

The Bonsai Wire

November 2010

Message From the President

The picnic at Lake Poway was great fun and I know everyone there had a great time. The weather was perfect. It is a great treat to have such a wonderful location for our meeting, auction, and picnic. Thanks again to 'lyn for finding this place for us. The food was great and the club membership would like to give a big thank you to **Greg**, from ICE who catered the picnic. I'd like to also thank all of the wonderful members for bringing in the variety of potluck dishes. I especially liked **Dot Kimura's** wonderful watermelon salad and thank you for the recipe Dot. The generosity of our membership is over whelming. We had a great auction, thanks to every one. For those who were unable to attend, we missed you.

We are glad that the group is back from their trip to China. Based on their feedback, it sounded like they had a great time. I can not wait to see their photos.

The nominations for the 2011 SDCB officers were presented to the membership at the picnic and we

will be voting on them at the November meeting. The candidates are listed in the meeting minutes, see page 4 for a detailed listing.

I have enjoyed being your President and I thank you all for your help and support in the past two years. I know the club will help and support the incoming board.



Pictured above are:
Larry Upp (left),
Steve Vaentine (Center),
Guillermo Castano (right).

Steve Vaentine

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November Program



I hope everybody had a good time at the October picnic; it is always fun to see our SDBC family get together and compete at our fundraising events. Thank you for all your support.

I am happy to announce that we will have **David** and **June Nguy** as our demonstrators for the November program. They are both very talented bonsai artists. June and David are well known in the bonsai community for both their talent and generosity. I have seen many of David and June's demonstrations and I have really enjoyed all of them. They are strong supporters of the San Diego Bonsai Club. We were fortunate enough to have them do the demonstration for our Club last June. David has performed many demo's, workshops, and classes for numerous clubs in southern California. David has studied bonsai in Japan with **Mr. Masahiko Kimura**. Dave and June own **West American Imports & Exports**, which carries a wide assortment of bonsai tools and materials.

The demo tree by David and June will go into a special raffle. We all welcome David and June to our Club and we thank them in advance for their wonderful support, generosity and participation in our club activities.

Abe Far, 1st Vice President



David Nguy , June 2009

David is seen above working on a black pine. For this demonstration, he split the trunk and wrapped it in raffia to protect it. The split also allowed for easier bending which was used to achieve the shape that it currently holds.

San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilions at the Wild Animal Park

Our anticipation for the opening of the new pavilion is heightened more each month now that we have set the date, May 1, 2011, for the Grand Opening. Much of the earlier preparation is starting to show with water flowing in the waterfall, ponds, and stream along with the placement of boulders and thousands of stones along the stream. Results of earlier planning can be seen now along with the dedication, time, and physical labor from our special volunteers.

Lawrence Conery Engineering Inc.

Recently, **Roger Marr** brought a guest, **Lawrence Conery**, to the WAP to visit the bonsai pavilions. Afterwards, they offered to help us move the construction project along. It was a truly magnificent, generous offer! Lawrence brought his heavy equipment to the WAP. He, along with **Robert Thurston** from the WAP staff, and several of our volunteers spent a couple of strenuous days selecting, moving, and placing boulders along the length of the pavilion, on both sides of the stream, etc. It was an incredibly, successful time that was made possible with the large tractors, bob cats, and professional expertise. We are truly grateful to **Lawrence Conery** and to **Robert Thurston** for this special assistance.

Our volunteers came out several more times this past month to continue moving stones, cementing stream dams, painting, and continuing our regular bonsai pavilion chores of weeding, trimming, fertilizing, and helping our new volunteers with "bonsai pot orientation" too. Thank you especially to: **Neil Auwarter, Maria Barbosa, Alan Burrows, David & Martha Choy, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Joyce Goldman, Kathy Heaney, John Jackson, Jim Kirchmer, Ray Lish, Marty Mann, Steven Miceli, Charlie Mosse, Sally Prestele, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, 'lyn Stevenson, Cary & Curator Steve Valentine, Forrest & Michelle Vess, Dennis Wagner, and Dave Woodall.**

Working in both pavilion areas each week has been rewarding also since volunteers generously bring snacks to keep everyone's energy and enthusiasm at a high level. Thanks to **Mary Ann, Martha, Charlie, Cary, and 'lyn,** and a couple more anonymous donors too.

Work will continue each week at the Pavilions. If you have a question as to whether a "crew" will be there or not, please give **Steve** or **'lyn** a call (especially if you do not have an e-mail address).

'lyn Stevenson, 858-486-4805

SDBC Education for November

Beginners Class

Our final Beginners Class of the year will conclude with potting our trees. **Dave Rochester** and his able helpers will show the Beginners how to properly trim the roots and pot their junipers, so that next year the junipers will begin growing nice and early. Beginners, please bring your tree, shear, chopsticks, and your willingness to learn! Winter begins in a month or two for us, with lowering temperatures and hopefully more rain, so the roots will have a little time to grow before they slow down greatly.

Intermediate Class

Fertilizers are a tangled, complex topic but we will take a few bites out of it and see what we can learn. Like the soil class, we will be looking at an array of both organic and inorganic fertilizers and will discuss how they stack up to bonsai culture. The important thing is to feed our trees well, whatever product we use, because a healthy tree responds to training much better than a weak tree. You don't have to sign up for this class, just show up.

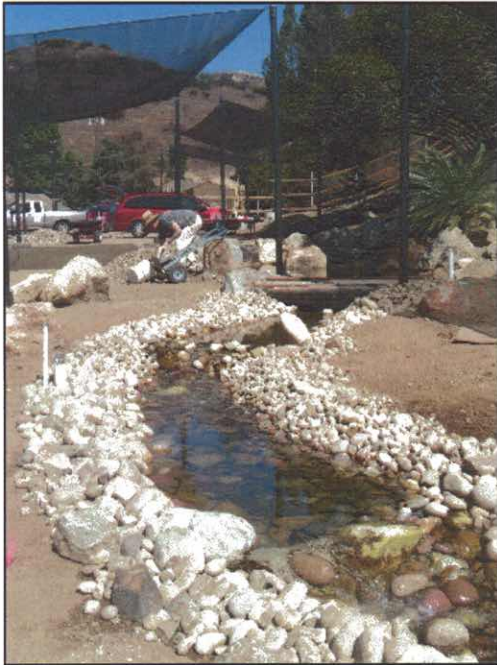
Joanie Berkwitz, VP Education
760-431-1014, mold40@roadrunner.com

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

SDBC WAP Pavilion Pics

Below are pictures taken by **Cary Valentine** of the stream project work activities. To the left is a long shot of the stream bed and the many rocks that line the path. Lower center, is **Allen Burrows** raking the gravel and **Linda Haque** in the background. Lower right is new member **Steven Miceli** working hard to move the stones for the stream bed.

To the far right, is a picture of the area from back in April. Back then, it was just a set of lines drawn in the dirt, with flags outlining the path. So much progress has been made, so much more needs to be done.



The Bonsai Wire is a monthly publication of the San Diego Bonsai Club. All articles are provided by SDBC members. All articles must be received no later than 10 days after the club meeting by the The Bonsai Wire Editor, **Mario Condit** (mario.condit@sbcglobal.net). **Shirley Kavanaugh Jr.** is responsible for folding, labeling, and mailing. If you have any questions about article placement or special requests, please call the editor (see below for contact information) and leave a message. I will try to respond to you as soon as possible.

The Bonsai Wire

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San Diego Bonsai Club Board Members

- | | | |
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San Diego Bonsai Club

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members

October 10th, 2010



- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting of members of San Diego Bonsai Club, that took place during the Club's Annual picnic at Lake Poway Park, was called to order at 11:20 a.m. by Steve Valentine, President. A quorum was present.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the September 12, 2010 meeting were approved.

3. Reports

➤ **Steve Valentine, President,** 1) Announced the annual Christmas Luncheon will be at Onami's in Escondido. Joan Holliday has agreed to chair the event. 2) Introduced Larry Upp, Chair of the 2011 Nominating Committee. Larry announced the slate of Club Officers:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | Abe Far |
| 1 st Vice President | Jim Rendina |
| Vice President, Membership | Cary Sullivan-Valentine |
| Vice President, Education | Steve Valentine |
| Vice President, Special Projects | Barbara Lee-French |
| Secretary | Joyce Goldman |
| Treasurer | Maria Barbosa |

- **Abe Far, Vice President,** 1) Thanked everyone for their help during the Fall Show. 2) Announced that David and June Nguyen would be Guest Demonstrators at the November meeting and Steve Valentine would lead the December program.
- **Maria Barbosa, Treasurer,** 1) Total in banks as of 8/31/2010 - \$17,376 in the General Account and \$37,638 in the Pavilion Account, including a \$15,000 grant received from the County.
- **'lyn Stevenson, WAP Bonsai Pavilion Liaison,** 1) The next Park work day is Saturday, October 16 – 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. Along with work in the current Pavilion, there is much work to be performed at the new site.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. The picnic and auction followed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Goldman, Corporate Secretary

Suiseki Showing

Jim Greaves, Hanne Povlsen, Don Kruger

Will present stones in the Minka at:
Descanso Gardens, La Canada/Flintridge
"Japanese Festival"

Saturday and Sunday, November 6 and 7,
9 am-5 pm
(818) 949-4200

Ticket prices at garden gate are \$8 general; \$6 seniors and students w/ID; \$3 kids aged 5 +
(Ticket sales stop at 4:30)

Stone Show, Taiko drumming exhibition and Glendale Chrysanthemum Society show are included.

SDBC Holiday Party

SDBC Holiday Party, Saturday, Dec. 11th, 12N – 3P

Onami Seafood Restaurant – North County Fair

Cost: \$25 per person

Includes Private Room, Full Buffet, tax & tip

Door Prizes

Reservations and prepayment by Dec. 1st

Call Joan Holliday at: 858-715-0092

Mail checks to: Joan Holliday

9453 Seltzer Ct.

San Diego, CA 92123



See you at November meeting and you can pay me then.

PS- I may need a few volunteers to help me...

Joan Holliday



To the left is a picture of a Taiko drumming event. Picture courtesy Descanso Gardens webmaster. They are a crowd favorite and perform at noon on Saturday.

Cary Valentine

San Diego Bonsai

Bonsai Ideas

#107 November, 2010

By Marty Mann

November is a wonderful time to *really* see all of your trees. Foliage, during most of the year, obscures the skeleton branch formations of the inner tree. Now is the time to trim excess branches, as well as crossing, misplaced and malformed branches. Study the radial formation of the rootage. Study the taper of the trunk line. Concentrate on building a twiggy branch structure. Wire branches during this dormant period with great care since they are brittle during cooler weather months. Try to see trees with strong background light to properly study their design, shape and position in the pot. Fully exposed deciduous material can be photographed (preferably in black and white), studied, and refined.

Since warm weather sometimes occurs at this time of year, potted trees must be watered regularly, but cautiously, even if brief winter rains do occur. Reduce watering activity during the cool winter months but don't overlook drying winter winds. Don't allow trees to dry out, even during dormancy periods.

Coolness brings slow growth and during this period of dormancy. Trees require only a dampening of the root zone since transpiration of moisture is essentially non-existent. However, be aware of the prevailing and drying winds. The porosity of a good bonsai soil mix allows moisture to quickly escape a shallow pot. If you count on the regularity of an automatic timed watering system, the timing cycle should be adjusted for winter requirements.

Don't feed most trees in a dormant state unless the fertilizer is very low in nitrogen. Junipers and all conifers may be fed lightly during this period since they do not become completely dormant in warm climates. Feeding encourages winter growth but many growers do feed (0-10-10) material to maintain good winter health. Trees require the necessary phosphorus, potassium and various trace elements and minerals during this period. Woody portions of the trees, i.e., trunks, branches and rootage continue to grow.

Clean up the bonsai areas. Don't allow litter and dropped leaves to accumulate since this creates a haven for insect eggs and fungus spores to thrive. Remove all leaves, seedpods and dried flower heads from all material--whether in pots or growing containers. Particularly, check pine trees. Remove any disfigured or long needles that show brown tips.

Gather, and place into flats, the winter moss that formed in the shaded areas around the yard. Let it grow for use in spring to dress the bonsai. It is advisable to remove any build-up of moss that accumulated as a thatch on potted material. This build-up tends to reject surface watering and prevents moisture from penetrating to the root mass.

Reconsider the arrangement of trees on your benches. Trees, which may have been moved into shaded areas to avoid hot summer sun, can now be exposed to better light. This is an excellent time to sort out trees into first-things-first categories. Attend to those trees that require winter trimming while the branch silhouettes are easy to study. Plan to repot trees that show signs of being root bound. Check the rootage on all trees. Allow some surface exposure of surface roots to encourage a change from soft root tissue to the development of texture similar to the outer trunk bark.

Pleasant Qualities
Shades of beauty and color
Allow our feelings

Marty Mann

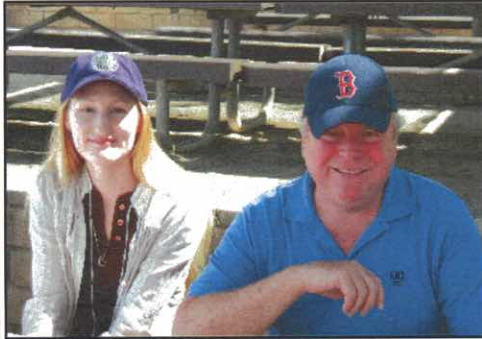
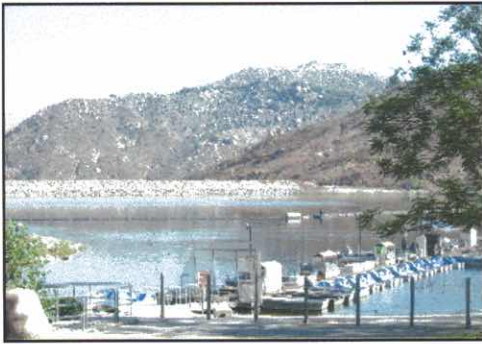
November 2010

This article has been extracted from the recently published book called "Bonsai Ideas"© by Marty Mann. Material is not to be copied without publisher or author's permission. November 2010

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Lake Poway Pictures

This page is covered with pics from the Lake Poway club meeting. If you missed it, the view (see below) was spectacular. There was food, fun, friends and lots of bonsai material. Too many folks to mention, but thank you for posing. We hope you all had a great time and thanks for coming out to enjoy the wonderful weather.



Photos by Mario Condit

Membership Update!

Please welcome our new members!

James and Laura Potts, Joe Cortopassi, David White, Francesca Rivas, Steven Miceli, and welcome back David Strickland and Pat O'Brien.

Steven and his brother were a big help setting up all of the tables covers at the Lake Poway Picnic. A very big thank you to them. I know that he also had a great time with the auction.

Welcome to you all and have a great time with our club. Please feel free to ask other members for help and advice with your bonsai.

We are starting our membership drive for 2011, so you all will be seeing the good old membership box back for your membership renewal.

Membership VP, Cary Valentine



Japanese Friendship Garden 6th International Symposium

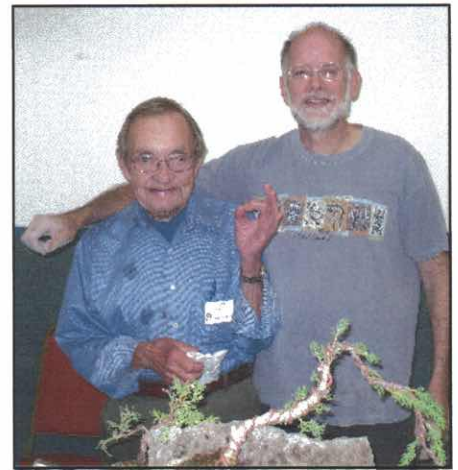
To the left is Japanese Master Nobedan, working on a stone walk way. Below is a master bamboo fence. There were many San Diego Bonsai Club members that helped out at the symposium. Thanks to all that helped with this event.



In Remembrance ...

We are sad to report that **George Young**, a long time club member and volunteer, passed away in October. He was with the SDBC WAP Pavilion crew on August 21, and he even brought delicious muffins that day.

In addition to being a member of the San Diego Bonsai Club, he was a member of the San Pu Kai club as well. We will miss George. He always brought a bit of sunshine to our meetings. Our memories of his presence will live on in our minds and hearts.



George Young (left) and **Jim Gremel** (right) stand next to Jim's demonstration juniper at the September program. George was the winner of the drawing. George will be missed by everyone.

Photo by Abe Far

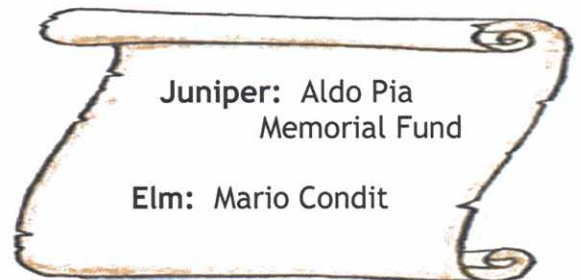
Bonsai Pavilion Donor Board

October, 2010 donations to the Bonsai Pavilion Donor Board include several checks from friends of our recently deceased member, Aldo Pia. These checks were given to the Aldo Pia Memorial Fund which now totals over \$575 in the Juniper category. Treasurer Maria Barbosa acknowledges these gifts with letters and tax donation receipts.

Donations were also received at the SDBC Fall Picnic from members who designated the funds be given to the Bonsai Pavilion Fund. Maria can give receipts to members who want them.

A cash gift was also received from Mario Condit for \$100. He is a newcomer to the Honor Board in the Elm category. Donations are needed for upcoming purchases of fencing, electrical, and water lines. Thank you everyone!

Remember the PAVILION OPENING DATE! MAY 1, 2011.



Donation Categories

Oak: \$10,000 and upwards
Pine: \$1,000 to \$9,999
Juniper: \$500 to \$999
Elm: \$100 to \$499
Azalea: \$10 to \$99

'lyn Stevenson, New Pavilion, Project Manager

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.
 PO Box 40037
 San Diego, CA 92164



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

November 14th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **David Nguy**)

November 20th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm

November 19th Friday
 Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon

December 12th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Steve Valentine**)

December 17th Friday
 Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon

December 18th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm

January 9th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Kathy Shaner**)

January 15th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm

January 15th Saturday
 Winter Silhouette-Los Angeles County Arboretum

January 21st Friday
 Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon

February 13th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **John Wang**)

February 19th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm

February 24th Friday
 Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon

Sunday, November 14th 2010
 Balboa Park, Room 103
 Casa Del Prado

Meeting Agenda

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| 9:00 am | Beginner's Class | Room 104 |
| 9:15 am | Library Opens | Room 104 |
| | Intermediate Class | Room 103 |
| 10:30 am | Business Mtg | Room 103 |
| 11:00 am | David Nguy Bonsai Demo | Room 103 |
| 12:00 am | Lunch | |