



# The Bonsai Wine

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

Volume 43, Issue 12

December 2017



## Message from the President

*Bob Hale, SDBC President*

We have two upcoming trips that will give us an opportunity to put into practice what **Jonas** has taught us on the selection of good bonsai trees. The first opportunity is in mid-January with our trip to the Winter Silhouettes with stops at two bonsai nurseries along the way. The second opportunity is the trip to the Bonsai-A-Thon at the Huntington in late February. There will be plenty of Club members on these trips to converse with on the pros and con of each tree thus assuring selection of only the better trees. And if you are looking for the ultimate shopping experience hang with **Bill Graham**. He will not only give you good advice but just might talk the seller into a discount (I saved 25% on a tree with Bill's help at the convention)!

## In This Issue

President's Message	1
Program Preview: December	1
Club Officer Information	2
Website Update	2
Thank You	2
Review of November Program	3
Upcoming Trip: Winter Silhouettes	3
Education Updates	4
Membership Update	4
Japanese Friendship Garden Update	5
GSBF Convention Exhibit Photos	6
Upcoming Trip: Bonsai-a-Thon	6
Spring Show: April	6
Other Bonsai Activities	7
SDBC Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park	8
Photos of Workshops with Jonas Dubuich	9
Library Update	9
Membership Renewal Reminder	9
November Meeting Minutes	10
Preview of January Program	11
December Meeting Agenda	12
Calendar of Upcoming Events	12

## Next Meeting: 12/10 Styling, Decorating & Potluck Day!

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP  
Janice Hale, VP Special Projects*

### Styling Competition

We will have three teams styling the 'nanas', aka dwarf Japanese garden junipers. 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. But as forgiving as they are, we do have to remember that the strength of a Juniper is in the foliage. This means that removal of too much foliage weakens the plant. Junipers can recover nicely after alot of foliage removal, but they will recover much faster if the amount of foliage removal is somewhat conservative. More removal can be done later after the plant bounces back. Good for the health of the plant and it gives you time to study the tree and evaluate what you are going to do to further the styling of the tree.

Last year's pairing of an inexperienced member with an

*Continued on Page 11*

# SDBC Website Highlights:

*Eric Jacobson, Webmaster*

- Newsletters from March 2012 back through January 2010 have been scanned and are available to club members:
  - <https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/newsletter.html>
  - We are missing October and November 2011. If anyone has copies, we would like to borrow them.
- A digital **Boon**-style bonsai evaluation card has been added:
  - <https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/eval.html>
- The website now operates using secure socket layer (SSL) which means traffic to the site is encrypted.

**sandiegobonsaiclub.com**



All the refreshments that were brought to the meeting in November were enjoyed by all!

A special thanks to all the raffle doners as well!

The Bonsai Wire (TBW) is published monthly by the San Diego Bonsai Club (SDBC) except for May. TBW and the SDBC logo are properties of SDBC. Articles are provided by SDBC members. Any articles submitted by non-SDBC members—if published—become property of SDBC. All submitted articles are subject to editing. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the SDBC Board.

# SDBC Elected Officers & Appointed Positions:

## **President:**

Bob Hale - bobhale42@gmail.com

## **1st Vice President:**

Charlie Mosse - chasmosse@gmail.com

## **VP for Education:**

Bill Graham - wfgraham3rd@gmail.com

## **VP for Special Projects:**

Janice Hale - janicehale42@gmail.com

## **Treasurer:**

Janice Hale - janicehale42@gmail.com

## **VP for Membership:**

Nazim Colak - nazimcolak@yahoo.com

## **Secretary:**

Sylvia Mosse - smosse448@gmail.com

## **Past President:**

Dan Sola - soladan@att.net

## **Webmaster:**

Eric Jacobson - eric\_ks@yahoo.com

## **Tool Sales Manager:**

Chris & Melissa Strows - cstrows@gmail.com

## **Historian:**

Sonya Holmquist - sholmquist3@cox.net

## **Benefit Drawing Manager:**

John Polo - jfpolo@excite.com

## **Sunshine Chair:**

Susan Baker - baker@susanMbaker.com

## **Librarian:**

Sonya Holmquist - sholmquist3@cox.net

## **Refreshment Coordinator:**

Sue Carter - susangcarter2004@att.net

## **Publicity:**

Veronica Perondi - veronicamae@me.com

## **Audio Visual:**

Nicholas Nociforo/Jim Perondi -  
veronicamae@me.com

## **The Bonsai Wire Editor:**

Katie Borton - katieborton@gmail.com

## **The Bonsai Wire Postal Distributor:**

Shirley Kavanaugh, Jr

## **Japanese Friendship Garden**

## **Bonsai Curator:**

Glenn Jensen - glenn@bajaphotographer.com

## **Liaison:**

Barbara French-Lee - barbflee@hotmail.com

## **Bonsai Pavilion, Safari Park**

## **Curator:**

John Jackson - bonsaijohn@cox.net

## **Assistant Curator:**

Dennis Wagner - denisW@cox.net

## **Liaison:**

'lyn Stevenson - inthegrove@cox.net

# November Program in Review

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

**Jonas'** presentation was very well received. After evaluating the quality bonsai provided by **Fred Miyahara** and **Neil Auwarter**, there was a better understanding of what a quality tree should look like with respect to the major things we look for.

Some of the initial obstacles are:

1. People buy what they like, not what has the basic characteristics for a good bonsai.
2. Many buy for now, not for how the tree will develop in the future because many times the tree looks "cool".
3. Many look at the tree from many angles and stare inside the tree but do not examine the tree from what will probably be the front and study at a height at about 1/3 of the way up the front of the tree.

4. We all like to work on problems we have with our trees. But when buying a new tree, what kinds of problems are there and how much do I know about the problems at which I am looking? Which problems are truly solvable? Which problems do I want to spend the time and effort to solve? Many think, "Oh, I can fix that flaw, this flaw and that other flaw and do this and that to the tree." When all of that is added up, you have a long term project and it maybe not end up being a good tree. However, sometimes trees are bought for practicing on to develop bonsai skills. That is good. But let's go beyond that and see what makes a good tree and then eventually work backwards from a quality tree to determine how to buy quality young trees to develop into a quality bonsai. Developing quality trees from quality stock is faster, a bit cheaper and less work.



The following are excerpts from **Jonas'** handout and

*Continued on Page 7*

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

*Janice Hale, VP Special Projects*

We are very excited to be returning to the Los Angeles Arboretum for the annual Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai Winter Silhouettes bonsai show. All of the trees are deciduous and exhibited in their leafless form. You can truly admire the shape of the trees, from nebari to apex, with nothing hidden.

Each spring the members of Baikoen attend our Spring Show, dinner and raffle. We, in return attend their Winter Silhouettes show. We'll join the members of Baikoen for a potluck dinner, where we, the San Diego Bonsai Club, provide dessert. And what is a bonsai show with out a raffle and auction? Don't worry! The raffle and auction at the Winter Silhouettes show is a blast. Please, be generous and bring something to donate to the raffle.

Prior to dinner there will be a live Taiko Drum ensemble performance. This is probably my favorite part of the trip and an experience you don't want to miss. These drummers are very talented and their performance is spell binding.

On the way up to the show we have a bit of shopping planned. The first stop will be to visit with **David** and **June Nguy**. Their bonsai collection is absolutely fabulous. You'll feel like you have attended a bonsai show during your visit. They have pots and trees for sale. The next stop will be at San Gabriel Nursery. They also have pots and trees for sale, with some smaller pre-bonsai that may interest our newer members. Our more experienced members will be there to guide you in your selection if you have any questions.

Dinner is around 6:30 and we will not be stopping for lunch. So be sure to bring a sack lunch to eat on the bus and snacks to tide you over. Bottled water will be available. Also, bring cardboard boxes to hold your treasures in the cargo area of the bus. This will keep things from sliding around and easier to find at the end of the trip.

Cost for the trip is \$40 for the bus and a dessert to share at the potluck. 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](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com).



# SDBC Education:

*Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education*

2017 is coming to a close!! What a year it has been! I would like to express my gratitude to all of the Club members who volunteered and helped me this year. With the risk of missing some and in no particular order, here goes: *Gary Jones, Fred Miyahara, Michael Sykes, Glenn Jensen, John Jackson, Abe and Christine Far, Brenda Crann, Mark and Cathy Edgar, Susan Ronan, Dan Sola, Bob and Janice Hale, Charlie and Sylvia Mosse, Eric Jacobson, Shirley Kavanaugh, Dennis Wagner, Barbara French-Lee and John Voss.* (If I missed you and you helped, I apologize!) Thank you for teaching classes, helping me set up and tear down, hosting workshops, providing trees and all around making it so I survived this year!! I would also like to thank all of the member who took these classes and workshops and made my 1st year as the Vice President of Education a rousing success!! I thank you from the bottom of my heart and look forward to another great year!!



## 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. The instructors are *Mark and Cathy Edgar.*

The class starts at 8:30 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.



The January Beginners Class has been posted and is starting to fill. There are still spots available. The list will be at the December Meeting. The class will be *Ulmus parvifolia*, Chinese elms.



*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.*

## Intermediate Skills Workshops

### December - Black Pine Follow Up

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.

### January - Club Repotting

As part of the January Meeting, the Club will be hosting its annual repot day. We will be doing this both before and after the business meeting. Bring a tree that needs to be repotted. The Club will provide soil and help as needed.

### February - Grafting

Our own grafting Master, Fred Miyahara, will be hosting a grafting workshop at the February meeting. Understock, scions, tape and bags will be provided. You will need to bring a grafting knife. We will be grafting shimpaku on to nanas. The class is limited to 10 people total. The sign-up sheet has started and will be at the December meeting.

## 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](mailto:wfgraham3rd@gmail.com).

## New Members

*Nazim Colak, SDBC VP of Membership*

### Please welcome our new members:

*John & Diane Chavez, Gina Feletar, Heather Hodgetts, Gracie Hodgetts Couper, Tristan Jones, Chuck Medina, Albert Preciado.*



## Update from the Japanese Friendship Garden

*Glenn Jensen, JFG Bonsai Curator*

San Diego Bonsai Club's Japanese Friendship Garden bonsai volunteers have had a great year enjoying bonsai and sharing our passion with visitors to the Japanese Friendship Garden.

Many thanks to our volunteers, *Barbara French-Lee, Charlie Mosse, Nancy Wilson-Ramon, Mori Suemori, Kumiko Mori, Warren Tam, Harlan and Maryann Price, Dan Sola, Bob and Janice Hale*, and JFG staff members.

The Club's ever improving collection at the Japanese Friendship Garden has received significant contributions of bonsai created by local artists which have enhanced the exhibit. Presently we are planning a very much needed growing, working and storage area that the Garden has generously provided for us.

2017 has been a wonderful bonsai year and we are all looking forward to more challenges and rewards in 2018.

## Recent Work on the Garden is Paying Off

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

Please change to, Photos 1 and 2 convey the serenity and beauty of a incredibly well designed garden as it matures.

Photo 3 is the mondo grass before removal and clump separation by the JFG staff. Uneven growth due to trampling and mother nature, make the mondo grass look a little too natural for the more formal look of the garden. Incredible sight at that amount of square footage that's been re-planted.

Photo 4 is of the beautiful result of the very painstaking process of re-planting the mondo grass one tiny clump at a time. Estimating that the garden staff have re-planted about 1000 sqft with more to be done; literally many thousands of clumps so far.





# GSBF Convention

*Janice Hale, VP Special Projects*



**Swearing in of 2018 GSBF officers & trustees.**

On behalf of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 40th Convention committee, thanks to all who came to Riverside to enjoy the convention. San Diego Bonsai Club was well represented. Many members of SDBC took point in running the convention, **Abe Far** as Chairman, **Dan Sola** for security, **Eric Jacobson** created and maintained the new convention website, **Steve & Cary Valentine** organized all of the vendors and created the festive dinning room decor, and I did a little work as registrar and treasurer. Thanks to my wonderful hubby, **Bob**, for all of his help and moral support.

Thanks to all who contributed to the raffle and auctions. Congrats to **John Jackson** for winning the prize for best

native species bonsai with his Lemonade Berry. Congratulations to **Jim Perondi** who attended with the club's Power-of-One grant. He picked up some really nice trees in the vendor area.

Thank you to **Ken Bross, Brenda Crann, Mark Edgar, Darryl and Christine Elmer, Barbara French-Lee, Bill Graham, Sonya Holmquist, Susan Mae Hull** (my MVP), **Charlie and Silvia Mosse, Fred Miyahara, Ray Stives, Michael Sykes, Dennis Wagner, Christina Vargas and Nancy Wilson-Ramon**. I know I've forgotten someone, so my apologies. You all donated hours and hours of time to help make the convention a success. Photos of the exhibited bonsai trees can be seen on our club website.



**One of the "Headliners", Mr. Kunio Kobayashi of Japan, conducting his "Bring Your Own Tree" workshop.**

## 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 event for the Golden State Bonsai Federation Collection at The Huntington. Your day at the B-A-T will include a bonsai show, demonstrations by bonsai experts, a bonsai vendor bazaar, a sale area and of course a raffle and live auction. A tour of the grounds by **Jim Folsom**, Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens will be available the morning. The trees styled in that day's demonstrations will be up for auction in the afternoon. Please bring items to donate to the raffle. Or you can support the vendors and buy something from them to donate to the raffle. Win-Win!

Our special Early Bird Bonsai Club passes also give you access to the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens for the day. Be sure to take a walk over to see the bonsai collection in the Japanese Garden. This is where the proceeds of the B-A-T are invested. Hamburgers and hot dogs are for sale for lunch at the B-A-T, and there are also dining options available on the grounds of 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](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com).

## Spring Show: April 28-29, 2018

*Janice Hale, VP Special Projects*

It's not too early to start choosing which trees you'd like to exhibit at our spring bonsai show. Please mark your calendars so you don't miss the festivities with our annual dinner and raffle. We'll also need your help on April 26th to set up the showroom and on April 27th to set up the trees and sale area. Here is a chance for each of you to give back to SDBC with a few hours of your time. We'll need all the volunteers we can get to put on the biggest and best bonsai show in Southern California.

comments:

- **Trunk:** Is there taper? This is dependent on species. Does the bark look young or older? There will be scaly bark on older pines, deeper fissures in the bark on older junipers. Are there scars that detract or do they enhance the tree. Scars on deciduous trees are avoided. Is there movement and is it proper in relation to the size and species of the tree, rugged and subtle in pines, more twists and turns in junipers and more graceful movement in deciduous trees.
- **Branches:** Are the branches in the correct location, that is are they spaced out properly on the trunk correctly by style, tree size and species? Do the branches get smaller in diameter as they get higher on the tree? Are the lower branches angled down as with older trees? Are there bark scales or fissures as in older conifers? Is there significant ramification as in older looking trees? If branch location is not correct, are the flaws reasonably fixable?
- **Surface Roots:** Do they look like they support the tree? Do they look too big or small in relation to the trunk/tree? Do they look natural, coming out from the trunk not wrapping around the base or grossly crossing over each other? If they cross or go in a bad direction, are those flaws reasonably fixable.
- **Pot selection:** This is for another time, and Jonas does mention that it is more important when displaying a tree or buying a finished bonsai than when buying stock or pre-bonsai. Even a tree with an appropriate pot can have the pot changed if a better one is found. Basically, is the pot appropriate for the style of the tree, is it the right size and does the pot itself show age?
- **Overall Aesthetics:** Does the tree represent the species well? Does your pine look like a pine? Does your elm or hackberry look like an elm or hackberry or does it look like a pine? Trees can be trained almost any way you want, but almost always will look better when trained like the species would grow naturally. Lastly, it is your tree, you are the artist. Do I like the look of the tree in my yard?

Using these questions is very useful when critiquing trees, critiquing your own tree and when buying trees. When buying young trees one has to use their imagination and experience to determine if the tree is worth the time and effort. Many times it is better to buy the more expensive tree because it is older, and if you are buying from reputable nursery, the tree will have

been properly trained, but not always.” Please change to, Many times it is better to buy the more expensive, older tree; yes, you are buying someone’s time. Only age can impart certain things like mature bark. If you are buying from a reputable nursery, the tree will have had some training.



We did not get to the end of the subject of reverse engineering. This is another way to learn how to improve how we select good trees whether they are raw stock, pre-bonsai or bonsai. However we did get off to a great start. As you can see, this is a wide and deep subject that varies by the different combinations of plant variety and style. This subject needs continual attention to learn its basics and many years to truly understand its nuances. Later on one sees that once a tree is styled correctly, the subtleties you style into the tree will greatly enhance the tree.

Stay with it, because as we saw, the beauty of the trees is very much worth the effort to learn what makes a quality bonsai. Jonas will be back in August to continue with the subject.

[Jonas' website](#) is very informative. Once on the site, click on BONSAI BLOG and you will see different general topics. I have Jonas' handouts which I can email to you if you would like to have a copy.

## Other Bonsai Activities

- 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.
- April 19th - 22nd - [Gateway to Bonsai](#), Collinsville, IL.



# SAN DIEGO BONSAI PAVILION

## SAFARI PARK



As of November, 2017, the Bonsai Pavilion volunteers have donated over 2400 hours of special care to the Pavilion at Safari Park for this year alone! This special care involved: maintaining, planting, trimming, grooming, watering, weeding, designing, transplanting, potting, repotting, fertilizing, pool cleaning, cementing river rocks, foliage clearing, teaching, explaining techniques to visitors etc., etc., etc. . . Members often ask what we do at the Pavilion. . . this list may give an inkling of the generous volunteer involvement in the hours that have been expended. . . There are always projects and learning and participation by newcomers available in the future too. . . SDBC members are encouraged to join this Pavilion cadre in 2018 too! The November volunteer included: **Neil Auwarter, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Bob & Janice Hale, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Connie Kraus, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Janet & Ron Palmer, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Roberts, 'lyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suemori, Dennis Wagner, & Dave Woodall.** Thanks and congratulations always on your dedication! Thanks for yummy refreshments from **John, Cathy, Jaya, 'lyn, Sylvia, the Palmers, and Anonymous** too. Our annual Christmas/Holiday Potluck Luncheon Party will take place after our December 2nd work session and we will report more about that in January. Our best Christmas-Holiday wishes to all the Volunteers and all the SDBC Members and Families. We look forward to reopening the Pavilion to visitors early in 2018!

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

## A fun Volunteer Day at the Safari Park!

On November 27, **Sonya** and **I** finished preparing the iris beds by removing rock and dead junipers in front of the pond while Barbara trimmed the irises.

We had to bring in extra soil to raise the beds once the rock was removed. We finally got to the fun part—planting the irises with soil amendment and fertilizer.



Irises were planted around the pond and on one side of the stream between the interior bridges. We need to finish cementing rock on the stream sides from the front gate to the first interior bridge before we can finish planting the rest of the irises. We may also plant them in the front. We have small irises that we won't be using to give away.



Also on Monday, **Mark** and **John** finished removing all the rock from the bottom of

the stream out front. **Mark** power washed all the rock surrounding the pond and stream.

What a busy day! **Mark, John, and I** worked 7 hours while **Barbara** and **Sonya** worked 4 hours!

*Cathy Edgar*





# Workshops with Jonas Dubuich

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

**Ken Bross's Japanese Black Pine:** Starting of the needle plucking (right) and after the needle plucking (below).



**Bob Hale's Sierra Juniper:** Before any work was done (right) and after the lower branch removal and wiring of the remaining lower branches, leaving the choice of an apex for later.



## Library Update

*Sonya Holmquist, SDBC Librarian*

This month, **Fred Miyahara** will again be helping club members with their black pines, so I will again tout the resources our library has on this well-loved bonsai material.

- *Pines, Bonsai Today Masters' Series*
- *Pine Bonsai in the Temperate Climate*, Leong Kwong
- Bonsai Boon's series of DVDs on Japanese Black Pines: Repotting, Decandling, Wiring & Styling, and Fall Maintenance. (Because this series is so popular, we have acquired a new set!)

Check out **Jonas Dupuich's** recent post "[How to create exposed root pine bonsai](#)".

You might also want to look over the many articles on black pines in [Bonsai Today](#), including creating a cascade black pine (Issue 7, page 40), growing a black pine from seed (Issue 12, page 20 and Issue 20, pages 39 and 51), bunjin styling (Issue 33, page 46), shohin pine (Issue 35, page 49).

The pine resources in our library are always in high demand...so, if you have had any of these for more than a month, please return them so others may learn.

## Time to Renew Your Memberships!

*Katie Borton, TBW Editor*

Don't forget to renew your membership so you are in good standing and can partake in the upcoming events and classes!

Go to the [membership page of the website](#) or talk to Nazim at the next meeting.



*Kathy Shaner leading one of many intimate workshops at this year's GSBF in October. (See page 6.)*

# SDBC Meeting Minutes

*Sylvia Mosse, SDBC Secretary*

## November Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:30 in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 101, by Bob Hale, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the October 8, 2017 meeting were approved as published.
3. **President's remarks:** In celebration of Veterans' Day, Bob honored the Bonsai Club Veterans and their spouses for their service and support. Bob thanked all the SDBC members who helped out at the GSBF Convention in Riverside. There was a large contingent of SDBC members who spent many hours before and during the convention to make it a success.
4. **Board Member Reports:**
  - Nazim Colak, VP for membership, reported: New members who have just signed up can get free raffle tickets for today's raffle. He announced the names of the new members. Renewal for existing membership starts this month.
  - Charlie Mosse, 1st Vice President, reported: Today's program features Jonas Dupuich. His website, Bonsai Tonight, is very informative. The styling competition is set for Dec. 10th, using procumbens 'nana' junipers. Charlie needed one more experienced bonsai member to lead the third group. Abe Far volunteered. We're scheduled for tree repotting workshop in January. Bring in your trees that need repotting. SDBC will provide free wire, screen, potting soil and help for this workshop. Bill Graham, Charlie and Bob Hale will be mixing bonsai soil at Charlie's home in the near future. Anyone interested in helping out will be welcomed.
  - Bill Graham, VP for Education, reported: The final beginning class will be held next month. No workshop scheduled for December. Gary Jones did a great job with the Tecate cypress workshop this morning. In December there will be a black pine follow-up with Fred Miyahara. January's beginner's class: Chinese elms. The sign-up sheet is in the back. Also, in January is the Club re-pot workshop. February Workshop: Grafting with Fred Miyahara root-stock, scion, tape, & bags provided – bring your own grafting knife. April: Michael Sykes - Foemina follow-up.
- Janice Hale, VP Special Projects, reported: There were two SDBC members who showed trees in the Fall Show for the first time: Susan Mae Hull and Michael Shelly. Janice presented a copper SDBC pin to each of them. January 13, 2018: We will visit a TBD bonsai nursery on our way to the Los Angeles Arboretum for the Winter Silhouettes Show hosted by Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai. Cost for bus trip is \$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. Bring a sack lunch as we will not stop for lunch. Bring a dessert to share at the potluck dinner! 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. Our early bird passes gives us access to the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens. Please be sure to visit the bonsai court at the Japanese Garden. 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. Bring items to donate to the raffle table. The California Shohin Seminar will be held in Santa Nella at the Hotel Mission de Oro, a 6 hour drive from San Diego. Our club's shohin group will be entering our trees in the exhibit. Janice has registration forms if you are interested.
- Janice Hale, Treasurer, reported: Club checking account: \$41,495.01, of which \$316.72 is available for the Japanese Friendship Garden. Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion checking: \$13,018.44. Total Funds: \$54,513.45. Year-to-Date Net Loss <\$3, 130.81>. The Lake Poway Live Auction brought in \$1,898; the Silent Auction \$581; Permit and parking costs <\$567>; Food costs <\$139>. Profit of \$1,773.
5. **Appointed Position Reports:**
  - John Jackson, SDBC Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Curator, reported: We had 12



# January Program

*Charlie Mosse, SDBC 1st VP*

volunteers helping out on November 4th. Help is still needed at the Bonsai Pavilion to work on the trees. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact 'Lyn Stevenson for more information.

- Bob Hale, for Glenn Jensen, JFG Curator, reported: We are working on a workspace area at the JFG. All the details can be found in the JFG article in the November Bonsai Wire.
- Nominating Committee Report: Dan Sola announced the following nominees for the 2018 Board of Directors: 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; Past President: Bob Hale. Dan called for a vote from the general membership. The vote was unanimous to accept the Board as presented.

6. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am.

## *Next Meeting, Continued from Page 1*

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. The trees will be auctioned off the same day or in the spring of 2018.

### **Bonsai Tree Decorating Contest**

It's close to sacrilege, but oh so fun. We have an annual bonsai tree decorating contest at our December meeting with a small prize for the winner. Now since it's close to Christmas, most folks go with a Christmas tree theme. Just to let you know, the winner last year was Neil Auwarter, whose yaupon holly didn't have a single ornament. It was covered with perfect bright red holly berries and was simply spectacular. So go crazy or go simple, but please join in the fun. We look forward to seeing your tree!



### **December Meeting Special Potluck**

In addition to our annual styling competition and bonsai tree-decorating contest, our lunch will be more extravagant. Similar to the Lake Poway Picnic, the club will provide some cold sliced turkey and ham for lunch. We ask that you bring side dishes, salads and desserts.

January is good time to focus on soils and repotting, November-March being the best time period for re-potting pines, junipers, deciduous trees and most evergreens. Trees that have been properly repotted regularly 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 some of the original nursery or native soil is still stuck inside of the root ball, does it have to be removed? For 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? This is a great time to get these 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 the best time to re-position your tree, via rotating or tilting. 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. Get dirty and learn some of the important techniques and nuances of re-potting; also observe. The morning session will end at about 10:15 to get ready for the meeting. There will be time after the meeting starting about 1 pm to complete re-potting started in the morning or to start re-potting.



*Gary had a busy Tecate cypress workshop in Nov.*

**San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.**

**PO Box 86037**

**San Diego, CA 92138-6037**



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

## Next Mtg. Agenda:

*December 10*

<b>8:30 - 10:25 am</b> Juniper Beginner Class	Prado 104
<b>9:00 - 10:25 am</b> Library Open	
<b>9:00 am</b> Christmas Display Setup	Prado 101
<b>9:00 - 10:20 am</b> Bonsai Assistance: John Voss	
<b>10:00 - 10:30 am</b> Business Meeting	
<b>10:30-10:40 am</b>	
Installation of Officers	
<b>11:00 - 12:00 am</b> Styling Competition	
<b>12:00 pm</b> Raffle & Refreshment	

## SDBC Upcoming Events:

<b>Dec 10th (Sun)</b>	Regular Meeting: Styling Competition
<b>Dec 16th (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Jan 6th (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Jan 13th (Sat)</b>	Winter Silhouettes trip
<b>Jan 14th (Sun)</b>	Regular Meeting: Repotting!
<b>Jan 20th (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Feb 3rd (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Feb 11th (Sun)</b>	Regular Meeting - TBD
<b>Feb 17th (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Feb 24th-25th (Sat-Sun)</b>	Bonsai-A-Thon
<b>Mar 3rd (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Mar 11th (Sun)</b>	Regular Meeting - TBD
<b>Mar 17th (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day
<b>Apr 7th (Sat)</b>	Safari Park Work Day