



# BONSAI NEWS & NOTES

Fort Walton Beach Bonsai Society Newsletter Vol. XXVI, No 9

November 2013

## 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.

## Jim VanLandingham

Since only four clubs between western Louisiana and Tallahassee signed up to host Jim, the decision was made for him to make another attempt to tour the area in April. That time of the season is better for styling and repotting tropicals so we will gain more from his expertise then. Apologies for the late cancellation.

Haiku

When stormy winds blow high,

Into the clouds the crescent moon flows,

Then floats o'er the clear sky.

CHORIO



National Bonsai Foundation (NBF)

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## Shohin Show at Kawa Bonsai Society (by Lee Vanderpool)

I spent the weekend of October 11-13 at the Flagler County Extension agency building in Bunnell attending a shohin bonsai exhibition and program. The show was sponsored and executed by members of the Kawa Bonsai Society. There were 101 shohin and mame trees on display, all from Florida bonsai enthusiasts. Also attending were several plant, pot and artistic drawing vendors so it was really a mini-convention, all held in two rooms! Peter Warren from England and Robert Mahler of Pennsylvania were the headliners and each did two workshops with shohin-sized material. Each of the headliners also conducted a critique of the display, giving his expert opinion of the quality of trees. Basically, the only fault either of them found was that the display was too crowded - there was not enough room to display the quantity of trees! Both remarked that the quality of trees matched or exceeded that displayed at most world class bonsai conventions. My sincere thanks go to Louise Leister who was the powerhouse behind the show. Her attention to detail and ability to "make things happen" were truly remarkable. Too often, small and miniature bonsai get overlooked in the presence of the large and beautiful trees shown at state and national bonsai displays. I hope to see this show or



Photo by Manuel Alejandro

one similar, to continue in the future. It was a great venue for growers of small and miniature bonsai to display their works and to be recognized for their excellence.

## November - The Beginning of Winter (by Lee Vanderpool)

Now is the time to begin using a low nitrogen fertilizer such as 0-10-10 on your trees to prepare the roots for cold weather. Although we have not had a severe winter in several years, your trees always need to be ready to withstand temperatures down to 10 degrees Fahrenheit. Adjust your watering schedule to accommodate the dryer, windier season. Too much water on roots which are trying to get ready for winter can induce root rot or drowning of trees. Although desiccation is a real threat right now, overwatering can do just as much harm to your trees. This is the perfect time to put up your greenhouse or other shelter needed to overwinter tropicals. Tropical trees must be moved to a sheltered spot when the nighttime temperatures fall below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Be prepared to provide supplemental heat to the storage area if needed. The cooler weather is also a good time to prepare soil mixes for spring potting and repotting. All components for a good soil mix are available locally and are not too expensive or buy premixed soil from the club. Wash pots and clean your ben-



Photo by Manuel Alejandro

## Fort Walton Beach

### Bonsai Society

Visit the Club website for more information.



Photo from NBF

-ches now, too, to prevent disease outbreaks and insect infestation in the spring. Order new pots from one of the many online bonsai outlets. Stock up on fertilizer that will be needed in the spring when new growth begins to stress your trees. Check out books from the club library to read over the winter to give you fresh ideas on how to cultivate and maintain your trees. New books and CDs are being added to the library all the time so take advantage of them. Have a good winter and enjoy your trees without their leaves.



Kusamono

## Dates to Remember:

Remember, there is no club newsletter in December. The next newsletter will be distributed for January 2014. The club Christmas celebration will be held at Edgar Hund's home on December 3rd, our regular meeting night, social hour at 6:00 PM, eat at 7:00 PM. The club will provide the meat, drinks and cutlery. Members should bring a side dish such as salad, starch or dessert. Spouses or significant others are encouraged to join us in celebrating this festive season. Edgar lives at 243 Yacht Club Dr, Niceville FL. Mapquest or GPS will get you there but, if you need directions, call any board member.



# 2013

### November 5

Deciduous life cycle, Edgar.  
Host: Lee

### November 21

Camelia types and care,  
Rosemarie. Host: Olya,  
Tokonoma: Ed L.

### December 3

Christmas celebration  
at Edgar's.

### January 18 (2014)

Ben Oki workshop. This will probably be Ben's last trip to the Gulf Coast so plan on attending this one and have good material for Ben to work on.

### 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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Photo by Rosemarie Voelker

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