



Bonsai News & Notes

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society Newsletter Vol. XXXII, No 1

January 2020

Club Happenings

Please sign up for host and tokonoma. This is the only way we can have snacks at each meeting and distribute the logistics evenly among the members. If you do not have appropriate trees, accent plants, stones or backdrops for the tokonoma, ask one of the older members to assist you. Most of them have the necessary materials to make a good looking tokonoma.

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. New books and CD's have been added to the club library so check them out. Email Lynn to request a specific book.

*As men pass to
and fro
Their footprints
mar the beauty
of
The pure white
SNOW*

YAYU

JANUARY - A NEW BEGINNING

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2020 - Year of the Rat. The rat is the first symbol in the Japanese zodiac, having arrived at the New Years Festival ahead of all other animals by riding on the back of the ox. People born in the year of the rat are charming, smart, ambitious and hard working. They have a capacity for pursuing their goals and can be cunning, calculating and tight with money. As you can see, being a rat is not always bad. Keep these attributes in mind while you are working on your bonsai this season - use them to build a better bonsai collection and to improve those you already have. Be diligent in maintenance of your bonsai while repotting, pruning, trimming, wiring and any of the other of the multitude of tasks which need to be accomplished to be successful in your bonsai endeavors.

You can begin repotting deciduous trees later this month while they still have no clothes. Before repotting, however, use this time to prune the tree for style and for future ramification. You can more easily see the good and bad points of a tree if they have no leaves obscuring their branch structure. After pruning, either return the tree to its original pot or select another one which better suits the style, color, leaf shape or variety. These activities are only available for a short time once a year so take advantage of this time to do as much of the basic tree work as possible. (continued next page)

Pot selection is a major undertaking when creating a bonsai. Although it goes without saying, you never have the right pot for the plant you are styling or repotting. There are usually alternatives to selecting just the correct pot, though. The pot shape, color, size and depth should all be taken into consideration when selecting a pot for a potential bonsai or for a tree which has been under development for some period of time. Always remember that all trees have a gender - maples are usually considered feminine, Japanese black pines are masculine, etc. The pot selected to contain the bonsai should be selected with this in mind. Heavy, deep, dark colored pots will not usually be selected to house a maple, round, shallow, glazed pots are not normally used to pot black pines. There are exceptions, of course, but study a major bonsai manual such as one of John Naka's books or a book by another master to help you make good pot choices.

From the 2019 Pensacola Camellia Show



'Sawada's Mahogany' camellia

Bonsai Beginnings...



Dates to remember...

January 7 - Grafting with Lee and Rosemarie
Host is Janis family

January 16 - Shohin with Lee
Host is Nancy

May 22-24 - BSF convention, Orlando.

May 22-24 - Brussel's Rendezvous, Olive Branch MS

2 different maples in winter leaf



FWBBS member trees...

**Twelfth Annual
Mid-winter Workshop
Featuring David Degroot**

Louisiana Bonsai Society, Baton Rouge
2020 Louisiana Bonsai Society
Mid-Winter bonsai workshop
Baton Rouge Garden Center
7950 Independence Blvd.
Jan 17th-19th 1:00 PM 'til
Contact: Lowell Tilley
225-241-2396 (cell)

Bald Cypress Bonsai Classes/Workshop

Gulf Coast Bonsai Foundation is sponsoring a series of bald cypress bonsai development classes/workshop conducted by Randy Bennett. It will be three classes per year for a total of three years. The cost will be \$325 (payable to Randy Bennett) which will include all materials, instruction booklet, and nine hands-on workshops to be held in Baton Rouge.

Enrollment will be limited and must be mailed by Jan. 15, 2020 (Send to Lowell Tilley, 520 Laurie Lynn Dr. BR, 70819) Cell/225-241-2396



Don't forget to feed
your friends!

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Ft. Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc website:

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



Meetings

Fort Walton Beach Society - 1st Tuesdays and 3rd Thursdays, County Extension Annex Building
across from the VW dealer

127 Hollywood Blvd - Board Meeting at 7 PM, Membership Meeting at 7:30 PM.

Pensacola Gulf Coast Bonsai Society:
2nd Thursday, Pensacola Garden Center, 1850 9th Ave, Board Meeting at 7 PM, membership Meeting at 7:30 PM.

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