

NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

April 2023

NFBC Bonsai Events

- April 1st Soil Mixing Event @ 10am
 - This event will include a Swap and Shop. Please bring anything you want to sell or trade.
 - Soil will also be available to purchase at the event
- April 10th 2023 NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - “The Archive” - Tree Development and Documentation
 - Bring the tree you have done the best job documenting along with pictures showing its development journey
- April 28th-29th Plant Sale with Mandarin Garden Club
 - Friday & Saturday 9am – 2pm



Josh Brown's Elm Forest on display at Epcot 2023

I saw this quote and thought this was a great manta for Bonsai.

*Fall in love with the
process because there is
no finish line*

Other Bonsai Events

- Epcot Flower & Garden
 - Bonsai trees from around Florida will be on display March 1st – July 4th
- Schleys Spring Festival
 - April 15th 9am-5pm
- D&L customer appreciation day
 - May 13th all day event
 - Guest presenters Ed Trout and ceramicist Dan Beeman
- BSF Convention
 - Memorial Day Weekend in Orlando, FL
 - Registration Active
 - <https://www.bsfcconvention.com/>

Soil Mixing Event

Our next soil mixing spectacular is scheduled for Saturday April 1st at 10:00am. We will meet at Mike's house in Middleburg.



The weather should be beautiful and with the sifters Mike made it is easy on your back. If history is any indicator, we should be able to make all the buckets in less than 2hrs if we get good participation. That will give us more than enough time to see Mike's collection and socialize.

For those able to make it we are encouraging everyone to bring trees to sell/trade at the event. It is a great chance to swap and shop material.

We hope to see you at there and remember to return any empty buckets.

April Meeting

How do you retain the memories of your bonsai development journey? Bonsai go through big changes when we prune or wire them but day to day they often look familiar. It's not until you look back that you see how much they have changed over time.

For this month's meeting will be seeing how we document our trees development. Any of you with children, or furry children, can appreciate how quickly things change over time without you realizing it. You sometimes fail to recognize until you look at an old photo how much something has grown. These photos bring back many fond memories and that's what we want to tap into.



Unlock you inner archivists and bring a tree where you have documented its development. Bring not only your tree but your process for how you documented the work. It can be as simple as a photo log on your phone, a physical tag on the tree, or something much more complex. I am excited to hear what everyone does and see how trees have changed over time.

This is quite possibly the most inspirational part of bonsai.

March Recap

Azaleas is always a popular topic. Especially in the spring when their beauty is on full display. We are very lucky to have Tristan to speak on these trees since they really are a passion of his.

To steal a quote from Mike Caira
“Tristan did an amazing job speaking on Azalea’s this evening! He covered it all and the entire group got something out of it.”



Another thank you goes out to Steve Davies for organizing the opportunity to collect trees on some property that was preparing to be cleared in St Augustine. The site was a fun treasure hunt with a variety of oaks, ilex, and other trees. It was a beautiful little area and the small group that took part had a lot of fun tromping through the woods for bonsai treasures.

Seasonal Advice

Now that we are seeing spring temperatures our soil has warmed causing root growth followed by a spring flush on all temperate trees. Tropical trees should be following the same pattern soon, they just require a higher temperature for root growth to initiate.

Deciduous Trees – Spring is fully here and all of your deciduous trees should all be leafed out. Wait to fertilize until after the spring flush has hardened off. For instance, if you look at new maple leaves they will be very soft and have a slight red hue. These leaves have not gotten to the “leather hard” stage where their outer cells harden to prevent excess moisture loss and sunburn.

Broadleaf Evergreens – These can still be repotted but some care must be given if our temperatures raise dramatically. Now is a good time to conduct detail pruning and leaf reduction to lighten the canopy and allow light into interior branches.

Conifers – Their roots should be mostly left alone until fall. Wiring and pruning can still be done.

Tropical Trees – Tropicals should be coming out of the greenhouse. They can be pruned if necessary. It's still not warm enough to repot them yet with nighttime temps still dropping below the 60's on occasion. We are getting closer and repotting can probably begin in late April or early May.



BSF is ready for the 49th Annual Convention, taking place in Orlando May 26 to 28th. The convention website IS LIVE and registration started March 16th.

You may register for the convention along with purchasing a spot in workshops at

<https://www.bsfconvention.com/>

I highly encourage anyone to attend. Over the course of the weekend you can view 8 demonstrations, take part in up to 6 workshops, see an exhibition of world class bonsai, visit a huge vendor area, and generally have a fun weekend in Orlando.



Bonsai Classifieds

If you have something you are interested in buying/selling please send contact information for inclusion in future newsletters.

NFBC Membership

- Membership is \$36 for the year
- Visitors are always welcome at meetings and events

Soil

- The cost is \$25 for a five gallon bucket.

Trees & Supplies

- Josh has bonsai and pre-bonsai available. Please contact him at joshuareubenbrown1@yahoo.com for information.
- Ryan has broken ground on Komorebi bonsai garden. Please contact him at Ryan.L.Northrup@gmail.com to buy, sell, or get more information.



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