



# The Bonsai Wire

A Monthly Newsletter of the **San Diego Bonsai Club**

Volume 45, Issue 11

November 2019



## Message from the President

*Barbara French-Lee, SDBC President*

The GSBF Convention in Riverside was a great reunion of many old friends and presenters to our club. It was also an opportunity to purchase trees, pots and tools. Since I had to leave early I wasn't able to see if any of our members won the raffle or got a tree at auction, I hope so.

Just as most of the country is moving into Fall and the cold and freezing weather that goes with it, our area is experiencing hot, dry weather with high, dedicating winds during the day and frost to freezing temperatures at night. The members of our club live in so many different micro climate areas that there is no one bonsai care suggestion for all.

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## Next Meeting: 11/10 Roy Nagatoshi

*Gary Jones, 1st VP*



We are fortunate to have one of California's bonsai masters with us this month: Roy Nagatoshi. Roy's involvement with bonsai started early with his time in Japan, and his father, Shigera-san, who opened Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, CA. Fuji Bonsai Nursery is one

*Continued on Page 5*

# Bonsai Teachers List

*Susan Ronan*

The following is an expanded list of members who want to welcome you to their classes. Instruction may be in small groups or one-on-one according to your needs. Fee arrangements and location are to be made with the instructor. Contact each for further details.

- Glenn Jensen, Encinitas - [glenn@bajaphotographer.com](mailto:glenn@bajaphotographer.com)
- Fred Miyahara, College Area - [tmiya@cox.net](mailto:tmiya@cox.net)
- Abe Far, Santee - [abe\\_far@yahoo.com](mailto:abe_far@yahoo.com)
- Gary Jones, Clairemont - [twoopenhands@yahoo.com](mailto:twoopenhands@yahoo.com)
- John Jackson, Lakeside - [bonsaijohn@cox.net](mailto:bonsaijohn@cox.net)
- Ryan Haines, Hillcrest - [ryanhaines88@yahoo.com](mailto:ryanhaines88@yahoo.com)
- 'lyn Stevenson, Poway - [inthegrove@cox.com](mailto:inthegrove@cox.com)
- Nazim Colak, San Marcos - [nazimcolak@yahoo.com](mailto:nazimcolak@yahoo.com)
- John Voss, Vista, 442-224-4423

Any member wishing to add their name to this list are welcome to contact Susan Ronan at [sronanstudio@gmail.com](mailto:sronanstudio@gmail.com).

## SDBC Website:

[sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

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# SDBC Elected Officers & Appointed Positions:

## President:

Barbara French-Lee - [barbflee@hotmail.com](mailto:barbflee@hotmail.com)

## 1st Vice President:

Gary Jones - [twoopenhands@yahoo.com](mailto:twoopenhands@yahoo.com)

## VP for Education:

Bill Graham - [wfgraham3rd@gmail.com](mailto:wfgraham3rd@gmail.com)

## VP for Special Projects:

Kyle Icke - [Kyle.Icke@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Kyle.Icke@sdcounty.ca.gov)

## Treasurer:

Jaya Kaelberer - [jaya.littletree@cox.net](mailto:jaya.littletree@cox.net)

## VP for Membership:

Keith Carter - [kcarter315@att.net](mailto:kcarter315@att.net)

## Secretary:

Jack Graham - [jgraham@drammechter.com](mailto:jgraham@drammechter.com)

## Past President:

Bob Hale - [bobhale42@gmail.com](mailto:bobhale42@gmail.com)

## Webmaster:

Ron Kaelbere - email TBD

## Tool Sales Manager:

Chris & Melissa Strows - [cstrows@gmail.com](mailto:cstrows@gmail.com)

## Historian:

Sonya Holmquist - [sholmquist3@cox.net](mailto:sholmquist3@cox.net)

## Benefit Drawing Manager:

Paul Lawrence and Aisha Colak - [jplawrence99@gmail.com](mailto:jplawrence99@gmail.com)

## Sunshine Chair:

Susan Baker - [baker@susanMbaker.com](mailto:baker@susanMbaker.com)

## Librarian:

Sonya Holmquist - [sholmquist3@cox.net](mailto:sholmquist3@cox.net)

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## Japanese Friendship Garden

### Bonsai Curator:

Neil Auwarter - [neilauwarter@hotmail.com](mailto:neilauwarter@hotmail.com)

### Liaison:

Barbara French-Lee - [barbflee@hotmail.com](mailto:barbflee@hotmail.com)

## Bonsai Pavilion, Safari Park

### Curator:

John Jackson - [bonsaijohn@cox.net](mailto:bonsaijohn@cox.net)

### Assistant Curator:

Dennis Wagner - [denisW@cox.net](mailto:denisW@cox.net)

### Liaison:

'lyn Stevenson - [inthegrove@cox.net](mailto:inthegrove@cox.net)

# Highlights from the Golden State Bonsai Federation

*Photos courtesy of Dan Sola and Neil Auwarter*



# SDBC Nomination Committee

*Gary Jones, 1st VP, Nomination Cmte. Chair*

Members have stepped up to fill the open positions of service for next year. At the November meeting, the following people will be presented to the membership in attendance for election to the 2020 SDBC Board:

- President- Sue Carter
- 1st Vice President- Ignacio De La Torre
- Vice President Special Projects- Abe Far
- Vice President Membership- Udaykant Pandey
- Tool Sales Managers- Darryl & Christine Elmer

Any member who decides he or she would like to serve the club in any of the positions listed may still be considered by stepping forward at the November meeting.

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## *President's Message, Continued from Page 1*

The best advice is to speak with a Bonsai Master that lives in your area for best practices for your bonsai. If you're not sure who that might be asked a board member at our meetings.

During our November meeting we will elect officers to the board for the next year. We have some excellent club members who have agreed to take on these responsible positions. I hope you can attend the club meeting to meet the board candidates.

Roy Nagatoshi will be our presenter this month so we can look forward to another chance to see a variety of techniques to design our trees. He will also be available for workshops before and after his presentation. A fun fact for new members: Roys' nursery and trees were in the movie series, The Karate Kid.

Sign up for the Shohin Convention is now available online. It is a fun convention with great workshops focusing on smaller trees and, of course, multiple vendors of tools, trees and pots. This occurs every other year so I hope you can take a trip to Santa Nella, California and join the many club members that regularly attend this convention every two years.

# San Diego Bonsai Club Treasurer's Report 1/1/19 - 10/31/19

*Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer*

The following is a condensed income statement showing our year-to-date revenue and expenses. A detailed version will be available at the next meeting.

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE		
	SDBC Checking	\$57,658.28
	Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,491.60
	Bonsai Pavilion Checking	\$12,648.31
TOTAL FUNDS:		\$72,798.19
REVENUE		
	Total Donation Income	\$1,737.45
	Total Education Income	\$6,313.13
	Total Membership Income	\$5,243.68
	Total Monthly Program.	\$1,161.38
	Total Raffle & Auction	\$7,044.96
	Total Lake Poway Auction	\$1,399.63
	Total Show Income	\$7,613.13
	Total Special Projects Income	\$2,152.44
	Total Tool Sales	\$2,303.14
TOTAL INCOME:		\$33,569.31

EXPENSES		
	Total Bonsai Pavilion	\$3,769.45
	Total Education	\$6,709.63
	Total JFG	\$250.46
	Total Library	\$127.61
	Total Membership	\$760.61
	Total Monthly Program	\$4,734.76
	Total Newsletter	\$302.09
	Total San Diego Fair	\$75.00
	Total SDBC Club Expenses	\$2,622.11
	Total GSBF Liability Insurance	\$1,466.00
	Total SDBC Spring show	\$1,392.21
	Total SDBC Fall Show	\$50.54
	Total Special Projects	\$2,030.02
	Total Taxes	\$2,644.00
	Registry of Charitable Trusts	\$175.00
	Total Tool Table Expenses	\$2,094.85
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$29,204.34
NET INCOME (LOSS):		\$4,364.97

## Upcoming Trip:

# Winter Silhouettes 56th Annual Exhibition January 18, 2020

*Abe Far*



Our trip to the Winter Silhouettes show, hosted by the Baiko-En Bonsai Kenkyukai Society, will be on Saturday, January 18, 2020. This is a unique bonsai show. Since the trees have no leaves to cover any unpleasant branches, the trees have to be perfect in structure and form to be ready for show. This will be a wonderful experience and fun trip. It will be an exciting experience for all bonsai lovers. I encourage everybody to sign up. We are invited to dinner and to participate in their demo, auction and raffle. San Diego Bonsai Club members always take some bonsai-related items and some kind of desert for the evening dinner. The cost of the trip is \$40 for SDBC members. On the way up, we will visit Jidai Bonsai Nursery. The bus departs from Balboa Park at 11:00 am sharp and Carlsbad at 11:30 am. We will be back in Balboa Park at 11:00 pm. To sign up, please see Abe Far at our regular club meeting or call Abe Far at 619-384-0004. You may also sign up on our website: [sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://sandiegobonsaiclub.com).

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*Roy Nagatoshi - Continued from Page 1*

of the nurseries we regularly visit on our bus trips. Mr. Nagatoshi has worked hard on his bonsai skills and techniques and has earned the recognition given to him. Talented and experienced, Mr. Nagatoshi has traveled all over the world sharing his love of bonsai with other enthusiasts. I feel happy he has agreed to informally join us as our demonstrator this month.

Due to the long ride home, Mr. Nagatoshi will only be doing morning workshops with members. We have three (3) openings at \$30 each. Call me, Gary Jones at 760-215-9060 and I will put you down as long as there is room.

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## Membership Update

*Keith Carter, SDBC VP of Membership*

Please welcome new members Lorena Bautista, Jesus Martinez, Wendy Pollock, Mike Van Horn, Jennifer Lasher, Martha Pehl, Cynthia & Hollis Gulley and Eileen & Larry Octon.

With these additions we now have 395 current members.

## Upcoming Trip:

# Bonsai-A-Thon February 22, 2020

*Abe Far*



For our bus trip in February 2020, we will visit the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, which houses the Golden State Bonsai Federation Bonsai Collection in Southern California. The Bonsai-A-Thon is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday February 22-23. In addition to the wonderful bonsai exhibits, there will be demonstrations, workshops, and a large vendor area. At the end of each day, an auction and raffle will be held. Breakfast is served from 7:00 to 9:00 am and lunch from 12:00 to 1:30 pm at a minimal cost. Meals are open for those who wish to partake. Garden tours are scheduled at 10:00 am on both days.

Our bus trip to Bonsai-A-Thon will be on Saturday, February 22, 2020. The cost is \$40 per person for club members. We will depart from Balboa Park at 7:00 am sharp and Carlsbad at 7:30 am. We will be back in Balboa Park about 7:00 pm. To sign up, please see Abe Far at our regular club meeting or call Abe Far at 619-384-0004. You may also sign up on our website: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com). This is a fundraising event for our collection; please bring some items for the raffle and auction.

## Lyn Stevenson's Foemina Forest

*Charlie Mosse*



Lyn started the the foemina forest in 1981 with 5 trees. By 1991 there were 17 trees, the arrangement guided by the master's hands of Shig Miya. Some of the new trees came from Frank Goya, Maggie Carpenter, and Mas Moriguchi.

A pot was bought from Bruce Hisayasu into which the trees were transplanted. They were worked in June 1994 and again in February 1995. John Naka had 'lyn stake the #1 tree to "anchor" the group. 'lyn added 2 trees from Shig Miya...bringing the total number to 19.

Refinements were conducted while studying with John Naka, Warren Hill, Ben Oki and others.

The Foemina Forest was the winner at the Del Mar Fair in 1999. It has been shown at the SDBC Show, Nan Pu Kai show, South Coast Botanic Garden, GSBF Convention Exhibit and the California

Bonsai Society show. Lyn generously gifted the forest to the SDBC Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park in 2019.

# October in Review

Gary Jones, 1st VP

The SDBC enjoyed a beautiful day at Lake Poway Park for its picnic/ auction. Members jumped right in as they always have (I love them) once the park ranger opened the doors. Tables were set up for food and auction items, donated items listed and marked, and the energy level increased as each new member arrived.



better, and have the grit to want it more as the price increases. No problem! We had it all and it made for the usual wonderful time at the Lake. It was over too quickly and clean-up completed so thoroughly that we got our deposit back in a couple days. Good job club members!



It was a great day and great time! We had about 85 items donated and once the food and desserts were enjoyed, we got down to auctioning off our treasures. My experience has been that the picnic is a great opportunity to make tremendous deals on some wonderful bonsai related materials. You just have to write faster than the other guys and gals or flash your bidding card higher, bluff



# SDBC Education:

Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education

The wind was brutal!! Be careful of your trees. All of the moisture can be pulled out by the wind. Check them frequently to see if they need water!

## Beginning Classes:



PLEASE NOTE THE SCHEDULING OF THIS CLASS, THERE IS NO CLASS IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER AND THE FINAL CLASS WILL BE IN DECEMBER.



In November, the sign-up for the January beginners class will be posted. The class will cover *Olea europaea*, Olives.

*New members are always excited about taking the beginners classes, and several have asked to be put on a waiting list for the next class. If you are a new member please note that sign-up sheets for all classes and workshops are first available at the Bonsai Club meeting TWO months before the classes/workshops are held. We do not start a waiting list until after the sign-up sheet has been put out at the meeting and filled.*

## Intermediate Skills Workshops

### November - CHINESE ELM GROUP PLANTING

'lyn Stevenson will lead a workshop creating 3 tree group plantings. We will be using Chinese elms. 'lyn has many years of experience with group plantings and will help you to create a small grove that will also be open for expansion in the future. This will be a fun and exciting class!! The class is limited to 6 attendees. The cost is \$70.00.



### November - LARGE JUNIPERS

The class has been rescheduled! It will be in the afternoon after the November meetings on November 10th. Neil



Auwarter will be leading a class of 6 working on trees that all have a solid 2" or more trunk. If you were at the December meeting, you saw some fine examples of these trees used in the annual Styling Competition. Neil and his partners took second place and created a really nice tree. This class is limited to 6 attendees and the cost will be \$100.00.

### November - SHOHIN ITOIGAWA JUNIPER

I have been speaking of a Workshop with Tak Shimazu for a couple of months now. Finally, everything has come together and the workshop is a go! Tak will be leading a workshop with Shohin Itoigawa Junipers.



Tak has been working these trees and they are fantastic! Fred and I went to see them in person and we were both impressed. The class will be held on Saturday, November 2nd at Fred Miyahara's house. This workshop will run from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. The class is limited to 6 attendees. The cost is \$350.00.

### December - No workshop

There is no workshop in December due to the styling competition.

### January - Repotting

There is also no workshop in January, but will instead be the annual club repotting session. Please limit yourself to two (2) trees. Soil and assistance will be provided both before and after the meeting.

## Reminder

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30 am to 10:15 am (unless a time change is specified) on club meeting days at Balboa Park. Also, don't forget to bring any trees that you would like some help or advice on from our excellent bonsai masters at the club. Help is located in the back of room 101 to the right of the stage.

If you have any ideas that can improve our programs or have skills that you would like to share please contact me at the monthly meeting or at [wfgraham3rd@gmail.com](mailto:wfgraham3rd@gmail.com).

## Other Bonsai Activities

- January 31st - February 2nd, 2020 - [17th Annual California Shohin Seminar](#), Hotel Mission De Oro 13070 S. Highway 33, Santa Nella.



# Ficus Repotting at The Pavilion

*'lyn Stevensen,  
Liaison to the Pavilion at Safari Park*

This sequence was a repotting of a long time ago ficus donation from our old Los Angeles area friends, Bruce and Yaeko Hisayasu. Yoichiro Suemori was assisted by several others in this project. The history and records are kept in our inventory notebooks and updated whenever significant work is done on any of the bonsai.



## Fresno Bonsai Society Annual Yard Sale November 23

*Barbara French-Lee, SDBC President*

The Eleventh Fresno Bonsai Society Annual Yard Sale will be held Saturday, November 23rd from 8:00 am till 2:00 pm at the Clovis Botanical Garden. The Address is 945 North Clovis Avenue in Clovis California. This year, in addition to an array of bonsai, pre-bonsai, pots, books, etc., we will conduct a large silent auction of 30 bonsai from the GSBF-Clark Bonsai Collection and a high quality private collection in Fresno. The auction will close at 1:00 pm. Sales will be with cash or check only. This will be an excellent opportunity to obtain quality bonsai at reasonable prices. For more information, email Mike Saul at [tinytreeme@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tinytreeme@sbcglobal.net).

### Minutes

The minutes for the October picnic will be posted in the December issue.

# SAN DIEGO BONSAI PAVILION

## SAFARI PARK



The success of the Bonsai Pavilion's beautiful gardening and meticulous care are due to the efforts and talents of our SDBC members who have chosen to take the responsibility for the bonsai collection and the wonderful piece of real estate that the Safari Park has shared with us for many years. This past month, these dedicated volunteers included: Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Chuck Fasilis, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Bob & Janet Liggett, Carla Marasco, Sandi Marasco, Charlie Mosse, Udaykant Pandey, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Roberts, Dan Sola, 'lyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suemori, Dennis & Kathy Wagner, Dave Woodall, and Ken Zito. Curator John treats the volunteers with a large supply of delicious donuts each work session and other fruits, candies, chips, sandwiches, and beverages have been donated by Janet, Julia, Cathy, Carla, 'lyn, and the Safari Park Volunteer Office. Wonderful photography by Dan and Chuck have enhanced our news coverage with members, the SDBC web site, and our inventory books regularly too. Thank you always to all who participate at our Bonsai Pavilion activities!

The Pavilion received a very nice large bonsai pot from SDBC member, Paul Lawrence, this past month and we are thrilled to put it in our special pot closet for future planting. We keep a supply of containers for new acquisitions or restyling/replanting but often it's difficult to have the right pot on hand, so donations of this size and quality are much appreciated.

Most of the projects are maintained on the first and third Saturdays of each month but the volunteers often come in on other days and weekends to keep the Pavilion looking groomed and to work on special projects with Park staff members. This past month, Dennis and several other volunteers became "excavation technicians" in order to dig trenches for an expanded drainage and irrigation system in the Pavilion. John and Mark also did some shoring up of the slope area behind the tool shed to keep the dirt from entering the Pavilion area. Cathy, Kathy, and Julia spent special care separating and transplanting the dymondia ground

cover which looks so neat around the azalea, iris, and water areas. Several volunteers were involved with clearing, cleaning, reorganizing, labeling, and sorting the tool sheds' contents to satisfy the Park's requirements for inspections as well as for a neater and helpful environment for all who are involved in the bonsai activities. Brush clearance and trimming of the larger trees bordering the Pavilion are constantly being done — often along with the Safari Park Staff. All these activities are going on while many of our volunteers continue the bonsai maintenance and garden grooming.

Visitors appreciate and linger in the Bonsai Pavilion more and more as this special corner at Safari Park is discovered. The volunteers also take special care explaining the bonsai and answering questions about this bonsai art! Congratulations and bountiful thanks to all!



*'lyn Stevenson,  
Liaison to the Pavilion at Safari Park*



Photos by:  
Chuck Fasilis



## Upcoming Safari Park Volunteer Days:

- Nov 16
- Dec 7
- Dec 21
- Jan 4
- Jan 18

**San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.**

**PO Box 86037**

**San Diego, CA 92138-6037**



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

*Next Mtg. Agenda:  
November 10*

8:00 - 8:30 am Doors open and meeting/workshop set-up	
8:30 - 10:30 am Three Tree Group planting with Lyn Stevenson Workshop with Roy Nagatoshi starts in back of room	
10:30 - 11:00 am Business Meeting	
11:00 am - 12:30 pm Roy Nagatoshi's demonstration	
12:30 - 1:00 pm Lunch (bring food to share)	
1:00 - 1:30 pm Raffle	
1:30 - 3:30 pm Workshop: Large Junipers with Neil Autwarter	

*SDBC Upcoming Events:*

Nov 10 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Roy Nagatoshi
Dec 15 (Sun)	Styling Competition / Tree Decorating Contest Meeting
Jan 12 (Sun)	Cesareo Perez

