



HINOKI BONSAI CLUB

NEWSLETTER #26-3

MARCH-APRIL 2026

FACTS AND MEETING DETAIL

The Hinoki Bonsai Club is a group of like-minded practitioners of the ancient art of BONSAI. We are a proud 40+ year member of the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs, and we meet on the third Wednesday, monthly, 7:30 pm. The usual location is the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs Building found at 3640 Colonial Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24018. Most meetings feature live demonstrations, spirited discussions of the art of bonsai, hands-on workshops with the aid and critique of skilled members. The meetings also include reviews of new and old techniques, tools, soils, fertilizers, proper chemical usage and/or avoidance, pots, wiring, design and much more.

Most Recent Meeting

- Members in Attendance: Lynne, Eric, Bill, Evan, Kathy, Cathy, James, Mike, Adam, Greg T., Gretchen, Sharon B, Steve H. I am happy to say that the “Visitors” from the last meeting have all joined and we should be seeing them in the future.
- We had a wonderful meeting with a large turn out. I discussed the Memorial Steppingstone project by the RCGC and the cost of \$100. I will report more as I get all the information.
- I also discussed potential remodel of the RCGC building in the future and request for volunteers to serve on a committee the RCGC is forming. Members will consider.

- The final discussion was the RCGC plan for individual clubs to create a club specific area of the outside club Property. As a group we all thought this would be a good plan. We discussed the use of a few planted trees, a temporary TOKONOMA, the construction of a few Bonsai related garden items such as PAGODA or a MOON GATE. We had four door prizes won by happy members – two bonsai pots, a miniature Tokonoma, and a turntable cabinet created by past member Gary Sternes.
- Many spent the rest of the meeting either trimming or observing quite a few trees.
- Everyone helped clean up and the meeting ended around 9:30.

Upcoming Meeting

- Our upcoming meeting will be on Wednesday April 15th at 7:30pm.
- We will again have a BYOT (Bring Your Own Tree) meeting agenda. If a member needs help or wants to show their tree, they are encouraged to bring it with them. We also ask for one or two volunteers to bring a tree to re-pot as a demonstration. So, if you have a tree, you have not yet gotten to the re-potting stage, please let me know prior to the meeting. I will also have a tree to re-pot as a demo.
- We will have a couple of door prizes for the meeting, but I do not have photos.

See you there, Steve

Become A Member – Give Us A Try

Hinoki Bonsai Club continues to seek new members of all ages. Frequent posts have begun to be posted in the Nextdoor social neighborhood app about our club, and we are starting to get quite a few inquiries and visits. We often hear from interested but reluctant potential members that I am too old or too young to start the bonsai hobby. Although it may sometimes take decades to grow a young tree to a truly mature bonsai specimen, new members soon discover that getting there is all the fun! The club often has special new member orientation meetings to bridge the fear of entering the hobby. So, this is an invitation to all members of the many RCGC clubs, Nextdoor and all to visit us and discover something new. Feel free to contact me, Stephen (Steve) Hatcher,

President, HINOKI BONSAI CLUB. I may be contacted at stephen.e.hatcher@gmail.com or cell phone: 540-892-9842.