

San Diego Bonsai Club

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

P.O. Box 86037 San Diego



President's Message

Susan Ronan

Welcome to 2024! My deepest thanks to all of you that have elected me as your President. It is with great honor and excitement that I step into this role, and I want to extend a warm welcome to all our new and existing members. I appreciate the opportunity to serve all 630 of you. Yes, it's hard to believe that our club has grown so much in just the past few years. We are the largest bonsai club in the U.S. and take seriously the responsibility of keeping our members educated and informed, if not entertained.

First and foremost, thank you to all the new and remaining board members who do their jobs so diligently and make our meetings and special events run smoothly. And to all of you who volunteer your time and energy in support of the club's many activities, the club wouldn't be what it is without you. Thank you! We are an all - volunteer organization and couldn't do it without the help of each one of you, so please consider actively participating whenever you can. It will make a difference not only to the club but to your own experience as well. Nothing is more fun than enjoying a shared activity with your "Tribe," those of us who share a common passion.

I want to give a very special thanks to Ignacio De La Torre our past president, for all the time and energy he's given on behalf of the club and its members and especially to me in making the transition go smoothly. He was available at a moment's notice with ready answers to my many questions and has promised to continue to do so as Past President. I know he won't let me stray too far afield.

In the coming months, we have an exciting lineup of events, workshops, and demonstrations planned. These opportunities will allow us to deepen our knowledge, refine our skills, and further appreciate the art of bonsai. Coming up next month is the Winter Silhouettes Show, on Saturday January 13th. My personal favorite trip is the Bonsai-a-Thon, held at the Huntington Library in February. Don't miss it! We have exciting plans in the works for programs and classes this year so watch the Bonsai Wire for announcements of upcoming events.

Additionally, I am open to hearing your ideas, suggestions, and feedback. Your input is invaluable in shaping the future of our organization. Please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the board with your thoughts and concerns. Once again, I extend my warmest welcome to all our members, both new and old. Together, let us continue to nurture our love for bonsai and create a vibrant and thriving community.

Sincerely, Susan Ronan



First bloom of the season on the Camellia in the JFG collection.

Upcoming Meeting **January 14, 2023:**

10:30 AM.
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
See page 2.

Classes: *see page 3.*

Feature Article:

"A Bit More On Watering"
By Charlie Mosse, *see page 4.*

*We all have ability; the
difference is how we
use it.*

-Stevie Wonder

Bonsai Task Calendar for San Diego County

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Resources:

visit our website for information on
private instructors and other
resources to advance your bonsai
skills.

January meeting: – by Matt Jillson



January – NO WORKSHOP – ANNUAL CLUB REPOTTING EVENT. Bring a tree and our many volunteers will help you repot it. Please limit yourself to two (2) trees that area repot season appropriate - non tropical trees. Clean and prune your trees before bringing them in, this is an important task to complete prior to the workshop. Soil and assistance will be provided both before and after the meeting. PLEASE DO NOT MERELY DUMP SOIL IN MEETING ROOM TRASH CANS, it all has to leave with us, bag will be provided.

Upcoming meeting: Repotting Presentation and Workshop

SDBC will hold its annual January Repotting Workshop which includes a presentation on Repotting Basics with Bob Hale. Bob has numerous times previously demonstrated his repotting skill for the club - one of the most basic and important skills to learn in all Bonsai. Below is a web link to a repotting video Bob shot a few years back, a very good resource to review prior to the workshop if you are still learning this technique. He, along with his wife, Janice, also prepare the club soil mix used for the repotting and provide soil and wire for the workshop. This year's program will be similar to the repotting workshops we did in 2023. Those members who are comfortable with their repotting skills are welcome to arrive between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and work on repotting their one chuhin sized or two small trees (they can also repot in the afternoon.)

For those members who have never repotted a tree or want a primer on repotting, there will be a repotting presentation by Bob Hale following the club meeting which begins at 10:30 a.m. Bob will cover basics including how to determine if a tree should be repotted, a method to wire a pot, the appropriate use of soil, the trimming of roots, and a way to wire the tree into the pot. Following his presentation, members can move to the workshop area where they will re-pot their own trees while they can receive assistance from our more advanced members. It should be a good learning experience for those who are new to Bonsai or want to improve their skills. Those who are comfortable repotting their own trees can also participate at this time.

The January repotting workshop is specifically for trees that can be repotted at this time of year — junipers, pines, elms, maples, and other deciduous varieties — almost any tree species except tropical heat-loving trees such as olives, ficus, and bougainvillea. We will hold a similar repotting workshop during the summer for those trees. If you are not sure whether your tree should be repotted, feel free to bring it to the meeting. Don't forget your pots if moving a tree from a plastic pot to a bonsai pot. The workshop is open to all members and is included with membership.

- Club will provide the bonsai soil • Limit 1 chuhin or 2 trees per member • Trees should be trimmed, wired and ready for the bonsai pot. • There is no place to dump soil from grow pots so be prepared to take it back home with you, PLEASE do not dump used soil in trash cans • Remember your tools • Remember your new pot, if needed

Link to Bob's repotting video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JAw5wEPMHk>



San Diego Bonsai Club Meeting January 14, 2024
Casa Del Prado building in Balboa Park

9:00 -10:25 AM: Library Open (Room 104)
9:00-10:20 AM :Bonsai Assistance with Jon Voss (Room 101)
9:00-10:15 AM: Repotting Workshop (Room 101)
10:30-11:00 AM: Business, Meeting (Room 101)
11:00-12:00 AM: Bob Hale-Method and Repotting Workshop (Room 101)
12:00-12:30 AM: Raffle and Refreshments (Room 101)



January is here and so far, it has been pretty dry. Hopefully this will change in the near future!

I love free water! :) It has continued to be windy and gusty off and on here in Ramona. This has led to trees needing more water than usual. Pay attention when the wind is blowing, it will dry out your trees much quicker than you realize. Continue your winter maintenance and get ready for repotting season. The Styling Competition this year was extremely fun, and everyone had a great time! There were some nice trees started and the prize game was fantastic!! Thank you, Gary Jones, for again providing the trees and putting together the prizes and all the effort to make this an exciting and fun competition!

Beginners Class – Cotoneaster lacteus – Bob Hale

January 14 – February - March 10

I am always being asked to find something different to use in the Beginners Class. With that in mind, I went nursery hunting and found some Cotoneaster lacteus. These are good sized trees with a lot of potential. They have small white flowers that turn in to clusters of red berries. Very nice looking! They should make some nice bonsai. **SOLD OUT!**

Intermediate Workshop:

January – NO WORKSHOP – ANNUAL CLUB REPOTTING EVENT.

Bring a tree and our many volunteers will help you repot it. Please limit yourself to two (2) trees no larger than chuhin size. We do not have the proper soil to repot large trees. **PLEASE** clean and prune your trees before bringing them in. Soil and assistance will be provided both before and after the meeting.

February – Pyracantha – Red Elf Firethorn –Shohin / Mame – Gary Jones

As Monty Python once said, “And now for something completely different!” In February, we have the start of some small shohin large / mame Pyracantha. They get small white flowers and nice orange berries. These make great little trees. You will get the chance to put them on the path to future bonsai. **SOLD OUT!**

March – Accent Plants and Kusamono – Cathy Edgar

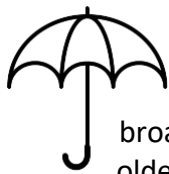
Once again, we have a little different and exciting workshop scheduled for March. Cathy Edgar is going to lead us in the creation of accent plants and kusamono. Cathy has many years’ experience creating these small and delicate designs. All of her trees at our shows are accompanied by accent plants of her own design and creation. Cathy has gone so far as to have a complete display of just accent plants and kusamono that was truly a pleasure to see. She provides many examples for sale at our shows, and they are always a hit, selling out quickly. Cathy has been propagating plants and has pots just for this class. You will make a total of 3 different compositions. It will truly be a treat!! This will go on sale at the January Meeting. The cost will be \$50.00 and is limited to 10 people. If there is a large interest in this class, I will run a raffle for seats.

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. **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 unless otherwise specified...** We do not start a waiting list until after the sign-up sheet has been put out at the meeting and filled.

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30 am to 10:15 am on club meeting days at Balboa Park unless otherwise specified. Also, don’t forget to bring any trees that you would like some help or advice on from our excellent bonsai master’s 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 wfgraham3rd@gmail.com.





We did not get the amount of rain we had hoped for from the storm that occurred just before Christmas, but what did fall was mostly as heavy downpours. Did this rain event water your trees? Heavy downpours do water most trees, but some still need to be checked like broadleaf types, very densely foliated trees, trees with mounded root balls and very commonly, older soils that have a crusty soil surface. It is amazing how much rain can be deflected even by small leaved types like pines and junipers. To get most bonsai watered properly from rainfall it takes a long steady rain or a hard rain to get through the canopy, down the branches and into the soil. If a tree has just been thinned or heavily styled, there is less foliage for the rain to get through to the soil. It is best to check the soil after it rains, especially if rain was light and/or of low amounts, to be sure the water actually soaked deeply into the soil.

Conifers prefer cooler temperatures and the short-day length for re-potting. The next 2 months is prime time for conifers since there is less of a chance to have a significant warm up. Even though conifers are very strong they do not re-root as quickly as deciduous. Re-potting now gives them more time to re-root before spring has sprung.

Deciduous trees and broadleaf evergreens should be repotted when buds swell. Deciduous trees react better to repotting when days start getting longer, and the temperatures are warming. When you see the overall temperatures increasing and buds beginning to swell, then the tree is coming alive and will recover very quickly from repotting. So, be patient about repotting your deciduous trees until that time arrives.

An important note: San Diego County can have warm periods that are out of season, such as a good old Santa Ana type circulation with very dry air. Depending on the duration of the event, temperatures can get into the 80's. If this happens before repotting, wait to repot, and put your trees into more shade and near the ground where there is less wind and more humidity. If significant warming occurs after repotting, then do the same thing. If the warmup is only into the 70's for only a few days duration, moving to shade is still good but not as necessary. Try a piece of shade cloth or frost protection fabric to protect the branches and foliage of the tree. Also, misting the tree foliage and bark is very helpful. Plants do take in small amounts of water and nutrients through the trunk, branches, and foliage. Add some SuperThrive, MiracleGro or fish/kelp in the misting bottle at the recommended rates on the label. Mist about 2-3 times per week. It is not much, but it is helpful.

It is winter and we now have a couple of months to apply winter pesticides before spring growth starts. Around here we know that we do not have a real winter, it's more like an extended cool down. This can stimulate deciduous trees to start to grow earlier than usual. Junipers can continue to grow slowly depending on location, general health, and level of nitrogen in the soil. Last year most of my junipers finally slowed to almost no growth due to the cold, wet winter we had. The milder years before that, the junipers slowly grew all winter. In general, it takes consistently cool days in the 50's and at least a week's worth of cold nights in the 30's to stop a juniper. If that happens, you will see some bronzing of the foliage. This was common in the 60's and 70's but not so much now.



The first application of dormant sprays on deciduous trees is done now, and then again at bud swell. Copper, by Monterey or Bonide, are quality copper concentrates and also available in RTU (ready to use) formulations. Horticultural oil, by Monterey, Bonide or Arbico Organics, are also reliable oil-type dormant sprays for all trees. Combining copper and oil is a standard go-to dormant spray for deciduous bonsai (which I use on my conifers,) but only in the winter. Copper/oil is a standard go-to dormant spray for roses and fruit trees too. I have been using it for well over 50 years with reliable results without going to more toxic fungicides. Pomegranates have a special fungus problem that cannot be controlled with copper but is controllable. The leaves curl and twist into odd shapes somewhat like one sees on peaches and nectarines. It primarily affects dwarf Pomegranates. Once you get it, it is not controllable until the following year. Simply keep the tree healthy with its normal watering and fertilizing. Sometimes pomegranates can grow through it by increasing fertilizing. If you have had trouble with leaf curl or just want to prevent it, apply mineral oil as a dormant spray now and again a bud swell. Mineral Oil is available online and in San Diego by Bonide All Season Spray, Hi-Yield Dormant Spray or Monterey Horticultural Oil. Lime-sulfur used to be applied, but it is no longer available for home use. John Jackson switched over a couple of years ago and found that mineral oil, as a dormant spray, will control leaf curl. The oils can also be sprayed on evergreen bonsai as a winter clean up. It is best done on a cool, cloudy day or in the evening.

Do evergreens like pines, conifers, and broad-leafed types need a dormant spray? Yes and no. Gee thanks! Generally, they are not commonly sprayed with a dormant spray since they do not get the usual diseases and insects deciduous trees get. However, insect eggs are commonly laid on evergreens that overwinter. Eggs are not killed by pesticides, but some can be smothered by oil. The biggest advantage to spraying evergreens is the killing of any live insects that remain alive on plants over the winter. This is more common now with milder winters because the frosts and freezes we used to get did help control insect populations. Unfortunately, not so much now. Mealy bugs, aphids, adelgids (on pines), and white fly can now survive alive through our winter, and even, very slowly, will grow during a mild winter. Therefore, if you had some problems with insects in the summer and fall, then you might consider a winter clean up with oil or oil with pyrethrin. *Note: Do not confuse pyrethrins with synthetic pyrethroids. Pyrethroids are very harmful to bees and other pollinators.*

Many evergreens do not have significant disease issues. Spraying evergreens now for diseases can be done but, most likely is not necessary. Junipers and pines can have significant disease issues but dormant spraying in the winter is not an effective time for that. Diseases do not show up on pines and conifers until spring. Japanese Black Pines get infected by Dothistroma aka Needle Cast. Junipers get infected with Phomopsis and Kabatina aka juniper tip blight or juniper twig blight. It is a good idea to look these up and learn about them since they are common problems, particularly Phomopsis and dothistroma. Winter spraying does little to help with either fungus. Spraying for them is done later in the spring and summer. This will be covered in a future article.



Japanese Friendship Garden: by Neil Auwarter, Curator



Neil in a grove of ancient bristlecone pines in the White Mountains, near Bishop CA

Thanks to November and December volunteers, Charlie Mosse, John Holloway, and Zach Lickteig. Extra thanks to Charlie for maintaining the lower garden during the six weeks I was in a boot after breaking my ankle jumping/falling off a rock in the Sierras.

This fall some uninvited birds began visiting the collection to tear up moss, particularly on the Larry Ragle foemina forest. Two owl decoys and streamers of bird-scare tape were deployed, with moderate success. If only birds could be trained to limit their efforts to Scotch moss!



New owl decoy will (hopefully) scare moss-molesting birds from the collection.



Carved granite bonsai pot by master stone smith Taka Saida. Interior dimensions 11"x11"x3" deep. Price \$4,000

As part of the JFG's Master Series program, the garden will host a stone lantern tour on Saturday, January 27, 10:30-noon, led by Taka Saida.

For details: <https://www.niwa.org/artisans> Mr. Saida is a fifth-generation stone smith from Kyoto who is a "traditional craftsman," a title bestowed by the Japanese government on only 7% of craftsmen. The tour will feature a beautiful carved granite bonsai pot created by Mr. Saida (see photo).

The square pot features a traditional lotus design and is truly a work of art. The pot is available for purchase and comes with a government seal certifying it as a "traditional craft" of Japan. The pot is on display in the bonsai collection. from now until end of January. For more information about Mr. Saida: <https://saidasekizai.com/en/> To inquire about purchasing the pot, contact the JFG's Emiko Scudder: registrar@niwa.org

Enjoy the holidays and the beautiful, salt-free, low-pH winter rain!



John Holloway with power tool working on a piece of shari on the Glenn Jensen prostrata juniper.



Who chewed up the new growth on this melaleuca bonsai? This tiny katydid did.



Went to sweep this leaf off a bonsai pedestal, and it wasn't a leaf at all.



Bonsai Pavilion at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park: Mark Edgar, Liaison

For 2023 we had a total of 49 different SDBC volunteers that have donated a total of 4013 hours to maintaining the Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park. Tasks include the usual care for the more that 110 bonsai that are part of the Safari Park Bonsai Collection and also caring for the garden (weeding, mulching, raking, trimming the landscape, pond cleaning etc.). The volunteers did a superb job and the bonsai and garden have never looked better. We were fortunate to receive a large donation of bonsai from Sally Prestele. The Safari Park facility has about 10 of Sally's bonsai for display and the Japanese Friendship Garden has two. The remainder of her collection was sold to club members and the funds will be used to support the bonsai collections at Safari Park and the Japanese Friendship Garden.



To celebrate the last Pavilion workday of 2023, we had a potluck lunch attended by 26 volunteers. The 26 attendees were responsible for 3048 volunteer hours of the total of 4013 hrs. The generous volunteers brought many tasty dishes.



It is the start of Japanese Black Pine shoot selection and needle pulling season.

<<< Julia Chow works on the biggest landscape pine.

while Jim Kirchmer, Kathy Wagner, and Susan Ronan work on a Black Pine bonsai. >>>



<<< Cindy Pecile and Elaine Kenniston are mossing the bald cypress forest.

Sandi Kehoe-Forutan defoliates a pomegranate. >>>



December Meeting notes: – by Keith Carter

SDBC members celebrated the holiday season at the December meeting, with our own Gary Jones taking on the role of St. Nick during the annual festivities.

Highlights of the day included a challenging styling competition and a festive tree-decorating contest, with the top finishers in each selected by a vote of members.

Eric Ring was the biggest vote-getter among the 11 members or teams who took part in the styling competition. Winford Williams was second; the team of Aliah Roberts and Ozzy Costa, third; and fourth was a tie between Emily Wu and Brenda Myers. Others participating included Phaedra Ehring and Calliope Hall; Kenny Huffman; Leslie Martin; Tony and Adrian Mangina; Claire Cylkowski; and Don and Marylou Montross.



But when time came for Gary to hand out prizes to the top finishers, he decided to add a bit of fun to the festivities by offering each participant a choice between an envelope containing cash or several colorfully wrapped "mystery boxes" he had prepared that contained bonsai trees or supplies. It was a tough choice for some, but everyone went home with a well-deserved reward for their efforts – along with the trees they had styled.



In the yearly tree-decorating competition that drew a record 13 entrants, Darryl Elmer won the top prize for his beautifully adorned foemina juniper. John Jackson was second and third place was a tie between Neil Auwarter and Carla Marasco.



In addition to the fun and games, the meeting agenda also included the annual installation of the club board of directors for 2024. There were two last-minute elections held for the new board, Matt Jillson as program vice president and Cindy Pecile as membership vice president, with both unanimously approved by a vote of members.

Following Glenn Jensen's formal introduction of the 2024 board, outgoing president Ignacio De La Torre, who will remain on the board as past president, swore in the new slate headed by Susan Ronan as president.

Returning board members who will serve during 2024 include Carla Marasco, secretary; Jaya Kaelberer, treasurer; Bill Graham, education vice president; and Phaedra Ehring, special events vice president.



Members of the 2024 board of directors are (front row, l to r) Cindy Pecile, Jaya Kaelberer, Phaedra Ehring, and Susan Ronan; (back row) Matt Jillson, Bill Graham, Carla Marasco, and Ignacio De La Torre

Thank You...by Ignacio De La Torre

The club received a donation of pots, wire, soil, and sifting boxes from Lori and Ralph Cook. Many of the items found their way to the Raffle table. We thank them for their donation.

We had an abundance of delicious home-made food and refreshments which helped to make the day special. We thank the following members who donated to the Refreshments Table:

Brian Jackson, Shirley Kavanaugh, Brenda Crann, Sylvia and Charlie Mosse, Brenda Myers, Susan Ronan, Sally and Steve Dischinger, Jenny K. Chin, Janet and Bob Liggett, Adrian and Tony Mangina, Christine and Darryl Elmer, Bill Graham, Mara and Robin Bernd, Elane Kenniston, 'lyn Stevenson, the Hall family, Maeve and Gianna Keppler, Don Montross, Tam and Armando Díaz, Ryan Crossley, Margaret and John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, and SDBC.

And we thank the following individuals who donated to the Raffle Table: Frank Guadiana, Janet and Bob Liggett, Brian Jackson, Nazim Colak, Ken Bross, Shirley Kavanaugh, Jenny K. Chin, Julia Chow, Cindy Pecile, Sue and Keith Carter, Camille Newton, 'lyn Stevenson, and the SDBC.



Membership: Cindy Pecile, Vice President, Membership

Please welcome the following new members to the club who joined in November and December 2023.

Tony Mangina
Joseph DeStefano
Constance Pettijohn
Al Cole

Christina Chase
Mark Pettijohn
Jeffrey Powell
Vicki Gilmore

Tinsika Riggs
Phil Reed

Current Club membership stands at 633.

Those interested in becoming members of the club can join:

- in person at a monthly club meeting OR
- on the San Diego Bonsai Club website (<https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/membership.html>) OR
- by sending a check to SDBC at P.O. Box 86037, San Diego, CA 92138

The club dues will remain at \$30 for an individual or \$35 for two family members. Each additional family member is \$5.

Members who joined starting in September 2023 will carry their membership into the new year.

For existing members, please continue to renew your memberships for 2024.

Repotting Sticks: — by Ignacio De La Torre



Just in time for our repotting workshop, fellow member John Holloway is offering custom-made repotting sticks for free at this month's workshop.

Chopsticks are commonly used as potting tools but may not be optimal depending on a tree's size, branching, or the pot depth. Carved from hardwoods like hickory, ash, and oak, as well as a few exotics like mahogany, teak, and cocobolo, they will be available in various lengths, thicknesses, and cross-sections, all sealed with a durable finish (see photo). Pick one that works for you!

Wooden tool handles are ideal for making custom potting sticks because they are typically well-aged hardwood. Please bring any old broken handles to club meetings so they can be turned into more potting sticks. Anyone donating a handle will receive a potting stick customized just for them! We thank John for his hard work and contribution.



December Meeting Minutes: Carla Marasco, Secretary

December 10, 2023, 10:30am start

President - Ignacio De La Torre – Intro

- Thanks to all that help with our Club.
- New Board will officially start in Jan 2024 – Cindi Pecile will be the new VP of Membership (a quorum of members agreed to her nomination, and she was sworn in with the new 2024 Board)
- The Financial Review Committee, Janice Hale & Brenda Crann will review financials with Jaya Kaelberer
- Hat orders will be going in, please contact Ignacio if interested in ordering specific color or style.
- SDBC Aprons are on sale at tool table for \$25 each.
- In need for someone to take over as the Refreshment Coordinator for 2024
- The new 2024 Board slate was sworn in by Glenn Jensen
 - President (2yr Term) – Susan Ronan
 - 1st Vice President – Matt Jillson
 - VP Education – Bill Graham
 - VP Special Projects - Phaedra Ehring
 - Treasurer – Jaya Kaelberer
 - VP Membership – Cindi Pecile
 - Secretary – Carla Marasco
 - Past President – Ignacio De La Torre

Board reports & Additional Info

- VP Special Projects (Phaedra)
 - Sat., Jan 13th – Winter silhouettes Bus Trip (show & banquet w/ nursery stop/pick-up & return 12pm-12am/\$20 per person/LA Arboretum access is included)
 - Sat., Feb 24th - Bonsai-a-thon Bus Trip (No nursery stop since there are many vendors at event/ pick-up & return 8am-8pm/\$20 per person/Huntington Gardens access is included Sign-ups will be open next month)
- Treasurer (Jaya)
 - Finances are in good condition.
- VP Education (Bill)
 - Classes & Workshops are sold 2mos in advance.
 - Jan/Feb/Mar – Beginner class Cotoneaster (Bob Hale) SOLD OUT
 - Jan – No workshop/Annual report of up to two pre-cleaned trees (must be Shohin size or smaller)
 - Feb – Pyracantha (Red Elf Firethorn) Shohin/Mame (Gary Jones) SOLD OUT
 - Mar – Accent Plants & Kusamono (Cathy Edgar)
 - Next beginner class Apr/Jun/Jul (Tiger Bark Ficus)
 - Looking into having a one-day workshop in Mar or Ap. It would be held on a different day (not mtg day) if there is interest.
- VP Membership (Uday)
 - Currently 730 club members (150 renewals received)
 - 2024 Renewals are being taken now (new members as of Sept do not have to renew until next year)
- Safari Park (John J.)
 - The 2024 picnic may be held at a different space on the park grounds in order to have space for all of our visitors. After the picnic, members can walk up to the pavilion to see the trees.

Presentation

Gary Jones led our annual tree styling competition where many beginners styled trees and members voted for their favorites. Simultaneously, members voted on their favorite decorated trees brought in by members of the club.



January 2024

December Board Minutes: Carla Marasco, Secretary

December 12th, 2023, SDBC Board Meeting Minutes President Ignacio De La Torre called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:30pm

In attendance: Ignacio De La Torre (President), Kyle Ieke (First VP), Bill Graham (VP for Education), Phaedra Ehring (VP for Special Projects), Jaya Kaelberer (Treasurer), Uday Pandey (Membership), Carla Marasco (Secretary), Sue Carter (Past President), Susan Ronan (2024 President), Matt Jillson (2024 First VP)

Board Transition

- Current board is to make sure to upload all of their paperwork and update tasks in Google drive.
- Uday will work with Cindi on what is needed from her with the membership role.
- Matt will work with Susan Ronan in order to fill in gaps for 2024's presentations.
- Board meetings going forward-will be ran by the new 2024 board.

Board & Appointed Position Status

- Refreshment Chair will be filled by Adrian & Tony Mangina
- Tool Table – Sandi Marasco is doing it but would be happy if we found someone else to take on the role.

Bank accounts

- Board Voted to add new 2024 President, Susan Ronan and remove past President, Ignacio De La Torre (all were in favor/change to account signers is approved) – Currently Carla, Jaya & Ignacio are on the US Bank Account.
- Looking into the benefits of putting funds into CD's or money market account. Jaya to confirm that it doesn't go against our non-profit status.
- Discussed ways to monitor and secure club funds. Further discussions to follow.

Mas Takanashi Grant update – Bill is currently waiting for review response on grant proposal before finalizing (Sent out to several people Sept 12th). All responses to be sent before Jan 1st. Grant will be drafted in January and ready to go into effect by February.

Beginner's Class Manual – In progress. Susan Ronan will send it out to teachers once it's ready for review.

Gift cards – Although requested, gift cards are not available. All email requests for gift cards are replied to directly from Bill or Cindi (Ron to be sure to add Cindi on incoming emails and remove Uday)

January meeting/program – Repotting is set/will confirm with Bob on his presentation/Soil, screen, table cloths, etc will be at meeting/1st Repotting Session 8:30-10am/then Mtg & Mini presentation/2nd Repotting (Junipers, pines, deciduous, & winter trees of Shohin or smaller/max 2 trees)

Board reports

- Jaya (Treasurer) – Reimbursements need to be turned in asap so that 2023 financials can be closed out. Budget for 2024 is also in process.
- Phaedra (Special Projects) – Jan Winter silhouettes tickets will be added to the website for purchase /flyer to exhibit a tree went out, SDBC will need to vet tree to be put on display/Phaedra will send an email out to membership to clarify. We will purchase 2 bags of Acadama as a gift donation for the raffle.
- Carla (Secretary) – The new SI100 info form will be sent to state this month.
- Uday (Membership) – Approx. 673 Current members (Cindi has actual numbers and several new members/renewals came in)
- Bill (Education) – Doyle from Dai-Ichi has Bjorn Bjorholm & Yannik Kiggen coming out in October of 2024. We are looking to schedule a special workshop with the two artists on October 20th for our club (this will not be held during our normal meeting, but the week after our picnic) It will cost the club approx., \$4-5K. Will need to secure meeting rooms, purchase high end trees, and look into having vendor sale. Details to be worked out. Will plan for morning and evening workshops as well as a Demo Presentation. There will be a cost to attend this event and workshop participation will be extra. All board members agreed to proceed.

End of Meeting 8:30pm



January 2024

Treasurer's Report: Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB - TREASURER'S REPORT			budget
Jaya Kaelberer as of 30 November 2023			
Accounts have been reconciled with Union Bank statements			
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES (QuickBooks)			
SDBC Checking	\$79,516		
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$4,343		
Bonsai Pavillion Checking	\$19,665		
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$103,524		
SDBC Income	Actuals	Comments	budget
Total Donation Income	\$1,668	No change from previous month	\$ 3,850
Total Grant Qualcomm			\$ 2,500
Total Education Income	\$8,841	\$1,120: beginning class	\$ 11,100
Total Fair Awards			\$ 150
Total Membership Income	\$10,027	\$1,340: club dues	\$ 8,000
Total Monthly Program.	\$80	No change from previous month	\$ 480
Total Raffle & Auction	\$17,151	\$490: Club meeting raffle	\$ 14,000
Total Show Income	\$12,052	No change from previous month	\$ 8,100
Total Special Projects Income	\$1,990	\$200: Chino bus trip	\$ 4,400
Total Tool Sales	\$4,506	\$246: Aprons, caps, tools	\$ 3,500
Total SDBC Income	\$56,315		\$56,080
SDBC Expenses			budget
Total Bonsai Pavillion	\$6,083	\$190: weeders, trash cans, sprayers	\$ 9,000
Total Education	\$4,320	\$73: printing for class	\$ 10,100
Total Japanese Friendship Garden			\$ 1,500
Total Library	\$145	No change from previous month	\$ 500
Mas Takanashi Grant			\$ 1,000
Total Membership	\$752	No change from previous month	\$ 1,500
Total Monthly Program	\$6,984	\$1,701: Zemora presentation, demo tree, war memorial	\$ 7,550
Total Newsletter	\$825	\$86: newsletter, mail chimp	\$ 1,070
Total SDBC Club Expenses			
Total GSBF Liability Insurance	\$2,345	No change from previous month	\$ 150
Other	\$1,550	\$255: P. O. Box rental, License to sell nursery stock	\$ (150)
San Diego Fair		No change from previous month	\$ 300
Power of one scholarship		No change from previous month	\$ 300
Total SDBC Fall Show	\$841	No change from previous month	\$ 950
Total SDBC Spring Show	\$2,714	No change from previous month	\$ 2,450
Total Special Projects	\$8,865	No change from previous month	\$ 7,800
Total Taxes	\$4,226	No change from previous month	\$ 4,090
Tool Table Expenses	\$4,535	No change from previous month	\$ 2,100
Total SDBC Expense	\$44,185		\$50,210
Net SDBC Income (Loss)	\$12,130		\$5,870
Our income to date is greater than the budget by	\$0.235 k		
Our expenses are less than the budget by	\$6.025 k		
Our finances continue to look good.			



San Diego Bonsai Club Board

President:	Susan Ronan Sronanstudio@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Matt Jillson mattjillson@hotmail.com
Secretary:	Carla Marasco adorebycarla@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Jaya Kaelberer jaya.littletree@cox.net

VP Special Projects:	Phaedra Ehring Phaedra-sdbonsai@outlook.com
VP Education:	Bill Graham wfgraham3rd@gmail.com
VP Membership:	Cindy Pecile cindypecile@gmail.com
Past President:	Ignacio De La Torre igdltx5@gmail.com

Appointed Positions

Refreshment Coordinator:	Olivia George
Publicity:	Keith Carter
Sunshine Chair:	Susan Baker baker@susanMbaker.com
Librarian & Historian:	Sonya Holmquist sonyaanneh@gmail.com
Help Corner	John Voss
Tool Sales Manager:	Sandi Marasco

The Bonsai Wire Editors:	Sally Dischinger disch002@umn.edu Steve Dischinger sdischi@hotmail.com
The Bonsai Wire Postal Distributor:	Shirley Kavanaugh, Jr
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Webmaster:	Ron Kaelberer rkaelberer@cox.net

Japanese Friendship Garden

Bonsai Curator:	Neil Auwarter neilauwarter@hotmail.com
Liaison :	Barbara French-Lee barbflee@hotmail.com

Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion

Curator:	John Jackson bonsaijohn@cox.net
Assistant Curator:	Dennis Wagner denisW@cox.net
Liaison :	Mark Edgar mark@mtedgar.com

Please note: *The Bonsai Wire (TBW) is published 12 months of the year, by the San Diego Bonsai Club (SDBC). TBW and the SDBC logo are properties of SDBC. Articles are provided by SDBC members. Any articles submitted by non-SDBC members—if published—become property of SDBC. All submitted articles are subject to editing. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the SDBC.*



SDBC Upcoming Events: MEETING DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Month	Date(s)	Location	Rooms
January meeting	14	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
February meeting	*18	War Memorial Building, Balboa Park	
March meeting	10	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
April meeting	14	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
May meeting	*19	Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion	
June meeting	9	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
July meeting	14	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
August meeting	11	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
September meeting	*15	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
October meeting	tbd	Lake Poway	
November meeting	10	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
December meeting	*15	Casa del Prado	101 and 104

2024 Spring Show	April 27 & 28	Casa del Prado	101
2024 Fall Show	Sept 28 & 29	Casa del Prado	101

*Note: The SDBC meetings are subject to availability of the rooms in Casa Del Prado. Our preferred date for the second Sunday of each month sometimes conflicts with other clubs show or special event, so we choose an alternative day.

Japanese Friendship Garden Bonsai workdays: Wednesdays, contact Neil Auwarter for volunteer information.

San Diego Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, contact Mark Edgar for volunteer information.



Return Service Requested

San Diego Bonsai Club
P.O. Box 86037
San Diego 92138



*January
2024
The Bonsai Wire*