



BONSAI NEWS & NOTES

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society Newsletter Vol. XXVIII, No 4

April 2015

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.

A new maple book, The Gardeners Guide to Growing Maples, has been donated to the library by the Pickers and will be available for checkout as soon as it is catalogued. Our thanks to Fran and Nancy for the wonderful donation.

Peter Tea Workshop by Lee Vanderpool

The club hosted bonsai teacher Peter Tea for a workshop on March 15th. Eight members participated in the workshop bringing junipers, ma-

Haiku

The sun shines in the sky,

And far a across the moor files

A single butterfly.

BASHO



Photo by Rosemarie Voelker

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ples, yaupon, ivy and other material. Peter led a lengthy discussion on styling, care and general bonsai culture followed by hands-on styling of the trees. Peter is a very knowledgeable teacher and imparted some excellent facts, many of them gleaned from his bonsai training in Japan. He has a bright future being a traveling bonsai artist.

April - Is This Spring or Summer?

by Lee Vanderpool

Although the spring equinox has just passed, summer appears to be upon us. Temperatures went from the daytime 50's and nighttime 40's to daytime 80's and nighttime 60's. The poor bonsai trees on your benches must be confused about what they should do - grow or go into summer dormancy! You should have completed most of your repotting - if you really need to repot boxwoods or very late flowering trees and shrubs this may still be done if roots are treated carefully and not disturbed too much. Azaleas should be repotted immediately after flowering. All plants should be kept from direct sun for several days after repotting to give the roots a chance to recover and to begin to regrow. Still too early to repot tropicals, leave them until late May or June.

Watering frequency should be stepped up to at least once a day and fertilization should begin now. Spray with extra fine oil to control scale and sucking insects. Applications of oil should be made two times about two weeks apart. Be sure you spray the undersides of leaves since that is where many scale insects reside. If aphids become a problem on new foliage, spraying with a strong jet of water will usually dislodge them. Once they have been knocked to the ground, they will not return to the plant. Perform this procedure every two weeks throughout the summer.

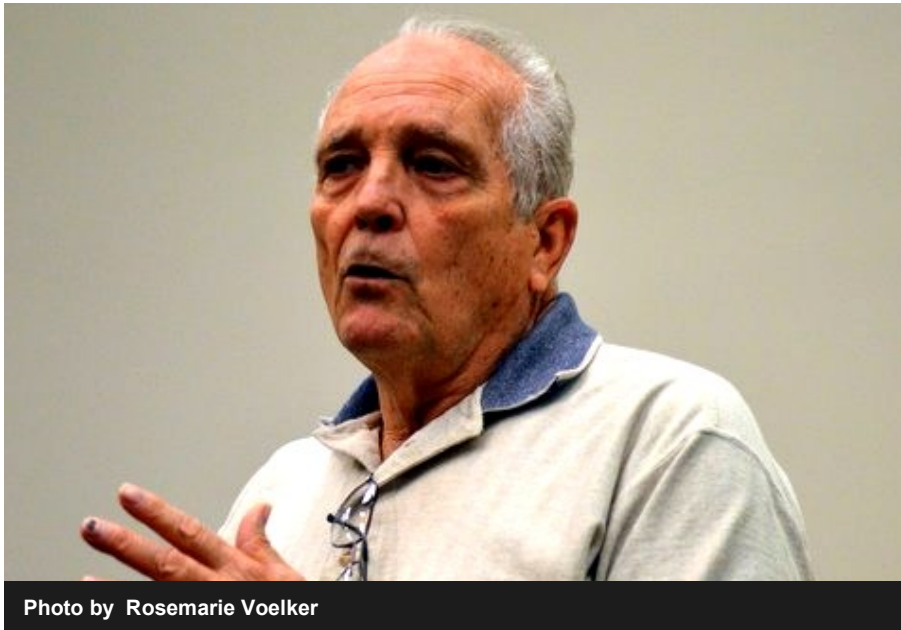
Collecting plants is about over for this year. If you have not dug red maples, sweet gum or other deciduous saplings for that forest planting you intend to do this year, it is probably too late unless you can find some small trees which have been shaded by a larger one and they have not leafed out as quickly. If there are a lot of small trees, dig a few and experiment. You might be pleasantly surprised that they all survive and grow enough that you can do that forest this summer, after all.



Photo by Rosemarie Voelker

Spring Show

The club will host a bonsai show on April 25th at the Meridian at Westwood, 1001 MarWalt Dr in Ft Walton Beach. We will need as many members as possible to help with the show both preparing the day before in arranging tables, setting up backdrops and general labor. On the day of the show, trees will be transported, exhibits will be arranged and people must be on hand at all times to monitor the trees and to interact with the public. Please volunteer to do your part in making this the best show ever.



Fort Walton Beach

Bonsai Society

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



Day of Bonsai by Lee Vanderpool

The annual Day of Bonsai sponsored by the Azalea City Bonsai Society was held at the regional library on March 21st. Joe Day gave an extensive talk on trident maple culture, selection and styling. After a very pleasant lunch, Russell did a short slide show on styles of trees both deciduous and evergreen then did some initial styling on a Pensacola hawthorn and a weeping Japanese maple. Although attendance was not as good as other years, the programs were interesting and well presented.



Dates to Remember:

2015				
April 7	April 16	April 25	May 21-25	June 6
Club, meeting. Program will be making plantings and potting small trees to sell at the April show.	Club meeting. Program will be previewing some of the trees that will be shown at the show.	Spring show at the Meridian at Westwood, 1001 MarWalt Dr.	BSF convention in Orlando.	Club Auction.

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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