

# **BUTTONWOOD BONSAI CLUB**

## **NEWSLETTER**

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

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/346343302221765/>

**February 2017**

**Club meeting location is Whispering Pines Park, Inverness, FL.**

The Club meeting is the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month starting at 9:30 a.m.

Our January meeting was the 28<sup>th</sup>. Treasury Report: As of Dec.31, 2016 was \$1494.47.

The new fee for using Whispering Pines building for our club will be \$20.00 for 2 hours. No one said they objected to keeping the location and paying the higher fee.

Annual membership dues are due now. \$20.00 for a single person and \$25.00 for a couple or family. Annual Dues are to be paid in January. If you haven't paid, please pay our Treasurer.

Clay had given Jim some Club pins he came across. Jim followed up with the original manufacturer of those pins and found out the company can create more pins. But, here's the bad news, the cost for 50 pins is \$400.00. Because we must now pay more for the meeting location there was no interest in the pins.

Clay spoke with Millie the Crystal River Mall manager. We can have space at the mall during their "Spring Craft Fair" March 18. Usual set up time is 9:00 am. Pack up time is 4:00 pm. The Club is going to show our trees in the food court to promote the Club. Everyone should plan on attending and bring several of your trees. Trees should be labeled. Clay has a mature juniper for Bob to work as a demonstration. Bob said he will probably be working on the tree all day long but had designated 10am to noon then 12:30 to 1:30 and again 2pm to 3:30 as specific demo times. If you talk with someone and they want to come see a demo, you can give them a specific time. Don't just bring in your best trees, bring in those trees that need work. Since we will be there about 7 hours, you may want to work on one. This is a great way for visitors to see how you trim or style your tree.

We need alot of advertising about the Club and expecially the March 18<sup>th</sup> show. Clay is putting together a flyer and I'm going to look into prices for our own ad in The Chronicle. I suggest each of our members promote this show. Flyers will be available at the February meeting. Take some and tack them up at places you visit. Also consider

posting on your Facebook account or other social media account you may have. You might be surprised how far reaching your post may go.

The Club held an auction of four prints and two swival trays. The donations were provided by a former Bonsai enthusiast's wife. I'm very pleased to say we may \$90.00 from the auction.

Bob talked about care and sharpening of bonsai tools, He demonstrated sharpening and told us about sanitizing and oiling tools. He covered the most commonly used tools: scissors, root cutters, and concave cutters. He also talked about using a sanding block, Lysol, and light weight oil to keep tools in excellent condition.

February's meeting program is "Spring preparation of trees". Our topic focuses on how to prepare your bonsai for the 2017 growing year. This will include transplanting, repotting, shaping, trimming, which type wire to use, and soil mixtures. Bring in your trees and get expert advice on preparing them for the 2017 growing season. If you bring a tree for repotting or wiring, please bring your soil and wire. I encourage members (or non-members) to bring in trees for some practice hands on experience and help. If you are thinking about taking some trees to the March 18 Mall showing this meeting would be an excellent opportunity to get your trees prepared for the show.

## **WINTER CARE**

Article by David & Linda VanBuskirk of D&L Nursery

6550 SE 153<sup>rd</sup> Ct. Ocklawaha, FL 32179

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Deciduous trees have a certain amount of chilling hours they require in order to get enough rest through the winter. Temperatures below 45 degrees are known as chilling temperatures. The number of hours accumulates through the winter months and constitutes total hours of chilling. Here in our area we experience 3-400 chilling hours. Species and varieties differ in the amount of chilling hours they must have in order to get a complete rest and resume normal growth. This is considered the chilling requirement of the species or variety. This is why we cannot grow trees here that grow farther north, they require many more chilling hours. A plant which does not receive sufficient chilling hours to satisfy rest is usually delayed in leafing out and blooming. Trees will live only a few years with insufficient chilling hours. This is also why we need to leave our deciduous and other cold hardy trees outside through the winter, bringing them in will not allow them to receive the proper amount of chilling hours. Also why I stress for everyone to know and study each species of tree you have. Knowing their natural environment and growing conditions will enable you to take much better care of that tree.

We usually have all of this month to do our root pruning on deciduous trees, but if some of your trees buds are starting to swell, you best get it done. You can do any branch or root grafting on your deciduous trees. Good time to do any wiring before the buds swell. As it starts to warm up towards the end of the month keep an eye out for insects, especially Aphids. Start planning

ahead for the busiest time of the year is coming. Make sure you have all supplies needed, especially pots and soil.

Thanks D&L Nursery for letting me use your article.

### **ADDITIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER**

I would really like to add your information and experiences to our Newsletter. Send me a write up (maybe even a picture) and I'll include it in the Newsletter. I think it would be great to let the Club members know about your activity. Maybe you recently visited a Bonsai garden, or found an exciting website, maybe even had a conversation with another Bonsai enthusiast. This would be interesting to our readers. If you have any information or articles that could be of interest to our members, please contact Jim Meister so that he can place them in the newsletter for everyone to read.

### **Officers for 2017**

President	Jim Meister (352) 586-0582 <a href="mailto:jms_meister@yahoo.com">jms_meister@yahoo.com</a>
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### **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).