

# **NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB**

## **SEPTEMBER 2017**

### **NFBC Officers**

Josh Brown	President
Open	VicePresident
Bruce Washington	Treasurer
Ron Price	Secretary

### **Sept News**

- NO MEETING ON MONDAY
- We have soil! If you need soil contact Mike [bettsmike@hotmail.com](mailto:bettsmike@hotmail.com), and please return your empty buckets.
- 2016 / 2017 membership dues now due. Cost is \$36 for the year. This includes membership in BSF and the BSF electronic magazine.

---

### Meeting Agenda

Bonsai 911 - bring in your sick tree, struggling tree, or a bonsai that's just not thriving for a checkup.

Internet of bonsai - where to go online. The good the bad and the ugly.

---

**MEETING HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE  
EVENING OF THE WORKSHOP  
SEPTEMBER 20 7:00 PM**

---

## From Josh Brown:

I was contacted by a homeowner familiar with bonsai who is looking to remove some boxwoods from his yard. He has seven plants that he would allow our club to collect from his yard free of charge. These are old boxwood specimens and you can see from the very white smooth bark that they have a lot of age and subtle character. According to the homeowner they have been in his yard for 20+ years and they have developed very slim graceful trunks. I have taken a look at these trees and believe they might be some sort of dwarf species given their age and the slim size; however, they is purely speculation. These would make interesting literati or bunjin specimens.

If anyone is interested in collecting these trees to add to your collection please let me know. The tentative plan is to collect the Boxwoods one weekend in November, after the weather cools off, to give them a better chance for survival.



**What**            **Bonsai Sale**  
**When**           **September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 10:00**

As many of you have heard, former NFBC member Paul Katich passed away unexpectedly in June 2017.

Paul was involved in bonsai since the late 80s and has many trees that have been in training throughout his decades in the hobby. Unfortunately his wife Norine does not have the ability to care for these wonderful trees in her husband's absence. She has had his collection appraised by Rodney Clemmons, (Rodney is a bonsai artist instructor and curator in GA) and based upon Rodney's advice they have created a price list for all of his trees. Norine is offering our club a chance to view his collection and potentially purchase something before she reaches out to other clubs in the state. I will warn everyone that this is not a "yard sale" of Paul's bonsai. His trees are worthy of national collections and one tree has already been selected by the Chicago Botanic Garden and others are being considered for application to the National Collection in Washington D.C. He felt very strongly about his collection and rarely if ever sold a tree. His wife's view is that bonsai is art and she has priced his materials with that in mind. I am not trying to discourage anyone from attending but want to make sure everyone goes into this with the appropriate expectations. Based upon the prices Norine has shared with me there is very little in his collection that will be selling for less than \$200.

I understand that this price is too high for many beginners in the club; however, this is an opportunity to view high quality material and I encourage you to observe and study his trees even if you are unable to purchase anything. I have included a tree inventory along with a link to pictures for those who are interested.

Photo Steam - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bellotapots/>

See tree listing attached to the email sent with the news letter

## WORKSHOP SEPTEMBER 20, 7:00 PM MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB

### Rodney Clemons



Rodney Clemons spent his formative years in the Florida panhandle, moving to Atlanta, GA when he was thirteen. He was captivated by bonsai in 1973 when he saw a Trident maple forest that struck chords in his heart and artistic nature. Bonsai has been his passion since that time. Rodney is a bonsai artist and instructor, specializing in Japanese gardens and natural water features. His work has developed his sensitive eye and skill with rock and plant placement which adds realism to his bonsai creations. He studied with E. Felton Jones and enjoyed workshops with many visiting artists like John Naka and Yugi Yoshimura. His style has been formed by studying nature, drawing heavily on childhood memories of coastal Florida. Rodney excels in capturing the tension in nature and stranslating it into bonsai. He is best known for his unique “rock plantings” and his love of “Kingsville” boxwood. When teaching his remarks are delivered with a liberal dose of humor. He has been an invited speaker to numerous Bonsai societies meetings and conventions. A few of the highlights are: 1987 BSF Convention, Fort Walton Beach, FL; 1989-1997 Southeast Bonsai Conferences, Atlanta, GA; 1993 World Bonsai Convention, Orlando, FL; 1996 ABS Convention, Hershey, PA; 1197 International Bonsai Convention, England; 1998 International Bonsai Symposium, Rochester, NY; 2001 Mid Atlantic Convention, Newark NJ; 2002, 2205 and 2009 Brussel’s Rendezvous, Memphis, TN; Expo 2005, Ashville, NC; He has spoken at four BSF Conventions, the last one was Gainesville, FL in 2006. Rodney has been President of the Atlanta Bonsai Society three times since joining the organization in 1973. He was President of Phoenix Bonsai Federation in 1999. Phoenix hosted a convention with Masahiko Kimura as the exclusive speaker. Rodney continues traveling, teaching, judging shows and critiquing collections. He leads a study group at Smith Gilbert Gardens in Kennesaw GA, where he is the curator of their collection. He also is the curator of the collection at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers GA. At present he is applying his talents at his nursery, Allgood Bonsai, designing trees and teaching advanced workshops. Rodney enjoys the opportunity to share and express his love of nature and bonsai with people in the hops that he can influence them in a positive way.