



BONSAI SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

The annual BSF Convention was held in Orlando, FL on May 23-25, 2025, and by all accounts was one of the best, most well attended, and thanks to Rob Kempinski showed the most diverse displays of Bonsai trees ever.



Martha Goff Fatima Mayer Young Choi



Adam Lavigne Kathrin Harris Chris Cosenza



Bonsai Societies of Florida
THOMAS ZANE
Legacy Award

With deep gratitude to
Martha Goff

For decades of selfless dedication to
furthering the art of bonsai in Florida
and leaving an identifiable legacy through advancing
knowledge, improving material, and broadening
horizons of the art and culture of Florida Bonsai.



Here is one of a series of [video reports](#) from the 2025 BSF Convention. [View here](#)
For a [Full Description](#) of the BSF Convention by Kathrin Harris, [Go here](#)

Here's info about a Sho Fu Show & Exhibit in July



SHOW & EXHIBIT

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 10A-4P
ST. MARK'S CHURCH, 508 RIVIERA ST., VENICE

- EXHIBIT OPENS AT 10A • SILENT AUCTION (10A-NOON)
- FREE DEMONSTRATION BY LARRY NAEDER OF THUNDERSTRUCK BONSAI (10:30)
 - FREE LUNCH (NOON) • EXHIBIT TOUR (1P) • RAFFLE (3:30P)
 - FREE DEMONSTRATION BY SHO FU PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER COSENZA (2P)



Water Asahi

There is a list of all the potted trees donated for the silent auction. All proceeds benefit the Knottson Award.



Root Stand



Wire Caddy

Sho Fu Bonsai Society of Sarasota is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The event is held at St. Mark's Church, 508 Riviera St., Venice, Florida. The silent auction is held on the day of the event. All proceeds benefit the Knottson Award.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT SHOFUBONSAI@GMAIL.COM

For our next meeting on Saturday, June 21st, **Adam Lavigne** will do a demonstration, working on a **Jaboticaba** tree. Jaboticaba is an excellent pot culture plant if you choose not to plant it directly in the ground. Many gardeners claim that they have been able to maintain a healthier, richer fruiting Jaboticaba when in the pot. The Jaboticaba fruit tree bears its fruit along old growth branches and trunks rather than along new growth as in most other fruit trees. The 1- to 4-inch-long leaves of the Jaboticaba begin as salmon colored when young and, upon maturity, deepen into a dark green. The young foliage and branchlets are lightly haired. Adam will also be working on a **Tiger Bark** tree and a **Bottlebrush** tree.



“Martha’s Corner”

Each month we will feature one species. It is selected based on the month that it may need your attention. Several years ago, Martha Goff wrote a voluminous work called **Tropical Green Sheets**. In this two-volume set, Martha goes to great length to detail everything about hundreds of trees.... Type, Species, Soil, pH, watering and much, much more. You can purchase Tropical Green Sheets at [Wigert’s Nursery](#) or [Bonsai Jack](#).

Gmelina aka “Parrot’s Beak”

History: *G. philippensis* is evergreen in the tropics and deciduous in colder climates. They are considered both shrubs and small trees that can grow to upwards of 15’. The trunks are usually single and straight with a large canopy and branches that droop or weep. The leaves are opposite and heart-shaped or lobed both occurring on the same tree. The leaf has often been compared to ivy. [Read more.](#)

Here are some things that you can do with a Gmelina:



Kokoro: A Bonsai Study group with Dorothy Schmitz

The dates for 2025 (At Wigerts) are July 19, Aug 16, Sept 20 and Oct 28 (At the Garden Center) right after the regular meeting. All meetings from about Noon to 3PM. If we have an extended meeting running later, times will be adjusted. The program will be announced quarterly and may include additional workshop material that will be provided for a cost.

Participation is \$20 per session. Dorothy will also be available for private instruction by appointment.

Adam Lavigne Workshops: July 3, July 6, July 31, August 3.

All workshops begin at 9AM at the Garden Center

Here are two Quick Reference Potting Guides

[Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

Our Local Talent

POTTERY

Joe Mayhew

jmpotteryllc@gmail.com 941-650-7635

POTTERY

Don Rosio

don.rosio@gmail.com 321-890-8353

STANDS

Bill Smith

smittysmit23@aol.com 410-869-6650

WIGERT'S BONSAI NURSERY

For all your Bonsai Needs: Trees, Tools, Pots

Wigert's Bonsai Nursery, 2930 South Road, N. Ft. Myers, FL 33917

239-543-2234 www.wigertsbonsai.com

TOOL SHARPENING

Check me out on Facebook @
Bruce's Bonsai Tool sharpening, repair and cleaning
Bruce Riggins, 239-297-7361, grybrd77@gmail.com

ABOUT THE BONSAI SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

We meet on the third Saturday of each month at the Berne Davis Botanical Garden building located just north of the Edison-Ford Winter Estates at 2166 Virginia Avenue. Parking is located on Larchmont Street, one block south of Virginia off McGregor Blvd.

Doors open at 9 AM. A friendly member will make you feel welcome.

Coffee will be fresh.

We welcome everyone interested in this Ancient Art form to take advantage of our many experienced artists and teachers. Enjoy the camaraderie of those who work to keep this art alive. Please join us.

The Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida, Inc.

www.bonsaiswfl.org 239 935-5860

Juniper tree by Luis Vila

