

# SOUTHERN BONSAIST

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## MEMBERS WORKSHOP

### THE FEB 2011 MONTHLY PROGRAM

Mobile weather is not very predictable but Cold weather and February seen to go together. March can be warm or almost hot so we have a workshop for the Feb. meeting to take advantage of our ability to do almost anything of almost all species, except tropical species. As always, time will be the limiting factor as to how much work we will be able to do. March we will schedule a lecture program, April we will have another lecture program, May we will have a workshop program. The May workshop program will allow members to get advice on where to go with bonsai that have new pushes of foliage. The first 60 days after bonsai gain new foliage is a critical time. You can gain a lot of critical development if you know what to prune, when to prune, and in a lot of cases what to Spring wire and when to Spring wire. June will be another lecture meeting to gain knowledge about a species we all need to work with more.

Joe Day

## ACBS Bonsai February 01,2011 Monthly Meeting

### Members Workshop

Bring in your pre-bonsai material, bonsai in training and bonsai in need of advice. This is "the" period of time when almost any work can be accomplished on your bonsai.

**Host: Craig Kuntz**

**Tokanoma: Leo Fortner**

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## BEN OKI WORKSHOP REVIEW

Ben was certainly feeling well and on his game as he created great bonsai designs from 12 pieces of material. ACBS members brought 12 very good pieces of pre-bonsai to the workshop. Pres. Joe Kuhn put a great spread of eats for all to enjoy. Our

room of bonsai artist included regular members plus Mississippi artist and returning past ACBS members. Watching Ben create bonsai designs is certainly worth the drive time. It was nice to see some of our very good ACBS auction material returning to a workshop.

Xuan and I (Joe Day) were on hand to watch Ben at his Pensacola bonsai workshop. Some excellent material was brought for Ben to style and the food there was also very good. Ben, good food, good people....great!

Joe Day

## PROJECT TIME

I think of a bonsai project as the use of a piece of material that must undergo a long period of further growth and the growth must be controlled to achieve the desired results. Most bonsai projects start as collected material or old overgrown nursery stock. Both collected material and overgrown nursery stock need to be severely pruned and undergo lots of root work to set it on the path to becoming a great bonsai. This top and bottom pruning creates a lot of stress for the plant. Our short winter and at times short spring before a hot summer can create a time crunch for the plant. The longer the

plant has to grow in a period of warm nights and warm, not hot days the more stable the roots become. Good root development is the key to good development of branches and scar healing. January pruning and root work will give the plant the best chance to have weeks or with luck months of prime weather to regain its health before summer heat stress becomes a factor.

After any hard pruning and root work keep the material protected from the wind, temps that would freeze the root ball and unusual heat. The unusual heat is a big factor. If the material is

placed in a location such as a hot house or poly house that is not well ventilated a "false" spring condition can be created. Creating a False spring condition that causes a plant to bud out is easy. Maintaining that newly budded plant in a all day all night spring condition is very difficult. If you can keep the "heat" up the lack of sunlight on those short winter days will cause the plant to be weak. We have a very long growing season so we never need to rush our material into a false spring.

Not much beats looking at a wonderful bonsai and knowing what humble beginnings and your hard work and talent created. Joe Day

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## ACBS SPRING EVENTS/PROGRAMS

**ACBS Day of Bonsai** will be at St Lukes on **March 19th**. The **ACBS Spring Bonsai Show** will be held at the West Regional Library on Grelot Avenue on **April 16th**.

### ACBS Programs:

The **ACBS Feb: program** will be a members workshop.

The **ACBS March: program** will

be presented by Leo Fortner. Leo will teach us all how to use Photoshop computer program to do digital design. A great help styling a bonsai and selecting a pot if you know how to use the program.

The **ACBS April and May programs** will be -Azalea Bonsai- by Russell Coker. Russell will use the two program nights to

Present a detailed instruction on how to create Azalea bonsai.

Let Joe Kuhn know what type programs you would like to present or like to see. Also let Joe Kuhn know the month you will host for a monthly ACBS meeting.

Joe Day

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## THE 2011 TRI-CITIES SHOW-APRIL 23

HOSTED BY THE PENSACOLA BONSAI SOCIETY

The Pensacola Gulf Coast Bonsai Society will host the Regional Bonsai Show for 2011. The show will be held at -The Garden Center- located at 1850 North 9th Avenue, Pensacola, Florida 32503. This is a beautiful, modern facility that is set up for exhibits, parties and meetings. You can google The Garden Center Pensacola and see photographs of the location. A regional bonsai show

is a wonderful way to spend a day. It not only brings together great bonsai it bring together the artist who created the bonsai. It is a very relaxing day that allows the artist a chance to sit and talk with each other.

Every regional show is a great bonsai teaching tool. Many species of plants are on display and many different styles. With new digital cameras that take great photo-

graphs even in low light and very low cost everyone can take how a picture book of the show.

What bonsai do you take to a regional show ? Your best bonsai and something nice to sit it on. A nice stand is great but it can be as simple as a bamboo mat. Make sure your bonsai are show ready as far as being clean, trimmed and the soil in the pot with a nice top coat of gravel and or moss. More about this show next month. Joe Day

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**ACBS Web Site**

[Azaleacitybonsaisociety.com](http://Azaleacitybonsaisociety.com)

## *Day of Bonsai Ficus Workshop*

*Azalea City Bonsai Society will have 10 nice Ficus Nerifolia available for a workshop by bonsai Artist Fred Morales. The Ficus Nerifolia have nice roots, a trunk about one inch + and about 18 inches tall. These Ficus had many branches allowing for almost any style. Ficus Nerifolia will grow larger and increase trunk size in a container. This size Ficus is a great way to start a future great tropical bonsai.*

*The fee to work in this workshop will be \$35. Please e-mail Joe Kuhn at [master-one@msn.com](mailto:master-one@msn.com) to sign up for this workshop. Sign up early if you want to take part in this great workshop opportunity. You can pay for the workshop when you get to the Day of Bonsai event. This workshop in the middle of March is early enough that the Ficus can be potted in a bonsai container before the summer sets in.*

*Joe Day*

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