



# BONSAI NEWS & NOTES

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

May 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.

## FWBBS Club Auction

The club auction is the largest annual fundraiser of the club. We rely upon the proceeds of the auction to sponsor free workshops and other member activities. This year, much of the material available for bid was donated by the widow of our former First Vice President, Mac Caruthers. Included are many fine pots, some basic tools, basic bonsai books, soil mix, miscellaneous other items such as plant stands. Come out on Saturday, May 3, 2014, and help us make your club even better by supporting the auction. Anyone can donate items, preferably bonsai related. Consignment begins at 10:30 AM, viewing at 12:00 PM and the auction begins at 1:00 PM. Come out and support your club.

Haiku

Below the poppies red,

And o'er the summer sky,

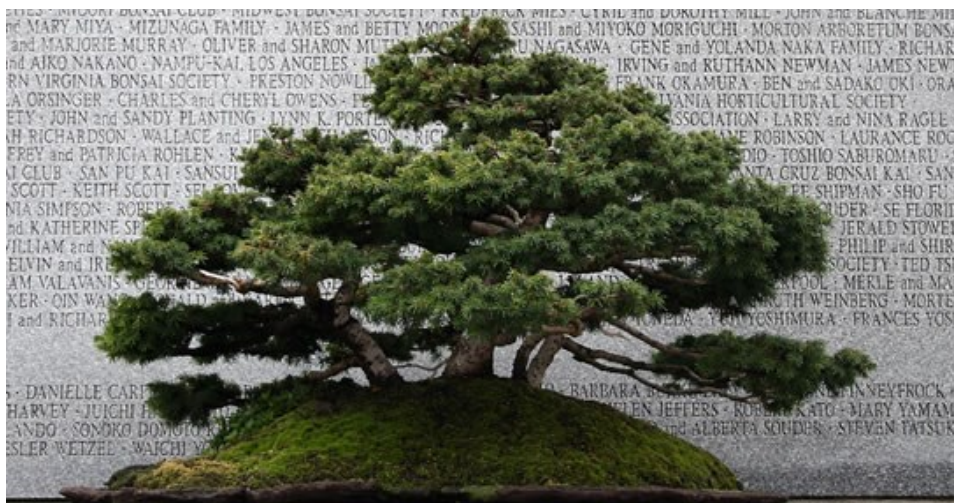
A white cloud overhead.

KWANRAI



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## Jim VanLandingham Workshop

The Jim VanLandingham workshop is always one of the highlights of the year. Jim is an expert at styling tropical bonsai but works with any plant material to start it on the road to a developed bonsai. He also will restyle or retouch developed bonsai to make it even better. This is a free workshop paid for by the club auction proceeds. Come and share the day with us on May 7. Lunch at Slick Mick's on Eglin Parkway at 12:30 PM followed by the club workshop at the Extension Annex at 2:00 PM.

## Russell Coker Workshop

Russell Coker will conduct a workshop on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 1:00 PM at the Extension Annex. Russell is a former member of the Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society, joining when he was a mere child. He received several years training in Japan as an intern at a major bonsai nursery. He currently works as a landscape designer at a major company in Mobile, AL. Russell specializes in styling and maintaining azalea bonsai but works with any tree or shrub material to create great bonsai. Lunch will be pizza at 12:00 PM. Come out and join us for pizza and a great workshop by Russell.

## May and Summer Is Here

by Lee Vanderpool

This is the last month that you will have to do all those things you meant to do as soon as "the weather is nice enough" but it wasn't and you didn't! You still have time to repot some of the azaleas (especially satsukis) but be sure they have finished blooming or pick the blooms off before repotting. This is less than the ideal time to repot deciduous but they can be repotted in an emergency after the leaves have hardened, that is, as soon as the leaves have lost the soft newness of first flush. It might help in this case to either partially or completely defoliate the tree to reduce stress on the root system. If possible, don't trim the roots but just set the tree into a slightly larger pot which can accommodate it until you can repot it properly in the fall. If you haven't sprayed for those creepy crawlies yet, now is the



time to do so. Aphids are particularly troublesome this time of year but are easily dislodged from new foliage by a strong stream of water. Aphids cause disfiguration of new leaves and the die back of new twigs if the infestation is bad enough. This is also the time pesky white fly (actually a small moth) appears. They are very difficult to control and must be treated with a commercial insecticide. The real problem with white fly is not the adults, which are unsightly, but with their larvae which appear to be small scale on the underside of leaves. These must be treated with miscible oil which is available at large box stores or nurseries. Follow the label instructions and spray at regular intervals to keep the population under control. A side effect of white fly infestation is the appearance of sooty mold. This is a black, soot-like coating of the leaves caused by fungus feeding upon the sweet secretions of the white fly lar-



Bonsai Pot

Fort Walton Beach  
Bonsai Society

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

vae. This will disappear if you can get rid of the moths. Gardenias, persimmons, citrus, camellias and other thick leafed plants seem to attract white fly. Don't forget to begin your annual regimen of fertilizing, applying fungicide, stepped up watering and shading from the hot midday sun. Plant seeds of new plants you may want to try as bonsai in a few years. You can still stick cuttings of new wood. Any cuttings must be kept extra moist now that the heat is beginning to build and the sunshine is getting more direct. Enjoy the summer.

Kusamono



Dates to Remember:

2014			
<p><b>May 3</b></p> <p>Club auction.</p>	<p><b>May 7</b></p> <p>Jim VanLandingham workshop</p>	<p><b>May 10</b></p> <p>Russell Coker workshop</p>	<p><b>May 22-26</b></p> <p>BSF Convention, May 22-26, 2014, Orlando. See: <a href="http://bonsai-bsf.com/">http://bonsai-bsf.com/</a> for information and registration.</p>

### 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:

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

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