



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

September 2011

Editor: Maria Barbosa



President's Message

Well, it's September and you all know what that means! It is the San Pu Kai Annual and FUNdraising month!

September Program: We all have plants, pots, rocks, and other bonsai-related items sitting around our yard that we are not using. We are sure not using these items to their full bonsai potential,...and, maybe, your tastes have changed,or you want to down-size your collection. So, why not pass them on to someone else?

We will have our BIG CLUB \$20.00 buy-in FUN fund raiser. This is a very important meeting for our club, beside our annual San Pu Kai bonsai show at the Carlsbad Flower Fields, this is the only venue that San Pu Kai raises income for our monthly programs and yearly activities, such as for special speakers, like Ted Matson, and to finance special projects or tree materials for workshops. Additionally, these last several years, we have made several donations to the New Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park which also supports our local community. Now we need to replenish the bank account again and prepare for our 2012 activities.

IF you feel that you do not have any trees or pots, maybe you are an artist, or a great baker. *I know Steve loves peanut butter cookies or fudge.* San Pu Kai members are very generous, so this is your time to shine. I want to thank you all in advance. This will be a very fun meeting.

Treats: Thanks so much for last month's treats! The Vess family did a great ...and tasty job.

September's treats will be brought in by Joyce Goldman. Below is a listing of all the volunteers who have promised to provide our break-time treats for the rest of the year.

September – Joyce Goldman
October – Dave Woodall
November – Lanny Chronert
December – Sandra Knowles

Bonsai Pavilion: Next time you go out to the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion to work, you will find some nice surprises. We now have two new 80% shade cloth overhead to keep us all cooler in this summer heat. We also have a nice new Tuff Shed to keep the remainder of the tools and bonsai supplies.

Construction of the new shed was really great. We did not have to build it this time. Tuff Shed people came out in the morning, the shed was pre-painted, and by noon the shed was up and ready to move into!!!

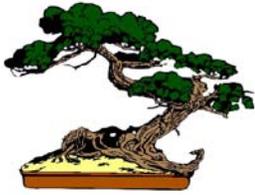
The newly moved bonsai trees are all growing so fast in their new home and we now have two work days, the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month to take care of them. I encourage all members to come out to help work on the trees, it is a great learning place,nice to work on trees, on a quality of tree you may never get to own. Please see 'lyn Stevenson (SAFARI PARK LIAISON) or Steve Valentine (PAVILION CURATOR) for more information.

October Program: In October we are going to have a nice workshop with *Bougainvillea "Pink Pixie"*. They are very good for shohin (small 1 gallon size, a dark pink, almost red). Once again it will be first call first get the tree.(760-445-2548 caryme@yahoo.com) They will be on sale for \$20.00. They are really nice trees, we are very lucky to get them from Joe DuPont from Hines Nursery. I will teach you to work them up into a really nice little shohin tree..

Keep cool, and water your trees a lot in this hot weather.

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



BONSAI PAVILIONS AT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO SAFARI PARK

SDBC and San Pu Kai members and Bonsai Pavilion volunteers have really continued to be great participants with our new Pavilion project both in working diligently on-site and donating trees and checks to continue enhancing this attractive, special area in the Safari Park. Many thanks to all of you and an invitation is always extended to any other members who would like to join in the experience!

In August, Neil Auwarter, Judy Barnhurst, Martha Choy, Cathy and Mark Edgar, Maria & Tina Flores, **Joyce Goldman**, John Jackson, Gary Jones, Jim Kirchmer, Kris Landwehre Ray Lish, **Marty Mann**, Charlie Mosse, Patrick O'Brien, Jon & Terri Petrescu, **Sally Prestele**, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, **Iyn Stevenson**, Charlie Tamm, **Cary & Curator Steve Valentine**, **John Voss**, and **Dave Woodall** all donated volunteer hours in the Pavilion caring for our precious bonsai and the garden surrounding them. Over 260 hours have been donated to Pavilion activities in August by these volunteers. The hospitality provided by our volunteers has been enjoyed during our breaks. . .many thanks to **Cary** for the addition of iced tea which several have been mixing with **Iyn's** lemonade, the delicious breads from Cathy and Mary Ann, and the nice fresh fruit from Charlie. Water and ice will continue to be available through the summer too.

Our "resident" mother duck and six babies continue to entertain us and seem oblivious to all visitors. We have been greeted several times at the back gate by a mule deer who cannot enter the Pavilion—so our horticultural area is unique to the wild animals too ! Two new fabric coverings have been added to provide overhead shade. They were attached to the existing poles and match our first covers in the pavilion. The new shed will be installed next to the current one and will help considerably with all our tools, other equipment and supplies. We will need to protect our inventory of bonsai pots in the future also. The Safari Park wants to keep a banner permanently flying at the entrance of the Pavilion, especially now since the location is also marked on the Park map. **Cary and Steve** had arranged the kites and banner for our Opening Day and will pursue a more permanent banner.

Thanks to **Marty** for his recent donation of two bonsai which are now on exhibit. **Bobby Knox** donated a Pomegranate which he collected in Imperial Valley and is now in the collection. **Cary** has been taking photos of all the new bonsai as additions to the inventory book. . .there are over fifty trees on display now and another twenty in the work area for future showings. Roger Marr is also working on designs for the future shohin-tokanoma display area.

Work days will continue on the first and third Saturday on each month and sometimes on other days as needed. Call Curator **Steve Valentine** for further information.

Iyn Stevenson — 858-486-4805
SDBC-WAP Liaison, New Pavilion Project Manager



BONSAI IDEAS

SEPTEMBER, #93

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, ginkgoes, hornbeams and Zelcova. 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.

Pruning and pinching is still an important activity in spite of the growth slow-down. Keep evergreens and conifers in shape. Our climate allows plenty of time for new growth to develop and harden before winter cool days encourage 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.

Changing leaf colors - Cause and affect.

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.

The chemical activity within the leaf is very active. As chlorophyll previously used primarily for photosynthesis fades, nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus are absorbed into the tissue of the tree, stored and used in spring for growth and reproduction. Anthocyanin, the pigment that creates the red and orange colors, become more dominant and appear to protect leaves by blocking some of the sunlight.

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. This is an interesting observation?

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.
September 2011

HAIKU POEM

***Quaking leaves sitr in the breeze
To tell of soft winds
The day passes and night falls***

Marty Mann

September 2011

Officers

President – Cary Sullivan-Valentine
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Vice-President – Bob Knox
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Secretary – Sandra Knowles
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Treasurer/Membership – Maria Barbosa
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San Pu Kai

c/o Maria Barbosa, Membership
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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, September 13, 2011	7 pm - 9 pm	\$20 Raffle Night-Make \$\$ for the Club! Brenge Terrace Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista, CA
Saturday, September 17, 2011	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion <i>Workday</i>
Saturday, September 24, 2011 Sunday, September 25, 2011	10 am – 5:00 p.m.	San Diego Bonsai Club Fall Bonsai Exhibition and Sale San Diego Balboa Park Casa Del Prado Room 101 Free Admission & Parking Bonsai pots, plant material, bonsai books and BONSAI!
Saturday, October 1, 2011	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion <i>Workday</i>
Tuesday, October 11, 2011	7 pm - 9 pm	Bougainvillea, Call Cary Valentine to reserve a plant (\$20.00) Regular meeting, Brenge Terrace Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista, CA
Saturday, October 15, 2011	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion <i>Workday</i>