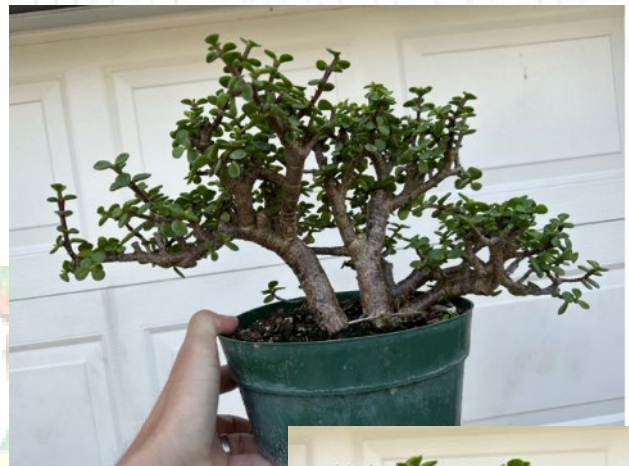


NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

May 2023

NFBC Bonsai Events

- April 28th-29th Plant Sale with Mandarin Garden Club
 - Friday & Saturday 9am – 2pm
- May 8th 2023 NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Mame bonsai are the smallest of the small... 6" or less to be exact.
 - Bring your tiniest of tiny trees as David Ruth leads us on a talk about care and training for mame/shohin trees
- June 12th 2023 NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Tentative topic will be ficus care and working on the Bob Nevis legacy ficus trees



We have started planning for our next beginner bonsai class and the trees are outstanding



Another Bonsai related quote

*We don't make trees.
The tree makes itself.
The artist can only
remove or redirect
growth.*

Other Bonsai Events

- D&L customer appreciation day
 - May 13th all day event
 - Guest presenters Ed Trout, Betty Cruz Siskind, Randy Clark, Dan Beeman and Jeanne Cosenza
- BSF Convention
 - Memorial Day Weekend in Orlando, FL
 - Registration Active
 - <https://www.bsfconvention.com/>
- Epcot Flower & Garden
 - Bonsai trees from around Florida will be on display March 1st – July 4th

May Meeting

Our meeting on Monday May 8th is going to be focusing on the smallest of the tiny trees. The Japanese classification for these trees is “Mame” which is a term for trees that are less than 6” tall. Even though all of our bonsai techniques focus on representing nature in miniature the Mame bonsai take it to the extreme.

There are some special things to know in order to keep these smaller trees healthy and some tricks that can be used to keep them thriving.

The delicacy of these little trees make a cool counterpoint to larger trees. Come join us and bring your little trees to show off!

April Recap

We learned in our April meeting that everyone documents their trees differently. From technological to very simple it was great hearing and seeing what everyone does. I took a few things away and was excited to see the diversity in everyone’s bonsai practice.

Thanks to everyone who was able to join us for the soil mixing event. We made 55+ total buckets (43 bucket of our normal mix, 12 buckets of shohin mix for smaller trees, and multiple smaller buckets for those with only a few trees). It was incredibly successful and I saw multiple pictures shared on the Facebook page.

Please continue to return empty buckets for our next event.



BSF is ready for the 49th Annual Convention, taking place in Orlando May 26 to 28th. You may register for the convention along with purchasing a spot in workshops at

<https://www.bsconvention.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.

Remember the **Vendor area and Exhibit are FREE!**

NFBC will also be participating in club night on Saturday from 7:30-11pm. If you will be at the convention please contact Jami to join in the fun and help NFBC win the \$500 grand prize

Seasonal Advice

The temperatures are moving from warm to hot. Keep a close eye on your plants. They will begin to dry out faster and some will not be able to tolerate Florida's intense sunlight. Finding locations with afternoon shade will greatly increase the health of many plants.

TROPICALS – It is now almost summer and the warm nighttime temp's means tropical trees are growing again. It's now safe to start repotting, defoliating, and do major cutbacks on your tropical trees. You can begin to repot your tropicals such as ficus, bougainvillea, and Fukien tea plants. It is still a good idea to wait on the very sensitive trees like buttonwood.

Many of your tropical trees will be shedding some interior leaves and pushing new growth. A peek under the soil will show many new white root tips.

PRUNING – You can continue to prune most trees that are rapidly growing. The removal of branches will encourage new growth. Think of it as addition by subtraction; however, it is important to remember the old axiom think twice and cut once. I have yet to successfully glue a branch back on after it's been cut off.

MISC – It is also a good idea to water your plants early in the day (when possible) so the leaves will be dry before going into the night hours, decreasing the chance of fungus.

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

Bonsai Societies of Florida

- 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.



Thanks for reading all the way to the end. Enjoy this picture of my kids posing in front of my tree at Epcot... It's one of my new favorites.

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