



# 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**

**Dal Ichl Bonsai Kai**

**Shohin Bonsai Society of So. Cal.**

**Sansul-Kai of So. Cal.**

**Santa Anita Bonsai Society**

**South Coast Bonsai Association**

**San Diego Bonsai Club**

## President's Message

# Bring Olives to May Meeting

By Marj Branson

Our April meeting was a workshop. Members brought their trees in and we all had a busy working evening.

The mentoring program appears to be working well. For example, Richard and Kazue Winston were busily working with Rick Naber on their new trees they recently picked up in our last club nursery trip.

If you have any questions regarding the mentoring program please see Larry Kimmelman.

For our May meeting we have Kathy Benson as our demonstrator. She will be critiquing club members' olive trees. So don't forget—bring in your olive trees and Kathy will help you!

I would like to put a call out for our club members to enlist your help in a few areas:


Refreshments—Please sign up to bring drinks or cookies at one of our monthly meetings. See Jill Peters for details.

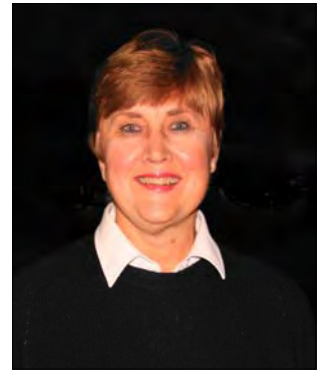
Niche Display—We would love for you to display your trees, whether completed or in training. See Our Niche Display spot on page 4 of the newsletter to see what it's all about and then see me for a sign-up date.

Club logo—Is it time to update? Let us know what you think. Any ideas?

Club nursery trips or programs—Have you seen or been part of something interesting you think our club members might enjoy? Let us know and we will introduce it to our membership.

There are a number of club spring exhibitions coming up. In May we have Santa Barbara and in June there is Descanso. These are just a couple of local shows—for details see page 4 of this newsletter.

See you Thursday, May 16th. (It's coming early this month!) 



President Marj Branson

## March Niche

### 'Pfitzer' Juniper as a Monterey Pine

Editor's Note: Fr. Tom Davis provided the niche display at our March 2013 meeting. Here's what he says about his tree:

I was told that the Juniper was a *Juniperus chinensis* "Pfitzeriana" ('Pfitzer' juniper). I received it as a prize from our club's holiday party a couple of years ago, and since then I have heavily pruned and styled it from its then bushy self into what you see today resembling an old Monterey pine. The pot is Japanese, and the stand I had custom made by a gentleman in Minnesota. The accent plant is called "Sea Pink" and its pot comes from a gentleman from Iowa. —Fr. Tom Davis



## Contact Us

(Click on E-mail)

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Vacant

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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  
3<sup>RD</sup> Thursday of every month

## CVBS Programs

2013

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

<del>January 17</del>	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: ALEX MARTINEZ</b> / Juniper
<del>February 21</del>	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
<del>March 21</del>	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: Bob Pressler</b> / Boxwood. First of a series from raw material to finished bonsai.
<del>April 18</del>	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
May 16	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: Kathy Benson</b> / Olive critique. Members bring one olive tree each for Kathy's review.
June 20	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
July 18	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: Ken Fuentes</b> / Ficus nerifolia
August 15	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
September 19	7: 30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: Jim Barrett</b> / Critique for Show <b>BRING TREES YOU PLAN TO EXHIBIT</b>
October TBA	<b>10TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION</b> Gardens of the World
October 17	7: 30PM : Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: Bob Pressler</b> / Boxwood. Second of a series from raw material to finished bonsai.
November 21	7: 30PM : Brief Meeting followed by <b>DEMONSTRATION: Ted Matson</b> / Shohin bonsai
December TBA	<b>HOLIDAY POTLUCK</b> 7: 30 PM

## Barrett's Bonsai Tips

# Candle Pruning and Show Tips

By Jim Barrett

Don't forget to continue your fertilizing program, especially for black pine and juniper. Candle pruning programs will vary for ordinary black pine. It all depends on the age and health of the tree, and what your goals are.

Candle pruning nursery stock can be started earlier than black pine that has been in a bonsai container for some time. For instance, nursery stock may have their candles pruned this month from about mid-month on. The object is to produce shorter internodes and an abundance of branches.

Bonsai black pine, depending again on maturity and health, may have the candle pruning program start as early as late May or as late as mid-July. The later you prune, the shorter the internodes.

Needle plucking is a personal choice and, if done, should not be done on a weak, unhealthy tree. If you have questions regarding black pine maintenance, ask your instructor or a member of the club. [Conejo Valley Bonsai Society members may want to check with one of our mentors or club advisor Ken Fuentes.]

Get your bonsai ready for the [Descanso Bonsai Society's June] show, especially beginners. We always have great judges who make helpful comments, suggesting ways they see to improve each tree. This is a rare opportunity to get expert advice for your tree. [CVBS members may want to save this article and read it again before our October show.]

All trees should be groomed, trimmed and wayward branches wired and moved into position. Pots should be clean and, if possible, free of hard water scale. "Old English" lemon oil works very well on pots and will help some scale to be less noticeable.

Clean trunks and roots, removing dirt and moss from trunks, main roots (nebari), and any low branches. If your tree has dead wood and branches that have been treated with lime sulphur, give it another treatment at least two weeks before the show.

Juniper and pine color can be enhanced with an application of Volck oil. To mix, add 1 to 2 teaspoons of Volck oil to one quart of water and, using a spray bottle, spray this mixture on all foliage. Do this just before the show.

Accent plants and stands should also be groomed and clean. Continue to watch for critters and fungus. Wait to fertilize azaleas until they are through blooming.

You should be able to repot ficus, pomegranate, and atlas cedar anytime now. If you need to repot elm and maple, make sure the new growth has hardened somewhat and try not to remove too many fine roots. You may find trident maples have developed a thick pad of roots on the bottom of the root ball. Add soil as needed and return the tree to its place. Save any major root pruning for next January or February. 🌳



Jim Barrett

## Refreshments Volunteers Needed

Jill Peters

A rigatou to last month's refreshment volunteers, Larry Kimmelman for cold drinks and Dave Williams for "eats/sweets." For our May meeting Fr. Tom Davis and Mike Mulhern have promised to bring drinks and treats. I will call to remind you both.

Loyal board members have signed up to jump-start the list of summer's refreshment volunteers so let's all jump on the bandwagon to cover the remaining months through fall. Thanks! 🌳

### 2013 Refreshments

	Cold Drinks	Eats / Sweets
May	Fr. Tom Davis	Mike Mulhern
June	Marj Branson	Jill Peters
July	Volunteer Needed	Evans Thomas
Aug.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Sept.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

## CVBS Membership Come Join Us!

By Larry Kimmelman

Whether you are a visitor to our website, a reader of our newsletter, a guest at a monthly meeting, or have already decided to join our club, there are effectively no barriers to entry. Annual dues are \$25 for one, \$30 for couples.

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, starting at 7:30 PM, in the Westlake Village City Hall (located at 31200 Oakcrest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361).

To join our club, please bring your check (made out payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society) to our next monthly meeting, or mail it to: Larry Kimmelman, CVBS Membership Chair, 2727 Autumn Ridge Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. 🌳

May

May 18 & 19, 2013: Santa Barbara, California

Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara: Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Road. Hours are Saturday 11 AM – 4 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM. Demonstrations at 1 PM on both days. Plant sales by the Club. Native plants suitable for bonsai in the Botanic Garden's nursery. Books and other gifts in the Garden Shop. For more information, contact Ann Erb 805-929-4972, email [annerb@charter.net](mailto:annerb@charter.net) or visit [www.santabarbarbonsai.org](http://www.santabarbarbonsai.org).

May 18 & 19, 2013: Sacramento, California

Satsuki Aikokai Association of Sacramento: Annual Show at Shepard Garden Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Hours are Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM and Sunday, 10 AM – 4 PM with Demonstrations at 2 PM daily. Workshops, vendors, satsuki information booth, and raffles daily. For more information contact Ronn Pigram at (916) 428-8505 or email: [satsukiaikokaisac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:satsukiaikokaisac@sbcglobal.net).

June

June 1 – 2, 2013: San Mateo, California

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai: 30th Annual Show at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, next to Beresford Park. Admission is free. Saturday and Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM. Demonstrations from 1 – 3PM both days. Door prizes, vendor sales, and member plant sales will be featured. There will also be Dr. Bonsai to answer questions regarding bonsai care. For additional information contact Marsha Mekisich at 650-477-4761 or [eclecticgardener@yahoo.com](mailto:eclecticgardener@yahoo.com).

June 9, 2013: Monterey, California

Monterey Bonsai Club: 50th Annual Exhibition at the Monterey Buddhist Temple, 1150 Noche Buena Street, Seaside. Show hours are 11 AM – 4 PM with demonstration at 1:30 PM by Katsumi Kinoshita. Sales area will include bonsai pots and plants. For more information contact: Dianne Woods at [vinca27@comcast.net](mailto:vinca27@comcast.net) or Atsuko Kinoshita (831) 375-4290 or [atsukokinoshi@aol.com](mailto:atsukokinoshi@aol.com).

June 15 and 16, 2013: La Cañada Flintridge, California

Descanso Bonsai Society: Annual Show at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive. Hours are 9 AM – 5 PM, with Demonstrations 11 AM and 1 PM each day. Sales area open to the public. Admission to the exhibition is free with admission to Descanso Gardens. A Saturday night reception 6 PM – 9 PM includes light refreshments, auction and raffle. For more information contact Michael Jonas at (818) 775-0813.

**What:** Conifer Study Group  
Work on your bonsai independently or with other participants

**Study Subject:**  
Bonsai tool maintenance and sharpening.  
Bring bonsai tools for sharpening.

**Cost:** Attendance is free

**Who:** Shig Hayashi, Moderator

**Contact:** [shayashi99@hotmail.com](mailto:shayashi99@hotmail.com)

**When:** 12:30 – 4:30 PM  
3rd Sunday of the Month  
(If rained out, 4th Sunday)

**Date:** May 19, 2012

**Where:** California Bonsai Studio  
4015 N. Moorpark Rd.  
Thousand Oaks, CA

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

2013 Niche Displays	
May	Ken Martin
June	Larry Kimmelman
July	Volunteer Needed
August	Volunteer Needed
Sept.	Volunteer Needed
Oct.	Volunteer Needed