



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

June 2014



President's Message

I hope we are all rested from our wonderful, successful bonsai show and plant sale. Another great show. Only because of all of our members who helped in so many ways, set up, showing trees, bringing items to sale, staffing the show, bringing food and treats to share and a very early take down of the show due to heavy winds. Our sale tents blew over, then our show tables blew over and down came 4 trees, 3 pots were broken, but the trees survived thank God, and no visitors or anyone was hurt. We will plan better for the wind next year.

We sold every tree we had to sell thanks to the generosity of our club members and Ted Schwartz for his donation to the plant sale, everyone donated a 100% or at least 50% going to the club. Maria will give us a show report at our next meeting. We were also very lucky that Allies Party Rentals gave us a great deal. So this year was a real win-win show. I thank you all so much, without your help, time, and donation, there would be no show.

For the numbers, they were great; the flower fields had a record on Mother's Day, over 7,000 visitors and on Saturday over 5,000. We had so many we lost count, just too many people in the show. The nicest thing I heard was from the Vista steam engine tractor drivers, "Guests have been asking us when are the bonsai are going to be here". So now we know people are expecting us to be there. It was also so

nice to see so many members of the San Diego bonsai club coming to our show.

We are glad the fires are out. But the weather is still hot, so water your trees, and have a pan with water in for a little more moisture. We had a water main break in our neighborhood, so the water was off. We had time to fill up containers, re-water the trees, and have extra on hand. You never know what emergency will hit at any time, so think ahead of a plan, and be safe and ready for anything Mother Nature sends us.

Remember for the summer months we are going to start our meetings at 6 pm, this is for June, July, and August. More time for demos and working on trees. During our June meeting David Nguy will be our headliner. He has studied in Japan with Harry Hirao and has been a headliner and conducted many demonstrations for GSBF, so we are very lucky to have him at our meeting. He will be working on a California Juniper collected by Bob Knox.

Treats this month provided by Ute and Christine. Thank you guys so much in advance.

For our July meeting demonstration we will be joined by Martha Choy, who studied in Japan also. San Pu Kai is very lucky to have such wonderful demonstrators. So I hope you all will make it to the next two club meetings.

Happy bonsai, water, water, your trees.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine, President
caryme2@yahoo.com

San Pu Kai is on FACEBOOK – link is
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/San-Pu-Kai-Bonsai-Club/184125964939396>

San Pu Kai WEBPAGE is <http://www.sanpukai.org/>



SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

As spring Equinox passed the new growth and awakening buds developed with new vigor --on the brink of summer. The ongoing process of snipping new growth as soon as it hardens is continues into May and June before it creates long and undesirable internodes. By constant reshaping and cutting back, the growth of deciduous trees encourages delicate side branching and a softer overall look. Remember, the object of cut back is to maintain a relationship between the size of the leaves and branches to the overall size of the tree. The process of constant cut back also encourages branch thickening and adds an aged look. Watch the exposed end cuts. Apply a tree seal, or just old-fashioned Elmer's glue, to larger cuts or carvings.

Pay attention to the azaleas in your collection. March or April was the best months to repot and trim long whips and branches. May is the blooming season for most azalea varieties (remember-Satsuki means 5th month) you may enjoy the flowers well into June without concerns for feeding and trimming. Keep the plants moist but avoid overhead watering as this causes blooms to lose their color and vigor. Cut back shoots that have outgrown the design perimeters. After the flowers have reached their peak, remove all faded blooms. A flat cut at the base of the flower removes excessive stem elongation and allows new buds to form next year.

Hold off any activity on the soft deciduous growth until it hardens. Keep your eye on the upper portion of deciduous trees. Upper

branches tend to thicken and ruin the taper of the design. Heavy top growth deprives the bottom branches of light and nourishment. Watch the wires you put on since damage occurs quickly when growth is active. Remove fast growing water shoots coming out of the root system or the lower trunk area. Cut back on the long internodes and opposite branches.

Leaf pruning may be done later in June or early July. Be sure the trees are healthy and growing vigorously. Feed those well two weeks before you proceed. It's often better to leaf prune only partially. Start with oversized leaves, damaged leaves or selected areas of the tree. This piecemeal approach reduces the shock to the tree. It's also best to leaf prune a tree in alternate years. New leaf growth returns, slightly smaller, with a fresh spring like color and beauty. Better fall color is your reward.

Watch the hot summer breezes since new growth can be easily harmed. If you leaf prune almost all of the foliage you must treat the tree as you would during dormancy. Reduce the water and don't feed until new growth appears.

This article has been extracted from the recently published book called 'Bonsai Ideas'© By Marty Mann. Material is not to be copied without publisher or author's permission.



One of our club's trees at the Flower Fields show



SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB'S PAVILION at the SAFARI PARK

Spring has arrived with the usual unpredictable weather days but we had a wonderful Third Anniversary Celebration of the new Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park at the beginning of May.

This year, instead of the Kapanda Meeting area, we had the annual SDBC meeting and celebration at the Horticultural Round House just below and behind our Pavilion. It is a private, sheltered, and convenient facility. The Horticulture Staff supplied round tables, linens, a welcome poster, centerpieces, etc. to make it most comfortable for our auction and picnic and meeting. The silent auction was enhanced by special items donated by Cathy Edgar, Abe Far & Family, Barbara French-Lee, John Jackson, Gary Jones, Jim Kirchmer, Marty & Ruth Mann, Rose & Van Moch Nguyen, and 'lyn Stevenson. Books, magazines, and pots were also donated from the Pavilion inventory.

April and May volunteers have been most generous with their time and talents. We have had tremendous outpouring of volunteers including several new members to SDBC and San Pu Kai and to the Zoo volunteer program. Thanks especially to: Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, **Ken Bros**, Armand Bryant, Alan Burrows, Julia Chimento, Julia Chow, Steve Clemons, Brenda Crann, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Tina Flores, Barb French-Lee, **Jeff Gerringer**, William Graham, Bob & Janice Hale, Sonya Helmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Charlie Mosse, Patrick O'Brien, Janie & Ron Ogdon, Janet & Ron Palmer, **Sally Prestele**, Harlan Price, Dan Sola, **'lyn Stevenson**, Charlie Tamm, **John Voss**, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and **Dave Woodall**.

Our Asian Pavilion/Bonsai collection has a new, nearby, neighbor in the World Gardens area of the Safari Park. The long awaited Tiger Trail opened in May and many of our volunteers were able to attend a special invited program and pre-showing of this most impressive exhibit. The Sumatra Tigers and our Bonsai are the Asian parts of Safari Park which is mainly African in presentations. Plant species including bamboo are seen in both our areas. A new acquisition to our Pavilion is also featured in Tiger Trail—it is *Eucalyptus deglupta* or Asian Rainbow Eucalyptus which is also found in the Philippines, Guinea, and Indonesia. It is a rare tree species and the Park Horticulture Department has given one to the Pavilion, We now have it in the work area and will eventually incorporate it into our Garden.

Jim Kirchmer arranged for the wood planking and Curator John Jackson obtained the poles and cement and several of our stronger, determined volunteers dug the 4' deep holes, mixed cement and started the framework for five new back-screens behind the six foot and eight foot long benches on the hill side of the Pavilion. With physical labor like this, who needs a gym workout!

Tedious work by other volunteers included: clearing the area of bamboo leaves caught between the river rocks, raking the paths, cleaning the pots, trimming bonsai, putting wires on some bonsai and removing wires on others, and pruning Pavilion trees. Several members also had the opportunity to learn the art of air layering on one of the Bish Estate bonsai in our work area. Curator John directed his technique; we will all watch for the results in the next months. Assistant Curator Dennis has promised to show everyone the techniques for de-candling process on several Japanese Black Pines at our June work sessions. Every work session seems to include something new and it is a pleasure to be able to work on majestic and old bonsai and garden trees. It is certainly a fun reward for all the dedicated volunteer labor at the Pavilion! If you are not a volunteer, please thank those that are . . . and, everyone is welcome to join in the fun whenever they feel inclined too!

'lyn Stevenson SDBC-Safari Park Liaison



A lovely Shohin display at the club show



Some of our many visitors



Steve Valentine's magnificent cedar



Many thanks to Allie Party rentals



Folks buying some very nice trees



Our youngest customer



Martha Choy beginning a demonstration



The trees look great outdoors in the sunshine



The beautiful finished product, thanks Martha!



A beautiful olive bonsai, thanks Dave Woodall



Record crowds enjoying the bonsai show



Some flowers for the flower fields show



San Pu Kai
c/o Maria Barbosa, Membership
2727 De Anza Road, #J-26
San Diego, CA 92109

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, June 10, 2014	6 pm – 9 pm	Regular Meeting: David Nguy demonstration! Brengle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, June 7, 2014	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday June 21, 2014	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Sunday, June 29, 2014	10:00am - 3:00pm	Bonsai Swap meet https://www.facebook.com/events/242092225983007/ JESSE OWENS PARK 7100 WHITE OAK AVE., RESEDA, CA 91335
Tuesday, July 8, 2014	6 pm – 9 pm	Regular Meeting: Martha Choy demonstration! Brengle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA