



President's Message

Ignacio De La Torre

Our August gathering was a powerhouse of a meeting. It began with a Beginner's Class session taught by Susan Ronan, with help from Brenda Crann, Gary Jones, and Bob Hale. We also held a very popular Intermediate workshop led by John Jackson. We thank the instructors and volunteers who assisted them.

The meeting continued with a day focused on wiring. It began with a hands-on practice session in which members received help while learning the basics about wiring. They were given instruction by Cathy and Mark Edgar and Matt Gelacio. It was followed by a presentation by Mark Edgar, club liaison to the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, who delivered a fantastic presentation on wiring basics. You can read about it in Keith Carter's summary found on Page 8 of this newsletter. Mark's presentation will also be uploaded to the club website. Keep an eye out for it. The video is definitely worth reviewing.

We ended the day by continuing with wiring practice. We have never held such a large-scale training effort, and I am happy to report that those who participated found it extremely helpful. For someone who has limited wiring experience, there is nothing like practicing wiring to give one a sense for the attention and level of detail needed when applying wire. We thank Mark, Cathy, and Matt.

I'm excited to announce that as a part of the instructional programming developed by the Program Committee, we will hold a "Bring Your Own Tree" workshop at the September meeting. This is an opportunity for members to bring in a tree and work with some of our more advanced members. We will also have a brief presentation, "Tree and Design Basics," by Carla Marasco, club secretary. The presentation will be helpful for those new to bonsai
(continued on Page 3)



San Diego Bonsai Club Fall Show

Sept. 23-24, 2023
Balboa Park

Next Meeting

Sept. 10, 2023:

10:30 a.m.

War Memorial Building

Balboa Park

Upcoming classes

See Page 2

NEW!

[Bonsai Task Calendar for San Diego County](#)

Resources:

Private instructors and other valuable resources are available to advance your bonsai skills on the club website.



Education: Bill Graham, Vice President, Education

September is here and the first day of Fall is coming on Sept. 23. We live in Southern California, so, that might be just a bit delayed. :) This is also the first day of our Fall Show, what a great combination! Continue to watch the watering of trees and be ready for those late rises in temperatures.

Beginning Class: - Juniperus procumbens – Nana – Susan Ronan

August 13 – **September 10** – November 12

This is the second session of the Nana Juniper class. This session will focus on finishing your styling and the proper way to wire your tree. Keep an eye on your trees and do not let them dry out. Please note the scheduling of this class – **there is no class in October**. The September class starts at 8:30 a.m. in Room 104. Please be on time or a few minutes early to help set up the classroom. Observers are always welcome. Even if you did not get into the class, you can still observe and learn. **SOLD OUT!**

Intermediate Workshop:

September – Chaenomeles japonica – Japanese Quince – Fred Miyahara

Fred Miyahara will be leading a workshop with Chaenomeles japonica, flowering Japanese Quince. These trees make for interesting clump styles with beautiful flowers, which are white with a pink tinge. They can flower multiple times during the year and make elegant bonsai. Fred has experience with these trees and this should be an excellent class. The class will be held on the patio outside of Room 104, NOT in Room 101. **SOLD OUT!**

October – NO WORKSHOP OR BEGINNERS CLASS – LAKE POWAY PICNIC AND SALE

November – Juniperus chinensis “Shimpaku” – Itoigawa

Ken Bross will lead a workshop with some large shohin/small chuhin Shimpaku Itoigawa. These trees were originally started by Tak Shimazu. They have jin, shari, and movement and are really nice. They will make excellent bonsai. All it will take is your design, style and finish on this excellent material. The cost will be \$135.

This class is limited to 6 attendees and will go on sale at the September Meeting.

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. **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 unless otherwise specified...** We do not start a waiting list until after the sign-up sheet has been put out at the meeting and filled.

A reminder that 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 unless otherwise specified. 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.

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and those who want to improve their bonsai skills.

And something else to add to your calendar. Our October 8 meeting will be the annual Lake Poway Picnic and Auction. We will have a sign-up sheet at our upcoming meeting to give us a general attendance headcount. And remember to rummage through your bonsai material for any items you might like to donate to the live and silent auctions. We'll have more details available next month.

Finally, a special thanks to Keith Carter who is filling in for Sally and Steve Dischinger as this month's Bonsai Wire editor.

September Meeting: Bring Your Own Tree Workshop and Tree and Design Basics Ignacio De La Torre

The club's focus on hands-on bonsai education continues at the Sept. 10 meeting with a "Bring Your Own Tree" clinic. Members are invited to bring in a tree, tools and other material to receive guidance and assistance from more seasoned members of the club. This is an opportunity to ask questions specific to your trees. Work may include styling, design, and possible wiring and pruning. The clinic begins at 9:00 a.m.

We will also have a presentation on "Tree and Design Basics" provided by Carla Marasco, club secretary and past class instructor. Her presentation will focus on bonsai principles to consider when styling and designing a tree. This is a great opportunity for members who have not taken a class or who may want to review the basics prior to working on their tree.

The Sept. 10 Schedule:

9:00 a.m.: BYOT Clinic

10:30 a.m.: SDBC General Meeting

11:00 a.m.: Design Basics Presentation

11:30 a.m.: BYOT Clinic continues

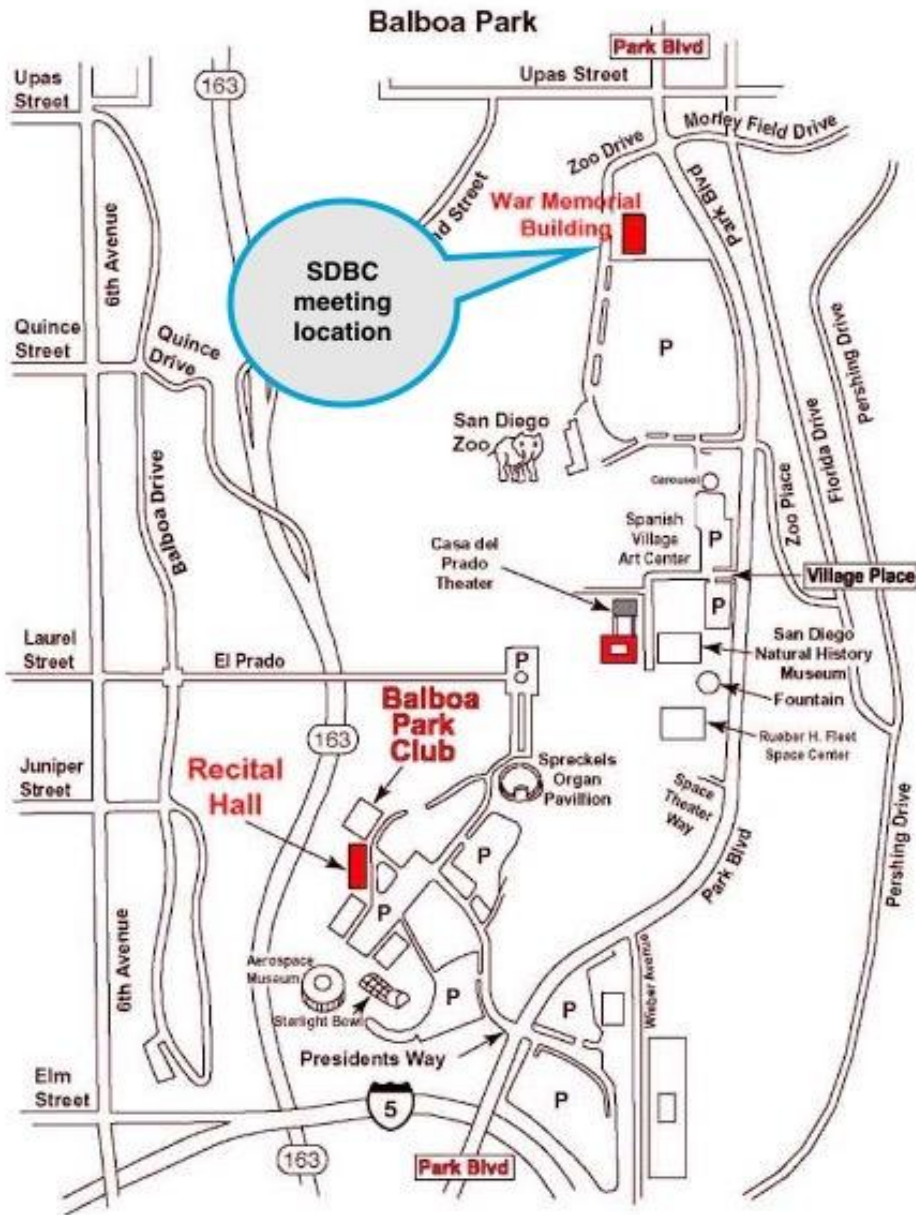
12:00 noon: Meeting concludes

PLEASE NOTE: The meeting location for the upcoming meeting will be at the War Memorial Building located at the north end of the San Diego Zoo parking lot (see map on Page 4). There is ample parking in front of the building. There will be no raffle table at this meeting, but we will have a refreshments table, so please feel free to bring food and beverage items to share with your fellow members.

The September beginner class remains at Casa del Prado Room 104. The September Japanese Quince workshop will be held on the patio outside Room 104.



September meeting site: War Memorial Building in Balboa Park



Library: Sonya Holmquist

The library will not be open in September (the regular meeting is moved to the War Memorial Building) or October (picnic meeting/silent and live auctions at Lake Poway).

We look forward to seeing everyone in November to check out or return materials.

Bonsai Pavilion at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park: Mark Edgar, Liaison

Even with the warmer temperatures we still have more than 25 volunteers at our bimonthly workdays.

So far this year, SDBC members have donated 2,722 volunteer hours to maintaining the Bonsai Pavilion at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.



Susan Ronan, Cathy Edgar and Nasser Forutan work on a Brazilian raintree bonsai donated by Sally Prestele.



Alan Burrows carefully avoids the 3-inch needles while working on an acacia tree

(Photo at right) Longtime club members Charlie and Sylvia Mosse celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during a recent Safari Park workday. Congratulations, Charlie and Sylvia!





Julia Chow and John Jackson trim a trident maple on a rock, which was donated to the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion by John and his brother Brian



Keith Carter gets down to the basics as he prunes and styles a pomegranate bush, while Mori Suemori inspects the Pavilion's shohin display.

Special Events: Phaedra Ehring, Vice President, Special Projects

Fall Show, Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 23-24

The SDBC Fall Show and Sale, featuring bonsai displays, demonstrations, and sale of trees and other bonsai materials will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in Casa del Prado, Room 101.

We will have live demonstrations at 11:00 a.m and 1:00 p.m. each day. If you are interested in displaying trees, please talk to Mark Edgar at the September meeting to find out if any space is still available.

This year, all set up will take place on Friday, Sept. 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- Showroom setup begins at 8:00 a.m. sharp
- Load-in of exhibit trees will begin no earlier than 2:00 p.m.
- Load-in of sale items will be limited to the hours of 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- Preshow volunteer purchases will be limited to 7:00-8:00 p.m.

We still need volunteers for setup day as well as show days. Please check the sign-up sheets at the Sept. 10 club meeting, which will be held at the War Memorial Building (see map on Page 4). If you are interested in volunteering but cannot attend the September meeting, please email [VP Special Projects](#) by Friday, Sept. 8.

Another big change for the show is that all sales will be cashless. This will streamline our ability to charge sales tax to buyers instead of sellers and will allow us to avoid securing large amounts of cash during the event. Be sure to bring debit or credit cards to the show for purchases.

October Trip: Chino Bonsai Club Show

We are working on planning a bus trip to the Chino Bonsai Club annual exhibit on the afternoon of Saturday, Oct. 7. The event includes demonstrations by experts such as David Nguy, live and silent auctions, member and vendor sales and a dinner reception.

We will send out an e-mail and post details on the club website as soon as the trip is confirmed.

Lake Poway Picnic and Auction

Just a reminder that our Oct. 8 meeting will be held at Lake Poway. It is a wonderful event, and fun for the whole family. Hope to see you there.

Membership: Udaykant Pandey, Vice President, Membership

The club continues to welcome new members.



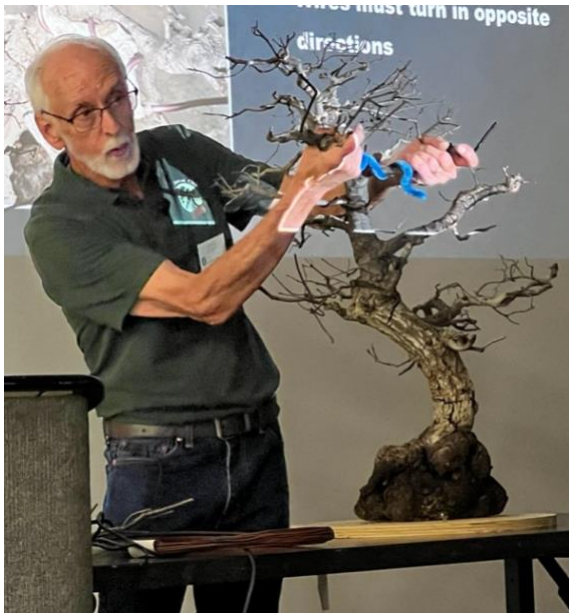
August meeting recap – Mark Edgar outlines wiring basics: Keith Carter

One of the most critical but often under-valued skills for anyone interested in designing a quality bonsai is wiring. After all, the better you are at wiring, the more creative you can be when it comes to developing a beautiful tree.

That was the key message delivered by Mark Edgar in his presentation on the basics of wiring at the August SDBC meeting. For Mark, who's been a bonsai enthusiast for 13 years and currently is the club's liaison with the San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion, "to learn how to wire, you have to practice it." So as part of his teaching efforts, Mark – assisted by his wife Cathy and Matt Gelacio – set up a demonstration table to give members plenty of hands-on practice both before and after his formal presentation.

Mark's presentation – which is available for viewing on the club's [website homepage](#) – included several examples of different methods of wiring a variety of branches. Such wiring skills are especially important for developing trees such as junipers into bonsai, although deciduous trees can also be wired to fit specific design goals.

The actual wire for bonsai comes in two types of material, aluminum (ranging in size from 1-7 mm) and copper (20- to 4-gauge). Aluminum is cheaper, softer and easier to twist around branches, but it has less holding power, meaning you will need to use a larger size than you would for copper. It also remains more visible on the tree.



Mark Edgar demonstrates the proper techniques for wiring branches on a bonsai

connected to the secondary branches.

Though more expensive, copper wire gets more rigid after being applied to branches, so smaller gauge wires have better holding ability than aluminum. And while it's initially brighter in color, it ages over time to match the tree's bark. Trees at the Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion are wired with copper, Mark said.

Wiring is both functionally and aesthetically important for bonsai, he said, as he explained the three categories of bonsai wiring:

1. Structural wiring, which is applied to trunks and primary branches.
2. Secondary wiring, placed on branches that are connected to the primary branches.
3. Tertiary wiring, which is applied on branches

Before starting wiring, trees should be cleaned and pruned, Mark advised. Then you should define the design **(continued on Page 9)**

August meeting recap: (continued from Page 8)

you want to achieve. Once that's done, you can begin structural wiring, followed by the secondary and tertiary wiring, beginning at the bottom of the tree and working your way up.

Guidelines for correct wiring techniques are fairly simple, he said. Wire should be applied to a branch with the coils at the same angle and with the same space between coils. There also should be no space between the branch and the wire, and wires should not cross one another.



(Photo above) Cathy Edgar and Matt Gelacio provide hands-on instruction on wiring to members. The table was set up to allow members to get practice at wiring both before and after the presentation by Mark Edgar

Among the most common mistakes by beginners are choosing a wire that's too small and applying the coils too close to one another. In both cases, the wire won't be able to hold the branch properly in place, he said.



(Photo at left) Nasser Forutan practices his wiring skills

For more detailed explanations of proper wiring techniques, Mark suggested consulting two past Bonsai Wire articles on wiring basics. They can be found here in the club's online newsletter archives:

February 2021, Page 3:

https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/uploads/2/4/0/4/24046255/tbw_2021_01.pdf

March 2021, Page 8

https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/uploads/2/4/0/4/24046255/tbw_2021_03



Photo recap of a few of the club activities at the August membership meeting



Susan Ronan conducts the first session of a new Beginner's Class in the care of procumbens nana junipers in Room 104.



John Jackson provides expert advice on how to style a long-leaf ficus at the intermediate workshop.



The packed raffle table offered a wealth of bonsai-related materials for members, ranging from trees and pots to viewing stones and magazines.

Treasurer's Report: Jaya Kaelberer, Treasurer

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB - TREASURER'S REPORT			budget
Jaya Kaelberer as of 31 July 2023			
Accounts have been reconciled with Union Bank statements			
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES (QuickBooks)			
SDBC Checking	\$79,934		
Japanese Friendship Garden	\$2,343		
Bonsai Pavillion Checking	\$19,222		
TOTAL FUNDS:	\$101,499		
SDBC Income	Actuals	Comments	budget
Total Donation Income	\$1,411	\$200: Dave Woodal memory	\$ 3,850
Total Grant Qualcomm			\$ 2,500
Total Education Income	\$6,826	\$441: \$49: beginner class, \$392: workshops	\$ 11,100
Total Fair Awards			\$ 150
Total Membership Income	\$7,561	\$358 : New members	\$ 8,000
Total Monthly Program	\$80	No change from previous month	\$ 480
Total Raffle & Auction	\$12,820	\$329: \$319: general mtg raffle, \$10: Spark Auction	\$ 14,000
Total Show Income	\$6,821	No change from previous month	\$ 8,100
Total Special Projects Income	\$837	No change from previous month	\$ 4,400
Total Tool Sales	\$3,152	\$694: tools, shirts, wires	\$ 3,500
Total SDBC Income	\$39,507		\$56,080
SDBC Expenses			budget
Total Bonsai Pavillion	\$5,893	\$4,931 : \$4,823 Benefactor sign, \$32: duster/pole, \$76:	\$ 9,000
Total Education	\$3,917	\$509 : \$179: workshop lunches, \$330: A,M,J watering c	\$ 10,100
Total Japanese Friendship Garden			\$ 1,500
Total Library	\$145	No change from previous month	\$ 500
Mas Takanashi Grant			\$ 1,000
Total Membership	\$752	\$123 : new badges	\$ 1,500
Total Monthly Program	\$2,812	No change from previous month	\$ 7,550
Total Newsletter	\$541	\$86: \$27: mailchimp, \$59: newsletter copies	\$ 1,070
Total SDBC Club Expenses			
Total GSBF Liability Insurance	\$2,345	No change from previous month	\$ 3,500
Other	\$1,003	\$36: 1 year Quicken, potential QuickBooks replacement	\$ 2,370
San Diego Fair		No change from previous month	\$ 300
Power of one scholarship		No change from previous month	\$ 300
Total SDBC Fall Show			\$ 950
Total SDBC Spring Show	\$2,714	No change from previous month	\$ 2,450
Total Special Projects	\$4,505	No change from previous month	\$ 7,800
Total Taxes	\$2,325	\$1,771: A,M,J sales tax	\$ 4,090
Tool Table Expenses	\$2,448	No change from previous month	\$ 2,100
Total SDBC Expense	\$29,401		\$56,080
Net SDBC Income (Loss)	\$10,106		\$0
Our income to date is greater than the budget by	\$17 k		
Our expenses are less than the budget by	\$27 k		
Our finances continue to look good.			

Important Note:

SDBC is looking for a treasurer for the calendar year 2024. Do you want to be part of a board that makes decisions on club priorities and direction? Do you have a good knowledge of Microsoft Excel? Do you enjoy puzzles and problem solving? Are you comfortable on the internet? Are you organized, careful and conscientious? If so, the treasurer job is exactly a match for you! Prior accounting knowledge is not necessary but welcome.



Board Meeting Minutes: Carla Marasco, Secretary

President Ignacio De La Torre called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on August 15, 2023

President's Report

A. The September 10 meeting will be held at the Balboa Park War Memorial Building

- Presentation – Bring your own tree design basics class (beginner class intro)
- Volunteers – Mark is looking for volunteers
- Will have food at the meeting but not a raffle table

B. 2024 Open Board Positions

- Treasurer – still looking for a candidate
- VP Education – no interest shown by possible candidates as yet
- VP Membership – Larry Distafano has shown interest and has shadowed current office-holder Uday Pandey
- President – Susan Ronan is interested in the position

C. 2023 Nominating Committee to be formed by September meeting

- Nominees must be members in good standing
- Only one board member is allowed
- 3 people are needed to fill the committee
- The committee presents nominees at the October meeting
- Looking for interested members to join this committee

D. Fall Show Sept. 22-24

- Setup is on Friday morning, Sept. 22 and more volunteers are needed
- Ad will go into The Hub section of the Union Tribune on September 17 for \$250

E. Lake Poway meeting will be held October 8

- Amount of food budget is pending; waiting for information from Jaya. Will work with Olivia for main dish menu items. Members will bring side dishes.
- Need to know the number of attendees
- Sign-up sheets to be put out at September meeting
- Silent and Live auction: Will need to request donations for these auctions
- Parking is free for the first 50 cars. After that, parking is \$5

F. Nisei Week trip – Saturday, August 19

- Still accepting people signing up through Thursday on website (50 available seats)
- Need check-in person at San Diego location

G. Board reports

- Phaedra Ehring, VP Special Projects
 - Nisei week trip plans are being finalized and signups are still being accepted
 - Fall Show: Received a lot of volunteer signups but still looking for more and for presenters

- Board approved a motion to plan bus trip to Chino Bonsai Club show in San Gabriel on October 7. It starts at 10:15 a.m. with presentations throughout the day. There is a 5:30 dinner potluck, a 6:30 auction and a possible stop at a nursery on the way. Members should bring items for the auction and potluck.
- Bill Graham, VP Education
 - September: Fred Miyhara will conduct a workshop on clump Japanese Quince
 - October: No classes; Lake Poway picnic
 - November: Ken Bross will conduct a workshop on Itiowaga juniper
 - December: Holiday programs
 - January: Bob Hale will conduct a workshop on cotoneaster.
- Kyle Icke, VP Programs
 - September: Carla Marasco will offer a presentation on styling.
 - Looking to set up visiting presenters for next year (several are interested in presenting for us)
 - Will plan programs for first few months of 2024 so that new board doesn't need to plan last minute
 - Kyle will teach an outreach class to seniors on boxwoods
 - Open Garden visit coming

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Thank you for your contributions

We thank the following members who donated to the August Refreshments Table:

Cathy Edgar, Kathy and Dennis Wagner, Georgana Winters, Wayne Lord, Shirley Kavanaugh, Adrian and Tony Mangina, Cindy Pecile, Susan Baler, Jackie Griffin, Jeanne and Mike McKinney, Jenny K. Chin, Margaret and John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, MaryLou and Don Montross, Kyle Icke, and SDBC.

Thank you to Olivia George and Julia Chow for helping to prepare the coffee and the refreshments table.

We also thank the following individuals who donated to the August raffle table: Camille Newton, Chris Galindo, Sue and Keith Carter, Janet and Bob Liggett, Julia Chow, Cathy Edgar, Brian Jackson, Georgana Winters, Scott Flack, Chris Strows, Ken Bross, Shirley Kavanaugh, Frank Guadiana, Julius Alcantara, Emily Wu, Jenny K. Chin, Margaret and John Jackson, Cindy Pecile, Gary Jones, and Paul Lawrence.



San Diego Bonsai Club Board

President:	Ignacio De La Torre igdltx5@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Kyle Icke Kyle.Icke@sdcounty.ca.gov
Secretary:	Carla Marasco adorebycarla@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Jaya Kaelberer jaya.littletree@cox.net

VP Special Projects:	Phaedra Ehring Phaedra-sdbonsai@outlook.com
VP Education:	Bill Graham wfgraham3rd@gmail.com
VP Membership:	Udaykant Pandey udaykant@gmail.com
Past President:	Sue Carter susangcarter2004@att.net

Appointed Positions

Refreshment Coordinator:	Olivia George
Publicity:	Keith Carter
Sunshine Chair:	Susan Baker baker@susanMbaker.com
Librarian & Historian:	Sonya Holmquist sonyaanneh@gmail.com
Help Corner	John Voss
Tool Sales Manager:	Sandi Marasco

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Japanese Friendship Garden

Bonsai Curator:	Neil Auwarter neilauwarter@hotmail.com
Liaison:	Barbara French-Lee barbflee@hotmail.com

Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion

Curator:	John Jackson bonsaijohn@cox.net
Assistant Curator:	Dennis Wagner denisW@cox.net
Liaison:	Mark Edgar mark@mtedgar.com

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SDBC Upcoming Events: MEETING DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Month	Date(s)	Location	Rooms
September meeting	10	War Memorial Bldg. Auditorium Balboa Park	Beginners: Room 104 Workshop: Patio outside Room 104
October meeting	8	Lake Poway	Pavilion
November meeting	12	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
December meeting	10	Casa del Prado	101 and 104
January meeting	14	Casa del Prado	101 and 104

2023 Fall Show	Sept 23-24 Set up Sept. 22	Casa del Prado	101
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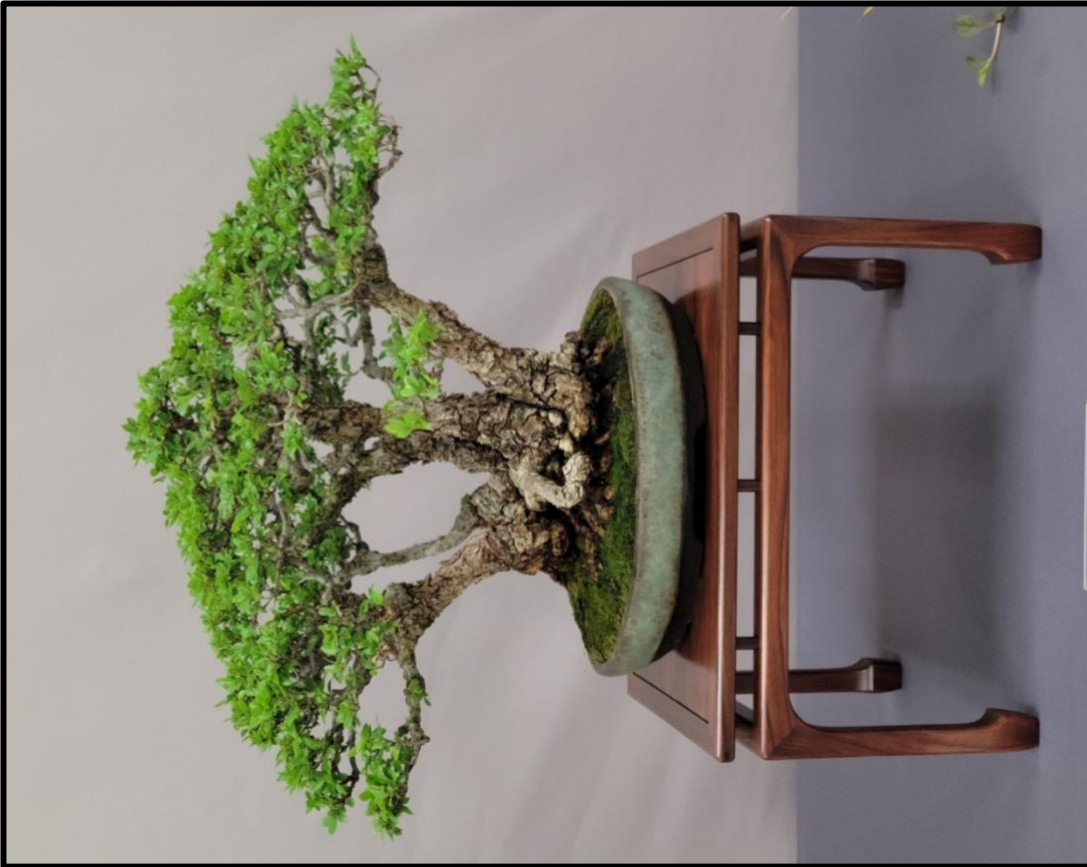
*Note: The SDBC meetings are subject to availability of the rooms in Casa Del Prado. Our preferred date for the second Sunday of each month sometimes conflicts with other clubs show or special event, so we choose an alternative day.

Japanese Friendship Garden Bonsai workdays: Wednesdays, contact Neil Auwarter for volunteer information.

San Diego Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, contact Mark Edgar for volunteer information.

San Diego Bonsai Club
P.O. Box 86037
San Diego 92138

Return Service Requested



*September
2023
The Bonsai Wire*