



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

October 2013



President's Message

We really had a fun meeting and everyone went home with lots of treasures. I want to thank everyone who participated by bringing in items and by buying in to the auction. Many thanks to **Joyce Goldman** for the several items she donated for the evening event and **Sally Prestele** for sending her donation check.

San Pu Kai made a nice little profit of \$400.00. This annual event really helps our club out. We have two major fundraisers a year, this one in September and our plant sale in May with our Bonsai show at the Carlsbad Flower Fields. The extra money we make on our fundraisers help pay for outside demonstrators and help pay our meeting room rent for the year.

We still need to raise addition funds to purchase tables for use during our May show. But I have a few ideas in the works for this.

I would like to thank **Jeff Geringer** for the wonderful treats at our meeting. I know we all enjoyed the Charger napkins, very thoughtful.

GSBF Convention out Side the Box, October 31- November 3 , at the Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel & Convention Center- There is still time to send in your registration form, or just come for the day. Saturday would be your best option for a day registration, and see the bonsai exhibit and the

judged competition and all the wonderful vendors you would ever want to see and buy from. It really is great fun, better than a family reunion. This year's lucky San Pu Kai member who is attending as our "Power of One" will be **Jeff Geringer**, who will be giving us a report on the convention from a first timers point of view.

Program for September:

Our September program will be perfect for anyone who participates in the upcoming Sunset Ranch retreat and tamarisk dig. **Steve & Bob** will be sharing with club members information on how to take care of the collected tamarisk trees, soil they may need, training, feeding and how to wire them and turn these nice trees into a bonsai. So if you went on the retreat and you want to bring in your tree/trees to get some advice on them or just to share with the club members please do so. I also will be sharing some of the photos from the retreat.

Treats this month will be provided by **Maria Barbosa**.

Fall is in the air.

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



SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

Fall is generally the climax of the luxurious growth of summer and the last spurt of activity before settling down for winter dormancy. As leaves begin to drop, be sure to remove the trash around your trees and on the surface of your pots. If cleanup is neglected these areas become a refuse for slugs, sow bugs and other undesirable creatures.

Transplanting is permissible at this time of year, specifically bamboo, boxwood, conifers, hornbeam, cotoneaster, podocarpus, privets, pyracantha, wisteria, willow and most varieties of deciduous trees. The key to safe fall repotting is to minimize root disturbance and severe pruning but trees can be transferred into larger or different containers. If in doubt about the health or condition of a tree, wait until spring to repot.

Now is the time to anticipate and enjoy better autumn color by reducing watering time as well. As the length of the day's sunshine is shortened, the trees require less water. A balance must be maintained between the minimal watering and the loss of moisture by transpiration during intermittent warm spells.

Once the leaves on trident maple, Japanese maple, liquid amber, ginkgo, hornbeam and other colorful deciduous trees begin to lose their vigor and drop, keep the bonsai areas and pot surfaces cleared. Remove trash promptly. Continue to spray benches with an all-purpose insecticide and a final spray of fungicide. Pests seem to make a final effort to destroy and injure trees as they feed heavily prior to moving into the pupa stage.

Light conditions begin to change. Trees that have had full sun exposure find themselves in more shade. So, watch the location of trees at this time of

year and rotate them into more favorable light exposures allowing them to continue storing strength and food for the winter.

This is a good time to work on basic training and design. Remove the wire applied this past year. Check for wire cuts. New wire can be applied but avoid the curls and marks of previous efforts. In spite of this period of slow growth, fall and winter training can still be effective. Before spring approaches don't overlook the new wire since new growth quickly causes wire damage. Study improper branch placement – crossing, bars, up and down growth.

There is still time to give bonsai a last good feeding. Evergreen and conifers may be lightly fertilized on a regular basis through the winter months since they continue to grow in our mild climate. Use food with little or no nitrogen--mainly potash and phosphorous, a 0-10-10 fertilizer. Low nitrogen fertilizers build dormant buds and store food in the form of starch used to produce healthy growth in spring. This is especially important for fruiting and flowering trees. Specifically azalea, crabapple, plum and pomegranate improve after late feedings.

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.

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.

HAIKU POEM

***Our joy is reborn
When good health and
stylish care
Show in trees each day***



SDBC BONSAI PAVILION AT THE SAFARI PARK

Beautiful fall weather and the bonsai continue to flourish and our belief is that summer will last several weeks more at the Safari Park. The bonsai continue to grow and need summer care even if the day light is getting shorter. It is still too early to transplant but there are several bonsai that are awaiting new soil and some need new pots. We may have to look at the GSBF Convention vendors' displays later this month for a couple of special pots.

September volunteers at the Pavilion included: Neil Auwarter, Armand Bryant, Alan Burrows, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Allan Edwin, Tina Flores, **Jeff Gerringer**, Bill Graham, Sonya Holmquist, Curator John Jackson, Jim Kirchmer, Lin Koelmel, Charlie Mosse, **Sally Prestele**, Dan Sola, **'lyn Stevenson**, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, Dave Woodall, and our newest volunteer, Roger Zielgelman. Many thanks to all for their dedication. Thanks also for the refreshments supplied by Cathy Edgar, **Jeff Gerringer**, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Charlie Mosse, **'lyn Stevenson**, and Dennis Wagner. The goodies and their donors are all much appreciated during these warm days at the Pavilion.

It is truly noteworthy to recap all the hours that our volunteers have generously donated to the Pavilion so far in 2013. From January thru September, the total hours recorded by the volunteers at the Pavilion is 1974 hours. This represents a significant figure of time and talent for the Safari Park Pavilion as well as for the 50 + volunteers who continue to participate in this incredible bonsai collection.

Many thanks and congratulations to this dedicated and talented crew! The final quarter of the year will jump this total significantly as we prepare for our fall projects that will need many extra hours too.

For the September Fall Show at Balboa Park, a tree from the collection will be featured. It is an *Elaeagnus commutata* - Silver Berry which has been in the Pavilion collection for many, many years and is a species worthy to be found in any fine bonsai collection. Thanks to Dennis Wagner for taking the responsibility of transporting it to the show.

The SDBC Board is preparing a third update of the Bonsai Pavilion brochure that has been used for public relations and fundraising for the last few years. We usually keep a supply of these brochures at the Pavilion information kiosk and at SDBC meetings but the current supply has been depleted. We are planning to have this new edition available at the GSBF Convention at the end of October. Be sure to watch for it!

'lyn Stevenson
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison
858-486-4805



A tamarisk in need of some training



Lots of choices here!



Patently waiting their turn....



John Voss found a treasure



Next month's project



Great material goes first



San Pu Kai

c/o Maria Barbosa, Membership

2727 De Anza Road, #J-26

San Diego, CA 92109

Calendar of Events

| <i>Friday October 4 – Sunday October 6 , 2013</i> | <i>All day</i> | <i>Retreat / Tamarisk collecting trip Sunset Ranch, La Quinta, CA</i> |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Saturday, October 5, 2013</i> | <i>9 am - Noon</i> | <i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays</i> |
| <i>Tuesday October 8, 2013</i> | <i>7 pm – 9 pm</i> | <i>Regular Meeting: Tamarisk training demonstration Bregle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i> |
| <i>Saturday, October 19</i> | <i>9 am - Noon</i> | <i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays</i> |
| <i>Thursday October 31– Sunday November 3 , 2013</i> | <i>All day</i> | <i>GSBF Convention XXXVI Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel</i> |
| <i>Tuesday November 12, 2013</i> | <i>7 pm – 9 pm</i> | <i>Regular Meeting: CA Juniper wiring demonstration Bregle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i> |