

# **TREASURE COAST BONSAI SOCIETY AUGUST NEWSLETTER**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**by Jim Van Landingham**

Okay, so it's hot, but the plants seem to be still growing.....the trimming calluses on my hands are in good form and the plants at Jim's nursery are looking good; my opinion only! Make sure that your plants are getting enough water and draining well. It is time to prune your tropicals and get them into shape again. My twin trunk salicafolia has been at the Brevard Zoo for about a year and a half. Reggie Perdue returned it last week and it was a bit mis-sharpened, so I defoliated it and gave it a good trimming. This bonsai was the second bonsai that I bought when I first started doing bonsai about 22 years ago. As you know, when you first start doing bonsai, you don't have a good understanding of what to do. As a result of that, I chose the back of the tree for the front. This was pointed out to me by Roy Nagatoshi and Mary Miller at the 2001 BSF Convention where it was on display. I immediately changed the front to the proper side and the tree filled in and was looking good. When I took a look at the tree last week, I again was confused as to which side was the front. The tie down wire in the back told me which was the intended back. I sat down, relaxed and reviewed what I tell folks to do with branches; "huggie branches with the bottom left and right branches" and "a slight Japanese bow with the top branch". Looking at the tree, the bottom left branch was pointed to the rear of the tree. Jim taught me to saw the branch about 1/4 way through, wire it and bring the branch around. I did this without breaking the branch off. I am sure that it will heal okay. The right bottom branch was just in the right place, so I didn't have to do anything to it. The top had 3 strong branches going straight up, so it was confusing as to which was the top leader. I selected the branch that had a slight bow toward the front of the tree and took the other two out; leaving a big hole at the top. It turns out that the most vigorous growth comes in the top of the tree, so it won't take long for it to fill in. I also put a lot of wire on the tree, which I don't do often. It looks good; proving that it is never too late to fix problems in a tree!!! It will be on display at the August "Bonsai Under the Oaks" at Jim's Nursery. So, go get a tree that needs help and find a cool place under a shade tree and fix it; it makes you feel good when you are done!!!!

## **AUGUST MEETING MOVED TO FOURTH SUNDAY "BONSAI UNDER THE OAKS"**

**by Jim Van Landingham**

Our regular meeting on the second Tuesday has been canceled and replaced with a picnic at Jim Smith's Nursery on Sunday August 27th, which is the regular time for "Bonsai Under the Oaks".

Belinda and Tom Kehoe will be doing the pork barbeque and others are asked to bring a covered dish to share. Belinda has volunteered to coordinate the food so we don't get 5 dishes of potato salad. Her contact info is:

email: [bkehoe@brevardgannett.com](mailto:bkehoe@brevardgannett.com)

work phone (okay to call): 800-633-8449 ext.3582

home phone: (321) 242-3582

cell: (321)446-5253

The club will pay for the pork and will also provide drinks on ice. It is going to be warm, so dress accordingly. By the way, bring a chair since Jim only has a limited number. Also, bring a tree to work on or to get advice on. The nursery will be open at 10:00 AM, with the food being served around 1 PM. We will continue until all the fun is gone!!!!

### **CONVALESCENCE REPORT**

**by Jim Van Landingham**

Charles Bevan came home from Jacksonville on Friday, July 28th. He came to the nursery the next day. He had been walking on his walker for about 10 days and was very mobile; however, he tired rather quickly. He is doing well and plans to be at the picnic on the fourth Sunday!!! His parents are getting him set up for continuing rehab here in Vero.

Ray Malin is 3 weeks into his recovery from triple bypass heart surgery. He is doing well; walking a mile a day and his heart surgeon released him a week early. He is one tough guy!!! He will be returning to work around the 6 week point, so he is about half way back. Ray also plans to be at the picnic on the fourth Sunday.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**by Jim Van Landingham**

August 27	Club Picnic @ "Bonsai Under the Oaks"	
September 12	Heathcote Display Critique	Jim Van Landingham
October 10	Demo or Workshop	Dorothy Schmitz
November 14	EPCOT Photo Shoot	Tammy and Ray Malin
November 18-19	Heathcote Plant Sale Display	Joe Verone/Ann Warren
December 12	Christmas Forest Planting	Jim Van Landingham

### **VISITING MASTERS**

**by Jim Van Landingham**

Following is the list of Visiting Masters that Stan Orsolek recently published:

Ben Oki	January
Suthin	February 1 – 20 August 13 – 31
Ted Matson	March 10 - 26

We will need to sign up soon for the ones that we want to visit us. We can discuss this at the picnic!!!!