



# The Bonsai Wine

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

Volume 43, Issue 6

June, 2017



## Message from the President

*Bob Hale, SDBC President*

Summer is here again and it's time to kick back and relax a little. Visiting the San Diego County Fair is a great way to start. Our Club has put together another award winning booth highlighting the Fair's garden area sub-theme of "Happy Trials". Our display is titled "On the Bonsai Trail: Nature Inspires the Living Art". The display includes representative trees/styles inspired by scenes from the coast to the mountains. While you are there, don't forget to check out

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*The SDBC Display at the San Diego County Fair.*

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## Next Meeting: 6/11

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

We will be at the Japanese Friendship Garden. We will have a guest speaker at 10:30 from the Garden who will talk about the history of the garden and its vision for the future. Basically the program is to see the Garden: Koi, the gardens, the incredible stream created in the lower garden and of course the bonsai trees on display that are in excellent condition and vastly improved under the guidance of **Glenn Jensen**.

Guided docent tours will be available from 9:30-10:25 and again from 11 am-noon. There are still a couple of spaces for each tour.

the competition trees.

Our upcoming June meeting at the Japanese Friendship Garden will be another great way to enjoy the summer season. Docents will provide a tour of the garden for Club members. **Glen Jensen**, our curator at the Friendship Garden, and his volunteers will be there to talk about the Bonsai trees on display. Meeting attendees should enter through the back gate. (See page 12.)

Summer is also a time for relaxing with a good book. Our Club has an extensive library of books and DVDs to consider. Another option is to further your Bonsai skills with an online course. You might consider **Michael Hagedorn's** online course on bonsai fundamentals. The course consists of 22 lessons on physiology, Japanese aesthetics and design principals. Course registration and details can be found at [bonsaiempire.com](http://bonsaiempire.com).

Every summer has its own story. So come on let's start making that story together.

## SDBC Website Highlights:

*Eric Jacobson, Webmaster*

- Get a better look at the forest bonsai donated to the Japanese Friendship Garden by the Ragles! (See JFG update for more information.)
- Photos of the setup SDBC booth at the San Diego County Fair are at the Fair page.
- Remember: The various Bonsai Study Groups are keeping their pages current with updates and photos regarding all their activities.

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

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### Japanese Friendship Garden

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#### Liaison:

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

### Bonsai Pavilion, Safari Park

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#### Assistant Curator:

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

#### Liaison:

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



# SDBC Education:

*Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education*

June is here and so is summer!! Welcome to warm days and warm nights. Now is the time to start working on your tropical. Ficus here we come!

## Beginning Classes:

April 9 – **June 11** – July 9

The June class will be held at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park. It will start at its regular time of 0830. Due to the change in venue, please try to arrive a little early while we figure out the setup of the class room. Admission is free for all Club Members.

The second Beginners Class is moving right along and you will be working on wiring and styling this month. Your pomegranates should be in full leaf and growing well. As the heat comes up, the trees are going to need water and you should be paying close attention to the condition of your soil. **Abe** and his helpers are looking forward to see how your trees have been doing for the last two months.



August 13 – September 10 – December 10

The third Beginners Class of the year will start in August and take us through the end of the year. Please note the scheduling of this class. We have some very nice Junipers that have had some early work done to them. This is very nice material that will make some great bonsai. Due to the cost level of material there is an increased cost to this class. The instructors will be **Mark and Cathy Edgar**. The sign-up sheet will be at the June meeting at the Japanese Friendship Garden. The cost is \$50.00.

## June Workshop RESCHEDULED!!:

At the request of the Instructor, Mr. **John Voss**, this has been moved to July at our normal meeting site.

There will be no workshop at the Japanese Friendship Garden. We will resume in July. Please see below.

## July Workshop – Urban Yamadori Boxwoods

The July workshop will be some very nice collected

boxwoods. These have been out of the ground and in pots for about three years. They are excellent material and will make exciting bonsai! John Voss will be the teacher. Currently, there is one spot left for this workshop. The sign-up sheet will be at the June meeting at the Japanese Friendship Garden. The cost is \$50.00.

## August Workshop – Tray Landscaping (Penjing)

We have an exciting program scheduled. Our own Queen of Shohin, **Shirley Kavanaugh**, will be teaching how to create a miniature tray landscape, using a marble tray, small olive trees, rocks and a few other items. If you have ever seen **Shirley** work, you know how cool and exciting this will be!

The sign-up sheet will be at the June Meeting at the Japanese Friendship Garden. The cost will be \$125.00 and limited to seven (7) attendees. There has been a lot of interest in this class and it will sell out fast!

## Reminder

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30am to 10:15am on Club meeting days at Balboa Park. (with the exception of July, held at the Japanese Friendship Garden) 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.

## Suggestion Box

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

## Smile.Amazon.com Donations

*Janice Hale, V.P. Special Projects*

In 2016 we received \$74 from Smile.Amazon.com. Many of us shop online. Well, here is an easy way to help raise funds for the Club. Shop at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and select the San Diego Bonsai Club as the beneficiary of Amazon's 0.5% donation. The prices are the same as Amazon and the Club wins!

# SDBC Meeting Minutes:

*Sylvia Mosse, SDBC Secretary*

## April Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:30 in Balboa Park by Bob Hale, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the March 12, 2017 meeting were approved as published.
3. **President's remarks:** If members have not paid for their SDBC 2017 dues, please do so now.
4. **Nazim Colak, VP for Membership:** There were 2 new members announced.
5. **Board Member Reports:**
  - Charlie Mosse, 1st Vice President, reported: The June meeting will be held at the Japanese Friendship Garden (JFG). The beginning class and workshop will be held at the JFG. Meeting and welcoming will be at 10:30am. Docent tours are scheduled for 9am and 11 am. Change to Kathy Shaner's schedule in July: on Sunday July 9th, there will be four 30 minute individual workshop slots available in the morning and 4 slots in the afternoon for \$25. On Monday July 10, she will conduct 50 minute individual workshops: 4 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon morning for \$50, but might cost less. Sign up sheets will be available at the April meeting, the Spring Show and May & June meetings.
  - Janice Hale, Treasurer, reported: The balance for SDBC checking account is \$38,065, of which \$427 is available to the Japanese Friendship Garden from donations. The Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion checking balance is \$37,268. January-March revenue: \$8,533.52. January-March expenses: (\$10,843.68). Net loss (\$2,310) primarily due to restocking the tool table, materials for future beginner classes & workshops, and annual insurance. Janice thanked Peter Chong for his service as Treasurer for 2015 & 2016. Janet Palmer & Janice Hale audited the 2016 records, which resulted in accurate findings. The letter was read to the members and submitted to the secretary.
  - Janice Hale, Special Projects, reported: Spring Show is April 29th and 30th: Setup Thursday April 27th; Bring trees and sales items on Friday Apr 28. Sign up for Saturday dinner; bring dessert or a side-dish, club will provide beef and chicken kebabs. For Friday night volunteers, there will be a purchase limit of 5 Jim Barrett pots, to give those Saturday and Sunday volunteers & visitors a chance to buy Jim's pottery. Dick Ryerson will bring his bonsai pottery for sale. He will also be bringing his pottery wheel to demonstrate how he makes the pots. SDBC's Power of One Grant for 1st time attendees to the GSBF Convention has been modified this year to provide 3 one day registration grants, which includes registration and meals for the day the recipients selected. There is a sign-up sheet in the back. The attendees will be randomly picked in June.
  - Bill Graham, VP for Education, reported: The first meeting for the beginning pomegranate



**Susan Ronan receiving her completion certificate for the Mas Takanashi grant from Bill Graham.**

class taught by Abe Far was held this morning. Urban Yamadori class taught by John Voss, will be held in June. Cost is \$50. Tray landscape class taught by Shirley Kavanaugh, will be held in August using white marble slabs and olive trees. Sept. workshop: 3 slots working with Kenji for \$225. Sign up in July. Mas Takanashi grant participant Susan Ronan received her certificate of completion. Nancy Wilson-Ramon has been accepted into the Mas Takanashi grant program. Congratulations to both.

## 6. Appointed Position Reports:

- John Jackson, SDBC Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Curator, reported: May meeting, picnic and fundraiser will be held at the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion. This is the major fundraiser for the Pavilion for the year. Bring your own lunch and extra drinks. Sign-up list being passed around. For those who need tickets, they will be available from 'lyn Stevenson during our April show. You can enter through the front gate at the SPark at 9am. The Park will provide transportation if needed. Volunteer special projects: Dennis Wagner moved a large pine tree from the front of the pavilion gate into the pavilion garden. Mark and Cathy Edgar have been working on a large Juniper bonsai and Charlie Mosse is working on a large olive bonsai. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the SPark Bonsai Pavilion, contact 'lyn Stevenson.
7. **Announcements:** Barbara French-Lee spoke about The Coronado Flower Show and noted that Shirley Kavanaugh won many awards for her entries in the show! Janice Hale announced that SDBC membership dues must be current in order to receive Safari Park tickets for May's meeting.
  8. **Program:** Presentation on Different Types of Cutting Tools by John Jackson and Fred Miyahara.
  9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am

## May Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:30 am at the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion by Bob Hale, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.
2. **President's remarks:** Bob welcomed everyone to the Bonsai Pavilion meeting, picnic and fundraiser.
3. **Nazim Colak, VP for Membership,** reported: 38 new members were signed up last month at the Spring Bonsai show last month. Four were individual memberships and the rest were family memberships.
4. **Board Member Reports:**
  - Janice Hale, Treasurer, reported: The balance for SDBC checking account is \$40,686, of which \$216 is available to the Japanese Friendship Garden. The JFG was able to use \$200 last month to pay for 50% of the grading for a new work area. The Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion checking balance is \$37,185.
  - Janice Hale, Special Projects, reported: Nisei Week bus trip to Little Tokyo in Los Angeles is scheduled for August 26th. The bus will make a stop at one of the LA area bonsai nurseries. Cost is \$40. She described the history behind the Nisei Week festival. The Nanpu-kai bonsai show will be held at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center. There will be Arts, Crafts, food and shopping. Spring Show Wrap Up: Head count was 3,545. Checks to Club Members for sales: \$10,460; their donations to the Club: \$2,767.96. With donations from the public and our Saturday night raffle (less dinner expenses), the Club made \$4,034. The lucky recipients for the SDBC's Power of One Grant for 1st time attendees to the GSBF Convention for the 3 one-day registration grants (which includes registration and meals for the day the recipients select) will be randomly chosen in June. The recipients will register, pay the fees, and attend the convention. After the convention the recipients must submit a copy of their registration to our President, Bob Hale, for reimbursement.
  - Charlie Mosse, 1st Vice President, reported: The June meeting will be held at the Japanese Friendship Garden (JFG). He noted that the quality of the trees at the JFG has improved greatly under the guidance of Glenn Jensen. Kathy Shaner's schedule in July: on Sunday July 9th, there will



be four 30 minute individual workshop slots available in the morning and 4 slots in the afternoon for \$25. On Monday July 10, she will conduct 50 minute individual workshops: 4 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon morning for \$40. Monday classes may be held at Charlie's house due to lack of rooms available in Balboa Park. Sign-up sheets will be available at the June meeting. August program is Ficus with John Jackson.

- Bill Graham, VP for Education, reported: The beginning pomegranate class and the boxwood workshop will be held at the JFG in June. Tray landscape class taught by Shirley Kavanaugh, will be held in August. You can sign up for this class in June. The Big Juniper Advanced class will be held in September. Sign up in July.

##### 5. Appointed Position Reports:

- John Jackson, SDBC Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Curator, reported: He gave thanks to all the Bonsai Pavilion volunteers for all their hard work and dedication. He described the major construction work that will be going on at the Safari Park, which will cause the Bonsai Pavilion to be closed to the Public for up to 9 months. During this time period, the ADA concrete walkways and work area project will be completed. The volunteer work will continue during the closure following our current schedule (first and third Saturday each month).
- Ilyn Stevenson, SDBC Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Liaison, reported: Ilyn thanked John Jackson for his numerous years of service to the Bonsai Pavilion. She gave a brief history of John's contributions to the Bonsai Pavilion. He has been a major participant since its inception at the Wild Animal Park/ Safari Park.
- Glenn Jensen, Japanese Friendship Garden Curator, reported: Glenn stated that the Bonsai Pavilion is one of the finest Bonsai Exhibits in the US. He is looking forward to the June SDBC meeting at the JFG. He thanked the JFG volunteers for their work with the collection.

6. **Announcements:** Sonya Holmquist reported on the SDBC Fair Booth: the theme is 'How Nature Inspires the Art of Bonsai'. The San Diego County Fair is open June 2 thru July 4. There will be a mini beginning bonsai workshop at the Fair on June 14. Participants will be styling, wiring and repotting their trees. There are 9 openings and the cost is \$10. Sign-up is available on the SDBC website.



*Bids being placed on silent auction prizes at the May Safari Park meeting.*

7. **Program:** SDBC's Silent Auction Fundraiser.
8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am.

## Coming in July

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

Kathy Shaner will be here in July.... So who is **Kathy Shaner**? **Kathy** is a world renowned Bonsai artist, the first woman to be accepted into a full apprenticeship in Bonsai in Japan. **Kathy** excelled and passed a very high bar. She is an incredible talent and a master at teaching Bonsai. **Kathy** is the sensei for the Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS). She teaches, cares for people's Bonsai, conducts classes and workshops, headlines conventions, all of this across the country. She will be styling a Prostrata Juniper originally grown and guided by **John Voss**. The tree was purchased for the purpose of this presentation and then to be donated by the club to the Huntington Garden for their annual Bonsai-A-Thon fundraiser benefitting the Bonsai collection.

**Kathy** does not get here very often, so now is the time to sign up for individual slots with her on Sunday July 9 and again on Monday July 10th. Bring your own tree and tools. The tree can be at any stage, and at any level, but please no raw nursery stock. This



is an incredible opportunity to get a difficult tree over a styling hump, re-style a tree, refine a mature Bonsai in preparation for display... Whatever you need to get done, **Kathy** can get it done.

There are still time slots available for individual work with **Kathy** on Sunday July 9th in Room 101 in the morning and in the afternoon, and also on Monday July 10th for individual work time. In trying to accommodate people who work, please sign up for the Sunday sessions if you cannot make it on Monday due to work or other commitments. If you have Mondays off, please try to sign up for that day. The Sunday sessions will cost \$25. The Monday sessions will cost \$40 because you will have more time with Kathy. The Monday work sessions will be held at my house because there are no rooms available at Balboa Park. If that changes you will be notified. If for some reason the time slots are not all filled, members can sign up for 2 slots. We will see how the sign ups go after the June meeting.

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**Sign-up sheets will be at the meeting in June at the JFG.**

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Be sure to mark your  
calendars for our  
Fall Bonsai Show:  
Sep. 23-24, 2017!

# RECAP OF THE April Program

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

**Fred Miyahara** and **John Jackson** educated us on Bonsai tools:

- How to determine what tools you will need the most;
- What the basic tools are meant to do and how to use them;
- Quality differences;
- Where to buy tools; and
- Suggestions on where to buy basic sharpening and maintenance products;
- How to sharpen and clean tools.

The last topic is the most important regardless of the quality level or the type of tool. A sharp, clean tool is easier to use, safer to use, finer cuts can be made, and very important is the fact that the plant can heal better and faster with a good clean cut by a sharp cutter. Dull cutters mash and tear tissue. We can all relate to this question, would you rather shave with a sharp or dull razor?

Sharpening is a skill that takes time to learn properly.

**Fred** and **Mark** had their sharpening equipment available for members to see how it is done and then practice on their own. We learned that the Bonsai tool must be kept at a consistent angle to the sharpening stone and then do 20 strokes on the edge to be sharpened. On the back side of the cutting edge, which is a flat surface, only draw the stone across the surface a few times being sure that the stone is flat against the blade. This should leave the cutting edge clean of "nibs", little imperfections on the cutting edge.

Which grits to use?

Recommended grits for sharpening are: 250 for faster sharpening with metal removal so be careful. Use 20 strokes only if the edge is really dull and pitted. Use 400-600 for finer sharpening with less metal removal and then 600 to 800 grit for very fine sharpening. 1000 grit can be used at this point also. It just takes longer. Sharpening with 600-800 grit while working is recommended as is sharpening after each use. This keeps the cutting ready for good, clean cuts and is actually easier than going through the grits on a dull cutter/scissor that went too long without sharpening. Grits higher than 1000 are generally more



for polishing a cutting edge as for grafting knives where a ultra sharp and smooth cutting edge is required.

How often should cutting tools be cleaned and sharpened? Clean after each use, and even during use if

cutting for 2-3 hours or when residue starts to build since this only takes a very short time. The plant residues build up on the cutting surface and do affect the cutting edge. Keeping the cutting edges clean results in better cuts and longer cutting edge life. If plant residue is left on the tool for weeks, the residues will corrode the cutting edge making it more dull. Remember that the cutting edge is a peak or very thin edge of metal and is therefore subject to more corrosion damage that we cannot see but can certainly feel while cutting and see the damaged ends of the plant. Regarding sharpening, sharpen after 2-3 hours of use because the cutting edge will begin to dull. **Fred** and **John** clean and sharpen during trimming if working for extended periods because it makes a difference in the quality of the cut. Otherwise they clean and sharpen after each use. Clean the cutting edge with the eraser first, then sharpen. That way the sharpening stone will not get filled with gunk and will sharpen better.

Knife and scissor sharpening businesses but stay clear of curved cutters. Scissors and tools like grafting knives can be done by a qualified sharpener. If you need help sharpening a tool, bring it in with your sharpening stone for a consult on the regular meeting day.

Visit <https://youtu.be/01l4B9YQT4g> for the full presentation.

## Update from the JFG

*Glenn Jensen, JFG Bonsai Curator*

The Japanese Friendship Garden (The Garden) received a very generous donation from **Larry** and **Nina Ragle**, long known and highly respected members in the bonsai community. They donated a beautiful, large Foemina Juniper forest. Based on a strong friendship with the **Ragles**, they entrusted me and the club with the forest's long term care.

The forest was originally planted and styled by **Larry**



**Ragle** with the help of two very close and talented friends, **Harry Hirao** and **John Naka**. The forest consists now of six trees planted over 35 years ago. **Larry** and **Nina** have cared for the forest from its inception. When the forest is re-potted next year a seventh tree will be added. Two trees have been selected as the possible addition to the forest. The forest has raised the image of the collection; it is a "show stopper" with the public and the staff at The Garden. the forest has added a new dimension to the collection.

When the forest arrived it was placed on a beautifully crafted table built by our own **Bob Hale**. He built it to be exactly like the other bonsai display tables at The Garden and matched it perfectly; **Bob** threw in some impressive joinery, too. The bench was then stained by the Garden staff to look like the other benches. We want to thank **Benancio, Jose, Javier** and **Paul** of the landscape staff at The Garden for installing the bench at the best location and height, and also perfectly level.

**Mori Suemori** and I transported the forest from Laguna Beach to my house. Then weeks later **Mori** helped me load the forest into my truck for transport to the garden. This could not have happened without his generous help. The Garden staff helped us to set the forest on the new bench. This is a large, heavy forest; setting it in place could not have been done without them or **Mori**.

Some preliminary work was done to the forest. We completed some minor trimming and cleaning, and the soil surface was refurbished. The soil surface was old and not water absorption friendly. The compacted top 1/4" of the soil surface, primarily aging akadama, was removed to accommodate a mix of 60% black scoria and 40% akadama. The mix will aid in water absorption



and distribution through the soil, and enhance the look of the forest. Thanks to **Nancy Wilson-Ramon, Mori Suemori, Susan Ronan, Kumiko Mori** and **Charlie Mosse** for getting this done.

The new work area has been cleared. It is now time to determine how to grade the area and then create a layout for the needed tree benches, work table, storage shed and shade cloth. There is already water to the area for hoses and a dedicated valve connected to the JFG's main electronic irrigation controller. This valve will be set up for our work area and will be controlled by us.

The work area will allow the rotation of trees for seasonal and cultural reasons which will enhance what we present at The Garden. We very much appreciate The Garden for setting this area aside for us.



## The Spring Show

*Janice Hale, V.P. Special Projects*

Now that was a beautiful show. Thank you to all of our exhibitors, demonstrators and volunteers for a spectacular weekend. I'd also like to thank **Jim Barrett** and **Dick Ryerson** for joining us. It was so nice for our friends from **Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai** to come to San Diego to visit with us. Thanks for the desserts! Once again, **John Polo** gave our visitors from Baikoen a warm welcome during the benefit drawing. **Cathy Edgar**, thank you for your special surprise display of Kusamono. **Charlie Tamm**, we missed your smiling face at the reception table.

Here are few facts and figures for you. We had 3,545 visitors to our show. After donating \$2,767 of their sales to the Club, our members took home \$10,460. With donations and the Saturday night benefit drawing, the Club made a profit of \$4,034.

Photos of the show are available on the SDBC website. We will also have photos of our show in the Summer 2017 issue of **Golden Statements magazine**.

And last but not least, wasn't that a delicious dinner? Thank you **Abe Far** for bringing us our main course from **Sufi Mediterranean Cuisine** in Kearny Mesa.



# SAN DIEGO BONSAI PAVILION

## SAFARI PARK



### Volunteer Days at the Safari Park

April and May were very busy days for the Volunteers at the Bonsai Pavilion — mainly because of the wonderful March rains and this spring time season of activities and needed

chores. We are so very fortunate to have SDBC members who are dedicated to our wonderful art of Bonsai as well as being eager and available to maintain and improve our collection of beautiful bonsai in a tranquil garden

at Safari Park. Special appreciation to our record number of volunteers for the months of April and May who include:



*John Jackson and Janice Hale worked on the Hisayasu Olive.*

*Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Dave Barker, Ken Bross, Peter Chong, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Bob & Janice Hale, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Carla Marasco, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Janie & Ron Ogdon, Janet & Ron Palmer, Shawn & Yvette Palmer, Marcella Perez, Sally Prestele, Jesus Rivera, Clare & Ron Roberts, Dan Sola, Ilyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suemori (Mori), John Voss, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and Dave Woodall.*

Welcome to newcomers: *Yvette and Mori!*

Much appreciation to this wonderful and dedicated group always! Many of the volunteers also added to our

refrigerator and “break buffet” edibles and beverages at each work session... Thanks always for new and interesting recipes too.

### Welcome to the New Safari Park Horticultural Staff!

The Horticulture Department at Safari Park has a newly appointed Curator of Horticulture, *John Horne*, and a new Horticulture Supervisor, *James Ritchie*. We will continue working with them and their staff in this great relationship that SDBC and the Bonsai Pavilion has enjoyed for many years. We welcome their attention to our needs on a constant basis as retired *Cary Sharp* always did.

### A Special Thanks for Generosity

This column has so many reasons to thank volunteers and SDBC members... another very special thank you this month to *Janet and Ron Palmer* for their very generous Honor Roll contribution of \$500 and to *Cathy and Mark Edgar* for their additional \$100. These contributions help toward the matching gift from the SD County toward our cement project.



*Julia Chow and Yoichiro Suemori aka Mori worked on the Maple at the front gate.*

### Connecting with the Public

Our volunteers are often most capable hosts and docents to many visitors besides other Safari Park volunteers and SDBC members. We regularly add brochures re SDBC and San Pu Kai and Golden State Convention in our kiosk located in the Pavilion along with answering various questions about our work in the Pavilion and the care of the collection.

### Under Construction

In the coming months, we will have some inconveniences for visitors because we will be closing the Takanashi Gate to the Pavilion while the Safari Park is constructing new roads for the Australia Exhibit (due to open next



year). Curator **John** and the volunteers will use that time frame to also complete the cement walkways and work area in the Pavilion. Our volunteer care for the bonsai and the bonsai pond and garden will continue but without visitor access. Sorry, but it's absolutely necessary!

*'lyn Stevenson, Liason to the Bonsai Pavilion*

## The May Meeting and Picnic @ S-Park

Again, thanks to the Horticulture Department at Safari Park for once again supplying extra tables, chairs, table clothes, and passes for our successful annual SDBC meeting, silent auction, and picnic. We had great participation and extra help with shade coverings for all the tables from members and friends for saving the day too in the sunniest day we have seen so far this year. THANK YOU ALL!



## Founding Member, Ko Tsushima, remembered!

**Ko Tsushima** was one of the original members of the San Diego Bonsai Club. With his death at 101, we have lost the last remaining person of Japanese descent of the first Bonsai organization in San Diego.

For many years, **Ko** and **Mas Takanashi** traditionally filled two long rows at our shows with bonsai presented on beautiful Japanese dais and accompanied with accents that were either living plants or unusual artifacts. **Ko** was always concerned that there was Japanese recorded background music at the shows and that appropriate banners were displayed.



**Ko Tsushima and Mas Takanashi show off raffle tickets at the Club's 25th Anniversary show, April 1990.**

If you remember the original club logo, you may be interested to learn that it was based on a lemonade berry belonging to **Ko**. Very early on, **Ko** had donated one of his favorite bonsai — a variegated ivy (currently ~70 years old) to the first Bonsai Pavilion at the Wild Animal Park. It was moved to the new Pavilion in 2011 and continues to be there on display.



**Dan Sola posing with Ko Tsushima at our 50th Anniversary show in April, 2015.**

He was always attired as a gentleman with suit, tie and, at the shows, he proudly wore his SDBC Hopi Coat. His lack of English did not prevent him from communicating a warm friendliness among all the members. He understood Bonsai, friendship, sharing, and camaraderie!



# San Diego County Fair: “Where the West is Fun” is Where You Will Find Great Bonsai Displays

*Sonya Holmquist*

The San Diego County Fair is open and runs through July 4, and there's so much Bonsai to see! Don't miss it.

Thanks to the hard work of the planning team, the San Diego Bonsai Club created a booth that showcases the artistry of our members. Building on our theme, “Nature inspires the living art of Bonsai,” the Bonsai in our booth are reminiscent of plants found in San Diego's coastal, inland, and mountain regions.

Planning team: **Bob Hale, Brenda Crann, Sylvia Mosse, Janet Palmer, Ron Palmer, Susan Hull, John Jackson, Gary Jones, Cathy Edgar, Mark Edgar, and Sonya Holmquist**

Special thanks to **Cathy Edgar, Gary Jones and John Jackson** for providing the Bonsai and to **Janice and Bob Hale** for the fantastic photos of **Torrey Pines State Reserve, Santa Ysabel Preserve and Rancho Cuyamaca State Park**.

Our booth received third place plus three Bonsai were recognized as “noteworthy plants”: **Cathy Edgar's** Foemina Juniper, **John Jackson's** Yaupon Holly and **Gary Jones' Tecate Cylress forest**.

## Bonsai Competition Booths

Many club members' Bonsai are displayed in the three competition booths, one of which is devoted to different styles of tray landscapes. **John Jackson** took first place



**Shirley Kavanagh**  
with her raibbons.

in five categories plus Best of Show. The Club's Bill Murphy Award, which honors the best Bonsai by a first-time entrant, went to **William Crooks** for his prostrata juniper. **Shirley Kavanagh** collected a BIG stack of ribbons.

Thank you to all members who entered a Bonsai in this year's Fair competition. A full list of Club winners can be found on our website.

Another thank you goes out to the dedicated members of our watering team. Each morning, from 6AM-9AM, someone is there to water, check the health of the Bonsai, and keep the four booths in tip-top shape: **Cathy and Mark Edgar, Janice and Bob Hale, Gary Jones, Sylvia and Charlie Mosse, Peter Chong, Dennis Wagner and Sonya Holmquist**.



**Prostrata Juniper by William Crooks,**  
**winner of the Bill Murphy Award.**

## Beginners Bonsai Workshop Offered at the Fair

Can't get into this fall's beginning workshop? Consider taking the beginners mini-workshop at the fair. For only \$10 you will receive individual instruction on basic styling, wiring and repotting, and take home your own juniper starter Bonsai. These one hour workshops take place on June 14, from 11AM – 3PM on the **Garden Show Stage**. There are only nine spots available, so sign up now on our website. Signup sheets will also be available at the June meeting. For more information, contact **Sonya Holmquist**, 619-283-3124 or sholmquist3@cox.net. The \$10 fee does not include entry to the Fair. Instructors include **Abe Far, Gary Jones, Janice Hale and Barbara French-Lee**.

## Coming in August

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

Ficus! August is the middle of Ficus “season”. Starting in June, Ficus season runs through September, that is one can do heavy work on Ficus and get excellent response during those months. **John Jackson** will be conducting a demonstration on the trees we started to work on last year. There will be Ficus help in the morning, nothing formal, just bring in a tree and get some assistance from 8:30 to 10:15.





# Nisei Week:

## Saturday, August 26th

Janice Hale, V.P. Special Projects

Who wants to go on a field trip? We are going to **Little Tokyo** in Los Angeles for the annual **Nisei Week** celebration. The festival was started in 1934 during the depression by second-generation Japanese Americans who wanted to help attract more business to the Little Tokyo area. For an interesting history of **Nisei Week**, visit [niseiweek.org/about-us/history/](http://niseiweek.org/about-us/history/)



**NISEI WEEK™  
Foundation**

Our bus will take us to the **Japanese American Cultural and Community Center** in Little Tokyo where we can view the **Nampu-kai Bonsai Exhibit** as well as other cultural arts. Of course there are some fun shops around the JACCC where we can dine and find some souvenirs. We'll also arrange for a stop at a Bonsai nursery.

Cost for the bus will be \$40 per person. We will leave the **Balboa Park staging area** at 8:00am, the **Carlsbad staging area** at 8:30am and return to **Balboa Park** by 8:00pm.

## New Members

*Nazim Colak, SDBC VP of Membership*

Wow! Please welcome our new members: **Kevin Merene, Marc Smith, Cary Sullivan, Brian Muhlbach, Aurora Alexander, James Pelling, Todd Stewart, Tom Barber, Liz Barber, Martha Jordan, John Garretson, Gwynn Goodner, Pattie Garretson, Laura Gerszewski, Dana McPherson, Ruth V Simms, Dick Giles, Donna Giles, William Benson, Nancy Benson, Annmarie Mendoza, Shella Narciza, Kristyn Pittenger, Calvin Williamson, Kelvin Tanaka, Lara Tanaka, Madeleine Ai Phu, Dave Ephron, Eddie Maldonado, Silvia Olmos, Ariannabell Reyes, Dax Brecher, Kyle Pietrzak, Connie Kraus, Martin Kraus, David Hill, Alli Breyer, Nicolas Tagle, Roland Montes.**

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**A special THANK YOU to everyone who donated refreshments and raffle prizes for the April and May meetings.**

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# 2017 GSBF Convention:

## Bonsai New Horizon

Janice Hale, V.P. Special Projects

Registration for the 2017 **GSBF Convention** is coming up quick. Online registration opens 8:00am, July 1, 2017. The convention will be held at the **Riverside Convention Center** October 25-29, 2017. Special convention rates we be available at The Marriott across from the convention center. You can preview the workshop, seminar, critique and excursion offerings as well as hotel information by visiting [www.gsbfcconvention.org](http://www.gsbfcconvention.org).



Now with **Abe Far** as the convention chairman, you can just imagine how many of us have already had our arms twisted, I mean volunteered, to help with the convention. But, we are going to need a lot of extra help. **Dan Sola** will need folks to help with security and I'm going to need help at the front registration desk. I'll be putting out some sign up lists requesting help when the convention gets closer. That will give you time to register for your workshops and know when you are available to lend a hand. Volunteers will receive a little thank you gift. Just saying!

## The SDBC Power of One THREE Grant

In prior years SDBC has given a 1st time attendee to the GSBF Convention a gift of Full Registration. This year we are going to switch it up and give out 3 one-day registration grants that include the registration fee and meals for the day you select, Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday (sorry, it doesn't include any of the workshops, seminars, critiques or excursions).

How this works is you register, pay the fees and attend the convention. After the convention you submit a copy of your registration receipt to our President, **Bob Hale**, for reimbursement. For example, if you attend the convention on Saturday, that would be a \$180. If you attend more than one day, we will cover the registration and meals for the most expensive day.

We will randomly pick three 1st time convention attendees at the June meeting. A sign up list has been available at the last two meetings and we will take additional names at the June meeting before the drawing.

**San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.**

**PO Box 86037**

**San Diego, CA 92138-6037**



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

### *SDBC Upcoming Events:*

- June 11th (Sun) - Meeting held at the Japanese Friendship Garden
- July 9th (Sun) - Regular Meeting: Kathy Shaner
- August 13th (Sun) - Regular Meeting: Ficus with John Jackson
- August 26th (Sat) - Nisei Week Trip
- September 10th (Sun) - Regular Meeting
- September 23 - 24th (Sat-Sun) - Fall Bonsai Show.
- October 8th (Sun) - Picnic at Lake Poway.
- November 12th (Sun) - Regular meeting: Pines with Jonas Dupuich
- December 10th (Sun) - Regular meeting: Styling Competition

**No Raffle or Potluck this month!**  
**Keep your raffle donations for July.**

### *Next Meeting Agenda: June 11 at the JFG*

**8:30 - 10:30**

**Beginner Class (Near Office)**

**9:30 - 10:30 am**

**Docent walk**

**10:30 am**

**Frederick Hewitt, Program**

**Coordinator of JFG**

**11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Docent walk**



***Come to the meeting through the back entrance. You can park at the Spreckles lot, and take the path around the south side of the Organ Pavilion to get to the back gate.***