



Conejo Valley Bonsai Society

A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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CVBS on the Web

(Click on name to visit Web site.)

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society

CVBS CaféPress Store

CVBS Online Bonsai Gallery

Other Bonsai Groups

(Click on name to visit Web site.)

Golden State Bonsai Federation

American Bonsai Society

Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara

California Aiseki Kai

Descanso Bonsai Society

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai

Shohin Bonsai Society of So. Cal.

Sansui-Kai of So. Cal.

Santa Anita Bonsai Society

South Coast Bonsai Association

San Diego Bonsai Club

President's Message

Annual Exhibition a Big Success!

By Marj Branson

Our 11th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks was a great success, even with the extremely hot weather! I would like to thank everyone for your help and participation. There were many compliments on the exhibition and the trees. It could not have happened without your help and your trees. Thanks!

The People's Choice award really engaged our visitors and created a lot of questions and interest in the trees. Selecting only one tree was a dilemma for most visitors. Even the kids pitched in—checking out the trees and making a selection. Hopefully we can stimulate our future bonsai artists!


David Williams took photographs of the trees, which in due course will appear in our newsletter. Thank you David and all who helped!

Rick Naber made beautiful block stands for the shohin display. He donated the stands to the club—many thanks Rick.

Our October meeting will be a workshop. Please bring in your trees to work on with your mentor or our advisor.

Don't forget that the Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention in Sacramento is coming up at the end of October/beginning of November. See page 5 for details. Time gets away, so don't forget to check the dates and put them on your calendar.

We will be appointing a nominating committee for the 2015 Conejo Valley Bonsai Society officers. If you are able to help or have suggestions, please let me or a fellow officer know.

See you Thursday the 16th. 




President Marj Branson

Library

Please Use Our Library's Excellent Resources

Larry Kimmelman

Be smart! Take advantage of our excellent resource materials. Books, magazines, and DVDs that cover every aspect of bonsai, and are available to all club members for a month at a time. We only ask that you return the borrowed book, magazine, or DVD at the next club meeting.

We're willing to invest in additional library materials, if club members simply let us know what they'd like to see in our Library. Let me know at the next club meeting, or email me at kimmelm@verizon.net. 

Contact Us

(Click on E-mail)

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Conejo Valley Bonsai Society Meetings

Westlake Village City Hall
Community Room
31200 Oakcrest Drive
Westlake Village, CA 91361
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
3RD Thursday of every month

CVBS Programs

2014

If you are interested in the CVBS Mentoring Program, please see Larry Kimmelman for more information & applications to participate.

January 16	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Peter Macasieb / Itoigawa/Kishu Juniper Grafting
February 20	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
March 20	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
April 17	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Bob Pressler / Boxwood. Third of a series from raw material to finished bonsai
May 15	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
June 19	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Ryan Nichols / Bonsai soils and the science of growing bonsai
July 17	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by NOTE CHANGE Workshop and Swap Meet— BRING YOUR TREES
August 21	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by NOTE CHANGE DEMONSTRATION: Roy Nagatoshi / Styling/Critique of Club Members Trees (each member will be allowed to bring in one tree)
September 18	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING TREES YOU PLAN TO EXHIBIT
October 4 – 5	11TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION Gardens of the World
October 16	7:30PM : Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
November 20	7:30PM : Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Ann Erb / Japanese Black Pine
December 18	HOLIDAY POTLUCK 7:30 PM

Barrett's Bonsai Tips

Clean Up Black Pines in October

By Jim Barrett

October is a very good month to clean up Japanese black pine and junipers.

If you have black pine bonsai, finish pruning the unwanted new growth leaving one, two, or three new candles on the tips of each branch or twig that was pruned earlier this summer. How many candles you leave is determined by your design goals for the tree [and] whether the new growth is on the outer limits of the tree or in the interior.

Old needles (discolored) should be removed. New or fresh needles should remain until December or January. Leaving these new healthy needles on through the fall should keep the tree at its best. Cutting long needles shorter will allow sunlight to penetrate into the interior of the trees, and help to build stronger growth on the weak and stunted interior candles and twigs.

Junipers may be cleaned of all dead or discolored foliage. Prune the "hanger downers" and the "pointer uppers" unless you plan to wire them into a more horizontal position.

October is also a good time to remove old wire and rewire for detail.

You should be able to prune quince, apple, and ume for shape now and place them into their show pots, if this is a

practice you follow.

Fertilize azaleas and most flowering and fruiting bonsai with a low nitrogen, high phosphorous fertilizer. A 0-10-10 should work well.

Remember to start choosing those show trees for next spring. Keep your eyes open for quality pots you may wish to use for these trees.

Repotting and potting (from nursery container to bonsai pot) can be safely done at this time for black pine and most junipers. Repotting flowering and fruiting bonsai from bonsai pot to bonsai pot can be done, provided the root ball is not drastically disturbed and the tree is reasonably healthy.

Pay attention to watering schedules this month and next. Keeping plants too wet may promote root rot, especially if the tree is not actively growing. Watch for fungus, spider mites, and scale.



Jim Barrett

Refreshments

We Are Booked for The Rest of the Year

Thank you to the September refreshment volunteers! Lydia Su provided cold drinks and Jill Peters brought the eats/sweets.

We are booked for 2014, but 2015 is just around the corner so please sign up at the next meeting, or you can email Grace Sy at wkhlady@yahoo.com, or call (818) 915-8545 to volunteer. 🌿

2014 Refreshments

	Cold Drinks	Eats / Sweets
Oct.	Jordan Blake	Grace Sy
Nov.	Nancy Smeets	Dick & Kazue Winston
Dec.	Holiday Potluck	

Start choosing your spring exhibition trees; [be] sure to pick one or two more than you will show. This ensures that you will have what you need when the time comes. Besides, it will make you work harder to improve your best trees. 🌿

September Niche

Mr. & Mrs. Tamarisk

Editor's note: Jill Peters provided the niche display for our September 2014 meeting. Here are her comments on the trees.

Let me present Mr. and Mrs. Tamarisk. Mrs. was created 2½ years ago in one of Bob Pressler's workshops. Mr. Tamarisk was born in a similar workshop early this year. I only noticed that they were a couple two months ago so decided to present them together. Tamarisks are rather labor-intensive bonsai requiring frequent rewiring, but I am drawn to the contrast between the delicate foliage and the rough, sturdy trunk. They flower ever-so-tiny pink blossoms in early spring.

The accent cactus overgrew itself, but is in keeping with the desert theme.

—Jill Peters



Photo by David Williams

A Well Watered Parish Patio Bonsai Bench

My name is Fr. W. Tom Davis, OSA and I am an Augustinian Friar and priest. I serve the Catholic Community at Our Mother of Good Counsel and as a hospital chaplain at the main Kaiser Hospital in Hollywood, CA. I am also a trainee for the LAPD Chaplain Team. I have been a member of CVBS since 2008 and have been wonderfully inspired by the many other members of our bonsai club. I love CVBS!

Because I am a friar with very limited space in our parish patio, I have constructed my bonsai bench from very simple and inexpensive materials. As a priest, there are times when I may have to move, so this bench along with the Shohin and Kifu sized bonsai I keep are easy to move and re-set-up. Some of my dear friends gave me some cinderblocks that I use for the base of my bench. I went to Home Depot and purchased (because they don't donate to mendicant friars) the boards, 2x4s and screws with which I assembled the two shelves, one to hold my various sized pots, and the top one to show my bonsai. At one time I had as many as 32 bonsai, but the past three years the tube irrigation system I put together has failed me twice while I was on a three-week vacation and I lost almost half of my bonsai to the excessive heat of July, when it broke and my bonsai got no water. I was heartbroken!

In the Fall of last year, I did some research online and at Home Depot and decided to completely redo my irrigation system. I bought ½ inch PVC pipes along with connectors and elbows, new tubing, and good braces and constructed a much more sturdy irrigation system, complete with both drip irrigation and over-head sprayers that drench my 12 ft. long bench. This is connected with PVC pipe to our rectory sprinkler system for which I also purchased a new timer. I use various times to do the watering, depending upon the weather. It has been almost a year with this new system and I am very pleased with it. I'd like to thank my mentors at CVBS for all their help in allowing me to ask and share my bonsai experiences with them and get wonderful feedback to help me along my own bonsai endeavors. I look forward to many more rewarding experiences with CVBS. Continued peace and blessings...

—Fr. W. Tom Davis, OSA



2014

October

October 18 – 19, 2014 / Union City, California

Yamato Bonsai Kai: 43rd Annual Bonsai Exhibition at Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church, 32975 Alvarado-Niles Road. Hours: Noon – 6 PM Saturday & 10 AM – 5 PM Sunday. Demonstration each day at 2 PM featuring Johnny Uchida. Benefit raffle drawing each day. Large vendor and plant sales area; free admission and parking. Doctor Bonsai support will be available. For more information call Tony Hayworth at 510-289-5731 or bonsaicho@comcast.net or visit www.yamatobonsai.org.

October 30 – November 2, 2014 / Sacramento, California

Golden State Bonsai Federation and American Bonsai Society present 2014 Convention XXXVII “Bonsai Visions of the West” at the Double Tree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way. Reservations for hotel (916) 929-8855. Headliners include Peter Tea, Kathy Shaner and David De Groot, ABS Learning Seminars with Ted Matson and Jack Sustic, Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition, and Special Tribute to John Naka – 100 years (b. August 16, 1914). Demonstrations, seminars, critiques, workshops, excursions, benefit drawings, vendors, and much more. More information available at www.gsbfcconvention.org.

December

Dec. 26, 2014 – January 2, 2015 San Marino, Ca.

California Aiseki Kai: 25th Anniversary Exhibition of Viewing Stones Show at the Botanical Center of the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road. Hours are 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM each day (Closed New Year’s Day). Free parking. For more information see our website: www.aisekikai.com and/or contact hutch@aisekikai.com

2015

February

February 21 – 22, 2015 Oakland, CA

GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: The annual Mammoth Fund Raiser will be held at 666 Bellevue Ave. Saturday: Auction preview at noon with Auction at 1 PM. Sunday: Vendor Sales start at 9 AM, Plant Sales start at 10 AM, and Demonstrations at 1 PM. Also on Sunday help us celebrate our 15th Anniversary! The Bonsai Garden will celebrate the many bonsai clubs who have supported it by inviting clubs from all over Northern California to showcase their best trees. Bonsai Garden will be open 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and Noon to 4 PM on Sunday. For more information or to sell trees, email bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com and visit www.gsbflakemerritt.org.

February 28 – March 1, 2015 San Marino, California

Bonsai-A-Thon XIX at The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road. This is the annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington. Admission to the event is free with Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registration between 8 AM – 9:30 AM. Event hours are 8 AM – 4:30 PM both days. Pancake breakfast, tour hosted by Jim Folsom (Director of the Garden), demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle, and auction. Sunday only: “Bring-Your-Own-Tree Bonsai Consulting Clinic.” For more information, contact Marge Blasingame, (626) 579-0420 margeblasingame@att.net.

HELP WANTED!

The staff of Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF) publication Golden Statements Magazine is in need to fill the following positions:

- Treasurer
- Advertising Manager
- Subscriptions Manager
- Part Time Assistants

For more details on duties and special perks, contact George Haas, Past Editor of Golden Statements, (707) 762-9154 or gwhaas@comcast.net.

CVBS Niche Displays

Our Niche Display Program

In the Niche Program, club members set up a mini exhibition display. Such a display consists of:

- The tree in a nice bonsai pot
- An accent plant
- A stand

All these items are important to create the balance for a good display. We aspire to present the best display possible for everyone’s pleasure and edification, so the niche is often assembled by one of the more experienced members. However, it is also our desire to give less experienced bonsai hobbyists an opportunity to learn by

doing. So if any less experienced member feels his/her trees are not ready for a finished display, it is worthwhile to create a display that is a work-in-progress. It will be up to the club member to determine which category his/her display falls into, and then the work-in-progress display can become the talking point of work done, work intended, and suggestions from the floor.

We encourage all members to sign up for the niche display! Please have a look at the calendar and let us know when you would like to present your display.

—Marj Branson

2014 Niche Displays

Oct.	Jordan Blake
Nov.	Grace Sy
Dec.	Holiday Potluck No Display