



Gainesville Bonsai Society

Newsletter – February 2010

Meeting Date: February 28, 2010 – 2 p.m.

Remember! Our new meeting schedule for this year is the 4th (fourth) Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. Kanapaha Botanical Gardens will continue to be the meeting place.

Remember to bring a check for your 2010 dues if you haven't paid them yet.

President – John King
Vice President – Jerry Benefield
Secretary – Jay Beckenbach
Treasurer – Lucy Skelley

President's Message – John King

Our February meeting will be held on Sunday the 28th at 2pm at Kanapaha. We will discuss soils, sell soil, and provide help in repotting any trees you would like to bring in to the meeting. As a small fundraiser for the club we will be selling soil materials and hope you participate in supporting the club financially. We will have sifted pine bark, two sizes (smaller trees and larger trees) for \$5 a bag, not quite a five gallon size. Turface, unsifted, will be available for \$3.50 a gallon, as will unsifted lava rock. If you would like to buy a large bag of lava rock (about 4 gallons) that will be \$12. Now here is the most important part.....you have to tell us in advance how much of each you want us to bring. We want to have enough, so please respond now to this e-mail and let us know. We already have more than 20 bags of pine bark ordered, so get your order in for pine bark (which size?), turface and lava rock.

Oh what a winter we are having. One of the coldest on record, both in lows and in duration. I am waiting and hoping for the best as I see that all my trees have made it through the tough weather. I have a modified tarp covering that goes over several of my benches with light bulbs underneath. I am sure they will make it, it is the ones that remained uncovered that we'll wait to see. We can expect more freezing weather (even as I write this) since our local average last freeze date is February 22nd. We all know of freezes in March, so don't start jumping up and down yet. Since trees have an internal temperature clock gauging how much cold they have received, many elms and hornbeams are already budding out, with the maples not far behind. Hopefully we won't have any hard freezes. Make sure you keep watering your trees, just not as much, and preferably not late in the day to avoid lots of water in a freezing pot. As the trees start budding, but before the leafing takes place, is a great time to study the deciduous tree design and make the right styling cuts. See you all at the meeting on the 28th, and please e-mail or call in your estimated order for soil materials.

Secretary's Report – Jay Beckenbach

Gainesville Bonsai Society - Minutes of the meeting on Sunday, January 24, 2010
Summer House, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Gainesville, Florida

The meeting was called to order by Mr. John King, President, at 2:00 pm.

A short business meeting was held which consisted of Announcements:

- State BSF Convention is to be held on May 27th through 30 in Orlando.
- Officers for the year are John King, President, Jerry Benefield, Vice-President, Jay Beckenbach, Secretary and Lucy Skelley, Treasurer.
- Dues should be paid immediately to the Treasurer. Single membership is \$25, Family membership is \$30.
- New meeting time is the fourth Sunday of the month, at 2:00 pm at the Kanapaha Summer House.
- Since the meeting has been moved to afternoons, no refreshments will be served.
- Future meetings include a Beginners' Workshop in March (tentatively to be held by David Van

Buskirk), a maple program in April, a program on hornbeams and elms in May, one on Bald Cypress in June and programs on tropical trees in July and August.

- Three plants were brought by Clif Pottberg for a raffle.

The next meeting will be on Soils and Repotting, given by Jay Beckenbach, on February 28th at Kanapaha Gardens Summer House. The meeting was adjourned and a program on rocks and rock planting was led by John King.

Photo Gallery – Bettianne Ford

A few die hard members braved a cold day in February and went on a quest to find Hornbeams. The sun came out and warmed us up a bit.



We tromped through the woods and each found a couple of good specimens.

Afterwards we walked the trail and admired nature.

We ate a lovely lunch at Hardees. What more can you ask for? ☺

