



# San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

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October 2014

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## President's Message

Well once again we had a wonderful turn out for our clubs annual fundraising. I think everyone not only had fun, but got some really neat items to take home, trees, pots, fertilizer just to name a few. Our club was able to raise **\$240.00** for this event. Thank you all so much. This really helps the club keep running, and gives us the ability to afford outside speakers and demonstrators (**Ted Matson and David Nguy**). It was very generous of our club members to participate in this fundraiser. Thank you **Chelle and Forrest** for the special treats for the evening.

I would like you all to check out the San Pu Kai website, **Jeff** is doing a great job of keeping it updated and **Chelle** is reporting on our demonstrations for the website. So if you miss a meeting when either **David** or **Martha** was doing their demonstrations, you can learn about it on the club's website.

**October meeting program:** We will be doing our "Bring your own trees" in to work on; ask for assistance with, or just show your tree to club members. This is a great way to catch up on some needed work. Our lives are so busy; we need a meeting like this every now and then. It is also nice to see everyone's trees; and their progress.

The meeting will begin with an auction of 2 really nice trees- one a California juniper styled by **David Nguy**, and the other a beautiful prostrate juniper bonsai donated to the club by **Ted Schwartz**. So please bring your checkbooks or a credit card if you plan to bid on one of these trees.

**Meeting refreshments:** Charles Grooms will be providing us with our treats this month. Thank you in advance.

I have already spoken with the **Carlsbad Flower Fields** and the date is set for our **Bonsai Show and Sale** for 2015. The event will be held Mother's day weekend, **May 9 & 10 2015**, so please mark this date, we need everyone in the club to help out. We had a great turn out this year, beautiful bonsai to show, and we sold every little bonsai tree we had for sale. The club will be planning a field trip to **House of Bonsai** in January 2015 in order to purchase more material for the Bonsai Show and Sale at the Flower Fields in May.

Remember, it may be fall, but it is still hotter than ever, are we in a Twilight Zone movie? So keep checking on your trees on these hot days.

See you at our meeting,

*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/>

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## ***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 the recently published book called 'Bonsai Ideas'© By Marty Mann. Material is not to be copied without publisher or author's permission.**



## *San Diego Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park*

There are now 50 active volunteers in the Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park. Some are more regular than others but all are appreciated! A running tab of everyone's hours is posted on the Pavilion closet bulletin board and is forwarded to the Zoo/Spark Volunteer Offices for their records also. Special thanks always to these dedicated Bonsai people. Since the beginning of 2014, volunteers have donated over 1800 hours to maintaining and improving our bonsai collection and our lovely garden surrounding and within the Pavilion.

September volunteers included: Susan Baker, Armand Bryant, Alan Burrows, Cathy & Mark Edgar, **Jeff Gerringer**, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Charlie Mosse, Janet & Ron Palmer, **Sally Prestele**, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Dan Sola, **'lyn Stevenson**, **John Voss**, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and **Dave Woodall**. Three new summer volunteers also joined: Peter Chong, Taylor Christensen, and Marcella Perez. Delicious refreshments were supplied by John Jackson, Cathy Edgar, Marcella Perez, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, 'lyn Stevenson, and Mark Walters. Special thanks to each of you!! !

Curator John Jackson complimented all the volunteers on the appearance of the Pavilion and especially the bonsai care that was done while he was vacationing in Alaska during the very warm days of the past weeks here. September work included regular cleaning of the ponds, paths, bonsai tables, bonsai trimming, wire care (some wires on and some off), reworking some water lines and drippers, etc. At the September 20th work session, we also took a short refreshment and meeting break to discuss future possible 2015 projects and plans and different members offered to be responsible for getting estimates re costs and possible needed contractors. After discussion with the Safari Park Horticulture Department, we have also committed our volunteers to present five educational programs to Safari Park visitors on five selected Saturdays during 2015. This is another part of our original "Goals and Objectives" in constructing the Pavilion in a way that would afford the space to accommodate students or visitors to programs and classes. The Park will help coordinate these events and we will announce the specific dates, times, and topics early in 2015. We will welcome Bonsai Club members to attend also. We will definitely continue our annual SDBC May meeting at Safari Park.

A Shohin bonsai from the Pavilion was exhibited at the SDBC Fall Show as part of the tribute to deceased SDBC member, Bob Meyer. It was a donation that Bob had made to the Pavilion collection prior to his death in August. He was also a financial contributor to the Pavilion and Bonsai special friend to many.

We encourage all SDBC and San Pu Kai members to visit the Pavilion and thank the volunteers at meetings and at the Park for their ongoing dedication. More volunteers are cordially invited to participate as well.

'lyn Stevenson  
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison



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

***Calendar of Events***

<b><i>Tuesday, October 14, 2014</i></b>	<b><i>7 pm – 9 pm</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Meeting: Tree auction and Bring your own! Bregle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i></b>
<b><i>Saturday, October 18, 2014</i></b>	<b><i>9 am - Noon</i></b>	<b><i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday</i></b>
<b><i>Saturday November 1, 2014</i></b>	<b><i>9 am - Noon</i></b>	<b><i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday</i></b>
<b><i>Tuesday, November 11, 2014</i></b>	<b><i>7 pm – 9 pm</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Meeting: Bregle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i></b>