



The BONSAI WIRE

The Monthly Newsletter of the San Diego Bonsai Club

Message from the President - March 2012

Last Meeting Was Fun

It was a cold and rainy morning in San Diego, but you all came anyway! We had a good crowd and tons of bonsai pots were bought, sold and yes even traded. Did you find something nice? Alice Alvarez reported robust sales on behalf of Club founder **Ko Tsushima**. She thanked us for the opportunity; well...we thank her as well (nice pots)! So, shall we make the "Bonsai Pot Sale and Swap" an Annual Event?

Terri Petrescu, Maude Laracy and Michelle Dougherty, our pottery experts, did a great round robin ceramic Demo. It is amazing the skills members have developed and are willing to share. Did some of you get jazzed to make your own pots?

This Month Its' all about Harry

Harry Hirao is a friend and patron of our club. More details are below from VP-Gary Jones. But let me just say Harry has requested extra time for his demonstration. So the order of events this month will be left open and casual. He wants to begin as soon as he arrives. So we bow to our Sensei, and will comply with his wishes. We will work our business meeting in the gaps during his presentation.

This month, Harry Hirao

Hey everybody, it is time for Harry Hirao, his birthday, and his wonderful demonstration with California Junipers. There is a wonderful article about Harry, known as Mr. California Juniper, in the last edition of "Golden Statements" which I'll have up front for you to look at during the meeting. Harry is renown for his work with this species of juniper from digging them up in the wild to styling and creating breath-taking bonsai. So, what would you like to know about this type of bonsai material? This is the time to ask because you have at your service the man who knows the most about these trees, their needs, and the proper way to maintain them. Start thinking about what you need to know- what is the best time to repot a CA. Juniper, what is your soil mix for these trees, how do you preserve the dead wood? Need I say more? Continued page 4...

Next Month

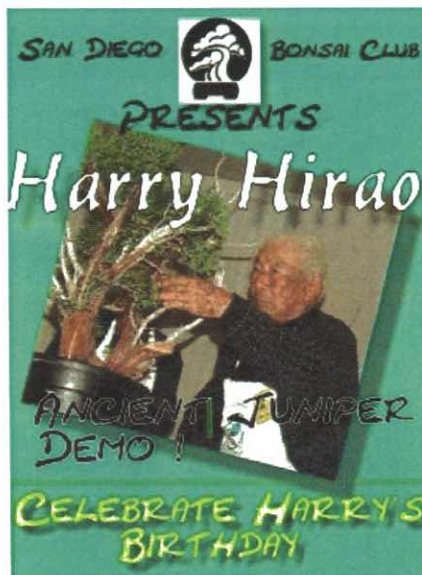
How to display your bonsai trees at the Spring Show!
Gary Jones, 1st VP

Other Announcements of Interest

- Our good friend Marty Mann is on his way to recovery from a stroke that he experienced. If you are going to have a stroke where better than a bonsai convention? We miss you Marty, get well soon.
- David Choy, club librarian, is open to suggestions as to new books to purchase. No promises, but express your want list to him. And don't make D-Choy hunt you down, bring back overdue books.
- Thank Charlie Mosse for making the long trip to Central Cal, to get your black pines for the workshop this month. See VP-ED article for more details. You can now sign up for classes/workshops as well as join/renew online at sandiegobonsaiclub.com.
- Laurie Orange has joined our team as Public Relation officer. We have all club positions filled, YES !
- Put on your calendar:**
 - >Japanese Friendship Garden Cherry Blossom Festival on Saturday, March 17.
 - >California Bonsai Society's Convention April 11-15,
 - >County Fair Bonsai Exhibit June 8-July 4. (Need coordinator)

Spring is here, life is good, see you at the park.

Big Dave



Sequoia Bus Trip Itinerary Highlights

The following are some of the highlights to be expected from the planned Sequoia Bus trip.

- Round trip bus from San Diego,
- Wuksachi Lodge 1 night,
- BBQ and guided walk with the ranger,
- visit Giant Forest Museum, Big Trees Trail, General Sherman Tree and Grant Grove.

See more details on Page 6.

Joan Holliday

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www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Editor's Notes

We are experiencing some cool winter weather for our San Diego area. While we are glad to have the water, be careful that your trees are well protected and that you have good drainage for your bonsai. Dave has an update on Marty Mann (front page) and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

Below are some pictures of the new pot cabinets that John

Jackson built for the pavilion. These pics show the starting phase, the finished product can be seen on page 7.

The Spring Show is just around the corner, so get your trees ready! Don't forget about the reception as well.

Enjoy the March edition of The Bonsai Wire!



*The sky is lighter
Light brings birds awakening
The dawn is brighter*

Marty Mann

March 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).

San Diego Bonsai Club Board Members

- | | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President: Dave Rochester bunjn54@yahoo.com • 1st Vice President: Gary Jones twoopenhands@yahoo.com • VP for Membership: Michelle Dougherty • VP for Education: Charlie Mosse smosse@cox.net • VP for Special Projects: Barbara French-Lee (619) 557-0556 barbflee@hotmail.com • Treasurer: Pat O'Brien pat.obrien@cox.net • Corporate Secretary: Neil Auwarter • Past President: Abe Far abefar@yahoo.com | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japanese Friendship Garden, Bonsai Curator: Fred Miyahara (619) 286-8602 tmiya@cox.net • Bonsai Pavilion, Safari Park: Curator: John Jackson SDBC-Safari Park Liaison: 'lyn Stevenson (858) 486-4805 inthegrove@cox.net • Web Master: Dave Rochester • Historian: Laurie Orange • Sunshine Chair: Joan Holliday (858) 715-0092 Joanholliday@san.rr.com | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Relations: TBD • Librarians: David Choy & Tyler Doren Tool Sales Managers: David English & Rich Glauser Benefit Drawing Mgr: Jason Tucker jasonwardtucker@gmail.com (619) 929-8378 • Refreshment Coordinator: Nellie Downie, (858) 581-9151 • The Bonsai Wire Editor: Mario Condit (619) 463-1648 mario.condit@sbcglobal.net • Spring Co-Chairs-2012: tbd Plant Sales: tbd |
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4809 Clairemont Dr., San Diego, CA 92117, Ph: (858) 490-1690 Fax: (858) 490-1695

SDBC Education for March

The more we share, the more we learn

We will start this month off with some great news. The Mas Takanashi Educational Grant has been offered to three outstanding candidates. All three have been with the SDBC for many years. They have shown consistent support and enthusiasm for the club. They all have a very keen, long term interest in Bonsai, and very importantly, enjoy showing and teaching others about Bonsai. Please congratulate Barbara French-Lee (VP of Special Projects), Tim Kirkish and Trisha Bonapace on their acceptance into an excellent learning program. We wish them well and to have fun with the hard but rewarding work ahead.

The Second session of the Winter beginner's class went very well thanks gain to 'Lyn Stevenson and the volunteer assistants Dave Woodall, Mark and Cathy Edgar, John Voss and Jason Tucker and others. Looks like everyone showed up for round 2 with lots of wiring and shaping going on to the abundant new growth. Be sure to bring your trees to the last session of the class in March to learn proper methods of securing the tree to the pot and how to correctly pot up your tree with the proper soil. With the warm weather continuing, the growth should still be strong, so ask for hints on proper pruning and pinching of the trees. Note that the next beginner's class will start in April and will continue in June and July (remember May is the SDBC party at the Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park). Plant selection has not been completed but is heading toward the formal or informal upright style. Cost of the class is still only \$35. Such a deal!

The pine workshop in March will be working on Japanese Black Pines from Muranaka Bonsai Nursery under the expert eye of Fred Miyahara and the Piney's (those who have been training with Fred). These Black pines are field grown and freshly dug. They are excellent stock with which to begin learning how to bonsai the black pine. The pines will not be re-potted until next year. You will be doing some needle removal and some work on the soil under the watchful of the Piney's. There is much to learn about growing a black pine that will be strong and vigorous. The cost of the class is \$70. This will include soil, wire and container (training type). There are two openings as

of now, Feb.23. Please call me at 619-851-7187 or email me at smosse@cox.net.

Important Note:

Anyone who worked on a Muranaka pine at last year's class should bring their tree to the workshop in March for re-potting, follow up advice or just for sharing if you have already re-potted. You may bring your own soil mix or the club will provide a suitable mix for you. You will need to bring your own transplant pot. Fred highly recommends a 10" Azalea type terracotta clay pot as it is a low profile pot still with adequate soil volume for your pine and it 'breathes' to help keep the roots from staying too wet. Remember that for Black pines excellent drainage is essential, especially in the lower portion of the pot to prevent root rot.

Charlie Mosse, VP Education

Upcoming Events

#1- Lecture- the origin of Suseok, Korean Viewing Stones

Wednesday March 7th 7:30 sharp Free @ the Huntington,(same place as the bonsai-a-thon) Botanical Center, Ahmanson Class room.

Shaped by nature, the elements, and time, Koren"viewing stones" have been prized by collectors. Discover why, as Suseok expert **Chiara Padrini** (here from Italy, discusses the history, aesthetics, and origin of this popular art form/ Reception follows, FREE NO reservations required.

#2- **Bonsai Exhibition by the Calif. Bonsai Society** **March 24th & 25th 10am-4:30pm daily Reception** **7-9pm Sat. March 24th**

Friendship Hall Huntington Library FREE

#3- **55th Anniversary Convention at the Crown Plaza Garden Grove starring " The Iron Men of John Naka"**

April 11th - April 15th

registration information Elizabeth Partch
email elizabethpartch@yahoo.com

Article on **Calif. Juniper collecting with Harry Hirao - by Jerry McNay** in GSBF Golden Statement issue Vol.XXXV No.2 page 7 or go to kofukai.org, click on Harry Hirao & than on Calif. Juniper dig.. for digging information from Harry.

Cary Valentine

San Diego Bonsai Bonsai Ideas

#123 March, 2012

By Marty Mann

Spring, Renewal Time, Reactivate Everything!

Spring is the time of renewal. It's time to take stock of your trees, whether in pots or still in training stages. Review their future. It's time to resume a regular schedule of fertilization since the nutrients in the soil have been leached during the dormant winter months. Bud swelling, the sign of spring awakening, begins to show and repotting time is upon us.

Last month was the time to ready repotting supplies - a well drained soil mix, clean pots, supplies of insecticides and fungicides, etc. etc. Now is time for a repotting schedule-- before the buds really open up. Finish your activity before the leaves begin to show. This timing applies primarily to deciduous and flowering trees. Evergreens and conifers such as junipers, fir, spruce and pines can follow. If the tree has begun to flower or develop fruit, delay repotting until after blooming. Until the plants become re-established- water cautiously

It's a good idea to include a small amount of Bone Meal and Ironite in your soil mixture to encourage development of new fine rootage. There is a difference of opinion as to the value of including Cottonseed Meal too early. I believe that this fertilizer is better applied later in March to encourage new green growth. Even if bone meal is a slow starter it adds nutrient benefit to the plant. Don't overdo your fertilizing. It's a common mistake to consider the idea that a little good is better if more is applied. Repotted plants may be fed as soon as signs of new growth are apparent. A suggested standard mix is 75% cottonseed meal / 25% bone meal. Trees may also be given an interim push by using a liquid food like Miracle Gro between regular monthly feedings.

Winter dormancy is over. Bring your trees out of their winter protection from cold winds. Deciduous trees may show the first signs of bud breaking. Keep an eye on any fast growing branches that quickly create elongated internodes. Light pruning of growing tips is in order to control this situation, however do not do any serious trimming until the new growth has hardened. Maintain the shape of the tree as the branches begin to grow. Twiggy branching will be the benefit of regular pinching. Watch for wire scars that may have developed during the past few months.

As each new shoot develops, determine if it is to play a part in your overall design plan. If you need a longer branch - let it grow. If you need more twiggy or fullness cut the shoots back to two or three sets of leaves. New shoots develop from the cut areas. Don't allow the tree to spend its energy growing unwanted shoots.

Some transplanting and repotting activities may have begun last month but do most of the traumatic replanting work before the growth develops. As warmer weather arrives the root systems will begin to push new hair roots. Repotting at this time prevents excessive damage to the existing root ball.

Newly potted trees should be shaded from direct sun until new growth begins. By moving your trees into sunny areas you stimulate the growth of foliage. Newly potted trees should be allowed to develop new fine rootage that support new foliage. When new growth is evident it's time to begin light fertilization. Full sun encourages smaller leaves and shorter internodes.

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.
Mar 2012

Program Continued...

Start getting curious about what it would take for you to be comfortable working with a CA. Juniper and use this opportunity to fill the gaps in your understanding.

Harry Hirao is in demand all over the world and the fact that he chooses to come visit our club is a true honor. Let us show him the respect he deserves and our gratitude to him for sharing his experience with us. Pay attention, be quiet, come on up front and get a closer look. Harry is one of those teachers who feels the student can learn best by watching and keeping quiet and we certainly will do a great deal of that. He usually doesn't say much and works away until he completes the tree. Harry will be assisted by Peter Macasieb, a very wonderful bonsai artist in his own right, who will answer questions and keep us abreast of what Harry is doing, and also, if needed, our own Glenn Jensen will be helping Harry.

What more could we ask for? Birthday Cake, that's what!!! It will be Harry's umphg birthday so there will be cake too!! Come celebrate with Harry, his birthday, and his amazing talent and be happy we have so much to enjoy!!

Gary Jones, 1st VP



San Diego Bonsai Club
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members
February 10th, 2012



1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Dave Rochester, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the January 8th, 2012 were approved as approved.

3. **Reports**

- **Patrick O'Brien, Treasurer,** reported year-to-date (31 Jan) net income is \$634.88, and the balance of the club's two accounts (Operating and Pavilion) is \$28,832.80. The club's accounts are now with Union Bank, which has waived all fees and enables the club to accept online payments through PayPal.
- **Charlie Mosse, Vice President Education,** reported the pot-making demonstration will follow today's raffle. Two applications have been received for \$500 Mas Takanashi grants; a third grant is available and further additional applications are invited. The March intermediate class will feature pines from Nipomo. Next month's featured presenter is Harry Hirao with a California Juniper presentation; hopefully, Harry will also critique members' pines. For the April intermediate class, members are invited to bring two trees for critiquing and display suggestions.
- **Barbara French-Lee, V. P. Special Projects,** reported there are still spots available for the Huntington Bonsai-a-thon bus trip February 25, departing Balboa Park 7:00 a.m., and departing Calsbad 7:30 a.m. There are also still spots open for the June trip to Sequoia; friends and family are invited.
- **Michelle Dougherty, V.P. Membership,** reported membership can now be established and renewed online through the club website. She is working to update the membership roster and asks that any member *not* wanting their personal contact information included notify her.
- **Gary Jones, First V.P.,** encouraged members to attend the Harry Hirao demonstration next month and be sure to express the club's respect and appreciation to Harry. Members are invited to bring their Harry Hirao trees to this event.

4. **New business:** None.

5. **Announcements**

- The collection of videos posted on the website has been expanded.
- The board approved the appointment of John Jackson as Pavilion Curator and the reappointment of 'lyn Stevenson as Safari Park Liaison.
- Ted Matson and Ryan Neil are still seeking California trees to truck east to New York to display at the National Bonsai Exhibition in June.
- A volunteer is needed to coordinate the bonsai exhibition at this year's Del Mar Fair.
- Special golden raffle tickets will be given to all volunteers for a drawing for prizes in December.
- The format for organizing the Spring Show has been changed: Instead of a single show chairperson, there will be assignments of specific tasks: Barbara French-Lee will handle sign-up and plant sale; Fred Miyahara will handle show set-up and tear-down; Abe Far will handle hosting the guests from Los Angeles and fundraising; Ron Descoteau will handle demonstrations; Trish Bonapace will handle Saturday night dinner and entertainment. Of course, members are encouraged to sign up to assist in tackling these tasks.

Adjournment: : The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m., followed by a video on matching pots with trees, a meet-your-neighbor fellowship, and the Pot-Making Extravaganza.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Auwarter, Secretary



San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilion at the Safari Park

As President **Dave Rochester** announced at the last SDBC meeting, **John Jackson** has been appointed as the new Bonsai Pavilion Curator at the Safari Park and **Dennis Wagner** was appointed his Assistant Curator. The volunteers thanked and applauded former Curator, **Steve Valentine**, at our February work day meeting. Steve had served in that capacity for many years at both the former and the new Pavilion and has agreed to continue to be an active volunteer. His past experience and background will continue to be sought. Many thanks Steve for your contributions!

February volunteers at the Pavilion included **Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Alan Burrows, Andrew & Martha Choy, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Maria & Tina Flores, Barbara French-Lee, Joyce Goldman, Curator John Jackson, Jim Kirchmer, Kris Landwehr, Charlie Mosse, Patrick O'Brien, Sally Prestele, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, new member and volunteer Dan Sola, 'lyn Stevenson, Charlie Tamm, Cary & Steve Valentine, Dennis Wagner, and Dave Woodall.** Wonderful nourishment in the way of tantalizing snacks were provided by **Cathy Edgar, John Jackson, Dan Sola, Cary Valentine, Mary Ann Price, Charlie Mosse, and 'lyn Stevenson.** Many thanks all for your participation and donations.

John Jackson and volunteers finished the storage cabinets for all our inventory of unpotted pots! The cabinets/closets are beautiful, functional, and much needed. SDBC members will see them at our May 12th meeting at the Safari Park! **John** donated his

talent and good work and the materials were supplied under our last grant from the SD County request.

Several major transplanting projects were completed in February including a couple of huge bonsai that will be debuted into the Pavilion very soon. The usual gardening, raking, pot cleaning, fertilizing, and trimming projects were completed most efficiently. . . the Pavilion is always left in true show quality. Congratulations and thanks always to all our volunteers!

The Zoo and the Safari Park have asked the Bonsai Pavilion to be featured at their volunteer meeting on March 12th at the Hunte Pavilion in Safari Park. We are delighted to be able to present the features of the bonsai and the lovely garden that SDBC supporters have created and to help educate all the personnel to this wonderful art that we are sharing with all visitors to Safari Park.

We are continuing to have scheduled work days at the Pavilion on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Remember to bring your tools, sun visors, gloves, snacks, and your I.D. cards when you enter the back gate for admission.
'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison

Pavilion-Honor Board Info

A donation from member **Laurie Orange** was recently added to her previous donations. Thank you **Laurie!**



'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC Pavilion Fund, 858-486-4805

Opportunity Knocks

Hey bonsai folks, this is **Gary Jones.** I am moving before the end of March. I have a lot of various bonsai material and will not be able to take most of it with me so I need your help. I am opening my bonsai material, stock and potted, to club members for purchase or adoption, (hold and care for until I find a place with a yard and can take them back). If you've been looking for material to bonsai, or could care for some of my trees until I find a place with room, please come by and take a look. We can work something out. Call me at 760 215-9060 and we will arrange a time for you to come over.

Thanks for your consideration, **Gary Jones**

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 before April 20th. The deposit of \$100. is due immediately.

The trip has been opened to friends and family so we can have 40 people which will keep our price low, so encourage your friends to join this great trip. We may need to have a small price increase to cover the bus if we have less people. We will make this decision by the April meeting.

Barb French-Lee, VP Special Events

San Diego Bonsai Club
Spring
Bonsai Show

April 28 and 29th, 2012
10a.m.-5p.m. Each Day
Casa Del Prado Rm 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

The San Diego Bonsai Club invites you to our Annual Spring show. Bonsai of various sizes and species will be shown by our club members. Information on how to do this very fun hobby will be available. Please Join us !!

Bonsai Demonstration

Each Day at 11:00am and 1:00pm

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Reception on Saturday follows the Show.
Details to follow.

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

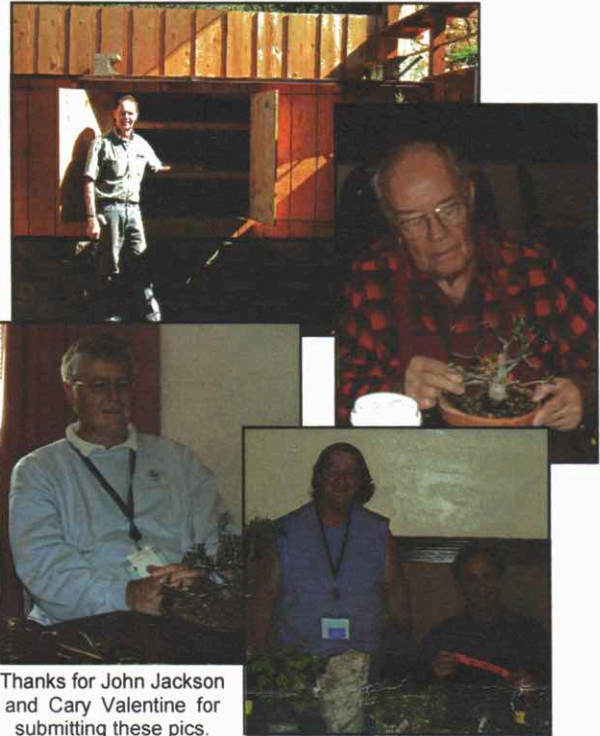
Membership Renewal
You can now renew
online with Credit Cards



Sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Club Pics

Pics (clockwise, top) John Jackson, Dave Woodall, Cindy Read, Chris Manion, and Jon Petrescu - all participating in various club functions.



Thanks for John Jackson and Cary Valentine for submitting these pics.

Refreshments

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

Charlie Mosse, Trisha Bonanpace, Roger Marr, Tim Kirkish, Glenn Ieeks, Jim Kimura, Cathy Edgar, Harlan and Mary Ann Price, Shirley Kavanaugh.

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, Tim Kirkish, Dave Woodall, Ken Bross, Jason Tucker, SDBC, Laurie Orange, Bob Meyer, John and Margaret Jackson, Jon and Terri Petrescu, Aldo Pia, Abe and Christian Far, Gary Jones, David English, Shirley Kavanaugh, Cindy Read.

Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing Coordinator

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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



TRISHA BONAPACE
 1235 WILLSON ROAD
 EL CAJON CA 92019

San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

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

March 11th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Master Harry Hirao)

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

April 8th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Theme: Bonsai Display)

April 28th and 29th Saturday and Sunday
 Spring Show and Sale

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

May 12th Saturday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Picnic and Silent Auction,
 Safari Park. This is a change from the traditional first
 Sunday in May routine.)

June 2nd and 16th Saturday
 SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

June 10th Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Presenter, to be announced)

July 8nd Sunday
 Regular SDBC Meeting (Presenter, to be announced)

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

Meeting Agenda

| Time | Activity | Rm |
|------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| 0900-1000 | Bonsai Fellowship, Bring a tree | 101 |
| Flexible | Harry Hirao Juniper Demo | 101 |
| Concurrent | Business Meeting Reports, Game! | 101 |
| 1200 | Lunch | 101 |
| 1220 | Benefit Drawing | 101 |
| 1230 | Workshops Black Pines | 101 |
| 1230 | Beginner Class | 104 |