Message from the President - January 2012

Happy New Year

Every spring brings new excitement to our club. There are many fun activities planned for you. Just like every year we improve our bonsai, the board of directors is working to improve your club. Among those are a shorter meeting schedule, intructional videos, learning and practicing good display skills, workshops that excite old and new members alike. A book discussion group, better raffle prizes, lengthened time for the beginners class, and many others. Sound good? Lets get started!

New Schedule

9:00 Bonsai fellowship. Some of my favorite memories are of bringing trees and working side by side with bonsai friends. Let's make some new memories. Bring a tree. You can get suggestions, or give them, but bring something. Coffee and goodies will be waiting for you. 10:00 Business meeting. Let's start on time and be efficient to get you to the good stuff to come.

Main program- Could be: Videos, Display practice, Technique of the day, show and tell, Special Speaker, even some games! All aimed at our continued bonsai education.

12:00 Eat. You need some Munchies. Please bring and share your goodies. Grab you plate and get ready to win big...

12:20 Raffles. Look for some real nice items. You might be surprised at what you see up there. Please

everyone dig to find a great item to donate. Think quality not quantity.

12:30 Dismiss to workshops. What? Yes the beginner class and our workshop of the day is changing times. Why? The classes have always been squeezed for time. Now excited students will have adequate time to learn. Meanwhile the rest of the members are on their way home. Everyone wins!

Save up your Bonsai pot Budget

Many years ago we had a Bonsai pot swap. It was really fun. Our February meeting is going to bring us a Pot extravaganza. Pot making demos, some ideas on proper pairing of pots with trees, show and tell of interesting pottery, Special pot raffles, and Member to member selling of extra pots you may have. Bring any and all to trade, buy, and sell. Think about what you have ready to transplant and look for that perfect pot. More details will come, but be thinking how you can get involved, everyone has some pots they just won't ever use, and maybe someone else can.

Will you help us?

Your club works best when many people help out. It lightens the workload for everyone. Think about what you might do to make our club better and stronger. Talk to any board Member about help needed. And lastly, get to know someone new this month. These are great people, make some friends for life. Big Dave

See you at the park,

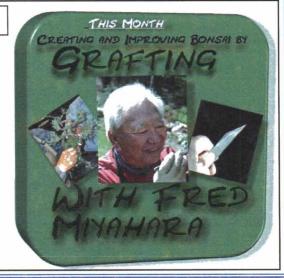
This month, Fred Miyahara

Dave Rochester for Gary Jones, 1st VP

We are lucky to have a resource like Fred. He is a 20 plus year member of our club, a former president, and the curator of bonsai at the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa park. He has been grafting conifers for many years. The techniques and after care that he has developed will really improve your success rate. Fred will be showing examples of what can be accomplished by grafting, a sharpening demo, and a workshop to follow. (See Education article) Be sure to get involved, and put this technique in your mental toolbox of bonsai tricks.

Next Month

The "bon" half of bonsai is the pot. We put most effort into learning about the "Sai" - In February we will zero in on the Pot. Our program will consist of Potters in our club demonstrating how to make pots, and our workshop will give you some instruction and hands in clay play. Bring some pots to sell or trade at our Bonsai Swapmeet!



Inside this issue p1 President's Message January Program p1 Table of Contents p2 Editor's Notes, New Board Members p2 Haiku by Marty Mann p2 Club Officer Information p2 Education Report p3 Club Name Tag Information p3 San Diego Bonsai Ideas #121 p4 Benefit Drawing News p4 Styling Contest Snapshot p4 Club Meeting Minutes, December **p5** 2011 Bonsai Contest T-Shirt offer **p5** SDBC Pavilions at the Safari Park p6 Winter Silhouttes, Sequoia Bus Trip, GSBF Bonsai-A-Thon Bus Trips p6 Membership Updates Dues are Due Campaign p7Refreshments & Benefit Drawing p7 Christmas Party Pics p7 Calendar of Events & Mtg Agenda p8

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Editor's Notes

Welcome to another year of the San Diego Bonsai Club's newsletter, The Bonsai Wire.

Below is a picture of this year's SDBC Board Members. From left to right, Barbara French-Lee (VP Special Projects), Gary Jones (First Vice President), Charlie Mosse (VP Education), Neil Auwarter (Club Secretary), Cary Valentine (VP Membership), and Dave Rochester (President).

There will be a new format to the meetings, so please review the first page to understand the pace for the meeting program.

We are looking into making the club website an extension of the newsletter. There just isn't enough space to post all the wonderful pictures that are submitted by the club memebership. I'll keep you posted. Enjoy this January 2012 edition of the Bonsai Wire!





Inner pleasures rise With the laughter of children Grand mothers, grand fathers beam

Marty Mann

January 2012

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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Spring Co-Chairs-2012: tbd
 Plant Sales: tbd

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SDBC Education for January

The more we share, the more we learn

The Beginners program starts up again in January. It is three separate sessions with each session consisting of three classes. The first session is January, February and March. The second session is April, June and July and the final session is in August, October and November. Note: there are no classes as follows - May is the spring get together in the Bonsai Pavilion at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in Escondido. September is the club's picnic fundraiser/auction in the fresh air at Lake Poway. December is more of an open forum, bring in some of your trees for help, to work on them or just show others, and special programs.

Throughout the year you will work on three different trees, one tree chosen appropriately for time of year. You will learn all of the basic techniques for growing, styling, training and potting of different types of trees and proper soil mix preparation, watering, fertilizing and insect protection and control.

'lyn Stevenson will be teaching the first session of 3 classes starting on January 8th. 'Lyn brings over 25 years of experience to you to begin learning the art of Bonsai. The plant to be styled is called Ligustrum obtusifolium, Privet. It is a hardy deciduous shrub which is timely for the season. The cost is \$35 for the first session of three classes. This includes plant, pot, wire, soil, book and a pair of pruners. The class time has changed from mid-morning before the main meeting to being held after the main part of the meeting (Fellowship work shop, meeting, raffle, demonstration and eats). This way you will have more time for instruction and not have to rush off to the meeting. The class is at 12:30 after the raffle in Room 104 which is across the guad straight out of the main meeting to the west. Sign up is through Cary Sullivan-Valentine at 760- 445-2458 or at caryme2@yahoo.com.

We are going to offer follow up after each class is completed. Example: After the January through March session is completed, do bring in your tree to the **Fellowship** part of the meeting preferably starting in April and continuing into the summer to receive follow up assistance in pruning, pinching wiring and care or, whatever. This way the club can assist you in following the tree through its different growth cycles and help you with any issues or questions you may have.

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

The San Diego Bonsai Club has dozens of very knowledgeable, highly skilled and accomplished members to assist you most of who have been trained by nationally and internationally know bonsai masters. We also have an excellent library of books, magazines and CD's, and resources abound on the internet which the club can share with you. *Many resources-outstanding support*.

The intermediate class is being re-structured. Defining an intermediate student is not an easy task so it will take some time. But, in the mean time, the club will be offering special classes and instructors. So, in January, a priceless opportunity has been provided by the internationally known grafting expert Miyahara. He will lead and teach a "how to" grafting class in Room 101 immediately following the raffle. You will learn to attach a finer type of Juniper foliage to another Juniper to create a better tree. This will be a hands-on class where you will be grafting Shimpaku Juniper onto Prostrate Juniper. The cost is \$5 for a small plant is or \$10 for a larger plant. There is enough material for twenty participants: 10 small plants and 10 larger plants. All supplies will be provided. Sign up is through Cary Sullivan-Valentine at 760- 445-2458 or at caryme2@yahoo.com. In February Dave Rochester is putting together a pot extravaganza which he will explain. March we will have Harry Hirao with details to come later.

The **Fellowship** part of the meeting, which runs from 9-10 AM, will be attended by members reflecting all levels of Bonsai expertise and experiences. The Fellowship session will be an important and informal part of your education about the art of Bonsai and will put you in contact with members who can assist you at the meeting or on your own. So, remember to bring new trees, old trees and problem trees for assistance and excellent trees to "show" or brag.

The more we share, the more we learn

Charlie Mosse, VP Education

Club Name Tags

AS of 2012, If you have lost, misplaced, or lent your name badge out, or you just do not have it and you want another on, there is \$6.00 fee for a replacement. The membership department is not responsible for your name badge.

Cary S. Valentine

San Diego Bonsai Bonsai Ideas

#121 January, 2012

By Marty Mann

You have put most of your trees to bed for a winter rest. Can you now wait for spring to come? In the world of bonsai "is just isn't so".....no IDLE TIME.

January is the "beginning-of-the-year" month. Bonsai people start with an eager outlook for a spring season by getting ready in advance and understanding what can and should be done at this time.

Remember that the soil mixes in your potted trees have been somewhat inactive due to the cooler weather of the past few months. Soil bacteria, in it's dormant state, has not been providing any nitrogen to these growing plants while they rested. Now is the time to plan ahead for your supply of fertilizers. You can resume the feeding schedules in late February, but this is the time to do the clean up chores. Remove all the winter trash around the work area as well as on the potted trees and growing stock. This is the best way to prevent infestation of insects and fungus diseases. Don't throw any of this late winter trash into your compost heaps since it may be infectious. It's safer to throw it away.

Survey the finished trees you have in bonsai pots. Are they still a proper match in size or color to the tree? Has the maturity and styling of the tree changed? Is it enough to consider repotting into a new pot? Is it taller, wider, fatter? Does the tree deserve a pot of better quality? Now is the time to redesign each completed tree. Review your nursery stock to determine the readiness of some of the partially trained material for transfer to a training or a display pot. Check your inventory of pots. If you don't have one that fits your needs, now is the time to shop at a nearby bonsai nursery or attend the many local conventions. Bazaar vendors offer so many varieties and sizes. Maybe you will find the perfect 'domestic' made pot to fit the bill.

Study each tree. Plan its future design. Cut back on excessive and unsightly branching. Rewire branches that need new direction or position. Establish a more defined apex. Trim branches with care. Many are quite brittle at this time of year.

Encourage twiggyness and new branch development as soon as spring growth begins. Cut back long tertiary branches on junipers and deciduous trees to shorten internodes. Watch the pine branches not trimmed properly last November. These can still be cut, however it might be better to wait until May when new candles begin to appear and more detailed refinement may be required.

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.

Jan 2011

Renefit Ørawing News

I'd like to let you all know about some exciting changes to our raffle system starting in January. We will continue to have the General Raffle (50 cents/ticket) and our Special Raffle (5 dollars/ticket), but we will be adding an intermediate level to the mix. Each month we will have 1-2 (maybe more?) premium items with their own individual jars for you to put your tickets in.

How do you win these Individual Raffle Prizes? SIMPLE! Just buy as many General Raffle Tickets as you'd like and put however many of those tickets you'd like into the designated Individual Raffle jars.

I do need help from you, though. While there is a small budget to "seed" the raffle table, I'm sending out an appeal for members to donate some special items (probably around the \$75-\$100 value range) each meeting. We will be happy to recognize your generosity when we announce the special items to be raffled off.

One last item, and this is focused on our club name tags. Name tags will be collected in a bag at the end of the meeting, and one will be pulled and a prize is given. This will help to get the membership to wear their name tags and also to hand them in at the end of the day so they don't take them home accidentaly.

If you'd like to arrange with me to pick up one of these premium items and bring it to the meeting for you, please email or call me, jasonedwardtucker@gmail.com or (619) 929-8378, and I'll be happy to stop by!

Hope to hear from you soon!

Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing Coordinator

Styling Contest Snapshot

The picture below (by Cary Valentine) captures the 4 teams in action, each wearing a different colored t-shirt. Margaret Jackson won the winning

tree. Martha Choy and Jason Tucker were the winning designers. Congratulations!!! Roger Mar won 2 different trees from the contest and Rich Anderson won the fourth one. Everyone came out as winners in this activity.

Cary Valentine





San Diego Bonsai Club

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members December 11th, 2011



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

2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes for November 13th, 2011 where approved as presented.

3. Reports

- ➤ Maria Barbosa, Treasurer, reported the \$10,000 county grant check for the New Pavilion has been received. The New Pavilion account balance is \$27,430.77. The main account balance is \$2059.13.
- ➤ Cary Valentine, V.P. Membership, reported five new members. Membership renewal dues are due in March, April at the latest. On Education, Carey reported the Board approved a motion to support the Roosevelt School Bonsai Club however feasible, starting with a donation of 14 bonsai starter kits.
- ➤ Barbara French-Lee, V. P. Special Projects, reported the Winter Silhouettes bus trip will be January 14 and will include a shopping stop at Jim Barrett's. The bus will leave Balboa Park at noon and will leave Carlsbad at 12:30. SDBC is responsible for bringing dessert for the potluck.. The Huntington Gardens Bonsai-a-Thon bus trip will be February 25. The bus will leave Balboa Park at 8:00 a.m. and will leave Carlsbad at 8:30.
- ➤ Abe Far, President, announced on behalf of Bonsai Pavilion liaison 'lyn Stevenson that the upcoming Saturday 12/17 Pavilion workday from 9:00 to noon will be followed by a holiday potluck. The San Diego Zoo will hold a recognition party for volunteers on 12/13. The new Bonsai Pavilion sign, a large inscribed rock, has been installed at the entrance of the Pavilion.
- Dave Rochester, First Vice President, First Vice President, reported on plans for upcoming meetings: January, Fred Miyahara on juniper branch grafting, including a workshop for junipers and pines, plus a video on show display; February, a video on bonsai pottery, presentation on matching trees to pots, and hopefully a pot swap-a-thon; March, Harry Hirao on California Junipers, recognition of Harry's birthday, members are encouraged to bring their Harry Hirao trees and proposed Spring Show trees for assessment and possibly critique by Harry; April, another video on show display and possibly a speaker on stand-making; May, Safari Park.
- Dave Rochester, First Vice President, First Vice President, reported on plans for upcoming meetings: January, Fred Miyahara on juniper branch grafting, including a workshop for junipers and pines, plus a video on show display; February, a video on bonsai pottery, presentation on matching trees to pots, and hopefully a pot swap-a-thon; March, Harry Hirao on California Junipers, recognition of Harry's birthday, members are encouraged to bring their Harry Hirao trees and proposed Spring Show trees for assessment and possibly critique by Harry; April, another video on show display and possibly a speaker on stand-making; May, Safari Park.
- > New Board Members for 2012, were introduced and sworn by Jon Petrescu.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon. Abe Far turned the microphone over to Dave Rochester, First Vice President, who introduced the monthly presentation, a bonsai styling contest.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Auwarter, Acting Secretary

Pictures

This month, we had a lot of articles submitted and room for pictures was very limited. I really do appreciate folks talking the time to take them, and we will work on some options to try to take advantage of your creativity and your focus (no pun intended).

Thanks to Harlan Price, Cary Valentine and Abe Far for submitting pictures.

Mario Condit

Some of you really liked the T-Shirt from our December contest. If you want one in any color, just go to T-Shirt Mart in El Cajon They can make you one for around \$12.



San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilion at the Safari Park

The volunteers were able to celebrate in grand style in December. The year will be remembered especially with the Grand Opening of the New Pavilion in May. The cadre of volunteers has remained strong. Dedicating two Saturdays a month for work sessions has helped to keep the Pavilion plantings looking fresh and healthy and the bonsai are responding well to their new locations and this extra care.

The San Diego Zoo Global honored Zoo and Safari volunteers who had accumulated over 60 hours in 2011 to a special recognition event at the Zoo on December 13th. Over a dozen of our Pavilion were recognized for 100, 250, 750, 2,000, and 3000 hours as well as for 10 and 15 years of services. Then, at our work session at the Pavilion on December 17th, our volunteers celebrated with a delicious potluck luncheon and party at Safari Park. It was a really nice opportunity for us to thank and congratulate each other for the progress and success of the new Pavilion.

Our December volunteers included: Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Abe Burrows, Martha Choy, Nellie Downie, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Maria & Tina Flores, Joyce Goldman, John Jackson, Gary Jones, Jim Kirchmer, Bob Knox, Kris Landwehre, Ray Lish, Marty & Ruth Mann, Charlie Mosse, Jon & Terri Petrescu, Sally Prestele, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Bill Quinlan, 'lyn Stevenson, Cary & Steve Valentine, Chele & Forrest Vess, John Voss, Dennis Wagner, & Dave Woodall.

Refreshments were incredibly delicious — even more so than the usual donations because of the potluck! Everything from breads, bagels, juices, champagne, cider, bunelos, dragon cookies, tamales, sandwiches, fruit plates, guacamole, chips, cookies, veggie plates, cheese & crackers, candies, to Christmas cake and ice cream were thoroughly enjoyed by all. What a fantastic gourmet group — their names are all included in the paragraph above! Many thanks ALL!

A heavier than usual trimming of the shrubbery around the waterfall was accomplished in December along with the usual trimming and bonsai maintenance work. The new engraved Bonsai Pavilion plaque was installed at the front entrance of the Pavilion and it provided a photo op for the volunteers too. We also had a surprise visit from the Safari Park Chetah and dog partner and their Safari guides. It was the first time the chetah had explored (on a leash of course) the Pavilion and he was especially intrigued with our ponds! We were thrilled to be able to have this very close encounter with a very special Safari resident.

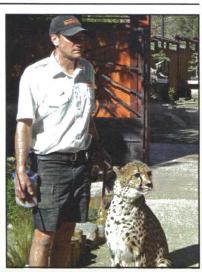
Guests continue to come and be amazed with the Bonsai Pavilion and Garden. **Marty Mann** hosted **Ted Matson** from Los Angeles. Ted had been to the first pavilion at the Wild Animal Park over 25 years ago. We always enjoy guiding visitors through the area and talking about the bonsai although the Pavilion lends itself to self guided strolling very well.

SDBC-Safari Park Liaison

Pavilion Visitor

Harlan Price took the photo to the right. This is a cheatah, and they are just outside the pavilion. The keepers frequently walk some of the park inhabitants amongst the crowds.

This was a rare snapshot and thanks to Harlan for taking advantage of the moment.



Winter Silhouttes Bus Trip

Winter Sillhouttes Bonsai Show in Los Angeles, Saturday, January 14, 2012, an afternoon and evening event with a bonsai show, dinner, auction and entertainment.

The SDBC provides the desert and an item for the auction if you wish. We leave Balboa Naval Hospital parking lot at 12 noon and Carlsbad Village Drive, behind the Shell service station, at 12:30pm.

Barbara French-Lee, VP Special Projects

GSBF Bonsai-A-Thon

At the Huntington Library And

Botanical Gardedns -Feb 25th

There will be demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sale area, raffle and an auction. Also the beautiful gardens and museum are available to visit.

For this trip we plan to leave at 8am from Balboa Park and 8:30am from Carlsbad.

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.

Barb French-Lee, VP Special Events

Membership Updates!

Welcome new Members!!!

Mike & Barbara Hale, Charles Gromms, Steve Clemons, & Taylor Spinogatti

2012 SDBC DUES ARE DUE!!

Here is how renewals will work again this year. I can't tell you how much time and effort you saved me in just a few steps:

FROM THE FIRST BOX:

- Find the envelope with your name on it hopefully, they are alphabetical;
- Take the envelope with your name on it;
- Confirm that all information on the enclosed card is correct OR make any changes necessary;
- Enclose that card and your payment (cash, check) in the same envelope;
 - > Initial registration is \$25.00 (1 person)
 - > Each additional family member is \$10.00
- Place the sealed envelope in the smaller SECOND BOX. All done – you're good for another year! And I can update our computer database without bothering you again.

AND, if you make your payment by mail and there are any changes to your information – address, zip code, phone, email, etc., please include a note with those changes. I will remove your envelope from "the box" (see above), make note of your payment, and enter any information changes in the database. Please mail it to the club address at:

The San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc. P.O. Box 86037, San Diego, Ca. 92138-6037

Note to all new members and all members: This is a great time of year, take advantage of all the club has to offer you to help you learn or better your bonsai skills. Take classes, at the club and any where you can get them, many experience members offer classes to help you on a one on one basis, volunteer at the bonsai pavilion at the Safari Park, it is a great place to get hands on learning. Check at books or videos in the clubs library, we have one of the largest and best libraries, free to members. Go on all of the bus trips the club offers, first one is the Winter Silhouette show, second is the Bonsai-athon at the Huntington Gardens. The latter is like a free mini convention, demos, vendors, exhibit, guided tour of their pavilion and we have a bonsai shopping trip, great fun, and lots of material to buy.

Thanks for your help, Happy Holidays – here's to a prosperous and healthy and good bonsai for all of you in 2012.

Cary S. Valentine, VP Membership

Refreshments

A big thanks to those folks that brought in good things to eat::

Charlie Mosse, Nellie Downie,
Shirley Kavanaugh, Tina & Marie Flores,
Cary Valentine, Tim & Judy Kirkish,
Joan Holliday, Terri Petrescu,
Barbara French-Lee, Maude Laracy,
John & Margaret Jackson, and
George & Morey Santillen.

Nellie Downie, Refreshments Coordinator

Benefit Drawing

The table was loaded this month, and thank you to the following people that brought in goodies to help raise funds for the club:

Charlie Mosse, David & Martha Choy, Shirley Kavanaugh, John Voss, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Scott Flack-Coprosma, Cary & Steve Valentine, Jon & Terri Petrescu, John & Margaret Jackson, Yolanda Castano, and Sue Wagner.

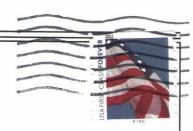
Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing Coordinator

Christmas Party!



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







ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

January 7th & 21st Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

January 8th Sunday

Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: To be anounced)

February 4th & 18th Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

February 14th Sunday

Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: To be announced)

March 3rd & 17th Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

March 11th Sunday

Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: To be announced)

April 7th & 21st Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park, 9am to 12pm

April 11th Sunday

Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest: To be announced)

May 5th & 19th Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park, 9am to 12pm

May 6th Sunday

Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest:To be announced)

June 2nd and 16th Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park, 9am to 12pm

June 10th Sunday

Regular SDBC Meeting (Featured Guest:To be announced)

July 7th & 21st Saturday

SDBC Workday at Safari Park, 9am to 12pm

Sunday, January 11th 2012 Balboa Park, Room 101 Casa Del Prado

Meeting Agenda

Time			Activity	Rm
0900-1000		000	Bonsai Fellowship	101
1000-1030		030	Business Meeting	101
	1030-1	145	Main Program	101
	1200		Lunch	101
	1220		Benefit Drawing	101
	1230		Workshops & Beginner Class	101