

Newsletter of the

Hukyu Bonsai Society

hukyubonsai@hotmail.com

of Tampa FEBRUARY 2006



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Morikami Visit

The Tampa Bay area bonsai clubs will be going on the annual South Florida field trip on February 25-26. The trip will include visits to Miami Tropical, H&F Imports, Morikami and possibly Jupiter Bonsai. The trip will begin at 8AM on Saturday morning where those who wish will meet at Bob Evans Restaurant on Highway 60 and I-75 in Brandon. Those who wish will carpool and some people get rooms together. We will be rooming at hotels in the Plantation area. I usually stay at the LaQuinta.

Miami Tropical is 7 acres of bonsai like you have never seen anywhere. Their trees range from masterpieces often seen at State conventions to pre-bonsai in all price ranges. They specialize in importing Chinese Elm and Ficus. H&F Imports has a good selection of Chinese pots of all sizes and types with prices much lower than most anywhere else. Morikami will be having their annual Hatsume Fair with all sorts of Japanese culture represented. Admission is \$10 for adults. Jupiter Bonsai is also a very good bonsai nursery with Jim Moody's collection being the highlight. Jupiter is a major importer of mica pots and have numerous pre-bonsai to choose from.

Hope to see you there.

Robert Yarbrough

February: Guidelines for Care

Weather Protection and Location - All tropicals should be moved into protected areas during cold weather, especially from frigid winds. Remember 50 degrees is the danger point.

Watering - Plants should be well watered if frost or freezing weather is expected. Check everyday to see if plants need watering, especially if it's windy. Never let the soil get dry or stay soggy; be ever vigilant as buds swell.

Feeding - As the buds begin to swell start feeding lightly with a balanced, relatively higher nitrogen fertilizer about every two weeks (ex. 1/2 strength 10-10-10). Its a good idea to rotate between organic fertilizer - full strength - and inorganic fertilizer at 1/2 strength.

Styling - Watch for wire damage with the fast growth now. Prune the new growth back to one or two leaves or buds on broad leaf trees.

Repotting - It is possible until the buds show leaves. Don't transplant if there's tender growth, even on conifers.

Pest Control - Watch for aphids, boring insects, spider mites, mealy bugs, etc. Use appropriate insecticide and follow label instructions. Sometimes soapy water will do the job (ex. 1 T. Basic-H in 1 gallon of water) used as needed to drown insects on any plant except succulents and the flowers of most plants.

Collecting - This is the **IDEAL** time to collect everything except tropicals here in Tampa.

Special Notes - Cuttings may be done as long as the buds do not show any leaves. Drench bald cypress with systemic fungicide as the buds pop to prevent summer browning of leaves.



FUTURE EVENTS

February 18 meeting program. We will work on club trees kept on the plant tables at USF, trees kept on the permanent exhibit and the general plant table area.

February 25-26: Field trip to Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens (www.morikami.org or 561-495-0233). Members will stay in and around Plantation, FL. See article on page 1 for more information.

February 25-26: Marie Selby Botanical Gardens (selby1.securesites.net or 941-366-5731), Asian Festival. in Sarasota, FL.



May 25-29: BSF Convention "Bonsai Bridges" in Gainesville, FL. For more information visit www.bonsaibridges2006.us. See our Hukyu website and the article on page 3 of this newsletter.

**Bring Photos of Your Best Trees (or the tree itself)
to This Month's Meeting!**

**Bonsai Societies of Florida - 2006 Convention Exhibit, Bonsai Bridges Exhibit
Submittal Reminder**

Hello again. We're just about to the end of January and I hope you have all had an opportunity to evaluate your trees for possible inclusion in the 2006 BSF Convention exhibit here in Gainesville. I've seen some submittals and can tell you that there are some very good trees out there. If you have not submitted yours yet, I would love to see it.

Many of the clubs have just held their January meeting in the last week or so. I hope that all the clubs have encouraged their members to attend the convention and to make their best trees available to their club for submittal. I hope that all clubs will be represented. I encourage submittal of your extraordinary trees and if you have more than one, don't feel shy about submitting two.

The presenters and venders are also invited and I have many enthusiastic responses from them. I think that you will be impressed with the trees that all your fellow enthusiasts have created. Come to the exhibit and see how good you all are. You will leave with new ideas and fresh perspectives.

Of course, we all want to see your best, so submit them. I'll still be receiving submittals until the end of February. The guidelines are still the same and you have time to get in your submittals. I have attached a copy of the criteria for your use (available on Hukyu website). I will be on vacation for a few weeks, but don't let that stop you from submitting. I will be back by February 20th, and will acknowledge submittals and answer questions then. Final selection should be soon after the end of February so you'll have plenty of time to get your trees in their best possible condition.

Get those submittals in and become a part of the Bonsai Bridge between bonsai enthusiasts!

Jay Beckenbach, Exhibit Chairman
BSF 2006 Convention
Gainesville, Florida
e-mail - exhibit@bonsaibridges2006.us

See www.hukyubonsai.com/news.htm#criteria for submittal criteria.

SOIL FOR SALE
\$3.50 per Gallon

**Want to go to the BSF Convention...
But not an active member?
It's not too late!
Rates are as follows:
Individual 25.00
Senior (60 and over) 22.50
Family 35.00**

Make checks payable to Hukyu Bonsai Society and mail to:
Cindy Petterson
2844 Prestwick Drive
Lakeland, FL 33803

This includes your dues to BSF (Bonsai Society of Florida), which will send you a nice publication quarterly. If your State dues are paid by another club, you may deduct \$9.00 (unless you are on the Hukyu board of directors). I must have the name of the other club in writing. If you want to order a club name tag pin, (\$10.00 ea.), you can include this with the dues.

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LOOK FOR US ON THE WEB!

<http://hukyubonsai.com>

Are you in need of tools for our very important hobby? If so, please contact **Steve Varn**. He sells the **Joshua Roth Tool** line at a very reasonable price. See him at a meeting or contact him at: **813-949-7778**.

HUKYU SHIRTS & NAME TAGS

Contact Cindy Petterson @ 863-683-3555 to order magnetic name tags @ \$10.00 each. Contact Wes Miller @ 231-6837 to order club shirts @ \$25.00 each. We have men's shirts with pockets and a lady's style shirt. The name tags and shirts really look good at club events and club trips.

- Do you have a special concern or interest you would like to see highlighted in the newsletter? Would you like to write an article, provide a picture, or profile to share with your fellow club members? If so, please email them to me at: esearfos@admin.usf.edu