



President's Message

Susan Ronan

On April 21st Club members enjoyed a visit to the beautiful garden of David and June Nguy, Shisei-En, in Chino, California. Several other clubs were invited as well and we witnessed David's skill in the creation of a dramatic Hon Non Bo, won by the lucky Wendy Pollock. Our Club presented the Nguy's with a beautiful glazed Houtoku bonsai pot from the collection of Larry Ragle as thanks for their kind invitation.

The Spring Show now behind us was a wonderful event that displayed the artistry and dedication of our members in training their trees and sharing them with the world. Putting on the Show each year is a labor of love, in large part through the efforts of Mark Edgar and Phaedra Ehring and their army of volunteers. Dennis Wagner and Gary Jones are always the last to turn off the lights and shut the door after ensuring that room 101 is in better condition than when we found it. Thanks to all that contributed your time and energy to make this event a success!

Looking forward to the May meeting at Safari Park, it's always a fun event. The Silent Auction is the annual fund raiser for the collection and gives us the opportunity to visit and appreciate the Bonsai Pavilion. Please be sure to bring some items to donate to the silent auction. The trees are looking their best and the recent additions both in trees and their display are an inspiration. Please welcome Elaine Kenniston appointee as the new Benefit Drawings Manager. Elaine also volunteers at Safari Park and is a very welcome addition to our most able group of appointed volunteer positions.



*John Holloway juniper
Display at SDBC Spring Show*

Upcoming Meeting

May 19, 2024:

10:30 AM.
Safari Park
See page 2

Classes: *see page 3*

Feature Article:

"More on Watering"
By Charlie Mosse, *see page 4*

Great things are not done by impulse but by a series of small things brought together.

— Vincent van Gogh

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 skills.



May Meeting: by Phaedra Ehring, VP Special Projects

May 19,2024 San Diego Safari Park 9 AM-1 PM Bring your own picnic lunch, **Hunte Nairobi Pavilion.**
Prior Reservation Required.

The annual San Diego Bonsai Club May meeting, picnic, and silent auction will be held at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in a ***New Location*** – The Hunte Nairobi Pavilion on May 19, 2024. The Park opens at 9 a.m. Guests can enter the Hunte Nairobi Pavilion at that time. *Only guests who have registered in advance will be able to enter the Safari Park for free.* Guests are free to enjoy the day at the Safari Park before and after the meeting.

Picnic lunch: Members are asked to bring their own picnic lunches, or to purchase food at the Safari Park to bring to the Hunte Nairobi Pavilion – no food will be provided or for sale inside the pavilion. Water will be provided. You may bring your own other beverages but remember - **No glass containers** are allowed in the Safari Park.

Parking: When you reach the Parking kiosk, tell the employee that you are attending the San Diego Bonsai Club Picnic. Parking should be free.

Admission: Club member guests who have **registered in advance** should go to the special event table at the main front entrance. Provide your name at the table for your picnic admission ticket. From the entrance, follow directions provided at the park to reach the Hunte Nairobi Pavilion close to the entrance and just behind the carousel.

Silent Auction: Please bring bonsai and related items to donate to our silent auction fundraiser for the Club Bonsai Pavilion and be ready to bid on donated bonsai and related accessories. This is a fun and exciting event!

The Hunte Pavilion is located a short walk from the entrance, by the carousel.

San Diego Bonsai Club Meeting May 19, 2024
Safari Park, Hunte Nairobi Pavilion

9:00 Safari Park opens.

10:00 AM: Silent Auction opens.

10:30-11:00 AM: Business Meeting,

11:00-12:00 AM: Bring your own Picnic lunch. No Glass containers!

(Food is available for purchase at the nearby Safari Park restaurants)

12:00-12:30 PM: silent auction wraps up.

12:30 -1:00PM: clean up.

Enjoy Safari Park for the remainder of the day.



Education: Bill Graham, Vice President, Education

May is here, Happy Mother's Day to all of you that are a Mother or have taken on the role of Mother! Our weather continues to be strange! It has been cold, warm, windy, rainy, and sunny, sometimes in the same day! My repotting season is coming to a close, while I wait for it to warm up some more so I can start my tropicals. Your trees should be pushing growth like crazy right now! Watch what you need to trim to help maintain shape, decide what you want to let run as a sacrifice branch and just enjoy the beauty of growth! Keep an eye on your trees, as it gets warmer, your watering needs will increase.

Beginners Class: - Ficus microcarpa – Tiger Bark – [John Jackson](#) June 9 & July 14 *SOLD OUT!*

Intermediate Workshop:

May – No Workshop – Meeting at the Safari Park.

June - Tool and Knife Honing and Sharpening- Fred Miyahara *SOLD OUT!*

July – No workshop – Club Repotting Event.

With the success of the warm season repotting event last August, we are going to do it again! These trees are olives, bougainvillea, ficus and other tropical you may have. Bring a tree and our many volunteers will help you repot it. Please limit yourself to **two (2) CHUHIN OR SMALLER** trees. We do not have the proper soil size or quantity to repot very large trees. **PLEASE** clean your trees before bringing them in. Soil and assistance will be provided both before and after the meeting. Remember, this is a chance for you to learn to repot, not to have your trees repotted for you.

August – Ficus salicaria – Narrow Leaf Ficus - [John Jackson](#)

Many of you have asked me multiple times for a Ficus workshop. I have finally obtained some very nice Ficus nerifolia that were grown by Eric Jacobson. These trees are very nice and are a great start to becoming a bonsai. They already have size, movement, taper and nebari! John Jackson, our local ficus expert has volunteered to lead this class (back to back workshops from John!!) This will be an exciting workshop! This will go on sale at the June Meeting. The cost will be \$95.00.

Advanced Workshop

May – BYOT – Kaya Mooney *SOLD OUT!* <https://www.instagram.com/moonlightbonsai?igsh=ZDE1MWVjZGVmZQ>

October 20, 2024, BYOT and DEMO – Bjorn Bjorholm – Yannick Kiggen

We have a rare, incredible, and exciting event happening on October 20, 2024. International bonsai artists Bjorn Bjorholm (now residing permanently in Kyoto, Japan) <https://www.bjornbjorholm.com/> and Yannick Kiggen (Hamont-Achel, Belgium) <https://www.yama-bonsai.be/> will be here to conduct both a demo and a workshop. This is an opportunity to see two of the top bonsai in the world artists up close. We will be combining our monthly meeting with this day and are planning a full day of bonsai, including our annual picnic and silent auction. Stay tuned for more details to follow as the year progresses!

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.



With hot weather coming soon, **thorough wetting of the root ball** becomes particularly important. Issues to look for that impede thorough wetting are:

- Old, compacted soil with slowing or already poor drainage.
- Trees planted too high or are pushing out of the pot by massive root production.
- Crusted soil surface due to accumulated salts and/or organic matter.
- Old trees with very large root bases and little soil volume are difficult to water.
- Very small trees like shohin, mame and small Kifu sized trees dry quickly.
- Frequent overhead watering without leaching, leading to a crusted soil surface.
- Brand new soils that can have hydrophobic particles and lots of air spaces.
- Recently repotted trees with old soil remaining.
- Dried moss can and will repel water.
- The soil surface is the same level at the pot rim--water will flow over the lip.
- Water rushing around dry particles can leave those particles dry or partially wetted.

A lot of extra water is needed to properly wet a root ball when using overhead watering. So, to save water and properly wet a difficult root ball, submersion is suggested.

The key is getting to know when a root ball is properly watered. You will see improved leaf color, vigor, and moss.

There are 3 methods of submersion using a tray or bucket.

1--Watering from the bottom in shallow water. Not really submersion. Almost no leaching occurs, and salts can accumulate. Fertilizing is not recommended here. It is an effective way to keep mame and accents moist.

2—The root ball is dipped up to the trunk base. This is better than the first method. Some leaching occurs when the pot is lifted out. You will see bubbles rising as air is pushed out of the soil. As the pot drains, air is sucked back into the soil. Angle the pot or hold pot on its short edge to drain and help remove salts.

3—Use a deeper tray or bucket and submerge the tree up the trunk or even the entire tree. Lots of bubbles will emerge. Drain as above.

For methods 2 and 3, when bubbles stop or few are emerging, then you are done. Most of the time this will happen in 20 seconds to a minute at the most. The more compact and older the root ball, the longer it takes, sometimes 5-20 minutes.

If adding fertilizer to the watering, use the foliar feeding strength, which averages 1-3 tsp/gal. You can use this method every two weeks with no ill effects. Fertilizer is best used when with full submersion. A full strength dose of fertilizer is OK, but the solution should not touch the leaves or young stems.

See page 16 for more detailed version of this article.



San Diego Bonsai Pavilion (Mark Edgar)

May 19 is the annual picnic and auction at Safari Park Hunte Pavilion. The auction is to benefit the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion which was built and is funded entirely by the San Diego Bonsai Club. Volunteers from the Club maintain the garden and the 112 bonsai. Auction items (bonsai-related) are needed for the auction and should be brought to Safari Park Haute Pavilion on the day of the picnic. Also, the picnic is "bring your own" lunch and beverage.

For the first quarter of 2024 our volunteers worked 889 hours. Out of 43 approved volunteers 39 volunteered during the first quarter.

We continue to repot with 29 bonsai completed. Two trees remain to be repotted to complete the spring repotting list, but we decided to delay these repots to next year. The weather has been so cool that these two trees are still not ready. We also have about 6 or 7 trees to repot during the summer months.

We repotted two of our biggest trees during the first work session in April. Wendy, Brenda, Dennis, and Nasser repotted the massive Coast Oak.

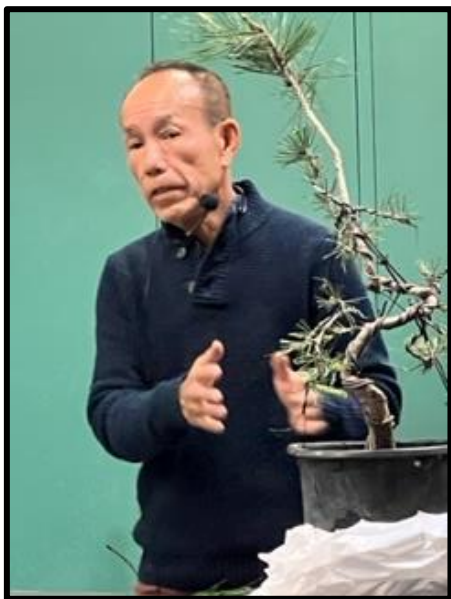


Mori and Steve repotted our Ginkgo while I stood around doing nothing. Mori wanted to change the front a little and it looks nice.

Children and probably some adults have been putting black rock into the new Japanese drinking fountain basin. Last workday the basin was completely full of rock. Dennis built a nice bamboo fence, and it seems to be working to keep the rocks out of the basin.



April Meeting notes: Tom Vuong – Grafting Basics by Keith Carter



Sometimes nature needs a little help when you're trying to create the perfect bonsai. That's why it's important to learn the critical skill of grafting, the topic of the April meeting's guest presenter, Tom Vuong.

An Orange County-based bonsai professional with 30 years of experience in the industry, Tom showed how to graft scions onto a black pine to create branches exactly where needed to improve a tree's design. He said the technique is especially helpful for a tree that has a great trunk but may not have branches in the right spot to make a desirable bonsai.

Tom brought several black pine candles to use as scions. To prepare the scion, he uses a sharp grafting knife to cut its woody end on two sides, making one side slightly longer, to form a wedge shape. Leaving the wedge exposed, he then wraps the rest of the scion completely in paraffin tape and twists the tape to seal it at the end.

That is followed by making an angled incision in the branch where he wants the new branch to grow and inserting the scion "wedge" into that incision. Tom then wraps a new length of paraffin tape tightly around the joined scion and branch to seal the connection. He secures the bond even tighter with zip ties. The paraffin tape does not have to be removed, Tom said, because the needles from the grafted scion will grow through it.

After-care of the grafted tree is important, Tom said. "It needs light, but not too much," he said. He recommended placing the tree in a location where it can get some morning sun but is shaded for about 75% of the day. Adding slow-release fertilizer is OK, but only once every four weeks, he said.

In a question-and-answer session with members at the beginning of the presentation, Tom emphasized that it's important to let a black pine's branch to grow longer because it will help the tree grow faster.

He also explained how he frequently uses plastic zip ties instead of wires to adjust bends and angles of branches. "It saves a lot of time. It's faster and cheaper," he said.



Thank You : by Susan Ronan

Thank you to the following members who contributed to the April meeting:

To the Raffle Table: Adrian and Tony Mangina, Camille Newton, Eric Jacobson, Cristina V. Far, Dan Sola, Gerard Ellison, George Robertson, Ignacio De La Torre, Jenn K. Chin, Paul Lawrence, ‘Lyn Stevenson, John Holloway, Jacob and Alina O’Brien, Zheng Zheng, Alan Wilson, Winfred Williams, and Derek Hook.

To the Refreshment Table: Adrian and Tony Mangina, Wayne Lord, Sandra Kehoe-Forutan, Jenny K. Chin, Jaya Kaelberer, Cristina J Vargas Far, Bethany Kies, Jacob and Alina O’Brien, John and Margaret Jackson and Marylou and Dan Montross.

Membership: Cindy Pecile, Vice President, Membership

Please welcome the following new club members who joined in March and April 2024.

Christina Smith
Peter Chong
Mark Martinez
Debra Staples
Sean Roozen
Loretta Martinez
Jim O’Mahoney
Madeline Roozen
Susanna Samaniego
Connor Klug
Dayton Semerjian
Andrew Davidson
Alexandro Rico

Nanette Moss
Shella Narciza
Kevin Thomer
Brandon Berkowitz
Calvin Williamson
Marco Posada
Anita Mehta
Clifford Rutt
Jeronie Alcantara
Michael Bird
Matt Holmes
Ivan Pinto

Doug Jarvis
Linda Burke
John Webster
Rebecca Amroian
Stephanie Trily
Jim Hsieh
David Lindstrom
Devon Malloy
Huey-Jen Liaw
Jessie Lindstrom
Annie Yang
Bin Huang

If you plan on participating in certain club events – taking classes, traveling on bus trips, volunteering at the Safari Park or Japanese Friendship Garden, volunteering or selling items at the shows, your membership must be current. You can renew your membership or join as a new member:

- 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. Each additional family member is \$5.

The current 2024 Club Membership stands at 472.

If you are uncertain whether you have already paid your 2024 Membership dues, please email me at cindypecile@gmail.com. Also, if any of your contact information has recently change, please email me as well so I can update the roster.



Spring Bonsai Show: by Mark Edgar & Phaedra Ehring

The spring San Diego Bonsai Club show and sale was a success thanks to the large number of outstanding volunteers that helped with setup and tear down of the show and with the numerous tasks during the show. We had many outside demonstrations including bonsai styling, Sumi-e painting (done by the Friends of Sumi-e club), and kusamono preparation. The show displays included Bob Hale’s elm progression examples, Ikebana, succulent kusamono and many different bonsai species. We had memorials for Ron Palmer and Shirley Kavanaugh. We had three first time bonsai exhibitors. Josh Frampton who showed a prostrata, Eric Gripp who showed a rosemary in flower and Wendy Pollock who exhibited a juniper-on-rock bonsai. Overall, the show was a nice mix of different bonsai sizes and styles. The displays were all well done and the trees nicely prepared. Special thanks to the exhibitors for their attention to the details of display and for the great bonsai. The volunteers and exhibitors continue to improve the overall quality of the show which is already very good. Special thanks to Phaedra Ehring Hall for keeping the volunteers well fed and for setting up the excellent show dinner Saturday. Pictures of a few of my favorite bonsai displays follow.



Brenda Crann and the kusamono group



Nazim Colak’s Chinese elm



Neil Auwarter’s trees. Tree on the right is a Hackberry from the collection which he curated at the JFG. The secondary tree is his personal Ficus which was used because the JFG does not have any smaller trees at the moment.





Shirley Kavanaugh Memorial



Susan Ronan, juniper



John Jackson, Bald Cypress



Fred Miyahara



Gary Jones and Bob Hale having fun demonstrating technique on a yaupon holly.



Over the weekend, about 4,000 people attended the show, including our friends from [Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai](#) and other remote clubs, who endured terrible traffic on the way but still helped out while they were here! For our annual banquet, the delicious entrees from [Lorna's Italian Kitchen](#), and the beautiful music by [DJ Basico](#), were enjoyed in the courtyard under clear blue skies. After dinner, we retired inside for the auction. With the always entertaining Gary Jones as auctioneer, the auction raised over \$2,000. This year, we received plentiful, generous contributions to our auction, and to our banquet.

It is only with the generosity and participation of our amazing members that we have such great events. Thanks to the following people who signed up as volunteers (and all those who helped without signing up – you know who you are): *Adrian Mangina, Alan Burrows, Alan Wilson, Alina Meneses, Amy Jo Davies, Aparna Telang, Bethany Kies, Bill Graham, Bob Hale, Brenda Crann, Brenda Myers, Bryan Schroeder, Calliope Hall, Calypso Hall, Carla Marasco, Cathy Edgar, Cesar Velasquez, Charlie Mosse, Chris Galindo, Christine Elmer, Dan Kitchen, Darryl Elmer, Dennis Wagner, Don Montross, Elaine Kenniston, Eric Gripp, Eric Jacobson, Eric Ring, Fred Miyahara, [Friends of Sumi-e](#), Gary Jones, Guy Harris, Ignacio De La Torre, Ivan Pinto, Jacob O'Brien, Janice Hale, Jeff Hall, Jenny K Chin, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Jim O'Mahoney, John Barsanti, John Holloway, John Jackson, John Voss, Josh Frampton, Julia Chow, Kathy Wagner, Keith Carter, Ken Bross, Kenny Huffman, Kimball Taylor, Larry DeStefano, Louie Montecillo, Lyn Stevenson, Mark Edgar, Mark Walters, Marylou Montross, Matthew Gelacio, Nasser Forutan, Nazim Colak, Neil Auwarter, Peter Cheng, Rose Nguyen, Sally Dischinger, Sandi Kehoe-Forutan, Sandi Marasco, Scott Herdman, Sharon Kitchen, Sonya Holmquist, Steve Dischinger, Sue Carter, Susan Baker, Susan Ronan, Sylvia Mosse, Tom Cylkowski, Tony Mangina, Tyler Webb, Van Moch Nguyen, Vickie Ahrberg, Wendy Pollock, and Zheng Zheng.*

Special Events: by Phaedra Ehring , VP Special Projects.

Upcoming:

August – Nisei Week Bus Trip.

September – Fall Show & Sale.

October – All-day meeting with picnic and two special guest demonstrations and classes. More information to come!



David and June Nguy

April Bus Trip: More than 50 members of our club joined Bonsai enthusiasts from around the globe at the Friendship through Bonsai Celebration, hosted by David and June Nguy at the Shisei-En Garden in Chino on April 20. The event included an open house of the garden, plant, pot, and equipment sales, a demonstration by master David Nguy, a lovely lunch, and a raffle. After the demonstration, the phenomenal work was included in the raffle held at the end of the day, and was won by our own member, Wendy Pollock! She included it in our Spring Show exhibit a week later.



David Nguy & Wendy Pollock



Treasurer's Report: Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB - TREASURER'S REPORT			budget
Jaya Kaelberer as of 31 March 2024			
Accounts have been reconciled with Union Bank statements			
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES (QuickBooks)			
SDBC Checking	\$56,045		
CD \$20K 02/28/24	\$20,000		
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$3,933		
Bonsai Pavillon Checking	\$17,531		
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$97,510		
SDBC Income			
	Actuals	Comments	budget
Total Donation Income			\$ 1,750
Total Grant Qualcomm	\$500	no change from previous month	\$ 500
Total Education Income	\$3,502	\$778: Beg class: \$729, workshop: \$49	\$ 13,100
Total Fair Awards			
Total Membership Income	\$4,553	\$1,329: club dues	\$ 11,000
Total Monthly Program	\$140	\$140: Julian Tsai workshop	\$ 320
Total Raffle & Auction	\$460	\$281: club meeting raffle	\$ 17,900
Total Show Income			\$ 12,500
Total Special Projects Income	\$2,579	\$627: Chino trip, Bonsai-a-thon bus fare	\$ 2,000
Total Tool Sales	\$935	\$180: fertiliser, turntables, hats	\$ 5,200
Total SDBC Income	\$12,668		\$64,270
SDBC Expenses			
			budget
Total Bonsai Pavillon	\$2,634	\$762: \$721: water features, rock tops, \$41: dobies, cone	\$ 8,500
Total Education	\$1,530	no change from previous month	\$ 11,050
Total Japanese Friendship Garden			\$ 450
Total Library	\$95	no change from previous month	\$ 200
Mas Takanashi Grant			\$ 500
Total Membership	\$63	no change from previous month	\$ 1,500
Total Monthly Program	\$1,001	\$154: Food, beverages, utensils	\$ 9,750
Total Newsletter	\$746	\$250: \$45: MI chmp, \$27: postage, \$178: Sep,dec,feb c	\$ 1,400
	Total SDBC Club Expenses		
	Total GSBF Liability Insurance	\$2,345	no change from previous month
	Other	\$1,381	\$17: Add previous president's name to plaque
	San Diego Fair		
Power of one scholarship			\$ 320
Total SDBC Fall Show	\$463	No change from previous month	\$ 800
Total SDBC Spring Show		No change from previous month	\$ 3,650
Total Special Projects	\$2,523	\$2,480: Bus rental for BAT	\$ 10,850
Total Taxes	\$355	No change from previous month	\$ 4,380
Tool Table Expenses	\$1,667	\$1,330: tools: \$993, duplicate charge: \$337	\$ 5,000
Total SDBC Expense	\$14,802		\$64,270
Net SDBC Income (Loss)	(\$2,134)		\$0
Our income to date has to catch up to budget by	\$51,602 k		
Our expenses are less than the budget by	\$49,468 k		



Donation Acknowledgement.

The SDBC extends a Thank You to Patricia and George (and Sadie and Blue) Robertson who donated some trees and many pots to the club. George (standing next to his current collection) began his bonsai journey when he was in junior high.



April Club Meeting Minutes: Carla Marasco, Secretary

April 14, 2024, 10:30am start

President – Susan Ronan – Intro

- David & June Nguy with Shisei-En Garden in Chino have invited us to a “Friendship Through Bonsai” Celebration at their nursery Sat. April 20th. 4207 Walnut Ave., Chino, CA
- Sign-ups are being taken for next month’s Safari Park picnic and auction. Meeting will be in the new location near the Carousel.
- Brenda Myers & Jake Shaver will be taking over the Tool Table for Sandi Marasco and the new hours will be from 9am-11am

Board reports & Additional Info

- 1st Vice President (Matt Jillson)
 - May – Safari Park, No Presentation.
 - Jun – Mike Pistello. Pines.
- VP Special Projects (Phaedra Ehring)
 - Friendship Through Bonsai Celebration at Shisei-En Garden in Chino Sat., April 20th 9am-7pm \$40, seats are still available on bus.
 - SDBC Spring Show & Banquet Apr 26-28th. Need Sign-up to Volunteer for indoor and outdoor demos 11am & 1pm both days.
- Treasurer (Jaya Kaelberer)
 - February had several large expenses for insurance, MailChimp, etc., but March did not have large expenses. \$97K in taxes will be coming up for payment soon.
 - Finances are still in good condition.
- VP Education (Bill Graham)
 - Classes & Workshops are sold 2mos in advance.
 - Beginner Bonsai class Apr/Jun/Jul John Jackson, Tiger Bark Ficus. SOLD OUT
 - Apr 7th & May 5th Special 2-Day Beginner, Common Myrtle, Bob Hale. SOLD OUT
 - May – No Classes, Safari Park Picnic.
 - Jun – Tool & Knife Sharpening Workshop. SOLD OUT
 - Jul – No Class, Summer Repot
 - Aug – Narrow Leaf Ficus, John Jackson, On Sale in June for \$95.
- VP Membership (Cindi Pecile)
 - Currently 472 current club members.
- Safari Park (John Jackson)
 - The 2024 picnic May 19th will be held at the Hunte Pavilion on the park grounds. After the picnic, members can walk up to the pavilion to see the trees. Admission is free to the park. Bring your own lunch and auction items to donate. Please do not bring glass bottles to the park. Park opens at 9am, meeting starts at 10am
 - Repotting at the park is continuing with 40% of the trees done.
- Japanese Friendship Garden (Neil Auwarter)
 - No Update

Presentation – Tom Vuong – went over Scion Candle Grafting



April Board Meeting Minutes: Carla Marasco, Secretary

April 16, 2024, 6:30pm start 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), Cindy Pecile (Membership), Carla Marasco (Secretary), Ignacio De La Torre (Past President)

General Topics

- JFG is in need of someone to teach a bonsai take-away class (may be during the week/date unknown)
- A bonsai pot was purchased as a contribution to the raffle at David and June's event. The cost was \$175.
- People whose Membership renewals have not yet been paid are considered inactive and will not be allowed to participate in Bus Trips, Sales of goods, etc. since the grace period has now passed. Membership will need to be made in good standing prior to participation.
- A proposal to have our Club presentations professionally edited for You Tube, with an estimated cost of \$300 per presentation is being considered. Carla Marasco has agreed to look into the task and possibly take it on.
- The sale of Larry Ragle Pots & trees during the Spring Show for the purpose of raising funds for the Larry Ragle scholarship has been approved. 100% of the proceeds will go towards the scholarship.
- Social media for the Spring Show and beyond will be done by Eric Jacobson.
- We are looking for two additional members to assist on the Nominating committee. The three on this committee will search for members willing to fill positions on the board for the next term.
- Elaine Kenniston has agreed to run the raffle table.

Board reports.

Jaya Kaelberer (Treasurer)

- The Board is considering separation the Treasurer position into two (accountant & treasurer) or to possibly hire an outside bookkeeper/accountant to go through items monthly & to do Tax reporting. Cost will be looked into.

Matt Jillson (First VP)

- Looking to sell trees to club members at some future meeting once logistics are worked out. \$100 is approved to be used for purchase of the first group of trees.
- Programs are set for the remainder of the year.
- Aug - Lindsay Shiba – will do a presentation on Bonsai Displays at the meeting the month before our show (BYOT session)
- Nov – Mathew – will work on beginning development of shohin Kishu to be brought back in Jan for a follow-up presentation.
- Dec – will be the Annual Tree Styling Competition

Phaedra Ehring (Special Projects)

- Friendship Through Bonsai Celebration at Shisei-En Garden in Chino Sat., April 20th is set with approximately 50 members planning to attend.
- May Picnic at the Safari Park sign-ups are being managed by Mark Edgar. Sign-ups must be in by April 30th.
- Keith Carter will need to notify the Golden State Bonsai Federation of upcoming shows similar to how he is adding newspaper announcements.

Bill Graham (Education)

- No Update

Carla Marasco (Secretary)

- No Update

Cindy Pecile (Membership)

- No Update

End of Meeting 8:24pm



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.kaelberer@gmail.com

VP Special Projects:	Phaedra Ehring
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 Jake Shaver

The Bonsai Wire Editors:	Sally Dischinger disch002@umn.edu Steve Dischinger sdischi@hotmail.com
The Bonsai Wire Postal Distributor:	
Audio Visual:	Bryan Schroeder schroeder.bryan.e@gmail.com Wayne Lord
Webmaster:	Ron Kaelberer rkaelberer@cox.net

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

Month	Date(s)	Location	Rooms
May meeting	*19	Safari Park Hunte 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	*20	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
November meeting	10	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
December meeting	*15	Casa del Prado	101 and 104

2024 Fall Show	Sept 28 & 29	Casa del Prado	101
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*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.

Help Wanted.

We need someone to edit our video presentations for posting on YouTube. If this is something you can do in service to our Club, please contact Brian Schroeder at Schroeder.bryan.e@gmail.com

The *Koi Club of San Diego* is looking for someone to exhibit or do a presentation at their 35th annual Show the last weekend in January 2025 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. If you are interested, contact Jill Rhoades, Club Treasurer at 760-822-2034.

We are often asked for someone willing to display their Bonsai at outside community events. The late Shirley Kavanaugh has left some large shoes to fill as she often shared her bonsai with other organizations and their activities. Let Susan Ronan know if you are willing, and she will happily refer to you as those requests come in.

Wire Article, May 2024 More on Watering, Is Submersion Good or Bad?

Hot weather is coming soon. **Thorough wetting of the entire root ball** becomes particularly important. Issues to look for that impede thorough wetting are:

- Old, compacted soil with slowing or already poor drainage.
- Mounded soil with trees planted too high or are pushing out of the pot due to massive root production.
- Crusted soil surface due to accumulated salts and/or organic matter are a classic issue.
- Old trees with large root bases and reduced root volume are difficult to water.
- Very small trees like shohin, mame and small Kifu sized trees are easily affected.
- Frequent overhead watering without leaching, leading to a crusted soil surface.
- Brand new soils that can have hydrophobic particles.
- Recently repotted trees with old soil remaining or old compacted root ball remaining.
- Dried moss can and will repel water.
- The soil surface is the same level as the pot rim---nothing to stop the water flowing over edge.
- Water rushing around dry particles can leave those particles dry or only partially wetted.

Until corrected, a lot of extra water is needed to properly wet the root ball with the usual overhead watering method. Maybe the root ball gets thoroughly wetted, maybe it does not. So, to save water and properly wet a difficult root ball, submersion is suggested.

Submersion has its issues when used frequently and improperly.

- Inadequate leaching of existing salts will occur when using tap water.
- Increased salts in the soil, some migrating up to the top of the soil adding to the crusting.

When properly done,

- Salts can be leached from the root zone and the top of the soil and will not accumulate.
- Every soil particle will absorb water.
- If adding fertilizer to the submersion solution, every particle will absorb fertilizer.
- You will most likely see improved leaf color, tree vigor and better moss.

There are 3 methods of submersion. Water is placed into a tray or bucket. Add water to the desired height. Fertilizer, supplements or acidifiers can be added as needed. Tap water is OK when not used that often. Better is tap water diluted at least 1:1 with collected rainwater or bottled drinking water. Water from rain, reverse osmosis or deionization are best. Keep in mind that one does not have to water this way every time for most trees. I almost exclusively water shohin and mame this way and noticed a marked improvement in several troubled trees and good improvement in all of the trees, especially in the summer and fall. **The key is getting to know if every root ball is properly watered.**

1--Watering from the bottom in shallow water depth. Be sure to use good water, especially when used regularly. No net leaching occurs with this method and salts can accumulate. Fertilizing is not recommended here. It is an effective way to keep shohin, mame and accents moist. Create a drainage layer in the bottom of the tray, add water to cover the bottom of the pot. Excess water will evaporate so roots do not sit in water too long.

2--Watering in a tray or bucket to cover the root ball up to the trunk base. This is better than the first method. Good water is better here but tap water diluted with good water is OK. Some leaching occurs when the pot is lifted out. Angle the pot or hold pot on its short edge to drain and help remove salts; an excellent method for shallow pots of any size because they do not drain as well as deeper pots. You will see some bubbles rising as

air pushed out of the soil, being replaced by the water. When the pot drains, this action will suck air back into the soil.

3—Use a deeper tray or bucket and submerge the tree up the trunk or even submerge the entire tree. Lots of bubbles will emerge from the soil, more so than in 2. Drain as above.

For methods 2 and 3 when bubbles stop or are infrequently emerging, then you are done. This will happen in a brief time span, 10 seconds to a minute at the most. The more compact and older the root ball, the longer it takes, sometimes 10-20 minutes. Bubbles will be smaller and emerge at a slower rate. Caution here if adding fertilizer. It is good to use the foliar feeding strength when using these 2 methods regularly. Sometimes I use a full strength dose, but the solution is not allowed to touch the leaves or young stems.

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 firsthand advice. The latter being the best way to get good answers to your questions.