



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



April 2018



President's Message

Ken did a great demo at the March meeting on starting the process of exposed root style on black pines. I think we all had fun making them. I can't wait to see the result. Thank you to Ken and Darryl for your hard work

getting all the materials needed for this workshop.

Thank you so much Ute for the wonderful treats and the delicious lemon cake! The Elmers will be providing the treats at the April meeting.

At our April meeting, we are getting ready for our show and club sales table. I will have sign up sheets, for showing your trees, security for the weekend, treat list etc. this is a whole club event, we really need everyone's help. Thank you in advance.

At our April meeting we will also be making Kokedama (Moss balls that are inspired by bonsai, but it uses moss as a vessel to hold the roots of the plant) to sell at our Mother's Day show. These will be lots of fun to make. Steve and I will do a short demo on how to put them together. Then everyone will make several to sell. We will bring the plants, soil, moss and twine.

Also please bring In Your show trees, if you need help with final preparation for our show. Clean the pots, dressing the soil with moss, last minute shaping of your tree. If you do not have any stands or accent plant, this is the time to let us know. Steve has lots of stands you can borrow and we can plan for extra accent plants.

California Bonsai Society (CBS) Bonsai Show at the Huntington was wonderful and so was the reception that the Huntington provides.

CBS has a new president, Bob Pressler, several changes are being made in CBS, they plan to meet 4 times a year and bring world class demonstrations, workshops with that person and share with other clubs in the area. CBS is giving 5 \$200 scholarships to help you study/ or take a workshop with a bonsai master of your choice. You just have to apply for it, send in photos and write an article for CBS newsletter. Their May meeting will have Will Baddeley from England, who specializes in carving bonsai. CBS is now open to any bonsai person in the area wanting to join.

Always remember volunteering and learning at the same time at the safari park bonsai collection the 1st & 3rd Sat. There is still a lot of work, even while it is closed for safari upgrades.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

President
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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

Upcoming Bonsai Events

**SDBC 53
Annual Spring Show**

April 28 & 29

**Nisei Week in LA
Japanese festival in little Tokyo**

August 18

(if you are a member of SDBC they are having a bus trip)

SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

A good potting mix may include a small amount of bone meal and Ironite to encourage development of new fine rootage. There is a difference of opinion as to the value of including cottonseed meal at this time, however we believe that this fertilizer is better applied a month or so later since early feeding can be harmful to new growth. Cottonseed meal is a slow starter before it adds any nutrient benefit to the plant.

Repotted plants may be fed as soon as signs of new growth are apparent. A suggested mix is 75% cottonseed meal / 25% bone meal.

Newly potted trees should be shaded from direct sun until new growth begins. By moving trees into sunny areas, it will stimulate the growth of foliage. Newly potted trees should first be allowed to develop new fine rootage that can then support new foliage. When new growth is evident, it's time to begin light fertilization. Full sun encourages smaller leaves and shorter internodes.

Early bloomers such as Forsythia, Sasanqua Camellias and Quince develop during early spring months. After flowers have faded, trees are pruned to restore shape, allow new growth and bud setting.

Azaleas are bare rooted and repotted in March. Be sure to comb out as much of the old soil or growing medium peat without destroying the fine root system. Incorporate as much new coarse azalea soil mix as you can when repotting to develop strong healthy new roots and improve acidity.

Finally, prepare selected trees for display at the many spring bonsai shows held throughout the state. Select your best tree(s)--be critical of their appearance. Show trees should be free of any infections and should not show signs of ill health. Pots should be clean. Plants surface must be cleared of trash and very heavy layers of moss. Spring is usually the time when most trees look their very best.

Remember---- For every action there is an equal and opposite criticism.

Doesn't this seem to apply to bonsai? The best way to escape your problem is to solve it.

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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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

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Calendar of Events

Tuesday, April 10, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, April 21, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, May 5, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday & Sunday May 12 & 13, 2018		San Pu Kai Bonsai Show: Carlsbad Flower Fields
Tuesday, June 12, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista