



The Bonsai Wire

A Monthly Newsletter of the **San Diego Bonsai Club**

Volume 43, Issue 11

November 2017



Message from the President

Bob Hale, SDBC President

We have all fallen in love with small trees. After all, that is why we are into bonsai. We have all had that experience of buying a tree only to find out later that it is missing critical branches, has negative taper, or other serious flaws that will limit the tree's potential to mature into a good bonsai. Jonas Dupuich, this month's guest speaker, will tell you how to select good trees for bonsai that will save you time and money. Jonas is a highly respected bonsai authority and one of the top bonsai lecturers in the country. John Naka has said that to have a good bonsai tree, start with a hundred trees and keep two. So come and listen to Jonas and avoid those first ninety-eight trees!

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Next Meeting: 11/12

Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP



November we will have **Jonas Dupuich** as our guest presenter. I want to thank **Fred** and **Trisha Miyahara** for hosting **Jonas**. **Jonas'** presentation will be on the subject that is difficult for bonsai enthusiasts at many levels... How to select a quality tree whether you are

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SDBC Website Highlights:

Eric Jacobson, Webmaster

- Any feedback about the SDBC Website?
Shoot me an email at eric_ks@yahoo.com.

sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Election of new officers to be held at the November meeting

Katie Borton, TBW Editor

The following officer nominations took place at the October meeting: President, Barbara French-Lee; First VP, Darryl Elmer; Education VP, William (Bill) Graham; Membership VP, Susan Baker; Special Projects VP, Abe Far; Secretary, Nancy Wilson-Ramon; and Treasurer, Janice Hale. Bob Hale will be a member of the Board as Past President.

Officers will be elected at the November meeting. Written ballots will be required only for an office that is contested. Officers will be installed at the regular December meeting of the Club. Their term of office will commence on January 1 and be for one year or until their successor is elected. Officers may be re-elected (except the President may serve for only two consecutive terms.)

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Japanese Friendship Garden

Bonsai Curator:

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Liaison:

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Bonsai Pavilion, Safari Park

Curator:

John Jackson - bonsaijohn@cox.net

Assistant Curator:

Dennis Wagner - denisW@cox.net

Liaison:

'lyn Stevenson - inthegrove@cox.net

October Program in Review

Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP

October was picnic day at Lake Poway for our fundraiser. The weather was warm and breezy, all-in-all another great picnic and fundraiser. Thanks for all of the support.



Upcoming Trip: Winter Silhouettes Bonsai Show - January 13, 2018

Janice Hale, VP Special Projects

It's once again time for us to visit our friends, Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai, and enjoy their annual Winter Silhouettes bonsai show, potluck dinner, and raffle at the Los Angeles Arboretum. Each of the trees on exhibit are deciduous and as you may assume from the title, in their leafless winter glory. Some may still have their fall fruit, others may have new spring blossoms. The members of Baikoen are very talented and put on a spectacular show. The arboretum will be closed when we arrive for dinner and the show, but we will visit a bonsai nursery on our way.

Cost for the trip is \$40 for the bus and a dessert to share at the potluck dinner that evening. We will depart from the Balboa Park bus staging area at 11:00am and the Carlsbad staging area at 11:30am. We will return to Carlsbad by 10:30pm and Balboa Park by 11:00pm. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next Club meeting, or you can sign up via our website, www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com.

SDBC Education:

Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education

I hope everyone is keeping an eye on their trees. With the heat wave we just had, it is more important than ever to watch your watering and to not let your trees dry out.

Beginning Classes:



The third and final session of the Juniper Beginners Class will be in **DECEMBER**. This session will focus on finishing your styling and repotting your tree. Keep an eye on your trees and do not let them dry out. Please note the scheduling of this class, there is no class in November and the final class will be in December. The instructors are Mark and Cathy Edgar.

The class starts at 8:30 am in Room 104 Please be on time or a few minutes early. Observers are always welcome. Even if you did not get in to the class, you can still observe and learn.



New members are always excited about taking the Beginners Classes, and several have asked to be put on a waiting list for the next class. If you are a new member please note that sign-up sheets for all classes and workshops are first available at the Bonsai Club meeting TWO months before the classes/workshops are held. We do not start a waiting list until after the sign-up sheet has been put out at the meeting and filled.

In **November** the sign-up for the January Beginners Class will be posted. The class will be *Ulmus parvifolia*, Chinese Elms.

Intermediate Skills Workshops

November - Tecate Cypress

We have an exciting opportunity in November. Our own *Gary Jones* will be



hosting a workshop with Tecate Cypress that he has been working and prepping. Start time is 8:30 am in room 104.

December - Black Pine Follow Up



Gary Jones and Abe Far auction a black pine at the October Picnic.

Calling Black Pines!! *Fred Miyahara* will be doing a follow up for Black Pines from any of his workshops over the years. Bring them to the December Meeting for advice and guidance on how to keep your trees progressing.

Reminder

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30 am to 10:15 am on Club meeting days at Balboa Park. Also, don't forget to bring any trees that you would like some help or advice on from our excellent Bonsai Masters at the Club. Help is located in the back of Room 101 to the right of the stage.

If you have any ideas that can improve our programs or have skills that you would like to share please contact me at the Monthly Meeting or at wfgraham3rd@gmail.com.

New Members

Nazim Colak, SDBC VP of Membership

Please welcome our new members:

Griselda Perez, Andrea G. Tadeo, Cesar L. Tadeo, Kyle Icke, Xavier Rosetta, Christina Moran, Marco Patino, Azul Patino.



Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP

Thank you!



John Jackson generously donated this beautiful, thriving Trident Maple to the JFG. The tree was started and grown to its present size by **John**. Thanks to **Paul** and **Jose** of the JFG for helping place the tree.



This Cypress was donated by Harry Eijsermanas. Harry wants the donation to be in Everett Jones' name because it was originally Everett's tree. Everett Jones was a past president of SDBC and long time member. Also, thanks to Everett's son-in-law, Joe Castillo, for facilitating the donation, and to Glenn Jensen for its temporary home while the tree was recuperating from its odyssey to San Diego. The tree is growing nicely on its new pedestal.

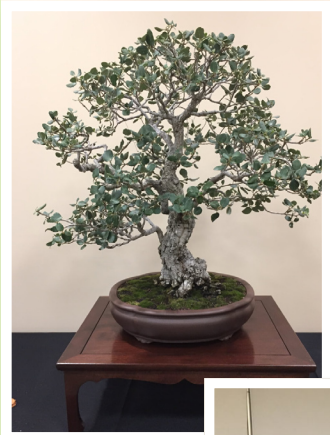
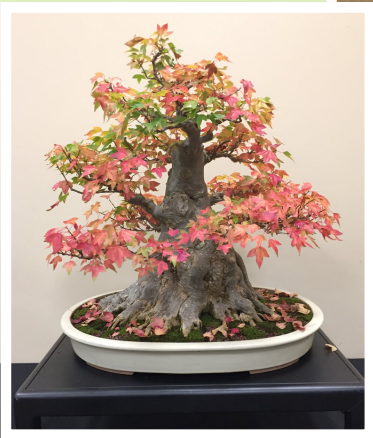
Other Bonsai Activities

- January 13th - 14th - Winter Silhouettes 54th Annual Exhibition. 310 North Baldwin Ave, Los Angeles, CA.
- February 2nd - 4th - 16th Biennial California Shohin Seminar by the [California Shohin Society](#), Santa Nella CA.
- February 17th - 18th - [GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt](#) Annual Mammoth Auction and Sale Fundraiser, Oakland CA.
- February 24th - 25th - [Bonsai-A-Thon at The Huntington](#), San Marino CA.
- April 19th - 22nd - [Gateway to Bonsai](#), Collinsville, IL.

2017 GSBF Convention: Oct 25-29, 2017

Katie Borton, TBW Editor

While everyone who attended and volunteered at the Convention is taking a collective breath, see below for some Convention exhibit eye candy. An actual wrap up of the event will be in next month's issue.



Bonsai Ideas #131 by Marty Mann

Dormant - But Not the Time to Ignore

November is a wonderful time to really see your trees. The foliage during most of the year obscures the skeleton and branch that form the inner tree. Now is the time to trim excess, crossing, misplaced and malformed branches. Study the radial formation of the rootage. Study the taper of the trunk line. Concentrate on building a twiggy branch structures. Wire branches during this dormant period with great care since they are brittle during cooler weather months. Try to see your tree with strong background lighting in order to properly study its design, shape and position in the pot. Deciduous material that is fully exposed can now be photographed (preferably in black and white) to be studied and refined.

Study groves or multi-tree arrangements. Trunks will stand out with strong detail. An overview of a group planting clearly show how the trees are positioned and how they relate to each other. The view offers an opportunity to improve the placement of individual or groups of trees in the pot before spring planting plans are finalized.

Preserving the health of a tree involves proper watering procedures during the dormant period in the cooler weather. Deciduous trees will have transformed from the beautiful fall colors, to barren silhouettes. Evergreen trees will appear dull, inactive and unchanging.

Since warm weather can occur at this time of year, potted trees should be watered regularly, but cautiously. Coolness slows growth and during this period of dormancy. Trees require only a dampening of the root zone. Protect hibernating trees from excessive moisture (I almost said RAIN) and prevailing winds. Transpiration of moisture is essentially non-existent. The porosity of a good bonsai soil mix allows moisture to quickly escape a shallow pot. If you count on the regularity of an automatic timed watering system, the timing cycle should be adjusted for winter requirements. It's a good time to let trees rest. Many fine bonsai are lost due to overindulgence during the winter months.

Concentrate on cleanup. Be sure to remove leaf droppings and flower buds left over from summer and fall. Removal of trash from the bonsai area is an important practice. If old leaves hang on, take them off. Continue to inspect bonsai for infestations of mites and scale. Remove most of the moss that has formed on potted trees. Don't encourage a home for insects.

Part of the wintertime activity during these months is the application of dormant sprays to kill over wintering

insects and fungus spores.

California weather never completely allows evergreen junipers to become truly dormant. By applying reduced applications of any good all purpose fertilizer during the winter months the plant will continue to store energy for the coming spring growth. This supplies the plants with important phos phorus, potassium and traces of other essential mineral elements. Azaleas and other acid loving plants can use a light feeding of Miracid.

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

Upcoming Trip:

Bonsai-A-Thon at The Huntington, Feb. 24, 2018

Janice Hale, VP Special Projects

The Bonsai-A-Thon is the annual fund raising extravaganza for the Golden State Bonsai Federation Collection at The Huntington. We'll enjoy a small bonsai show, demos by bonsai experts, a bonsai vendor bazaar and sale area, a tour of the grounds by Jim Folsom, Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens and...a raffle and exciting live auction of some pretty nice bonsai material and pots. The trees styled in that day's demonstrations will be up for auction.

Our special Early Bird Bonsai Club passes will also give you access to the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens for the day. You must take a walk over to see the bonsai collection in the Japanese Garden. Spectacular!!! Hamburgers and hot dogs are for sale at the B-A-T, and there are also dining options at The Huntington.

Cost for the trip is \$40 for the bus. We will depart from the Balboa Park bus staging area at 7:00am and the Carlsbad staging area at 7:30am. With cooperation of Saturday afternoon traffic, we will return to Carlsbad by 6:30pm and Balboa Park by 7:00pm. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next Club meeting, or you can sign up via our website, www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com.



The Huntington Library's Japanese Garden is a destination in and of itself.

SAN DIEGO BONSAI PAVILION

SAFARI PARK



The calendar may indicate that fall has arrived but we have experienced some of our very warmest/hottest days at the Pavilion during October. The Safari Park Staff is working during the week and the weekends to finish the Australia exhibit and they are now ahead of schedule... The new road and curbing in front of the Pavilion is almost completed.

We have been using that "closed to the public time" to continue updating and "remodeling" garden areas of the Pavilion. Volunteers, **Cathy** and **Barbara**, dug out our bearded irises along the streambeds for replanting later in the fall.



Charlie Tamm's donation of a very beautiful Japanese black pine to the Pavilion.

Volunteers, **Mori**, **Charlie**, **Mark**, **Connie**, and Curator **John** have been clearing the streambeds of muck and rocks, power washing the stream areas and then cementing in the rock edges. This is a huge job that will continue for several more work sessions. While these projects are continuing, our other volunteers are continue to trim and groom all the bonsai in the collection.

The raffle over the last couple of SDBC meetings concluded with a winner being drawn at the Lake Poway Picnic. Over \$1,000 was netted for the Bonsai Pavilion tables & pedestals project. The winner of the saikei-penjing was SDBC member, **Abe Far!** Thanks to all who supported this fund-raising project. More events will take place in the future.

A beautiful, large, Japanese Cork Bark Black Pine was generously donated to the Pavilion from Charlie Tamm's Estate. Curator **John** is preparing a new location for it and we hope to have it on display at our reopening in 2018.



'lyn collecting tickets for penjing raffle at the October picnic.

The Pavilion volunteers have an annual Christmas-Holiday Pot Luck Party and have decided to hold it on our December 2nd workday this year. **Jaya** has graciously volunteered to coordinate the affair but everyone will help to make it another wonderful celebration.

With all the construction, demolition, and plant removals going on around the Bonsai Pavilion, there have also been more dust and water problems. Water interruptions are being investigated and monitored by the volunteers and the Safari Park Staff regularly since it is paramount that the bonsai have twice-daily water feedings. Each bonsai has its own emitters while all the garden plantings have a different arrangement. This has been a major concern during this unusually warm autumn this year too. We are not running the waterfall and stream features in the Pavilion but all the ground plantings are constantly being groomed along with the bonsai. Many thanks always to the volunteers who are concerned and conscientious about keeping the SDBC Bonsai Pavilion so very beautiful and successful!

*'lyn Stevenson,
Liaison for SDBC Bonsai Pavilion and Safari Park*

Cementing in the streambed at the Pavilion



First the stones were cleared out of the stream bed. The cement was added, and all the rocks were cemented in along the sides. Rocks will then be placed into the bottom of the bed.

Library Update

Sonya Holmquist, SDBC Librarian

Hopefully we've seen the last of the extreme heat for this year, but while it is still scorched into our minds, check out some practical tips from [Jonas Dupuich's blog on "How to care for bonsai during heat waves"](#).

If you enjoy another bonsai-related blog, let me know so I can share it with our members.

T H A N K Y O U



All the refreshments that were brought to the potluck in October are greatly appreciated!

A special thanks to all the raffle doners as well!

SDBC Meeting Minutes

Sylvia Mosse, SDBC Secretary

October Meeting

1. Call to Order: The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:40 am at Lake Poway by Bob Hale, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.
2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the September 10, 2017 meeting were approved as published.
3. President's remarks: Bob welcomed everyone to the Bonsai meeting, picnic and auction. Bob stated that Nazim was not present so will start the Board Member reports with treasurer Janice Hale
4. Board Member Reports:
 - Janice Hale, Treasurer, reported: Club checking account: \$39,571.96, of which \$316.72 is available for the Japanese Friendship Garden. Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion checking: \$12,658.44. Total Funds: \$52,230.40. Year-to-Date Net Loss <\$5,413.86>.
 - Janice Hale, Special Projects, reported: We had 3,678 visitors at our Fall Show who donated \$445. Sales table members made \$7,400 and donated \$2,041 to SDBC. The trip to the Winter Silhouettes Show hosted by Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai is coming up on Saturday January 13, 2018. Tickets for the bus are \$40. Bus will leave Balboa Park at 11 am and will pick-up in Carlsbad at 11:30. The bus will return to Balboa Park by 11pm. Take desserts for our donation to the potluck dinner! We will visit a bonsai nursery on the way up. The Bonsai-A-Thon, which is the annual fundraising event for the GSBF Collection @ Huntington, is scheduled for Feb 24-25, 2018. Activities include raffle, auction, show, demos and vendors. We will be taking a bus up on Feb. 24th, leaving Balboa Park at 7 am and 7:30 am in Carlsbad. Cost is \$40. GBFS Convention is October 25-29, 2017 at the Riverside Convention Center. There are 2 tours scheduled for Wednesday: 1) Canyon Crest Winery, and 2) Bonsai Collection Tour - David Nguy, Peter Macasieb, and Tak Shimazu. Thursday-Sunday: workshops, seminars, and critiques. Auction of trees each night. Website: gsbfconvention.org
- Charlie Mosse, 1st Vice President, reported: November 12 features Jonas Dupuich who has extensive training and experience within the Bonsai community. He is an amazing instructor. Sign up for one of four 45-minute slots with Jonas in the afternoon; bring in your Black Pines, Junipers, Elms, etc. for \$25. Jonas will also have an all day workshop on Saturday Nov 11, hosted by Fred Miyahara. Cost will run between \$40 to \$50 for 1 hour. The styling competition is set for Dec. 10th. There are 4 procumbens 'nana' plants available. We're scheduled for tree repotting workshop in January. Bring in your trees that need repotting. Help and soil will be provided by the SDBC for this workshop.
- Bill Graham, VP for Education, reported: Bill stated that there will be no beginning classes in October and November. November Tecate Cypress workshop will be taught by Gary Jones; there are still 2 spots available. In December we'll have the Black Pine follow-up with Fred Miyahara. Upcoming in 2018: In January Abe Far will be teaching the Beginners class using Elms grown by Eric Jacobson. There will be a grafting class in February grafting Shimpaku onto Juniper 'prostrata'. Michael Sykes has his Foemina follow-up scheduled for April.
5. Nominating Committee Report:
 - Abe Far and Dan Sola as members of the SDBC Board nominating committee announced the following nominees: President Barbara French-Lee; 1st VP Darryl Elmer; VP for Education Bill Graham; VP Special Projects Abe Far; VP Membership Susan Baker; Treasurer Janice Hale; Secretary Nancy Wilson-Ramon. There was an additional request from the floor to nominate Mark Edgar for President.
6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Upcoming Programs

Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP

December

December is the styling competition. We have 4 'nanas', aka Dwarf Japanese Garden Juniper, for the teams. These Junipers are easy to style and grow; basically a very forgiving plant. They have nice tight foliage and flexible branches for wiring, making them an ideal plant for bonsai. It is unfortunate that such a good plant for bonsai has such a bad name due to them being grown by the tens of thousands as "mall-sai". Bad care tags stating they can be grown inside guaranteed certain death. So we are bringing it back to life. We bought these earlier this year, re-potted them and have let them grow. The trees have been trimmed by **Gary Jones** and his Friday Group: **Sonya Holmquist**, **Nancy Wilson-Ramon** and **Paul Lawrence**, and also **John Jackson**. Your help is greatly appreciated. Last year's pairing of an inexperienced member with an experienced member worked so well that we are going to do it again. This a great opportunity for new members to work with one of our experienced members in a fun, no stress atmosphere. **We need volunteers for 3-4 teams.** The trees will be auctioned off the same day or in the spring of 2018.

January

January is good time to focus on soils and repotting, November through March being the best time period for re-potting Pines, Junipers, deciduous trees and most evergreens. Trees that have been properly repotted on a regular basis are relatively easy to repot since they have a healthy root system and the root ball is relatively easy to work. However, problems arise when trees are very root bound, roots are in poor condition, the tree is not healthy or the tree needs to go into a significantly smaller pot. Questions arise like: If a root ball is very hard, brick hard as it were, is it ok to "re-do" the root ball in two sessions...one session now and another re-pot in a year or two? Should I use a different soil? If so, what should it be? Should the tree be anchored to the pot even if it is not a big tree? Are there different ways to properly anchor a tree? If the some of the original nursery or native soil is still stuck inside of the root ball, does it have to be removed? The tree needs a smaller pot, how small can I go? What is the proper pot shape? The roots are in poor condition, how much should I remove and what type of soil mix and container size should I use for repotting a sick root system? These are some of the basic questions. This is a great time to get those questions answered and get some help with a difficult tree. As benign and mundane as re-potting appears to be, it is the most important procedure in assuring a strong root system, and therefore a healthy tree. A healthy tree can

be safely pruned and wired, and recover quickly from being worked. It is also a perfect time to re-position your tree, via rotating or tilting, to better show the tree.

Members are invited to bring in a tree in the morning for re-potting help.... first come first served starting at 8:30. Soil, pot screen and tie-down wire will be provided by the club.

Next Meeting, Continued from Page 1

beginning in bonsai or further along, whether one is selecting nursery plants, pre-bonsai or bonsai. The process is similar in some respects and very different in other respects. **Jonas** is going to cover this often confusing and intimidating step in the process of creating bonsai. Sometimes working backwards from a finished product, reverse engineering as it were, is more enlightening than mentally muscling your way from the beginning through the process of how to style or modify an existing style of a tree. We will judge refined trees and then work backwards from there using lesser refined trees down to cleaned nursery stock. Judging an advanced tree to evaluate what makes it a good bonsai or not so good bonsai will help you to look a potential trees a lot differently. After his presentation, you will have a much easier time selecting trees regardless of the level of tree you are needing.

Jonas has studied for about 20 years with [Boon Manakitivipart](#), an internationally known and respected bonsai artist. He also studied with **Akio Kondo** and **Daisaku Nomoto** and [Junichiro Tanaka](#). He has worked on trees from **Mr. Tanaka's** collection and participated in exhibits including Gomangoku, Meifu-ten, Taikan-ten and Sakufu-ten. He is thoroughly versed in all aspects of bonsai, and continues his education when traveling to Japan. He is highly skilled with the many varieties of trees we find in bonsai. **Jonas** teaches around the country from the Pacific Northwest to Connecticut, and extensively in the Bay Area and Northern California. **Jonas** offers monthly workshops at his nursery in Alameda California, and also has a website with a very informative blog where an article is added twice per week. Check out the [photos from his recent trip to the Sierras](#) of beautifully accented trees by an early snowfall. **Jonas'** website, [Bonsai Tonight](#), is very informative. Once on the site, click on [BONSAI BLOG](#) and you will see different general topics. Here are some links to two excellent photo progressions. One is the deciduous [Korean hornbeam](#) and the other is the evergreen [yaupon holly](#). Take a little extra time to study these as there is a lot to see. **Jonas'** workshops on Saturday the 11th and Sunday the 12th are filled. You are welcome to be silent observers.

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.

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San Diego, CA 92138-6037



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Mtg. Agenda:

November 12

8:30 - 10:25 am Prado 104

Tecate Cypress:
Gary Jone

9:00 - 10:20 am Prado 101

Bonsai Assistance:
John Voss

9:00 - 10:25 am Prado 104

Library Open

10:30 - 10:55 am Prado 101

Business Meeting

10:55 - 11:00 am Prado 101

Officer Elections

11:00 - 12:00 am Prado 101

Jonas Dupuich

12:00 pm Prado 101

Raffle & Refreshment

SDBC Upcoming Events:

Nov 12th (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Jonas Dupuich
Nov 18th (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Dec 2nd (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Dec 10th (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Styling Competition
Dec 16th (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Jan 6th (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Jan 13th (Sat)	Winter Silhouettes trip
Jan 14th (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Repotting!
Jan 20th (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Feb 3rd (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Feb 11th (Sun)	Regular Meeting - TBD
Feb 17th (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Mar 3rd (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Mar 11th (Sun)	Regular Meeting - TBD