



# San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



January 2019



## President's Message

Last month we had a great meeting learning how to make twisted pines. Darryl and Ken did a great job demonstrating this workshop. Everyone went home with a little twisted pine. They were a lot of fun to make. Thank you, Darryl and Ken you are both so generous

with your supplies and talents. Treats were provided by Sandra. And once again she did an awesome job. Thank you so much Sandra. We had 3 new members this month. Benjamin, Pat, and Wendy. Please welcome them and help them with their bonsai.

There will not be a shohin meeting this month.

The January Meeting is our annual holiday party, January 8th at 6 pm, dinner is \$20 per person. At the Pan Asia Buffet in San Marcos, it is in the Walmart shopping center. Bring a warped bonsai related gift for our fun gift exchange. Please RSVP, so I know how many are coming. We always have lots of fun and great food.

It is also that time of year to renew your membership. \$20. For a signal membership, \$25 for 2 members. Please give your money to Chelle or myself.

Remember the Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park they have workdays, the 1st & 3 rd, 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, talk with guest who want to know about bonsai. These are dates when guests get in free to the Huntington, so extra help is needed. If interested please email : Ellen Keneshea GSBF  
Huntington chairman ekeneshea@ socal.com

Please join us at Winter Silhouettes, Saturday January 19th. 10-4pm. Steve and Ken will be showing a tree this year. Demos on Saturday by Ken Teh. I will also be teaching my Washi baco, (Japanese paper boxes) in the

afternoon. \$20 per kit.

This years Nagata-Komai awards goes to Ted Matson, his tree will be in the Tokanoma.

There will be a round robin demo, auction, raffle, food, and vendors with bonsai items for sale. Reception is in the evening all are welcome. Just remember this is a free event and dinner. So please bring an item for the raffle and a dessert (or a cash donation helps also). And buy raffle tickets. This is Baikoen's only club fundraiser. If you are a member of SDBC they will have a bus at a cost of \$40 check with Abe Far.

To everyone who donated to Maria Barbosa, and her fire fund. Thank you so much. I know how much she really appreciated it. She will be down for a visit in March.

See you all at the meeting, it has been very cold in the mornings and evenings, watch your sensitive trees for frost.

Happy new year to all and may we have a great bonsai learning year in 2019.

## Cary Sullivan-Valentine

President  
caryme2@yahoo.com



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

## SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

January's weather is relatively cool. Many parts of the yard may now be in shade for much of the day. Deciduous trees are showing their best silhouettes. The leaves of summer are gone but dormancy is misleading.

Tree surfaces are evaporating moisture through the bark and twigs--just as they do on a summer day. The winter sky provides a low angle sun that is not hot and drying however routine bonsai watering habits cause over-watering of the trees -- cut back. Avoid winter root rot conditions. Maintain even moisture content in all bonsai material. Move deciduous trees out into brighter bench areas. Evergreens and conifers will also do better with full sun to encourage new bud development. Face the weaker sides of each tree to the best light exposure.

The soil in potted trees has been inactive due to the cool weather of the past few months. Soil bacterium, in its dormant state, has not been providing any nitrogen to growing plants while they rested. Now is the time to plan ahead for your supplies of fertilizers and other supplies. You will be resuming your feeding schedules in late February. January is a good time to do clean up chores. Remove winter trash around the work area, the potted trees and growing stock cans. It's the best way to prevent infestation of insects and fungus disease. Don't throw any of this late winter trash into your compost heap since it may be infectious. It's safer to throw it away.

It's the best time to study plant designs. Spend some serious time with each tree by carefully reviewing the branch structures, the trunk lines, their placement and relationships. In the case of deciduous trees, you can see them clearly, in a winter silhouette, without the disguise of a blanket of leaves that hide their faults and problem areas. Remember the basic bonsai design principals of crossing branches, bars,

angles, elevations, and relationships to the trunk movement. These important design points distinguish your tree's quality from just any other bonsai.

Your study may disclose the need to re-wire and reposition various branches. Do so with great care since the dormant season is a time of brittle branches on most varieties of trees. Look for signs of wire

damage. Scars look unnatural and are difficult to hide. Consider doing some heavy pruning later this month or in February before any signs of new growth appear. This activity gives the tree a head start prior to repotting-- when the roots are drastically disturbed. Plan your repotting schedule in advance.

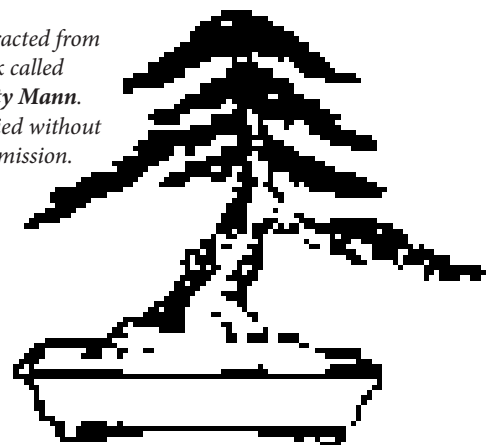
We have had our share of windy, drying low humidity days lately. Be sure you do not overlook the plants need for water-- and a daily misting of the drying trees will keep them happy.

It is still too early to concern yourself about the feeding program each tree will soon require however now is the best time to improve the soil condition. The addition of lime can normalize the acidity of the soil. The additions of gypsum will loosen hard clay soil and improve acidity. Decomposed granite or coarse sand adds to the porosity and improves the potassium qualities in poor soil. Adding organic matter to a potting mix stimulates the soil microorganisms. Putting trace elements and minerals into the soil, along with major nutrients such as cottonseed meal or bone meal, provide a proper base of a food source for continued plant health. Build repotting soil mixtures based upon the type of plant material you work with and the type of trees you will be repotting. Plan ahead.

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 causes 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.

### **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.*



**BAIKOEN BONSAI KENKYUKAI**

PRESENTSb

**"Winter Silhouettes"**

**founded by Frank Fusaji Nagata**

**55TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION**

**DEMONSTRATIONS- 1:00pm**

Saturday – Ken Teh

Sunday – Lindsay Shiba

**ORAGAMI WASHI BOX WORKSHOP**

Saturday only

**SALES AREA**

Open to the Public

Club and Vendor Plants, Pots, Tools,  
and More



**SATURDAY NIGHT RECEPTION**

6:30pm. to 9:00pm

**ENTERTAINMENT: PROGRESSIVE AUCTION-ROUND ROBIN DEMO**

Food, Giant Raffle, Live Auction

Reception is open to friends of Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

**NAGATA-KOMAI AWARD CEREMONY**

Recipient- Ted Matson

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
JANUARY 19th and 20th, 2019  
10:00A.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

AYRES HALL OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
**ARBORETUM of LOS ANGELES COUNTY**  
301 North Baldwin Avenue  
Arcadia, CA





## San Pu Kai

c/o Membership  
1010 Phillips Street  
Vista, CA 92083

<http://www.sanpukai.org>

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

## Calendar of Events

Saturday, January 5, 2019	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, January 8, 2019	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Holiday Dinner: Pan Asia Buffet, 707 Center Dr, San Marcos 92069
Saturday, January 19, 2019	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
January 19 & 20, 2019	10am - 4:30pm	Winter Silhouettes LA Arboretum, 301 N Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA
Tuesday, February 12, 2019	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista