



# San Pu Kai Record



Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club

February 2016



## President's Message

We had a wonderful relaxing fun after Christmas party, lots of food and the gift exchange was lots of fun and everyone went home and happy and with a full stomach.

For our first meeting of our new year, we will start off with a bring in your own trees to

work on. Questions you may have on your trees, winter work, deciduous trees, what you need to do to begin to prepare for repotting your trees.

I will be bring treats this month. I also will have a sign up sheet for the rest of the year. Please think about helping out.

If you have not paid your 2016 dues, please bring them to the meeting or you can mail them to me:

Cary Sullivan-Valentine  
San Pu Kai  
1010 Phillips Street  
Vista, CA 92083

\$20.00 per person or 25.00 for 2 family members.

I also will have the Bonsai-a-thon passes. You need one to get into the Huntington for free. This is a great event and is a fundraiser for the bonsai collection. I would really like to see all member go to this. San Diego bonsai club has a bus trip planed, it is \$40.00 per person if you do not want to drive up. John Voss will be teaching in the beginning bonsai class. They have a pancake breakfast, hotdog and hamburger lunch. Guide tour of the bonsai exhibit, demos, exhibit, vendors. If there is anything you need, this is the time to get it. Tools, soils, pots, trees, and much more. There is also a raffle and auction that you won't want to miss.

Plus you get to see the beautiful Huntington Gardens, very special, they are very nice to let the bonsai community in for free. So please try to go. Bring your check books and something to donate to the raffle.

We had a board meeting at my house, the board went over what we want to learn and do for this year, I'll have

a few sign up sheet for field trips, study groups, and if the club wants to have our meetings start at 6 pm all the time, to give us an extra hour, where we could work on trees, have your tree questions answered, think about it and let me know your thoughts.

If there is something you want to learn, do, or see, please let me know.

See you at the meeting,

**Cary Sullivan-Valentine**

*President*  
*caryme2@yahoo.com*



## Winter Silhouettes



<https://www.facebook.com/SanPuKai>  
<http://www.sanpukai.org>

# BONSAI-A-THON XX

## Fundraiser for THE GSBF COLLECTION AT THE HUNTINGTON Saturday February 27<sup>th</sup> & Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

GSBF Early Bird Passes & Bonsai Club Members 8:00am - 4:30pm  
General Public 10:30am - 4:30pm

The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens  
Brody Botanical Center, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California

*2016 Bonsai-A-Thon Hosts*  
*Orange County Bonsai Society and Orange Empire Bonsai Society*

8:00-9:30	<b>Early Bird Registration for Bonsai Club Members Only:</b> Pancake breakfast available.
8:00-5:00	<b>Extensive Bazaar Area:</b> Select vendors selling top-quality tools, pots and trees (raw material to display-ready); masterpiece trees on display.
8:00-5:00	<b>Bonsai Exhibit:</b> By the Orange County Bonsai Society and Orange Empire Bonsai Society.
10:00-11:30	<b>Guided Tours:</b> Led by Jim Folsom, Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens.
10:00-2:45	<b>Demonstrations:</b> Initial training and advanced styling by experts: <b>Tak Shamizu - Jason Chan - Tom Vuong - Ken Fuentes - Michael Sykes - Peter Macasieb Charles Mashburn-OCBS - Paul Minerich-OEBS</b>
11:30-1:30	<b>Lunch:</b> Hotdogs and Hamburgers available.
2:00-2:45 Saturday	<b>Organic Fertilizer Seminar</b> – Presented by <b>Dr. Earth - Saturday Only.</b>
3:00-4:30	<b>Daily Benefit Drawing &amp; Live Auction:</b> Demonstration and donated trees, pots, tools and more. Please bring your donations of bonsai related items for the drawing and auction!
9:30-Sunday	<b>Behind the Scenes Tour of Huntington Bonsai Nursery</b> – Led by Ted Matson, Curator of the GSBF Collection at The Huntington - <i>Sunday only.</i>

**PLEASE DO NOT POST THIS BONSAI-A-THON BADGE TO FACEBOOK OR ANY OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA SITE.**

**THIS BADGE IS FOR BONSAI CLUB MEMBERS ONLY! THANK YOU!**

Attending the Bonsai-A-Thon is free, but does require registration at the Brody Botanical Center. You can speed up the process by cutting out and writing your name on the badge "ticket" to the right and showing it to the Bonsai-A-Thon registrar or to The Huntington security guard.

**Please remember to bring your bonsai related items to donate to the daily benefit drawing and live auction.**

**Thank You!!!**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING  
PLEASE SEE CARY FOR A BADGE  
AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING.**

# SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

## PREPARE FOR SPRING (It's not here yet!)

When trees are dormant, slowed down and resting, they allow us to see them as twiggy silhouettes—deciduous or conifers. Whether potted or still in training, now is the time to critique your own trees. Often, when we attend conventions or club meetings we hear well-informed sensei or senior bonsaiist look at a tree and make educated and constructive observations that may improve or change. We fail however to take the spirit of these programs and apply them to our own material.

Take the time to do a critique. Observe your bonsai. Think of their future. Plan changes for improvement or change. Every piece of material you own deserves this New Year review. Your hobby should always seek an improvement challenge. Survey the finished trees you have in bonsai pots. Are they still in a proper match in size or color to the tree? Has the maturity and styling of the tree changed? Is it enough to consider repotting into a new pot? Is it taller, wider, fatter? Does the tree deserve a pot of better quality? Now is the time to redesign each completed tree. Review your nursery stock to determine the readiness of some of the partially trained material for transfer to a training or display pot. Check your inventory of pots. If you don't have one that fits your need, now is the time to shop at a bonsai nursery or attend one of the many local conventions. Bazaar vendors offer so many varieties and sizes. Maybe you will find the perfect 'domestic made' pot to fit the bill.

If deciduous trees start to sprout, bring them gradually into sunlight. If they are kept in a shaded area, new growth tends to be long, leggy and weak. Be careful to protect this new growth

from any surprise cold or frost that will cause dieback. When warm weather comes, so

does the ever-present insect population. Be prepared to spray early with a good commercial insecticide or miticide. Follow manufacturer's directions.

This is a good time to prepare fertilizer supplies. Chemical and organic liquid fertilizers require no advance planning. They can be freshly mixed when ready to apply. If you are a user of the recommended dry mixes such as cottonseed meal (75%) with bone meal (25%) now is the time to prepare for next month. Keep the finished product in a dry place. If it gets wet it will begin to ferment and will drive you out of your yard! Remember, acid fertilizers are best for azaleas and camellias as well as conifers and junipers. The idea, when feeding in early spring is slow release. Don't rush your trees into a spurt of new growth too soon.

The time to spray your deciduous trees with a dormant spray (lime sulfur) is before any sign of new growth appears. February is a good month for this application. Keep this chemical away from the soil—roots can be damaged.

**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.*



## Bonsai Pavilion at the Safari Park

EL NINO arrived in January and the Pavilion volunteers responded promptly, assessed the possible and probable damages, and made the necessary repairs. The drains were cleared, trenches were dug and the washed out areas were filled in. No major crises fortunately! The decomposed granite pathways through the center walk areas are always vulnerable to wash outs in heavy rains so we may see more of that this winter if the predicted storms continue. Fortunately, the bonsai all thrive very well with fresh rains which help leach the soils. The potting soil mix at the Pavilion allows for such conditions and the newly seeded moss has responded well. The ground cover plants in the garden areas have also grown rapidly so much culling of crowding plants has been started and more will need to be done.

Many thanks to all the January volunteers who also repotted several bonsai along with the other chores: Neil Auwarter, Susan Baker, Ken Bross, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Sonya Holmquist, Curator John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, Jim Lane, Denie Luczak, Charlie Mosse, Ron Ogdon, Janet & Ron Palmer, Mariah Paterson, Marcella Perez, Sally Prestele, 'lyn Stevenson, Chusub Sresthadatta, John Voss, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, Nancy Wilson-Ramon, and Roger Ziegelman.

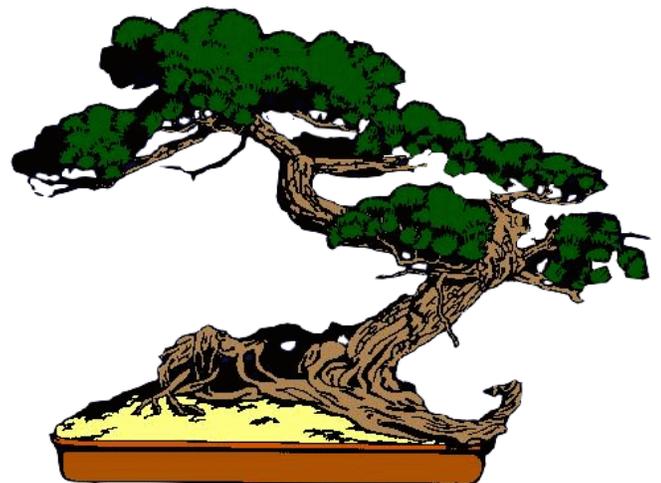
The hot water pot was on for coffee, tea, and cocoa and nutritious refreshments were supplied by Marcella, Chusub, Janet, Charlie, Mariah, Denie, Nancy, Curator John, Cathy, and 'lyn. The Safari Park Volunteer Office also shared some delicious snacks from their office at the Park with the Pavilion when we were

applying for our 2016 Pavilion credentials.

The January work scheduled was changed slightly due to the SDBC bus trip to Winter Silhouettes but we will be at the Pavilion on the first and third Saturdays in February (the 6th and 20th). . .volunteers who want to help at other times, can contact Curator John or Assistant Dennis for work assignments. Naturally, weeding, raking, debris cleaning of the ponds, and cleaning of the pots and bonsai stands are all tasks to do whenever we arrive. Several of the volunteers have adopted certain bonsai that they are taking as their special projects to follow each session since the detailed work needed to improve these masterpieces cannot be accomplished in any one work session.

It is our Pavilion and our responsibility to keep it in beautiful condition for everyone to see and enjoy. Thanks always to the San Diego Bonsai Club and the San Pu Kai volunteers who have taken on these activities!

**'lyn Stevenson**  
*SDBC-Safari Park Liaison*







## San Pu Kai

c/o Membership  
1010 Phillips Street  
Vista, CA 92083

<http://www.sanpukai.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/SanPuKai>

## Calendar of Events

Tuesday, February 9, 2016	7:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA
Saturday, February 20, 2016	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, February 27, 2016	9am - Noon	Bonsai-A-Thon XX The Huntington Library Botanical Center
Saturday, March 5, 2016	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, March 8, 2016	7:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: Brenge Terrace Senior Center 1400 Vale Terrace, Vista CA