



# San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

April 2012

Editor: Maria Barbosa



## President's Message

I want to thank all members for bringing in your trees. It was so nice to see most everyone busy working on your bonsai. It was also nice to see Marty Mann back with us! All of our prayers must have really worked because you looked great, Marty.

**Our program for April is our show and bonsai display. Steve & John** will be heading this and helping us to be able to show our trees to best effect for our big show.

On **May 12th & 13th (Mothers day weekend)** San Pu Kai puts on their only fundraiser of the year. This show is really a big deal for our club and I hope for each one of us. Not only do we get to show our wonderful trees to the public, but we get to educate them on the art of bonsai. We will have several demos each day to help educate our visitors and we will have a plant sale to get them started in bonsai. If that is not enough, we are having a **membership drive**, and for every member who joins our club, they will get a signed book, "**Bonsai Ideas**" from **Marty Mann**! What a great deal and a big savings to them. If they do not join and want Marty's book, they will have to pay the going price.

We have a great place for our show at the **Carlsbad Flower Field**. This is our 4th year showing there, and we get to have a show there pretty much free for our club. Our only costs are the fee to have a plant sale and the cost to rent the tables and chairs. I do not know of any other club in the area that has a draw like we do at this venue. We get about 5,000 to 6,000 visitors a day! Not bad considering that the Carlsbad Flower Field even advertises for us on their website that goes out to the general public, all the hotels in the area and the visitor bureau. Our plant sale helps you and it **really helps the**

**club as a fundraiser.** So start looking at pots and trees that you may want to sell.

Thanks again to Ruth & Marty Mann for getting us this wonderful location. **Please Note: San Pu Kai members who work the show or show a tree get in to the flower field FREE.**

Link: <http://www.theflowerfields.com/special-events/bonsai-show-and-sale>

So back to our program--- please bring in your trees, accent plant and your stand so we can help you with your display. If you do not have a stand or accent, this is a good time for us to know, so we know what we need to get to be ready for the show. I will also have sign-up sheets, so we know who will be there to help set up and tear down, who will do our demos, help at the sales table and guard the trees, and talk to our visitors. Yes, it takes a lot to put on a show, so we need every member we have. Thank you so much to Forrest and his son for volunteering to sleep over Saturday night to watch our trees and to make sure they are safe.

There will be no meeting in May, due to our club show.

Thank you to Bob for leading us in a wonderful juniper dig.

The rain sure has been nice for our trees,

Cary Sullivan-Valentine,  
President  
[caryme2@yahoo.com](mailto: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/>

\*Reminder: We need volunteers to do the treats for October and November! See Cary.



## BONSAI PAVILIONS AT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO SAFARI PARK

Thanks to our March volunteers: Neil Auwarter, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Barbara French-Lee, John Jackson, Jim Kirchmer, **Bob Knox**, Charlie Mosse, **Sally Prestele**, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Dan Sola, 'lyn Stevenson, Charlie Tamm, **Cary & Steve Valentine**, **Chele & Forrest Vess**, **John Voss**, Dennis Wagner, & Dave Woodall. Thanks also for the treats from Cary, Charlie, Mary Ann, John, Cathy, and 'lyn! They were much appreciated and delicious surprises for all! Due to the festival at the Japanese Friendship Garden on the third Saturday in March, we had postponed our workday and rescheduled it for March 24th. We also appreciated not working when the rains were pouring down!

At the SDBC March meeting at Balboa Park, SDBC's visiting sensei, **Harry Hirao**, and his team came down from Orange County and worked on a very old California Juniper that Harry had dug a couple of years ago. Harry gifted it to the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion along with the large bonsai pot which we will transplant the tree into at a later date.

John Jackson and Dennis Wagner are heading up the construction on the new Shohin exhibit. Craig Stewart from Stewart Raceworks in Santee is fabricating the metal framework. Some excavation (with shovels from and by the volunteers,) followed by mixing the cement for the base are the first steps in the construction and all volunteers were welcome and needed for this project. That first stage is now completed and the area was covered for protection from the rains, etc.

Much spring clearance of broken sumac branches and other debris as well as cleaning around the new construction was accomplished. Our newest volunteer, Dan Sola, took photos and we hope they will be shared with all in the Bonsai Wire. Thanks Dan!

Thanks to SDBC President Dave Rochester for supplying the video materials for the presentation at Safari Park Volunteer meeting on March 12 at the Hunte Pavilion. John and 'lyn took a couple of the Pavilion bonsai to the meeting also and the presentation was directed at the Zoo and Safari Park volunteers who attended. They all appreciated knowing a bit of the history and the planning process for the opening of Pavilion last May. Thanks to **Cary & Steve Valentine**, Susan Baker, John Jackson, **Dave Woodall**, and 'lyn for participating in the evening function and representing the Bonsai Pavilion.

All Pavilion volunteers should have their 2012 stickers on their ID cards now. Contact Dave Cuthbert in the Safari Park Volunteer Office if you do not have your sticker as yet or if you are planning to join our volunteer efforts at the Pavilion.

'lyn Stevenson  
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison

**SUNSET RANCH BONSAI RETREAT & TAMERISK DIG, October 5-7, 2012**  
Full resort amenities, cost of weekend includes meals, bonsai-related activities through-out the weekend plus family members are invited. More from Cary at the next meeting!



*San Pu Kai's donation to the Bonsai-a-thon raffle.*



# BONSAI IDEAS

April #100

A good **potting mix** may include a small amount of bone meal and Ironite to encourage development of new fine rootage. There is a difference of opinion as to the value of including cottonseed meal at this time, however we believe that this fertilizer is better applied a month or so later since early feeding can be harmful to new growth. Cottonseed meal is a slow starter before it adds any nutrient benefit to the plant. Repotted plants may be fed as soon as signs of new growth are apparent. A suggested mix is 75% cottonseed meal / 25% bone meal.

Newly potted trees should be shaded from direct sun until new growth begins. By moving trees into sunny areas, it will stimulate the growth of foliage. Newly potted trees should first be allowed to develop new fine rootage that can then support new foliage. When new growth is evident, it's time to begin light fertilization. Full sun encourages smaller leaves and shorter internodes.

Early bloomers such as Forsythia, Sasanqua Camellias and Quince develop during early spring months. After flowers have faded, trees are pruned to restore shape, allow new growth and bud setting. Azaleas are bare rooted and repotted in March. Be sure to comb out as much of the old soil or growing medium peat without destroying the fine root system. Incorporate as much new coarse azalea soil mix as you can when repotting to develop strong healthy new roots and improve acidity.

Finally, **prepare selected trees for display at the many spring bonsai shows** held throughout the state. Select your best tree(s)--be critical of their appearance. Show trees should be free of any infections and should not show signs of ill health. Pots should be clean. Plants surface must be cleared of trash and very heavy layers of moss. Spring is

usually the time when most trees look their very best.

Remember----

For every action there is an equal and opposite criticism.

Doesn't this seem to apply to bonsai? The best way to escape your problem is to solve it.

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.  
April 2012

## HAIKU POEM

*The warm sun shines through  
Green grass and flowers abound  
Birds nest in the trees*

Marty Mann

April 2012



Elegant Chrysanthemum Stone at Bonsai-a-thon 2012

### Officers

President – Cary Sullivan-Valentine  
760-445-2548 [Caryme2@yahoo.com](mailto:Caryme2@yahoo.com)

Vice-President – Bob Knox  
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Secretary – Sandra Knowles  
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Treasurer/Membership – Maria Barbosa  
619-606-6523 [bonsaigarden@earthlink.net](mailto:bonsaigarden@earthlink.net)



**San Pu Kai**

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

**Calendar of Events**

Saturday, April 7 & 21, 2012	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion <i>Workdays</i>
Tuesday, April 10, 2012	7 pm - 9 pm	<b>DISPLAY – Bring your show tree, accent plant &amp; Stand!</b> Regular meeting, Brenge Terrace Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista, CA
Saturday/Sunday April 11 -15, 2012	All weekend	The IRON MEN of John Naka, Crown Plaza Garden Grove Registration information, Elizabeth Partch, email: <a href="mailto:elizabethpartch@yahoo.com">elizabethpartch@yahoo.com</a>
Saturday/Sunday, April 28 - 29, 2012 <i>(Reception on Saturday @ 5:30 pm)</i>	10 am – 5 pm	San Diego Bonsai Club Spring Show and Sale- Casa Del Prado Rm 101, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA
Saturday, May 5 & 19, 2012	9 am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion <i>Workdays</i>
<i>No meeting in May- due to our Bonsai Show &amp; Sale on</i> Saturday/Sunday, May 12 - 13, 2012	9 am – 6 pm	<b>SAN PU KAI BONSAI SHOW &amp; SALE</b> At the Carlsbad Flower Fields 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, CA