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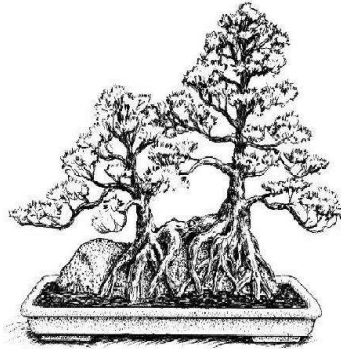
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# Bonsai Clipper

*Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida*

*Online Newsletter, Issue 4 April 2009*



## April Program

**What: Annual Picnic and Auction**  
**Where: Erik Wigert's Nursery, North Fort Myers**  
**When: April 18, 10 AM**

**Bring your food contribution, your auction contribution, and money to bid on items. This is a fun time and our way of raising money for our Annual Show.**

**First thing in the morning we will have a demonstration by Erik Wigert. We will be selling raffle tickets that day and every meeting after up to our Christmas party. At the Christmas party, the winning ticket will be drawn and the lucky person will take home a tree not only designed by Erik but also maintained and trained by him throughout the growing season. What a Christmas gift; I know I am buying plenty of tickets!**

**We will be sharing a lunch. The club always supplies the meat and drinks. Everyone else brings side dishes.**

**April Picnic (continued): You can get in touch with Cel Luke about the number of people you are bringing and the food you will supply. Make sure to bring plenty; we are planning to invite the Sarasota and Punta Gorda clubs. More people to bid! Cel may be calling on a few of you to help with different areas.**

**After lunch, we will get down to business—the AUCTION! Members have two ways to help out. You can, of course, bring something to contribute to the auction and bid on other things, or you can bring a plant to sell and contribute 20% of the price to the club. Either way we raise those needed funds for our show. Our goal is \$1,000. Everyone is invited. Bring your family members and your friends. The more people we have the better the results.**

*Message from the Prez:*

March was a very busy month. Phil Krieg arranged the successful Moorings Park Exhibit. There were 30 trees in the show. The set-up and take-down work was made easier by the number of club members that attended. Erik Wigert's demonstration (a huge forest planting) was quite exciting. He and Andrea also were vendors for the event. Would you believe that we signed two new members, Andrew and Teresa Kontos.

Dorothy Schmitz was in charge of the exhibit for the BSF in Orlando. So, a core group of SWFLA members went to the state convention a day early to help set it up and stayed a day longer to dismantle it after the close. Ginny Boka, Renee Beddouk, and Gail Gehring were the only ones who had worked on our exhibit for the annual show. They had their hands full directing those of us that always have other duties at that time. We created a near perfect setting for some beautiful trees. If you have never attended a State convention, I urge you to do so.

Robin Choinski and Sandy Thornburg organized a terrific Home and Garden Show exhibit. Robin told me that she started from the end of our roster when searching for people to man the booth and had no trouble getting all she needed.

The other things that kept us busy are: all the club's materials are now in one place thanks to Jim Bremer and Doug Suitor. Future plans include Justin's demo, the Club night, a tree for Lance Laney, and plans for Mike Cartrett in June. I can't thank people enough for all that they do to make our club the driving bonsai force it is.

**NOW let's talk about April: We are planning a Picnic and Auction that will be at Wigert's Nursery in North Fort Myers. You need to bring a dish to pass for the picnic (the club will furnish meat and soda's). Collect any bonsai-related materials that you are not using for the auction (i.e., trees, books, pots, or tools). I would like to see the money raised from the auction go toward material for our part of the Garden Council's walkway, but that may be decided later.**

Prez Jim

**Lance Laney Visit:**

**Date: June 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Place: Garden Council Building, New building off McGregor on Virginia**

**Program: The morning is a demo, and the afternoon is a workshop (more info to come)**

**There will be a break for lunch, which is on your own.**

**INTRODUCING A NEW FLORIDA SPEAKER – LANCE LANEY**

**by David Baruch**

Lance Laney was born in Los Angeles and moved to Hawaii in mid-1960s as a young surfer. He moved to the island of Kauai soon after. His interest in bonsai began as a young adult when he approached an elder Japanese gentleman who was working on a tree in his yard to ask him some questions. Shocked by Lance's interest, the man spoke with him and invited to his backyard to look at his bonsai. That encounter sparked his interest and he dabbled in bonsai, experimenting on his own without any formal training for many years. Years later, Lance joined Kauai Bonsai Club, a local club that included both young and old bonsai enthusiasts. As a member he learned as much as possible from other members and collected many trees from the wild. Eager to learn more, he began to attend out-of-state conventions which has led to Lance conducting workshops for Golden State Bonsai Federation as well as demonstration and workshops for the California Shohin Society. In 2007 Lance studied with Nobuichi Urushibata at Taisho-en in Shizuoka, Japan. At Taisho-en, he was fortunate to also work alongside Mario Komsta, a five-year apprentice of sensei Urushibata-san, from Poland and to observe the work of Tiger Urushibata, sensei's son, who apprenticed under Japanese master Masahiko Kimura. Hanalei Valley, Kauai has been the Laney home for over thirty years where he has a large collection of various types of trees including olives and ironwood collected from the Kauai uplands and coastal areas. Professionally, Lance is a drywall and plaster contractor and is a member of Kauai Bonyu Kai.

See the website: [WWW.THEBONSAISSWFL.COM](http://WWW.THEBONSAISSWFL.COM) for pictures of Lance's work.