



# San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



August 2015



## President's Message

Much thanks goes out to Forrest for helping and sending out all the info on the sad news of Harry Hirao passing. The club has made a donation to the family and Steve, Ken Bross, John Voss and I attended his service.

We had a wonderful meeting last month with David Nguy doing his demo on the collected California juniper that Bob Knox collected 4 years ago. This tree has now been worked on by David two times. This tree will be auctioned off at our September Club meeting. He did a wonderful job. Several members came and paid for a workshop on California Junipers with David before the meeting. We are planning on having David back in July.

Thank so much Chelle and Forrest for taking over and bringing treat at the last minute they were great.

Our August meeting will be from 6pm to 9pm. Steve will be doing a demo for the first half of the meeting and the second half we will be working on your own trees. So please bring your trees, tools and any question you may need help with. The demo tree is one I think you all will enjoy and will be auctioned off at our September meeting.

Treats for the August meeting will be Chris and Darryl.

One thing I want to remind all members, in September our club has a big club raffle, I call it a bring and buy so to speak, we ask club members to donate items, somewhat bonsai related, plants, pots, books, magazines, fertilizer, etc... you pay \$20.00 and you get a chance to play, we take turns

until everything is gone, you usually get 3-4- or more turns. It is a lot of fun and you can get a lot of goodies. So start to put things aside or go buy a few things. Sandra usually brings several boxes of fertilizer, which is always a great deal. Also we will be auctioning off the David Nguy California juniper and the demo tree that Steve will be working on. So please save up and bring your check books.

Remember if you are planning on going to the GSBF convention early bird registration ends on August 15th. If you sign up to go to the convention and are willing to help out, you will be getting goodies, like a seminar or two. If you volunteering you get what you put in,  $\frac{1}{2}$  day volunteering you get a  $\frac{1}{2}$  day admission or full day volunteering you get a full day admission, sorry no meals.

Remember the bonsai pavilion at the Safari Park, see me, so I can put you in touch with 'lyn to get on the back gate list or if you go to SDBC meeting see her there. The work days are the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. It's a great place to learn on trees you may never own and help out.

Mark your calendars. In December Ted Matson is coming and doing a demo, we usually have him work on shohin type material. We are planning on having him down early for a paid workshop before the meeting at our house, limited to 4 members. So first to sign up with shohin trees get in. Cost will be \$50.00 per person, please let me know.

**Cary Sullivan-Valentine**

President

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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

# SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

## TIME TO THINK, PLAN, AND CARE FOR YOUR TREES

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage increased moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health regular, increased watering schedules must consistently renew this moisture. Avoid wetting the leaves during the warm days for two good reasons:

- Daytime water that adheres to leaves can literally cook them and cause severe leaf burn. If overhead watering is unavoidable, do so early in the morning to give time for surface evaporation.
- Excessive moisture in the crotch of leaf clusters or on their undersides creates environments ideal for the formation of fungus and the related health threatening damage.

Be reminded that summer vacationing puts an additional burden on your 'bonsai sitters'. A suggestion would be to let them water your trees for you for a few days before you leave to be sure that they are following your instructions. Trees requiring special care should be grouped together to simplify attention. Don't trust your automatic watering system without the back up of someone who can check from time to time to audit its functions. Try forming a mutual watering pact with fellow bonsaiists. You do for them when you can and they will do for you. It's a great working arrangement and considerably safer than trusting your 'babies' to strangers.

With the arrival of summer, most of the formal bonsai shows have passed and the bonsaiist has the pleasure of displaying his trees. The objective of a good hobbyist is pride in the finished tree. Accomplish this by maintaining its good health, continuing a selective feeding routine and paying attention to weather conditions that set the guidelines for proper watering requirements. Summer maintenance prepares trees for fall and winter. Plan ahead.

Start with the constant surveillance of fast summer growth. Warm days and cool nights encourage the development of new tip growth, long internodes and lush foliage. Maintenance must include pinching and plucking the growing tips as well as cutting back the branches. Reducing the branch extensions encourages shorter internodes, tighter evergreen formations and develops desirable twigginess on deciduous trees. Trim and shape unwanted growth to maintain form and design

This is not the best time to consider transplanting most

material however, certain plants such as Pomegranate, Ficus, Buttonwood, Cotoneaster, Pyracantha and most Bamboos can be repotted or transplanted during the warm weather.

Recently defoliated material such as Maple, Olive, Privet, Zelcova, and Ginkgo can be transplanted just prior to the re-emergence of the new growth. Remember that transplanting of any material during these warm months is risky but it can be done if proper after-care is taken. Keep them cool and not too wet. Anything done during the summer months should be done with restraint and proper attention given to the affect of warm weather. Propagation by cuttings of softwood or semi-hardwood material can be done in July. Keep cuttings in shade and in a sandy, moist mixture. Don't rush to transplant any cuttings just because the new signs of growth tell you that they have 'taken'. Let them harden-off first.

Summer months are so important when trees are being cared for. Protection from insects and fungus is appropriate. Know the shelf life of some common products. The following chart may be used as a guideline:

Ortho Garden Disease (liquid)	3 to 4 years in the bottle
Isotox	2 to 3 years in the bottle
Malathion	6 to 8 years in the bottle
Orthene	4 to 5 years in the bottle
Sevin (liquid)	5 to 6 years in the bottle
Captan	5 to 6 years in the bottle
Daconil	6 to 7 years in the bottle

Bonsaiists develop a feeling for their trees--perhaps not as a child or family member but a commitment is undertaken for their care and well being. In this hectic, active world, we don't take enough time to sit back, reflect, and watch the sunset, stroll though a forest or garden, and just enjoy nature. Fortunately, bonsai involvement gives us an outlet. We are drawn into and are captivated by this natural world. Ignore the violence that appears to be all around us and reflect on the marvel of a growing, creative art that allows us to enjoy part of the good world that surrounds us. We are a lucky people. (I feel so philosophical).

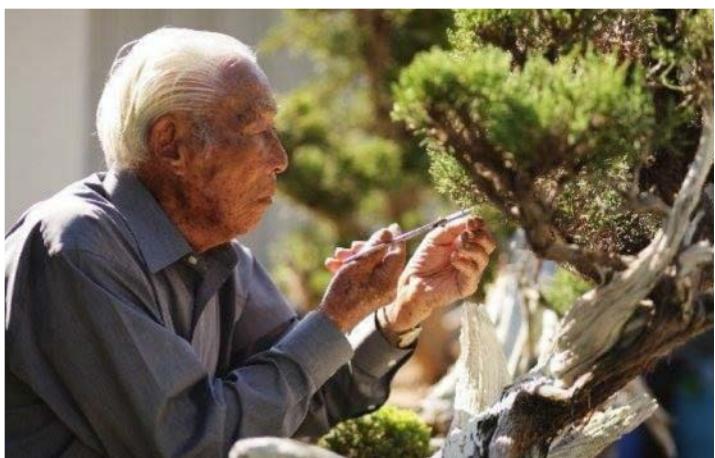
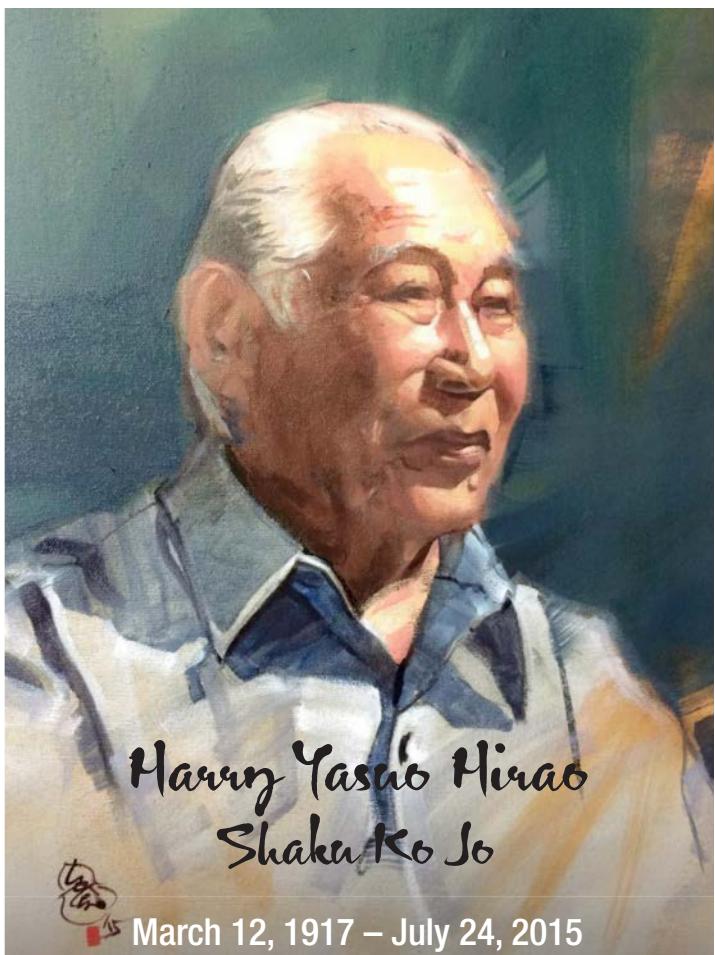
By Marty Mann

*This article has been extracted from a recently published book called 'Bonsai Ideas'© By Marty Mann. Material is not to be copied without publisher or author's permission.*











## San Pu Kai

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## Calender of Events

Tuesday, August 11, 2015	6 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brengle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, August 15, 2015	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, September 5, 2015	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, September 8, 2015	7 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brengle Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, September 19, 2015	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday