



# San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

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June 2013

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## President's Message

What can I say, a big thank you and hugs to everyone who made this year's show such a wonderful success. The trees were great; we had several new members show their trees for the first time. Without your trees our show would have been very sparse.

The plant sale was a big hit; we sold all of our little trees, and big thanks to all the members who made a 100% donation of the items they brought to the plant sales table. Treasurer Maria reported that we covered our costs and made some money for the club. Great job everyone!

We had 90% participation with our show, set up, bringing in trees, talking to visitors, watching over our trees, take down & of course our security family- the Vess. Our show cannot be a success with out all of us participating, and lots of members helped and I thank each and every one, it really means a lot to me. This year on Sunday (Mother's Day) the Flower Fields had an all-time record number of visitors, over 5,000 people that day.

Joanie Berkwitz has been so wonderful with keeping and storing all of our show back drops and table tops. They are now stored at my house in a large container, waiting for the new 10x10 tuff shed to be built very soon. This way the club can raise funds for tables for our show.

After the show Bob and Steve took BJ Patterson's trees out to their new home at the Safari Park. Make sure to look for them the next time you are out there. His big bald cypress is on display; his raft juniper styled by Aubrey pollard is not yet displayed.

## Program for June:

Our program this month is a demonstration by Ted Matson; please do not miss this meeting. Ted has so much bonsai knowledge and loves sharing it with all of us. Ted will be styling a mature San Jose juniper. For the first time, GSBF has given our club a \$400.00 grant for this meeting, covering the cost of Ted and the tree. I am very thankful to GSBF and Bob Hilvers, chairman of the grant program. Please bring your cash, check books, or credit cards. The San Jose juniper demonstration tree will be auctioned off after Ted works on it. You may be the lucky winner of this wonderful tree, which was grown by George Muranaka.

Once again many thanks to all for your hard work at the show. Remember we are now in warmer weather, watch your trees, you may need to water them more.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine, President  
[caryme2@yahoo.com](mailto:caryme2@yahoo.com)

**San Pu Kai is on FACEBOOK – link is**  
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/San-Pu-Kai-Bonsai-Club/184125964939396>

**San Pu Kai WEBPAGE is** <http://www.sanpukai.org/>

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## BONSAI IDEAS

June 2013

As spring Equinox passed, the new growth and awakening buds developed with new vigor --on the brink of summer. The ongoing process of snipping new growth as soon as it hardens is continues into May and June before it creates long and undesirable internodes. By constant reshaping and cutting back, the growth of deciduous trees encourages delicate side branching and a softer overall look. Remember, the object of cut back is to maintain a relationship between the size of the leaves and branches to the overall size of the tree. The process of constant cut back also encourages branch thickening and adds an aged look. Watch the exposed end cuts. Apply a tree seal, or just old-fashioned Elmer's glue, to larger cuts or carvings.

Pay attention to the azaleas in your collection. March or April were the best months to repot and trim long whips and branches. May is the blooming season for most azalea varieties (remember-Satsuki means 5th month) you may enjoy the flowers well into June without concerns for feeding and trimming. Keep the plants moist but avoid overhead watering as this causes blooms to lose their color and vigor. Cut back shoots that have outgrown the design perimeters. After the flowers have reached their peak, remove all faded blooms. A flat cut at the base of the flower removes excessive stem elongation and allows new buds to form next year.

Hold off any activity on the soft deciduous growth until it hardens. Keep your eye on the upper portion of deciduous trees. Upper branches tend to thicken and ruin the taper of the design. Heavy top growth deprives the bottom branches of light and nourishment. Watch the wires you put on since damage occurs quickly when growth is active. Remove fast growing water shoots coming out of the root system or the lower trunk area. Cut back on the long internodes and opposite branches.

Leaf pruning may be done later in June or early July. Be sure the trees are healthy and growing vigorously. Feed them well two weeks before you proceed. It's often better to leaf prune only partially. Start with oversized leaves, damaged leaves or selected areas of the tree. This

piecemeal approach reduces the shock to the tree. It's also best to leaf prune a tree in alternate years. New leaf growth returns, slightly smaller, with a fresh spring like color and beauty. Better fall color is your reward.

Watch the hot summer breezes since new growth can be easily harmed. If you leaf prune almost all of the foliage you must treat the tree as you would during dormancy. Reduce the water and don't feed until new growth appears.

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.

### Officers

President – Cary Sullivan-Valentine  
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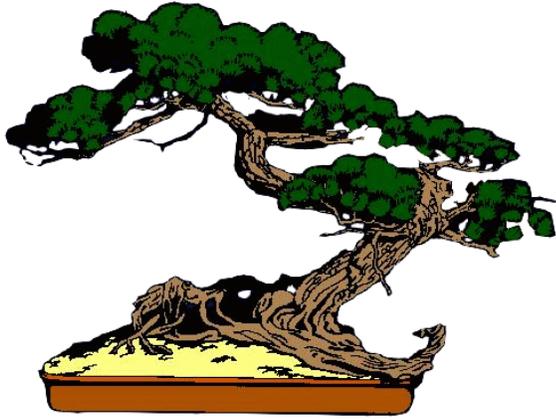
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Treasurer/Membership – Maria Barbosa  
619-606-6523 [bonsaigarden@earthlink.net](mailto:bonsaigarden@earthlink.net)



*Memorial to BJ Patterson, long-time San Pu Kai member, with 2 of his beautiful trees- a massive Bald Cypress and a magnificent Brazilian Pepper.*



## **SDBC BONSAI PAVILION AT THE SAFARI PARK**

April and May were beautiful months for all our volunteers at the Bonsai Pavilion. It is wonderful to see the new spring growth everywhere in the garden and especially on the bonsai. It was a really special time to get it all in readiness for the annual May SDBC meeting, picnic, and silent auction at Kapanda Pavilion just one week after the Spring Bonsai Show at Balboa Park.

Many thanks to all our volunteers for working many extra overtime hours and days in preparation. Curator John Jackson headed the great crew of volunteers: Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, **Ken Bross**, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Bill Graham, Barbara French-Lee, Allan Edwin, Sonja Holmquist, Jim Kirchmer, **Bob Knox**, Lin Koelmiel, Maria & Tina Flores, **Marty & Ruth Mann**, **Ron Miller**, Patrick O'Brien, John & Meg Polo, **Sally Prestele**, Harlan & Mary Ann Price, Dan Sola, 'lyn Stevenson, Charlie Tamm, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and **Dave Woodall**.

Welcome to our newest volunteers Lin, Ron, John, and Meg! Thanks to our volunteers who have graciously provided delicious treats for our sessions too: Mary Ann, Dan, John, Barbara, Cathy, Meg, Mark W., and 'lyn.

Spring trimming, pruning, fertilizing, and rearranging bonsai for sun and shade exposure were major grooming activities. Water timers will need to be adjusted as we get into the warmer spring days also. Some garden landscaping and major work on the ponds has been progressing too. Since the Safari Park was temporarily shutting the water off for the waterfall, we decided that it was an appropriate time to clean the ponds and cement the river rocks along the edges. . . a huge project taking many, many hours of dedicated hard work. . . special

thanks and admiration to all our rock crew! We have informal meetings at our work sessions from time to time to discuss and share plans, projects, and Safari/Zoo information. . . so many interesting conversations too.

The latest announcement is the arrival of two most generous donations from the Estate of **BJ Patterson**. He was an early participant in the construction of the Bonsai Pavilion in the Wild Animal Park many years ago and a long time member of San Pu Kai. His beautiful large Bald Cypress has been put on display and a raft torulosa juniper that was previously styled by Aubrey Pollard is in the work area being groomed for future display.

We are always delighted to have new SDBC and San Pu Kai members joining our efforts at the Pavilion. New volunteers need to be processed with the Zoo-Safari Park for photos and I.D. cards for gratis entrance at the back gate of the Safari Park. . . it is a simple but most necessary procedure. . . check with 'lyn if you are interested in joining us . . . regular workdays are on the first and third Saturday mornings of each month. . . the Zoo would like all volunteers to participate at least 60 hours each year to receive all the special privileges of credentialed volunteers. Curator John often has other work days too for special projects and maintenance as needs arise.

'lyn Stevenson  
SDBC-SPark Liaison  
858-486-4805



*Dave Woodall and his trees at the Flower Field show*



*Over 7,000 people visited our 2013 bonsai show*



*John Voss demonstration with a nice garden juniper*



*Sally Prestele with her trees at the show*



*Steve Valentine and his olive tree*



*Darryl Elmer stands with his trees*



*Jeff Gerringer with his juniper*



***San Pu Kai***

***c/o Maria Barbosa, Membership***

2727 De Anza Road, #J-26

San Diego, CA 92109

***Calendar of Events***

<b><i>Tuesday, June 11, 2013</i></b>	<b><i>7 pm – 9 pm</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Meeting: Ted Matson demonstration!! Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i></b>
<b><i>Saturday, June 15, 2013</i></b>	<b><i>9 am - Noon</i></b>	<b><i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays</i></b>
<b><i>Saturday, July 6, 2013</i></b>	<b><i>9 am - Noon</i></b>	<b><i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays</i></b>
<b><i>Tuesday, July 9, 2013</i></b>	<b><i>7 pm – 9 pm</i></b>	<b><i>Regular Meeting: Japan bonsai slide show!! Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA</i></b>
<b><i>Saturday, July 20, 2013</i></b>	<b><i>9 am - Noon</i></b>	<b><i>San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workdays</i></b>