



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



December 2016



President's Message

Thank you so much to Ken Bross for the Black Pine information hand outs, Black Pines to work on and the generous donation of little Black Pines take home. The demo was great, we all learned a lot and had a great time.

Thank you Uta for her donation for the black pine Ken Donated, very nice of you.

Thank you for the treats Deanna they were great. The treats for the December meeting will be provided by Sandra Knowles

Welcome back Mark Tyler who has rejoined our club. Glad to have you back.

Before Ted's Demo we will have a very special presentation, it is still a secret at this time.

Ted Matson will be doing our demo this month. It will be very informative for sure, he is a wealth of knowledge and loves to share what he knows. Ted is the curator of the GSBF Huntington garden bonsai collection. Which is a must see, which you can at the Bonsai-a-thon in 2017 for free. I am not sure what Ted will be working on, but this is a meeting you do not want to miss.

We are voting this month, there have been no additions to the slate of officers:

President: Cary Valentine
Vice President: Ken Bross
Treasurer: Chelle Vess
Secretary: Sandra Knowles

This is what we will vote on and will be the San Pu Kai Board for 2017-2018

Membership due to Chelle Vess
Family \$25.00
Single \$20.00

If you have joined in the last several months you are good for the 2017 year.

January Holiday Dinner meeting will be at:
Pan Asia Buffet, 707 Center Drive, San Marcos (760-796-7708)
it is in the Walmart shopping center, on the left hand side, you can see it from HWY 78. The same place as last year, \$20.00 to Chelle, (per person) we must have your RSVP and money to hold your spot and for the restaurant. If you would like to participate in our bonsai related gift exchange, it is a lot of fun and you never know what you might get.

We will be having a board meeting in January To set the demos and meetings for the calendar year 2017

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

President
caryme2@yahoo.com

Please mark your calendar for these other important bonsai events.

27th Huntington Aiseki Kai Exhibit (stones)

December 26th – 30th 2016, 10:30 – 4:30
Free
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA
Great viewing stone exhibit

53rd Annual Winter Silhouettes

January 14th & 15th 2017, 10am – 4:30pm
LA Arboretum
301 Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA

Bonsai exhibit, Demos, great raffle and auction, also have a few vendors, free dinner, guest please bring a dessert to share and something for their raffle

Bonsai-A-Thon XXI

February 25th & 26th 2017, 10:30am – 4:30pm
GSBF Collection at the Huntington
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA

This is like a free mini bonsai seminar, lots of vendors, demos, bonsai exhibit, tour of the bonsai garden, raffle and auction. Lunch can be bought at the bonsai a thon or at the Huntington. Please bring an item for their raffle.

Both events are educational and fundraisers for bikiokian and the Huntington bonsai collection.

It would be really great to see all members go to these, I think you will find you will learn a lot and see some great trees.



<https://www.facebook.com/SanPuKai>
<http://www.sanpukai.org>

SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

This is a good time of year to concentrate on clean up. Be sure to remove all leaf droppings and flower buds left over from summer. Removal of trash from your bonsai area is always an important practice. If old leaves hang on, take them off.

Continue to protect hibernating trees from excessive moisture (I almost said RAIN) and prevailing winds. Many a fine bonsai is lost due to neglect during the winter months. While freezing is not usually a concern to most in Northern or Southern California many may remember the damaging frost we experienced a few years ago from pockets of cold air during low temperature periods. Be prepared to protect tender stock at all times. Continue to monitor bonsai for watering requirements. Inspect for infestations of mites and scale.

December is a wonderful time to really see your trees. The foliage during most of the year obscures the skeleton branch formations of the inner tree. Now is the time to trim excess branches, as well as crossing, misplaced and malformed branches. Study the radial formation of the rootage. Study the taper of the trunk line. Concentrate on building a twiggy branch structure. Wire branches during this dormant period with great care since they are brittle during cooler weather months. Try to see your tree with strong background light in order to study its design, shape and position in the pot. Deciduous material that is fully exposed can now be photographed. Black and white is preferred. Study and refine.

Now is the time to study groves or multi-tree arrangements. Trunks stand out with strong detail. An overview of a group planting will show clearly how the trees are positioned and how they relate to each other. The visual view offers an opportunity to improve the placement of individual or groups of trees in the pot before spring planting plans are finalized.

Preserving bonsai during winter months does not involve the usual attention to feeding requirements. Conifers and evergreen trees continue to grow in the California

climate. Partial dormancy requires some nourishment. A light feeding of cottonseed meal (70%) and bone meal (30%) is best. Apply food only to the soil surfaces. Foliar feeding encourages green growth that can be severely damaged if a cold spell occurs. Deciduous trees will

have transformed from the beautiful fall colors to barren silhouettes. Be sure to remove all dead leaves, fruit and flower buds that may still be hanging on. The evergreen trees will appear to be dull and inactive.

Fungus thrives during the dormant months. The application of fungicides is as important now as it is in spring when active reproduction takes place. When trees are bare, a dormant spray such as ORTHORIX (lime sulfur) may be used as a fungicide to destroy overwintering spores. Take care to avoid root damage by covering the surface of the pot with plastic to prevent run-off or drip of the spray. A light mist of lime sulfur on the top and bottom of the foliage and woody branches is quite effective. Lime sulfur may be applied at full strength on wet, aged, dead wood such as Jin and Shari. A few drops of black ink or artist black acrylic pigment will tone down the usual unsightly orange color of this product.

Review the rootage of potted trees. If the tree is lifting out of the pot or appears to be root bound then plan ahead by identifying and marking those ready for early repotting in spring.

California winters are usually interspersed with many warmer days. Potted trees must. Cooler weather means slower growth. During this period of dormancy, trees require a regular dampening of the root zone. Transpiration of moisture is almost non-existent due to the absence of foliage. Watch out for prevailing, drying winds.

Prepare your spring inventory of potting soil mix, screening materials, and aggregates (i.e. pumice, sand, lava rock, D. G., etc.) as well as humus (i.e. fir bark, redwood bark, peat moss, etc.).

Take care of your tools. Winter rain and general high humidity encourages rust. Clean and sharpen them and apply good rust inhibiting oil finish. Clean up those accumulated old pots that you may need during the repotting season in spring. Get rid of accumulated trash.

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.



Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park

Cooler weather has arrived. . .the automatic watering at the Pavilion is now on once daily. . .many of the deciduous bonsai are now defoliated but there are some maples and liquid ambers that are holding on to their fall color leaves still. . .wiring, styling clean up, a radical pruning of the large in ground Tecate Cypress (special thanks to Dave and John) and special tips from Dennis about black pine fall work and care were the main activities for the volunteers. . .it's great to see our newest volunteers pitching in on all the jobs too and learning along the way. Many thanks to all!

Volunteers for November included: Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Dave Barker, Alan Burrows, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Janice & Bob Hale, Sonys Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Jim Lane, Carla Marasco, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Marcella Perez, Sally Prestele, Chuy Rivera, Newcomers Clare & Ron Roberts, Chusub Sresthadatta, 'lyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, Nancy Wilson-Ramon, & Dave Woodall. Wonderful delicious fall donations of pumpkin breads, apple ring cakes, exotic fruits, donuts, biscotti, muffins, coffee and lemonade were enjoyed by all. Thank you Pavilion Volunteers!

Several mini discussions and meetings have been held following the unfortunate removal of two bonsai from the Pavilion display area. . .while investigations are continuing, the decision was made to close the Pavilion unless we have volunteers on the premises. . .we have filled the empty display spaces with two bonsai from the holding area and are doing our usual volunteer work days. This was sad news for all of us including Safari Park security personnel and horticulture staff. . .everyone is looking for the best ways to further protect the Pavilion and its contents. We have all heard of disappearing bonsai from other collections in California and other states but this was not expected at Safari Park since we have taken many precautions to safeguard our precious bonsai. Thanks to Eric for sharing

photos and information on the SDBC web site and the internet so that the bonsai world is alerted . . .all SDBC members should also be watchful at garden sales, swap meets, etc.

Sonya and Marcella are again chairing the Pavilion Volunteers Christmas Holiday celebration on December 3rd. This date is also when the Pavilion will be hosting tours of our bonsai and garden and presenting demos to visitors from the SD Horticultural Society. . .also. . .it is our usual busy work day . . . we are starting December with a very full calendar! During November, we also hosted a large botany student class contingent visiting from Riverside. . .they all appreciated talking with the bonsai volunteers who offered explanations and answered questions about the "mysteries" of bonsai. It is always gratifying and enjoyable to educate and share with non-bonsai visitors so that they can appreciate and understand this wonderful living art.

'lyn Stevenson
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison





BAIKOEN BONSAI KENKYUKAI

PRESENTS

“Winter Silhouettes”

Founded by Frank Fusaji Nagata

53RD ANNUAL EXHIBITION

DEMONSTRATIONS

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

1:00pm

SALES AREA

Open to the Public

Plant, Pots, Tools, and More

SATURDAY NIGHT RECEPTION

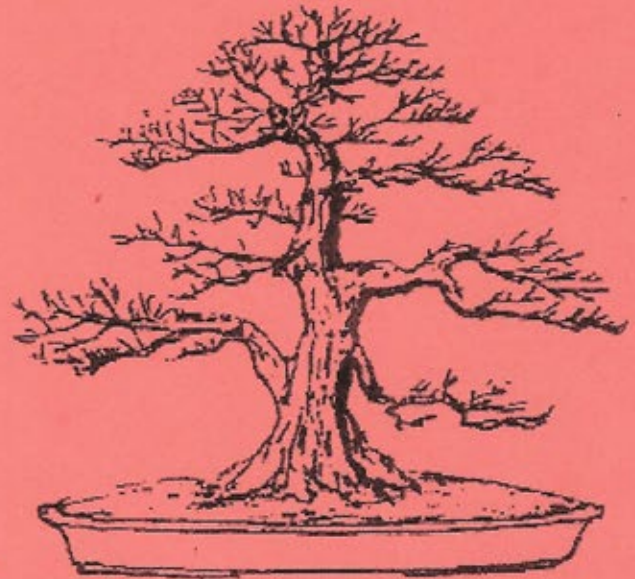
6:30pm. to 9:00pm

Taiko Drum Entertainment

Food, Giant Raffle, Live Auction

NAGATA-KOMAI AWARD CEREMONY

Recipient- Mel Ikeda



SATURDAY & SUNDAY
JANUARY 14TH & 15TH, 2017
10:00A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

AYRES HALL OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
ARBORETUM of LOS ANGELES COUNTY
310 North Baldwin Avenue
Arcadia, California



San Pu Kai

c/o Membership
1010 Phillips Street
Vista, CA 92083

<http://www.sanpukai.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/SanPuKai>

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, December 13, 2016	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, December 17, 2016	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, January 7, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Holiday Dinner Pan Asia Buffet 707 Center Drive, San Marcos CA
January 14 & 15, 2017		Winter Silhouettes Arboretum of Los Angeles Arcadia CA