

We invite experienced  
bonsaists, inexperienced  
bonsaists, and those having an  
interest in the art of bonsai to  
join our group to participate  
in monthly meetings and share  
with us knowledge, experience,  
and fellowship.



## Membership

Anyone interested in furthering the objectives of the society may become a member upon payment of the required dues.

Dues are not expected until after you have attended one or two meetings and decided to join the group.



## Contact

If you are interested  
in membership, please contact  
Jim Gumnick  
423-847-1342  
[jlgtwo@peoplepc.com](mailto:jlgtwo@peoplepc.com)

For information about the time and place  
of meetings and annual dues,  
please visit our website:  
[www.tvbonsai.org](http://www.tvbonsai.org)

# Tennessee Valley Bonsai Society



The Tennessee Valley Bonsai Society  
originated in the '60s, but disbanded  
after several years. Recently, under the  
leadership of Al Good and Tom Scott, a  
group has reactivated the society.

We welcome any and all persons  
interested in bonsai as an art form.

## Society Objectives



To promote knowledge, interest, education, and the enjoyment of bonsai and other living plant materials.



To improve members' collections and exhibitions of bonsai.



To develop learning opportunities to assist members in the preparation and care of bonsai.



To raise awareness of bonsai in the community through public service, communications, and other activities such as demonstrations for the general public.



## What Is Bonsai?



Bonsai (pronounced “bone-sigh”) literally means, in both the Chinese and Japanese languages, “tree in a pot.” Originally developed in the Orient almost 2,000 years ago, today the art of bonsai is practiced throughout the world. Shape, harmony, proportion, and scale are all weighed carefully as art, and the human hand combines these in a common cause with nature.



A tree planted in a small pot is not a bonsai until it has been pruned, shaped, and trained into the desired shape. Bonsai are kept small by careful control of the plant's growing conditions. Only branches important to the bonsai's overall design are allowed to remain, and unwanted growth is pruned away. Roots are confined to a pot and are periodically clipped.



The appearance of old age of a plant is much prized, and bonsai may live hundreds of years. The living bonsai will change from season to season and from year to year, requiring pruning and training through its lifetime...and as time goes on, it will become more and more beautiful.

It is impossible to write a simple set of care rules. Every species of plant has its own special needs. Each location and environment is different, too, and these have to be considered. Therefore, it is important, when starting in bonsai, to read all you can on the art. Take advantage of your local bonsai club.

Join us in the Tennessee Valley Bonsai Society!