



BONSAI NEWS & NOTES

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society Newsletter Vol. XXVI, No 5

May 2013

Club Happenings

Please volunteer to bring trees for tokonoma for the first meeting of each month or to host a meeting. Sponsoring the tokonoma gives you a chance to show off your trees to the club and acting as host gives you a chance to show off your culinary skills; both are important functions of monthly club meetings.

Club Library

Take advantage of the club library. There are wonderful bonsai books with beautiful pictures for examples to style bonsai and more advice than you can use in a lifetime.

40th Anniversary

Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc, 40th Anniversary. The Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society celebrated 40 years since forming at the April 18th meeting. The club was originally formed by a few interested individuals in April 1973 at a local nursery in Ft Walton Beach and Catherine Herrick was elected the first president. The club immediately became a member club of Bonsai Societies of Florida (BSF) and has remained a member for these 40 years. Three members of the club, Jean C. Smith, Elyse Van-Dyke (two terms separated by several years) and Stuart Shapiro, have been presidents of BSF and other members have been BSF officers for various periods of time. Jean Smith was also president of Bonsai Clubs International for two years and edited their magazine for several years. Members celebrated the anniversary with a cake and with excellent refreshments provided by Fran and Nancy Picker. Here's hoping we can have another successful 40 years!

Haiku

The dawns first glimmers pass,

Across the skies.but butterflies

still linger in the grass.

Joboku



Photo by Manuel Alejandro

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Russell Coker Workshop

The Russell Coker workshop will be held on May 11th at 1:00 PM following lunch provided by the club at 12:00 PM. Russell is a former member of the Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society and presently lives and works in Mobile. Russell studied bonsai in Japan for several years and has been a popular workshop leader since his return. Russell will work on any plant but prefers working with azaleas. He has a very impressive personal bonsai collection, some of his trees were on display at the Tri-city Bonsai Show on April 20th. Since we are having Russell for a workshop on May 11th, there will be no regular meeting on May 16th.

New Newsletter Format

We have gone to a new newsletter format. One of our newest members, Manuel Alejandro, is doing the formatting and layout. Hopefully, we will have a more interesting and informative publication with more inputs from other members in the future. If you have any suggestions for articles, tweaking of the format or other preferences, please let Manuel or me know.

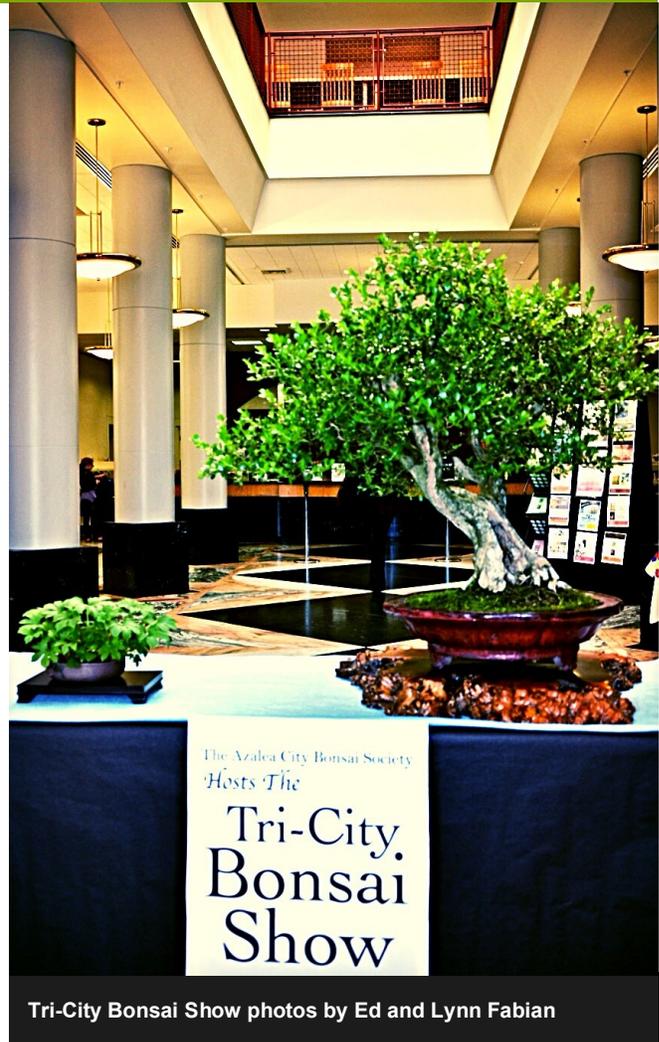
May—Trim, Trim, Trim

Lee Vanderpool

The deciduous trees are in full growth mode now and some, especially elms and maples, need to be trimmed at least weekly. Allowing these trees to grow long branches defeats the development of twigs and you can lose a season or more of development of your bonsai. Junipers are beginning their growth push so need to be pinched judiciously for the rest of the spring and summer. Japanese black pines have long candles now and these should be removed at the end of May or the beginning of June. Wisteria should not be pruned until August but shorten any runners which may sprout up wildly to two leaf sets.

Repotting of temperate trees should be mostly completed by this month although moving from one pot to another without disturbing the plant roots can still be done.

Persimmons are in bloom and, if you have a Princess persimmon, you can identify the gender of the tree by looking at the flower structure. Flowers with a four part calyx are reproductive and those without a calyx are non-reproductive. Both are required for the reproductive one to form fruit since persimmons are diecious. (None of mine have a calyx so I am on the lookout for a female tree.)





Bonsai displays

As soon as the nighttime temperatures reach a reliable 60 degrees, repotting of tropical species may begin. Defoliation of *Ficus salicifolia* should be done this month to encourage back budding and development of new twiggling. This may be followed by doing any root work and repotting the tree.

Azaleas and camellias have finished flowering and gardenias will be blooming soon. Any pruning should be done not later than August or you run the possibility of removing next years' flowers since they all set flower buds on new wood and bloom on year old wood.

Stick softwood cuttings for new plants. Seeds may be planted if you have had them stratifying in the refrigerator over winter.

Enjoy spring!

Dates to Remember:

Tri-City Bonsai Show

Mobile, AL.

Visit the club's web site for more pictures of the show.



Collected Suiseki



Azalea 'Rosea'



2013

<p>May 4</p> <p>Exhibit at the Mary Esther Library, 100 W Hollywood Blvd,</p> <p>Mary Esther,</p> <p>9:00 AM—2:00 PM.</p>	<p>May 7</p> <p>Regular meeting.</p>	<p>May 11</p> <p>Workshop with Russell Coker.</p>	<p>May 16</p> <p>No regular meeting.</p>	<p>May 23-26</p> <p>BSF convention, Lake Mary Mariott, Orlando. See http://bonsai-bsf.com for registration from.</p>	<p>June 1</p> <p>FWBBS spring auction.</p>
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Meetings:

Fort Walton Beach
Society – 1st Tues-
days and 3rd Thurs-
days, County Exten-
sion Building, 127
Hollywood Blvd,
Board Meeting at 7
PM, Membership
Meeting at 7:30 PM.

Hama Matsu: One
day a month at a
members home.

Pensacola Gulf
Coast Bonsai

Society:

2nd Thursday, Pen-
sacola Garden Cen-
ter, 1850 9th Ave,
Board Meeting at 7
PM, membership
Meeting at 7:30 PM.

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Lee Vanderpool,
Editor



Bring a tree to the meeting for show and tell. Photo by Manuel Alejandro

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Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc website:

<http://www.bonsai-fwb.com/>