



San Pu Kai Record



Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

October 2015



President's Message

We all had a great fundraising meeting last month. Every one went home with at least 6 turns and lots of goodies. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. The two auction trees went to Sandra and Christina. Thank you all so

much, great evening for San Pu Kai. It is members like you all that keeps this club going, having fun and learning a lot and sharing. I really appreciate all of your generosity to our club.

Thank you Jeff for providing the treats.

This months meeting we all decided to have another bring your own tree to work on, get help with, share it with club members. We always need more time to work on trees. So please bring one or more to work on. We have plenty of experienced members to help you out if you need it or have questions.

I will be bring treats this month.

I hope every ones trees enjoyed our rain, make sure

you check them even when we get rain, sometimes there is not enough rain to get a good soaking.

Remember at the end of this month GSBF convention in Riverside. There are still a lot of work shops open, free demos, exhibits, judged exhibits and our wonderful vendors. Saturday We are planning a fun event, come in a Halloween costume, this will get you a special raffle ticket for a one of a kind prize, but you must be in costume, during the day and during cocktail time, the winner will be announced at dinner. Let me know if you can volunteer, so I can get you on the list.

Remember Safari Park bonsai workdays, 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month.

See you all at our meeting,

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

President
caryme2@yahoo.com



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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

Note:

Mauro Stemberger will be teaching at House of Bonsai in Cerritos on Friday October 16 – Saturday 17 and Friday 23 – Saturday 24 this month from 9:00 to 5:00.

Contact Vicki at House of Bonsai to arrange your attendance.

Save a trip to Italy. See him here in our own back yard. Besides helping you with your trees, he will

be delving into power tool carving, so if you have any materials to carve on make sure to bring them along.

In case you or any of you bonsai buddies have the desire to work with Mauro one-on-one, I have days available. Just let me know.

Thanks,
Michael, 818-489-8205

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.







San Pu Kai

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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, October 13, 2015	7 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, October 17, 2015	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
October 29 – November 1, 2015		GSBF Convention 2015 Riverside, California www.gsbconvention.org
Saturday, November 6, 2015	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, November 10, 2015	7 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA