



# San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



September 2017



## President's Message

The August meeting was lots of fun and very educational. Ken was kind enough to put our bonsai videos on to CDs, we watch the California Gold with Huel Howser

about Bristle Cone Pines and Doug Phillips video about Olive trees. We have several more to watch.

We played several rounds of bonsai bingo for fun and had some great prizes. Thanks you Darryl and San Pu Kai.

Thank you to Debra for the great treats. The treats for September will be provided by the Vess family

The September meeting is our annual \$20 raffle, this is so much fun, a great place to get lots of goodies. This is one of our big fundraisers, so please help your club. Bring anything bonsai related, pots, trees, soil, etc... for your \$20 you get many turns until everything is gone, its like bonsai Christmas. This is a great way to help your club out. This is one way we are able to pay for outside demonstrators.

Please say cool with the high heats and remember to check your plants daily. They may need to be watered more than once a day.

## \*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*

San Pu kai has moved our meeting place. Our new location is on the same street. Address is 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista, turn into the parking lot on the right side of the street when you see the sign for "Park Plaza Dental" professional building. we are in the Kingdom Builders Bible Fellowship, Room #108 on the ground floor.

### **Cary Sullivan-Valentine**

*President  
caryme2@yahoo.com*



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

### **Up coming events:**

Fred Miyahara is holding a plant sale  
Address will be provided at the meeting.  
September 17, 2017 from 9am-4pm

SDBC Fall Bonsai Show and Plant Sale  
Room 101 Balboa Park  
September 23-24 2017

GSBF Convention Riverside  
October 25-30 2017

## SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

Growth patterns of most trees begin to slow down at this time. They no longer show signs of vigor or the blush of summer greenery. They will not show autumn colors yet since the chemical changes required do not begin to materialize until late in September. The "Autumnal Equinox" approaches - the day of equal nights and days that leads us into the fall season, areas in our yard, previously exposed to full sun, have more shade and conversely trees get less light than they are accustomed to having in order to grow.

Notice tree locations. Move deciduous trees into cooler areas if you have had recent periods of regrowth. In spite of periods of cool weather, trees can respond to the warmth of the late summer and develop new foliage.

Fall is generally the end of the luxurious growth of summer and the last spurt of activity before settling down for winter dormancy. Bonsai will no longer grow very much so the need for extensive pruning should be minimal. Since recent growth may have added girth to branches and trunks, check all wired branches to see if they are set and, if they are, remove the wires.

Assuming you have properly reduced the nitrogen feeding during the past few months the fall colors on deciduous trees will show on liquid ambers, maples, gingkoes, hornbeams and Zelkovas. Cool nights and the effect of equal days and nights add to this phenomenon. Winter growth generally goes into the lignification of woody branches and trunks.

Fall is an excellent time to gather tree seeds as they ripen. Seeds from oak tree acorns, pine tree cones and many varieties of maples are in profusion--an excellent source for stratification by over wintering in your refrigerator. Plant them in early spring for new nursery seedlings and future training stock.

Our climate allows plenty of time for new growth to develop and harden before winter cool days

encourages dormancy. Check the growth of new candles on pines. There is still time for second candle removal. Attentive cut back and pinching minimizes unattractive long internodes and loss of compactness. The more you pinch and cut the more branch diversification occurs and new buds form for spring. This constant attention from early fall, throughout the dormant winter season, will intensify your design objectives.

Limit cuttings, at this time of year, to hardwood specimens or tropical varieties. The use of a rooting hormones

and a pre-soaking of a rooting stimulant, such as B-1 or Superthrive, improves the odds of success. A basic rooting medium such as 2 parts peat moss with 1 part perlite or coarse sand will serve you well. Keep the rooting medium slightly moist and shaded until evidence of new growth appears.

As fall approaches, deciduous trees, in nature and in bonsai, turn gold, orange and crimson. We marvel at the beauty of these changes and accept this metamorphosis as a fact of life. It is generally assumed that these changes are just a byproduct of dying leaves due to the effects of weather and light. Leaves get their green color during spring and summer from chlorophyll, the pigment that captures sunlight. But leaves also contain other pigments whose colors are masked during the growing season. In fall, the absence of chlorophyll allows these color pigments to break out, draw into the leaf tissues and begin to show.

As leaves become more colorful, an interesting phenomenon occurs. Aphids and other insects avoid trees with bright fall color and tend to lay their eggs in less colorful trees. When the eggs hatch next spring, the larvae feed on the tree and are very destructive. Some studies suggest that trees with strong fall color tend to suffer less damage from insects in spring.

**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**

Many thanks always to our Pavilion volunteers. . . August was warm at the Pavilion but with our awning, shade coverings, and portable fan along with the refrigerated ice cream, goodies, and icy water, everyone survived in grand style. Clean-up of the shedding bamboo leaves and continuous debris in the ponds is routine but by noon on our workdays, everything looks neat, tidy, and beautiful. We continue to be closed to visitors while the Park's road construction to the new Australian exhibit continues. Reorganizing our closets and shelving and improving our work areas and repair of our water lines are more easily done while the Pavilion gate is closed also.

The August volunteers included: Neil Auwarter, Ken Bross, Alan Burrows, Julia Chow, Cathy & Mark Edgar, Bob & Janice Hale, Sonya Holmquist, John Jackson, Jaya Kaelberer, Jim Kirchmer, newcomer Connie Kraus, Carla Marasco, Janet & Ron Palmer, Sally Prestele, Clare & Ron Roberts, 'lyn Stevenson, Yoichiro Suemori, Dennis Wagner, Mark Walters, and Dave Woodall. Donated cookies, breads, donuts, fruits, coffee, lemonade, and other delights were also donated and appreciated by all. Thanks to the Roberts, John, Cathy, Julia, 'lyn, and a couple of anonymous angels!

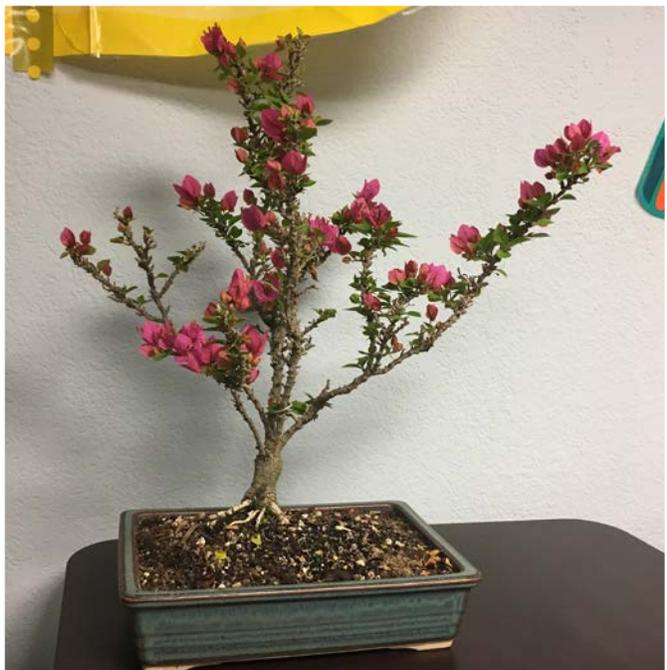
The warmer weather is an opportunity to transplant some varieties of bonsai. A large bougainvillea that the Petrescus had donated awhile back was repotted beautifully with much team effort under Curator John's

guidance. A great learning experience for all!

Usually, each volunteer totes a plastic bucket for clean-up along with their tools while grooming bonsai and our supply of five gallon buckets has been depleted once again. The outdoor sun takes its toll so donated buckets are always appreciated — we really need to keep a supply of at least 20 on hand. Help from SDBC members is always appreciated. Thanks to Alan, we have a nice new supply of clean-up brushes! It is great to have him volunteering again this past month after his hand surgery and skin grafting recuperation.

We remember fondly our past volunteer, Charlie Tamm, who died this past month at the young age of 90. He was always a cheerful, diligent member of our volunteer crew and will be missed by all in the SDBC.

**'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, September 12, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, September 16, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, October 7, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, October 10, 2017	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, October 21, 2017	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday