



The Bonsai Wire

April 2011

The monthly newsletter of the San Diego Bonsai Club, San Diego, CA.

Message From the President

That was an exciting 94th birthday for Harry, it is always nice to have Harry's birthday at our club meeting. He is part of our family and he is always generous with his donations, especially this time as he donated a very large beautiful California Juniper to the Japanese Friendship Garden. I think Steve is negotiating to get a similar tree for the Bonsai Pavilion. I also want to thank every one who participated and shared their experiences about collecting junipers from the field with Harry. I personally liked it, and I think we will do the same in the future.

The April Spring Show is right around the corner and we need the entire SDBC membership to help starting Thursday 21st. Due to the April Spring Show and May 1st Pavilion Grand Opening being on successive weekends, we will not have a reception on Saturday 23rd. Instead, we will have our reception and remainder of the activities at the Fall show.

We had a three part beginner's class at the Japanese Friendship Garden and it was a very successful class. My special thanks go to Dave Rochester who taught the class (and it was an amazing set of sessions), and also Jim Rendina who helped him.

With the board's approval, the SDBC sent some money to Japanese Red Cross through General Consul of Japan for the earthquake relief. Our hearts go out to them, we wish them the best of life and a fast recovery.

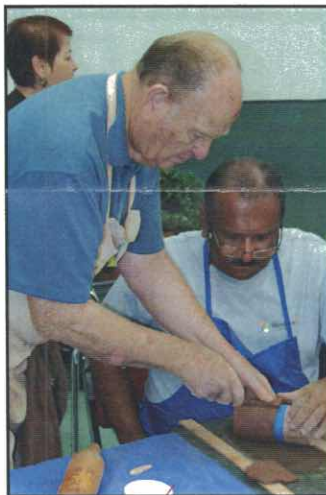
At this point I want to thank all the board members and directors for their hard work and dedication which makes the SDBC one of the best in the nation. Bonsai is our hobby, so let's have fun and enjoy the Art of Bonsai.

Abe Far

March Program

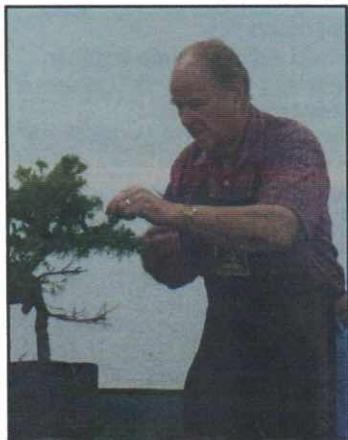
We wish to thank Harry Hirao for last month's demonstration. It was wonderful to see him once again as we celebrated his 94th birthday. It is always fascinating to observe him as he crafted one of his signature California junipers. It was enlightening to listen as he shared his knowledge of the art of bonsai and discussed his collecting trips.

This month we again are honored to have Jim Barrett as our guest demonstrator. Involved in Bonsai since the 1950's, Jim has been teaching bonsai for over 50 years. He has been a featured speaker at many conventions and has worked for many bonsai associations. He is past president of Bonsai Clubs International, the first president of



Jim Barrett

Golden State Bonsai Federation, the founding president of the Santa Anita Bonsai Society and currently serves on the American Bonsai Society's board of directors. Always interested in ceramics, Jim has for the past three decades been making bonsai pots. Although known for his shohin



and mini-pots, his main interest lies in making large containers modeled after Japanese- and Chinese-style pots.

Jim has requested that our members bring in any unique or unusual pots that they may have. He would like to utilize these pots as part of his lecture. Jim is asking any of our members to bring in pots (without trees) of any type or style; Japanese, Chinese, Korean, or even the work of local potters and artists. So please join us on April 10 and be sure to participate and help Jim by bringing in samples of your ceramics.

Jim Rendina, Vice President

Spring Show

Our upcoming Spring Show is April 23rd and 24th. Please mark your calendars to come, enjoy and to please offer to help.

In addition to needing help on the Show days for Roaming Security, Plant sales, Demonstrations for the folks walking by outside and the Membership table. We need help on Thursday evening the 21st to set up the



Tricia Bonapace

room in preparation and on Sunday evening the 24th (Easter Sunday) to clean up, remove tables and help take trees back to cars.

Most of these jobs are very easy, don't require any advanced knowledge, and just a 2-4 hour donation of your time will reap huge benefits for the club and yourself.

Beginners are requested to come and are very WELCOME!!! Get to know your future Bonsai Buddies.

We are all encouraged to show a few trees, even me!!! Show us your stuff!!!! If you need help with pots, accent plants or display stands, bring your list to the next meeting and ask Steve or Cary Valentine who might be able to help you.

Due to the Spring Show being so close to the May 1st Opening of the New Pavilion at the Safari Park, this year's Spring Show reception will be held instead at the Fall Show.

Editor's Notes

The Opening of the New Pavilion occurs on May 1st. A lot of work has gone into make this opening a spectacular and awesome event. We have more pictures of all the good work that is going on there, and you will also see an invitation to the Opening at page 8. Its not too late to help out, there are still lots of things to do and if you wish to help, please contact 'lyn Stevenson or Cary Valentine. Their contact information is located at the bottom of this page.

We have two additional articles in this month's edition, one submitted by Glenn Jensen (p4) on Bonsai Show Preparation. For those of you that plan to show your tree at the Spring Show, this is meant to provide some guidance on how to prepare your bonsai for show. The other article was written by David Choy, who is one of our two librarians. His article on Knowledge is Power (p9) provides an approach to increasing your Bonsai knowledge using a variety of techniques. Thanks to Glenn and David for submitting this insightful articles.

I also wanted to mention that there is an article in Mar/Apr edition of Golden Statements by Fred Miyahara on Pruning Pines as well as an article on our New Pavilion Opening on May 1st.

Enjoy this month's edition of *The Bonsai Wire!*



A rushing white stream
Gives power to nature's drive
Grants nurturing life

Marty Mann

April 2011

Inside this issue

President's Message	p1
April Program	p1
Spring Show	p1
Table of Contents	p2
Editor's Notes	p2
Club Officer Information	p2
Education Report	p3
March Program	p3
Bonsai Show Preparation-G. Jensen	p4
Club Meeting Minutes-March	p5
Tips and Hints	p5
SDBC Pavilions at the Safari Park	p6
SDBC New Pavilion Work Pics	p7
SDBC New Pavilion, Invitation	p8
SDBC Pavilion Donor Board	p9
Knowledge is Power- D. Choy	p9
San Diego Bonsai Ideas #112	p10
Membership Updates	p11
Opening Ceremony Request for Help	p11
Refreshments & Benefit Drawing	p11
Lola Markowicz-In Memory Of	p11
Japanese Cultural Ties thru Bonsai	p11
Calendar of Events & Mtg Agenda	p12

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

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

The Bonsai Wire is published monthly by the San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc. a non-profit, educational organization 501 (c) (3).

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Beginner Class

It is time for a new beginners class. **Dave Rochester** is teaching this class and there are only three (3) spots left available. So, if you have not signed up for this class and you would like to take it, please call me (760)445-2548 or E-Mail me @ caryme2@yahoo.com to get one of the last few spots.

It is a mixed bag of trees. Dave's classes are always very informative and there are lots of experienced members on hand to help you in the class. As you know, the classes are three (3) months long and as part of the class, you receive a tree, a pot, soil and wire, and if you have not taken it before, you get scissors and a beginning bonsai book. This is such a great deal!

We will not meet in May, as we are having our opening day celebration for our new bonsai pavilion at the Safari Park on May 1st (see page 8 for more details). So your class will resume in June. I expect to see all of you at the opening day celebration - see **Cary** to sign up at the meeting for the party.

Intermediate Class

This month we are having a very special class with club member **Jim Barrett**. Once again Jim is doing a pot making class. You will learn from Jim how to make a pot (or as many pots as time allows) for \$25.00. He will take them home, glaze them as well as fire them, and bring them back to you.

This is a great class and it really makes you appreciate the pots that you buy for your bonsai. It is a fun class and a great way to see what everyone comes up with.

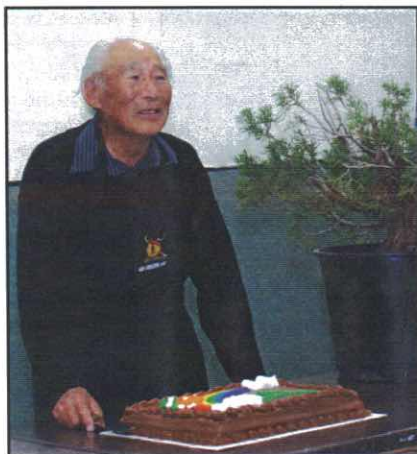
There are very few spots left (seven remaining) in the class, so come early to sign up and get a spot if you have not signed up already. See **Cary** and she will set you up to take this fun and informative class. You can also call (760) 445-2548 or E-Mail caryme2@yahoo.com

Steve Valentine,
Vice President Education

Bonsai Program - March



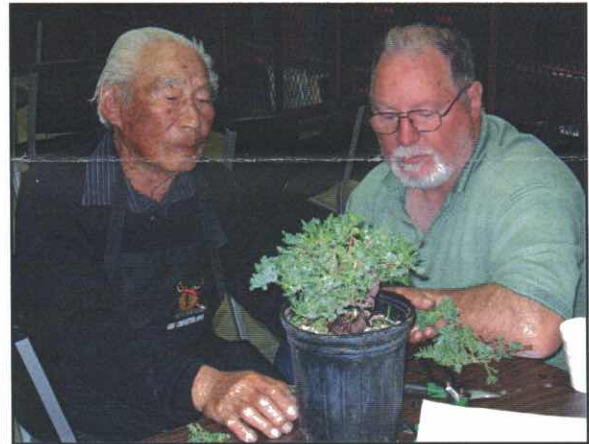
Above picture by Mario Condit, picture below submitted by Steve Macasieb.



The picture to the left is a bit of a rarity. Four people working on the stage, and they lined up perfectly while working on two separate trees. From top to bottom: **Tom Coulton, Harry Hirao, Glenn Jensen, Peter Macasieb**.

To the lower left is a snapshot of **Harry Hirao** and the Happy Birthday cake that was presented to him for his 94th birthday.

As **Abe** indicated in his President's message, part of the demonstration was to have various members of the club come up and provide details on the field trips to gather junipers. The topics ranged from getting run off by the neighboring property owners, to keeping up with Harry, and tools to bring. It was a lot of fun listening to the stories.



The beginner's class was visited by **Harry Hirao**. Above are two students that were tutored by Harry in their beginner session. This is a rare treat and just another benefit of being a club member. As **Abe** stated on page 1, Harry is very generous to our club and this is just another example of his love for bonsai.

Pictures by
Harlan Price

Bonsai Show Preparation

by Glenn Jensen (March 2009)

Glen Jensen wrote this article for an intermediate class a while back. With the Spring Show coming up in April, he thought it would be appropriate for members wanting to prepare for displaying their bonsai. He wants to encourage members to show their trees.

Showing bonsai creations in a bonsai show setting is one of the pleasures and challenges of this living art. It not only shows pride in one's artistic abilities but allows for interaction and sharing of ideas with others who have the same passion. I hope the following suggestions will be helpful.

Basic housekeeping is the beginning point of show preparation.

1. The bonsai pot should be clean and free of dirt, stains, chips, spider webs, lime deposits, wires hanging from drainage holes, and any other distractions. Lime deposits need to be removed as much as possible with a sponge and weak acid solution such as *Lime Away* or vinegar. Try not to get any solutions into the soil and remember to wear eye and hand protection. Some deposits are tenacious and may require extra effort and strength of solvent. After the pot is washed and clean, a light coat of mineral oil helps polish the pot. Rub the surface with a fine cloth. Do not leave heavy, shiny oil.

2. The soil surface should be free of all weeds. Large pieces of fir bark or pebbles are a distraction as are pieces of pumice or perlite. They should either be removed or covered with a finer top soil. Saving the *finer* from sifting potting soil such as Akadama or dark, decomposed granite is recommended. I use fine Akadama mixed with a small amount of scoria as my top dressing.

Irregularly placed patches of fine moss are attractive and give an impression of age. It should not cover the entire soil surface. Moss can be removed from other bonsai or collected from the yard and patted onto the surface soil. Please note that after the bonsai show the tree will be healthier if fine surface top soil and most moss is removed.

3. Of course the tree itself is the main focus. The bonsai pot and the soil surface are meant to complement the tree. Extensive wiring and severe pruning are not aesthetically pleasing. Wiring should be discrete and limited to evergreen trees if possible.

Wire should not show on the trunk but only on fine branches with fine wire. The bonsai show is not an exhibition of one's wiring and pruning abilities.

The overall outline of the tree is the first thing noticed by the viewer. One set of leaves or needles outside of that outline draws the eye to that point. It is helpful to put the tree close to a blank background similar to one that will be used at the show to find any distractions. *Notice how many times I have used that nasty word DISTRACTION!* Branches should have nice full pads of foliage at many different levels. The bottom of the branch should be clean and free of needles or leaves.

4. Accent plants should be complementary to the tree, appropriate for the season, and proportional to the display. *Dais* or stands for display can be as simple as a polished wood slab or as intricate as an antique rosewood dai, and, of course, the stand should be neat and clean. Once again the watchwords are *proportional* and *complementary*.

5. Finally, one of the almost unattainable goals of bonsai is to strive for the Japanese aesthetic philosophy of *wabi-sabi*. It is difficult to translate but words such as simple, unpretentious, intimate, subtle, irregular, and earthy give an idea. The sensation is *ahhhhh* rather than *wow!*

References you may find useful:

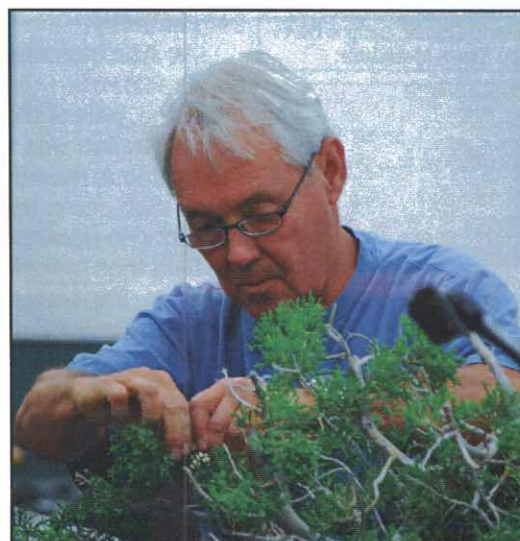
Bonsai Ideas by Marty Mann

Bonsai Techniques II by John Yoshio Naka

Wabi-Sabi for Artists, Designers, Poets, and

Philosophers by Leonard Koren

There are several good web sites on the internet that can be found by googling "*displaying bonsai in public exhibitions*".



Glenn Jensen is to the right. He assisted with the demo in the March program for Harry Hirao.

Glenn will be the main demonstrator for the upcoming June meeting.



San Diego Bonsai Club
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members
March 13th, 2011



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting of members of San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Abe Far, President. A quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the February 13, 2011 meeting were approved.

3. **Reports**

➤ **Abe Far, President:** (1) Asked all members to become involved in the Club's Spring Show April 23/24. (2) Bonsai Day at the Del Mar Fair is Saturday, July 2. Volunteers will be needed. All volunteers receive free tickets to the Fair. Jim Rendina and Phil Tackill reported in more detail.

➤ **Treasurer, Maria Barbosa:** Was not present, but provided the following: Balances as of February 28, 2011: \$5,062.78/CD; \$4,644.88/SDBC Money Market Account; \$1,610.96/SDBC General Account; \$27,419.49/Pavilion Account.

➤ **VP Membership, Cary Sullivan-Valentine:** There were no new members to introduce. Membership renewals are very positive.

➤ **VP Education, Steve Valentine:** (1) Thanked the Pine Group, led by Fred Miyahara, for conducting the Intermediate Class that featured Nipomo pines. (2) The April Intermediate Class will be led by guest presenter, Jim Barrett. Participants – limited to 15 @ \$25 ea. – will make bonsai pots. (3) Thanked Dave Rochester, who led the first Beginner Class series of 2011, and the many people who assisted; asked participants to show their finished trees.

➤ **VP Special Projects, Barbara French-Lee:** (1) Planning a buying trip to 2 nurseries in June. (2) Planning a 2-day Sequoia trip, tentatively scheduled for late July or early August.

➤ **New Pavilion Safari Park Liaison, 'Iyn Stevenson:** (1) Reviewed process for obtaining new logo for Safari Park volunteer shirt. (2) With only 7 weeks before the Opening, work is proceeding at a frantic pace. The temporary fencing has been removed. Work to be completed before opening day: crushed granite paths, edging along the stream, landscaping, benches, plaques, donor boards. (3) The Park will provide and maintain pond plantings. (4) In January and February, we logged over 900 volunteer hours. Thanked John Jackson and Dennis Wagner, who each logged 300 hours of that total. (5) Announced that John Jackson has donated 3 beautiful trees to the collection.

➤ **New Pavilion Opening, Cary Sullivan-Valentine:** 1) In order to control expenses, invitations to members will appear in the next issue of *Bonsai Wire*. (2) Asked that any Zoo Society members donate unused passes to be distributed to attendees.

➤ **Japanese Friendship Garden, Fred Miyahara:** (1) The next youth class will be Friday, March 25 – 10:45 a.m. (2) Dave Rochester, Jim Rendina, and Abe Far assisted Fred with the recent 3-week series of bonsai classes offered at the Gardens; Fred thanked them for their assistance. (3) On March 19, even though the blooms will be spent, the City is hosting the first Cherry Blossom Festival.

➤ **April Show Chair, Trisha Bonapace:** Requested people sign up to show their trees and to volunteer.

➤ **Vice President, Jim Rendina:** (1) Encouraged SDBC members to enter the Coronado Floral Show Bonsai Division Saturday, April 17 & Sunday April 18, 2011. (2) Encouraged SDBC members to enter the Del Mar Fair Floral Show Bonsai Division - Entries due by May 06, 2011. (3) The guest presenter for April is Jim Barrett. (4) Introduced Harry Hirao, guest demonstrator at the March meeting. Harry was honored as he celebrated his 94th birthday.

4. **New Business:** Ted Schwartz urged the Club and its members to make donations to victims of the earthquakes and tsunami in Japan. The matter will be discussed by the Board at its meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Goldman, Corporate Secretary

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilions at the Safari Park

This is a final report before our May 1st Opening! The response from volunteers has been tremendous in preparation for this deadline.

Besides fence and bridge and gate construction, carpentry, d.g. grading, path edging, peeler pole installation, rock and boulder placement, installation of irrigation lines, painting and staining, planting and transplanting, weeding, pruning, pinching, and watering continued through good weather and bad. Over 40 tons of decomposed granite was delivered and spread on the paths and open areas of the site. Design work, shopping for materials, and meeting with Safari Park personnel are always on the agenda too. Another element that is continually necessary is the time to solicit funds/donations for these Pavilion projects.

No other Bonsai Club in the world can match the dedication and support that our SDBC membership has shown throughout these many months. To see volunteers participating on many different projects, enjoying friendly conversations, and learning new crafts at the same time is overwhelming! The job list of "TO-DO's" is dwindling and the Pavilion is looking better after each session. Of course, the lower pavilion is being depleted of trees, plants, pagodas, and lanterns as these items get moved to the new area. Several volunteers continue to prep the bonsai but the lower pavilion will probably be closed in April while we prepare to transfer the Torii, the bonsai benches, bonsai, etc. Work will continue every Saturday and on other days during the week also.

Our generous volunteers for March included: **Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Maria Barbosa, Judy Barnhurst, David & Martha Choy, John Donnoe, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Barbara French-Lee, Maria & Tina Flores, Joyce Goldman, John Jackson and all his workshop tools, Gary Jones, Jim Kirchmer, Kris Landwehre, Ray Lish, Marty & Ruth Mann, Steven Miceli, Charlie Mosse, Patrick O'Brien, Jon & Terri Petrescu, Claude Poissoniez and his wonderful tractor, Sally Prestele, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, 'lyn Stevenson, Charlie Tamm, Larry Upp, Cary & Steve Valentine, Forrest & Michele Vess, Dennis Wagner, and Dave Woodall.** Several volunteers have donated plants for the areas around the ponds and stream. Special assistance from the Safari Park's **Robert Thurston** has been

most appreciated also in moving boulders and from **Charles Fleuret** who is cognizant of the irrigation and water flow problems and details. Our volunteers have also shared gourmet, homemade breads, cookies, muffins, fruits, juices, etc. for our breaks and recipes have been exchanged. Great fun! Thanks **Terri, Cathy, Claude, Dennis, Charlie, 'lyn,** and anonymous others.

Special donations have been added to the new Pavilion from members and they are truly appreciated. **Brian Jackson**, former member and **John's Jackson's** brother, has donated a huge pomegranite bonsai for the collection. **Charlie Mosse** donated a Heavely Bamboo which is already planted. **Terry Petrescu's** parents donated many bulbs for the hillside. Ground cover materials and stream edging plantings have been donated and planted from **Jon & Terri Petrescu, Jim & Susan Kirchmer, and 'lyn Stevenson.** These donations help us to green and enhance the Pavilion area without spending money from our budget and are great additions. Thanks to all! There are several other promised and generous donations and we will announce those at a later date.

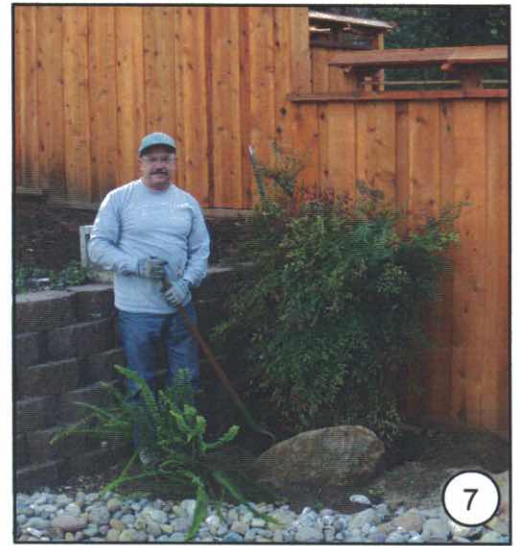
EXTRA HELP NEEDED: The Safari Park's "Garden Societies Celebration 2011" is scheduled for April 9th and 10th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We need volunteers to join **Marty and Ruth Mann** at our Bonsai Table in the heart of Nairobi Village to greet visitors and share SDBC Pavilion information with them. We can split the time into convenient shifts with several volunteers. This is a "sitting" job and does not require physical labor unless you want to bring a bonsai to work on while you are there. We want to support the Park at this Celebration and it is great p.r. for SDBC. Call 'lyn (858-486-4805) for more information or to sign up.

John Jackson, Steve Valentine, and Dennis Wagner are always willing to share work assignments. Call or e-mail them or me and we can explain the work agenda and days when we will be working between now and the opening. Thank you!

'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison

SDBC New Pavilion Work Pictures

No room for words, but you can see and feel the great progress that has been made to bring the new pavilion online. From these pictures alone, you can see the huge transformation that has taken place. Only a deep commitment, a sense of tremendous pride, and an abundance of love could have made this come true. For names legend, see page 10.



Pictures by Cary Valentine

San Diego Bonsai Club

*Cordially Invites You to Celebrate
the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Opening of the Mas Takanashi Gates
New Bonsai Pavilion*

*at
The San Diego Zoo Safari Park, Escondido*

**Sunday – May 1st, 2011
2:00 P.M.**

Opening Ceremony and Entertainment

San Diego Taiko

Kathy Fuller, Kamille Gracia, Tora Brown, Carrie Kishimotos

Master of Ceremonies

Jon Petrescu, Past President – SDBC

Ribbon Cutting ~ Opening of the Mas Takanashi Gate

Bob McClure, Safari Park Director &

Ko Tsushima: Founding Member – SDBC

Guest Speakers

Bob McClure, San Diego Zoo Safari Park Director

Cary Sharp, Chief Horticulturist, San Diego Zoo Safari Park

Abe Far, President – SDBC

Steve Valentine, Curator – SDBC Bonsai Pavilion

'lyn Stevenson, Pavilion/Park Liaison

Catering/Refreshments

Stone Brewing Company, Escondido

Ceremony Chairperson

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

Videography

Mario Condit, Dave Rochester

A RECEPTION AND OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY THE

NEW PAVILION WILL FOLLOW

~~ R.S.V.P. BEFORE 17, APRIL , 2011 ~~

– CARY SULLIVAN-VALENTINE, Event Chair –

In Person: At the April 10 SDBC Meeting

By Phone: (760) 445-2548

By Email: caryme2@yahoo.com

**Complimentary Safari Park Parking and Entrance Passes
will be Available**

Please Note in your R.S.V.P. if Passes are Needed

Bonsai Pavilion Donor Board

Our Bonsai Community continues to generously respond to SDBC requests for financial aid for the construction of the new Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park.

We are pleased to thank these donors who have responded this past month:

Long time bonsai friend and supporter, **Kay Komai**, is currently living in Arcadia and sent a generous donation of \$500. SDBC members and new donors, **Michael Bishop** and **Laurie Orange**, have donated \$200. **Larry Upp** has increased his previous donation with a \$400 check which has moved him to a higher category! New donor **Patricia Baetz** donated \$20.

Joan Holliday has donated \$200 to the Mas Takanashi Gate Fund.

Recent donations to the John Yoshio Naka Memorial Fund have been received from **John & Cynthia Baylis** (\$25), **Maggie & James Carpenter** (\$25), and **Abe Far** (\$100).

Thanks always to these donors! Their thoughtful gifts are most helpful as we approach our Opening on May 1st. Treasurer **Maria Barbosa** continues to receive all donations and sends 501 (c) (3) tax receipts along with thanks from the SDBC.

lyn Stevenson, SDBC Pavilion, Safari Park Liaison



Donation Categories

Black Pine: \$10,000 and upwards
Oak: \$5,000 to \$9,999
Maple: \$1,000 to \$4,999
Juniper: \$500 to \$999
Elm: \$100 to \$499
Azalea: \$10 to \$99

Knowledge is Power: How to maximize your experience at the library

By David Choy

David Choy is one of our club's librarians. He submitted the following article to offer some insight into how you can increase your awareness of Bonsai using one of our club's valuable resources-the library.

For those of us from the pre-computer age, we spent many hours in front of the TV set on Saturday mornings watching cartoons. There were some three minute cartoons from "Schoolhouse Rock" on ABC that conveyed the notion that "Knowledge is Power". They were so right.

We belong to a club where we are exposed to knowledge relative to the art of Bonsai. A critical part of the learning experience is developing further understanding of each process or information about a tree by consulting with books or audiovisual materials. Here are some helpful guidelines in making your trip to our club's library a better experience.

1.- You don't have to read the book, just look at the pictures. Remember that a picture is worth a thousand words. Make it a habit of taking out one pictorial book of bonsai every month. Then, in that month, go over the pictures several times. With time, you will have a "visual image" of different styles. If you are a beginner and for example, you have just learned about Nebari, then, just

concentrate on the nebari from each photograph. Don't let the whole image overwhelm you. Some people will argue that pictures do no justice to Bonsai, this being a three dimensional art which brings us to point #2.

2.- Make it a habit to visualize in 3D – At first this might sound difficult or even far fetched but in order to enjoy a book, you must go beyond the two dimensional image and in your head form the rest of the picture. If you notice, you are putting a part of you in the book as you recreate the images.

3.- Look at the cover envelope to see who took the book out. This is probably the best thing since there is no New York Times' best seller list on Bonsai books. This is a trick I picked up in college. To see if a textbook is worth a second look, see how many people have looked at the book. Mind you, a very good book might be overlooked by many but this is a crude way of staying with the crowd.

4.- Try to see Who's Who in Bonsai. This is an exercise in your artistic appreciation. Keep in mind how every author styles his trees. Try to remember the small differences between authors and with time, you'll understand why we respect John Naka so much, or why

Continued on page 10

San Diego Bonsai Bonsai Ideas

#112 April, 2011

By Marty Mann

A bonsai, to be ready for repotting, should be somewhat dry. This facilitates removal from a tight pot. Unwind twisted roots that may circle the outer rim. Free them of any hardened or compacted soil. Usually, with deciduous or conifers, it is best to cut about 1/3 of the root ball away as the roots are freed they can be trimmed with a sharp cutter and combed to reduce the ball to the repotting size. Keep your fine roots sprayed. Don't allow them to dry out. Cut away any heavy old roots. Spring is a good time to refine mature trees. Study the changes that have taken place since last year. Did you photograph your tree? Are there any branches that should be removed or rewired? This is the time to do that much avoided detailed secondary and tertiary branch wiring. As the growth begins keep the hardened tip-pinching, bud sniping and large leaf cutting patterns in mind to keep the tree uniform and well shaped. Take another photograph for comparison. Guide yourself by the ISOSCELES triangle.

Repotting activity should be regulated. Know when and what has been done to each tree. Plan your activity around a review of this data. A generalized schedule of repotting (as recommended by **PETER CHAN** in his excellent book "The Art of Growing and Keeping Miniature Trees" is as follows:

- Young trees, less than 5 years old--repot every 1-2-3 years, depending upon growth and needs. Be sure you have strong root development before you repot young trees.
- Somewhat older trees, 5 to 20 years old--repot every 2-3-4 years. Check the root ball for good health.
- Very old trees, 20 or more years -- repot every 4-5-6 years, depending upon requirements and condition of the tree

Review specie habits, some like to be crowded and may not need to be repotted.

Spring is the best time to propagate tropical's, such as ficus, banyan and figs. It is also the time to sow seeds of deciduous trees that have been kept cool in a refrigerator for stratification. If you did not do this, there is still time. Seeds can be planted in April or May. While this is still a good time to dig trees from the wild it should be done prior to the beginning of any new spring growth. Be sure to dig with as much fibrous roots as possible. This is also the time to take cuttings of Junipers or begin air-layering. Use previous season wood and keep a hardwood heal on your cutting to improve your odds.

Now that you are ready, sit back and watch your trees develop into show-ready spring specimens for the enjoyment of the public, and more important, for yourself.

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. Apr 2011

Knowledge is Power ...continued

Harry Hirao is called Mr. California Juniper. The only way of finding out Who's Who is by looking at as many books as possible.

5.- Pay attention to details – Master a book. I belong to the generation that witnessed the birth of the personal computer. When we first started working with computers, the processors were not that fast and you were considered to have mastered the computer when you actually had to wait for the computer to catch up to you. If we extrapolate this into books, I think that you can consider "to master a subject" when you can recall where you read a certain idea and how other authors compare to it. You will have truly mastered your trade when you can detect errors in books.

6.- Make us work – Take out 2 or 3 books each month. - Make it a habit to read a paragraph a day. The contents don't have to be related. Consider it a pearl of wisdom per day. In the long run, it adds up.

These are just a few ideas on how to challenge your approach to books. We belong to the Bonsai Culture. A culture is something that is learned, transmitted and most of all is shared. Let your fellow members know when you find something interesting and together we will have knowledge and with it, power.



David Choy

Picture Legend, Page p7

Counter clockwise, from top left: (1) Ray Lish, 'lyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner, Steve Valentine, Jon Petrescu. (2) Steve Valentine, Dave Woodall. (3) John Jackson, Claude Poissonniez, Dennis Wagner. (4) Maria and Tina Flores. (5) Claude Poissonniez, Brian Jackson, John Jackson. (6) Pat O'Brien, 'lyn Stevenson, Jon Petrescu. (7)Charlie Mosse.

Thanks to Cary Valentine for taking these pictures so that we can all see the hard work and progress that is being made at the New Pavilion.

Membership Update!

I can not believe this, no new members this month, but we did have a new member join on line.

I just want to remind all members IF you have not paid your 2011 dues, they are past due as of now. If you find that you have a red dot on your address label, this is your last news letter and I know that you want to renew your membership to keep getting your news letter.

I know you do not want to miss your chance on coming to the opening day celebration of our new bonsai pavilion at the Safari Park. If your membership is not renewed, you will not be able to join us. Please see me at the next meeting or E-Mail me @ caryme2@yahoo.com, so that we can make arrangements to get you up to date.

VP Membership, Cary Valentine

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Opening Day Celebration

There will be no newsletter in May, & no post card sent this year. We are not having a May meeting, instead we are having the Grand Opening of our Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park.

So, please see Cary if you want any information pertaining to the opening day celebration, getting on the invitation list, or helping set up on Saturday for the opening. We will need lots of help on the day of the opening as there will be lots to do and we can use everyones help.

This is a very special day and you will not want to miss all of the special things that we have planned for the opening.

We have several nice surprises for the party and WOW, Stone Brewing Co., is catering the refreshments for our opening. A BIG THANK YOU to Chris Cochran for helping us with this.

See you all at out at next meeting and I am looking forward to all of you signing up to help at our Spring Show and for our New Pavilion Opening.

Cary S. Valentine,
760-445-2548, caryme2@yahoo.com

Refreshments

Many thanks to the folks that brought in refreshments to the March meeting. The refreshment team is listed below:

Jim Rendima, Shirley Kavanaugh, Nellie Downie, Harlan and Mary Ann Price, Martha Choy, Robert Meyer, Tim & Doug Kirkish, Marty and Ruth Mann, Susan Baker, Jim Kimura, Barbara French-Lee, Joan Holliday, Joyce Goldman, Terri Heath, Maria Barbosa, Teruko Jones, Abe and Cristina Far.

Nellie Downie, Refreshments Coordinator

Benefit Drawing

A big thank you to the folks that brought in items for the raffle table to the March meeting. This month's donors were:

Shirley Kavanaugh, for Aldo Pia, Steve and Cary Valentine, Jon & Terri Petrescu, Jim Rendina, Abe and Cristina Far, Robert Meyer, Marty Mann, Ken Bross, Claude Poissonniez, Trisha Bonapace, Gary Jones, Scott Flack, and John Jackson.

Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing Coordinator

In Remembrance: Lola Markowitz



Lola Markowitz passed into God's hands on Feb 28, 2011. She enjoyed a variety of interests and gave of her time and support to many local groups and organizations including the San Diego Bonsai Club and the Japanese Friendship Garden. The full list of her other interests can be found at www.legacy.com/obituaries/signonsandiego/ under her name. Her family suggests donations to one of Lola's favorite organizations in lieu of flowers.

Recent Japanese Disasters and Cultural Ties through Bonsai

Ted Schwartz took a few minutes to comment on the recent devastation that had occurred in Japan. He shared with the club membership that through Bonsai, we share a cultural connection to the East and that we should consider taking up a donation to show our support not only for their well being but as a demonstration of our appreciation for what they have given to the world as an art form.

A member of the audience requested that the SDBC board membership also consider donating. The result was announced by Abe in the President's message section on the front page. Thanks Ted for sharing your thoughts and feelings with the membership.



Picture by Mario Condit

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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Diego CA 921
 MON 04 APR 2011 PM



San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

- April 10th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Jim Barrett**)
- April 16th Saturday
SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm
- April 22nd Friday
Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon
- April 21st-24th (setup Thursday PM, teardown Sunday PM)**
SDBC Spring Show, Main Displays and Demos-Sat & Sun
- May 1st Sunday (no mtg at Balboa park, no mtg at Safari Park)
Opening Ceremonies for New Pavilion,
Safari Park Ribbon Cutting
- May 14th Saturday
SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm
- May 27th Friday
Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon
- June 12th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Glenn Jensen**)
- June 18th Saturday
SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm
- June 24th Friday
Japanese Friendship Garden, Kids Class 10:30 to noon
- July 10th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Ted Matson**)
- July 16th Saturday
SDBC Workday at the Wild Animal Park , 9am to 12pm
- August 14th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **John Wang**)

Sunday, April 10th 2010
 Balboa Park, Room 101
 Casa Del Prado

Meeting Agenda

9:00 am	Beginner's Class	Room 104
9:00 am	Library Opens	Room 104
	Intermediate Class	Room 101
10:30 am	Business Mtg	Room 101
11:00 am	Jim Barrett Bonsai Demo	Room 101
12:00 pm	Lunch	