



The Bonsai Wire

September 2011

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

Message From the President

Once again it is our Fall Show time, and yes we are one of those rare clubs that hold two shows a year. I realize that it is a lot of work, but as a club we have much to offer. As I have stated many times, this is our show. All the members contribute, and everybody helps with putting the show together. You do not have to be expert, or a master at bonsai, just sign up and come in to help.

We start on Thursday September 22nd with the set up. On Friday, bring your trees in for the show and trees for the plant sale. The Fall Show is open to the public Saturday and Sunday 10 AM to 5 PM. On Sunday after 5 PM, we will take it all down and go home happy with another successful show.

Please sign up and bring your trees for show. The show also provides a great opportunity to sell some of your plants (if you have too many), and make some money. In some cases, you'll turn around and buy one that you like at the show!

Unfortunately we could not get the outside area for our reception so we are going to have a big one at next year's Spring Show. If anyone has any questions about the show please contact Dave Rochester or me.

Thank you to Steve Valentine and Claude Poissonniez for volunteering to organize the October Picnic at Poway Lake. It is important for all of the members to sign up for this fundraising event. In the event that Jon & Terri Petrescu are out of town, we need some volunteers to keep track of our donations and money.

Our club is run by the membership. Every year we have an election for all the positions on the board. This year, the nominating committee is Larry Upp, Jon Petrescu, and Abe Far. I believe it is everybody's obligation to serve the club by volunteering for one of the board positions. If you are interested in any of the board positions, please contact the nominating committee.

I really do appreciate everybody that puts in extra time to serve the club; tool sales, library, raffle, refreshment, beginner class, intermediate class, our monthly program, our board members, all of you helping the show and our picnics, and a special mention for all of those volunteers that helped us a great deal at our pavilion. Continue to do good work to make the San Diego Bonsai Club better than ever, enjoy your bonsai every day.

Abe Far

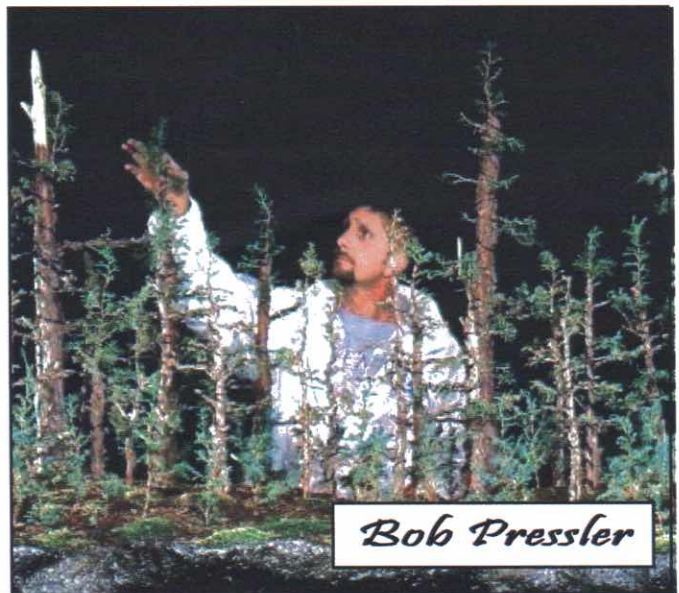
September Program

We had a great time last month with **John Wang**, didn't we? I would like to thank John as he put in a lot of effort to make it down and do an Informative and humorous demonstration for us. I think we all learned a little bit, and that is our goal. If we take a bit of know-how from each of the experts it begins to all make sense in time.

This month we will have a bonsai professional. His name is **Robert (Bob) Pressler**. He has been involved with bonsai since first seeing it at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens at the age of ten. In 1996 he became the owner of Kimura Bonsai Nursery in Northridge, CA. Since then he has conducted hundreds of classes and workshops at the nursery and at clubs. He is a member of the California Bonsai Society and of Nanpu Kai the club started by John Naka to train to train bonsai teachers. He has a vast array of trees he can choose from to demonstrate on is very excited to come and be with our club.

Bob is a frequent contributor to bonsai Forums on the Internet and also has an interesting web presence.

Dave Rochester, First VP



Bob Pressler

You might find it fun to look at His website and blog. Start your homework at

<http://www.kimurabonsainursery.com/> and <http://bonsaibpsbonsaiblog-bonsai.blogspot.com/>.

Continued page 3

Editor's Notes

Another month has gone by and we are headed toward the Fall season. Marty Mann's article (page 4) has some great advice on what to do with your bonsai and what too be on the look out for.

For new bonsai enthusiasts, focus on keeping your trees healthy. The trick is to learn to keep your trees alive and make small changes to your trees, to minimize shock. The health of your tree also determines how much work you can do on it. A strong tree can withstand lots of work, while a weak tree should be left alone until it recovers. Over time, you will learn how much the different tree species can withstand in terms of pruning, trimming, repotting and other bonsai related maintenance.

I'm still working on that Mall-sai article I promised back in July. There is a lot of material on the internet, and I want to condense it down to some simple guidelines.

I am about 80 percent done with my new bonsai benches. My 10 foot, dual deck bench, succumbed to dry rot. It has taken me about a month now, working on weekends and during the hot weather to plan, cut wood, assemble, prime, paint, and paint again. The frame is done, just need to finish the flat surfaces that hold the trees!

The video for the May opening of the bonsai pavilion is done. I am working with some of the club folks to review it to make sure I give credit to those that should be mentioned.

Enjoy this months edition of The Bonsai Wire!

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www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

On page 6, you will see a reference to the San Diego Bonsai Club you tube link. If you get this via soft copy, just click the link and it will take you there.



Quaking leaves stir in the breeze

To tell of soft winds

The day passes and night falls

Marty Mann

August 2011

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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- | | | |
|---|---|---|
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Beginner Class

Our beginning class will have their second session with John Voss. You are still working on your up right Foemina Junipers. John and his accomplices will show you how to make the choices that are most harmonious and complimentary to your trees and how to wire them as well how to care for them in these hot summer days. You should bring to class, your trees and any tools that you may have and please try to remember to *bring a pair of gloves*. These trees have sharp needles and the gloves will protect your sensitive finger tips. You may like to get a turntable (lazy Susan). These can be found in the kitchen section (Ikea, has the best prices). The turntable makes it easy to turn your tree and to see it from all sides. They are great to have in your bonsai tool kit. John will have your notebooks. Happy learning!

Intermediate Class

Well, this month we are going to have a nice workshop with *Bougainvillea "Pink Pixie"*. They are very good for shohin, and are a small 1 gallon size. The flowers are a dark pink, almost red color. Once again it will be a first call first get tree. Call me at 760-445-2548, or email caryme@yahoo.com. They will be on sale for \$20.00. They are really nice little trees, and we are very lucky to get them from Joe DuPont at Hines Nursery. I will teach you how to work them up into a really nice little shohin tree.

Steve Valentine,
Vice President Education

September Program

Continued ...

Next month as you all know is October picnic. I just want to encourage everyone to bring a nice piece to donate to the auction. Any bonsai related items would be great-stands, trees, books, tools-Think quality! Don't forget your checkbook and some cash to bid because this is a fundraiser for the club, and a super way to add a nice item to your collection.

On a personal note... I'd like to thank the club for selecting me to go to the GSBF convention in Riverside. In the past I have popped in for free events like the sales area and the display, or last time it was in Riverside to deliver food for the rock collecting trips, but have never been a real participant-usually too busy or to broke, or both. So, I am really going to enjoy it and am very grateful.

As we look ahead to November our main headliner will be **Claude Poissoniez** (say pwah-zen-neigh). He has been wanting to show us some techniques and trees that he has been working on for over 10 years. He will be assisted by one of our former club presidents and we will leave that as a secret for now, wink wink.

As always, comments welcome at bunjin54@yahoo.com. Anyone interested in working with me on trees or ceramics, would love to hear from you.

Thick trunks and strong buds to all, see you at the park.

Dave Rochester

Beginner Class Pics

Pictured below are two sets of students, studying their new trees and trimming them to see the details beneath the dense foliage. Per the article above, don't forget to bring gloves so as to protect your fingers from the sharp foliage.



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San Diego Bonsai Bonsai Ideas

#117 September, 2011

By Marty Mann

As the hot summer weather fades away, the activities involving your trees include the care required before settling down for winter dormancy.

The growth patterns of most trees has slowed down. They no longer show signs of vigor or the blush of summer greenery. They will not show autumn colors yet since the chemical changes required do not begin to materialize until late in September. The "**Autumnal Equinox**" approaches, the day of equal night and day that leads us into the Fall season. Areas previously exposed to full sun have more shade and conversely give trees less light than they are accustomed to having in order to grow. Notice tree locations and begin the process of moving deciduous trees into cooler areas if you have had any recent periods of regrowth. In spite of the cooler weather these trees can respond to the warmth of the late summer and develop new foliage.

To prevent too much of this activity reduce feeding programs. Exclude products with high rates of Nitrogen. Think 0-10-10. No more high Nitrogen fertilizers such as blood meal or fish emulsion. Any feeding taking place this late in the year should be applied with the object of strengthening the next year's growth and giving the trees a strong base from which to enter into dormancy. Plants need to be strong when they come back to life in the Spring. Special attention should be given to the application of fertilizer to flowering plants, such as Bougainvillea and Azaleas since too much food encourages lush green growth and fewer flower buds. Tender new growth is subject to damage if any sudden cool weather occurs. With California's relatively warm winters, evergreen conifers continue to grow and they may therefore be fed lightly during the so-called dormant months.

Cuttings, at this time of year must be limited to hardwood specimens or tropical varieties. The use of a rooting hormones and a pre-soaking of a rooting stimulant, such as B-1 or Superthrive improves your odds of success. A basic rooting medium such as 2 parts peat moss with 1 part perlite or coarse sand will serve you well. This rooting medium should be kept slightly moist and shaded until evidence of new growth appears.

Don't overlook watering requirements. Even though upper growth is slowing down, the root systems are still expanding and moisture is still important. A reduction in the frequency and time is required since the moisture loss has been slowed, as the weather cools down and the absence of foliage does not allow for proper expiration. Of particular importance, don't forget to keep azaleas slightly moist since this is the period when the new buds are being set for next year's flowers.

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. Sep 2011

August Program Notes

We were extremely happy to have John Wong visit with us and walk us through a demo. I was able to take these photos. I was amazed at how he was able to enlist the help of our membership while he interacted with the audience. The volunteers were Eric Paul (green shirt) and Andrew Choy (blue shirt). What a unique privilege to be able to participate in such an event.

One of the things that I took away from John's presentation was his perspective on how to trim and train a branch. He stated that you should endeavor to add movement to the branch by wiring it to the left and right as it extends out to the tip. By doing this, you avoid having a straight branch moving out from the trunk. Also, you should consider

Continued next page...





San Diego Bonsai Club
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members
August 14th, 2011



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting of members of San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Abe Far, President. A quorum was present.
 2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the July 10th, 2011 meeting were approved.
 3. **Request for Secretary:** Following the resignation last month of Joyce Goldman, Abe solicited volunteers to fill the current vacancy until end of the SDBC year. Patrick O'Brien offered to serve and, there-being no other volunteers, Abe accepted the offer and formally confirmed O'Brien as the new recording secretary.
 4. **Reports**
 - **Abe Far, President:** 1) In the absence of any volunteers, Abe advised the fall show will be chaired by Abe and Dave Rochester. He encouraged members to enter their trees and also to volunteer to help with the show. Sign-up sheets are available for the event. The show will take place at our normal meeting room on 24 & 25 September. 2) The annual picnic will be held at Poway Lake 8 October. Claude Poissonniez and Steve Valentine have generously agreed to cater the event, though everyone is encouraged to bring one or two food items if possible. 3) Elections for the Board will take place this coming November. The nominating committee will consist of Abe Far, Jon Petrescu and Larry Upp. 4) Dave Rochester and Neil Auwarter have been selected to participate in the upcoming GSBF Convention as guests of SDBC. This will be the first time either individual will be registering and attending a GSBF convention. 5) Abe thanked Jon and Terri Petrescu for sharing with everyone their photo's of last year's bonsai trip to China.
 - **Dave Rochester, 1st Vice President:** 1) Thanked the volunteers who helped with beginners class this morning. 2) A plea was made for shelving to accommodate our growing library collection.
 - **Treasurer, Maria Barbosa:** (1) Stated we have aggregate funds of \$25,845 on deposit with Mission Federal Credit Union, together with just over \$5,000 in a Business Certificate, also held with MFCU. A summary sheet detailing this information was distributed by Maria. 2) Maria confirmed the SDBC has been formally awarded \$10,000 by the County Board of Supervisors for use at the new Pavilion.
 - **Barbara French-Lee, Vice President Special Projects:** Outlined details of next year's bus trip to Sequoia National Park. Rooms and transportation have been booked and we now need to provide \$1,500 to the Park to secure our reservations. Everyone who has signed-up for the trip needs to forward \$100/person to Barbara before the end of this month. Room rates are \$214/person based on double occupancy. Deluxe accommodations are available for \$223/person. The trip is booked for 23 & 24 August 2012. The trip is planned for a group of 40 individuals.
- Announcements:**
- 'lyn Stevenson, SP Liaison 1) Encouraged those SDBC members who have yet to visit the new Pavilion to do so, as it is truly an excellent show-case for our trees and for the art of bonsai in general. 2) Ideas for development of a new Shohin area at the Pavilion were solicited. Please submit any ideas you may have to 'lyn.
 - Rich Glouser advised a new selection of tools are now available for sale along with those items offered for sale at previous meetings.
 - David Choy encouraged members to take advantage of club library.
 - Dave Rochester introduced this month's guest demonstrator, John Wang (Xiaohuang).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick D. O'Brien, Secretary

Continued from page 4... Aug program notes...

adding movement in the vertical axis. Like a straight trunk, a straight branch with no movement is "plain". By adding the movement into the branch, you increase the eye pleasing characteristic of the tree's appearance.

It was also a joy to listen to John talk about his experiences in Japan, working for a professional tree factory. He mentioned that these bonsai houses did maintenance on their customers trees. This was in the form of grafting on branches. John stated that

there were two disciplines for this tree work in Japan: diggers and grafters.

What I found most interesting was his mention of the fact that they have no "old" trees. They have consumed their natural stock. So, for those that are able to go on digging trips in the US, you are very fortunate, so take advantage of these.

John also briefly reviewed a change in trends over time of the various styles. How the 40's and 50's had one form, was different from the 80's and how we would see a shift again in 20 to 30 years.

Overall, John imparted some great knowledge to our membership. Thanks for coming to San Diego, John and spending a few precious hours with us to help us to better understand what bonsai means to you and the experiences that have influenced you.

San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilion at the Safari Park

SDBC members and Bonsai Pavilion volunteers have really continued to be great participants with our new Pavilion project both in working diligently on site and donating trees and checks to continue enhancing this attractive, special area in the Safari Park. Many thanks to all of you and an invitation is always extended to any other members who would like to join in the experience!

In August, **Neil Auwarter, Judy Barnhurst, Martha Choy, Cathy and Mark Edgar, Maria & Tina Flores, Joyce Goldman, John Jackson, Gary Jones, Jim Kirchmer, Kris Landwehre Ray Lish, Marty Mann, Charlie Mosse, Patrick O'Brien, Jon & Terri Petrescu, Sally Prestele, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, 'lyn Stevenson, Charlie Tamm, Cary & Curator Steve Valentine, John Voss, and Dave Woodall** all donated volunteer hours in the Pavilion caring for our precious bonsai and the garden surrounding them. Over 260 hours have been donated to Pavilion activities in August by these volunteers. The hospitality provided by our volunteers has been enjoyed during our breaks. Many thanks to **Cary** for the addition of iced tea which several have been mixing with 'lyn's lemonade, the delicious breads from **Cathy and Mary Ann**, and the nice fresh fruit from **Charlie**. Water and ice will continue to be available through the summer too.

Our "resident" mother duck and six babies continue to entertain us and seem oblivious to all visitors. We have been greeted several times at the back gate by a mule deer who cannot enter the Pavilion—so our horticultural area is unique to the wild animals too! Two new fabric coverings have been added to provide overhead shade. They were attached to the existing poles and match our first covers in the pavilion. The new shed will be installed next to the current one and will help considerably with all our tools, other equipment and supplies. We will need to protect our inventory of bonsai pots in the future also. The Safari Park wants to keep a banner permanent flying at the entrance of the Pavilion now since the location is also marked on the Park map. **Cary and Steve** had arranged the kites and banner for our Opening Day and will pursue a more permanent banner.

Thanks to **Marty** for his recent donation of 2 bonsai which are now on exhibit. **Bobby Knox** donated a Pomegranate which he collected in Imperial Valley and is now in the collection. Cary has been taking photos of all the new bonsai as additions to the inventory book. There are over 50 trees on show now and another 20 in the work area for future showings. **Roger Marr** is also working on designs for the future shohin-tokanoma display area.

Work days will continue on the first and third Saturday on each month and sometimes on other days as needed. Call Curator Steve for further information.

'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison

Pavilion - Honor Board Recognition *August*

Several recent donations were not acknowledged in the Bonsai Wire. . . several of these were received by the Treasurer since April, 2011. Our belated thanks to all. They will be recorded appropriately on the Honor Board.

Additions to previous donations: **John Jackson** - \$1000, **Marty Mann** - \$500, **Dave Woodall** - \$500, **Tina & Maria Flores** - \$300, **David Inghish** - \$500.

Additions to the Naka Memorial Fund were given by: **May McNey** - \$100, **Rainbow Bonsai Club** - \$500, **Maybel Balendonck** - \$100, **Marty Mann** - \$25.

A donation for a memorial fund for former member, **Bill Black**, was received from **Teresa Heath** - \$500.

Sincere thank you to each and every donor! Our Pavilion account is kept by the Treasurer Maria Barbosa. Tax receipts and gift acknowledgements are sent by her to each donor. Please designate "Pavilion Fund" on your checks so that she knows the appropriate account for the deposit. The records are important especially when we are requesting funds from public or private agencies who also give donations to 501 (c) (3) organizations.

'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC Pavilion Fund

GSBF Elections

Nominations for the upcoming GSBF District Trustees and At-Large Trustee for 2012

Wanted: GSBF District Trustees and At-Large Trustee for 2012. If you are interested in serving on the GSBF Board, please see Cary, Steve, or Abe.

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Have you been to the San Diego Bonsai Club you tube channel? If not, try this link! Thanks Peter Abernethy!
<http://www.youtube.com/user/sandiegobonsaiclub?feature=mhee>

Membership Updates!

New members for the month of August are:

**Linda Matino, Jan Borkum,
Emeralk Oravec, Chris Moreno,
Sara Clowery, Sonya Holmquist,
Joanna Strong, Vince Flynn,
Charles & Marla Deyoe, Barbara Tinsley.**

Please help to make them feel welcome and to show them around. Most of them are in the beginning class. We look forward to seeing them at future club meetings and other club functions. At the Fall Show, we also historically get a lot of new members, so we will be seeing a lot of new faces soon.

Cary Sullivan, VP Membership

Sequoia Bus Trip

A reminder that the San Diego Bonsai Club is sponsoring a bus trip to the Sequoia National Park on June 23-24, 2012. The cost for the trip is \$214. per person for a standard room and \$223. per person for a deluxe room. This includes hotel room, bus trip, two meals, Ranger tour, taxes and bus driver tip. At this time half of the spaces have been reserved for the trip so if you plan on going please get your reservation in to me. Remember you can cancel with full refund two months before the trip. The deposit of \$100. is due immediately. Please send your check to me or get it to me no later than the Bonsai Club meeting in September.

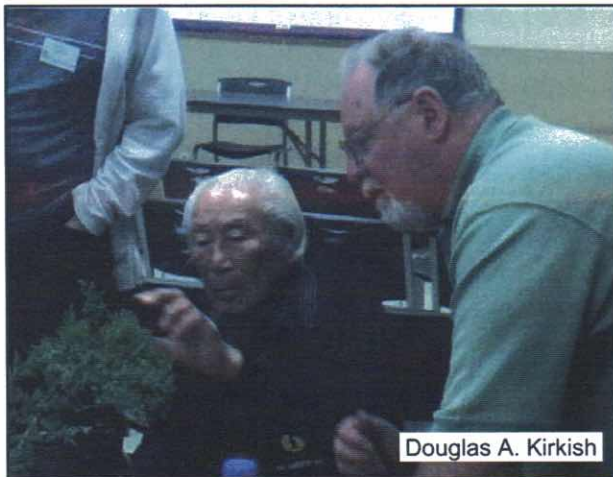
Barb French-Lee, VP Special Events

Rest In Peace

Dec. 12th 1949 - Aug. 27th 2011

Douglas A. Kirkish, a loving father. You will be missed deeply." I love you always dad!"

Tim Kirkish



Douglas A. Kirkish

Refreshments

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

**Nellie Downie, John and Margaret Jackson,
Harlan & Mary Ann Price,
Shirley Kavanaugh, Sue & Dennis Wagner,
Marty & Ruth Mann, Barbara French-Lee,
Maude Laracy, Ray Lish, Susan Baker,
Terri Heath, Teruko Jones,
Cary Valentine, Maria Martinez.**

Nellie Downie, Refreshments Coordinator

Benefit Drawing

A big thank you to the folks that brought in items for the raffle table to the meeting. Please continue to bring in your bonsai related items.

**Jon and Terri Petrescu,
John & Margaret Jackson,
'Iyn Stevenson, Gary & Karla Jones,
Ted Schwartz, Alan Burrows,
Shirley Kavanaugh, Dave Woodall,
Martha and Dave Choy, Marty Mann,
Abe & Cristina Far, Trisha Bonapace,
Rich Glauser, Janice Hale.**

Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing Coordinator

Volunteers Wanted

GSBF Convention... We want you!! If you can work a half day shift or a full day shift, we would love to have you come and help out. This is really a fun event, and not hard at all. There are many things that we need your help with; raffle table, security for the exhibit, runner for workshop leaders.

If this sounds like fun, please see Cary or e-mail or call me, so I can get your name on our list. We will give you in return for a half day, a half day registration, a full day gets a full day registration and a GSBF convention pin. You also get to see the vendors, the exhibits, maybe a demo or two, be a silent observer in the workshops. LOTS OF FUN and you get to meet other bonsai nuts as well as learn a lot.

760-445-2548, caryme2@yahoo.com

Cary Sullivan,
GSBF Convention Committee

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.
 PO Box 86037
 San Diego, CA 92138-6037



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

September 3rd & 17th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

September 10th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Robert Pressler**)

September 28th - 30th
 Fall Show

October 1st & 15th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

October 9th Sunday
 Lake Poway Picnic!

October
 GSBF Convention, Riverside

November 5th & 19th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

November 13th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Claude Poissonniez**)

December 3rd & 17th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

December 11th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **Steve Valentine**)

January 7th & 21st Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

January 8th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: **To be Announced**)

February 4th & 18th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

Sunday, September 10th 2011
 Balboa Park, Room 101
 Casa Del Prado

Meeting Agenda

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| 9:00 am | Beginner's Class | Room 104 |
| 9:00 am | Library Opens | Room 104 |
| 9:15 am | Intermediate Class | Room 101 |
| 10:30 am | Business Mtg | Room 101 |
| 11:00 am | Bob Pressler Bonsai Demo | Room 101 |
| 1:00 pm | Lunch | |