



Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara

P.O. Box 3703, Santa Barbara, CA 93130

Monthly Meeting: TUESDAY, April 8, 2008

Goleta Community Center, 5679 Hollister Avenue, Goleta
Coffee and book exchange from 7:00 P.M.
Program at 7:30 P.M.

This Month's Program – Susanne Barrymore on Defoliation

This month brings **Susanne Barrymore**, long time club member and well-known bonsai practitioner, on the topic of defoliation. This technique, when properly applied to deciduous trees, can have many benefits. Susanne has practiced defoliation of deciduous trees for as long as your editor has been affiliated with the club and the results bear her out. It is commonly believed that defoliation gives finer ramification and better fall color, if timed properly. If you have seen Susanne's trees at the Winter Silhouettes show, you will know she's onto something. Expect to learn the best timing, appropriate techniques, suitable species, and overall benefits of defoliation for bonsai.

Last Month's Program – Ann Erb on Azaleas

Ann Erb's program was full of new and useful tidbits for anyone interested in azaleas in general (and satsuki – pronounced like "sat-s'ki" – especially). She says that the approach to satsuki azalea culture has changed considerably in the last few years: for example, from keeping them shaded to growing in full sun, and from keeping them damp, to letting them almost dry between waterings. There are some 1,200 recognized varieties of satsuki and the range of growth habit, flower shape and size, and leaf size is staggering.

Key management tips: remove flower buds in early spring to allow the plant to put energy into foliage growth (only let it bloom once every three years and, even then, remove extra buds before bloom and all flower buds after about 2/3 have bloomed); wire in the winter for most varieties; in fall and winter, remove all shoots that emerge at the base of the flower buds except two in horizontal positions; remove all down-pointing and up-pointing shoots; remove all weak shoots whenever they emerge as they will never become strong (no flower bud? Remove it!); in fall and winter, remove larger leaves along braches, but leave a few small leaves at the tip of last year's growth to let light into the interior of the tree; seal all cuts, no matter how small; take special care with large cuts (do not use concave cutters that leave a hollow as that is an invitation to rot); seal large cuts with waterproof glue; copper is toxic to azaleas, use aluminum wire exclusively; twist branches to bend when wiring as this helps to prevent (but may not eliminate) breakage. There was more, but you had to be there to take it all in.

PRESIDENT	Joe Olson	964-0869	PUBLICITY	Frank Artusio	963-3964
SECRETARY	John Bleck	968-5519	LIBRARIAN	Andrew Nelson	687-2757
TREASURER	Theresa Stiem	687-3702	NEWSLETTER	Andrew Nelson	687-2757
PROGRAMS	Vacant		SHOW	Ann Erb	929-4972
CLASSES	Tom Post	964-2717	REFRESHMENTS	Sally Gilmore	415-9049

Saturday Workshop

This month's **Saturday Workshop** will be Saturday, April 19th with **Kathy Benson** as guest master.

Future Programs and Workshops

Future Programs and Workshops

Date	Program	Presenter	Date	Workshop Leader
Apr 8	Defoliation	Susanne Barrymore	Apr 19	Kathy Benson
May 13	2007 Show Presentation	Leroy Kubel	May 17	No Class – Show Weekend
June 9	Pomegranate Group Update	Ted Matson	Jun 21	Paul deRose
Jul 8	Soil Party	Tom Post & Ann Erb	Jul 19	Lindsay Sheba
Aug 16?	Potluck at John Bleck's House	John Bleck	Aug 16?	John Bleck's
Sep 9	Juniper Pinching	Jim Barrett	Sep 20	Jim Barrett
Oct 14	Raft Planting	Mel Ikeda	Oct 18	Ted Matson
Nov 11	Club Critique	Various	Nov 15	Open
Dec	Annual Holiday Potluck	TBD		No Workshop in December

COMING EVENTS

May 17-18, 2008, Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara: Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Road. Hours are Saturday 11:00 am – 4:00 pm and Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Demonstrations at 1:00 both days. Plant sale by the Club. Native plants suitable for bonsai in the Botanic Garden's nursery. Bonsai books and other gifts in the Garden Shop. For information, contact Ann Erb (905)929-4972, e-mail annerb@charter.net or visit www.santabarbarabonsai.org.

Call for Trees!

Start planning what trees and companion plants you plan to show. Think ahead about stands, if you might need one. Collect moss, top dressing, etc. Clean your pots. Do whatever it takes!

We're looking forward to a great show, with your help.



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