

BUTTONWOOD BONSAI CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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April 2017

National Bonsai Day April 13

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

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

14 members and 2 guests attended the March meeting. Guests were Judy Holbein and Tom Brantley. Thanks for attending and hope you had a good time. The Treasurer reported the Club has \$1,865.00 in our treasury as of February 28.

Rosemary Anderson is our treasurer and keeper of the name tags. She will be making name tags for our new members. Please wear your name tag during the meetings. We have had several guests attending our meetings and I think name tags will help guests feel at home by knowing who they are talking with.

March 18th was our Club's showing at the Crystal River mall. The show was a little too early in the spring season for our trees to be at their best. But the trees still looked great. They drew in many people curious about our Bonsai trees. We talked with many people who had lots of questions and we even signed one new member. There were a few people we spoke with who might be potential new members.

The April Club meeting is going to be jam packed with excitement. First the ever exciting meeting followed by the raffle. Don't forget to bring raffle items. Then we are going to look at Tom's redwood for ways to trim it. He brought it to the March meeting and went away with several ideas.

Alexis Ellis of Crystal River will talk about her pottery. Alexis is a potter who can make bonsai pots. As you know it's very difficult to find quality bonsai pots so we will have her talk about her product, show some examples and provide prices.

April's program doesn't stop here. The main portion of the program is Horticultural Care proper watering, fertilizing, insect and disease control and is being presented by Jim

Bruno, Master Gardener. Jim has talked to our Club before and always has a wealth of information to share. He's the first to say he doesn't know anything about Bonsai but his information is useful to any person who is a grower.

Here's your opportunity to share your knowledge with the Club. You could volunteer to present a program. Just select a topic and let me know what month you would like to speak. We're not looking for an expert. We're looking for your ideas, experiences and "words of wisdom". I know every member has experiences and we would really like to hear them.

Programs are: May 27, Air layering.
June 24, Visualizing and draw what a tree should look like
July 22, Workshop. Bring in the June's drawing and a tree
Aug 26, D&L Nursery, Dave VanBuskirk
Sept 23, Tree carving.
Oct 28, Grafting.
Nov 25 ?
Dec 23 ?

Other than the August 26 meeting, you can volunteer to do any of the programs in any month. You can even surprise us with a program in November or December.

Two program ideas were brought up during the March meeting; Wendy suggested a presentation of before and after defoliation of a tree(s). This could be presented at two consecutive meetings.

The second idea was Tom Brantley who offered to do a demo of a bonsai forest.

I must apologize to Barbara Wilbur. She invited the Club to her property to collect trees. I told her I would go to her place and look the area over and if it looked like there were trees we could use we would set up a trip to her property. But I haven't been to her property yet. Well I'll get there the first of April. Judd Boardman, also offered his 4 acres as a possible source. Judd leaves in May to go back North. So it looks like a fall/winter trip to Judd's property. Tom Brantley has a nursery in Anthony (North of Ocala) and has offered to sponsor a trip to his nursery.

I can't encourage you enough to bring items for our SHOW AND TELL segment of the meeting. It's a great opportunity to show off your trees but it's an even better opportunity for Club members to see other trees and get ideas and questions answered.

May 25 thru the 29 is the Florida Bonsai Convention at the Florida Hotel in Orlando sponsored by The American Bonsai Society and the Bonsai Society of Florida.

ADDITIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

I would really like to add your information and experiences to our Newsletter. Send me a write up or some notes (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 what you've been working on. Did you recently visited a Bonsai garden, or found an exciting website, or 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 jms_meister@yahoo.com
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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.