



San Pu Kai Record

Monthly Newsletter of the San Pu Kai Bonsai Club



October 2018



President's Message

At our September meeting we had our annual fundraiser. I think everyone really enjoyed the evening outside. I believe everyone got about 5 turns at picking out items. Not bad for \$20, there were a lot of nice goodies to be had. And

special thanks to Joe DuPont for donating some very nice trees. We made about \$200 for the club, not bad for one evening and everyone went home happy. Thank you all for supporting San Pu Kai.

At our October meeting Darryl will be teaching us pot making. We will be learning a different type of pot making, these will not be pinch pots. But we will have a lot of fun. I know you all have seen the beautiful bonsai pots Darryl has been making. He is becoming a great potter and members of the bonsai community are seeking out his pots. We have a lot to learn. We will have our meeting outside again. I'll bring light and extra tables. There is no charge for this pot making workshop.

We are going to be planning a field trip to David Nguy's nursery and then to Peter Macasieb's. Not sure of the dates as of yet, but sometime in November I believe.

We will be having trips to different members houses to see their bonsai. Darryl will be in charge of these outings.

The Shohin meeting is at our house on October 20th, from 1-4 pm.

We have been having a great turn out at our meetings. Please come, bring your trees, and tools, come and learn.

Tom Ohgi will have his bonsai shop open on Fridays and Sat. 9-4 until everything is sold. They still have some pots, tools, and great Japanese gift items. They

have sold the property, so they need to be out by November 15th.

Remember the bonsai pavilion at the safari park is open again, and they have workdays, the 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month, they may be having extra work days. Check with Lyn Stevenson for more information.

Huntington gardens needs your help, become a bonsai volunteer. They can use your help on the first Thursday and first Saturday of each month, you get in free, get volunteer hours, talk with guests who want to know about bonsai. These are dates when guest get in free to the Huntington, so extra help is always needed. If interested please email : Ellen Keneshea GSBF Huntington chairman ekeneshea@socal.rr.com

I will have GSBF convention info to share with the club members, the dates are October 24-28, McClellan Conference Center, Sacramento, CA.

Headliners, Bjorn Bjornholm, Suthin Sukosolvisit, and from Japan Yasuo Mitsuya San, could be his last trip to the USA.

See you all at the meeting, it is nice to see cooler mornings and evenings, but keep checking your trees.

Cary Sullivan-Valentine

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

SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

Fall is generally the climax of the luxurious growth of summer and the last spurt of activity before settling down for winter dormancy. As leaves begin to drop, be sure to remove the trash around your trees and on the surface of your pots. If cleanup is neglected these areas become a refuse for slugs, sow bugs and other undesirable creatures.

Transplanting is permissible at this time of year, specifically bamboo, boxwood, conifers, hornbeam, cotoneaster, podocarpus, privets, pyracantha, wisteria, willow and most varieties of deciduous trees. The key to safe fall repotting is to minimize root disturbance and severe pruning but trees can be transferred into larger or different containers. If in doubt about the health or condition of a tree, wait until spring to repot.

Now is the time to anticipate and enjoy better autumn color by reducing watering time as well. As the length of the day's sunshine is shortened, the trees require less water. A balance must be maintained between the minimal watering and the loss of moisture by transpiration during intermittent warm spells.

Once the leaves on trident maple, Japanese maple, liquid amber, ginkgo, hornbeam and other colorful deciduous trees begin to lose their vigor and drop, keep the bonsai areas and pot surfaces cleared. Remove trash promptly. Continue to spray benches with an all-purpose insecticide and a final spray of fungicide. Pests seem to make a final effort to destroy and injure trees as they feed heavily prior to moving into the pupa stage.

Light conditions begin to change. Trees that have had full sun exposure find themselves in more shade. So, watch the location of trees at this time

of year and rotate them into more favorable light exposures allowing them to continue storing strength and food for the winter.

This is a good time to work on basic training and design. Remove the wire applied this past year. Check for wire cuts. New wire can be applied but avoid the curls and marks of previous efforts. In spite of this period of slow growth, fall and winter training can still be effective. Before spring approaches don't overlook the new wire since new growth quickly causes wire damage. Study improper branch placement – crossing, bars, up and down growth.

There is still time to give bonsai a last good feeding. Evergreen and conifers may be lightly fertilized on a regular basis through the winter months since they continue

to grow in our mild climate. Use food with little or no nitrogen-- mainly potash and phosphorous, a 0-10-10 fertilizer. Low nitrogen fertilizers build dormant buds and store food in the form of starch used to produce healthy growth in spring. This is especially important for fruiting and flowering trees. Specifically azalea, crabapple, plum and pomegranate improve after late feedings.

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.

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.





A few San Pu Kai Members showed trees at the San Diego Bonsai Club show





San Pu Kai

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<http://www.sanpukai.org>

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Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 6, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Tuesday, October 9, 2018	6:00 - 9pm	San Pu Kai Bonsai Club Meeting: 973 Vale Terrace Dr. Room #108, Vista
Saturday, October 13, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
Saturday, October 20, 2018	9am - Noon	San Diego Zoo Safari Park Bonsai Pavilion Workday
October 24-28, 2018		GSBF Convention McClellan Conference Center, Sacramento, CA