



San Pu Kai Record



Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

February 2018



President's Message

We had a great time at the January Annual Holiday Dinner, thank you to everyone that came out.

At the February meeting Ken will be doing a grafting demo

on junipers. This is a great skill to learn, so you can get the foliage you want and where you want or need branches. You don't want to miss it, Ken is great at teaching us with his demos. We have such wonderful, knowledgeable members to learn from.

Of course you can also bring in your trees.

I will bring treats this meeting and the sign up treat list for members to fill out when they can bring in treats. Remember club provides the plates, napkins, and cups. So you just need to bring in the treats. Thanks so much in advance for sharing with the club.

In March will be doing a workshop on how to make moss balls, we will be making them for our May plant sale. We will be getting the plants from John, and Steve and I will be bringing all the other supplies. If we make enough, we can sell some to club members too. I think Steve and Ken also have another demo planned for this month.

At the April meeting we will be getting ready for our show and club sales table. I will have sign up sheets, for showing your trees, security for the weekend, treat list etc. this is a whole club event, we really need everyone's help. Thank you in advance.

We will be having our program planning meeting soon. So please feel free to tell me what you want in programs, workshops, and demos for 2018. I really need to hear from you all, it's your club.

There still are a few members who need to send in their membership renewal for this year.

I will bring in pass/name badges for everyone wanting to go to this years Bonsai-A-Thon. We don't put them in the newsletter as the as Huntington does not want them put online. If you do plan on going, please consider donating something to the raffle, buy raffle tickets or try the auction. This is the only fundraiser the GSBF Collection at the Huntington does.

Always remember volunteering and learning at the same time at the Safari Park Bonsai Collection the 1st & 3rd Saturday every month. There is still a lot of work, even while it is closed for safari upgrades.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

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

Upcoming Bonsai Events

Bonsai-A-Thon XXII

GSBF Collection at The Huntington
San Marino, CA

February 24 & 25 2018

10:00am - 5:00pm

SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

PREPARE FOR SPRING (It's not here yet!)

When trees are dormant, slowed down and resting, they allow us to see them as twiggy silhouettes—deciduous or conifers. Whether potted or still in training, now is the time to critique your own trees. Often, when we attend conventions or club meetings we hear well-informed sensei or senior bonsaiist look at a tree and make educated and constructive observations that may improve or change. We fail however to take the spirit of these programs and apply them to our own material.

Take the time to do a critique. Observe your bonsai. Think of their future. Plan changes for improvement or change. Every piece of material you own deserves this New Year review. Your hobby should always seek an improvement challenge. Survey the finished trees you have in bonsai pots. Are they still in a proper match in size or color to the tree? Has the maturity and styling of the tree changed? Is it enough to consider repotting into a new pot? Is it taller, wider, fatter? Does the tree deserve a pot of better quality? Now is the time to redesign each completed tree. Review your nursery stock to determine the readiness of some of the partially trained material for transfer to a training or display pot. Check your inventory of pots. If you don't have one that fits your need, now is the time to shop at a bonsai nursery or attend one of the many local conventions. Bazaar vendors offer so many varieties and sizes. Maybe you will find the perfect 'domestic made' pot to fit the bill.

If deciduous trees start to sprout, bring them gradually into sunlight. If they are kept in a shaded area, new growth tends to be long, leggy and weak. Be careful to protect this new growth

from any surprise cold or frost that will cause dieback. When warm weather comes, so

does the ever-present insect population. Be prepared to spray early with a good commercial insecticide or miticide. Follow manufacturer's directions.

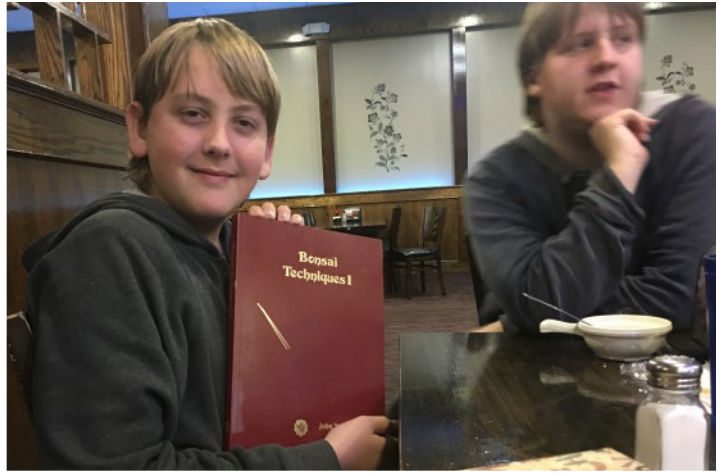
This is a good time to prepare fertilizer supplies. Chemical and organic liquid fertilizers require no advance planning. They can be freshly mixed when ready to apply. If you are a user of the recommended dry mixes such as cottonseed meal (75%) with bone meal (25%) now is the time to prepare for next month. Keep the finished product in a dry place. If it gets wet it will begin to ferment and will drive you out of your yard! Remember, acid fertilizers are best for azaleas and camellias as well as conifers and junipers. The idea, when feeding in early spring is slow release. Don't rush your trees into a spurt of new growth too soon.

The time to spray your deciduous trees with a dormant spray (lime sulfur) is before any sign of new growth appears. February is a good month for this application. Keep this chemical away from the soil—roots can be damaged.

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, February 13, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, February 16, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday and Sunday February 24 & 25, 2018	10am - 5pm	Bonsai-A-Thon XXII GSBF Collection at The Huntington San Marino, CA
Saturday, March 2, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, March 13, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista