



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

July 2014



President's Message

It is hard to believe it is almost July already. I hope everyone enjoyed David's demo last month as much as I did. He has a wealth of knowledge and enjoys sharing it with everyone. Education is his key, keep learning. Once again what did we hear, no pinching your junipers. This leads to weakening of the branches and die back. Clean the inside out, let them grow, this gives them strength, and then you can push them back. Learning to wire is very important, you can place the branches where you want them. So maybe we need an evening of wiring to get the hang of it. I was glad to see so many members come to learn from David; I think we need to have him back next year.

Bob will bring the bags of akadama and scoria for sale at our meeting. Please call if you want any, so Bob does not have to bring it, and take it back again. Thanks Bob for hauling it around for us. David's website is www.bonsaijidai.com

Many thanks to the ladies from Ramona, the treats were wonderful.

This month we are lucky to have Martha Choy coming back to conduct a wiring demonstration. She was so great to bring her family to our show, where she did a demo and they all helped out with our show on Sunday. Martha had a great opportunity to study in Japan, and now she is giving back, sharing her knowledge with everyone.

I will be bring treats this month, but we need someone to bring the treats for our August meeting, please see me if you can help out. Once again remember our summer meetings start at 6 pm, which gives us more demo time.

Our shed is built and the San Pu Kai show supplies are nicely stored and labeled and ready for next year's show.

Thanks to Bob for giving a 2 minute speech to the San Diego county board of supervisors to support our grant request for funds to help with the cost of show tables, EZ up tents with our name and logo on them and education supplies.

Chelle and Forrest will be writing up a little educational recap of our meeting and sending it to Jeff for our website. Please visit the website, Jeff is doing a wonderful job. Darrell took wonderful up close photos of David's demo, so these will be on the website also. Thanks guys, this really helps our club.

Have a great summer; see you all at our July meeting.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine, President
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/>



SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

Summertime reduces the need to do any serious 'training' of bonsai. It's a period of watchful attention to the results of earlier care. July is the month to plan for the summer season changes of activities related to care and feeding of bonsai. Start a program that will provide fall colors by reducing the nitrogen content of your fertilizer mix. Continued use of the standard cottonseed/bone meal (70/30%) will provide most of the nutrients required for summer growth and good health. Introduce a change in food by using half strength liquid Hi-Bloom (2-2-10) that provides an excellent source of phosphorus.

Continue to feed all conifers and other evergreen material to promote good summer health. More frequent feedings of milder solutions are in order. Regular feeding during the hot summer months can also be supplemented by early morning refreshing foliar feeding of Miracle-Gro or a diluted solution of fish emulsion. Avoid daytime heat. Allow wet foliage to dry during the day to prevent night forming fungus infection. A brisk spraying of your trees before feeding will remove dust layers and discourage red spider, mites, ants and other insects. Be sure to spray both the top and the bottom of the foliage.

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage high levels of moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health a change in watering schedules consistently renews 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 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 see if all is well.

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.

Repotting ficus, pomegranates or other warm weather tropicals is encouraged at this time. Avoid most other transplanting activity during warm weather. Watch for wire cutting conditions. As bonsai matures in the summer growing period it does so primarily on its woody surfaces. Chewing insects are hard at work eating their way thru leaves and stems. Spray with Sevin. Mites are also active during warm weather months. Discourage them with a good miticides or one of the new combination fungicides/insecticide products now on the market. A small amount of Volck Oil with these products creates better adhesion.

Approach your summer activity with an eye to enjoyment of the form and color of the trees. Fall soon enough if you keep up with summertime care.

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



David Nguy finds a new design with Steve Valentine's California juniper



Discussing the possible "front"



Looking good David



Cleaning out branches before wiring



David and apprentice Jason with their work



Wiring the tree, the easy way to hold wire



Club members admiring the end result



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Calendar of Events

<i>Tuesday, July 8, 2014</i>	<i>6 pm – 9 pm</i>	<i>Regular Meeting: Martha Choy demonstration! Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i>
<i>Saturday, July 5, 2014</i>	<i>9 am - Noon</i>	<i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday</i>
<i>Saturday July 19, 2014</i>	<i>9 am - Noon</i>	<i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday</i>
<i>Sunday, June 29, 2014</i>	<i>10 am – 3 pm</i>	<i>Bonsai Swap meet https://www.facebook.com/events/242092225983007/ JESSE OWENS PARK 7100 WHITE OAK AVE., RESEDA, CA 91335</i>
<i>Tuesday, August 5, 2014</i>	<i>6 pm – 9 pm</i>	<i>Regular Meeting: Bring your own tree workshop Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i>