

Triangle Bonsai Society August Newsletter



**NEXT MEETING
AUGUST 6th 1:30 PM
FICUS BONSAI**

**WORKSHOPS
AUGUST 5th
see website
and article below**

registration required!

Green Island Fig

TBS WEBSITE

(<https://www.trianglebonsai.com/so/1LrrmC2T/click?w=LS0tDQowYmFhNzk1MC04MmNkLTQwZTAOTUwOC00ZTY0MzJkMzY0ZTkNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyaWFuZ2xIYm9uc2FpLmNvbS8NCi0tLQ>)



Retusa

MORE ABOUT FICUS WORKSHOPS

For this workshop, Ken Hallatt, who will also help lead the workshop, has provided the club with some great material, having hand selected trees while visiting multiple bonsai nurseries in Florida. We have 10 microcarpa: 6 retusas and 4 green islands (see attached photos). I guarantee that you won't find any better deals for this price, so please don't delay in signing up!

I am changing the weekend format slightly, as follows: The Saturday program will start at 9:30am with a PowerPoint slide show describing design characteristics specific to ficus. All TBS members are invited to attend the slide show. If you have purchased a workshop tree, but do not want to attend the slide show, you certainly don't have to.

At 10:30am, we will begin the hands-on portion of the workshop. Those who have paid the workshop fee will draw numbers for the order of tree selection; you may pick either a retusa or a green island. With our help, you can then put the PowerPoint information to use, and design your new tree. Pruning, wiring, repotting, grafting—the options are yours. And you might want to be able to propagate the cuttings from your tree, so be ready (these would be useful for future branch or root grafts). Be sure to bring appropriate tools and pot; the club will provide soil and wire. I will provide specific tools, if you want to graft. This part of the program is for those who have purchased a tree. However, other club members are welcome as silent observers.

A quick lunch on our own and/or continue to work on the trees. At 1:30pm, any member can come to the Bring-Your-Own-Ficus workshop. This is a free session, but please register. The morning group is welcome to stay and continue working, but at this point, Ken and I will be available to help any and all who are there. Even if you don't bring a tree, you are still welcome to be there as an observer. We will continue until we are finished.

The Sunday portion of the meeting will start with part II of the ficus PowerPoint presentation I began last year, addressing more advanced techniques. Horticulture was covered last year, but we have the option for some review if there are questions. Ken and I can then demonstrate some of those techniques, whether on a left-over workshop tree, or, if the workshop is sold out, something from our collections.

Hope to see everyone next week.

Jim Easterbrook



From the TBS President

It is time to get back to bonsai, come to our informative meeting on Ficus as bonsai on August 6th.

I spent most of July in Africa on a photo safari - it is a wonderful experience. Had no internet except in the airports, it was great!

My bonsai survived the neglect, and many badly needed pruning. In August the heat stresses bonsai, so move the more sensitive ones to a shadier location. I mainly have to do this with maples and some pines. This heat causes plants to become dormant, so less fertilizer this month. At the end of the month you can think about transplanting a tree as it will stay dormant until temps drop into the mid-eighties. Shade them a bit after transplanting.

TBS SWAP/SELL SITE

Starting in August we will add a TBS Swap/Sell page to the website. Starting soon, email me a picture of the item, a 1 line description of the item and the price you want as well as the email for people to contact you, and I will mount the item on the web. Only members can post, but anyone can buy. A menu item is soon going to be on the website so you can see what a listing might look like.




TBS Library

For all the novice club members, remember that one of the TBS benefits is our library, and we have several introductory books about bonsai. This month, I would like to feature two such books. The Complete Book of Bonsai (©1990) by Harry Tomlinson dedicates approximately half of its 224 pages to brief discussion of the history, art, styling techniques, tools, and containers, while the remainder is a species guide, with thumbnail single-page descriptions of individual species. The second book, The Bonsai Workshop (©1994), by Herb Gustafson is 208 pages long. It focuses on the general bonsai basics, and provides more comprehensive details about the different techniques. Both books are well illustrated with photos and drawings, and provide ample information to better understand the basics of this art. Borrow either of these books for a month, peruse it, and I'm sure that your bonsai skills will improve. Click on the library link, or go to the TBS site in the library section, to reserve your selection. It's free; how can you go wrong?

Jim Easterbrook

**Click here to go to TBS LIBRARY selections
(<https://www.trianglebonsai.com/so/1LrrmC2T/click?w=LS0tDQo0Nml5MTViZS01MjcxLTRmNTYtMmFhZS1iNmQwNGQyNjg0MDcNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyaWFuZ2xiYm9uc2FpLmNvbS90YnMtbGlicmFyeQ0KLS0t>)**

Check out the new TBS website  ([https://www.trianglebonsai.com/so/1LrrmC2T/click?
w=LS0tDQo1ODFINmI2NS1kMWNILTRmY2QtNDY2Zi00MzJkMjJyZhlZGMNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRya](https://www.trianglebonsai.com/so/1LrrmC2T/click?w=LS0tDQo1ODFINmI2NS1kMWNILTRmY2QtNDY2Zi00MzJkMjJyZhlZGMNCmh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRya))