



Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara

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

Monthly Meeting: TUESDAY, November 11, 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 – Club Member Critique

Bring a tree! (or two or three!) Have some fun! Observe how others see the world! In a repeat of a Club tradition, we'll have members of the club form a panel to critique the trees of those brave artists who offer their pride and joy (or their problem child) up for review and comment.

In this instance, "critique" does NOT equal "criticism". Club members have genuinely helpful advice and positive recommendations. There are stories of members going home after the club critique and completely restyling their trees based on the good ideas they got. Don't be shy. This is a real opportunity for some positive and sincere observations from people who really appreciate the art.

Last Month's Program – Raft Juniper with Mel Ikeda

Mel Ikeda presented an interesting and thought provoking program on raft planting. Mel demonstrated a unique variation on the Ikadabuki technique in that this raft (which will be raffled at the December Potluck) is more like a group of trees emerging from an octopus web of roots rather than a straight trunk. It may be closer to the Netsuranari, or sinuous root planting with multiple roots. In the end, the planting looked more like a forest than a root-connected design.

Mel cut off a bit less than half the root ball to give it a flat side and positioned it in a wood box. The secret is to remove the frame from the box and work on just the bottom. Position the tree (this one was a lanky juniper) with the root ball in one corner of the bottom board with the main trunk horizontal and looping forward to the opposite corner. Other branches (which are fully wired ahead of time) are then guided to spread in all directions and secured through holes drilled in the wood bottom using plastic tie-wraps (those zippy plastic strips used to secure wires in bundles). Strip all the side branches from the horizontal branches and score them if you want, though Mel did not apply rooting hormone. The end of each branch is then bent vertically and, presto! every one becomes a tree. Trim, re-attach the box sides, fill with soil, and you're finished! Your editor failed to record the count, but there were at least 9 or so trees in the end.

Holiday Potluck, Saturday December 13, 2009!

Long time Club member Keith Mautino has graciously consented to host the holiday potluck this year. This will be a rather different venue than in the past few years, as Keith lives in Summerland. Word has it that he has quite a collection of antiques as well as bonsai. Make your plans to be there. Bring food, trees, pots, tools, etc. for the raffle, and enjoy! More detail and a map will come with the December newsletter!

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	Tom Post (?)	964-2717	SHOW	Ann Erb	929-4972
CLASSES	Wally Kunimoto	967-2565	REFRESHMENTS	Volunteer Basis	

Future Programs and Workshops

Next Workshop is open to all on November 15th. Agenda for what's left of the year:

Date	Program	Presenter	Date	Workshop Leader
Nov 11	Club Critique	Various	Nov 15	Open
Dec 13	Annual Holiday Potluck	Keith Mautino		No Workshop in December

Ted Matson Tip

At **Ted Matson's** workshop on Saturday October 18 he told us about a relatively safe spray for spider mites that is easy and inexpensive to make. Mix 1 gallon water, 2 tablespoons of canola or similar oil, and 2 tablespoons of Dawn dish washing soap in a gallon jug. This is the storing mix. When its time to spray, shake the storing mix, pour a pint into a spray bottle, add 1teaspoon of rubbing alcohol and spray.

Check out Golden Statements

The latest November/December 2008 issue is available on-line! The Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara 2008 show pictures are on page 17 (another tribute to Leroy Kubel's excellent photography) and Joe Olson's Trident Maple graces both the back cover and the Table of Contents. Check it out!!

Coming Events

December 6, 2008: Second Annual Central Valley Bonsai Yard Sale and Swap Meet, 736 West Browning Avenue, Fresno. Begins at 10:00 am. Sponsored by Fresno, Akatsuki, and Hanford Bonsai Societies. If you'd like to sell material, contact Harold Mitchell at (559) 297-8207.

December 27 – January 2, 2009: California Aiseki Kai 19th Annual Exhibition of Viewing Stones, Friends Hall, Huntington Library, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Show hours 10:00 am to 4:30 pm daily except January 1st.

February 28 – March 1, 2009: GSBF Collection at the Huntington Bonsai-A-Thon XIII, Huntington Library, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Come early (7:30 am) for a pancake breakfast (nominal charge) and free admission to the Huntington Gardens. Demonstrations, auction, vendors, displays, and Huntington Garden tours each day at 10:00 am.



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