



BONSAI NEWS & NOTES

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

January 2017

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.

January - Let's Start the Year Right - by Lee

Vanderpool

So far this year we have had very mild temperatures, not too much wind but quite a bit of rain lately. If a sudden very cold or very windy surge of weather hits us, there are things you must do to protect your bonsai from the elements. The first and easiest action is to set the pots on the ground, preferably along the southern side of a fence, building or even under bushes. Addi-

Haiku

Winter is here, and low

Droop the frail narcissus leaves,

Under their weight of snow.

BASHO



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-tionally, extra protection can be provided by raking leaves or pine straw around the pots and over the tops of smaller trees. If Mother Nature really gets nasty, you can dig trenches or holes and bury the pots up to the rims and mound leaves or pine straw around the trees. The main things you are trying to do, of course, is to keep the pats and root systems of your trees from freezing and to prevent the foliage, twigs and buds from drying out and being damaged or killed.

Two of the critical things to watch is that the soil of your trees does not dry out to the point where roots can be damaged nor should it become waterlogged so that fungus can attack the roots. Just as at any other time of the year, you should water when your trees need it; check the soil moisture with your finger periodically. If the soil is crumbly and dry, water. If the soil can be formed into balls between your fingers, avoid watering for a few days and let the soil dry out.

Your tropicals should be in a greenhouse or inside your house where they can be protected from the cold. You need to watch these, too, during the winter since the dry conditions in a house can encourage spider mites, several types of aphids and scale while the lack of air circulation in a typical greenhouse promotes molds and fungi which may attack the leaves or roots of trees. Tropicals in northern Florida normally suffer some damage during the winter but from different causes from that suffered by outside trees. They should be sprayed with fungicide or insecticide as required to maintain their health.

This is an excellent time of the year to do several of the mundane jobs which everyone procrastinates in doing: clean and sharpen your bonsai tools, mix soil to prepare for the repotting season just ahead, clean up pots which have been stored in the garage for several years. There are other things which need to be done and with the winter weather upon us, the time is right.

Fort Walton Beach

Bonsai Society

Visit the Club website for more information.

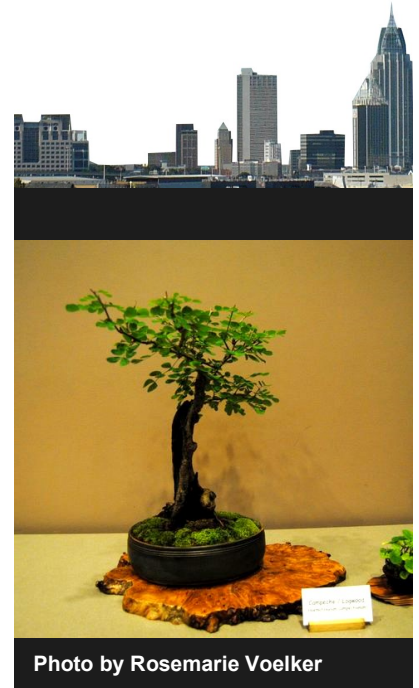


Photo by Rosemarie Voelker

Dates to Remember:

2017

<p>January 3</p> <p>Club meeting. Fertilizing and Pest Control with Edgar. Host: Lee No tokonoma</p>	<p>January 19</p> <p>Club meeting. Hands on planting boxwood forest - Club with Edgar. No host</p>	<p>April 29</p> <p>Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society spring show, Meridian at Westwood</p>	<p>April 27-30</p> <p>8th WBC 2017 to be held in Omiya, Saitama, Japan at Omiya Sonic City Palace Hotel Omiya, and Saitama Super Arena. Hosted by WBBF, Nippon Bonsai Association, and Saitama City.</p>	<p>May 26-28</p> <p>ABS/BSF Convention—Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando, FL.</p>
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Meetings:

Fort Walton Beach Society – 1st Tuesdays and 3rd Thursdays, County Extension 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:

Society:

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

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Editor

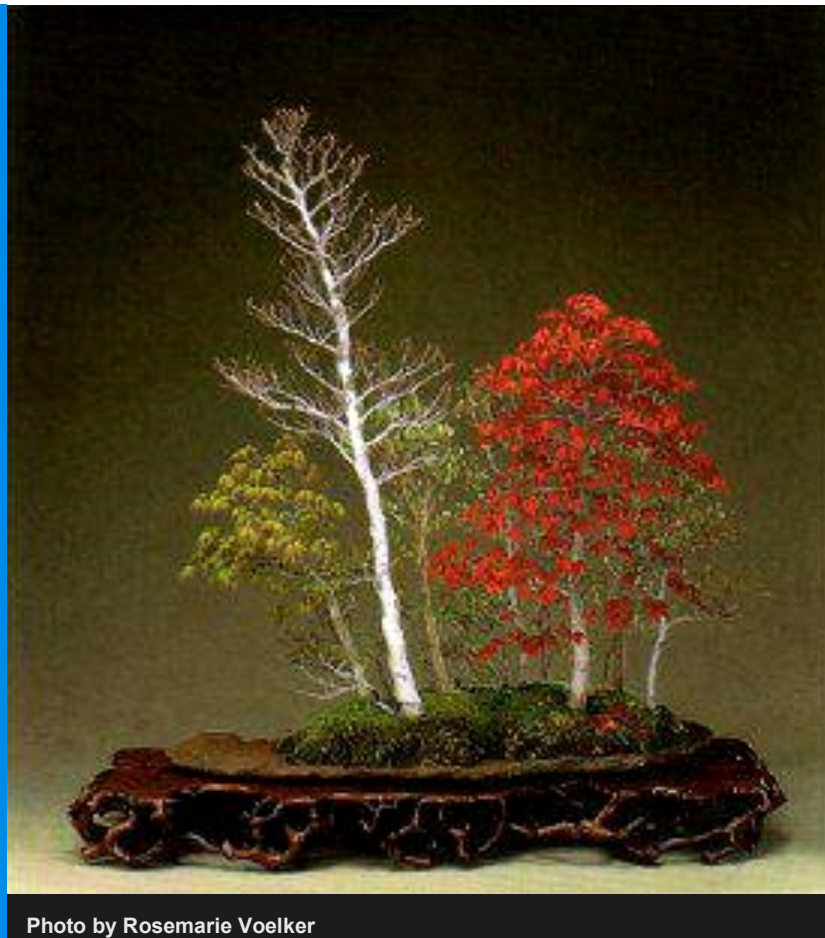


Photo by Rosemarie Voelker

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Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc website:

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