



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



September 2018



President's Message

We had a great surprise special guest for our August bonsai meeting, Pedro Morales. He did a wonderful job with the help of club members defoliating the ficus tree, then Pedro wired it out. This tree is already popping everywhere. We shared the photos with Bobby Knox, who used to own

this wonderful tree. It was collected in Hawaii in the drain of a gas station. You can really find great trees anywhere. Bobby was so pleased to see the results of Pedro's work on his tree. I am sure everyone learned a lot from Pedro, I know I sure did.

Thank you to the Vess family for the wonderful treats. The Valentine's will be providing treats at the September meeting.

September is our annual fundraising meeting. For the new members, this is where members donate bonsai related items to the club, and for a \$20 buy in you can play the game. We call each person's name and the club members get as many turns as items that we have. It's like a bonsai Christmas. You will be surprised how much you'll go home with and all for a \$20 donation to the club. This fundraiser helps the club out with meeting cost, special guest etc., the only other fundraiser is our club show in May. Please help out and support the club. We take all items, books, magazines, tools, fertilizer, hand made items, you name it. And if any one is a baker Steve loves peanut butter cookies.

Darryl's pot making meeting will be in October, we will be learning a different type of pot making, these will not be pinch pots. But we will have a lot of fun. I know you all have seen Darryl's beautiful bonsai pots he has been making. He is becoming a great potter and members of the bonsai community are seeking his pots. We have a lot to learn

We are very happy to welcome back past president Joanie to our club and new member Tobin. Please give them our San Pu Kai welcome. Tobin has been working with Joanie on Past member Ted's trees and is helping out at the bonsai pavilion.

Shohin meeting:

We had a wonderful second shohin meeting, there were 7

members who attended. We worked on our shohin trees. We enjoyed treats and ice tea. It was wonderful as it was not hot and we had a nice breeze. We are having our next shohin meeting on September 15th, 1-4 pm. Please bring your trees, tools etc. or just come watch and learn. See how wonderful these little trees are. We might just have a shohin set up at our show in May. Please RSVP, so we know how much to set up. Thanks you.

Tom Ohgi will have his bonsai shop open on Fridays and Saturdays 9am-4pm until everything is sold. They still have some trees, pots, tools, and great Japanese plates gifts. Great place to get items you might need or for our raffle. Great prices.

Remember the bonsai pavilion at the safari park is open again, and they have workdays, the 1st & 3rd, Saturday of the month, they may be having extra work days. Check with Lyn Stevenson.

Huntington gardens needs your help, become a bonsai volunteer. They can use your help on the first Thursday and first Saturday of each month, you get in free, get volunteer hours, talk with guests who want to know about bonsai. These are dates when guests get in free to the Huntington, so extra help is needed. If interested please email: Ellen Keneshea, GSBF Huntington chairman: ekeneshea@socal.rr.com

I will have GSBF convention info. to share with the club members, the dates are: October 24-28, McClellan Conference Center, Sacramento, CA.

Headliners, Bjorn Bjornholm, Suthin Sukosolvisit, and from Japan Yasuo Mitsuya San, could be his last trip to the USA.

See you all at the meeting, it is nice to see cooler mornings and evenings, but keep checking your trees.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

Growth patterns of most trees begin to slow down at this time. They no longer show signs of vigor or the blush of summer greenery. They will not show autumn colors yet since the chemical changes required do not begin to materialize until late in September. The "Autumnal Equinox" approaches - the day of equal nights and days that leads us into the fall season, areas in our yard, previously exposed to full sun, have more shade and conversely trees get less light than they are accustomed to having in order to grow.

Notice tree locations. Move deciduous trees into cooler areas if you have had recent periods of regrowth. In spite of periods of cool weather, trees can respond to the warmth of the late summer and develop new foliage.

Fall is generally the end of the luxurious growth of summer and the last spurt of activity before settling down for winter dormancy. Bonsai will no longer grow very much so the need for extensive pruning should be minimal. Since recent growth may have added girth to branches and trunks, check all wired branches to see if they are set and, if they are, remove the wires.

Assuming you have properly reduced the nitrogen feeding during the past few months the fall colors on deciduous trees will show on liquid ambers, maples, gingkoes, hornbeams and Zelkovas. Cool nights and the effect of equal days and nights add to this phenomenon. Winter growth generally goes into the lignification of woody branches and trunks.

Fall is an excellent time to gather tree seeds as they ripen. Seeds from oak tree acorns, pine tree cones and many varieties of maples are in profusion--an excellent source for stratification by over wintering in your refrigerator. Plant them in early spring for new nursery seedlings and future training stock.

Our climate allows plenty of time for new growth to develop and harden before winter cool days

encourages dormancy. Check the growth of new candles on pines. There is still time for second candle removal. Attentive cut back and pinching minimizes unattractive long internodes and loss of compactness. The more you pinch and cut the more branch diversification occurs and new buds form for spring. This constant attention from early fall, throughout the dormant winter season, will intensify your design objectives.

Limit cuttings, at this time of year, to hardwood specimens or tropical varieties. The use of a rooting hormones

and a pre-soaking of a rooting stimulant, such as B-1 or Superthrive, improves the odds of success. A basic rooting medium such as 2 parts peat moss with 1 part perlite or coarse sand will serve you well. Keep the rooting medium slightly moist and shaded until evidence of new growth appears.

As fall approaches, deciduous trees, in nature and in bonsai, turn gold, orange and crimson. We marvel at the beauty of these changes and accept this metamorphosis as a fact of life. It is generally assumed that these changes are just a byproduct of dying leaves due to the effects of weather and light. Leaves get their green color during spring and summer from chlorophyll, the pigment that captures sunlight. But leaves also contain other pigments whose colors are masked during the growing season. In fall, the absence of chlorophyll allows these color pigments to break out, draw into the leaf tissues and begin to show.

As leaves become more colorful, an interesting phenomenon occurs. Aphids and other insects avoid trees with bright fall color and tend to lay their eggs in less colorful trees. When the eggs hatch next spring, the larvae feed on the tree and are very destructive. Some studies suggest that trees with strong fall color tend to suffer less damage from insects in spring.

By Marty Mann

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







San Pu Kai

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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, September 11, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, September 15, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, October 6, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, October 9, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, October 13, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday