



The Bonsai Wine

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

Volume 45, Issue 2

February 2019



Message from the President

Barbara French-Lee, SDBC President

Our membership is now almost 400 strong. Part of being a formidable club is the wide range of activities the club has to offer its membership. This month we have our annual trip to Bonsai-A-Thon at The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens. This event helps support the bonsai program at The Huntington and gives our club members the opportunity to buy great bonsai trees and stock up on bonsai supplies.

The extra bonus is that we are able to enjoy the various Huntington Botanical Gardens free of charge. The bus trip from the club is full but you can drive up on your own and let them know you are a member of the San Diego Bonsai Club to get in free and participate in all the activities.

Lesser known than the various classes and workshops are

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Next Meeting: 2/10

Cheryl Manning

Abe Far, SDBC 1st VP

Our February program will feature **Cheryl Manning**, who has been practicing bonsai for over 40 years. She is a well-known bonsai artist, and was both a student and a close friend of **John Naka**, the "father" of American Bonsai. **Ms. Manning** is also a writer. She has written countless articles about bonsai in different magazines in the United States and around the world. She has conducted many workshops, demonstrations, and presentations for bonsai clubs and bonsai conventions.



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the bonsai study groups. Please contact one of the board members to find out what is available.

One of the areas we need help in now is creating a bonsai presence at the San Diego County Fair. We have done this for a number of years and would like to continue this tradition. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out with this fun outreach by the club.

At the beginning of the year, we are checking over our bonsai: what needs redesign, what needs repotting, when to feed, how much and what fertilizer to use, and that never-ending concern of insects and diseases and how to keep them under control. The club has numerous resources: classes, workshops, books, magazines, videos, study groups and expert individual help at each club meeting. Online there are [YouTube video presentations](#) about almost any bonsai subject. And don't forget the University of California has pest notes on solutions to insect and disease control. Just go to "pest notes" under their website: upm.ucanr.edu.

SDBC Website:

sandiegobonsaiclub.com

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Japanese Friendship Garden

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SDBC Education:

Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education

Welcome to February. We had a cold spell this winter and unlike other years, my deciduous trees have truly been deciduous this year. I hope you are paying attention to your trees watering needs. We continue to have a busy schedule and I look forward to seeing the progress of our beginners class.



Beginning Classes:

This will be the second of three classes. In this class you will learn more about the botany of your elm, different bonsai styles, and how to wire the trunk and branches on your tree. It will begin to look more and more like a bonsai. If you have signed up please be on time or a few minutes early. The class starts at 8:30 am in Room 104. Observers are always welcome. Even if you do 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.

Intermediate Skills Workshops

February Workshop – Olives

We have some nice large shohin / small chuhin sized olive trees. **John Jackson** has graciously offered his time and services as instructor. **John** has many years of experience with olives and will no doubt lead you to creating a beautiful tree. I brought some examples to the December meeting and you had a chance to see how nice these trees are.



One of the olives set aside for the workshop.

There are pictures of these trees on the website, www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/workshops--skills-classes.html. There is only ONE spot left, so sign up and don't miss out!! These trees have a nice start and are really looking good. You can also purchase your spot on the website.

March Workshop - JBP

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 ten of us in the creation of accent plants and kusamono. **Cathy** has many years 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 kusamono and accent plants 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.



May: There is no workshop in May due to the meeting at the Safari Park on May 19.

Reminder

A reminder that all beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30am to 10:15am (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.

Winter Silhouettes Bonsai Show

Kyle Icke, VP of Special Projects & Abe Far, First VP

This month the club went on our annual Winter Silhouettes trip. The weather was warm and beautiful and the scenery outside the bus windows was green and bright. The first stop was to **David Nguy's** bonsai nursery in Chino. Upon arriving we were greeted by **David** and his wife. These folks were friendly and gracious hosts who gave us a tour of their nursery and fed us snacks while we shopped and wandered. The backdrop of our adventure were the nearby snow-covered San Antonio and San Geronio mountains. The nursery had many beautiful specimen trees and featured lots of large old junipers in boxes that had been dug from the surrounding mountains and people's yards long ago. In the back of the nursery was a shade cloth covered forest of dormant dragon fruit plants growing in columns like strange organic totem poles sleeping through the winter.

The many treasures of trees and pots for sale were mysteries until checkout as nothing had a marked price but a discount was given to each person based upon what and how much they purchased. There were lots of large pots to be had and also lots of small high-quality Japanese pots. Those of us who like to work with smaller trees took advantage of this opportunity to stock up on these fairly priced and hard-to-find items.



Our next stop found us at the LA Arboretum at closing time. We entered into the side gate and through the back door of the meeting hall at the Arboretum. There, the LA bonsai club, Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai, had prepared a show and a dinner where we were the honored guests. While the auction and raffle were being set up we were allowed to walk around the grounds at sunset where we were treated to views of the full super-moon rising up through the exotic and beautiful specimen plants growing all around us. Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai had set up a huge feast for us and while we dined on plates piled high with food ranging from mostaccioli with meatballs to bánh mì sandwiches we watched three simultaneous demos of club experts working on large Japanese maples. These and other trees and treasures were auctioned off after dinner. The main attraction, of course, were the silhouettes: deciduous trees asleep like skeletal angels dreaming of the wardrobe of spring's promise. We all marveled at the ramification achieved through the partnership of hardy trees and patient artists.

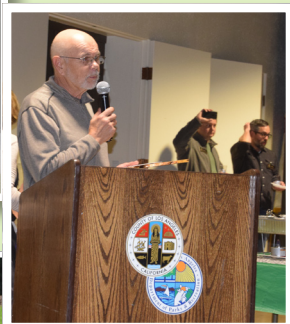
Upcoming Trip:

Bonsai-A-Thon Trip

February 23, 2019

Kyle Icke, VP of Special Projects & Abe Far, First VP

**SOLD
OUT**



The Huntington

The 2019 Bonsai-A-Thon is scheduled for February 23 and 24 at the Huntington Garden and Museum, which houses the Golden State Bonsai Federation Bonsai Collection in Southern California.

In addition to the wonderful bonsai exhibits, there will be demonstrations, workshops, and a large vendor area. At the end of each day, an auction and raffle will be held. Breakfast is served from 7:00 to 9:00 am and lunch from 12:00 to 1:30 pm at a minimal cost. Meals are open for those who wish to partake. Garden tours are scheduled at 10:00 am on both days.

Our sold out bus trip to Bonsai-A-Thon will be on Saturday, February 23, 2019. We will depart from Balboa Park at 7:00 am sharp and Carlsbad at 7:30 am. We will be back in Balboa Park about 7:00 pm.

This is a fundraising event for our collection; please bring some items for the raffle and auction.

The trip is sold out. For questions, please see **Kyle Icke** at our regular club meeting or call **Kyle Icke** at 858-699-8668.

Upcoming Programs

Abe Far, SDBC 1st VP

- **March:** Uyen Troung
- **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

SAN DIEGO BONSAI PAVILION

SAFARI PARK



The New Year has started with much activity and volunteer participation. Congratulations to all the volunteers who have renewed their Zoo/Park credentials for 2019! Beautiful weather also was an aid to accomplishing more projects in the Pavilion. Special thanks to our January volunteers: **Neil Auwarter, Steven Bleeke, Alan Burrows, Jenny Chin, Julia Chow, Sally & Steve Dischinger, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Paris Haber, Bob Hale, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Bob & Janet Liggett, Carla Marasco, David Meyer, Janet & Ron Palmer, Shawn & Yvette Palmer, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Boberts, Dan Sola, 'Iyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suemori, Dennis Wagner, and Dave Woodall.** These thirty volunteers are part of Pavilion volunteers who donated over 2800 hours in 2018. This was an impressive increase for the yearly contribution even though the Pavilion had been closed during the construction of the Australian exhibit. Many of these special people also make an extra effort to bring refreshments to share while working on projects. SUPER THANKS ALWAYS!

In January, the juniper bonsai repotting was completed. There are still about 17 other bonsais to do in February and March and there are tentative plans for a repot-a-thon as has been done in the past. It was a popular event with visitors since we set it up in the visitor area for viewing so many questions were answered and techniques were explained. It also allows for more planting to be done at the same time in a larger area.

Another project currently underway is the construction of four more backdrops behind the bonsai on the east side of the Pavilion which will match the other backdrops already in place at the more forward area of the Pavilion. Curator **John**, Assistant **Dennis, Ron, Shawn** and **Steven** have already dug the holes, secured, and cemented the poles. **Jim** will order the further materials needed shortly to finish this project.

Since the reopening of the Pavilion, there has been a problem with the pool circulation and cleanliness. **James, Ritchie** and **Charles Fleuret** from the Safari

Park Staff met with **John** and **Mark** this past month and the Park is now implementing a course of action items to rectify the problems. A chlorinator with tablet additives will be installed and Ph will be monitored, hose bibs will be installed, and the watering schedules will also be monitored. A planting of more dymondia ground cover is on the agenda for an appropriate time also. We are always grateful for the cooperation and service that the staff provides in our volunteer garden areas. This is a very popular visitor exhibition and it takes much constant care from both the Park and our SDBC volunteers to make it a significant contribution to all.





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



Membership Update

Keith Carter, SDBC VP of Membership

It's nearing the 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 Feb. 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 upcoming Bonsai-A-Thon trip and the Spring Show.

We welcome our newest members: *Kristie Williams, Jason & Monique Alstrand, Ngcothy Dinh, Chris Minaya, Karen Bye, Christine Miller and Richard Atkinson.*

With these additions, the club's roster is now at 395 current members.

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

- February 16th & 17th - [GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt](#): The Annual Mammoth Auction and Sale Fundraiser, Oakland.
- February 23rd & 24th - [Bonsai-A-Thon XXVIII at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens](#), San Marino.
- 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 - [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.



Neil Auwarter, JFG Curator

Many thanks to January JFG volunteers **Barbara French-Lee**, **Charlie Mosse**, **Maryanne** and **Harlan Price**, **Yoishiro "Mori" Suemori**, **Dan Sola** and **Ron Roberts**.

This month we re-potted the **Mas Ishi** shimpaku juniper and did upper level soil replacement on our large prostrata and large olive to improve percolation. Two styling projects were completed, as described in the accompanying before & after photos.

On a recent Saturday, **Dan Sola** took photos of ten trees that are at further stages of development than when last photographed. **Ron Roberts** and **Mori Suemori** were there to help. We will use these photos to update the bonsai collection page on the JFG's website. Look for some of these photos in next month's JFG column in the newsletter.

As **Barb French-Lee** mentioned at the last meeting, a tree was stolen from our development area, situated in a canyon near a service gate. It was a **Jim Barrett** foemina juniper. The same thief apparently stole tools belonging to garden staff. We have taken steps to secure the other portable trees in that area, and we are evaluating whether to erect a security fence. Happily, the main collection sits in a much more secure location, decked out with motion detectors and a monitored security camera.

Enjoy what remains of winter and the additional rain we are all hoping for!

Before & After:
Solo foemina
juniper was
pruned and
wired and
repotted in
a shallow,
rectangular
Yamaki pot
from Roy
Nagatoshi's
Fuji Bonsai
Nursery in
Sylmar.





Before & After: After being allowed to grow wild for vigor, the Al Nelson live oak got a height reduction, pruning, and full wiring to achieve the species' characteristic undulating branches and lateral growth.

San Diego Bonsai Club Treasurer's Report

1/1/19 - 1/29/19

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	\$53,279.97
	Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,491.60
	Bonsai Pavilion Checking	\$14,176.80
TOTAL FUNDS:		\$69,948.37
REVENUE		
	Donations	\$125.00
	Education	\$902.34
	Membership	\$1,238.39
	Raffle & Auction	\$535.00
	Bus Trips	\$870.08
	Tool Table	\$469.99
TOTAL REVENUE:		\$4,140.80
EXPENSES		
	Bonsai Pavilion	\$328.40
	Education	\$1,073.77
	Membership	\$45.79
	Monthly Program	\$250.00
	Newsletter	\$100.00
	SDBC Operating Expenses	\$409.69
	Bus Trips	\$100.00
	Sales Tax	\$418.00
	Tool Table	-\$100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$2,625.65
NET INCOME (LOSS):		<u>\$1,515.15</u>

San Diego Bonsai Club Spring Show

Sat-Sun, April 27-28

Kyle Icke, VP of Special Projects & Abe Far, First VP



Volunteers Needed!

The annual Spring show is coming! There will be opportunities to show off your great bonsai trees and to sell some material you would like to see go to a good home. Get your volunteer on at the next club meeting and sign up for your stint to help the club at the show. See **Kyle** or **Abe** about what you can do to help.

SDBC Mtg. Minutes

January 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:

- August minutes were approved as published.
- Kyle Icke was installed by Dan Sola as VP for Special Events.

3. Presidents Remarks:

- Barbara discussed that Kathy Shaner had been doing bonsai instruction classes since Saturday and will continue both today at Balboa Park and tomorrow at Barbara's home. Barbara stated that there will be a meeting to discuss the club by-laws at 12:30 pm following today's meeting.

4. Board Member Reports:

- a. 1ST VP Program, Abe Far – Abe Far spoke about the many presenters that have been scheduled for 2019. A printout of these monthly presenters is available. Abe mentioned that Kathy Shaner will be working on a holly leafed cherry during her bonsai demonstration today. There will be a special auction of this tree along with our monthly raffle at 12:30 pm. Abe reported that there will be a new study group to be conducted at his home. There is a flier available showing meeting dates starting in February 2019.
- b. VP Education, Bill Graham – Bill Graham discussed that today's beginner class working with Chinese elms was very successful. All students showed up and a big thanks to all of the trainers. Bill thanked all of the people who helped with the repotting today. Today there will be a signup sheet for the April intermediate class working on Boxwoods. In February John Jackson will be doing a class with Olives. There are some nice large shohin and some small chuhin sized olive trees. This will be at a cost of \$75.00. In March there will be a class done by Fred Miyahara working with Japanese

black pines. The cost will be \$35.00. There are two samples of these JBP's in the back. The class is set up for 7 students. Signup sheets will be out after today's meeting. In May there will be no classes because we will be meeting at the Safari Park Pavilion.

- c. VP Special Events, Kyle Icke – Kyle Icke mentioned that there are signup sheets for volunteers for the spring show. Please sign up. Kyle stated that he is new to this position and that he will need help from the members until he becomes more comfortable with what he is being asked to do. Abe mentioned that there are 14 seats available for the Saturday (1/19/19) bus trip to the Los Angeles Arboretum for the Winter Silhouettes show. People wanting to attend need to sign up and pay today. The bus will visit first David and June Nguy's Bonsai Nursery before heading to the LA Arboretum. San Diego club members are being asked to bring deserts to the Silhouettes show. The February bus trip to the Bonsai-A-Thon at Huntington Gardens is full. Abe mentioned that its very important that people who sign up for these trips make sure that they are paid as soon as possible. (Abe is helping out Kyle with his duties until Kyle becomes more comfortable).
- d. VP Membership – Keith Carter – Keith Carter stated that club annual membership renewals need to be done now. Annual fees for 1 member \$30.00, \$35.00 for 2 members. Keith has been asked by some new club members if there are any mentors within the club that can help them with questions about the club. As of today there are 385 club members. There are approximately 10 new members. Keith introduced these new members today.
- e. Treasurer, Jaya Kaelberer — Jaya Kaelberer reported on the club's current financial status. The club had a very good year ending with \$15,542.08 as the year end income. We had \$46,926.18 in income and \$31,384.10 in expenses. Bank balances were \$51,338.55 for the San Diego Bonsai Club, \$2,366.37 for the Japanese Friendship Garden, and \$14,632.32 for the Safari Park Pavilion for a total of \$68,337.24. A detailed income statement for 2018 is available for review. Jaya acknowledged Janice Hale's efforts in the accounting that made this information available.

5. Committee Reports:

- There were none.

6. Reports from Appointed Positions:

- John Jackson stated that at the SPP that all repotting has been done. There was no damage due to the rain. John put out a big thanks to the many volunteers. John mentioned that there is a new video out on the internet.
- Neil Auwarter, JFG Curator, said they were working on repotting and design and would be photographing the trees in the next two weeks. Barbara French-Lee as JFG Liaison reported that tools of the JFG had been stolen recently along with a bonsai tree.

7. Unfinished Business

- There was none.

8. New Business

- Abe reported that there will be a new study group to be conducted at his home. There is a flier available showing meeting dates starting in February 2019.

9. Announcements:

- The President made a request for a club member to coordinate the SDBC booth at the fair. The fair is discussing with SDBC to keep plants at the fair for less time so that we can better maintain the appearance of the trees.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Program Introduction: Abe far introduced Kathy Shaner as being a wonderful bonsai artist and that she has been very generous with her efforts toward our club. He stated that it has been great knowing and working with Kathy over the last years. Kathy will now start her demonstration on the holly leaf cherry.

Cheryl Manning, Continued from Page 1

Her presentation will start after our membership meeting and will continue until 12:45 pm. In addition to her presentation, she agreed to conduct two bring your own bonsai workshops: 8:30-10:30 am and 1:30-3:30 pm. Each workshop will take up to four members. Please take advantage of this opportunity and sign up for one or both workshops at the ["Next Meeting" page of the SDBC Website.](#)

Refreshments

Sue Carter, Refreshment Coordinator



I want to extend a special thank you to the members who regularly contribute to our refreshment table month after month. We all enjoy the treats and snacks that you bring in to share with everyone. But we are a large and vibrant club, with an average attendance of 70 people per meeting, and I believe we can do a better job of participation.

Here are a few suggestions that club members have shared with me (and some of my own) to enhance our table and share the workload:

- Sign up to bring a main dish or a salad for lunch for a specific meeting. Crockpots work great.
- Bring a special dish to share on your birthday month.
- Continue bringing morning and lunch snacks that add to the buffet. No signup needed.
- Have your food table-ready, or make sure you prepare the food before putting it out. (i.e. cutting, spreading, tossing, stirring, arranging, serving, heating).
- Clean the dishes and serving pieces you brought from home and take any leftovers. We are not allowed to give food to the public.
- Sign up to help! This is a big job for one person, but it doesn't have to be.

Thank you in advance for what I know will be increased, enthusiastic participation.

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.

PO Box 86037

San Diego, CA 92138-6037



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Mtg. Agenda:

February 10

8:30 - 10:15 am Beginner Class: Chinese Elms #2	Prado 104
9:00 - 10:25 am Library Open	
8:30 - 10:20 am Cheryl Manning 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 Cheryl Manning Presentation	
12:45 - 1:30 pm Raffle & Refreshment	
1:30 - 3:30 pm Cheryl Manning BYOT PM Workshop	

SDBC Upcoming Events:

Feb 10 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Cheryl Manning
Feb 23 (Sat)	Bonsai-a-Thon Trip
Mar 2 (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Mar 10 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Uyen Truong
Mar 16 (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Apr 6 (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day
Apr 14 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Bob Pressler
Apr 24-25 (Sat-Sun)	54th Annual Spring Show
May 4 (Sat)	Safari Park Work Day

2019 Meeting & Show Dates

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