



Next Meeting: 9 AM, September 5, 2026

City of Sunrise Community Center

6800 Sunset Strip Sunrise, FL

PROGRAM: Mike Sullivan BYOT

BRING: tree to work on, trees for the display table, items for the raffle table

Thanks to Vlad Foursa for a great workshop last month. In addition to making our trees look better, he had great advice on soil components and fertilizers. This month we have our very own Mike Sullivan. Mike has a great eye for display, so be sure to bring something for the display table for his input. I will be at the National Tropical Exhibition in Houston, so VP Bob Wertz will be holding down the fort. If you are going to Houston, I will see you there!

This is an election year for Gold Coast, and the current nominating slate is: Jeffrey Apana, president; Bob Wertz, programs VP; Anita Lorenz, membership VP, Carlos Martell, Secretary; and Charles Michelson, treasurer. If you are interested in running for office, our

September meeting is the last opportunity to let us know! Great thanks go to Jack Taylor, who has served us ably as secretary in preparing our newsletter and website, and will be stepping down after many years. Thank you, Jack!

Our annual auction is in October, and we already have quite a few vendors and volunteers, but we can always use more. If you are interested in vending or being a volunteer, let Bob know at the September meeting, or send us an email. Also keep in mind that we are looking for items for the silent auction. This is our main funding source for the year, and silent auction items can be anything, even items that are not bonsai-related. Please help spread the word about our auction...the more people attending, the more fun we will have!

We are now collecting membership dues for 2027. Your dues includes membership in the Bonsai Societies of Florida. What do you get for your BSF dues? Hopefully you just received the new-and-improved newsletter from BSF. This is a vast improvement from previous editions and hopefully it will be interesting and useful to you. If you are interested in contributing material, we would love to have it for our newsletter as well, and would be happy to forward it to BSF for theirs. BSF membership also allows you to attend the annual convention for a full day without paying any additional fees. BSF has more benefits planned for the future, and we will be sure to keep you posted.

If you want to develop a critical eye for your trees or for viewing other people's trees, you might want to check out the judging instructions for the Pacific Bonsai Expo at <https://pacificbonsaiexpo.org/pages/instruc>

[tions-for-judges](#). They have some good ideas on how to look at trees critically, and what to look for. This can be helpful if you are preparing to show a tree, or if you just want to objectively evaluate your own trees.

If you follow the Black Pondo podcast, you may have recently heard Jeremiah Lee speaking to bonsai professional Peter Tea. Peter Tea has a wealth of knowledge to share, and one of the recent discussions involved soil tips. Peter states that wetter soil mixes lead to slower growth, which is great for trees in refinement, and drier soil mixes lead to faster growth, which is great for trees in development. If you are trying to slow growth, you can use smaller particle sizes and water-retaining components like akadama, and if you are trying to push growth you can use a coarser mix and drier components like scoria ("lava"). If you want to hear more, search for Black Pondo in your podcast app; the most recent Peter Tea interview is in two parts.

From the Membership VP:

Do you know what you miss when you don't attend a meeting? Someone like Vlad. A master with years of experience. An incredible teacher who advances your tree along in its journey while passing on pertinent information that will increase and expand your own knowledge. You might think that Vlad will be at other events, other clubs' programs. But when Vlad (or any other master) passes tidbits of information, he happens to be working on a tree with a particular problem. But you weren't there, and unless he discovers the same problem at another club's program, you forfeited that pearl of wisdom.

Gold Coast welcomes its newest member: Lai Le. He brought 3 beautiful shohin trees for us to view and discuss, a Blue Bell

(Desmodium), with small leaves and in full bloom, a tiny Privet, and a Water Jasmine also with tiny leaves. Thank you, Lai Le, for sharing them with us. Hopefully, we'll see many more of your trees. Vlad had a fun discussion with the group concerning the picking of various color bonsai pots.

As you already know, we have begun collecting dues for 2027. Our dues must be completed by the end of December. I'll be away in September, but Bob Wertz will readily accept your dues and collect your information. Please, do not hand your dues to anyone else. If you wish to pay by charge, we can do that, but you must see Bob first so he may register your payment and bring you over to our Treasurer. As I posted last month, you can always send me your check. Just let me know ahead of time. My email address is at the end of this newsletter.

One last request for primary members. We are conducting a survey and need your input. If I have not already approached you, primary members please text me how long you've been a member of Gold Coast. My number is [954 629-4157](tel:9546294157). Don't forget to leave your name.

See you at our October AUCTION. Don't forget to bring an item(s) for our Silent Auction. All monies go to the club.

Anita Lorenz
Membership Chair

Gold Coast Is On Facebook & Instagram!

Facebook – Gold Coast Bonsai Society

Instagram – [goldcoastbonsai](#)

[2026 Program Schedule](#)

January: Ficus Demo by Ed Trout & Betty Siskind

February: Toby Diaz BYOT

March: Charles Michelson BYOT

April: Jesus Brito BYOT

May: Hiram Macias BYOT

June: Larry Naeder BYOT

July: No club meeting in July
August: Vlad Foursa BYOT
September: Mike Sullivan BYOT
October: Annual Auction
November: Alex Mendosa Demo
December: Holiday Party and Mike Lane BYOT

Area Bonsai Events and Meetings:

Please verify dates and times as changes may occur

Saturday, Sept. 5th – 9:00 am (First Saturday of Month) Gold Coast Bonsai Society City of Sunrise Parks & Leisure Dept. 6800 Sunset Strip Sunrise, FL
<http://www.goldcoastbonsai.com/>

Tuesday, Sept. 1st – 7:00 pm (First Tuesday of Month) Bonsai Society of the Palm Beaches Mount's Botanical Garden Auditorium West Palm Beach, Florida www.bonsai-bsf.com/clubs/sites/bspb

Tuesday, Sept. 8th – 7:00 pm (Second Tuesday of Month) Bonsai Society of Miami Pinecrest Gardens 11000 Red Rd, Pinecrest, FL 33156 www.bonsaisocietyofmiami.org

Saturday Sept. 1st– 9:30am. Broward Bonsai Society Flamingo Gardens Learning Center www.browardbonsai.com

Saturday, Sept. 19th – 9 am (Third Saturday of Month) Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida SPALC Building 6281 Metro Plantation Road (Off Metro Parkway between Daniels Parkway and Colonial Blvd) Ft. Meyers, Florida Contact Dorothy Schmitz 239-947-3552 www.thebonsaisswfl.com

Saturday, Sept. 26th – 9:00 (Fourth Saturday of Month) Lighthouse Bonsai Society 9:00 am. www.lighthousebonsai.org

Private Sessions

Jesus Brito 954-804-5660

Hiram Macias 305-431-1404

Ed Trout & Betty Siskind 954-432- 8208

GOLD COAST BOARD

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Bonsai Links

Bonsai Societies of Florida www.bonsai-bsf.com

Bonsai Clubs International www.bonsai-bci.com/

The American Bonsai
Society www.absbonsai.org

The National Bonsai
Foundation usna.usda.gov