



President's Message: Sue Carter, President and CEO

Hello Bonsai Enthusiasts:

The reviews are in and they are raves! Club members have determined that our long-awaited July meeting was a huge success. Everyone I talked with was enthusiastic about being back in person for our meeting. We got to see friends we haven't seen in 16 months and meet a flurry of new club members.

The presentation by John Voss on jin and shari techniques was awesome, and Bryan Schroeder has set the bar high for future meetings with his skill at capturing and projecting the close-up work John was demonstrating. At one point you could hear a pin drop as John carefully pulled and bended a branch, trying not to break it. The audience held its collective breath, and audible sighs were heard when he succeeded.

County masking guidelines in effect for Aug. 8 meeting

As of this writing, San Diego County is recommending that all people wear masks while indoors, regardless of vaccination status. The club asks that all Aug. 8 attendees voluntarily comply with that request. Masks will be made available for attendees.

It's your club – get involved to get the most out your membership

If you are new to the club or have been entertaining the idea of getting more involved, here are some (by no means all) volunteer ideas and contacts for enhancing your SDBC and bonsai experiences:

- Participate in the Fall Show and Sale: Markel Farley, Mr.Farley.M@gmail.com
- Help with the October Poway Picnic: Ignacio De La Torre, igdltx5@gmail.com
- Volunteer at Safari Park: 'lyn Stevenson, inthegrove@cox.net

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Aug. 8, 2021:

Meeting at Balboa Park; Bob Pressler presenting, Page 4

Classes

Beginner classes, workshops resume, Page 2

Fall show:

Volunteers needed for Sept. 24-25 event at Balboa Park, Page 5

Upcoming events:

Lake Poway Picnic planned for October meeting, Page 11

Resources: Visit our website for information on private instructors and other resources to advance your bonsai skills:
sandiegobonsaiclub.com





Welcome to August! The heat continues to be up and the weather is very dry. As always, keep an eye on your watering and don't let your trees dry out. Be aware of the effect wind can have on the moisture content of your trees.

Our first meeting in person in well over a year went well on July 18. There was a little confusion as to the start time, but I think everyone had a good time. John Voss gave a fantastic presentation. The interest in the Beginner's Class and in the intermediate workshops was very strong! As of this writing, the Beginner's Class and August workshop are sold out.

Due to the long time between classes, I want to provide a quick rundown of what you will get when you take a Beginner's Class:

- A tree
- A training pot
- A pair of scissors
- "The Little Book of Bonsai" by Jonas Dupuich
- Three 2-hour training sessions

All for \$50!

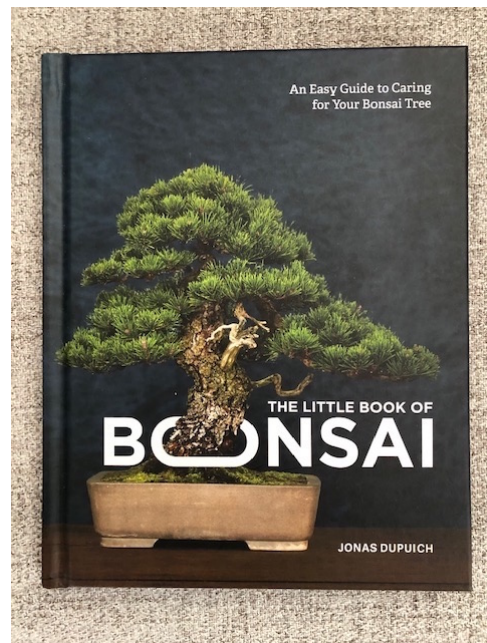
So, with no further ado, get ready to sign up for the following:

Beginner's Class: Procumbens nana – Bob Hale

Aug. 8

Sept. 12

Nov. 14



The first Beginner's Class of 2021 will start in August and take us through the end of the year. Please note the scheduling of this class. We have some nice Procumbens nanas. These trees were bought for last year's class, so they have an extra year of growth on them. This is very nice material that will make some great bonsai. The instructor is Bob Hale, with an assist from Mark Edgar and the usual gang of helpers. The class starts at 8:30 a.m. in Room 104. Please be on time or a few minutes early if you can to help get the room set up for the class. Observers are always welcome. Even if you do not get into the class, you can still observe and learn. The cost is \$50 – **SOLD OUT**.

Intermediate Workshops:

August – Olea europaea – Olive – John Jackson

Our first workshop for the year will be some nice, large olives. These trees are in 5-gallon cans and are much larger than most anything you will find for sale. John Jackson will lead the class. This class is **SOLD OUT**.

(Continued on Page 3)

September – Cotoneaster sp. - Glenn Jensen

We have some nice little Cotoneaster for the September workshop. You will be making a shohin-sized tree. I originally purchased these from the sale of Harry Hirao's material after his passing. They were smaller than a pencil at the time. They are now a solid ½- to ¾-inch trunk size. They have nice small leaves and produce white flowers that turn into red berries. Glenn Jensen will lead this class, which is limited to 6 students. There are currently 2 SLOTS LEFT.



Glenn Jensen will teach the September workshop

October – NO WORKSHOP – MEETING HELD AT LAKE POWAY

November – Juniperus chinensis Itoigawa Shohin – Tak Shimazu

Tak has been working these trees and they are fantastic! These trees were originally put aside for me for a November 2020 class, so they have an extra year of growth and work on them. The class will be held on Saturday, Nov. 6 at Fred Miyahara's house. This workshop will run from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The class is limited to 6 attendees. The cost is \$450. Lunch will be provided. This class will go on sale at the Aug. 8 meeting.

November – Pot Preparation – Mirai Chopsticks – Sumi Ink Top Dressing – Mike Shelly

Mike Shelly will lead a class creating the bamboo chopsticks that are used at Mirai Bonsai by Ryan Neil. He will also teach how to properly prepare a pot to be used for repotting, how to set your screen and tie-down wires as well as how to dye and create top dressing for your trees after repotting. Screen, wire, bamboo, moss and sumi ink will be provided. Please bring a pot to use. If you do not have a pot, we will provide one to practice with.

A reminder:

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.

All beginning classes, workshops and skills classes are taught from 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. 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.



Programs: Ignacio De La Torre, First Vice President

August presenter: Bob Pressler of Kimura Bonsai

The Aug. 8 program brings back a club favorite, Robert (Bob) Pressler, who will share with members his extensive knowledge in working with trees that thrive during the summer months and will describe how to care for them.

The owner of Kimura Bonsai Nursery in Northridge, Bob serves as the president of the California Bonsai Society. He also is a member of Nanpu Kai, the club of bonsai pioneer John Naka, as well as Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai. He's been involved with bonsai for 53 years, having started at age 10.

Like most good teachers, Bob has studied with a variety of instructors, starting informally with Frank Okamura at the Brooklyn Botanical gardens in the early 1970s when he was a young boy. He moved to California in 1984 and a couple of years later met Naka, Ben Oki and others in their renowned group of Southern California bonsai artists.

Bob also participated with numerous clubs, which helped him expand his skills and gave him the opportunity to share his skills with others. In 2000, he met Certified Bonsai Master Kenji Miyata at a convention in California. A year later, Bob began studying with him and has been with him ever since.

His Aug. 8 demonstration will focus on the proper techniques for working with varieties of trees that thrive during the summer months, including olives, ficus, bougainvillea and tropicals. Bob will discuss the importance of the proper timing for root and canopy work for these trees and will demonstrate on a couple of these species the work that should be completed at this time of the year.

During his career, Bob has received numerous industry honors, including being presented the Nagata-Komai Award for excellence in instruction and encouragement in the art of bonsai.

Upcoming Sept. 19

Julian Tsai will discuss his time as an apprentice to bonsai masters in Japan and share techniques he learned under their tutelage.



Bob Pressler is the Aug. 8 presenter

Special Projects: Markel Farley, Vice President for Special Projects

Fall Show & Sale

The SDBC Fall Show & Sale is currently scheduled for Sept. 25-26 (with setup on Sept. 23-24).

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer for the show. However, we still need additional volunteers to help with all the fall show activities. There are various positions available.

You don't need any special bonsai experience to volunteer. We will need help with many positions. They include set-up, tear-down, roaming security, sales table cashier, sales table check in/out, food for volunteers, front door greeting, demonstrations, membership table information, kitchen clean up, putting up/taking down flags, and assist bringing in trees (for the sale and show).

For those who wish to display trees, look for sign-up sheets at the Aug. 8 meeting. There also will be forms and sales tags available for individuals who want to sell trees, pots and other bonsai-related items. Remember, you must be a current club member to sell.

President's message (Continued from Page 1)

- Volunteer at Japanese Friendship Garden; Barbara French – Lee, barbflee@hotmail.com
- Bring refreshments and help with set up and clean up: Matt Jillson, mattjillson@hotmail.com
- Help with general meeting and classroom setup and cleanup
- Greet new members and show them around

I believe the best way to get the most out of being a member of this wonderful club is to give back with your time, your skills, your knowledge, your willingness to learn and your appreciation of the art of bonsai. The reason San Diego Bonsai Club is the largest and best teaching bonsai club in the nation is because of the dedication and commitment of its club members. Get involved!

Library: Sonya Holmquist, Librarian



All new members are invited to drop by the SDBC's library in Room 104 between 9 a.m. and 10:20 a.m. on meeting Sundays. See what we have to offer – an extensive collection of books, periodicals and DVDs – and learn how to check out these items. All "old" members, please return any items you checked out pre-pandemic. Thanks.



Membership: Udaykant Pandey, Vice President for Membership

It was nice to see you all at the July club meeting. Quite a few new members and many old-timers attended the meeting.

We would like to welcome new members who have joined the club since July: Michael Rhodes, Aaron Hungerford, Fernando and Yazmin Morlan, Debra Staples, Jeff Brewer, Rhoda Carillo, Garth Larson, Emily DeJoode, Anne Susalski, Jonald Green, Keenan Field, Kyle Plutchak, Mathew Gelacio, Lily Stup, Enzo Verna, Brenda Cunningham, Rodney Perez, Ferdinand Abella, Alec Mahar and Josh Bariuan.

With these additions and renewals, the club currently has 396 active members.

I would also like to thank all the members who have renewed their membership this year. As announced at the start of 2021, the SDBC Board has decided that all memberships current in 2020 were be carried forward to 2021. If your membership was current in 2020, you do not have to renew for 2021.

To help keep the club financially strong, however, please consider voluntarily renewing your membership (\$30 for an individual, \$35 for a family). The club will continue to accept payment from those who would like to submit their annual dues or make a donation as a way of supporting the club through the pandemic. Please consider these options if you are able.

You can make payments through the club's website or by sending a check to the club at P.O. Box 86037, San Diego, CA 92138.

Thank you for donations

Refreshments

At the July meeting, the following members donated refreshments:

Matt Jillson, Shirley Kavanaugh, Wayne Lord, Sally and Steve Dischinger, John & Margaret Jackson, Sylvia & Charlie Mosse, Sue & Keith Carter, Abe & Christina Far, Ken Bross, 'lyn Stevenson and Nancy Reisman

Raffle donations

Donating items for the July raffle were: Shirley Kavanaugh, Sue & Keith Carter, Christina Vargas, Christine & Darryl Elmer, John & Margaret Jackson, Kyle Icke, Jaya Kaelberer, Sylvia & Charlie Mosse, 'lyn Stevenson, Jim Potts, Abe & Christina Far, Ken Bross and Bill Graham

Japanese Friendship Garden: Neil Auwarter, Curator

Thanks to July volunteers Charlie and Sylvia Mosse, “Mori” Suimori, Aaron Mathankeri, and Club/JFG liaison Barbara French-Lee.

The Japanese Friendship Garden has returned to near-normal, with high levels of visitors and resumption of weddings and other special events. Many of our trees are taking a rest now, a pause between the explosive spring foliar growth and the more vascular growth in the fall.

John Jackson visited one morning in July to assist with a project Charlie has been tackling — carving the extensive deadwood on the large privet donated by Linda and Paul Vicina in 2019. John and Charlie spent a few hours in a cloud of Dremel dust. The result will be an impressive tree!

It was great to see everyone at our July meeting — the first in 16 months! Please stay safe and consider getting vaccinated if you have not yet done so, and let’s put an end to this pandemic so we can all enjoy meeting together safely. Take care!



Charlie Mosse uses a rotary grinder to carve the deadwood on a large privet

Special auction raises funds for club

A special thank you goes to **David** and **Cathy Szabo** who donated 16 lovely bonsai to the club for an auction at the July meeting.

The club raised \$535 from the sale, with many of the trees going to new members. The Szabos also donated 20 pots that will be sold at the September Fall Show and Sale.

We will miss you, Cathy and Dave. Good luck in your new location.



Bonsai Pavilion at Zoo Safari Park: 'Lyn Stevenson, Liaison

Hurrah! The Bonsai Pavilion had a cadre of volunteers this month as we celebrated our first official work day since the COVID-19 closures. It was wonderful to see all the red-shirted volunteers moving around the Pavilion, working on bonsai, cleaning up debris, and visiting with the many park guests.

July volunteers included: Julia Chow, Sally & Steve Dischinger, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Chuck Fasilis, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Bob & Janet Liggett, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Janet & Ron Palmer, Shawn & Yvette Palmer, Udaykant Pandey, 'lyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner and Ken Zito.

Curator John and Mark gave a detailed explanation of the huge pedestal project that was completed while the Safari Park was closed. Everyone is so very thankful and impressed by the work accomplished by John, Dennis, Mark, Ken, Jim and Cathy. John and Mark also presented their report at the SDBC July meeting at Balboa Park. There is another grant proposal and another hardscape project in the works and that will be reported on later.

Lori Scott, the new manager of volunteer services at the Safari Park also came to the Pavilion for our meeting and answered questions about admission rewards and renewals of ID credentials. Lori also adds some snacks to our Pavilion refrigerator from time to time. We appreciate the assistance always from the park's volunteer office.

Two beautiful bonsai were donated to the Pavilion collection this past month. John and assistants went to Vista to pick up and deliver a large California Juniper that has been donated by San Pu Kai member Tom Ohgi. Tom studied under Ben Suzuki many years ago in Palos Verdes before moving to Vista and opening a nursery. The other bonsai is a shohin donated by Joe Dupont. Joe is the nephew of Jerry Parish, one of the original 13 SDBC founding members. Jerry was very instrumental in obtaining the original Pavilion site (at the then-Wild Animal Park) before moving to Northern California. It is very gracious of these friends to remember the Pavilion with these meaningful gifts. All the bonsai in the Pavilion are there because of generous donors through the years. We are most thankful!

We hope that more SDBC members will again join or renew as Pavilion volunteers. There is always something new to learn and to do and enjoy the camaraderie of the other volunteers. Contact Liaison 'lyn Stevenson (inthegrove@cox.net) for information on how to obtain credentials for the Safari Park.



Bonsai Pavilion trees are displayed on new pedestals

July meeting wrap up: Keith Carter, Publicity

After waiting more than a year, longtime SDBC member John Voss finally got a chance to share three “secret” techniques for creating dramatic shari and jin effects on bonsai trees at the July meeting.



John, who began his voyage of bonsai education as a student 40 years ago, shared his knowledge gained through the study of the teachings of Taiwanese bonsai master Lee Chong Hong.

In reality, the techniques are not actually secrets, John admitted, but they are not commonly used in today’s bonsai cultivation. They’re examples of how you can use different methods of creating designs so “you don’t have to make your jin in the same way every time,” he said.

The first technique demonstrated was how to create a jin by stripping only a part of the bark from a branch rather than removing all the bark. John showed how to carefully remove the bark from only the bottom portion of a branch, leaving the bark on the top portion intact. He used pliers to pry off the bark, but cautioned that it sometimes can be just as effective to use your fingernails to scrape it off. While this technique takes more time, it allows the portion of the branch with bark to remain alive and carry nutrients to the rest of the branch.

John Voss shared bonsai ‘secrets’ at the July meeting

“It also makes the branch look much older than if you removed all the bark on the branch and bleached it with lime sulfur,” he said.

The second technique is called fiber pulling. John used a spherical branch cutter to make a quarter-to-half-inch notch at the end of the branch, then created a “controlled break” by pulling that sliced portion of the branch toward the trunk with pliers. Go slow, he advised, and listen for cracking as the wood tears. “Do not force it,” he cautioned. The result is a textured look that makes the surface of the jinned branch look old. John said fiber pulling works best on fresh branches, but is not suitable for thin branches.

The third technique he demonstrated was how to hollow out a stubbed cut. The goal of this technique, he said, is to make what otherwise would be an ugly scar look natural and not man-made.

John used a Dremel tool to drill a series of small holes in the stubbed cut that eventually created a natural hollowed-out look on the branch. This method works most effectively on broadleaf evergreens and deciduous trees, he said.



Treasurer's Report: Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB - TREASURER'S REPORT			
Jaya Kaelberer as of 30 June, 2021			
Accounts have been reconciled with Union Bank statements			
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES (QuickBooks)			
SDBC Checking	\$40,471		
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,343		
Bonsai Pavilion Checking	\$12,967		
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$55,781		
SDBC Income	Actuals		budget
Total Donation Income	\$1,098	No change from m/e May	\$ 2,800
Total Grant Qualcomm	\$500	No change from m/e May	
Total Education Income	\$180	Lost cheques	\$ 5,400
Total Membership Income	\$1,956	1 triple, 4dbl, 7 sngl	\$ 1,800
Guest Artist Workshops			\$ 800
Total Raffle & Auction			\$ 5,200
Spring and fall show income			\$ 3,000
Total Special Projects Income			\$ 1,000
Total Tool Sales	\$1,676	No change from m/e May	\$ 3,400
Total SDBC Income	\$5,411		\$23,400
SDBC Expenses			budget
Total Bonsai Pavilion			\$ 2,500
Donations and contributions			\$ -
Total Education	\$1,810	\$180: replacement chq	\$ 5,220
Total Japanese Friendship Garden			\$ 500
Total Library	\$78	No change from m/e May	\$ 225
Total Mas Takanashi Grant			\$ 800
Total Membership			\$ 900
Total Monthly Program	\$70	No change from m/e May	\$ 3,300
Total Newsletter	\$331	\$61: Mail chimp, nwsltr cop	\$ 970
Total SDBC Club Expenses			
Total GSBF Liability Insurance	\$2,150	No change from m/e April	\$ 2,200
Other	\$648	\$28: Sales tax on Fliers	\$ 2,050
San Diego Fair			\$ 65
Power of one scholarship			\$ 150
Total SDBC Spring Show			\$ -
Total Fall show			\$ 900
Total Special Projects			\$ 500
Total Taxes	\$84	Charitable Trusts registration	\$ 2,120
Total Tool Table Expenses			\$1,000
Total SDBC Expense	\$5,171		\$23,400
Net SDBC Income (Loss)	\$240		\$0

San Diego Bonsai Club Board of Directors

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Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion

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Assistant Curator:	Dennis Wagner denisW@cox.net
Liaison:	'lyn Stevenson inthegrove@cox.net

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SDBC Aug. 8 meeting agenda

8:30 am	Doors Open
8:30-10:15	Beginner Class Session 1: Casa del Prado Room 104 Juniper (procumbens nana), Bob Hale & Mark Edgar
8:30-10:15	Intermediate Workshop: Casa del Prado Room 101 Olive (olea europaea), John Jackson
9:00-10:20	Library open
9:00-10:25	Bonsai assistance: John Voss and other Masters
9:00-10:25	Tool table sales
10:30-11:00	Business meeting
11:00-12:30	Presentation by Bob Pressler
12:30-1:00	Raffle & Refreshments

SDBC Upcoming Events

Aug. 7 Aug. 21	Bonsai Pavilion workdays
Sept. 19	Regular meeting: Julian Tsai, presenter
Sept. 22-23	Setup for Fall Show & Sale Casa del Prado Room 101
Sept. 24-25	Fall Show & Sale: Casa del Prado Room 101
Oct. 10	Lake Poway Annual Picnic and Auction
Nov. 14	Regular meeting: Casa del Prado Room 101 Election of 2022 officers
Dec. 12	Regular meeting: Casa del Prado Room 101 Holiday tree decorating contest & officer installation
Jan. 9, 2022	Regular meeting: Casa del Prado Room 101