

IT'S WINTER AT LAST

BONSAI CLIPPER VOLUME 27 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 16, 2017

MEETING ON SATURDAY

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, our meetings will be held in the Berne Davis Botanical Garden building off of McGregor Boulevard.

February 18

Lesson on horticulture by John Bartolozzi.

Bring two potential show trees for the 2017 Exhibit and a critique by Ernie Fernandez.

Display by John Bartolozzi and Sam Wollard.

OUR NEW MEETING PLACE BY SUSAN HOCK JOHNSON

In January, 2017 the Bonsai Society met for the first time at the *Berne Davis Botanical Gardens* on Virginia Avenue, Downtown, Fort Myers. The Gardens are the home of the Fort Myers - Lee County Garden Council, Inc. of which we are a member. It's newly renovated building hosted our November, 2016 Bonsai Show, and is a beautiful facility where we now hold our monthly meetings. We have also held our auction and picnics in the Council Gardens.

In 1957, nine local garden clubs and societies joined together to create the Fort Myers Garden Council. Ten years later, it was renamed the Fort Myers – Lee County Garden Council and now includes more than twenty garden clubs, nine plant societies and two affiliates. Areas of the garden are planted and maintained by the various garden clubs and societies. Garden Council meetings are held on the second Friday of the month, every other month, from September to May.

The Organization's brochure notes that the Fort Myers – Lee County Garden



Council, Inc. moved to its present location in 2007, and that is when our tree, *Ficus Benjamina* var. *nuda*, *F. philippinensis*, was planted and the rocks put in place.

According to Judy Gore, Erik Wigert donated the tree to the club. Judy Gore planted it and mucked it onto the rocks that Phil Krieg brought in from LeHigh. Over the years, various members have tended the tree.

At our January meeting, an iris was planted to frame one corner. This tropical iris, *Neomaria Regina*, was hybridized by Andrea Wigert's father and named after her mother. An all-weather sign was ordered and will be put in place shortly to let visitors to the garden know who we are.



ABOUT US:

We meet every third Saturday of each month at the Berne Davis Botanical Garden building located just north of the Edison Estates at 2166 Virginia Avenue. Parking is located on Larchmont street which is one block south of Virginia off of McGregor.

*You can find us at:
bonsaiswfl.org*

We welcome anyone interested in this ancient art form to take advantage of our many experienced artists and teachers.

See you soon...

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OUR NEW MEETING PLACE (CONT'D)



The Berne Davis Botanical Gardens building also houses the Mina Edison Botanical Reference Library – as well as our library collection – and is open to the public on Tuesdays, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. beginning October through the end of May. (Cont'd page 2)

According to Bernadette Hamera, First Vice-President of the Council, last year, approximately one thousand people visited the garden during those months. “And this year,” she said, “we expect even more people.”

Word-of-mouth and advertisements placed in local papers, draw people to this little gem right next door to The Edison & Ford Winter Estates. We are very fortunate to be able to hold our meetings in this lovely spot.

Many hands worked to make this transition happen. To all of you, “Thank you!”

CLASSES AT WIGERT'S BONSAI NURSERY

- **Windswept** class with Mike Lane. January 29 Sunday 9am-12pm \$30 bring your tree from home. Recommend material : Premna, Juniper, Bucida spinosa, Elm, Fukien Tea, Pyracantha, etc...
- **Wire Class.** Learn and improve wiring techniques. Instructor Jason Osborne. Highly recommend this class for March 26 9am-12pm \$40 Bring your own tree.
- **Forest Planting** Class Feb 19 9am-3:30pm \$50 bring your own tree Instructor Jason Osborne
- **Chinese Elm Class** Feb 26 9am-12pm \$35 includes a tree Recommended for Beginners Instructor Mike Lane
- **Root Over Rock** Class March 11 2pm-5pm \$75 includes a tree Instructor Jason Osborne
- **Bucida spinosa "Dwarf Black Olive"** workshop with Ed Trout \$250 include large Bucida trees. Hard to find this size tree. March 26 1pm-4pm
- **Shohin "Miniature" Crepe Myrtle** March 12 9am-12pm \$50 includes a tree, Instructor Mike Lane
- **African Flat Top** Class \$30 Bring your own tree. Great for Raintrees, Acacia, Instructor Mike Lane March 19 9am-12pm