



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



October 2017



President's Message

The September meeting was our annual fundraiser. This is one of our big fundraisers. Thank you all who donated items and joined in on the fun. I

think everyone enjoyed it, had a lot of fun and went home with lots of goodies. All were bonsai related items. Our club raised \$200, great going. I also wanted to thank everyone for helping with rolling and rubber banding the black trash bags that our club is donating to the GSBF convention goodie bags. These are used to keep the hotel carpet clean and dry from all our bonsai from workshops. This was a really big help for me because I would have had to do it by myself, so again thank you so much.

We had great treats provided by the Vess family, thank you very much. Ute will be providing the treats for our October meeting.

Please bring your own tree to work on at the October meeting or get some advice from other members. It is always great to work on our trees. Time to start to work on getting our trees ready for winter.

Remember the GSBF convention is just around the corner, we have several members going. It is like going to a family reunion, seeing old friends, able to find the pot you have been looking for or the

right tool you need. Great learning place, even if you are just going for a day. I will be submitting 2 grants, one for Finnegan as a plant a seed grant and another one for our club for an outside demonstrator.

Nice to have fall in the air.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

President
caryme2@yahoo.com



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

October 25-29 2017 GSBF 40th Convention Riverside Convention Center

Featuring:

David Nguy

Kunio Kobayashi

Boon Manakitivipart

Register to attend the excursions, workshops, seminars, and critiques. Come visit the Vendor Bazaar and The Judged Bonsai Show, Bonsai Exhibit, and Viewing Stone Exhibits.

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

c/o Membership
1010 Phillips Street
Vista, CA 92083

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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, October 10, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, October 21, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, November 4, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, November 14, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, November 18, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday