



# San Pu Kai Record



Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

August 2018



## President's Message

At our July meeting we had a bring in your tree to work on day and we had great participation, everyone brought in one or two trees. It's always so nice to see members working on their trees. Lanny provided us great treats, thank you. The

strawberry were wonderful. The Vess family will be providing treats at our August meeting.

This month I am very happy to surprise you all with a very special guest for our meeting. Pedro Morales from Puerto Rico, he is our house guest for a few days and just happens to be at the same time as our meeting, lucky us. So please everyone come, try not to be late. You do not want to miss this meeting. Darryl was nice enough to change his pot making meeting so we will be doing that at a later meeting.

We had a wonderful first shohin meeting, there were 7 members who attended. We talked and worked on our shohin trees. We enjoyed cookies and ice cream provide by Ute, it was wonderful as it was a hot day. We will not meet this month as most members will be on the SDBC bus trip to Nampu Kai show (August 18 & 19, Japanese American Cultural Center, Los Angeles).

Remember the bonsai pavilion at the safari park is open again, and they have workdays, the 2nd & 3rd, Saturday of the month, they may be having extra work days. Check with Lyn Stevenson.

Huntington gardens needs your help, become a bonsai volunteer. They can use your help on the first Thursday and first Saturday of each month, you get in free, get volunteer hours, and talk with guests who want to know about bonsai. These are dates when guest get in free to the Huntington, so extra help is needed. If interested please email the GSBF Huntington chairman Ellen Keneshea at [ekeneshea@socal.rr.com](mailto:ekeneshea@socal.rr.com)

I will have GSBF convention info. to share with the club members, the dates are: October 24-28, McClellan Conference Center, Sacramento. Headliners this year are, Bjorn Bjornholm, Suthin Sukosolvisit, and from Japan Yasuo Mitsuya San, this could be his last trip to the USA.

See you all at the meeting, keep checking on your trees in this extra hot weather,

## **Cary Sullivan-Valentine**

*President*  
[caryme2@yahoo.com](mailto:caryme2@yahoo.com)



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<http://www.sanpukai.org>



# Pedro Morales from Puerto Rico

Pedro J Morales was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1961 and moved to Puerto Rico with his parents soon after. His large family lives in Trujillo Alto and is full of people involved with plants through agriculture and ornamental horticulture.

Pedro was studying computer programming at the University of Puerto Rico when he started working part time at Jardin Selecto, a large garden center in San Juan. His bonsai interest began in 1980 when he met Hugo Storer during a university project on bonsai and he later joined the Club Bonsai of Puerto Rico. He studied with Adan Montalvo, a great master of bonsai in Puerto Rico. In 1993 Pedro started Futago Bonsai Jyuku, one of the most important bonsai schools in Latin America.

He has traveled to Many Latin American countries as well as Australia, China, Japan, Korea, India, Spain, Germany and has made many trips to the United States as a demonstrator, lecturer and exhibitor. He has been a headliner at three World Bonsai Friendship Federation Conventions and



was the chairman of the WBFF convention in 2009, held in Puerto Rico. As president of the Federacion Bonsai De Puerto Rico he hosted the BCE FELAB convention in Puerto Rico as well as international conventions in 2014 and 2015.

Pedro wants to share his knowledge of bonsai with everyone who wants to learn and considers it an honor to travel the world and share his passion.



*Reprinted from CBS August 2018 Newsletter*

# SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

## TIME TO THINK, PLAN, AND CARE FOR YOUR TREES

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage increased moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health regular, increased watering schedules must consistently renew 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 ideal for the formation of fungus and the related health threatening damage.

Be reminded that summer vacationing puts an additional burden on your 'bonsai sitters'. A suggestion would be to let them water your trees for you 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 audit its functions. 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.

With the arrival of summer, most of the formal bonsai shows have passed and the bonsaiist has the pleasure of displaying his trees. The objective of a good hobbyist is pride in the finished tree. Accomplish this by maintaining its good health, continuing a selective feeding routine and paying attention to weather conditions that set the guidelines for proper watering requirements. Summer maintenance prepares trees for fall and winter. Plan ahead.

Start with the constant surveillance of fast summer growth. Warm days and cool nights encourage the development of new tip growth, long internodes and lush foliage. Maintenance must include pinching and plucking the growing tips as well as cutting back the branches. Reducing the branch extensions encourages shorter internodes, tighter evergreen formations and develops desirable twiggy-ness on deciduous trees. Trim and shape unwanted growth to maintain form and design

This is not the best time to consider transplanting most

material however, certain plants such as Pomegranate, Ficus, Buttonwood, Cotoneaster, Pyracantha and most Bamboos can be repotted or transplanted during the warm weather.

Recently defoliated material such as Maple, Olive, Privet, Zelcova, and Ginkgo can be transplanted just prior to the re-emergence of the new growth. Remember that transplanting of any material during these warm months is risky but it can be done if proper after-care is taken. Keep them cool and not too wet. Anything done during the summer months should be done with restraint and proper attention given to the affect of warm weather. Propagation by cuttings of softwood or semi-hardwood material can be done in July. Keep cuttings in shade and in a sandy, moist mixture. Don't rush to transplant any cuttings just because the new signs of growth tell you that they have 'taken'. Let them harden-off first.

Summer months are so important when trees are being cared for. Protection from insects and fungus is appropriate. Know the shelf life of some common products. The following chart may be used as a guideline:

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ortho Garden Disease (liquid) | 3 to 4 years in the bottle |
| Isotox                        | 2 to 3 years in the bottle |
| Malathion                     | 6 to 8 years in the bottle |
| Orthene                       | 4 to 5 years in the bottle |
| Sevin (liquid)                | 5 to 6 years in the bottle |
| Captan                        | 5 to 6 years in the bottle |
| Daconil                       | 6 to 7 years in the bottle |

Bonsaiists develop a feeling for their trees--perhaps not as a child or family member but a commitment is undertaken for their care and well being. In this hectic, active world, we don't take enough time to sit back, reflect, and watch the sunset, stroll though a forest or garden, and just enjoy nature. Fortunately, bonsai involvement gives us an outlet. We are drawn into and are captivated by this natural world. Ignore the violence that appears to be all around us and reflect on the marvel of a growing, creative art that allows us to enjoy part of the good world that surrounds us. We are a lucky people. (I feel so philosophical).

**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

The SDBC Safari Park Pavilion volunteers have continued to impress visitors (and each other) with all the beautiful and careful care of the bonsai and the surrounding interior garden. With all the spring and summer growth, there is much trimming to do along with all our other chores. . .we always tell visitors that it is a “labor of love” when they marvel that this is all accomplished by volunteers.

The SDBC current roster has about sixty members; Currently, for the first six months of 2018, thirty-six active members have donated over 1400 hours! Fantastic! Many thanks and congratulations to these special people. As volunteers, we all share knowledge and tips on bonsai care with each other and the sheer pleasure of being able to work on magnificent bonsai is a privilege which we feel is remuneration enough. During the busy warm month of July, the volunteers included: Neil Auwarter, Tobin Barrasco, Alan Burrows, Jenny Chin, Julia Chow, Sally & Steve Dischinger, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Paris Haber, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kalberer, Jim & Susan Kirchmer, David Meyer, Janet & Ron Palmer, Sally Prestele, Claudia Robinson, ‘lyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner, Dave Woodall, and Sonya Wrisley. Special welcome to our newest volunteers: Claudia Robinson and Sonya Wrisley. Thanks to Lori Scott from the Safari Park’s Volunteer office for more snacks and her visit to our July session to explain a system for volunteer extra day sign ups in the Pavilion. Thanks always to Janet, Curator John, Cathy, and ‘lyn for other refreshments too.

Cathy Edgar and Janet Palmer did a very nice mini tutorial demo for treatment of dead wood on bonsai including the cleaning and prep work needed as well as follow-up care using lime-sulphur preservative. We have several bonsai in the collection that need to have this attention periodically and it is helpful to review the techniques needed. Thanks Janet and Cathy for this well attended presentation. Janet has written

a descriptive paper for anyone who would like some additional ideas. . . We will post it on our bulletin board at the Pavilion also.

SDBC members who are planning to come to the October 14th Meeting at the Pavilion in Safari Park will need to sign in at the August or September SDBC meeting. October will be the 7th Anniversary of the new Bonsai Safari Park Pavilion and will include a “bring your own picnic” and a silent auction of bonsai and bonsai related materials. We will also remember three of our former volunteers with tributes (Marty and Ruth Mann and Charlie Tamm). It will be a special treat for all. . . We welcome lots of participation and donations for the auction . . .More information at the SDBC meetings.

**‘lyn Stevenson**  
*SDBC-Safari Park Liaison*







## 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, August 14, 2018    | 6:00 -<br>9pm | San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting:<br>973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista |
| Saturday, August 18, 2018   | 9am -<br>Noon | San Diego Zoo Safari Park<br>Bonsai Pavilion Workday                     |
| Saturday, September 8, 2018 | 9am -<br>Noon | San Diego Zoo Safari Park<br>Bonsai Pavilion Workday                     |
| Tuesday, September 11, 2018 | 6:00 -<br>9pm | San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting:<br>973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista |
| Saturday, October 13, 2018  | 9am -<br>Noon | San Diego Zoo Safari Park<br>Bonsai Pavilion Workday                     |