

# BUTTONWOOD BONSAI CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

December 2017

[www.buttonwoodbonsai.us](http://www.buttonwoodbonsai.us)

Find us on Facebook at: [buttonwood bonsai club - inverness, fl](https://www.facebook.com/buttonwoodbonsaiclub)



Club meeting location is at the Community Center in Whispering Pines Park, Inverness, FL. on the 4th Saturday of every month starting at 9:30 a.m.

The Club did not hold its usual monthly meeting in November. Instead, we held a sale and I think it was a success. The day started right away with the sale and by 10:30a it was all over. I had the Chronicle (local newspaper) publish our a notice of our sale and it drew several people. One couple I talked with were visiting from Virginia and came to see what the sale was all about. I also met a couple from the Marion County bonsai club who didn't know we existed and is very interested in attending our meetings.

I don't know the dollar value of total sales but I can say the Club made \$130.00 from the total sales. Evelyn Stonesifer donated several items to the Club to be sold with all proceeds going directly to the Club. Evelyn told me she is moving out of state and is getting out of bonsai. On behalf of the Buttonwood Bonsai club I want to wish Evelyn the best of luck on her new adventure and you will be missed!

December's meeting is the 23. We will have a regular meeting but it's going to also be much more of a social event. We'll still have the business meeting and raffle, no show and tell. If you are planning on attending please bring a "wrapped" gift for a gift exchange and a Christmas treat. Bring your spouse, friend or significant other and have them bring a wrapped gift. We would like to have them participate in the exchange. Beverages provided. Gift exchange item should be nothing expensive, in fact wrap something you have around the house. I can warn you it's not going to be the usual gift exchange.

The Club needs a recording secretary. I did not get a volunteer so I will be around asking you if you would consider doing this job. Its really quite easy and probably takes maybe 30 - 60 minutes outside of the Club meeting. Ask Wendy and she can explain what's involved. And by the way **THANKS** to Wendy for serving as our secretary for several years. It's time for her to get a break and just enjoy the meetings.

Here is a list of the programs for 2018. If you have a topic you would like presented/discussed let me know and we can set up a program. I need some program leaders for most of the programs. Please let me know if you would consider leading a program. I'll be around asking!

- Jan 27 How to plan and prepare for the 2018 growing season
- Feb 24 Bald Cypress, trimming and repotting
- Mar 24 Defoliate trees
- Apr 28 Repotting -
- May 26 Miniatures - *Clay*
- Jun 23 Workshop topic TBD

Jul 28 Raft styling trees - *Bob*  
Aug 25 Air layering  
Sept 22  
Oct 27  
Nov 24  
Dec 22 Christmas party

**Tropical Bonsai Care** From: <http://www.bonsaimary.com/Bonsai-Care-in-Winter.html>

### Outside the Tropics

Are you growing tropical bonsai plants outside of a warm climate?

When there is a "light frost" warning, the plant blankets (as mentioned below) may work for you. If it is late in the season, it may be a little too risky.

Most hobbyists grow tropical bonsai outdoors in late spring through the summer and bring them indoors for the winter.

If you have the space, a small greenhouse may be ideal.

If you live in the tropics, snow is not likely to be a problem. However, bonsai care in winter does include watching the weather for frost and freeze sneak attacks that occur primarily in the sub-tropics. (Such as South Florida.)

When I lived In South Florida there were occasional freezes.

The farms and nurseries (including mine) ran the irrigation systems all night to keep the plants from freezing solid.

As counter-intuitive as it seems, the ice protected the plants. No matter how cold it got, the plants never went below 32 degrees F



When the cold heads into tropical and subtropical regions, even a light frost for some tropical plants can be devastating.

Growers in warm climates, often use 'plant blankets' (as shown here) for frost threats.

This lightweight fabric can add 2-8 degrees to the temperature, depending upon the type you use. This is usually just enough to do the job. They are available at many garden centers and bonsai shops.

### A Word of Caution About Plastic

Covering your trees with plastic can help. **HOWEVER**, when using any type of plastic, always protect your trees with a layer of cloth or even newspaper between the plastic cover and your bonsai tree.

(This also applies to small yard trees and shrubs.) Plastic conducts cold and direct contact can cause great damage. Also, remember to remove it when the temperature rises.

If your tropical bonsai collection is small and you can carry them, bring them indoors for the best protection! A night or two indoors is much better than risking a bad frost or solid freeze.

Read more: <http://www.bonsaimary.com/Bonsai-Care-in-Winter.html#ixzz4zqusSS7D>

#### ADDITIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

I would really like to include more info in our Newsletter. Write me (Jim Meister)

#### Officers for 2018

President	Jim Meister (352) 586-0582 jms_meister@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Bob Eskeitz (352) 587-4215 bonsaibobs@hotmail.com
Recording Sec.	
Treasurer:	Rosemary Anderson (352) 447-2112 arods@bellsouth.net
Newsletter:	Jim Meister (352) 586-0582 jms_meister@yahoo.com

#### Classifieds

One free ad pertaining to plants, books, bonsai, etc. will be allowed for each active club member per issue. Contact Jim Meister (352) 586-0582.

Bonsai tools for sale; Shears, concave cutters, wire cutters, knob cutters and others.

Contact Bob Eskeitz for information and prices. (352) 587-4215 or [bonsaibobs@hotmail.com](mailto:bonsaibobs@hotmail.com).