



# Bonsai

## News & Notes

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society Newsletter Vol. XXX, No 3

March 2018

### Club Happenings

**Your Club Needs YOU...**to 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. Books and CD's have been added to the club library. If you know of one we should add, give us the details. Check them out. Email Lynn to request a specific book.

### March - Anything Can Happen!

Lee Vanderpool

Have you ever seen such crazy weather? Warm, then cold, then colder, then warm again - trees do not know what to do. Hopefully the weather has stabilized for the remainder of the winter season. Another freeze could mean real trouble for some of the maples and elms that have begun to put out their spring foliage. Camellias are already past their prime and the azaleas are beginning to bloom. Most of your repotting should be done by now. Pines and junipers can still be repotted if not too much root disturbance is done. It is time to begin to fertilize your trees. Use organic or inorganic but be sure to alternate between several kinds of fertilizers throughout the growing season. Fish emulsion or cottonseed meal does not smell good but trees love it. (Cont'd page 2)

I came to look, and  
lo!  
The plum tree  
petals scatter  
down,  
Like a fall of purest  
snow

Ranko



Photo by R Voelker

Sad news... our friend and long time mentor Ben Oki passed away last week.

He was a fixture on the BSF bonsai circuit for many years and taught us much over the years he was active.

We will always remember him and his wacky humor.

Whether he was working on a tree or looking at you with a glint in his eye as he said... 'I not Japanese; I NAVAHO!

His memory will be with us.  
Rest in Peace, Ben...

March, cont'd

Good commercial inorganic fertilizer is good also and the plants do not know the difference.

Time is rapidly approaching that you must begin pinching elms, maples and azaleas. From past experience, we know that pinching new foliage is a never-ending task but necessary to gain good ramification of your bonsai.

My flowering Japanese quince is in full bloom and looks magnificent! The flowering trees and shrubs have enjoyed the extra long cold weather we have had.

Enjoy the season - this is the best time of the year!

## Coming Events

- March 3, 2018 - Open workshop for all members at the annex, 9:00 AM
- March 6, 2018 - Club meeting. Program: Seasonal Tips with EdH & Lee & photo presentation by Rosemarie. Hosts are the Fabians
- March 15, 2018 - No club meeting
- March 26, 2018 - Workshop with Juan Andrade, 7:00 PM at the annex. Dinner with Juan at Slick Mick's at 5:30 PM
- May 15, 2018 - Azalea City Bonsai Society in Mobile, bonsai exhibit at the West Regional Library, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- May 24-27, 2018 - BSF convention. See [bonsai-bsf.com](http://bonsai-bsf.com) for more information
- June 16, 2018 - Club auction



Ben Oki at BSF 2000

Photo by L Fabian

## 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.

Workshops as announced...

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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Ft. Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc website:

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



Photos by R Voelker

Fort Walton Beach  
Bonsai Society

Visit the Club web  
site for more  
information



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