



BONSAI NEWS & NOTES

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

May 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.

May - Last Chance to Get Those Spring Chores Done

by Lee Vanderpool

May is the only time you have left to do all those things you meant to do

Haiku

When the bright moon above

Can sparsely pierce the shady pines

That is the dusk I love.

Kikaku



National Bonsai and Penjing Museum

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when “the weather gets nice enough” but the weather did and you didn’t. You still have time to repot some of the azaleas (especially satsukis) but be sure they have finished blooming or remove all blossom buds.

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 crawly bugs for the first time, shame on you! Now is the time to try to get rid of insects, especially aphids which feed on the juices of new foliage. They can cause ugly disfiguration of new leaves and die back of new twigs if the infestation is bad enough. One of the easiest ways of disposing of aphids is to spray the tree with a strong jet of water. Once aphids are knocked off the plant, they do not return to it. Another pest which first shows itself around this time of year is white fly (actually a moth). This one is very, very difficult and can only be killed with a commercial insecticide. The problem is not really the little white moths but their larvae which look like scale on the underside of leaves. These larvae can only be killed by using dormant oil spray, sometimes known as miscible oil or summer oil.

Many of the chemical companies make it and it is available at most large stores or nurseries. Follow the label directions and spray at regular intervals to keep the white fly population down. A side effect of white fly infestation is sooty mold, a black, soot-like coating of the leaves. Sooty mold lives on honeydew secreted by the white fly larvae and it attracts bees, fly and ants. 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 yearly 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 stronger. Enjoy the summer.



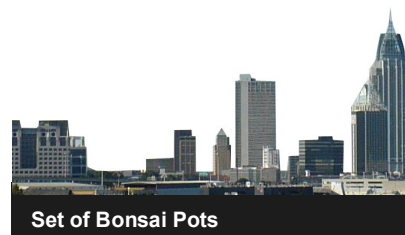


Bonsai Pot

Fort Walton Beach

Bonsai Society

Visit the Club website for more information.



Set of Bonsai Pots

Meetings:

May 5 - Meeting will be used to plan the June auction.

May 9 - Russell Coker workshop, 1:00 - 5:00 PM. Potluck lunch at the building at 12:00 PM.

May 21 - No meeting



Dates to Remember:

2015				
May 9	May 21-25	May 22-24	June 6	Sep 18-21
Russell Coker workshop. Bring a tree to style/restyle.	BSF convention in Orlando. See BSF webpage for details and registration information.	Brussel's Rendezvous. See www.brusselsbonsai.com for more information.	FWBBS annual auction. Bonsai and bonsai related items. Viewing at 12:00 PM, auction begins at 1:00 PM.	BCI 2015 Convention in Guangzhou, China. See: bonsai-bci.com for more information.

Meetings:

Fort Walton Beach
Society – 1st Tues-
days and 3rd Thurs-
days, 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, Pen-
sacola Garden Cen-
ter, 1850 9th Ave,
Board Meeting at 7
PM, membership
Meeting at 7:30 PM.

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Photo by Rosemarie Voelker

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Ft Walton Beach Bonsai Society, Inc website:

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