



BONSAI

NEWS & NOTES

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society Newsletter Vol. XXVII, No 6

June 2014

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.

Club Auction and workshops

May was a busy month. First came the Club Auction which was well attended by members and several out of town guests. Friends from the Mobile, Mississippi and Pensacola clubs were on hand to make excellent purchases of trees and pots, books and tools. Everyone went home happy and with acquired treasures.

Much of the material for the auction came from the donations from Mac Caruthers' wife after Mac's untimely death. We would like to thank Mona for the donations.

Haiku

The crystal waters flow,

Lead you gently unto where,

The flowering mosses grow.

KAKO



Photo by Manuel Alejandro

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A few days after the auction we had a major rain event which flooded our meeting place, the Extension Service Annex in Ft Walton Beach. The building is now in the process of being refurbished with an indefinite completion date. Until further notice, club meetings will be held at Ed Smith's house on Beachview Drive.

Next was the workshop of Jim VanLandingham. Jim makes an annual pilgrimage from south Florida to the Gulf Coast and does workshops along the way. After a meal at Slick Mick's, Jim worked on several trees including ficus and other tropicals, and a few temperate trees. As usual, everyone enjoyed Jim's visit.

The following Saturday we had a pizza and salad lunch followed by Russell Coker from Mobile hosting a workshop consisting primarily of azaleas and a few other trees. Russell is a local lad who grew up in Ft Walton Beach, studied bonsai for several years in Japan, completed college and is presently in business in Mobile. His visit is always a highlight of the year for our members.

The two workshops were held in Ed Smith's Florida room for which we thank Mr Smith.

June - Now is Maintenance Time

by Lee Vanderpool

Repotting time is past. Now is the time to maintain and care for your bonsai and training trees through the hot summer days. First and foremost, always remember to water. When the soil in your bonsai pots is dry down to the first joint of your finger, it is time to water.

Different trees need different amounts of water; elms, maples and other deciduous trees and most tropical trees must be watered copiously each day and sometimes twice each day if there is a hot wind blowing.

Pines and junipers, on the other hand, may only need water every other day. Let the tree tell you



Photo by Manuel Alejandro

when to water. Fertilizer is also important during this time of year since your trees are doing most of their growing now. A balanced fertilizer is best but may be alternated with organic fertilizers such as fish emulsion or one of the various organic brands available from bonsai suppliers.

Fertilizer should be applied about every two weeks to each tree. Trimming and pinching each tree now will help you develop fine twigging or ramification. Again, different trees must be treated differently. Deciduous trees such as elms and maples should be trimmed back to one or two leaves when the twig reaches four to five leaves in length.

This procedure will cause new twigs to form where the old twig is trimmed. Each new twigging will add refine-



Photo by Manuel Alejandro

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society

Visit the Club web-
site for more infor-
mation.

ment to your tree. New growth on junipers should be pinched as it forms, leaving only a short stub at each terminal. This, too, will increase the quantity of new twigs and add to the refinement and development of your bonsai.

Pines develop “candles” several time a year in northwest Florida and these must be trimmed or removed periodically. There are many articles, even books, written about when and how to accomplish this.

Remember, there will be no meetings during July or August and no news-
letter during that time. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy your bonsai!

Bonsai Pot



Azalea flower



Dates to Remember:

2014

May 22-26

BSF Convention, May 22-26, 2014, Orlando. See: <http://bonsai-bsf.com/> for information and registration.

June 3

Regular meeting. Program is wiring with club participation. No host or tokonoma.

June 19

Slide show on China trip by Rosemarie. No host.

Aug 25-Sep 2

BCI Convention is Canberra, Australia

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,
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Photo by Ed Lippincott

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Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc website:

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