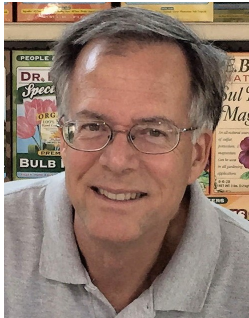


The Bonsai Wire

Volume 43, Issue 3

March, 2017

Message from the President



A full bus load of SDBC members took a day off from repotting their trees to attend the Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF) Collection at The Huntington Bonsai-A-Thon. The day was filled with wonderful sunshine, a tour of the Chinese and Japanese gardens, fabulous demonstrations, great vendors, and a very exciting auction and raffle. Congratulations to Gary Jones, Mark Walters, and Arthur Austin on winning some very nice pots.

We are fortunate to have three GSBF Bonsai Collections in California. Some of you attended the Mammoth Fund Raiser for the GSBF collection at Lake Merritt (in Oakland) a few weeks ago. The third GSBF collection is the Clark Collection housed in Shinzen Gardens at

Woodward Park in Fresno; they will be having their annual fund raising event April 22nd & 23rd. For more information on the Clark Collection event, see www.clarkbonsaicollection.com or www.gsbfbonsai.org. On the GSBF website you'll also find a listing of shows throughout California including our own show April 29th-30th. If you are planning a vacation, why not include a stop at a bonsai show in another part of the state.

Since we are on the subject of the Golden State Bonsai Federation, check out the 2017 GSBF convention, "Bonsai New Horizon," at www.gsbfconvention.org. There you can see a listing of the headliners (Bonsai masters who share their insights in demonstrations), workshops, seminars, and critiques. The GSBF convention will be held at the Riverside Convention Center, October 25th-30th. It is an event worth attending.

Bob Hale, President

This Month's Program

Lindsay Shiba will continue the work on the Harland Boxwood that he started last August. At that time, the tree was from old nursery stock with a large trunk diameter and deeply fissured bark on the trunk. In the first styling, the tree was significantly thinned and cut back to reveal a possible design in the "oak style".

Growth was strong enough after the initial styling that the remaining branches were reduced by 4-5 inches in October with another 4-5 inches yet to be removed. Lindsay will complete the remaining branch reduction, thinning, and wiring. Then the tree will be re-potted back into the same container. The tree is sitting too high in the pot, so the root ball will be significantly reduced in preparation for the final transplant next year into a bonsai pot.

In the morning before the meeting, Lindsay will conduct a critique of three displays created by our members. Each member will bring in additional trees, several accent plants, stand(s), and/or slab(s). Plants and stands can be interchanged to show how the process of display works. Lindsay will also offer suggestions on these particular bonsai for making them ready for display. Whether or not you want to show a tree, working toward displaying one's tree will push you to get the most out of your bonsai.

Charlie Mosse, 1st VP



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San Diego Bonsai Club Website
www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

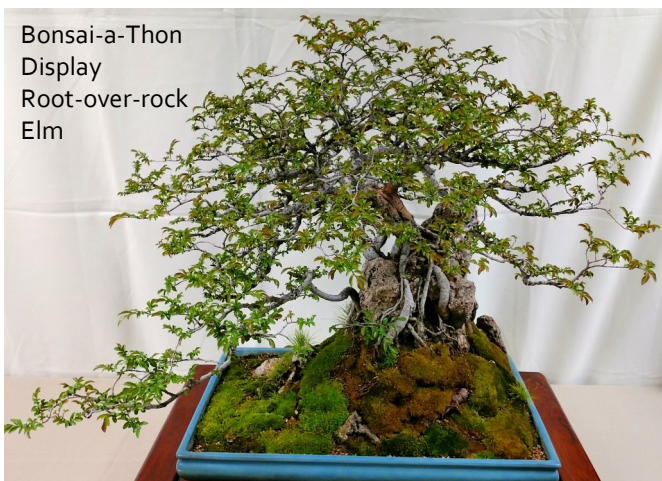
Editor's Note

Want to share your bonsai or tray landscape with San Diego? We are invited to submit entries to the judged competition at the 2017 San Diego County Fair's Garden Show. There are two divisions: Traditional Bonsai with a \$25 per entry fee (no limit); and Tray Landscapes with a \$10 per entry fee (no limit). You can enter at <http://www.sdfair.com/entry>; deadline for entry is May 5th. If you have questions, talk to members who have entered before, or email the garden show directly at gardenshow@sdfair.com.

Dave Barker, TBW Editor

52 Years
of
Cultivat-
ing
the
Living Art
of
Bonsai
in
San
Diego

P.S. Get well soon, Dan! In Dan's absence, pictures in this edition of TBW were supplied by Janice, Mark, Eric, and myself in addition to Charlie's normal multiple contributions.



The Bonsai Wire (TBW) is published monthly by the San Diego Bonsai Club (SDBC) except for May. TBW and the SDBC logo are properties of SDBC. Articles are provided by SDBC members. Any articles submitted by non-SDBC members—if published—become property of SDBC. All submitted articles are subject to editing. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the SDBC Board.

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Welcome to March. The year is moving along. Those who went to Bonsai-a-Thon last month had a great time! There were fantastic demonstrations and a TON of good material at very reasonable prices! I hope everyone who went got some new and interesting material to work with. I picked up some small olives to be used later this year in a *shuihan penjing* (tray landscape) workshop with Shirley Kavanaugh. I also picked up some nice cotoneasters for another workshop later this year. Good stuff!

Beginning Class:

January 8 – February 12 – March 12

This is the third and final class with your elm. In this class you will be doing some final wiring, learning about soils for bonsai, and



repotting your tree in a bonsai training pot. I imagine by now most everyone has leaves on their deciduous tree. It's fun to see your tree going from sticks to a tree with leaves, and beginning to look like a little bonsai.

Next Class April 9 – June 11 – July 9

Our second beginning class of the year starts next month, April, with the second and third classes in June and July (we skip May as we have our meeting and picnic at the Safari Park). This class is SOLD OUT. If you have not paid yet, please ensure that you do. We have a long waiting list and if you will be unable to attend, I have club members anxious to fill any vacancy. The class will be taught by our own Past President and Golden State Bonsai Federation Past President Abe Far! You will be working on pomegranates (*Punica granatum*). This will be a great class!

Work Shops:

March Workshop - Black Pines

The March Black Pine workshop is sold out, but observers are always welcome! It will start at 08:30 am in Room 101. Please try to be early for set up and tree selection, and remember to set your clocks ahead so you are not late since daylight saving time starts on March 12. 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. If we have a vacancy at 08:45, I will go to the waiting list in order of sign-up.

April Workshop – Care of Tools

The April workshop will be the care and maintenance of tools. It will start in Room 101. There is no sign up and no cost, just bring your tools and you will receive instruction and guidance on how to take care of them. We have several member who have volunteered to show you how to take care of your tools. It will be informal, similar to the replanting workshop that was held in January.

June Workshop – Urban Yamadori Boxwoods

The June workshop will be styling some very nice collected boxwoods. These trees have been out of the ground and in pots for about three years. They are excellent material and will make exciting bonsai! John Voss will be leading this workshop. There are 10 trees available. Sign-ups for the workshop will start at the March meeting and the cost will be \$50.

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



The foemina juniper follow-up workshop was well attended

Japanese Friendship Garden

The SDBC continues to negotiate with the Japanese Friendship Garden for more display area and a growing area on site. In the meantime, work continues. Here is a juniper that volunteers collected that will be used for education and maybe one day for display at the JFG.





San Diego Bonsai Club

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members
February 12, 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 January 8, 2017 meeting were approved as published.
3. **President's remarks:** The past SDBC Presidents were acknowledged: 'Lyn Stevenson, Michael Sykes, Fred Miyahara, and John Jackson. SDBC needs a new newsletter editor, a new treasurer, as well as help in the kitchen.
4. **Nazim Colak, VP for Membership:** There were 20 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: March 12th presenter is Lindsay Shiba, who will complete the styling of the Boxwood he worked on last year. Today David Nguy will finalize the styling of the Juniper he started last March. Next winter we will select the proper bonsai pot and transplant the Juniper. On April 9th we will have a tool maintenance and selection presentation. There will be no program in May as our meeting will be at the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion. Kathy Shaner will be our presenter in July with an added workshop on Monday. Jonas Dupuich is scheduled for November. He will conduct morning and afternoon workshops on Saturday. At our meeting, he will work on Pines possibly along with Fred Miyahara.
 - **Bill Graham, Vice President, Education,** reported: Michael Sykes had a great turnout for the foemina juniper follow up workshop. He thanked the instructor and helpers for the Elm class this morning: John Jackson, Brenda Crann, Gary Jones, Cathy Edgar and Mark Edgar. There is a sign-up sheet for the beginning class with Pomegranate trees scheduled for April. There are 20 spaces available. The March Black Pine workshop with Fred Miyahara is full. If you have signed up for the class, please pay in advance. No workshop is scheduled for May. On Friday February 24, Charlie and Bill need help in repotting 1 and 5 gallon junipers which were purchased for future classes; the repotting will be done at Charlie's house.
 - **Janice Hale, Special Projects,** reported: On the way to the January Winter Silhouettes show the bus broke down; Janice has a partial refund to all those who were on the bus. Bonsai-A-Thon bus trip scheduled for Feb 25th: The cost is \$25 per person. There is a waiting list; give Janice your name and phone number in the event there are cancellations. Bus leaves Balboa Park at 7am, be there by 6:45. Carlsbad pick-up time is 7:30. Will arrive at the Bonsai-A-thon at 9:30 and return to Balboa Park at 7pm. San Gabriel Nursery has donated 1,000 trees for sale. 5 trees will be styled on Saturday morning. Spring Show is April 23rd and 24th: There are sign-up sheets to work the show. Setup Thursday April 21st; trees are brought in on Friday. Saturday night is the banquet dinner: bring dessert or a side-dish. The winner of the contest for creating a poster for the Spring Show is Eric Jacobson.
 - **Janice Hale, Interim Treasurer,** reported: The balance for SDBC checking account is \$42,318.56, which includes \$427.71 of JFG funds. The Bonsai Pavilion balance is \$17,287.09. Net income for this fiscal year is \$1,880.39.
6. **Appointed Position Reports:**
 - **'lyn Stevenson, SDBC Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Liaison,** reported: The picnic at the Pavilion is scheduled for May. There will be free admission to the Safari Park for the meeting. We are waiting to receive the check for the \$20,000 grant for concrete work, and are getting the bids finalized. Security is now in place. 'lyn thanked all the Bonsai Pavillion volunteers.
 - **Glenn Jensen, JFG Curator,** reported: The JFG has a modest collection. Cherry Blossom festival coming up, so think about visiting the JFG. Bob Hale prepared a drawing for the bench the JFG wants for a group planting. Glenn welcomed David and June Nguy.
7. **Old Business:** None
8. **New Business:** John Voss gave Sonya Holmquist a gift for her volunteer work and dedication.
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 am

Respectfully submitted, *Sylvia Mosse* Secretary

February Program

David Nguy was our guest presenter and was assisted by his wife, June, also an excellent bonsaist. He continued the styling of the juniper that was started last March. David shuns the creation of an instant "bonsai" in one sitting since it is not a real depiction of what bonsai is; that bonsai creation takes time and care. He was very happy to see us following a single plant through its journey from rough stock or pre-bonsai, to a bonsai.

As it turns out David did not think the Juniper was that healthy. Foliage color was good, but the tree did not grow that much during 2016 despite fairly aggressive fertilization. He indicated that the lack of growth is a sign that the tree's roots are not happy. David wanted to re-pot the tree, but with no soil available he went ahead and completed the second phase of the styling. David

wired, created tie-downs for the main branches, created jin and shari, and did some finer wiring. Significant work like this



is better done when it is very healthy; the tree will recover much faster.

David encouraged re-potting of the Juniper ASAP. This task was completed a few days after the meeting with John Jackson at the helm. The root system was highly compacted in many areas and very weak in other areas of the root ball, very typical of a tree in need of re-potting. The next work will be the selection of a bonsai pot, the setting of the tree at the proper angle and position, and transplanting it into a bonsai pot.

David also conducted a morning workshop and an afternoon workshop, assisting members with issues they had



with their more advanced bonsai or ones that needed a consult to get started on styling a complicated tree.

Charlie Mosse, 1st VP

Bonsai-a-Thon

Our club members enjoyed a beautiful sunny day at the Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens. There were a variety of activities including an excellent tour of the Chinese and Japanese gardens and behind-the-scenes

tour of the nursery with Jim Folsom, the Director of the



Huntington Botanical Gardens. There were as many bonsai in the nursery as were on display in the gardens. The Chinese garden, with many outstanding stones, is being expanded in the next two years to include a new area to house a penjing collection.



Other members headed straight for the tree sale or vendor areas. The vendor area had a wide variety of tools and pots, including a full array at June Nguy's table and Jim Barrett pots at Jim and Helen's table. Many got bargains at the San Gabriel nursery donation area including Bill Graham, buying for the Club, and Brenda Crann who had an armload of little trees.

Downstairs there was a small display of bonsai and six bonsai masters simultaneously each styled their own tree. Our own Fred Miyahara styled a lovely informal upright shimpaku juniper. All the demonstration trees were auctioned to raise funds for the GSBF Huntington Collection. Janice Hale acquired a Kathy Benson-styled raft-like Chinese elm forest in the auction that we may see at our show in a couple of years as it matures.

San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilion at the Safari Park

We rarely get rained out of a workday at the Bonsai Pavilion, but this year finally we did get washed out on our second scheduled workday. Due to the bus trip to the Bonsai-a-Thon, we did not schedule a make-up workday. So we will have quite a bit of work to do on March 4th!



Because some volunteers arrive at the Bonsai Pavilion prior to the opening of the Park to visitors, we often encounter wildlife: deer, ducks, and birds meandering in the Pavilion. But sometimes we also greet a couple of the Safari Park handsome cheetahs which the Park

Thanks to dedicated volunteers, our bonsai were not neglected in February. Special thanks to Curator **John Jackson**, Assistant **Dennis Wagner**, and **Cathy and Mark Edgar** for extra February work at the Pavilion. Other February volunteers included: **Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Dave Barker, Ken Bross, Donna Carter, Julia Chow, Maria & Tina Flores, Sonya Holmquist, Jim Kirchner, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Bob & Janet Palmer, Shawn Palmer, Marcella Perez, Sally Prestele, Chuy Rivera, Chusub Sresthadatta, 'lyn Stevenson, Mark Walters, and Dave Woodall.**

Everyone appreciated the treats that were supplied by Ken, Marcella, Chusub, Charlie, Sylvia, John, and 'lyn. Perhaps it was in celebration of the Tet New Year, because the volunteers received very wonderful surprise gifts from Chusub at the beginning of the month. She had made beautiful, assorted carrying bags from colorful fabrics that could compete with the finest bags available at markets or boutiques. A very special Thank You to Chusub from all of us!



trainers bring for morning walks in the quiet Asian environment of our Bonsai garden and trees. The big cats seem to enjoy our benches as they stroll with their trainers. A bonus treat for all!

Our good friends, June and David Nguy, recently donated a very nice, large, oval bonsai pot for the Bonsai Collection inventory. The Pavilion has a California juniper bonsai that was donated awhile back by Brian Brewster, and it was in need of an appropriate pot. The need has been answered thanks to June & David Nguy.

Happy transplanting and spring gardening will continue in March as all the bonsai and in ground plants need special attention. The volunteers are capable and efficient, and they are always teaching and learning from each other. It's a great way to enjoy the Art of Bonsai. Many bonsai "tricks" are also adaptable to our gardens as well and gardening tips are often useful in bonsai too.

Our May SDBC meeting will be held at the Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion and will include a picnic and silent auction. Reservations will be needed for all attendees to plan for passes and set up. Everyone will be able to sign up at the March and April SDBC meetings. We encourage all members and volunteers to bring in items for the silent auction along with carts or wagons for their donated and/or purchased treasures. Plan ahead! Cash or checks for these tax deductible items will be necessary.

'lyn Stevenson, Liason to the Bonsai Pavilion

New Members

Please welcome our new members: **Yvette Palmer, Shawn Palmer, Laurina Young, Victor Baez, Susan Sharin, Donna Baez, and Megan Kraushaar.**

Nazim Colak, VP of Membership

Membership Dues— Final Call!

Membership Dues are due March 30th. Keep your membership current by paying at the March meeting or going on-line. If not received, you will no longer be a current member.

Refreshments

Thank you to the following who donated refreshments to the February meeting: **Susan Baker, Julia Chow, Sandi Marasco, Michael Sykes, Charlie & Sylvia Mosse, Janet Liggett, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Shirley Kavanaugh, Jackie & Warren Tam, John & Margaret Jackson, Darryl & Christine Elmer, and Kumiko Mori.**

SDBC Benefit Drawing

Thank you to the following for your donations to the February benefit drawing: **Dave Woodall, Abe & Christina Far, Shirley Kavanaugh, the SDBC, 'lyn Stevenson, and David & June Nguy.**

Tool Table

We have a passing of the "tool-baton" from Ron Palmer to Chris and Melissa Strows. We thank you Ron for your past service and Chris and Melissa for your future service.



San Diego County Fair

Where the West is Fun. June 2 – July 4

Once again, the San Diego Bonsai Club will have a booth at the San Diego County Fair. Reflecting the theme of the Garden Show, "Happy Trails," our exhibit will follow hiking trails from San Diego's coast to its mountains, demonstrating how the style of a bonsai is intended to reflect a particular environment. If you are interested in helping, please join the planning team in the library following this Sunday's program and lunch (around 12:30). If you have

access to a large format printer, please let me know.

Sonya Holmquist, Chair, SDCF Planning Committee

Library

Check out these library resources (literally!). For those of you who are just finishing the beginning class on elms, keep learning. *Bonsai Today* issues 34, 39, 41, 51 and 54 have more tips on styling and photos of expertly trained elms. And for those who are taking the next series of classes on pomegranates, *Bonsai Today* issues 107 and 108 are for you. No matter your skill level, there are library resources to inspire your creativity. Drop by the library in Room 104 before the business meeting.



Sonya Holmquist, Librarian

Spring Bonsai Show

Twice a year our club puts on one of the best bonsai shows in California. Sign-up sheets for a myriad of tasks will be set out at the March club meeting. There is a task to fit everyone's time schedule and ability. We truly need your help to put on the greatest show on earth.

- **Thursday April 27th** – Set up tables, table covers, and backdrops in Room 101 .
- **Friday April 28th** – Bring in all of your gorgeous bonsai trees and fabulous sale table items.
- **Saturday April 29th** – The big day! Our doors will open 10:00am with demonstrations at 11:00am and 1:00pm, and we'll close up at 5:00, so we can then enjoy our well earned Spring Banquet. The club will provide the main course and we ask all of you to bring a side dish or dessert.
- **Sunday April 30th** – We'll open again at 10:00 with demos at 11:00am and 1:00pm. Then we'll close the doors at 5:00 and tear down the show.

If you are a novice or just apprehensive on showing your tree, bring it to the March meeting for advice and encouragement . John Voss' help corner is available before the general meeting starts.

A flier promoting the Spring Show is available on the club website: sandiebobonsaiclub.com. Print out some copies and post them at your church, favorite coffee shop or sandwich place.

Janice Hale, V.P. Special Projects

San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.
 PO Box 86037
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

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

March 12th Sunday
 Club Meeting
 Lindsay 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

May 6th and May 20th Saturday
 SDBC Workdays at Safari Park , 9 am to 12 pm
 May 21st Sunday (Note: 3rd Sunday of month)
 Club Meeting
 Bonsai Pavilion at SD Zoo's Safari Park .

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

Meeting Agenda

Time	Activity	Room
08:30– 10:20	Beginning Class	104
08:30– 10:20	Fred Miyahara –Black Pines	101
09:00– 10:20	Library Open	104
09:00-10:20	Lindsay Shiba—display critique	101
10:30- 11:00	Business Meeting	101
11:00 - 12:30	Lindsay Shiba—Boxwood styling	101
12:30	Lunch	101
12:45	Benefit Drawing	101

Be on time — Remember to Spring Forward on March 12 — It's the start of Daylight Saving Time