



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



June 2017



President's Message

The June meeting was great, I think everyone was very happy with the little ficus trees. Most everyone bought a tree or 2 or 4. We almost sold all of the trees we

bought. Special thanks to John for finding the trees for us and sharing his find with club members. It would be nice to see some in our show next May. I think they would sell at our plant sale also.

There are more trees, plain and variegated still available if any one wants more. Also they will make great gifts. Please just let me know, so we can get them for you.

At the July meeting we will have a demo by Steve, I am not sure yet what it will be, and please bring in your trees you want to work on or have questions about what to do with it, design, or any problems. We have plenty of members who can help advise you on them.

Treats will be provided by Ken this month.

The August meeting will be fun and educational. Ken was kind enough to put our bonsai videos on to DVDs so we can watch them. We will decide which one we want to watch and then play bonsai bingo for fun.

I have some exciting news to share about our meeting location. If you miss the meeting, we will be following up with emails so nobody misses the announcements.

Please say cool with the high heats and remember to check your plants daily. They may to be need watered more than once a day.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

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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.

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

Special thanks always to our volunteers at the Bonsai Pavilion ! June's list included: Neil Auwarter, Ken Bros, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Bob & Janice Hale, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Charlie Mosse, Janet & Ron Palmer, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Roberts, 'lyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suemori, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and Dave Woodall. Several of our Safari Park volunteers were also helping at the S.D. Fair SDBC exhibit which made them super volunteers! The special summer treats of John's "hi-energy" donuts, wonderful home grown fruits, morning coffee, lemonade, and the stash of waters, and other goodies in our closet refrigerator kept everyone hydrated in the warmer June weather. Thank you all Volunteers!

The unusual preparation for the temporary closing of the Pavilion was a priority in June. As reported last month at the meeting and in the Bonsai Wire, the Safari Park will be doing some major new additions for an Australian exhibit in the open spaces above the Bonsai Pavilion area. There will be another series of roads - some temporary - for the construction. Our volunteers will still have access to the Pavilion via our usual back entrance and parking and road but the front Takanashi Gate will be closed to visitors until further notice. Fortunately, SDBC members had the opportunity to enjoy the Pavilion at the May meeting. We will keep the club apprised of the Park's progress and also relay significant photos from the Pavilion.

The major black pine transplant that Dennis directed along with juniper plantings etc. from the area near the torii entrance have all been successfully transplanted to the inside of the Pavilion along our meandering river and at an area near the waterfall. Several newly planted azaleas are also blooming beautifully near the river edge now. Curator John is continuing the preparation

for the cement work which we will be doing while the Pavilion is closed to public access. Careful planning and continued fundraising are both paramount too. Donations are always needed! We are researching a special way to permanently acknowledge donations for this new project also similar to what was done on the Donor Plaque at the side of the Takanashi Gate.

As we enter our 7th year in this location of the SDBC Bonsai Pavilion, we continue to marvel at the aging beauty of the trees, the popularity of the bonsai and the tranquil garden to all visitors, and the progress and education that all of us continue to receive as we share the projects and care and the responsibility of this incredible collection. We have added many new members to our volunteer roster and encourage SDBC members to join us if they want to make a further commitment to their Bonsai avocation.

'lyn Stevenson
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison







San Pu Kai

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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, July 11, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, July 15, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, August 5, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, August 8, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: TBA at July Meeting
Saturday, July 19, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday