



THE BONSAI WIRE

The Monthly Newsletter of the San Diego Bonsai Club

Message from the President - February 2012

Last Meeting Was Great

Wow what a great start to the year we had last month. Everyone was so positive about the new schedule, the crazy game we played, great display video, the new officers, cooler raffle prizes, a nice new website, and great Demo and Classes. The encouragement makes us want to do better for you.

Fred Miyahara hit a home run with a thoughtful grafting presentation, awesome samples of successfully grafted trees, a couple of fine donations, and a fun hands-on workshop. I heard a lot of laughs back there and everyone said they learned the skill and had fun.

This Month We've Gone to Pot

I bet you have a tree that is ready for a fine finished pot. We all know there is a very limited supply of pots to buy locally. Mail order/internet is risky, as size, quality, and color can vary from what seen onscreen. But...a source of pots yet untapped is closeby... on your shelves. We all have pots that just sit there year after year. Why not sell them to us. Then in turn buy what you need from others.

Swapmeet baby !! Starting 9 AM!

Everyone bring some pots to sell. Wouldn't it be great to start a tradition of a big pot swap each year? But it depends on you, even if it's only a single pot, bring it! So come early, we

will have tables ready. You can Price and handle your own sales, and we will have envelopes to report total sales on which we will give a bit to our club and to our state for sales tax.

Other Announcements of Interest

- We are happy to announce that you can now pay your membership renewal by Visa/Mastercard, debit card, echeck, or PayPal balance. How ? Very securely at sandiegbonsaiclub.com!
- **Joan Holliday** has joined the team as Sunshine Coordinator. Anyone that hears of a member in distress (illness, inability to water plants, etc.) please contact Joan. (see her article).
- We will have a roster by March of member's email and phones. Get your dues paid so we can add you to the Roster.
- Bonsai fellowship hour (9-10 a.m.) will be dominated by pottery sales and activities, but you can still bring in trees to work on or get help with. Don't forget pots, did I mention that?
- Really looking forward to this month's activities and greeting you all,
See you at the park !

Big Dave

This month, Pot Making-Trading

I don't know about you but the energy level at meetings is certainly higher than it has been! Dave Rochester has brought a lot of passion and excitement to our once-a-month gatherings. And like someone who starts laughing, pretty soon, others catch on and we are all laughing together!! Yeaah Dave!

Last month was certainly a great example of his creativity with the return of the hob-nobbing at the start of the meeting, great people who share their knowledge with members who bring trees that need that little suggestion of what direction to pursue, such a marvelous raffle table sweetened by Fred's donations,(thanks Fred), give-aways, videos, classes, wow!!! Like any volunteer organization, it takes many enthusiastic people to create and energize the meetings so if you see a place to help, jump in and help create the fun!

Next Month

Don't forget, Harry Hirao will be here in March and it is his birthday. One of the old-timers, Harry deserves the respect his experience and graciousness have earned him and we need to remember to treat him with the dignity due a master bonsai artist. He will have a large California Juniper to work on and he will be starting early to be able to finish in time. Harry indicated that the large tree should be donated to the Pavillion. It should be a wonderful demonstration!

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB PRESENTS

BONSAI POT SHOW AND SWAP

Pot Making Demo How to match a pot to a tree Buy and Sell pots

When: Feb 12, 2012
Where: Casa Del Prado Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego
All members, all clubs, and the public is welcome

Bring Bonsai pots to Show and to sell

Gary Jones, 1st VP

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*A sea to nowhere
Gray with foreboding vastness
The dawning of day*

Marty Mann

February 2012

Editor's Notes

There are lots of new changes to this newsletter, but it is for the positive. You will find some new article writers and we welcome their comments, suggestions, and contributions to the newsletter.

There is a chinese festival going on and it was recommended by Nina Ragle and Cary Valentine. Below is the link to get more information:

http://www.huntington.org/huntingtonlibrary_02.aspx?id=5818

If you get a chance, go to the new bonsai web page. There is a different format but there is also a lot more information available. It is at the same URL as before:

www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

We also have a new meeting format so make sure you checkout that last page for the days agenda.

Enjoy your bonsai and spend time with your plants. Spring is just around the corner, don't get caught off guard.

Sunshine Girl

I am the new "Sunshine Girl". Please let me know by email or phone if you know someone is ill or not well and needs a cheery note. Also, I need to know if someone or their family member has passed away. We hope to help support all our members and their family. Thank you.

Joan Holliday

joanholliday@san.rr.com

858-715-0092



The Bonsai Wire is a monthly publication of the San Diego Bonsai Club. All articles are provided by SDBC members. All articles must be received no later than 10 days after the club meeting by the The Bonsai Wire Editor, **Mario Condit** (mario.condit@sbcglobal.net). **Shirley Kavanaugh Jr.** is responsible for folding, labeling, and mailing. If you have any questions about article placement or special requests, please call the editor (see below for contact information) and leave a message. I will try to respond to you as soon as possible.

The Bonsai Wire

The Bonsai Wire is published monthly by the San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc. a non-profit, educational organization 501 (c) (3).

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- | | | |
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|---|---|---|

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SDBC Education for February

The more we share, the more we learn

The first of the beginner's classes went very well thanks to pro team of Lyn Stevenson and the volunteer assistants Dave Woodall, Marty Mann, and John Voss. Also, a big thanks to John Jackson for transporting the trees for me to the meeting. Be sure to bring your trees to the next class to learn branch wiring techniques to further aid in the styling and shaping of the trees. Thanks to the unseasonably warm weather (forecast is more of the same coming soon), the Privets (the remaining ones I have) have already started to sprout so I am assuming yours are doing the same. So, now you will be able to see how well your tree sprouts new growth and where it sprouts new growth. This will greatly aid in the styling and shaping of your tree which you can get plenty of help to determine during the class. Note that the next beginner's class will start in April and will continue in June and July. Details will be available in the next Bonsai Wire.

This Month's workshop will be very innovative. For those of you who are jazzed about making your own bonsai pots - we will have lots of bags of various textures and colors of clay. Folks can buy their bags. Then you proceed to each of our pottery experts for help. Some might want to throw on a wheel, some might want to make slabs or some might want to push into a mold.

You will make pots, we will collect them, and will arrange for them to be fired and brought back next month. All tools and expert advice included at a cost of \$5 each. Nice!!

The intermediate class in March will be working on Japanese Black Pines from Muranaka Bonsai Nursery under the expert eye of Fred Miyahara and the Piney's (those who have been training with Fred). They will be there for any questions you may have. These Black pines are field grown and freshly dug. They are excellent stock with which to begin learning how to bonsai the black pine. The pines will not be

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re-potted until next year. You will be doing some needle removal and some work on the soil under the watchful of the Piney's. There is much to learn about growing a black pine that will be strong and vigorous. The cost of the class is \$70 but could be cheaper depending on the final price of the tree. This will include soil, wire and container (training type).

Important Note: Anyone who worked on a Muranaka pine at last year's class should bring their tree to the class in March for re-potting, follow up advice or just for sharing if you have already re-potted. You may bring your own soil mix or the club will provide a suitable mix for you. Remember that for Black pines excellent drainage is essential, especially in the lower portion of the pot to prevent root rot.

Remember to bring a tree or two...or three to the fellowship part of the meeting. You can get excellent help from our many accomplished members with any questions you may have, or just work on your trees for a while or just bring'em to show and share.

The Takanashi grant forms are still available. Please contact me if you are interested in some excellent training and then the opportunity to teach others: smosse@cox.net or 619-851-7187. Note that I will not be available from January 22 through January 29.

The more we share, the more we learn

Charlie Mosse, VP Education

Membership Renewal
You can now renew
online with Credit Cards



Sandiegobonsaiclub.com

San Diego Bonsai Bonsai Ideas

#122 February, 2012

By Marty Mann

A Time to Sit Back and Plan for Spring

Trees may still be idle now but the insect infestation can still do harm. Spray deciduous trees with dormant spray (Ortho Garden Disease Control) (lime sulfur) before any new growth appears. This protects trees from overwintering insects. Occasional applications of an all purpose fungicide, miticide and insecticide minimizes new damage and protect the health of the tree during this period.

Wires should be well exposed on most of the trees since foliage has dropped and new growth is not obstructing a detailed inspection.. Remove all of last year's wires. Severe bark cuts can occur during the slow winter months when the woody portion of the trees tend to lignify and swell. Early spring spurts quickly engulfs old wire and causes damage.

Watering routines must be continued-but curtailed. Most bonsai can be maintained on minimal schedules however don't allow anything to completely dry out. Don't rely on possible light winter rains.

If you apply a solution of lime sulfur to trees at this time to prevent wood rot damage be sure to avoid any newly formed sprouts or buds. Don't allow the chemical run-off to penetrate into the root area. Lime sulfur is generally applied to a wet wood surface. Allow the application to dry before you apply any overhead water that may seep into the root ball.

During this time, in January or February, you can occupy yourself with a program of pot cleanup. All those pots have been sitting around and waiting for repotting activities to begin. They have probably accumulated layers of soil and lime deposits. Scrub them with a strong soapy solution and some bleach. Apply 'lime-off' or vinegar to the white spots (or just some elbow grease and cleanser) and rinse them well. Allow them to dry in the full sun to prevent any infestation carryover. Use one of the good Japanese 'erasers' that work well to remove salt deposits on pots as well as rust and grime on tools.

Make a list of the trees that will require repotting in spring. Place an identifying marker in the pots that require attention. Begin with deciduous or flowering/fruited trees still in a dormant stage or just beginning to emerge. Follow with pines and junipers. Go easy on any pruning that may be required, particularly on early transplants. Wait until the sap begins to flow before you do any serious pruning or pinching of the new growth. Let the tips harden-off. Heavier pruning may be done later.

Another important activity at this time involve your tools. Now is the time to sort them out. Sharpen all cutting edges, remove accumulations of rust and pitch

stains. Dip tools into a bleach solution to purify them. Oil (WD-40)all surfaces for protection. Be ready to go.

And, a final word for those bonsai folks who take life too seriously:

- A day without sunshine is like....night.
- Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- I intend to live forever—so far so good.

This article has been extracted from the recently published book called "Bonsai Ideas"© by Marty Mann. Material is not to be copied without publisher or author's permission. Feb 2011

Safari Park Pavilions Pics- January

Below are pics from the Pavilion from January. Thanks Cary Valentine for your submittals. These folks work hard to ensure the pavilion is well groomed, the trees are in great shape and well cared for. If you are interested in participating, contact 'lyn Stevenson.





San Diego Bonsai Club

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Members

January 8th, 2011



1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the membership of the San Diego Bonsai Club was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Dave Rochester, President. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the December 11th, 2011 were approved as amended.

3. Reports

- **Patrick O'Brien, Treasurer,** reported he is awaiting receipt of 2011 financial information needed to complete the report of the financial review committee; he is also awaiting receipt of the board-approved 2012 budget..
- **Gary Jones, First V.P.,** reported the board is inviting applications for the \$500 2012 Mas Takanashi educational grant. He announced February's club meeting will include a Pot Extravaganza, and the March meeting will feature a demonstration by Harry Hirao.
- **Barbara French-Lee, V. P. Special Projects,** reported the Sequoia trip is now open to family and friends of members; the bus trip to the Bonsai-a-thon at the Huntington Gardens is February 25; and the Winter Silhouettes bus trip will be January 14 and will include a shopping stop at Jim Barrett's. The bus for Winter Silhouettes will leave Balboa Park at noon and will leave Carlsbad at 12:30. SDBC is responsible for bringing dessert for the potluck; also donations of raffle items are encouraged.
- **Michelle Dougherty, V.P. Membership,** reported annual membership dues are currently due; there are three new members in attendance.
- **David Choy, Librarian,** proposed the creation of a journal group to review selected articles and meet to discuss them a 9:00 a.m. on club meeting days. Assuming there is sufficient interest, meetings will commence at the March club meeting. Also, the library will now be open on meeting days, starting at 9:00 a.m., closing during the meeting and demonstration, and reopening until the end of classes..
- **Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing,** announced a new \$5 special raffle for premium items, which he encouraged members to donate.
- **Ilyn Stevenson, Safari Park Liaison,** reported the next Pavilion work day will include a planning meeting for 2012. The 2012 county grant of \$10,000 will go toward the construction of the shohin display area, a tokonoma and a new storage shed. April 11-15 is the California Bonsai Society Convention in Garden Grove, where Fred Miyahara will be a presenter; the Convention will honor John Naka's five iron men of U.S. bonsai. Registration forms are available.

4. **New business:** None.

5. Announcements

- The improved and expanded SDBC website is up and running.
- The position of "sunshine person" to reach out to ailing members is open: Joan Holiday volunteered and was installed in this position.
- The position of Public Relations person is open: volunteers are invited.
- Founding member Ko Tsushima remains ill.
- Trish Bonapace is the new SDBC historian.
- Steve Valentine, Pavilion Curator, announced effective February 1, John Jackson will be the new Pavilion Curator; Steve thanked Cary Valentine for her assistance during Steve's curatorship.

Adjournment: : The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m., followed by a video on shohin display, a Wheel of Fortune bonsai trivia game hosted by Dave Rochester and a juniper grafting demonstration by Fred Miyahara.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Auwarter, Acting Secretary



San Diego Bonsai Club Pavilion at the Safari Park

The Bonsai Pavilion activities begin the New Year with many items that have been planned and partially executed for the past many months. In 2012, there will be additional construction and garden planting along with much additional bonsai work on new additions to the collection as well as continued work on many of the seventy+ trees already on display. The sense of accomplishment thus far continues to encourage all the volunteers to make the displays even better.

Our architect-member, **Roger Marr**, is working on the plans for the shohin and tokonoma display areas for the Pavilion. Since the San Diego County awarded the latest grant to us, we need to proceed with the construction and provide the County with our costs, etc. by September, 2012. This will certainly be another beautiful addition to the Bonsai Pavilion.

In spite of some inclement January weather, a courageous group of volunteers arrived to work. . .rain or shine! Many thanks to: **Susan Baker, Jim Cathy & Mark Edgar, Maria & Tina Flores, John Jackson, Jim Kirchner, Bobby Knox, Marty Mann, Patrick O'brien, Sally Prestele, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, 'lyn Stevenson, Charlie Tamm, Cary & Steve Valentine, Forrest & Michele Vess, John Voss, Dennis Wagner, & Dave Woodall.** Special thanks always for the nourishing snacks that **Cathy Edgar, John Jackson, Mary Ann Price, Maria & Tina, Cary and 'lyn** provided for our break time.

A large identification plaque has been installed at the entrance to the Pavilion near the **TORII GATE**. The volunteers all gathered around it in December for a photo and can probably be seen on our SDBC web site now. It has the SDBC logo and the words "BONSAI PAVILION" handsomely engraved on it. It was mounted on the granite boulder that was formerly in

front of the old pavilion. It is most inviting to Safari visitors coming up the hill from Condor Ridge.

Steve has ordered 100 Tree Identification Donor Name Plates to be affixed to the bonsai benches next to each bonsai pot. The volunteers will attach them to the tables/stands appropriately as the trees are displayed. The plates will be moveable whenever a bonsai is changed to another location in the Pavilion. Many visitors have asked for this information even though **Cary and Joyce** previously had put permanent, moveable charts in our kiosk at the entry to the Pavilion. Hopefully, this will be more visitor friendly.

In 2012, we will continue to meet on the first and third Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to Noon (or later) each month for work sessions at the Pavilion. All volunteers need Safari Park credentials for admission at the back service entrance—the Zoo-Safari Park requests volunteers to be available to donate at least 60 hours a year. More volunteers are always invited to join our bonsai volunteers. For further information, please call **'lyn Stevenson** at 858-486-4805.

'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC-Safari Park Liaison

Pavilion-Honor Board Info

December contributions to the Bonsai Pavilion were received from:

San Diego County - \$10,000
and from member, Michele Dougherty - \$65.00



Thanks always for the continued financial support! The Donor Board at the right side of the entrance will be updated throughout the year.

'lyn Stevenson,
SDBC Pavilion Fund

News from the Library

The knowledge found in our library is extraordinary. I invite you all to take a few minutes from the next meeting and come and see (and read) for yourself. But as with all resources, our library materials are only good if we use them. During this coming year, we will be sending out "library notices" to all members that have somehow forgotten to return loaned out materials. Remember that the books, magazines, videos and DVDs belong to ALL members of the SDBC and that sharing information is great. So if you have any material that you have forgotten to return, please bring it back. No questions asked, I promise. I also want to take the opportunity to express my admiration for those of you who have used the library. So far, all books and magazines are in great shape. No writing on pages, small Akadama particles nor coffee stains have been found!!! I also want to remind you of our proposal to have Journal Club. If anyone is interested with any topic let me know. Remember "Knowledge is Power".

David Choy, Librarian

GSBF Bonsai-A-Thon

At the
Huntington Library
And

Botanical Gardens -Feb 25th

There will be demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sale area, raffle and an auction. Also the beautiful gardens and museum are available to visit.

For this trip we plan to leave at 8am from Balboa Park and 8:30am from Carlsbad.

Safari Park Pavilions Pics!

The pictures below were submitted by Cary Valentine. The team was out there in the wet and cold weather caring for



trees, the landscaping, and all of the other pavilion maintenance activities. Thanks to these dedicated personnel, the pavilion is kept in top shape and is ready for visitors year round. We appreciate all of the hard work these folks provide to ensure the bonsai that are on display are in prime condition for viewing.

Sequoia Bus Trip

A reminder that the San Diego Bonsai Club is sponsoring a bus trip to the Sequoia National Park on June 23-24, 2012. The cost for the trip is \$214. per person for a standard room and \$223. per person for a deluxe room. This includes hotel room, bus trip, two meals, Ranger tour, taxes and bus driver tip. At this time half of the spaces have been reserved for the trip so if you plan on going please get your reservation in to me. Remember you can cancel with full refund two months before the trip. The deposit of \$100. is due immediately.

Barb French-Lee, VP Special Events

Membership

Welcome new Members!!!

*Caroline Ballarino, Kenneth Stout,
John Stout, Navid Mostatabi,
Gary Lee.*

Dues Update

At the January meeting 58 members made a much appreciated contribution to the financial stability of the club, by paying annual dues, either \$30 for an individual, or \$35 for a family membership. Thank you.

President Dave and I have setup a web form for new members to have the ability to join online, and also for dues to be renewed online at the club's new website. An announcement will be made when this feature is available. In the meantime, please see me in person with good ol' fashioned cash or check at one of the upcoming meetings to ensure uninterrupted 'bonsai benefits'.

Michelle Dougherty, VP Membership

Refreshments

A big thanks to those folks that brought in good things to eat....

Nellie Downie, Jim Kimura, Tim Kirkish, Michelle & Michael Dougherty, Abe & Cristina Far, 'lyn Stevenson, Joan Holliday, Dennis & Sue Wagner, Marty & Ruth Mann, Shirley Kavanaugh, and Susan Baker.

Nellie Downie, Refreshments Coordinator

Benefit Drawing

The table was loaded this month, and thank you to the following people that brought in goodies to help raise funds for the club:

Gary Jones, Ron Descoteau, Fred Miyahara, David Woodall, Tim Kirkish, Ken Bross, Jon & Terri Petrescu, Charles Gromms, Jason Tucker, San Diego Bonsai Club, Cindy Read, John & Margaret Jackson, Marty Mann, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Shirley Kavanaugh, and Everett Jones.

Jason Tucker, Benefit Drawing Coordinator

SAN DIEGO CA 92101

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San Diego Bonsai Club, Inc.
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San Diego, CA 92138-6037



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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San Diego Bonsai Club Calendar of Events

- February 18th Saturday
SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm
- February 12th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Pot Swap, Pot Making Demo:
Maude, Terri, John, Michelle-Pottery Team)
- March 3rd & 17th Saturday
SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm
- March 11th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Master Harry Hirao)
- April 7th & 21st Saturday
SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm
- April 11th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Theme: Bonsai Display)
- April 28th and 29th Saturday and Sunday
Spring Show and Sale
- May 5th & 19th Saturday
SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm
- May 6th Sunday
Regular SDBC Meeting (Picnic and Silent Auction,
Safari Park)
- June 2nd and 16th Saturday
SDBC Workday at Safari Park , 9am to 12pm

Sunday, February 12th 2012
Balboa Park, Room 101
Casa Del Prado

Meeting Agenda

Time	Activity	Rm
0900-1000	Bonsai Pot Swapmeet	101
1000-1030	Business Meeting	101
1030-1145	Bonsai Pot Making	101
1200	Lunch	101
1220	Benefit Drawing	101
1230	Workshops & Beginner Class	101