



Gainesville Bonsai Society

Newsletter – May 2008

President – Jerry Benefield
Vice President – John King
Treasurer – Lucy Skelley
Secretary – Brian Rybak

Next meeting: Saturday, May 17, 2008

Kanapaha Botanical Garden – 9:30 a.m.

Topic – Bring Your Own Tree and Continue working on Kanapaha Exhibit

President's Message:

I would like to welcome to our new members:

Michael DiPardo

Bobbie Gaston and Brody Hilton

Cheryl Griffin

Howard and Laurie Herrington

Jan Jones and Jonathan Turner

Nina Koelmeyer

Harley Smith

Vasanthi Vanniasingham

We look forward to your participation in the club. Please don't hesitate to ask questions of any member so we can help you practice the art of bonsai. We are also saying good-bye to our secretary and dedicated member, Brian Rybak, who has graduated from UF and has a new job in Syracuse, NY. Congratulations, Brian!! Our club will need a volunteer to take over as secretary, so please consider helping out, and let us know if you are interested.

At the last meeting, many members helped to restyle our club exhibit at Kanapaha. Under Lucy Skelley's guidance, members began work on bringing the design plan to life. We will continue to work on the design at the May meeting.

It has been a very busy month for the club. Thanks to Barbara Chapman, club members had a wonderful opportunity to dig Yaupon Holly trees from her front yard. Everyone who participated went home with an excellent potential bonsai. For those of you who participated, remember to keep the trees watered and in the shade for a while, and be sure to check with other members if you have any questions about the care and development of your tree.



Our April visit from Atlanta's Rodney Clemons was a huge success. In the morning, Rodney's dual demo featured an informative discussion on the styling of our new Boxwood club tree, which is now in the Kanapaha exhibit. In the second half of the demo Rodney began work on a Live Oak style bonsai with a Saunders Dwarf Boxwood. In the afternoon Rodney's workshop was filled to capacity, and all who participated gained a lot of knowledge from his skill and experience as they got his advice and guidance on the styling of their trees.



At this month's meeting, in addition to continuing our work on the exhibit, we will have the ever popular "Bring Your Own Tree " program, which is an excellent way to learn from the expertise of other members. So, bring your tree to Saturday's meeting to get help or advice, share your wisdom, or just show off your tree. We all learn a lot from discussing the development of trees wherever they are in the process of becoming bonsai. See you on Saturday. Jerry

New Member Information:

Each member receives a club notebook with information about all aspects of bonsai. You can add articles the club periodically provides or those you find as you read about bonsai. Notebooks for the new members will be available at the meeting on May 17th, so be sure to pick up your copy.

May Bonsai Tips:

Check your trees daily to see if they need to be watered since the hot and dry weather can dehydrate your plants quickly. The shallower the pot, the more quickly it may dry. If you have tropicals, check them often for trimming because they may begin putting on a lot of new growth rapidly this month.

Refreshment Calendar – Edna Hindson

Thanks to Edna for bringing the refreshments for the April meeting and also for the Rodney Clemons workshop. The following members will provide refreshments as noted:

May - Richard and Ann Powell

June - Jerry and Bettianne

July - volunteer needed

August - Betty Hoffman

September - Jeff Ketts

Oct. - to be announced

Nov. Jay Beckenbach

Dec. Party

See you Saturday!