

The Bonsai Wire

Volume 43, Issue 2

February, 2017

Message from the President



We all got more than we bargained for on the Winter Silhouettes bus trip last weekend. Yes, the bus did break-down after barely twenty miles. But our resourceful travelers went into survival mode finding Starbucks, Habit Burger, and Vons while the bus driver found us a new ride. So we missed going to one of the nurseries

but boy, the Silhouettes show was the best I had ever seen. As always the food, entertainment, and warm fellowship of Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai club was much appreciated. For more about the trip, come to the February Club meeting to see pictures of the show.

Our Club owes its success to our many volunteers. These people keep the wheels turning so that we all have great speakers, interesting trips, great shows, and numerous

opportunities to learn and grow in bonsai. I want to thank all of you who have given of your time.

The Club has two positions that need to be filled. The first is the newsletter editor position. As you probably know, Dave Barker, our newsletter editor, will be leaving us as he moves on with the next phase of his life. Each month Dave receives inputs to the newsletter from the Club staff. So producing the letter is more about arrangement and editing than writing. If you are interested come and talk to Dave about how he produces the newsletter each month. The second position is Club treasurer. Peter and Janice can tell you what is needed to keep our Club books in order. If you are interested in either of these positions, come see me for further information.

Bob Hale, President

This Month's Program

David Nguy will be our guest expert. He is going to continue the styling of the Juniper that was started last March. The days of taking a plant and styling it with significant foliage removal, wiring and then repotting it have passed. Many of these instant bonsai had problems within weeks and months, so the bonsai community does not encourage nor does it promote this type of demonstration anymore, and rightfully so. Creating a instant "bonsai" in one sitting is not an accurate depiction of bonsai creation; instead, bonsai creation takes time and care.

The Juniper started last year on its journey to becoming a bonsai is very healthy and has been maintained only by minor foliage control and feeding. It is now ready to withstand additional pruning, wiring and dead wood creation. David will review what he did last year and then proceed with creating *jin* and *shari*, more branch bending and finer wiring. He will begin the discussion of pot selection and the positioning of the tree in the pot, which will be done at a later date.

Charlie Mosse, 1st VP



Above is the start of the first styling



To the right is David and June and tree after first styling

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San Diego Bonsai Club Website
www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Editor's Note

Last month when the rain was crazy for about a week, I stayed warm and cozy inside. Instead of tending to my bonsai, I binge-watched bonsai youtube videos including all 11 video logs of Bjorn Bjorholm and some of his earlier Bonsai Art of Japan series. Bjorn has been one of the headliners at the last two GSBF conventions and really has an eye for styling conifers. The video logs were not all that informative about Bonsai art, but more a humorous look at his life working in a Bonsai nursery in Japan and living in Japan in general. When the next big rain hits San Diego, I would highly recommend Bjorn's videos as an entertaining indoor activity.

Dave Barker,
TBW Editor

Enjoy
Bonsai
- Learn
More
Marty Mann



From Winter Silhouettes Show

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SDBC Education

Welcome to February. We have had quite a winter so far and I hope you are enjoying the free water for your trees! We continue to have a busy schedule, and I look forward to seeing the progress of our Beginners Class.

Beginning Class:

January 8 – February 12 – March 12

In February, the beginning class on elms has its second session that will be held in Room 104 starting at 8:30 am.

The class is being taught by John Jackson with help from Mark and Cathy Edgar, Gary Jones and Brenda Crann. In this session, you will learn more about the botany of your elm, the style of your tree, and learn how to wire trunk and branches on your tree. It should begin to look more and more like a bonsai. With the rains and the tree being in nursery soil, you may not need to water very frequently, but always check the soil moisture level.

The sign-up sheet for our second quarter Beginning Class will be at the February Meeting. The class will start in April and will be Pomegranates (*punica granatum*).



workshops, or just have a foemina that you would like help with, please bring your tree to the **FEBRUARY** morning workshop at 9 am in Room 101 for follow up. There is no sign up, just bring your tree at 9 am or after and Michael will work with you.

March Black Pines

The Black Pine workshop schedules for March with Fred Miyahara is completely sold out. It will start at 8:30 in Room 101. Please try to be early for set up and tree selection. Tree selection will be based on order of sign up. If you are not here when your turn arrives it will continue on to the next person in line. I will have the sign-up sheet at the February Meeting if you would like to get on a waiting list. If we have a vacancy at 8:45, I will go to the waiting list in order of sign-up. Observers are always welcome!

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

Bill Graham, VP for Education

January Workshop

January 15th was the root stand carving workshop with Sean Smith, a top carver outside of Japan. He led the workshop on making bonsai display tables that look like roots; quite an amazing transformation.



Winter Silhouettes Show



Work Shops:

February Foemina Follow-up!!!

Michael Sykes would like to review your progress. If you have participated in any of his foemina juniper



San Diego Bonsai Club

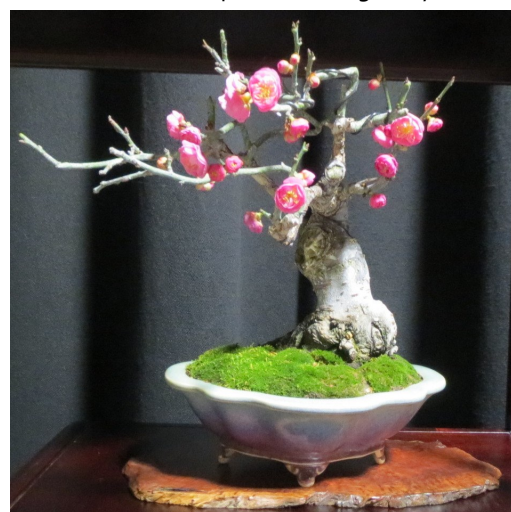
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members January 8, 2017



1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:30 in Balboa Park by Bob Hale, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the December 10, 2016 meeting were approved as published.
3. **President's remarks:** Welcomed 2017; there's lots of things planned for the new year. Notified members that Charlie Tamm is in the hospital; a get well card is available in the back of the room for people to sign. We send our wishes for a quick recovery. Reminder that your membership dues must be up to date to be able to take advantage of the SDBC sponsored bus trips. Gave appreciation for those who work in the kitchen. Reminded everyone that there is a sign-up sheet for those who would like to help in the kitchen. Dave Barker, our Bonsai Wire Newsletter Editor will be moving in April, so we will need a new Editor.
4. **Nazim Colak, VP for Membership, reported:** There were 8 new members announced. Reminder for members who have not yet renewed their 2017 SDBC membership to do so now.
5. **Board Member Reports:**
 - **Charlie Mosse 1st Vice president, reported:** On January 15, Sean Smith will teach a Root Stand carving class at 8:30 am in Room 104. Cost is \$60. There is one opening left. Silent observers are welcomed. The Shohin study group will meet after this class. February 12th presenter is David Nguy completing the styling of the Juniper he started last March. Opportunities to work with David are available in the morning and in the afternoon. Sign-up sheet in the back of the room. March 12th presenter is Lindsay Shiba, who will complete the styling of the Boxwood he worked on last year. Membership has expressed a strong interest in tool maintenance and selection workshop and/or presentation (possibly in April). Thanks to Bob & Janice Hale and Chris & Melissa Strows for their help with sifting and packaging bonsai soil mixes for today's repotting extravaganza.
 - **Peter Chong, Treasurer, reported:** In December our Income was \$2,630.14 and our Expenses were \$3,496.45. Our Net Loss (\$866.31). Gross Income for 2016 was \$37,947.99, our Gross Expenses were \$23,985.17 and our Net Profit \$14,483.26. The balance for SDBC account is \$40,345.69 and for the Pavilion \$17,338.57.
 - **Bill Graham, Vice President, Education, reported:** The beginner's first class with Elms was held this morning. There were a few no-shows, but there were fill-ins to take those spots. No workshops are scheduled for February. In March, Fred will be conducting a Black Pine class (workshop). Cost is \$115. If you have signed up for the class, you must pay in advance. The next beginning class will start in April and use Pomegranate trees.
 - **Janice Hale, Special Projects, reported:** Winter Silhouettes show at the LA Arboretum is scheduled for Jan 21st. there is still room for more people on the bus. Bonsai-A-Thon bus trip scheduled for Feb 25th. Cost for this trip has been reduced to \$25 per person as a thank-you to all SDBC members. Spring Show is April 23rd and 24th; we will setup April 21st, and our members only sale will be on Friday April 22nd. Looking for novice trees for the Spring Show. There is a contest for creating a poster for the Spring Bonsai Show.
6. **Appointed Position Reports:**
 - **John Jackson, SDBC Safari Park Pavilion Curator; reported:** There were 19 volunteers at the Pavilion on Jan 7th. Lyn and Dennis Wagner met with Safari Park staff to get updates regarding the new Australian Outback project and how it will affect the Pavilion. Our entrance area will be shortened, and the gate will need to be moved. The pond system in the Pavilion area has been disconnected from the SP system and is now our own. 5 security cameras have been set-up and running; they are being monitored continuously. We received notice from the County of San Diego that the Pavilion will receive a \$20,000 grant for concrete work. The total cost is \$40,000. The additional funds will be a \$5,000 grant and \$5,000 loan from SDBC, and \$10,000 from the Pavilion fund.
 - **Glenn Jensen, Japanese Friendship Garden Curator, reported:** There are a few plans hopefully in the works. He has requested a growing area down below. They are also planning to have SDBC members come to the JFG for a party soon. Volunteers meet at the JFG to work on the trees every Wednesday morning.
7. **Old Business:** None
8. **New Business:** None
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 am

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Mosse Secretary



January Program

We had a good turnout for the repotting extravaganza. There was not an exact count, but it looked like there were 20 trees that were repotted and also some

significant styling that took place. Many trees were transplanted into growing pots or better bonsai pots.

Proper technique significantly helps to ensure a healthy bonsai by properly removing old soil, unhealthy or broken roots, spotting insects/disease and properly setting the tree in the pot at the correct depth and angle. A good soil mix is extremely important for many reasons: tree recovery from re-potting, preventing root rot from poor drainage, enhancing the growth of smaller roots, proper water and nutrient retention and release. Hopefully many lessons were learned as we head into the heart of repotting season.



Many thanks to the volunteers who assisted their fellow members help get their trees off to a good start: **Fred Miyahara, Michael Sykes, Ilyn Stevenson, Dennis Wagner, Ken Bross, Abe Far, Glenn Jensen and Peter Chong.**

Charlie Mosse, 1st VP

Upcoming Programs

March Program

Lindsay Shiba, our guest presenter in March, will continue the same theme as our February program. That is creating a bonsai over time in the proper sequence, with enough time between significant work to allow the tree to recover. This keeps the tree in the best health possible by allowing it to recover from the stress of styling than if too much is done to it at once. Better trees are created if time is taken between steps to ponder one's past work and to allow the tree to re-energize.

Lindsay will continue the work on the Harland Boxwood he started last August. At that time, the tree, from nursery stock, was significantly thinned and cut back to reveal the possible styling in the "Oak style". Growth was strong enough that another 4"-5" of the remaining branches were removed in October. He will complete the remaining branch reduction, thinning, and wiring. The tree will then be allowed to recover, pinched/trimmed to further shape the tree, and then transplanted into a proper bonsai pot at a later date.



In the morning Lindsay will conduct a display critique, displays created by selected members and anyone planning to show a tree at our Spring show. All members are invited to bring in their tree(s) for critiquing to help to get them ready to show. After the final styling of the Boxwood, he will do a short presentation on displays and how to prepare for showing your tree. Knowing how to prepare a tree for a bonsai show is beneficial for all (even if you do not intend to show a tree); it helps us all to get the most out of our trees for our enjoyment.

April Program

The club show is in April, so all who are contemplating showing a tree should bring in your tree(s) that you want to show in the morning to receive some help on the final preparations.

The April presentation will be on tools. There will be discussion of how to determine what you need, quality differences in tools, proper use of tools, and maintenance of bonsai tools including sharpening.

Charlie Mosse, 1st VP

San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilion at the Safari Park

The most welcome news for Safari Park visitors is the reopening of the Bonsai Pavilion to our schedule of being open when the Park is open! New live-feed security cameras were installed and are working very well. We truly appreciate the Safari Park Security and Horticulture Departments for this installation.

Several Pavilion volunteers were on the SDBC bus trip to Winter Silhouettes trip for our second workday in January, but a super group was on hand to clean up the mud flows and inconveniences of the January rains. There was no damage to the collection, just some clogged drains from the mud and repairs needed to the walkways. Hats and



umbrellas and thanks to all the January volunteers: **Neil Auwarter, Dave Barker, Ken Bross, Abe Burrows, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Carla Marasco, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Janie & Ron Ogdon, Janet & Ron Palmer, Shawn Palmer, Marcella Perez, Sally Prestele, Jesus Rivera, Clare & Ron Roberts, Chusub Sresthadatta, 'lyn Stevenson, Mark Walters, Dennis Wagner, and Dave Woodall.**



The Zoo Volunteer Office forwards the monthly birthdays (day and month not the year!) of our volunteers so our refreshment break will always have special sweets to congratulate and thank them again for

volunteering. Happy January Birthdays and thanks to **Neil, Julia, Janet, Clare, Shawn, Michael, and Roger.** Refreshments and desserts were supplied by the Palmers, Charlie, Jesus, 'lyn, the Roberts, Chusub, the Edgars, and Curator John. Hot coffee, teas, and cocoa were the welcome winter replacements for the warm weather lemonade.

The Safari Park Volunteer Office graciously visited the Pavilion on the January work days and facilitated the renewal of the 2017 ID cards for volunteers. We appreciate Lori and Katrina's assistance. All volunteers need to now have the new stickers for Park admission.

The San Diego County has provided the requested grant for the Pavilion's new construction of cement walkways! More fund raising will be needed to match the grant, but Curator John Jackson can now proceed with the construction company and others needed to do the preparation. We will need to finish the project within one year and, as we have done in the past, much volunteer labor will be used to save on the cost of the project.

If you made a New Year Resolution to volunteer at the Pavilion, please be sure to finish your application and orientation and get your ID photo card in hand so we can welcome you to our wonderful SDBC Bonsai Pavilion for more bonsai and garden orientation, education, and camaraderie.

'lyn Stevenson, Liason to the Bonsai Pavilion

Japanese Friendship Garden



New Members

Please welcome our first new members of 2017: **Sue Pasterkiewicz, Scott Drew, Michael Ressel, Michael Ressel Jr., Mark Koopman, Jake Shaver, Don Ruch, Gary Devoss, Stephanie Arberg, Kathy Caraco, John Garretson, Jason Miner, and Amber Miner.**

Nazim Colak, VP of Membership

2017 Membership Renewal

A reminder— please renew your membership for 2017 at the February meeting or online. Dues are now past due **Nazim Colak, VP of Membership**

Refreshments

Thank you to the following who donated refreshments to the January meeting: **Nazim and Aisha Colak, Sandi Marasco, Michael Sykes, Charlie Mosse, Janet Liggett, Eric Jacobson, Chusub Sresthadatta, Abe and Christina Far, Julia Chow, Janice Hale, Harlan and Mary Ann Price, Susan Hull, Bill Starks, Shirley Kavanaugh, Clare and Ron Roberts, Gary Jones, 'lyn Stevenson, Darryl and Christine Elmer, and Kumiko Mori.**

SDBC Benefit Drawing

Thank you to the following for your donations to the January benefit drawing: **Ken Bross, Dan Sola, Abe and Christina Far, Jaya Kaelberer, Dave Woodall, Charlie Mosse, Julia Chow, Bob Hale, Harlan and Mary Ann Price, Susan Hull, Bill Starks, Shirley Kavanaugh, Gary Jones, Kumiko Mori the SDBC, Joan Nies, and Mark Edgar.**

Library

We have several new resources in the library for you to check out. For lovers of shohin, there is *Bonsai Shohin Passion* by Roland Schatzer, with a wealth of practical advice and 1,200 color photos. Also, *Miyabi* contains photos of the best examples of shohin and pots from the 1995-2005 Gafu-ten shows in Kyoto. *Native North American Plants for Bonsai*, by Ross C. Clark, covers hundreds of tree species and their uses as bonsai trees.

Our collection of *Bonsai Today* is now complete with the addition of Issues 107 and 108. Issue 108 includes

photos of several of Boon Manakitipivart's bonsai. We also have several DVDs by Boon, including "Wiring and Styling: Japanese Black Pine." It might be an informative supplement to what we will learn from our own master of the Japanese Black Pine, Fred Miyahara, who is leading a workshop in March (this workshop is sold out, but observers are always welcome).

Sonya Holmquist, Librarian

Special Events

Bonsai-A-Thon – February 25, 2017

As a special thank you to all SDBC members, the cost for the Bonsai-A-Thon bus trip has been lowered to \$25/ person.

The Bonsai-A-Thon is the annual fund raising event for The Golden State Bonsai Federation Collection at The Huntington. It features a bonsai exhibit, demos by noted bonsai masters, a great vendor sales area, as well as a fun benefit drawing and live auction.

If you have time, take a walk over to the Japanese Garden to see the beautiful bonsai collection. You will also have access to the rest of the Huntington Gardens, Library and Art Collections.

Bus leaves Balboa Park at 7:00am with another pick up in Carlsbad at 7:30, returning to Balboa Park at 7:00pm. Bring items to donate to the raffle & auction.

As with all of our trips, you must be a club member, current in your club dues, or a guest accompanied by that club member to join in the fun.

2017 Spring Show

The Spring Bonsai Show will be Saturday and Sunday, April 29th & 30th. Set up will Thursday & Friday April 27th & 28th so we will need

volunteers to help. We'll have our annual Spring banquet dinner on Saturday night, April 29th. And tear down will be on April 30th after the show closes; again, another time we will need volunteers. If you are new to the club, there are plenty of opportunities to help out that require no special expertise.

Janice Hale, V.P. Special Projects

San Diego Bonsai Club
Spring
Bonsai Show
April 29th and 30th
10a.m.-5p.m. Each Day
Casa Del Prado Rm 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

Bonsai of various sizes and species will be on exhibit. There will be demonstrations each day and Bonsai for sale by our club members.

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

February 4th and February 18th Saturday
 SDBC Workdays at Safari Park , 9 am to 12 pm

February 12th Sunday
 Club Meeting
 David Nguy — Juniper Styling—Round 2

February 25, 2017 Saturday
Bonsai-a-thon
Huntington Library and Gardens

March 4th and March 18th Saturday
 SDBC Workdays at Safari Park , 9 am to 12 pm

March 12th Sunday
 Club Meeting
 Lindsey Shiba—Boxwood Styling— Round 2

April 1st and April 15th Saturday
 SDBC Workdays at Safari Park , 9 am to 12 pm

April 9th Sunday
 Club Meeting
 All about Tools

April 29th Saturday and April 30th Sunday
SDBC Spring Bonsai Show

Sunday, February 12, 2017
 Balboa Park, Room 101
 Casa Del Prado

Meeting Agenda

Time	Activity	Room
08:30– 10:20	Beginning Class	104
09:00– 10:25	Foemina Follow-up	101
09:00– 10:25	Library Open	104
09:00– 10:25	David Nguy –Juniper Advice	101
10:30- 11:00	Business Meeting	101
11:00 - 12:30	David Nguy — Juniper Styling	101
12:30	Lunch	101
12:45	Benefit Drawing	101
01:00	David Nguy –Juniper Advice	101