

NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

February 2024

NFBC Bonsai Events

- February 12th NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - We are holding our Club styling competition and have one seat still available
 - For those not participating we will be having conversations about wiring and hands on practice. Bring a tree to work on.
 - We will also be soliciting ideas for future meetings and events
- March 11th NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Topic TBD



A beautiful live oak on display at Wigert's Bonsai in Fort Meyers Florida. We are fortunate to have multiple fantastic bonsai nurseries available to us in Florida with more coming to the first coast soon.



The 50th BSF convention will be happening over Memorial day Weekend 2024. Artist details are now available with more information to follow in the coming months.

Florida Bonsai Events

- Kawa's Joy of Bonsai Show
 - February 2-4th 2024
 - Registration still available
 - See Kawabonsai.com for details
- Forest Bonsai Society of Ocala
 - One day Exhibit on Feb 24th 11-3 pm
 - Forest Community Center in Ocklawaha
- Monthly Workshops with Schley's Bonsai
 - Feb 10th with Ed Trout or May 11th with Abner Cruz

February Workshop

The North Florida Bonsai Club will host our styling competition during the February Meeting. We have one spot remaining if anyone else is interested in participating please email Josh at joshuareubenbrown1@yahoo.com to guarantee your spot.

We will be using some medium sized junipers for the competition. Contestants will have up to two hours to style their material. The trees and wire will be provided by NFBC. Participants need to provide their own tools and other supplies. Judging will be done by the club president (or designee), the district trustee, and a peoples choice vote.

Whoever wins our contest will represent District 3 and participate in the finals at the 2023 BSF Convention. Winners will act as “apprentices” to the various instructors and artists during the 2024 BSF Convention, assisting with wiring, defoliation, etc. during workshops or demonstrations. The first-place winner at the convention receives \$1,000 towards the study of bonsai or related arts.

Even if you are not participating, come to encourage your peers, see the marvelous transformations and cast your vote for peoples choice.

We will also breakout into informal groups to practice wiring and improve your skills.

Bring a tree to wire.



Joy of Bonsai

Joy of Bonsai is here.

See you there this weekend

JOY OF BONSAI 2024 SCHEDULE	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3	
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Exhibit & Vendor Setup
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Exhibit Judging & Awards
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Portluck, Hors d'Oeuvres, Light Buffet
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Exhibit Opens
	Exhibit Critique - Sean Smith
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4	
8:00 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Workshop 1 - Sean Smith Multi-Size Bonsai Display Table
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Demo 1 - Jeanne Cosenza Kusamono/Kokedama
11:00 AM	BSF District 6 Styling Competition
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Workshop 2 - Sean Smith Shimpaku Juniper
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Workshop 3 - Jeanne Cosenza Kusamono/Kokedama
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Live Auction
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5	
8:00 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Workshop 4 - Sean Smith Bonsai Root Stand (Dremel Needed)
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Demo 2: TBA
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Workshop 5 - Sean Smith Bring Your Own Tree
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Demo 3 - Multi-Person Round Table Open to all registrants, 1st and 2nd prize will be awarded. Winners must agree to bring a tree to Joy of Bonsai 2025. All trees will be entered in the live auction
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Live Auction

January Meeting

January was a great start way to start the year for NFBC. The events with Andrew Giles were packed with information and very well received. The Ebihara board techniques are fascinating and I personally left feeling very inspired. You will see trees all over my garden with new root grafts, washers applied over seedlings, trees attached to boards... all kinds of root related shenanigans!

The soil mixing event later in the month was also a



huge success. Thank you Mike for hosting all of us and showing off your garden.

We were able to make over 40 more buckets of soil and are well stocked going into the spring season.

Bonsai Societies of Florida News

Bonsai Societies of Florida sent an email to all active members on January 26th. It was very detailed with lots of information. I will try to recap the highpoints here for those who might have missed it.

- BSF has a NEW website that is significantly easier to navigate. Please visit the site and check it out <https://bonsai-bsf.com/>

- Epcot's Flower & Garden Festival will include 18 bonsai in the Japanese pavilion, as well as 9 penjing in the Chinese pavilion. The festival runs from February 28 through Memorial Day, May 27.
- BSF is gearing up for our 50th Annual Convention, taking place in Orlando May 24 to 26!
 - BSF has lined up an extraordinary list of visiting artists:
 - Walter Pall
 - Mauro Stemberger
 - Ed Trout & Betty Siskind
 - Reggie & Cosette Purdue
 - Jennifer Price
 - Full registration has been reduced to \$100 (when staying at the hotel) with daily registration \$50
 - Full registration details will be on the website March 1st with details on the workshops, demos and full calendar.



Seasonal Advice

Winter is still upon us in early February even though it doesn't always feel like it. There have been some cool periods mixed in with some mild Florida temps. A few of my trees got confused and just started to wake up early. Keep an eye on your trees to prevent new growth being damaged during cold nights.

Tropical Trees - We shouldn't be doing any work on tropical trees. Our primary goal is protecting trees as temperatures drop. A frozen tropical tree will sustain serious damage.

Deciduous Trees – You may have noticed some pollen on your car and flowers on the red maples which indicates spring is close. Your bonsai trees may start showing signs of “waking up” from winter. You will soon see buds beginning to swell and open for spring. That is your sign that the trees balance of energy has moved out of the roots and back into the core of the tree. Once this happens it's a great time to repot most deciduous trees.

Conifers and Broadleaf Evergreen Trees – These trees can now be safely repotted, trimmed and wired. If you do any real aggressive bending it is a good idea to protect the trees if temperatures drop below freezing. However, protection should not be necessary after a normal repotting and routine trimming.

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.
- AncientCityBonsai is coming soon to St. Augustine with a projected opening in Spring



Meeting History

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January		Pesticides, fungicides and fertilizers	Juniper	Styling Competition	Guest Artist Jeanne Cosenza	Guest Artist Andrew Giles
February		Repotting	Root over Rock	Wiring	BYOT	Styling Competition
March	Convention Prep	Guest artist Adam Lavigne	Azalea	Guest Speaker David Cutchin	Azalea	
April	Guest artist Adam Lavigne	Azalea	General care basics	Convention Prep	Tree Documentation	
May	Ficus Propagation	Ficus Styling	Air Layering	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Mame size	Raintree (Tentative)
June	Red Maple	Buttonwood	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Black Pine	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	
July	Beginner Workshop	Beginner Workshop	Black Pine	Summer Maintenance	BYOT	Neea Workshop (Tentative)
August	Wiring	Beginner Workshop	Guest Speaker David Cutchin	Air Layering	Beginner Workshop	
September	Find the Front	Guest Speaker Reggie Perdue	Beginner Workshop	Guest Speaker Robert Kempinski	Beginner Workshop	
October	Día de Los Muertos	Help trees recover	Bring your favorite tree	Beginner Workshop	NFBC Club tree & BYOT	
November	Styling Competition	Winter Prep	Pot Selection	Styling Competition	Juniper Trim & Thin	
December	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	

NFBC Officers

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