Volume 45, Issue 4

April 2019



Message from the President

Barbara French-Lee, SDBC President

What an exciting month for Bonsai. In April we have our monthly meeting with one of our club favorites, *Bob Pressler*. That same weekend, the Coronado Flower Show, gives bonsai growers a chance to earn ribbons in their Bonsai, Hon Non Bo, Saikai and Tray Landscape Division. At the end of the month we have our traditional April Bonsai Show and Sale, dinner and auction with guests from the Los Angeles area. It is a fun and busy month and I hope you can participate in some of the activities. We always need your help to make our club the best.

A big thanks to Mark and Cathy Edgar, Abe Far and John Jackson for showing the

art and horticulture of bonsai as they worked on their trees and answered questions in front of the Art Museum

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Next Meeting: 4/14 Bob Pressler

Abe Far. SDBC 1st VP

Robert (Bob)
Pressler has been
the owner of Kimura
Bonsai Nursery
in Los Angeles
since 1996. He is
a member of the
California Bonsai
Society and John
Naka's club, Nampu



Kai. He has studied with a variety of teachers, starting informally with *Frank Okamura* at the Brooklyn Botanical gardens in the early 70s when he was a boy. He moved to California in 1984 and a couple of years later met *John Naka*, *Ben Oki* and the whole crowd of Southern California bonsai artists and clubs. In California, he expanded his skills and had the opportunity to share

in Balboa Park. This was part of the Art Museum's celebration of their Asian Arts Collection at their Front Steps community event.

The rain water has been great for our trees and now we are doing a lot of repotting, pruning and feeding. It is also time to watch closely for disease and insects. A magnifying loop is helpful to find the tiny insects. If you need help with your bonsai don't forget we have bonsai experts available to you at our meeting. Also if you are interested in participating in regular classes outside of club meetings with one of the club's bonsai teachers speak with one of the Board Members.

Hope to see you at our events.

Upcoming Programs

Abe Far, SDBC 1st VP

May:

Safari Park

June:

David Nguy

July 7:

Jonas Dupuich

August 11:

Tak Shimazu

• September 8:

Peter Mascasieb

October 13:

Lake Poway

November 10:

Roy Nagatoshi

December 15:

Styling Competition



SDBC Website:

sandiegobonsaiclub.com

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SDBC Elected Officers & Appointed Positions:

President:

Barbara French-Lee - barbflee@hotmail.com

1st Vice President:

Abe Far - abe far@yahoo.com

VP for Education:

Bill Graham - wfgraham3rd@gmail.com

VP for Special Projects:

Kyle Icke - Kyle.Icke@sdcounty.ca.gov

Treasurer:

Jaya Kaelberer - jaya.littletree@cox.net

VP for Membership:

Keith Carter - kcarter315@att.net

Secretary:

Jack Graham - Jgraham@drammechter.com

Past President:

Bob Hale - bobhale42@gmail.com

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:

Paul Lawrence and Aisha Colak -

jplawrence99@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair:

Susan Baker - baker@susanMbaker.com

Librarian:

Sonya Holmquist - sholmquist3@cox.net

Refreshment Coordinator:

Sue Carter - susangcarter2004@att.net

Publicity:

Connie Kraus, ckraushobbies@gmail.com

Audio Visual:

Paris Haber and David Meyer -

paris.haber@gmail.com

The Bonsai Wire Editor:

Katie Borton - katieborton@gmail.com

The Bonsai Wire Postal Distributor:

Shirley Kavanaugh, Jr

SDBC Instagram:

Christian Reha - christianreha@gmail.com

Japanese Friendship Garden

Bonsai Curator:

Neil Auwarter - neilauwarter@hotmail.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

REMINDER:

YOU NEED TO SIGN UP FOR THE MAY SAFARI PARK MEETING AT THE APRIL MEETING

- It is necessary for members to sign up for the May meeting at the April meeting to request their entrance passes for that day.
- The passes (tickets) will be at the SDBC April show weekend for members to pick up.
- Even if you are a Zoo/Safari Park member, we need you to sign up to attend.
- Bring your own lunches, donations for the silent auction, and cash or equivalent for purchases. You may bring bonsai wagons or carts to haul your donations and/or purchases.
- The Park opens at 9:00 am, the meeting starts at 10:30 am and the auction will conclude at an announced time after lunch.

Bob Pressler, Continued from Page 1

them with others. In 2000, he met *Kenji Miyata* at a convention in California and, since 2001, has been studying with him. He conducts several classes a month at his nursery. He provides demonstrations and workshops for clubs and conventions near and far. *Mr. Pressler* is conducting two workshops: a bring your own tree workshop for four members in the morning from 8:30 to 10:30 am and four members in the afternoon from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. The cost of the workshop is \$30. Please sign up for this great opportunity to learn from a master. You can sign up on the SDBC website or contact *Abe* (email Abe_Far@yahoo.com or call 619-384-0004).



This 110-tree forest was created in 2001 by Bob Pressler as a memorial to the events of 9-11.

Membership renewals are still outstanding

Keith Carter, SDBC VP of Membership



Members who have not paid for the current year are considered in arrears and are not eligible to participate in club activities. If you wish to take part in the April show, either in the sale or the dinner, you will need to renew your membership either online or at the April 14 meeting or you will not be permitted to participate.

Other Bonsai Activities

- April 6th & 7th <u>Bonsai Sekiyu Kai</u>'s 42nd Annual Show, Sacramento.
- April 27th & 28th <u>Kusamura Bonsai Club</u>'s 59th Annual Show, Palo Alto.
- April 28th Watsonville Bonsai Club's 46th Annual Bonsai Exhibit, Watsonville.
- May 4th & 5th <u>Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai's</u> 34th Annual Bonsai Exhibit, Gardena.
- May 4th & 5th <u>Sacramento Bonsai Club</u> Annual Spring Show, Sacramento.
- May 18th & 19th Satsuki Aikokai Association of Sacramento Annual Show, Sacramento.
- June 1st & 2nd <u>Sei Boku Bonsai Kai</u>'s 36th Annual Show, San Mateo.
- June 1st & 2nd <u>Sei Boku Bonsai Kai</u>'s 36th Annual Show, San Mateo.

SDBC Education:

Bill Graham, SDBC VP of Education

April is here and Spring has finally sprung! It has been a long wet winter and I think my trees are really happy get some warmth! New growth is coming in and I am sure your trees have new growth too. Our first Beginners class of the year has completed and I saw some nice bonsai in the making. I hope everyone who took the class enjoyed it and will continue with their studies. Thank you to *Brenda Crann* and her assistants for doing such an outstanding job! This was *Brenda*'s first time leading a full session and she did a fantastic job!!!

The Japanese Black Pine Workshop was a success. As usual, *Fred Miyahara*, with assistance from *Dennis Wagner*, did a fantastic job. The trees are young, but have good bones and are a nice start to future bonsai. I look forward to seeing your trees when you have developed them some more.

Beginning Classes:









Our second Beginning Class of the year starts this 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). Our instructor will be a *Mas Takanashi* Grant program graduate, *Susan Ronan*. You will be working on some very nice boxwoods. This will be a great class! THIS CLASS IS COMPLETELY SOLD OUT!

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

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:

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. The class is limited to ten attendees. The cost is \$40.00

July Workshop – Large Junipers:

We have some nice large junipers for July. *Neil Auwarter* will be leading a class of six working on trees that all have a solid 2" or more trunk. If you were at the December meeting, you saw some fine examples of these trees used in the annual Styling Competition. *Neil* and his partners took second place and created a really nice tree (which will be auctioned off at the April Meeting!) The sign-up sheet will be started at the May meeting. This class is limited to 6 attendees and the cost will be \$100.00.

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.



The elm class posed with their trees in March.

Spring Show April 27-28, 2019

The annual Spring Bonsai Show and Sale is coming up at the end of the month on Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28th. This is an opportunity for you to show off some of your plants and to buy some more! Friday, April 26th in the afternoon will be the time to bring trees to

Kyle Icke, VP for Special Projects



display for the show and also to bring trees that you want to sell.

Please consider bringing donations for the raffle table as this will be a great opportunity for us to make some money for the club and to show what an awesome organization we are.

There are still lots of **volunteer opportunities** to sign up for at the upcoming April meeting.

Volunteers for Saturday and Sunday, please come early. The show is from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm but we will need to be at the park early to set things up, put out flags and banners and signs etc.

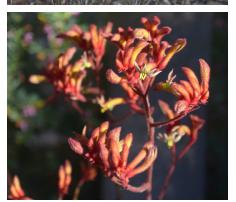
On Thursday, April 25, there's going to be a club special event dinner for the folks coming down from LA and for all of us bonsai members in San Diego. At the next meeting, along with the volunteer sheets, there will be a sign up sheet for everyone to bring a dessert or a side dish, potluck style. The club is going to provide the main dish and it's going to be really good. If you are planning to come to the dinner, we hope you'll also bring something for the raffle table in addition to the dish you signed up for.

Spring Blooms

Dan Sola











This will be our 8th anniversary since the opening of this newest Bonsai Pavilion at Safari Park. It is also very special since our relationship with the San Diego Zoo many years ago resulted in the first Bonsai facility opened to the public in the Western USA. We usually forget that statistic but the Park reminded us again! Congratulations SDBC and San Pu Kai!

It's a wonderful time of the year for bonsai transplanting and repotting! All the volunteers have also enjoyed sharing this bonsai activity with visitors to the Pavilion during our March sessions although rain curtailed some of the demos. As long as we have more repotting to do, we may continue to share these events with our visitors in the springtime.

Thanks to March volunteers: Jenny Chin, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, John Jackson, Susan & Jim Kirchmer, Janet & John Liggett, Carla Marasco, Janet & Ron Palmer, Shawn Palmer, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Roberts, Dan Sola, 'Iyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suichiro, and Dave Woodall.

Thanks also for the welcome refreshments from the Safari Park Volunteer Office, *the Palmers*, *Jenny*, *'lyn*, *John*, *Cathy*, and *Carla*.

Among the March repots, were long time donations from *B.J. Patterson* (formal upright bald cypress), *Stan Childs* (pomegranate group planting) and a cork elm donation from *Dave Woodall*. It's always special to remember these past and current donors of the fabulous bonsai.

Curator *John*, *Cathy* & *Mark* spent an extra Saturday constructing the permanent backdrops behind the bonsai tables at the back end of the Pavilion. *Jim* had to purchase more wood for the project but the panels have come together beautifully. Thanks to all the February and March volunteers who are now proficient carpenters and engineers even if their bonsai expertise had not called for those credentials.

Looking forward to all the SDBC members attending and participating in the May Pavilion meeting and auction.

It's always a wonderful event. Be sure to sign up for admission and parking at the April SDBC meeting.



'lyn Stevensen, Liaison to the Pavilion at Safari Park

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New Backdrops at the Pavilion













Safari Park Volunteer Days (Saturdays):

• Apr 20

• Jun 1

• Jul 20

Sep 7

Oct 19

• Dec 7

• May 4 • Jun 15

• Aug 3 • Sep 21

Nov 2

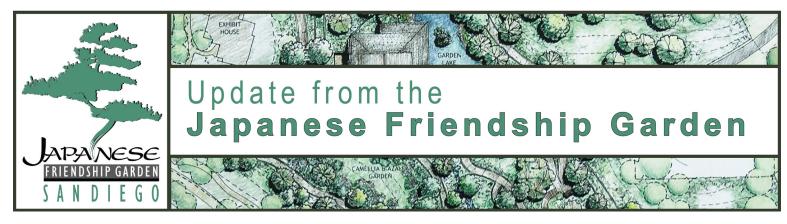
• Dec 21

May 18

• Jul 6 • Aug 17

Oct 5

• Nov 16



Neil Auwarter, JFG Curator

Many thanks to March JFG volunteers Barbara French-Lee, Maryanne & Harlan Price, Yoishiro "Mori" Suemori, Kristie Williams, and Ignacio De La Torre.

Spring has sprung in the garden, and even our most reluctant deciduous trees are popping. The most reluctant of all, the big *John Jackson* Trident maple, put out a single leaf last week; like Punxsutawney Phil, it seems to be assessing the weather to decide if six more weeks of winter are in store.

Thousands of guests poured through the JFG March 22-24 for the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. Visiters were rewarded by a timely



Bees on cherry blossoms at the JFG

bloom of the cherry trees (see photo) and a host of exhibits, performances, and food. *Kristie Williams* spent most of Saturday during the festival working and docenting in the collection. JFG staff erected a rope barrier to protect the collection from the crowd; a modified version of the barrier will remain in place going forward to prevent guests from entering the pedestal display area.

Another recent addition to the garden is the imposing temple guardian statue installed directly across the path from the bonsai collection. (See photo.) This is *Angyo*, one of two Kongorikishi that traditionally guard Buddhist temples. His bared teeth symbolize violence, while the closed mouth of his companion *Ungyo* sybolizes latent strenth. Hopefully, *Angyo*'s menacing presence-together with the new rope barrier--will discourage guests from touching the trees. It has been a problem!

This month JFG staff will build a new bench to allow us



New JFG bonsai collection guardian, Angyo

to move the big *Frank Dixon* Japanese black pine to a more prominent and sunny location; and they will raise the height of the bench that houses the *Ragle* foemina forest. Happy springtime!

Membership Update Keith Carter, SDBC VP of Membership

We welcome our newest members: Cole Nicol, Kai Tantiratpisan, Vincent Nguyen, Paul & Janet Stewart, Christopher & Margot Schnese, Raquel Ortigoza, Michael Ring and Danelle Eto.

Those who did not renew their memberships for 2018 have been removed from the membership roster, leaving the current membership at 262. A total of 70 members attended the February meeting. Be sure to sign the attendance sheet at the door at each meeting so we can have an accurate count of member participation.

New Issues of Bonsai Focus and Bonsai: Journal of the American Bonsai Society are Now Available for Checking Out

Sonya Holmquist, Librarian

As was so aptly demonstrated by last month's guest, Uyen Truong, sketching various possibilities for designing a tree is a great way to clarify your options. An ongoing feature in Bonsai Focus is "Sketch Design" by Jan Culek. In the Jan/Feb issue, he sketches two dramatically different versions for a creating a cascading juniper, both using rock containers for a natural look.

Grafting is always an intriguing option for improving a tree. The Jan/Feb issue has another article in Andrea Meriggioli's ongoing series on bonsai maples. In this issue, she focuses on encouraging back budding and creating scions for future grafts. The March/April issue has an article by Harry Harrington on improving the nebari of maple through thread and approach grafting.

In the latest issue of Bonsai: Journal of the American Bonsai Society, Morton Albek styles a juniper shohin bonsai from raw material. We have Albek's Shohin Bonsai: Majesty in Miniature, Unlocking the Secrets of Small Trees in our library. Albek also has a 16 session online "Shohin Bonsai Course"; two lectures can be previewed for free at www.bonsaiempire.com/courses/shohin-course.

San Diego Bonsai Club Treasurer's Report 1/1/19 - 3/29/19

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	\$53,932.43
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,491.60
Bonsai Pavilion Checking	\$11,632.61
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$68,056.64
REVENUE	
Amazon Smile Donation	\$62.52
Donations	\$360.00
Education	\$2,673.75
Membership	\$2,785.62
Raffle & Auction	\$1,351.88
Special Projects	\$1,445.68
Tool Table	\$1,555.12
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$10,234.57
EXPENSES	
Bonsai Pavilion	\$590.81
Bonsai Pavilion Capital Improvements	\$2,523.47
Education	\$1,625.60
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$125.23
Membership	\$188.67
Monthly Program	\$1,050.00
Newsletter	\$247.09
SDBC Club Expenses	\$918.01
SDBC Liability Insurance	\$1,466.00
Bus Trips	\$438.02
Sales Tax	\$418.00
Tool Table	\$1,020.25
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$10,611.15
NET INCOME (LOSS):	<u>-376.58</u>

SDBC Mtg, Minutes

March 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, Balboa Park by President Barbara French-Lee. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Approval of February 2018 Minutes:

 The minutes were approved as printed in The Bonsai Wire.

3. Presidents Remarks:

- Barbara commented that both Abe and Dan were at the Golden State board meeting this weekend.
- Also there will be a redo demonstration of a John Naka forest at the Huntington Gardens on March 23rd.
- Brenda completed her first beginner classes.
 Great effort.
- Today's raffle will include some sketches done by today's bonsai demonstrator Uyen Truong. They were donated by Uyen.
- Charlie is out of the hospital.
- For the April meeting the bonsai demonstrator will be Bob Pressler.
- Condolences to Bill Graham who lost his mother in law.
- The club has been asked to do outreach work to share the art of bonsai. Cathy, Mark, John and Abe will share some bonsai information and demonstrations this Friday March 15th at 5-8pm in front of the Art Museum.
- This is the time of the year when we start seeing more pests (both insect and diseases) on our trees. Barbara mentioned that she belongs to the Master Gardeners and there is a lot of information available from them on how to deal with these pests. Lots of online information. You can also take your tree to their main office and someone can help identify your pests.

4. Officer Reports:

- a. 1ST VP Program, Abe Far Out of town.
- b. VP Education, Bill Graham

- Brenda did a great job on the elm styling beginner classes.
- Fred also did a very nice job with the Japanese black pines. Especially with the plants he had for the class.
- April will start the next beginner's classes.
 Some very nice boxwoods. Susan Ronan is the instructor. There are 4 spots left for these classes.
- The accent plant classes with Kathy Edgar is sold out.
- In May because we are at the SPARK there are no classes.
- In June Abe will do a class with Serissa (Snow Rose) \$40.00 10 spots still available.
- In July Neil will be working with some very nice big junipers. 6 spots are left
- In August Glenn Jensen will be working with some Japanese quince trees.
- In September there is an informal class for people who did the Japanese Quince class last year with Glenn to be able to bring in their quince trees for evaluation from Glenn.
- There are plans of doing some Shohin size high quality Junipers this year. Class is \$475.00 with plans to have 6 people for a 6 hour workshop with Tak Shimazu. This will not take place during our monthly meeting. Let Bill know if you are interested.

c. VP Special Events, Kyle Icke

- Kyle is trying to put together some informal car trips to visit tree nurseries. He will try to get someone with bonsai experience to come along to help show people on what to look for when looking for these trees.
- We had a great day at the Bonsai A Thon at the Huntington Gardens. Beautiful weather!
- For the April Plant Show there is a signup sheet for bringing food.
- d. VP Membership, Keith Carter -
 - There are over 150 club members who have not paid for this year's annual club dues.
 \$30.00 for 1 person \$35.00 for 2 people. A mailing will go out to encourage people to pay fees. Today we welcomed 11 new members to the SDBC.
- e. Treasurer, Jaya Kaelberer
 - A financial statement will be in the next

monthly newsletter. They are the same numbers as presented in the last board meeting. This coming Thursday there will be an audit done for 2018. Jaya stated that we had a very good month financially and that a detailed financial statement is available.

- 6. Committee Reports:
 - None
- 7. Reports from Appointed Positions:
 - Lynne did the report for the Safari Park. They had a good workshop turnout. They transplanted 3 trees. Since they opened the Australian exhibit next to the Safari park bonsai exhibit there have many more visitors looking at the bonsai trees. They are still looking for volunteers to come work on the trees. Please sign up for the May 19th free Safari park passes. This will be the 8th year anniversary for the Safari Park Bonsai exhibit.
 - Neil The Femina forest is looking beautiful now at the Japanese Friendship Gardens. Some of the flowering bonsai trees are in flower now. Wednesdays and Saturdays are the days the volunteers work on the trees. They are looking for volunteers to work on other days to answer questions by visitors. They will train you as an informal Dosin.
- 7. Unfinished Business
 - There was none.
- 8. New Business
 - No new business.
- 9. Announcements:
 - None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Program Introduction:

Program Introduction by Bill Graham. Bill introduced Uyen Truong as today's demonstrator. Uyen last visited our club 15 years ago. Uyen feels that the SDBC is the best club with the best meeting location. Uyen is a well known artist along with being an accomplished bonsai specialist.

The CORONADO FLOWER SHOW

Sat, April 13, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, Sun, April 14, 10: 00am - 4:00 pm

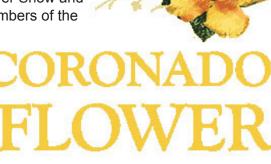
Barbara French-Lee, SDBC President

Janie Beck sponsors the Bonsai, Hon Non Bo, Saikai and Tray Landscape competition booth at the Coronado Flower Show and has invited members of the



Club to participate. interested please bring your entry Friday afternoon before 5:30 pm or

Saturday morning



before 9am. Judging will be Saturday morning. Any questions please call Janie at 619-890-1310.

Visit coronadoflowershow.com for more information.

Section H **BONSAI & HON NON BO**

Information: Janie Beck, (619) 435-2599

Section is NOT judged by NGC Flower Show Judges JUDGING IS FOR AMATEUR EXHIBITOR ENTRIES ONLY



AWARDS

Best in Bonsai | Best in Hon Non Bo | Best in Saikei | Best in Tieu Canh

Class 89. Small Bonsai - under 12 inches

Class 90. Large Bonsai - over 12 inches

Class 91. Hon Non Bo (Tray Landscapes)

Class 92. Tieu Canh

Class 93. Saikei

Professional exhibitors are welcome but exhibits will be displayed as "Display

The Bonsai section description for the Coronado Flower Show.

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.

PO Box 86037

San Diego, CA 92138-6037



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Next Mtg. Agenda:

April 14

8:30 - 10:15 am	
Beginner Class: Boxwoods #1	Prado
9:00 - 10:25 am	104
Library Open	
8:30 - 10:25 am	
Bob Pressler BYOT AM Workshop	
8:30 - 10:15 am	1
Accent Plants Workshop	
9:00 - 10:20 am	1
Bonsai Assistance: John Voss	
10:30 - 11:00 am	Prado
Business Meeting	101
11:00 am - 12:45 pm	
Bob Pressler Presentation	
12:45 - 1:30 pm	1
Raffle & Refreshment	
1:30 - 3:30 pm	
Bob Pressler BYOT PM Workshop	

SDBC Upcoming Events:

Apr 14 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Bob Pressler
Apr 27-28 (Sat-Sun)	54th Annual Spring Show
May 19 (Sun)	Meeting at Safari Park
Jun 16 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: David Nguy
Jul 7 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Jonas Dupuich
Aug 11 (Sun)	Regular Meeting (updated): Tak Shimazu
Sep 8 (Sun)	Regular Meeting: Peter Macasieb (Room 104)
Sep 21-22 (Sat-Sun)	54th Annual Fall Show
Oct 13 (Sun)	Meeting at Lake Poway

2019 Meeting & Show Dates

Meetings: • Apr 14 • Sep 8 Shows: • Apr. 25-28

May 19
 Oct TBD

• Sep 19-22

• Jun 16 • Nov 10

• Jul 7 • Dec 15

• Aug 11