



The Bonsai Wine

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

Volume 45, Issue 3

March 2019



Message from the President

Barbara French-Lee, SDBC President

It was a beautiful day after a rainy week as a large group of bonsai club members attended the annual bonsai show, sale and auction at the Huntington Botanical Garden. Many club members came home with bonsai trees and supplies to add to their collection and were pleasantly tired at the end of the day. Thanks to Abe Far and Kyle Icke for organizing the trip.

The club is excited to have an outstanding bonsai artist present at our next meeting. **Uyen Truong** not only creates art with trees but paints his vision of the completed tree. Hope you have an opportunity to experience this presentation

After our last meeting the San Diego Bonsai Club received a spontaneous compliment from **Cheryl Manning** telling

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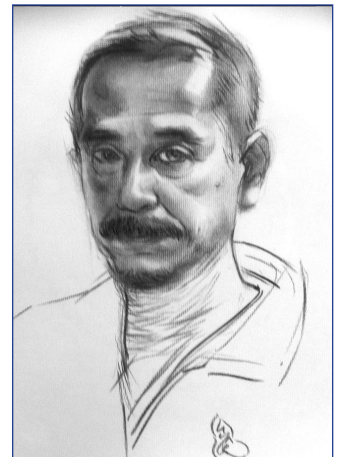
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Next Meeting: 3/10 Uyen Truong

Abe Far, SDBC 1st VP

For the March meeting, we invited **Uyen Truong**, an artist from Southern California. **Mr. Truong** grew up in Vietnam and now lives and works in Southern California. His passion for art began at a young age. As a child he was surrounded by the beauty of the ancient capital, inspiring his interest in fine art. After completing a BA in Fine Art at the Southeastern OK State University in 1986, he continues to work in researching and creating fine arts including: sculpture,



A self-portrait by Mr. Truong.

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T H A N K Y O U



We appreciate the refreshments that were donated for the February meetings by the following:

Susan Baker, Sue and Keith Carter, Jenny Chin, Aisha and Nazim Colak, Sally Dischinger, Darryl Elmer, Abe Far and Christina Vargas Far, Barbara French-Lee, Susan Hull, Gary Jones, Jaya Kaelberer, Shirley Kavanaugh, Janet Liggett, Udaykant Pandey, Jim Potts, Harlan and Mary Ann Price, Ron and Clare Roberts, Frances Suen, Joan Thompson.

Many thanks to those who donated items for the February raffles:

Ken Bross, Jason Chan, Jenny Chin, Julia Chow, Darryl Elmer, Abe Far and Christina Vargas Far, John and Margaret Jackson, Gary Jones, Shirley Kavanaugh, Harlan and Mary Ann Price, Bill Quillin, Christian Reha, Dan Sola, John Voss, Dave Woodal.

SDBC Website:

sandiegobonsaiclub.com

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Our February Guest

Abe Far, SDBC 1st VP

Cheryl Manning did a great job at our February meeting providing workshops, presenting and styling a tree. I want to thank **Cheryl** for accepting the club's invitation. We had fun and learned a lot. Also, congratulations to **Neil Auwarter**, who took the tree home.



Bonsai-A-Thon

Kyle Icke, VP for Special Projects

The bonsai-a-thon was a great trip! After a little bit of a wait our bus came and took us up to the Huntington Gardens Arboretum where the director himself let us on a tour of the grounds. He showed us the new sections being constructed and took us behind the scenes and also into their fantastic bonsai nursery. The weather was perfect and the Huntington Garden and the LA bonsai club folks were very friendly and hospitable as always. There was a great auction and raffle and our club members represented: we took home some pretty sweet trees and pots.



SDBC Education:

Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education

Welcome to March. The year is moving along. Those who went to Bonsai-A-Thon last month had a great time! There were fantastic demonstrations and lots of good material available. The grounds were beautiful as always and it was a perfect Southern California day! I hope everyone who went was able to get some new and interesting material to work on.

Beginning Classes:



This is the third and final class with your elm. In this class you will be doing some final wiring, learning about soils for bonsai and repotting your tree in a bonsai pot. I imagine by now most everyone has leaves on their deciduous tree. It's fun to see your tree going from sticks to a tree with leaves, and beginning to look like a little bonsai.



Bob Hale offering some thoughts about wiring at the elm class.



Our second beginning class of the year starts next month, April, with the second and third classes in June and July (there is no May class as we have our meeting and picnic at the Safari Park). There are spots still available. You can sign up on our website, sandiegobonsaiclub.com, or I will have the sheets at the March meeting. They will sell out quick so get them while you can! The class will be taught by one of our *Mas Takanashi* Grant program graduates, *Susan Ronan*. You will be working on some very nice boxwoods. This will be a great class!

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

March Workshop – Japanese Black Pines:



We again have our own Master of the Japanese Black Pine, *Fred Miyahara*, presenting a workshop. This class is limited to seven people. We have some young seed grown pines that have had a nice start. *Fred* will bring his many years of experience and training to help guide you to your own future masterpiece. The cost is only \$35.

April Workshop – Accent Plants and Kusamono:

We have a little different and exciting workshop scheduled for April. *Cathy Edgar* is going to lead us in the creation of accent plants and kusamono. *Cathy* has many years' experience creating these small and delicate designs. All of her trees at our shows are accompanied by accent plants of her own design and creation. *Cathy* has gone so far as to have a complete display of just accent plants and kusamono that was truly a pleasure to see. She provides many examples for sale at our shows and they are always a hit, selling out quickly. *Cathy* has been propagating plants and has pots from *Jim Barrett* just for this class. You will make a total of 3 different compositions. It will truly be a treat!! The cost is only \$45.00 and the sign-up sheet will be at the February meeting.



There is no workshop in May due to meeting at the Safari Park.

June Workshop – Serissa japonica – Snowrose or Tree of a Thousand Stars:



Serissa japonica

Abe Far will lead us in working on some nice Serissa japonica, commonly known as the Tree of a Thousand Stars! These small trees have nice bark, bloom profusely with small, white rose like flowers. When it is in bloom, it is really very impressive! The sign-up sheet will be at the April meeting.

Reminder

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30 am to 10:15 am (unless a time change is specified) 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.

John Jackson's Olive Workshop in February



Spring Show April 27-28, 2019

Kyle Icke, VP for Special Projects

Pretty soon the clubs from up north will be visiting us as we put on our spring show at the end of April. Start thinking about the great spring show dinner and what you would like to bring. Last chance sign-up sheets will be waiting for you at the club meeting. See you then!

SAN DIEGO BONSAI PAVILION

SAFARI PARK



Rains have been bountiful and beautiful! The Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park is responding well. Due to past good planning and preparation, we have not had the problems of past years. Added and improved drainage and the new walkways have really helped immensely. We are seeing many visitors who have enjoyed these improvements and they are always showing their appreciation with many compliments. We are aware of the tremendous amount of new visitors coming to the Pavilion now and sharing in our art of bonsai experience. In March, we will have more transplanting demonstrations in the visitor area near our work area because there have been many questions about what we are doing with the bonsai in the work area.

Lots of transplanting of deciduous as well as the junipers and pine are being done by our volunteers: cleaning the pots, putting in new screens, mixing soils, removing old soils, trimming old roots, and, of course: surrounding the bonsai with new soils, tamping with chop sticks, adding moss and then giving the reinvigorated bonsai a couple of good waterings. These activities have kept the volunteers busy along with all our usual maintenance. Visitors are truly impressed with the volunteers' knowledge and willingness to explain the process. Thanks to this special core group of SDBC members always!

February workers included: **Neil Auwarter, Steven Bleeke, Jenny Chin, Julia Chow, Sally & Steve Dischinger, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Paris Haber, Jaya Kaelberer, John Jackson, Jim Kirchmer, Bob & Janet Liggett, Carla Marasco, David Meyer, Janet & Ron Palmer, Shawn & Yvette Palmer, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Roberts, Dan Sola, 'lyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner, and Dave Woodall.** Volunteers work in the rain but we were fortunate to escape the heavy evening down pours. Raking, weeding, and educational potting conversations were also part of the work days for all.

Lisa Peterson, the Safari Park's Director gave a presentation to the Park volunteers about the Zoo-Park's future five year plan so we were most interested

in hearing if and how it might affect the Bonsai Pavilion. Most of the plan consists of improvements and hardscape implementation surrounding the animals and increased entertaining venues. The Zoo-Park responds to large generous donors who have specific interests about the zoo habitats especially. We were assured that much of the undeveloped land beyond our Pavilion will stay the way it is because it is zoned as an open space by the County.

Curator **John** is always interested in expanding our volunteer group as are the current volunteers. There are many perks along with the commitment of volunteering. SDBC members can always inquire with **John** or **'lyn** for the application procedure. We welcome you to join the fun and the learning experience!

*'lyn Stevenson,
Liaison to the Pavilion at Safari Park*



A Flurry of Repotting at the Pavilion



Photoa by Dan Sola

Safari Park Volunteer Days:

- | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| • Mar 2 | • Apr 6 | • May 4 | • Jun 1 | • Jul 6 | • Aug 3 | • Sep 7 |
| • Mar 16 | • Apr 20 | • May 18 | • Jun 15 | • Jul 20 | • Aug 17 | • Sep 21 |



Update from the Japanese Friendship Garden

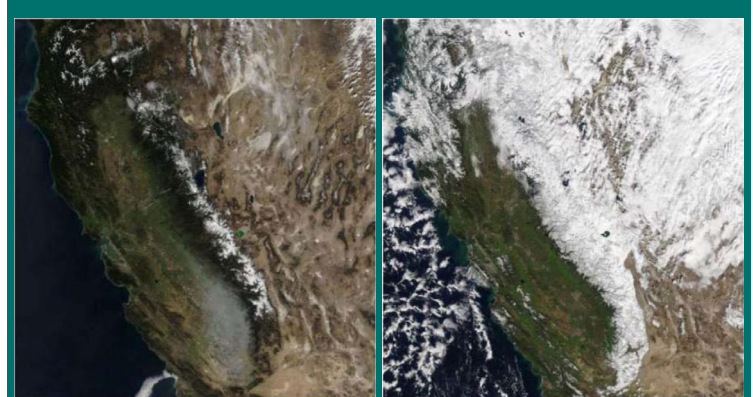
Neil Auwarter, JFG Curator

Thanks to February JFG volunteers Barbara French Lee, Yoshiro "Mori" Suemori, Maryanne & Harlan Price, Kristie Williams, and Ignacio De La Torre.

The trees are enjoying the rain that is easing our drought. The accompanying side by side comparison of the Sierra snowpack in February 2018 & 2019 is good news for all Californians, whether you grow bonsai in San Diego or almonds in the Central Valley. Along with the rainstorms has come unseasonable cold; few of the collection's deciduous trees have started leafing out yet in late February!

A new addition to the collection is a big Camellia I dug out of my sideyard four years ago and potted three years ago. The first flower popped in early February. (See photo.). The accompanying photos also include two great shots Dan Sola took recently with the help of Ron Roberts.

Enjoy springtime whenever it decides to arrive!



NASA satellite photos of Sierra snowpack Feb. 2018 (left) and Feb. 2019 (right)



JFG's new Camellia

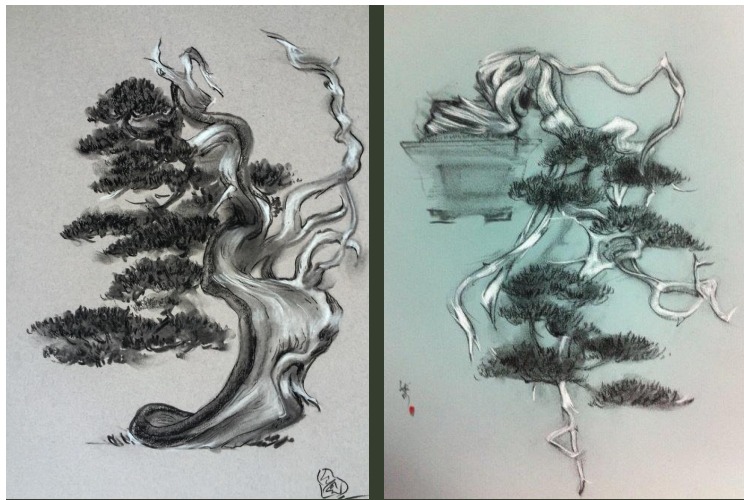


Olive (photo by Dan Sola)



Tak Shimazu shimpaku juniper (photo by Dan Sola)

painting, mixed media, digital art, installation art. His hobbies are suiseki and bonsai. He studied bonsai with *John Naka*, *Harry Hirao*, and *Tak Shimazu*.



Sketches by Mr. Truong

His work can be seen at regular suiseki and bonsai exhibitions in Southern California. He is a wonderful bonsai artist, and he has a fantastic vision for drawing the features of bonsai that he is working on. We have two “bring your own trees” workshops with *Mr. Truong*: one in the morning from 8:30 to 10:30 and one in the afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00. Each session will accommodate four participants. This is a great opportunity for our members to learn from a bonsai master. The cost is \$30 per member. I do encourage you to join one of these workshops.

San Diego Bonsai Club Treasurer's Report

1/1/19 - 2/24/19

Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer

The following is a condensed income statement showing our year-to-date revenue and expenses. A detailed version will be available at the next meeting.

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE		
	SDBC Checking	\$53,947.03
	Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,491.60
	Bonsai Pavilion Checking	\$11,697.46
	TOTAL FUNDS:	\$68,136.09
REVENUE		
	Donations	\$360.00
	Education	\$1,798.32
	Membership	\$2,071.82
	Raffle & Auction	\$843.70
	Bus Trips	\$1,445.68
	Tool Table	\$935.35
	TOTAL REVENUE:	\$7,454.87
EXPENSES		
	Bonsai Pavilion	\$383.87
	Bonsai Pavilion Capital Improvements	\$2,523.87
	Education	\$1,333.77
	Membership	\$51.58
	Monthly Program	\$650.00
	Newsletter	\$100.00
	SDBC Operating Expenses	\$644.91
	SDBC Liability Insurance	\$1,466.00
	Bus Trips	\$280.00
	Sales Tax	\$418.00
	Tool Table	-\$100.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$7,752.00
	NET INCOME (LOSS):	-\$297.13

President's Message, Continued from Page 1

me what a friendly club we have and how nice everyone had been to her. I think that about our club often as I experience many circumstances of members helping out in so many ways to make our club the best. When members and others see our club as friendly we have accomplished something very special. Bonsai is science and art and when members work together it becomes community. We are an awesome club, not for our size but for all we do together as members and in the community.

SDBC Mtg. Minutes

February Meeting

Jack Graham, SDBC Secretary

1. Call to Order/Determine Quorum:

- The regular meeting of the San Diego bonsai Club was called to order at 10:30 am in Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park by President Barbara French-Lee. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of December 2018 Minutes:

- January minutes were approved as published.

3. Presidents Remarks:

- Barbara commented on the excellent efforts today on the educational classes put together by Bill Graham.
- She also commented on the classes being done by Cheryl Manning.
- She also thanked John for his help with members who brought their trees in today.
- She reminded everyone about the bus trip to Huntington Gardens to attend the Bonsai-A-Thon on February 23, 2019. The bus is full but Barbara mentioned the idea of doing some carpooling so everyone who wants to go gets a chance to attend. Remember to show you SDBC badge so you can get in free of charge.
- Barbara stated that we only pay \$100.00 per year for the use of our meeting room 101 here at Balboa Park. So very generous for the park to give us such a deal!

4. Board Member Reports:

- 1ST VP Program, Abe Far – Abe mentioned a few upcoming events. A community outreach at Mission Hills Garden Club on February 28, 2019. There will be a bonsai demonstration. An event in March at the San Diego Museum of Art. An event at UCSD for the Asian Art Festival. There will be a booth and a bonsai demonstration. They are looking for someone to present a bonsai tree and to do a bonsai demonstration. Abe has put together a handout showing the different presenters for each of the monthly SDBC meetings. It's available on the back tables. Abe is looking for more people to sign up for volunteering for the April Spring Show. He also asks people to bring

bonsai trees for display and stuff for the raffle. Mediterranean food will be the main course for the dinner.

- VP Education, Bill Graham – Bill discussed that today the 2nd of the three beginner classes working with elm trees. They had a great turnout. Thanks to Brenda Crann for doing a great job with this class plus the other people who helped with the instruction. Today there was an intermediate skills workshop working with some nice shohin/small chuhin sized olive trees. John Jackson is the instructor for this class. In March there is workshop working with some Japanese Black Pines the instructor is Fred Miyahara. In April there is a beginner's class starting that works with boxwoods. The instructor is Susan Ronan. In April Cathy Edgar is doing a class creating accent plants and kusamono. There are no classes in May due to the meeting at the Safari Park. In June Abe is doing a class with Serissa trees also known as snow rose or tree of a 1000 stars. In July there will be a class working with some big junipers and Neil Auwater is the instructor. In August there will be a class with flowering quince and Glenn Jenson will be the instructor.
- VP Special Events, Kyle Icke – No remarks.
- VP Membership – Keith Carter – Keith commented about the need for SDBC members that it's time to pay annual dues. He also welcomed some new club members.
- Treasurer, Jaya Kaelberer — Jaya stated that we had a very good month financially and that a detailed financial statement is available.

6. Committee Reports:

- There were none.

7. Reports from Appointed Positions:

- John Jackson commented on the Safari Park Pavillion. There was a good turnout of 15-16 people last weekend even with the unsettled weather. They did some repotting of the trees. Unfortunately Charlie is back in the hospital. Please send cards if you are able.
- Neil Auwater updated on the Japanese Friendship Garden. There has been some repotting done. The issue with security is being addressed. The trees are looking very nice. The large Camelia is flowering now.

7. Unfinished Business

- There was none.

8. New Business

- No new business.

9. Announcements:

- The club is looking for volunteers to help with filling of bags with bonsai potting soils for club sales. See Chris or Abe to volunteer.
- Sue Carter is looking for volunteers for both setting up and cleanup the refreshment area for each club meeting. She is looking for people to sign up for the monthly meeting help.
- Due to not being able to use the patio and having the April Show and dinner in room 101 we are looking for some creative thinking people to help with the room layout for bonsai tree presentations, plant sales, demonstrations and with the food and eating areas. To be able to comfortably due all this in one room we may have to get very creative. We are also looking for someone to set up Kokedamas on each table for the dinner.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Program Introduction:

- Abe introduced Cheryl Manning. Abe stated that Cheryl is the 'Lady of Bonsai'. She was a close friend and student of the John Naka. She is still caring for some of his trees. Cheryl has done a lot of articles for Bonsai publications throughout the world of bonsai. We are very honored to have Cheryl here to be our demonstrator for today's club meeting.

Upcoming Programs

Abe Far, SDBC 1st VP

- **April:** Bob Pressler
- **May:** Safari Park
- **June:** David Nguy
- **July 7:** Jonas Dupuich
- **August 11:** John Wong
- **September 8:** Peter Mascasieb
- **October 13:** Lake Poway
- **November 10:** Roy Nagatoshi
- **December 15:** Styling Competition

Membership Update

Keith Carter, SDBC VP of Membership

Final call for 2019 membership renewals!

March is the final deadline for renewing your memberships for 2019. Dues remain at \$30 for an individual and \$35 for two members of a family. Any additional family members are \$5 each. We will be accepting renewals by cash, check or credit card at March 10 meeting, or you can go to the club website to pay online. Remember, you must have a current active membership to be eligible to participate in club activities such as the Spring Show or to take classes or workshops.

We welcome our newest members: *Lisa Bean* and *Fredrik Pettersson*, *Todd Carson*, *Mallory Simmons* and *Richard Craven Jr.*, *John Black* and *Richard Huang*. With these additions, the club's roster is now at 406 members, pending the renewal deadline.

A total of 69 members attended the February meeting, up from the 66 who attended the January meeting. Be sure to sign the attendance sheet at the door at each meeting so we can have an accurate count of member participation.

Other Bonsai Activities

- March 23rd & 24th - [California Bonsai Society's 62nd Annual Exhibition](#) at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino.
- March 23rd & 24th - Bay Area Bonsai Associates 38th Annual Bonsai Exhibition, Oakland.
- April 6th & 7th - [Bonsai Sekiyu Kai's](#) 42nd Annual Show, Sacramento.
- April 27th & 28th - [Kusamura Bonsai Club's](#) 59th Annual Show, Palo Alto.
- April 28th - Watsonville Bonsai Club's 46th Annual Bonsai Exhibit, Watsonville.
- May 4th & 5th - [Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai's](#) 34th Annual Bonsai Exhibit, Gardena.
- May 4th & 5th - [Sacramento Bonsai Club](#) Annual Spring Show, Sacramento.
- May 18th & 19th - Satsuki Aikokai Association of Sacramento Annual Show, Sacramento.
- June 1st & 2nd - [Sei Boku Bonsai Kai's](#) 36th Annual Show, San Mateo.

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.

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San Diego, CA 92138-6037



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Mtg. Agenda:

March 10

8:30 - 10:15 am Beginner Class: Chinese Elms #3	Prado 104
9:00 - 10:25 am Library Open	
8:30 - 10:20 am Uyen Truong BYOT AM Workshop	Prado 101
8:30 - 10:20 am Olive Workshop Workshop	
9:00 - 10:20 am Bonsai Assistance: John Voss	
10:30 - 11:00 am Business Meeting	
11:00 am - 12:45 pm Uyen Truong Presentation	
12:45 - 1:30 pm Raffle & Refreshment	
1:30 - 3:30 pm Uyen Truong BYOT PM Workshop	

SDBC Upcoming Events:

Feb 10 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Cheryl Manning
Feb 23 (Sat)	Bonsai-a-Thon Trip
Mar 10 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Uyen Truong
Apr 14 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Bob Pressler
Apr 27-28 (Sat-Sun)	54th Annual Spring Show
May 18 (Sun)	Meeting at Safari Park
Jun 16 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: David Nguy
Jul 7 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Jonas Dupuich
Aug 11 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: John Wong

2019 Meeting & Show Dates

Meetings: • Mar 10 • Sep 8 Shows: • Apr. 25-28
 • Apr 14 • Oct TBD • Sep 19-22
 • May 19 • Nov 10
 • Jun 16 • Dec 15
 • Jul 7
 • Aug 11