

NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

July 2024

NFBC Bonsai Events

- July 8th NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Bring Your Own Tree Workshop
 - Guest Artist Adam Lavigne
 - 12 spots available
- August 12th NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Topic TBD



Penjing style Chinese elm on display at the United States National Arboretum Bonsai Collection.

The Chinese Pavilion has a much different “feel” than the other pavilions. Its inspiring to see the art of tiny trees treated and presented differently.



John Naka's Goshin “protector of the spirit” on display at the United States National Arboretum Bonsai Collection.

Other Bonsai Events

- Multi-Club Auction & Picnic
 - October 12th in Cocoa FL
- Winter Silhouette Bonsai
 - Kannapolis North Carolina
 - December 7th – 8th

July Meeting

The next North Florida Bonsai Club meeting will be Monday July 8th at 7pm. For the July meeting NFBC will be hosting the very talented Orlando bonsai artist Adam Lavigne. Adam has a strong online presence and many of you are probably already family with his website and blog adamaskwhy.com.



Adam draws upon his history as an artist and woodcarver to bring about his bonsai creations and manages to draw the best out of any material. For the upcoming meeting Adam will be conducting a BYOT workshop.

The workshop will be free for NFBC Members.

The workshop will be limited and the first 12 that respond to reserve a spot. If you have any questions or want to sign up for the event, please contact Tristan at yodasworkshop@aol.com or 904-993-3177.

As always, the meeting is open and available to observers. We encourage everyone to bring a tree with them because we may be able to add more spots to the workshop, if time allows.



Convention Recap

BSF did an excellent job putting together the 50th annual convention. The headlining artists were top notch and befitting of a milestone year. I was personally only able to attend one day but, even after spending a whole day there, I was left wishing I could have spent more time. I was especially excited to see a great turnout from our club. I ran into over a dozen NFBC members on Saturday alone!



Speaking of NFBC being well represented, our own David Ruth took first place in the styling competition. David won money to help pursue his bonsai education, will be assisting

the guest artist at the 2025 BSF Convention, and will be leading a demonstration 2025.

Make sure to congratulate David when you see him next because this is a huge accomplishment.



Mark your calendars for Memorial Day weekend 2025 as John Geanangel and Laurent Darrieux have been announced as next years headliners.



Joe Stumpf's Tree on display in the BSF convention exhibit



NFBC Club Tree - Catlin Elm presented by Jami Kincaid



Demo Tree (Elm) done by Mauro Stemberger



Demo Tree (Maple) done by Walter Pall

Included is a great summary of the convention from Jeanne Cosenza.

Note: I have abridged is slightly to remove information only pertinent to her District.

I hope you had the opportunity to attend the 50th annual BSF Convention. The guest artists were phenomenal. From critiques and demos to workshops and availability, they were outstanding! Something different this year was the Bonsai Inspiration event. Walter Pall, Mauro Stemberger, Ed Trout and Jennifer Price gave valuable insight on several trees that BSF members brought in, offering suggestions for future design or redesign. It was the perfect example of yin and yang.

Now, on to the BSF Convention review ...

Board Meeting

The minutes of the meeting in January were approved. Next year is an election year so these Board positions are open:

- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Membership

If you think you would be a good candidate for any of these positions, please consider running.

District 4 Trustee position was vacated by Paul Bova as his primary club had withdrawn from BSF. There was a motion to ask Paul to remain as the District 4 Trustee. A proposed change to the Guidelines and Procedures Manual will make it possible for any member society member from a given district to seek office as a trustee from their district.

Paul Pikel will be vacating his role as Epcot Chairman and Larry Naedar will assume that responsibility in 2026. Congratulations Larry!

Convention Highlights

Florida Bonsai Documentary

The crew from this five-year project presented a rough-cut preview of the movie throughout the weekend and received rave reviews. The highlight of the documentary and the big surprise that had been teased for days was the discovery of The Cloud, the original ficus salicaria that Florida bonsai legend Joe Samuels had discovered and developed in the 1970s. All ficus salicaria trees have come from The Cloud which was on display in the lobby!

Exhibit

The exhibit entrants deserve congratulations as their trees are the anchor of a fabulous weekend of education and camaraderie. Among the wonderful trees presented, there were many that won recognition.

And the award goes to ...

Best Small Tree: Judy Gore

Best Medium Tree: Kay Waldron
Best Large Tree: Christopher Neale
Best Shohin: Rob Kempinski
Best Companion: Doug Marcum
Best Display: Michael and Lunetta Knowlton
Best in Show: Ben Agresta
President's Choice: Cesar Gonzalez
Mary Madison Best Native Tree: Judy Gore
James J. Smith Heathcote: Christian Casellas
People's Choice: Charles Peterfy
Club Tree Exhibit: Suncoast Bonsai Society (Greg Ferro)

Scholarship Competition

First place: David Ruth
Second place: Scott Lehman

Club Night Competition

First place: Tallahassee Bonsai Society
Second place: Treasure Coast Bonsai Society

In closing, I'd like to thank all of the committee members and volunteers. Convention volunteers' hours are recorded and in return earn money for their clubs. Look to BSF's Facebook page as it already has started publishing photos of the exhibit and convention.

Hope to see everyone next year!

June Recap

I hope everyone enjoyed the opportunities to work with visiting artist Abner Cruz. We had a ton of great participation in the events which makes all the planning that goes into it incredibly worthwhile. If you have any suggestions or feedback (positive or negative) from the events, please share it with me at JoshuaReubenBrown1@yahoo.com.

Neea Tips from Abner

- Neea are native to Puerto Rico
- Neea grow on limestone in their natural habitat so a soil PH of 7 (Neutral to slightly alkaline) is recommended
- The roots grow slowly compared to the top to let it dry down between watering to prevent root issues
- Due to slower root growth, they will slow down significantly when repotted



Sponsorship

NFBC is sponsored by Florida Bonsai Nursery & Supply and Sunway Landscape Services. We encourage you to visit these sponsors.



Club discounts for July 2024:

10% off of everything, all month long

15% off of everything on 4th of July

Weekend: July 6th-7th

Friend and bonsai artist Mike Rogers, with more than 50 year's experience in bonsai, will be working at Florida Bonsai on July 6th. Feel free to drop by and say hi!

Florida Bonsai will be adding a small selection of affordable tools and wire in the coming weeks for your convenience.

Florida Bonsai also has a limited selection of the storied and very rare Cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) pre-bonsai available.



Call or text 904-274-YARD and mention your membership in the bonsai club to receive a 20% discount on landscape design and enhancement projects from Sunway Landscape Services

Seasonal Advice

We are finally seeing rain, but the last few weeks have been brutally hot and dry. We had some early intense heat that really stressed a lot of plants. I personally experienced leaf burn and other issues on plants that I have never had issues with in the past. Be diligent in looking for signs of heat stress. If the soil is moist and the plant is wilting, especially in late afternoon, this is a sign the plant is stressed. You need to find a new location for it and get it out of direct sun. Usually after sunset these plants will “perk up”. Best to keep those plants in dappled sunlight or in shade for a few weeks.

Bottom line is check your plants. If the soil is wet, and you don't need to water, then misting the foliage or bench will help to cool thing down.

PRUNING – You can continue to prune tropical, broadleaf, and deciduous trees that are rapidly growing. The removal of branches will encourage new growth. For non-tropical I would suggest a lighter approach during the hottest months. Temperate trees are typically under more stress during high temperatures and that should be considered when pruning.

All tropical trees can now be safely repotted.

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

- Alex Stanford recently opened Florida Bonsai Nursery and Supply in Jacksonville. The nursery has a wide variety of trees, soil, pots and more. Ongoing specials for NFBC members.



For up-to-date hours and contact information See [Florida Bonsai Nursery & Supply](#)

- 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
- Josh Brown also has bonsai and pre-bonsai available. Please contact him at joshuareubenbrown1@yahoo.com for information.



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 artist David Cutchin	Azalea	BYOT
April	Guest artist Adam Lavigne	Azalea	General care basics	Convention Prep	Tree Documentation	General Discussion
May	Ficus Propagation	Ficus Styling	Air Layering	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Mame size	Raintree
June	Red Maple	Buttonwood	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Black Pine	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Guest artist Abner Cruz
July	Beginner Workshop	Beginner Workshop	Black Pine	Summer Maintenance	BYOT	Guest artist Adam Lavigne
August	Wiring	Beginner Workshop	Guest artist David Cutchin	Air Layering	Beginner Workshop	
September	Find the Front	Guest artist Reggie Perdue	Beginner Workshop	Guest artist Robert Kempinski	Beginner Workshop	
October	Dia 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	Holiday Party

NFBC Officers

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