



San Pu Kai

August 2009

Editor: Maria Barbosa
Distributor: Sally Bencangey

President's Message

Didn't we have a fabulous meeting in July, with our special guest? WOW! **Kathy Shaner!** Someone said that it was like having Bill Gates show up to fix your computer.



Kathy was so gracious to give us time, and she really gave us a lot of great information. Kathy has such a gift for teaching. I would also like to thank **Steve Valentine** for arranging for Kathy's visit and fitting us into her very busy schedule.



Maria Barbosa did such a fabulous job with the goodies, a tasty array indeed! Thank you, **Maria!** In August, **Sandra Knowles** has volunteered to bring the goodies, thank you **Sandra!** We look forward to your treats.

In August, we will be doing our annual raffle. This year, you can buy as many tickets as you like, and I encourage you to buy lots! Bring your trees, plants, pots, tools, old magazines, books, wire, and anything else that you are ready to pass on to a new home. I'm bringing some new things, just to make sure that the raffle has plenty of goodies. We're supposed to keep the items bonsai-related, though I do remember **Cary** and I both wanting the same handmade ceramic casserole dish....

Now is a good time to evaluate what you have, maybe donate a few trees that you've lost interest in, so that you can make room on your benches for new ones. It would also be rather nice if we all labeled our tree's species, so that the new owner knows what kind of care it needs.

John Voss's juniper workshop will be available for sign up for October, we will have details at the next meeting, or you can call me for more information. He's contributing some really nice junipers, and working with the participants to style the trees. John has contributed so much to the club, for years, and we are grateful for his loyal support.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on **August 11th!**

Joanie Berkwitz
760-431-1014
Mold40@roadrunner.com

BONSAI PAVILIONS AT THE WILD ANIMAL PARK

Due to the very warm temperatures at the WAP in July, several visits were made to check on the water system to make sure everything was working well. A surprise visit by several wild mule deer along with the many Park visitors makes these trips to the WAP different each time.

Our generous July volunteers included: **Maria Barbosa**, John Jackson, Jim Kirchner, Ray Lish, **Marty Mann**, new volunteer Charlie Mosse, Jon & Terri Petrescu, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, 'lyn Stevenson, **Steve Valentine**, **John Voss**, Dennis Wagner, and **Dave Woodall**. THANK YOU ALL!



Dave Woodall hard at work!

Kathy Shaner visited the Pavilions while she was in San Diego for our July meeting and offered some helpful critiques of the bonsai. She assisted **Steve** and the volunteers with some special work (graft clean up and lime sulphur treatment) on the white pine bonsai in the collection.



Kathy Shaner working on Pavilion Trees

We are looking forward to the arrival of a beautiful *Ficus Nerifolia* at the Pavilion.

Bruce and Yakeo Hisayasu presented this large bonsai show piece to SDBC while we were all up at their home on our last bus trip. **Jon Voss** is currently caring for it and will deliver it to the Pavilion shortly.



Bruce & Yakeo Hisayasu with donated *Ficus Nerifolia*

After much consultation with the WAP, we were able to get the Park's assistance with equipment and their operator, John Coronado, to assist Dennis, John Jackson, Jon Petrescu, **John Voss**, Ray, **Dave**, Charlie, and Jim in the construction area. They needed to remeasure, stretch, and hang all the shade cloths. Another small retaining wall was put in place with the remaining blocks from the larger wall near the front of the Pavilion. All this time and strenuous work is appreciated by all!

A future calendar date for all Pavilion volunteers is the September 19th work day which will include a special Volunteer Orientation from the WAP. Of course, we will be meeting regularly in August and September before that date. Check your e-mails for special work sessions! Call 'lyn to join these educational and productive work sessions. Pay includes great camaraderie, bonsai tips, lemonade, cookies, fruits, etc. (also donated by the volunteers)!

'lyn Stevenson — 858-486-4805
SDBC-WAP Liaison



Kathy Shaner working on Pavilion Trees

BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

Summertime, and the living is easy - so goes the song. August brings some respite from the busy spring chores. It is still a period of vigorous growth and greater responsibility. August brings higher temperatures that slows down new growth and reduces pruning requirements. Trimming, repotting and styling is still in order. Continue to pinch the trees that require it, daily.

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage high levels of moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health regular, increased watering schedules must consistently renew this moisture. Avoid wetting the leaves during the warm days- for two good reasons:

Daytime water that adheres to leaves can literally cook them and cause severe leaf burn. If overhead watering is unavoidable, do so early in the morning to give time for surface evaporation.

Excessive moisture in the crotch of leaf clusters or on their undersides creates environments that are ideal for the formation of fungus and the related health threatening damages.

Be reminded that summer vacationing puts an additional burden on your 'bonsai sitters'. A suggestion would be to let them water your trees for you for a few days before you leave to be sure that they are following your instructions. Trees requiring special care should be grouped together to simplify attention. Don't trust your automatic watering system without the back-up of someone who can check from time to time to audit its functions.

Try forming a mutual watering pact with fellow bonsaiists. You do for them when you can and they will do for you. It's a great working arrangement and considerably safer than trusting your 'babies' to strangers.

With the arrival of summer most of the formal bonsai shows have passed and the bonsaiist has the pleasure of displaying their own trees. The objective of a good hobbyist is pride in the finished tree. This is achieved by maintaining good health, continuing a selective feeding routine and paying attention to weather conditions that set the guidelines for proper watering requirements. Summer maintenance prepares the trees for fall and winter. Plan ahead.

Start with the constant surveillance of fast summer growth. Warm days and cool nights encourage the development of new tip growth, long internodes and lush foliage. Maintenance must include pinching and plucking of the growing tips as well as cutting back the branches. Reducing the branch extensions encourages shorter internodes, tighter evergreen formations and develops desirable twiggyness on deciduous trees. Trim and shape unwanted growth. Maintain form and design.

A regular program of feeding during the summer months is important. Reduction of the nitrogen content

of the fertilizer mix inhibits excessive green growth and allows the formation of chemical changes that produces the best fall colors. The basic mix of cottonseed meal (70%) and bone meal (30 %) can be altered to increase the bone meal, thereby providing more potassium and phosphorus to harden the woody growth. It also induces the development of fruit and flower buds for next year. Do not feed plants that appear to be suffering from summer stress due to oppressive heat or moisture deprivation.

It's too late and risky to leaf prune in the hot summer months. If you wish, you can do selective pruning of large leaves, burnt leaves and the obvious unwanted elongated branches and crossing branches. Keep your pots from getting too hot. Roots are easily damaged by excessive heat. Be sure your soil stays damp at all times. Keep the humidity high and the air moving around all of your trees.

Watch the wires. You would be surprised how fast spring training wire can cut into growing branches and leave permanent scars. Turn your trees to give them equal light exposure and even growth. Avoid placing trees on display benches next to hot reflecting walls. Be sure to rotate frequently.

Unfortunately, the restful summer period of bonsai enjoyment is also the most active period of pest proliferation. *Bugs* love the combination of warmth and moisture. They grow and attack your trees with relish. Keep up with regular spraying of Malathion, Isotex, Sevin, Orthorix Dormant Spray (Lime Sulfur), etc. You pick what works best for you. Apply under and over the leaf surface but out of the hot sun and not just before you water. Don't apply any chemicals when temperatures are too high.

No transplanting during the summer months. However certain materials such as Pomegranates, Ficus, Buttonwood, Cotoneaster, Pyracantha and most Bamboo can be repotted or transplanted at this time. Trees that were defoliated late in June are vulnerable to damage during the heat of the summer. Keep these trees in partial shade until they start growing again.

By Marty Mann



HAIKU POEM

*A smile brings good thoughts
Of days that are forgotten
But memory stays*

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.
August 2009



San Pu Kai
c/o Joanie Berkwitz
5440 El Arbol Drive
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, August 11 th	7 pm to 9 pm	Regular meeting, RAFFLE Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave
Saturday, August 15 th	9 am to 12 pm	Workday, Wild Animal Park Bonsai Pavilions
Tuesday, September 8 th	7 pm to 9 pm	Regular meeting, 4 Experts Demo of Bonsai Styling Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave
Tuesday, October 13 ^h	7 pm to 9 pm	Regular meeting, John Voss does Junipers Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave
Tuesday, November 10 ^h	7 pm to 9 pm	Regular meeting, Ted Matson Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave
Tuesday, December 8 ^h	7 pm to 9 pm	Regular meeting, Tom Anglewicz – Japan's Bonsai Trip Presentation Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave