



President's Message

Susan Ronan

As I write this it's almost March! Will it come in like a lion and go out like a lamb? The glorious rains have filled my rain barrels and I'm thinking of increasing their number in this year of plenty.

I want to share with you our newest Lifetime Member, an honor bestowed upon a long-time member and frequent contributor to our club, Glenn Jensen. Having studied the art of bonsai with Glenn for almost 10 years, I can say that he has a highly refined esthetic and common-sense approach to the art as well as being a patient teacher.

Glenn has been a member of California Bonsai Society since 1982 and Nambu-kai since 1992. He was a member of Kofu Bonsai Kai and has been a member of San Diego Bonsai Club since 2005. Glenn first became aware of bonsai while a student at the USC School of Dentistry in the late 1960's when California Bonsai Society had their annual show at Exposition Park, Los Angeles. The California Junipers were so powerful, he was hooked!

After graduation, Glenn was stationed in Southeast Asia at USAF Hospital, which gave him the opportunity to explore Japan. He was struck by the beauty of Japanese art, particularly bonsai. In the late 1970's, Glenn became serious about bonsai and sought out teachers.

He's trained under some of the best in Bonsai. He began in 1979 with Harry Hirao and took monthly classes in his backyard until 2000. In 1982, Glenn began classes with John Naka that continued until Naka retired from teaching around 1996. He's also trained for years with Richard Ota, Frank Koge of Sho-En, and Kenji Miyata.



Glenn teaches us the importance of always learning. He has previously taught classes for the club as well as giving thoughtful presentations and demonstrations. He has exhibited his beautiful trees, sharing the joy he's found in styling and cultivation.

We are fortunate to have Glenn as a long-time member and it is my great honor to present this recognition.



Al Nelson Scrub oak, approx. 2017 In the JFG collection. See page 7 for the latest pictures.

Upcoming Meeting **March 10, 2024:**

10:30 AM.
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
See page 2 & 3.

Classes: *see page 4.*

Feature Article:

"Spring Fertilizing"
By Charlie Mosse, *see page 5.*

*Trees are sanctuaries.
Whoever knows how to
speak to them, whoever
knows how to listen to
them, can learn the truth.
They do not preach
learning and precepts,
they preach, undeterred
by particulars, the ancient
law of life ..."*

~ Herman Hesse ~

Bonsai Task Calendar for San Diego County

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Visit our website for information on private instructors and other resources to advance your bonsai



March Meeting Presentation: “Deciduous Trees II” with Julian Tsai. By Matt Jillson, Vice President

In March we will be having Julian return to do a follow up presentation to his last year’s lecture on creating deciduous Bonsai. The emphasis of this series is to focus on a few basic Bonsai techniques that will build stronger, healthier ramified branches and create more aesthetically pleasing movement in material. The core take-away from this initial presentation is that creating fine deciduous material isn’t about using existing branching, wiring then cutting back to a desired silhouette. Creating fine Bonsai in maples, elms, and pomegranates for example is about growing the branching in proper proportion to the main trunk and creating appropriate taper.



In Julian’s follow up presentation he will walk the club through the next steps a member should take after having cut back material last year. Not only will he show

the bifurcation process for branching, taking the branching tips from one to two or two to four, but he will discuss how to balance the tree’s energy to prevent branches in the wrong areas from getting too thick. The success of this process hinges on being able to balance the tree’s energy correctly and is an important tool that a budding Tree smith can add to their toolset of tricks. Below is a link to Julian’s blog where he discusses his thoughts on this process of developing deciduous material that members can review before our next meeting.



Julian Tsai is a Southern California Bonsai professional who, as a curious hobbyist, started attending San Diego Bonsai Club meetings early in his journey. His passion quickly grew, and he dreamt big, finding himself a professional apprenticeship under Keiichi Fujikawa of Fujikawa Kouka-en in Osaka, Japan. Returning to the States once Covid descended, Julian settled back into the area to pursue teaching Bonsai on a full-time basis as a local professional. Currently Julian is the curator for the Clark Bonsai Collection in the Fresno area.

“Treat deciduous Bonsai building as a process that doesn’t yield immediate results and you will constantly get better and better Bonsai, year after year as you repeat these techniques.”

Julian’s blog: <https://justbonsai.com/a-discussion-on-deciduous-bonsai-why-did-i-cut-off-all-the-branches/>

Julian is offering a small consultation workshop with four students before his presentation and another four students after he finishes up speaking to the club. The morning session will run from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., and the afternoon session will start after the presentation from 12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Students can bring one or two trees as well as necessary tools and wire to consult with Julian on design concept and branch development. Cost is \$20.00 per person, please email Matt Jillson, **mattjillson AT hotmail.com**, to get on the list, first come first fill. (Sorry, trying to prevent google bots from picking up my email address to spam me).

Our April meeting will have Tom Vong visiting the club to demonstrate scion grafting in pines. Tom will be holding a workshop before and another workshop after his presentation (5 members per session, 10 members total) where members will get a chance to scion graft Japanese Black Pine near soil level on material the club provides, then graft a cork bark scion higher on these trees to later air layer off next year. We will have a session in the Spring of next year where members can bring these grafted pines back to set up an air layer on the Cork bark grafted section of the tree. The Club will provide both regular and cork bark pine scions, grafting tape and cut sealer but **any attendees will need to bring their own grafting knife that has been properly sharpened prior to the workshop**. Cost is \$30.00 per member, please email Matt Jillson, **mattjillson AT hotmail.com**, to get on the list, first come first fill.



San Diego Bonsai Club Meeting March 10, 2024
Casa del Prado in Balboa Park

8:30 -10:15 AM: Beginning Class, Casa Del Prado (Room 104)
8:30-10:15 AM: Intermediate Class, Casa Del Prado (Room 101)
8:30-10:15 AM: Julian Tsai workshop (Room 101)
9:00-10:15 AM: Library Open Casa del Prado (Room 104)
10:30-11:00 AM: Business, Meeting Casa Del Prado (Room 101)
11:00-12:00 AM: Julian Tsai, "Deciduous Trees II".
12:00-12:30 PM: Raffle and Refreshments
12:30- 2:20 PM: Julian Tsai workshop (Room 101)

Help Wanted: We need an assistant for the tool table, someone who can use Square for credit card processing. Please contact Susan Ronan if interested.

Library: Sonya Holmquist , Librarian

Welcome back to the regular library hours in Room 104 – 9 am – 10:15 am. If you have reference materials checked out, this is a good time to return them.

Congratulations to those who are wrapping up the beginners' class on Cotoneasters. To review and reinforce the skills you learned in these three sessions, check out the library's beginner recommendations at <https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/beginner-recommendations.html>.

And for those who want to advance their styling skills, *Bonsai Focus* magazines and the *Kokufu Bonsai Show* books show prize winning modern and traditional Japanese bonsai. I encourage everyone to come in and browse through our reference materials.



Welcome to March! We had some heavy rain last month. I hope you were able to collect some of it. It is the best water you can use for your bonsai. Yay for free water! :) Repotting season is in full swing. Take advantage of this time to keep your bonsai healthy and happy. I will not be at the March Meeting. If you need anything from Education Bob Hale will be filling in for me. If it is something that Bob cannot respond to, please send me an email and I will get back to you.

Beginners Class – Cotoneaster lacteus – Bob Hale

January 14 – February 18 - **March 10**

In the third and final session of the Beginners Class you will finalize your styling and learn how to repot your trees into bonsai soil and a bonsai pot. **SOLD OUT!**

Beginning Class: - Ficus microcarpa – Tiger Bark – John Jackson

April 14 – June 9 – July 14

In the spirit of bringing some different material to our Beginners Class, we have some nice Tiger Bark Ficus. John Jackson, our local Ficus expert will be the lead for this class. **SOLD OUT!**

Intermediate Workshop:

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!! **SOLD OUT!**

April – Urban Yamadori Buxus sp. Common Boxwood – Carla Marasco

We have some nice Urban Yamadori common boxwoods. These trees have been out of the ground since 2018, are very well established and ready for styling. They have nice trunks and a lot of potential. They will go on sale at the February Meeting. **SOLD OUT!**

Advanced Workshop

May – BYOT – Kaya Mooney

This is a rare chance to work with visiting artist Kaya Mooney. He has been an apprentice at Fujikawa Kouka-en in Osaka Japan for the last 6 years. He is scheduled to finish his apprenticeship in May and to receive his Certification as a Bonsai Professional from the Nippon Bonsai Association. Kaya has worked on all species of trees during his apprenticeship but has a special fondness for deciduous trees. You can see his pictures of his work on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/moonlightbonsai?igsh=ZDE1MWVjZGVmZQ==> **SOLD OUT!**

May – No Class – Meeting at the Safari Park.

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 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 wfgraham3rd@gmail.com.



Spring has sprung. Depending on when they started to grow, Elms are at least $\frac{1}{2}$ way through their first flush, if not all the way, but not hardened off yet. They are the early risers, whether they completely defoliated or not. Partial defoliation is a characteristic of Chinese Elms and its variants because they are semi-deciduous. Deciduous trees are either starting or are growing nicely by now. Oaks are getting ready to show the red buds that tell you they are starting to grow. If not, be patient as sometimes they are stubborn. It is an exceptionally good time to re-pot oaks at the red bud stage. Broadleaf evergreens, pines, junipers, and other conifers are growing, and even the sub-tropical types like ficus and bougainvillea. Some of the subtropical trees never stopped growing but did slow down to a crawl. My Tiger Bark Ficus, willow Leaf Ficus and Bougainvillea kept growing.

Fertilizing is now on our minds. First questions are: 1- Was the tree in question recently repotted? 2- Is a tree in development? 3- Is the tree in refinement?

If repotted in the winter, trees will need to be fertilized now, possibly sooner depending on when it was repotted and the species. Generally, one waits for about 2-3 weeks before fertilizing because the new roots do not emerge from the cut root ends for about 2-3 weeks, depending on the species and the size of the root that was cut. Larger roots say $\frac{1}{4}$ " or more can take up to 1-2 months before new root tips emerge. The majority of the small roots we see after working a root ball can start producing new root tips in about 10 days to 3 weeks. If the repotted trees were very healthy before repotting, one can wait longer before fertilizing because the tree had lots of stored resources.

These new root tips are no more sensitive than the root tips of undisturbed roots. All root tips are sensitive by their very nature. It is just that new root tips emerging after a re-potting was done are fewer and the new soil is almost always coarser such that drying out too fast and/or too much can hinder the growth of the new roots, or even kill them. Drying out after fertilizing causes the fertilizer salts, organic or chemical, to concentrate when the soil dries. This pulls water from the roots drying them prematurely and/or the roots take in too much salt such that the excessive salt concentration now in the root tip hinders root growth or kills the sensitive root tips and root hairs. So, after care for repotted plants is very important. Water carefully, keep an eye on the soil, provide some relief from the sun for a month or two, ease into your regular fertilizing routine.

Here are some common scenarios for fertilizing in early spring.

Most trees in development should be fertilized in the spring to encourage growth. There is a situation where you may not want or need to fertilize as usual. That is, even though a tree is in development, you still may want to cut the dose in half for the first one or two applications so that internodes are not so long. Let the tree(s) grow with less fertilizer relying more on stored energy from the fall/winter. Then start fertilizing in April or May depending on your goals. Remember that Japanese Black Pines are **on** a different schedule because of the decandling process.

Broadleaf evergreens and deciduous tree in refinement that are healthy going into winter, will not need fertilizer just yet. Let the tree flush out and start to harden which is when growth slows and the cuticle on the leaf surface is thickening, then it is a good time to fertilize. Not fertilizing trees in refinement before and/or during growth will help keep the internodes shorter, the needles shorter, and leaves shorter and narrower. However, if the leaves are looking too pale before hardening off, you can go ahead and fertilize but, apply a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ dose of fertilizer. This lower dose, once you figure it out, will not make the internodes, leaves or needles grow too much but will improve the color of the foliage and the health of the tree.

Junipers in general are fertilized most of the year because they never stop growing. However, when in refinement, to achieve smaller and tighter foliage, fertilize at a $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ dose for the spring and then resume



regular doses. Japanese Black Pine will be fertilized from January up to **within** about 4-6 weeks of de-candling **normally done in** June-July, then no fertilizing for about 2 months. Bald Cypress will be growing quickly by now so be cautious of the amount of fertilizer unless it is in development. A well fertilized Bald Cypress will grow too fast, they are very vigorous.

Generally, plants need regular fertilizing in the hotter months because they are watered more often and with larger amounts of water ensuring a properly wetted root ball. The ever-balancing act we must do in growing bonsai.

That brings up another subject. The balancing of the energy....growth of a plant in different areas of a plant. Our trees are managed a lot in the spring as they vigorously grow in the spring. This is a suitable time to do necessary management of where the tree puts its energy. This is done in the following ways.

1. Trimming aggressive areas of foliage more than sparser areas, such as more **leaves are removed from the top branches vs the lower branches.**
2. Pruning larger, unnecessary branches in overgrown areas to help guide energy to other areas.
3. Pinching or scissoring young growth to take energy away from that area.
4. Defoliation removes all of the leaves to slow growth and have new growth with shorter internodes and smaller leaves. Reduced leaf area = reduced energy generated by the tree and does stress a tree. Trees must be healthy.
5. Partial defoliation reduces but does not remove all of the leaves from all over the plant or reduces the number of leaves on selective branches or reduces leaf area by cutting leaves in half in certain areas or branches. Reduced leaf area = reduced energy in that area.
6. Watering can be varied to promote growth or slow growth. This can be tricky. It is better to not stress the plant with too little or too much water. Controlling fertilizer, container size (soil volume) and soil particle size is better.
7. Fertilizing can be varied to promote growth or slow growth. Amount and type of fertilizer is easy to control.
8. Container sizes vary and hold different volumes of soil. More soil yields more growth helping to grow larger trunks, branches and also, grows bigger leaves and longer internodes.
9. Soil particle size also can promote faster growth or slower growth. Coarser soils have more air which encourages more roots and top growth. Finer soils have less air and can stay wetter slowing growth in most cases. This results will vary by species and actual soil mix.

The distribution of energy has many nuances and would be a lengthy article. We grow many species under varying conditions such that describing them all would be a big task. If you subscribe to Bonsaify, Bonsai Tonight, Bonsai Mirai, Crataegus Bonsai, Bonsai Empire, Esei En and other popular sites, they discuss and show the many ways of channeling a tree's growth and energy. This is a particularly important skill because it is something you will use very regularly to keep your trees properly balanced visually in the style selected. Energy growth balancing also keeps weaker parts of the tree stronger, keeps lower and weaker branches from dying and keeps the top of the tree under control.

You will find some videos that talk about this directly. However, most videos on styling and care will interject the subject into many parts of the video. Keep an eye out for it because it is very important and there are many nuances.

As always, you can pose a question on the SDBC Facebook page, on the SDBC web site, or bring your tree to a general meeting for some hands-on advice. The latter being the best way to get good answers to your questions.



Japanese Friendship Garden: by Neil Auwarter, Curator



Thanks to February JFG volunteers, Charlie Mosse, John Holloway, and Aaron Mathanker. The garden is buzzing with preparations for Cherry Blossom Festival, March 7-10. This year the cherry blossoms are a bit behind schedule and may not quite be popping in time for the festival. But fear not—the show will go on, with live music and dance performances, taiko drums, and an array of food and merchandise vendors. For more information: <https://www.niwa.org/cbw>

The collection's conifers are still in their semi-dormant winter state, but buds on many broadleaf trees have begun to swell. One such broadleaf tree is our Al Nelson Coast Live Oak, which in February was repotted. More on this live oak next month.

The JFG collection's other Al Nelson tree is a scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*) seldom seen in bonsai form. See the accompanying photos of this tree at various stages of development. As the photos show, the tree was repotted into a glazed rectangular pot, at a more inclined angle.

Spring is almost here—enjoy your trees as they kick into gear!



Scrub oak, Aug. 2020 (*leaning left, white background*)



Scrub oak, Jan. 2022 (*leaning left, green background*)



Scrub oak, Sept. 2023 (*leaning right, green background*)



Taiko drums at last year's Cherry Blossom Festival

Cherry Blossom Festival at the JFG is just around the corner—March 7-10. The festival will feature live performances, food, and merchandise vendors, and more. For information: <https://www.niwa.org/cbw> And for those who wish to avoid crowds, the cherry blossoms are equally beautiful the weeks before and after the festival. ☺

Hope to see you among the cherry blossoms!

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



We finished the 5 new pedestals for displaying smaller bonsai. Cindy Pecile and Cathy Edgar removed rocks from the area around the pedestals and added new mulch. We are now able to display a Chinese elm saiikei from Nancy Reisman and three of Sally Prestele's smaller trees, a Tiger Bark ficus, Quince in flower and a Podocarpus.

Jaya Kaelberer received her Safari Park Volunteer Service pin for 2000 hours. Well-done, Jaya!

We had a very productive repotting session on February 3. Three teams repotted seven trees, including two procumbens nanas, three elms, a liquid amber, and a Lantana.



Susan Ronan, Mark Edgar, Camille Newton, and Elaine Kenniston repot a Lantana donated by Camille.



Dennis Wagner and Steve Dischinger repot Dave Woodall's Cork Bark Elm



Jaya Kaelberer and Jim Kirchmer are repotting Mas Takanashi's Chinese Elm



We repotted Dave Woodall's False Cypress on February 17, 2024, at Safari Park. The repot was done out in the garden where the visitors could watch. There was a lot of interest. It was a difficult repot because the tree was very root bound. It took about 2 hours to complete. Thanks to Uday Pandey, Camille Newton, Jaya Kaelberer Mike McKinney, and Mathew Gelacio (not pictured). Next time we will repot this tree sooner.

Lastly, Safari Park made a nice video of the Bonsai Garden on their Facebook page. It was well done. They plan to do another in late spring when all the trees are in full leaf. The link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6r3oqZ95FtM>



January Meeting notes: — by Ignacio De La Torre

For those members who enjoy bonsai hunting, John Voss provided helpful information when looking for nursery material. John's background in nursery ownership, his training under bonsai masters like John Naka, and his degree in Soil Science and Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly Pomona allow him to offer insight into the selection process.

John notes that material can be purchased at small, local nurseries as well as the large, big-box stores such as Lowe's and Home Depot. It requires a little time and a fair amount of patience to go through the various plants and search for the best material among the bunch.

So... what to look for when buying the best material? Buy the base! When looking for good material, begin with the base. Start first with the "nebari", or exposed root base, and then look at the "tachiagari", or lowest part of the trunk without branches (just above the base). These two portions of a tree are the most important. Branches can be grown so don't worry too much about the branches.

John then showed a few large boxwoods that he has acquired at local establishments. And large they were. Not only were the bases large but the root spreads were impressive. John said that he pokes around the bases when looking for a Draft JFG column, March 2024 Bonsai Wire tree and always selects the tree with the best base (leaving the others for the rest of us).

John worked on one of the trees, a multi trunk, as he described the "boxwood" style of design, an informal branch design which contrasts with the more formal pine style. In this style, it is better to leave small branches which are pointing down until we know how the branch pad will develop (One would typically remove a downward-facing branch). He talked through his branch selection process and described how he often uses a crowbar to move thick branches into place.

John channels his Inner Picasso by drawing a few different sketches of his potential designs prior to working on a tree. John shared the various drawings for the tree while he described how he arrived at his design choices. He then began by making cuts to open up the tree and leave large branches in necessary places. Continually visualize options, he says. What effect does a branch or trunk removal have on the tree? Will the removal of a branch lend more balance to the tree? Does a removal allow us to see through the tree? John only cuts back a branch if there is growth that will remain on the branch. Otherwise, one risks killing the branch.

His final bit of advice had to do with selecting the height of a tree. When considering the height, John tends to use a 10x ratio — the height of the tree is 10x the diameter of the trunk. This is a bit taller than the traditional 6x ratio. He thinks it provides a more natural look.

Thank You : by Susan Ronan

Thank you to all who gave their time and talent for the February meeting. Many hands make the work light. And also, thanks to those who brought food to share: Tony and Adrian Mangina, Wayne Lord, Carla Marasco, Sally and Steve Dischinger, Mary Salas, Sandra Kehoe Forutan, Jaya Kaelberer, Brian Jackson, Jenny K Chin.



Membership: Cindy Pecile, Vice President, Membership

Please welcome the following new club members who joined in February 2024. Club Membership stands at 346.

Lindsey Heinrich	Charles Green	K. Cuellar
K. Maeda	William Shen	Keri Brust
Matt Tresser	Cherie Tresser	Stuti Pandey
Ihaan Pandey	Jerin Brust	Maple Lehmann
Gretchen Lehmann	Laura Lehmann	

Thank you to all members who have already renewed their membership for 2024. If any of your contact information has changed recently, please drop me an email (cindypecile@gmail.com), so I can update the membership roster.

The deadline for 2024 Memberships is March 31, 2024.

You can renew your membership:

- In person at a club meeting
- On the San Diego Bonsai Club Website (<https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/membership.html>)

Club dues will remain at \$30 for an individual or \$35 for two family members. Each additional family member is \$5. New members who joined during September-December 2023 will carry their membership through 2024.

Special Projects: Phaedra Ehring, Vice President

2024 Spring Show

The Spring Show and annual banquet are just around the corner on Saturday, April 27, from 10-5, and Sunday, April 28, from 10-4.

Banquet, Raffle & Auction: Our annual banquet takes place after the show at approximately 5:30 on Saturday, April 27 (as soon as the volunteers finish set-up). This is a **free** event for all members. The main dishes will be provided, and attendees are asked to bring a side dish, dessert, or beverages to share. Please sign up for the banquet as soon as possible so that we have an accurate count for catering. We would also greatly appreciate donations of items for our member Raffle and Auction which take place at the end of our annual banquet. Every item you donate makes more room for a new item from the auction!

Setup, Show & Demonstrations: This year we will do the show setup, exhibit, and sale load-in, and volunteer pre-sale all on one day, Friday, April 26. In addition to the Friday setup, we need members to assist in the showroom during both show days, to present demonstrations, to provide refreshments for volunteers, to prepare the courtyard for the banquet on Saturday evening, to help with dismantling and clean-up of show materials at 4:00 on Sunday, and several other activities.

We will have all of the sign-up sheets at the March and April meetings. There are many ways you can join the fun and help.

Bonsai Displays & Sales: Members wishing to display or sell items at the show should begin preparing now.

Past Events

Bonsai-A-Thon at the Huntington

More than 150 members of SDBC attended the Bonsai-A-Thon, the fundraiser for the [Golden State Bonsai Federation Collection at the Huntington](#) (GSBFC) on February 24-25. We had a full bus and were met by many members who drove up from all over the region, far exceeding the attendance of any other single club. We enjoyed the styling demonstrations and amazing guided tours of the Japanese and Chinese Bonsai collections. Dozens of vendors provided a huge variety of bonsai, tools, and accessories. The club and several members generously donated items for the raffle and auction. We also brought back some great material.



President – Susan Ronan – Intro

- The 2023 financial audit report was completed by Brenda Crann and Janice Hale who have found that all accounts for the San Diego Bonsai Club, including the Safari Park account, are all in order & balanced.
- The Bonsai-a-Thon schedule is posted on the front page of our website.
- The recent loss of Ron Palmer & Shirley Kavanaugh was mentioned and Leonard Monta, Shirley's life partner of 30 years said a few words in her memory.

Board reports & Additional Info

- 1st Vice President (Matt Jillson)
 - Mar Presentation - Julian Tsai to follow-up on deciduous trees next steps
 - April presentation - Tom Vong going over scion grafting.
- VP Special Projects (Phaedra Ehring)
 - Sat., Feb 24th - Bonsai-a-thon Bus Trip at The Huntington / 150+ members will be going / Details will be sent out by Tues., 2/20/24, donations for raffle will be appreciated.
 - SDBC spring show Apr 26-28th. Sign-ups for set up on Fri., 4/26 are now, all other signups will be at next meeting. /There are spots available for displaying trees. If interested, see Mark Edgar
- Treasurer (Jaya Kaelberer)
 - Finances are in good condition. AS of January, there is \$100K in accounts. The biggest source of income is membership.
 - 2024 budget is available for review as well as the financial statement.
- VP Education (Bill Graham)
 - Classes & Workshops are sold 2mos in advance.
 - Jan/Feb/Mar – Beginner class Cotoneaster (Bob Hale) SOLD OUT
 - Mar – Accent Plants & Kusamono (Cathy Edgar) SOLD OUT
 - Next beginner class Apr/Jun/Jul (Tiger Bark Ficus) On Sale During Feb Mtg
 - Apr – Boxwoods (Carla Marasco) On Sale During Feb Mtg
 - May – No Classes / Safari Park Picnic
 - May 13th (Mon) Bring Your Own Tree 6hr Workshop \$125 (13 spots)
 - Oct 20th (Sun) – All day workshop, demo & more with Bjorn Bjorholm & Yannik Kiggen, details to follow.
- VP Membership (Cindi Pecile)
 - Currently 315 current club members
 - 2024 Renewals are being taken now through March (new members as of Sept do not have to renew until next year)
- Safari Park (Mark Edgar)
 - The 2024 picnic May 19th will be held at a the Hunte Pavilion 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. Sign-ups are coming soon and will include admission to the park.
 - It is currently repotting season and trees will continue to be repotted over the next workdays.
 - Five new pedestals and a new water feature has been installed.
- Japanese Friendship Garden (Neil Auwarter)
 - No Update

Presentation – John Voss – Gave a presentation on what to look for when shopping for a tree as well as going over the process of styling a new tree.



6:30pm start End of Meeting 8:15pm President Susan Ronan called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:30pm

In attendance: Susan Ronan (President), ~~Matt Jillson~~ (First VP), Bill Graham (VP for Education), Phaedra Ehring (VP for Special Projects), Jaya Kaelberer (Treasurer), Cindi Pecile (Membership), Carla Marasco (Secretary), Ignacio De La Torre (Past President)

General Topics

- The board motioned to move 20K from the club's main bank account into a 9-month CD. All attendees were in favor. Board will also consider laddering CDs in the future to secure additional funds at staggered intervals (an additional 20K-30K after 3-6mos is proposed)
- Discussions regarding the Bonsai Wire mailings were discussed. We are looking for someone willing to take over the job. Phaedra to confirm recipients to see if there is still a need.
- Suggestion was made to provide 10 or so trees twice a year for sale to club members, purchased by wholesale accounts at local wholesalers. Would need to get a resale license. This will be discussed further in the future.
- Additional money has been added into the budget to cover the rising water costs to maintain club trees.
- We are looking to add an assistant for tool sales, Brenda Myers is willing to take over but needs guidance. A possible third person to alternate in at the tool table would be ideal.
- We need someone to attend the bi-monthly meetings of the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation. The next meeting is March 21st, at 7pm in the Prado room 104. First choice would be the First BP or other Board member (2 people are preferred in case of schedule conflicts)
- The board motioned to make Glenn Jensen a lifetime member. All attendees were in favor.

Board reports.

Jaya Kaelberer (Treasurer)

- The new budget is generous. Although we go over our budget in some areas, we are under in other areas which means we normally come in less than budgeted, It is expected that we should be able to stay within budget again for 2024.

Matt Jillson (First VP)

- No Update

Phaedra Ehring (Special Projects)

- Bonsai-a-thon - Tickets are being sent to registered members. We will not need to purchase any tickets after the Huntington limited our free passes as there have been cancellations to cover the difference. Bill will get a club donation for the raffles on Saturday & Sunday.
- Spring show – Friday will be the single day show set-up. Phaedra will possibly work with the kitchen volunteers to start the food & miscellaneous item set up on Thurs. This year we will make the suggested changes as follows: additional helpers with Treasurer's duties, smaller membership table, more than 2 people at cashier's table, cashless sales to continued. The volunteer/food sign-ups will be put online as well as available at the club meeting.

Bill Graham (Education)

- Mas Takanashi Grant revision is being typed up and should be done in a couple of weeks. We are also working on an updated teacher list.
- Sunday, October 20th Event with Bjorn Bjorholm & Yannik Kiggen is still on and details being discussed/Safari Park tree will be used for demo and possibly put back on display at the Safari Park with a plaque with info about artist and design date/ Continued discussions of combining Picnic with event rather than having two events. Plan to be finalized by June.
- We will have Andres Bicocca, expert carver/sander on Mon., Aug 25th (location & price pending).
- All current classes and workshops are sold out.
- The Summer Repot will possibly be moved or cancelled due to conflict with the Traveling artist.

Carla Marasco (Secretary)

- No Update

Cindi Pecile (Membership)

- 85 members attended the last meeting.
- Our current membership is at 346 with renewals being due by the end of March.
- Email reminders will be sent out at the beginning of March to unpaid members.



Treasures report Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer

You will see some large expenses next month caused by 2023 expenditures whose reimbursement requests were submitted in February 2024.

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB - TREASURER'S REPORT			budget
Jaya Kaelberer as of 31 January 2024			
Accounts have been reconciled with Union Bank statements			
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES (QuickBooks)			
SDBC Checking	\$77,716		
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$4,343		
Bonsai Pavillion Checking	\$18,413		
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$100,472		
SDBC Income	Actuals	Comments	budget
Total Donation Income			\$ 3,850
Total Grant Qualcomm	\$500	For volunteer work	\$ 2,500
Total Education Income	\$365	pyracantha workshop	\$ 11,100
Total Fair Awards			\$ 150
Total Membership Income	\$2,128	\$921: club dues	\$ 8,000
Total Monthly Program.			\$ 480
Total Raffle & Auction	\$179	General meeting raffle	\$ 14,000
Total Show Income			\$ 8,100
Total Special Projects Income	\$1,484	Bonsai-a-thon bus fare	\$ 4,400
Total Tool Sales	\$785		\$ 3,500
Total SDBC Income	\$5,441		\$56,080
SDBC Expenses			budget
Total Bonsai Pavillion	\$1,752	7 Corten stands	\$ 9,000
Total Education	\$1,530	12 itoigawa junipers, watering costs O,N,D 2023	\$ 10,100
Total Japanese Friendship Garden			\$ 1,500
Total Library	\$95	Bonsai focus renewal	\$ 500
Mas Takanashi Grant			\$ 1,000
Total Membership	\$63	Member badges	\$ 1,500
Total Monthly Program	\$201	Food, beverages, utensils	\$ 7,550
Total Newsletter	\$38	Mailchimp	\$ 1,070
Total SDBC Club Expenses			
Total GSBF Liability Insurance			\$ 3,500
Other	\$200	Table drapes	\$ 2,370
San Diego Fair			\$ 300
Power of one scholarship			\$ 300
Total SDBC Fall Show		No change from previous month	\$ 950
Total SDBC Spring Show		No change from previous month	\$ 2,450
Total Special Projects	\$43	1 bag akadama for SIL donation	\$ 7,800
Total Taxes	\$355	Sales tax O,N,D 2023	\$ 4,090
Tool Table Expenses	\$337	various tools	\$ 2,100
Total SDBC Expense	\$4,613		\$56,080
Net SDBC Income (Loss)	\$828		\$0
Our income to date has to catch up to budget by	\$50.639 k		
Our expenses are less than the budget by	\$51.467 k		
Our finances 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:	Adrian & Tony Mangina
Publicity:	Keith Carter
Sunshine Chair:	Susan Baker baker@susanMbaker.com
Librarian & Historian:	Sonya Holmquist sonyaanneh@gmail.com
Help Corner	John Voss
Tool Sales Manager:	Brenda Myers

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Japanese Friendship Garden

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

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
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.





*March
2024
The Bonsai Wire*

March 2024

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

Return Service Requested