested in taking part, have ideas about how best to do it, or have some pertinent comments, please talk to me at a meeting, write me directly at wenzeldt@gmail.com or at aabonsaisociety@gmail.com.

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

April Meeting	1
President's Perspective	1
Membership Update	2
Member X-Change	2
Monthly Raffle	2
March Minutes	3-4
Coming Up in April	4
Bonsai Calendar	5
Mission Statement	5
Support Our Members	6
Contact Us	7
Board List and Committees	7

### **Membership Update**

As of April 1st the AABS has 81 Member households! I had several requests from attendees at our last meeting to check on their membership status. I really appreciate everyone trying to comply with paying dues regularly and on time to help us with the annual budget. To that end, I will bring a copy of our current membership data to the April meeting and I will be happy to share with you your history. I am so appreciative to Becky Hanner for keeping detailed records!

## MEMBER X-CHANGE

Silent Auctions,
Sales & Freebies...

#### Mark Hanner will be bringing pots!

This winter was good for getting in studio time; besides delivering a couple crates of pots to Green Witch Gardens, I set a few aside to bring to our April meeting. Been trying some new techniques and mold ideas. If the shape catches your eye, but the colors don't, we can work on that for another time.





**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

## March Meeting Minutes — March 26, 2025 Chris Kehrig

#### Don's Comments:

- Our booksale is already a success, thanks for your support
- Yew workshop and presentation with Don Lindstrom is next month
- May 10th/11th is the Michigan All State Show in Grand Rapids
- Sign Up for the All State Show will be in Mid-April.
- We have three (3) new members in attendance, Welcome!
- Anne is collecting the \$30 dues.













## March Meeting, Continued from Page 3:



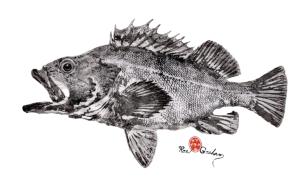




## Coming Up....May Meeting and Workshop

Gyotaku — The Ancient Japanese Art of Fish Printing

Join us on May 28th (6:30pm at Matthai Botanical Garden) to learn about the practice of fish printing, once the method of recording significant catches among Japanese fisherman. Lou Ferrell will be speaking on the methods used in this 1800's form of documentation.



On Thursday, May 29th Lou will provide a workshop to teach those interested in how to make their own Gyotaku. Today, these prints are an appreciated Japanese art form. To register for the workshop, stop by the membership table at the April 23rd meeting. Spaces are limited.

# Bonsai Events 2025

Date	Event	Sponsor/Club	Link
April 20th thru May 5th	Registration for All State Show	Frederick Meijer Gardens	Register Here
			Link Active 4/20
April 24th	Don Lindstrom Yew Workshop	AABS	<u>Don Lindstrom</u>
May 10th & 11th	All State Bonsai Show	Meijer Gardens	<u>All State</u>
May 17th & 18th	Midwest Bonsai Society Annual May Exhibit	Chicago Botanic Gardens	Midwest May
May 29th	Lou Ferrell – School of Fish Prints Workshop	AABS	<u>Lou Ferrell</u>
June 26th	Sylvia Smith – Japanese Black Pines Workshop	AABS	<u>Sylvia Smith</u>
Deadline: July 1	Submit Entries for US National	Bill Valavanis/NY	Entry Info
July 12th	Art of Bonsai	Hidden Lake Gardens	Art of Bonsai
July 26th & 27th	Bonsai at the Zoo	AABS and Four Seasons	Submission Form
August 15th thru 17th	Mid-America Bonsai Show	Chicago Botanic Garden	Mid-America
August 23rd & 24th	Annual Show at Matthai Botanical Garden	AABS	
September 13th & 14th	U. S. National Bonsai Exhibition	Rochester, NY	<u>US National</u>

## **AABS Mission Statement:**



The purpose of The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society shall be to promote knowledge, appreciation, and practice of the art of bonsai to its members and to the general public through meetings, lectures, workshops, exhibitions, publications or other means.



## SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS







#### **SUPPORT FOR BONSAI MEMBERS' ENDEAVORS**

ALL MEMBERS CAN OFFER FOR SALE ANY BONSAI OR BONSAI RELATED MATERIALS IN THE NEWSLETTER WITH NO AD FEES. ADDITIONALLY WE ARE HAPPY TO PROMOTE MEMBER PODCASTS, PUBLISHED MATERIALS, NON-PROFITS, ETC. AS LONG AS THE CONTENT IS RELATED TO THE ART OF BONSAI. ADS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION BY THE FIFTH OF THE MONTH. MATERIALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS A JPEG OR PNG FULL COLOR FILE. ADS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL RUN CONSECUTIVE MONTHS WITHOUT INTERRUPTION IF REQUESTED. PLEASE SEND ARTWORK TO ANNE EVANS AT AEVANS 136@GMAIL.COM. THANK YOU!

## Ann Arbor Bonsai Society

Written correspondence may be addressed to 907 Hillside Ct., Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Email us at: aabonsaisociety@gmail.com

# We are on the Web and Social Media!

https://annarborbonsaisociety.org https://www.facebook.com/aabs1970/

#### 2025 Board Members

Don Wenzel, President
Ellen Veselenak, Vice President, Programming
Mark Hanner, Past President
Brian Shepard, Treasurer
Chris Kehrig, Recording Secretary
Anne Evans, Membership, Newsletter
Michael Bruneau, AABS Show Chair
Sara Box, Communications and Social-Media
Melissa Renaud, Marketing and Merchandise
Jay Sinclair, Director at Large
Dana Hermann, Director at Large
Kurt Smith, Director at Large
Denise Bellinger, Director at Large

#### **AD-Hoc Committees**

Bob Bauer, Bonsai at the Zoo Coordinator Rick McCoy, Raffle Coordinator Jay Whitehouse, Webmaster Ryan Bavery, Publicity Coordinator

"Bonsai is a balancing act. We must balance the needs of the tree with our own desires. We must also balance the different elements of design to create a harmonious composition." – John Yoshio Naka