

NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

March 2023

NFBC Bonsai Events

- March 13th 2023 NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Species Spotlight – Azalea; Repotting and Care.
 - Bring azaleas or other flowering trees to show off and discuss
- Soil Mixing Event to be scheduled
 - Vendor issues continue but a backup has been secured, we will plan accordingly during the March meeting
- April 10th 2023 NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Tree Development, bring the tree you have had the longest along with pictures showing its development journey
- April 28th-29th Plant Sale with Mandarin Garden Club
 - Friday & Saturday 9am – 2pm



Award Winning tree from Joy of Bonsai 2023

Other Bonsai Events

- Epcot Flower & Garden
 - Bonsai trees from around Florida will be on display March 1st – July 4th
 - Josh will have a tree on display. Take a selfie with it and send it to him!
- Schleys Spring Festival
 - April 15th 9am-5pm
- BSF Convention
 - Memorial Day Weekend in Orlando, FL
 - Website active March 1st
 - <https://www.bsfconvention.com/>



Joy of Bonsai 2023 was a great event. The demos/workshops were great and the exhibit was one of their best in many years.

March Meeting

This month's meeting will be a species spotlight on Azaleas. Tristan is our resident expert on Azaleas and he will lead us in a conversation on their care.

There are a lot of things that make flowering trees, and specifically azaleas, special. When you get into the major category of fruiting and flowering trees the focus shifts somewhat. There is a lessening on the "rules" about structure and compromises are made to showcase the flower. After all, what is the fun of growing a tree that flowers if you are not going to enjoy its greatest asset?

Bring any Azalea you have to the meeting so we can discuss them together. If you don't have one I would encourage you to visit some local garden centers and consider picking one up. There are a ton of options out there which would make some really nice material. You can also feel free to bring other flowering bonsai trees for us to enjoy together.

February Recap

Our February meeting was a great break from the structured "normal" meeting. It was awesome to see everyone diving in and working on their trees together. The variety of trees brought in was great. What was even better was that I didn't see any trees that didn't have the potential to make a great bonsai. I am excited that all of our members are developing an eye for picking material. Starting from something interesting is the quickest, and some might say best, way to create good bonsai.

I wish I took more pictures but I found myself too busy assembling a trident maple forest. Thank you to everyone who lent a hand to others and provided advice. You made this meeting great.



Tree Collection (Yamadori) Opportunity

NFBC club member Steve Davies has an opportunity to collect trees in St. Augustine. He is aware of a 5 acre tract of land owned by Habit for Humanity that will be cleared in June. He got approval from the agency to harvest anything of interest and is generously sharing that opportunity with the bonsai club.

The area hasn't been fully explored but below is a representative picture of what it looks like. There are ilex and saw palmetto for sure...probably other varieties in the 5 acres of forest.

Steve is coordinating two days for the group to go collect material. If anyone is interested contact him at (stmrddavies@gmail.com) for details or to sign up.

Meeting location 883 Helen St in St Augustine

Dates / Times Saturday March 11th - 10:45-12

Wednesday March 15th - 10:45-12



Seasonal Advice

The warm days keep coming and our winter should be behind us. Take time to enjoy all the signs of spring around your garden. With a garden full of flowers, fresh green growth, and nice weather it truly is a beautiful time of year.

Deciduous Trees – leaf buds should be swelling or fully opened. They can be repotted any time before the leaves fully emerge. After the leaves start to open

its best to wait into next year to repot. Young soft leaves will transpire quite a bit so pay attention to your watering.

Conifers and broadleaf evergreen trees – We are reaching the end of their repotting window now. You can still trim and prune but be careful when wiring certain species (like juniper) as bark can very easily slip from the cambium this time of year.

Tropical Trees – We are getting closer but it's still not their time yet. You should be busy enough with deciduous that it won't be a problem to leave them alone for another month.

For all trees keep an eye out for any signs of pests. The new young growth is a tasty treat to all kinds of insects.



**BONSAI
SOCIETIES OF
FLORIDA**

BSF is gearing up for the 49th Annual Convention, taking place in Orlando May 26 to 28th.

The convention website will go live on March 1, providing information on the headliner artists, demo schedule, workshop information, etc.

Starting on March 16th at 8pm, you may register for the convention along with purchasing a spot in workshops.

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



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.
 - o **Out of Stock**, pending pickup of new material

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.



NFBC Officers

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Tristan Kincaid | President |
| Bruce Washington | Treasurer |
| Jami Jenkins | Secretary |
| Joel Reforma | Website |
| Josh Brown | Newsletter |
| Joe Stumpf | Board Member |