

BUTTONWOOD BONSAI CLUB NEWSLETTER

August 2018

www.buttonwoodbonsai.us

Find us on Facebook at: [buttonwood bonsai club - inverness, fl](#)

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



We had 16 members and one guest Ryan Kress at our July meeting. The treasurer's report for July was \$1,629.65 as of the end of June. Our Treasurer reports that she has rented the Whispering Pines building for all of 2019.

Mary will bring in the photos she took at the June meeting. She would like everyone, who had a photo taken to see the picture and make sure we can use it during the photo display at the library. I'm going to stop over at the Central Ridge Library and see where the display will be set up and get more specifics. I'm going to talk with the library about setting this display at other library locations. The more publicity the better for our club.

Bob gave a program on Rafting a tree at the July meeting. I think this is the first time I've seen a program on rafting at our club. Thanks Bob for the program. If anyone is considering doing a tree rafting consider bringing it to the club. We raffled off the finished product and Wendy won it. Congratulations Wendy. But, we would like to see the tree in about six months.

Tom said the best books for Florida bonsai trees are Tropical Green Sheets books 1 and II by Martha Goff. I found them on the internet for about \$40.00 each. But, we have one book in our library.

Speaking of our library, our club has a very large selection of books that you can borrow. I haven't gotten them out of our cabinet but one of these meetings I'll get them all out. If you are interested in looking at our selection, let me know and I can open the cabinet for you.

Clay is presenting "defoliating a tree" at our August meeting. This should be interesting.

Please bring in your tree for show and tell. We really want to see what you are working on.

Need input on 2019 programs topics. So far I have 17 ideas. What we don't do in 2019 we'll plan for 2020. I don't have much detail on each topic at this time but I'm putting together more details. I want to plan programs around what YOU want.

1. Air Layering
2. Bonsai soil, the good, the bad, and the ugly
3. Pruning & branching
4. Tree styles
5. Care and feeding of bonsai trees.
6. Tree groupings

7. Root over rock bonsai.
8. How to address tree wounds
9. Workshop - other
10. Bonsai tree care – 8 tips for beginners.
11. Club sale
12. Club member demonstrations (member show and tell)
13. Wiring
14. Potting and repotting workshop
15. Junipers – Tom
16. How to trim a tree (tips, tricks and secrets)
17. Problem tree workshop

Here is the remaining 2018 program schedule.

Sept 22 Grafting - Bob

Oct 27 Douglas and JoAnn Good

Nov 24 Wiring – Bob

Dec 22 Review of group planting – Tom Brantley

With all the rain, watch out for these common bonsai tree diseases:

Black Spot: This fungus mostly attacks foliage and will appear as black spots or patches on the leaves. Eventually, the leaves will yellow, shrivel, and drop off. Once a leaf is infected, it must be removed from the tree to prevent spreading. Spray healthy foliage with a fungicide. Since water will encourage spores to travel to other parts of the plant, it is important that you do not water your tree until after all the affected areas have been removed.

Leaf Spot: Similar to Black Spot, this fungus is characterized by white, black, brown, or grey spots (depending on the species), on leaves or small twigs and branches. Typically, blemishes will be white at first and then change to a darker color as the disease progresses. Eventually, lesions will develop, and foliage will wither and die. Any affected leaves, fruit, or branches must be removed immediately, the soil cleaned of any debris, and healthy foliage sprayed with a fungicide.

Mold or Mildew: Mildew is a fungi that thrives in damp environments with insufficient sunlight and poor ventilation. A White (Powdery Mildew) or Black (Sooty mold) substance appears on the foliage, stems, or branches and can cause distorted growth, discoloration, and loss of vigor or dieback. It is possible to completely eliminate the mildew from infected leaves, therefore the affected foliage and shoots must be removed as soon as possible. Spray the tree with a fungicide to prevent reinfection. Sometimes, Black Sooty Mold can be caused by an infestation of aphids or scale insects. Removing the pests by hand and/or spraying your bonsai with a mild insecticide will help eliminate the insects, but infected foliage will still need to be removed and a fungicide applied. Make sure to place your tree in an area with sufficient sunlight and ventilation.

Rust: This is a fungal disease that appears as yellow, orange, red, or brown raised bumps or blisters on the undersides of leaves. Eventually, the leaves will curl up and fall off. Although Rust infections are not usually fatal, they can cause severe damage to your tree. It is important to remove the affected area and treat the healthy foliage with a fungicide. Remember to place the plant in a well ventilated area to prevent reinfection.

Chlorosis: This is a condition caused by a lack of chlorophyll and results from a damaged or compacted root system as well as nutrient deficiencies such as a lack of iron. Leaves will turn yellow but the veins will remain green and the plant will begin to wilt. Adding chelated iron to the water and taking proper care of your tree's roots will help treat chlorosis.

Root Rot: Improper drainage can cause roots to turn brown and mushy. Leaves will also become discolored, branches may weaken and break off, and growth will be stunted. Affected roots must be pruned

away and the bonsai transplanted into fresh soil. Make sure that your choice of container and medium allows for sufficient drainage so that roots are not overwatered.

Scab or Canker Diseases: These diseases can appear as a fading of leaf color, poor growth, or a swelling of the bark. Many canker infections develop after pruning, and treatment requires cutting out the infected areas and then applying wound paste. Other scab and canker infections may be caused by too much nitrogen or improper fertilizing. By following recommended fertilizing and pruning procedures you can prevent the occurrence of these diseases.

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.	NEED a volunteer!
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Treasurer:	Rosemary Anderson (352) 464-4573 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.