



The Fresno Bonsai Society

Newsletter

May 2015

Our Mission

The purpose of the Fresno Bonsai Society is to expand the knowledge and skills of Bonsai within its members while offering opportunities for appreciation of this art form to the broader community. We do this through the inspiration of the beauty of the natural world and the rich cultural heritage of Bonsai.

Welcome to Spring! The winter repotting season and the annual bonsai show at the Shinzen is past for another year. The early summer tasks are upon us...almost daily watering, some leaf pruning, and juniper work once again. Water conservation will be a major issue for those with large collections.

The next meeting of the FBS will be a great experience: another workshop with Ted Matson. We will start at 9 AM, on Sunday, May 17th at the Fresno City College Horticulture Lab. Ted will direct his guidance to the advanced and intermediate members in the morning and the Bonsai Basics Group in the afternoon. We will break for lunch at noon and conduct our business meeting. As always, the cost for participants with one or more trees will be \$20 and observers will be free. Everyone, from our club or other clubs or no club at all are welcome to come and learn from this wonderful teacher. For those new folks who don't know of Ted, he is an internationally known bonsai master, former President of the Golden State Bonsai Federation and curator of the Huntington Gardens Bonsai Collection. He is a wealth of knowledge and a clear and organized teacher.

Finally, the annual election of club officers will take place at the June BBQ. If you are interested in serving as an officer in the FBS, please contact Ralph Schroeder at ralsch@sbcglobal.net to have your name placed on the ballot. If you would like to submit statement in support of your candidacy, please email it to me and I will distribute it to the membership.

Bonsai Basics for May

The Bonsai Basics Study Group will be at the Ted Matson workshop, in the afternoon from 1PM till 3PM. Bring one or more trees. Study group members are encouraged to observe during the morning session.

The 47th Annual FBS Bonsai Show

The annual show at the Shinzen Garden was in a new location this year, up the hill and over the moon bridge from our usual home. The new setting didn't seem to affect attendance nor enthusiasm. We had two beautiful days with big crowds and many complements. We got a big boost from a large Fresno Bee article that week.

There were about 40 trees on display. There was broad variety of species and styles. There was an excellent shohin display, provided entirely by members of the Shohin Study Group.

Ray Thieme, Richard Ramirez, Gene Nelson, David Soho and Peter Schaffert demonstrated and talked with visitors as they worked on bonsai. There were many questions and many appreciative comments. The most common questions seemed to be, "What do you mean by 'years in training'?" We may have to find a different phrase for this.

There were two view points regarding the hill top location: the shade was wonderful for trees and people but the narrow access road, limited restroom facilities and access to water were inconvenient.

Despite the large crowds, sales at the club table were only average. Bob Wright tells us that the club netted a bit over \$400. Bob noted that



Above: Gene Nelson and Ryan Hall prepare the blocks to level the display tables for the annual show.

Below: The Hall boys, who are always there to help with FBS events, help Dave Soho level the tables for the plant sale.



New Officers

Per our bylaws, the slate of candidates for officers must be submitted to the membership by May 15th. If you would like to be considered for Vice President (President-Elect), Secretary or Treasurer please notify Ralph Schroeder so your name may be placed on the ballot. If you would like to offer a statement about your qualifications, contact Mike Saul have to have this pub-

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unlike prior years, the better bonsai and plant material sold sooner than the inexpensive plants. Vendors, such as Donald Hoisington's Bulls Eye Bonsai and potter Cory reported average sales.

Last week we sent a request to all participants in the annual show to offer their opinions about how the show might be improved in future years. What worked well. What could have been done better. Please take the time to email Mike Saul at tinytreeme@sbcglobal.net with your observations and opinions.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who devoted time and effort to the annual show. To the Hall Family, to the gentlemen at the plant sales, to those who lifted and carried trees, moved tables, watered bonsai, and greeted the public, thank you for your work and dedication!

Visit the FBS website for more photos.



Above, Dave Soho helps children smooth sand for suiseki display. Dave thoughtfully provided these as an activity for small children, while he explained bonsai to adults...truely multi-tasking!

From the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen

CBCS construction continues via the yeoman's job being done FBS members under the direction of Bob Hilvers and Sid Mukai. The irrigation system is growing due to the dedication of Gene Nelson and Ray Thieme. Electrical lines are being laid, prep work for the installation of the reserve area structure is complete, final display area and landscape planning is nearing completion. The work shelter is up!

Grand opening is scheduled for Oct. 17-18, 2016. Invitational "soft openings" will be planned for this summer for trial runs at our operations.

The First Annual Fundraiser for the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen has been calendared for April 16-17, 2016. The Fundraising Committee is intensely seeking ideas (including a less awkward name for the event). Potential activities include restoring the Toko Kazari, vendor sales, demonstrations, docent tours of Collection, auctions and raffles. The possibility of merging this event with the Annual Bonsai Yard Sale has been mentioned.

Now is the time to share your opinions and ideas about the best strategy for fund raising.

The CBCS will be a community jewel and a resource for our community, but it must eventually be self-supporting. Help us with your ideas.

Contact Dwayne Berrett at dberrett@me.com or speak up at the meeting.

Get Connected

Visit the FBS website for images of club events, previous news letters and a wealth of bonsai information. The Bonsai Basics Textbook is entirely on the website as is "Ask Mitch" for your questions.

And friend both FBS and CBCS on Face Book!



Pruning Day at Shinzen Garden

The next Pruning Day at Shinzen Gardens is Saturday, May 16th. If you can volunteer for the morning to help in the garden, bring a hat, gloves, scissor-type pruning shears and a rake. Please let Steve DaSilva know you will be there by email at treekutter@hotmail.com. Lunch will be provided.

Above: Ralph Schroeder selling pre-bonsai material

Below: Gene Nelson and Richard Ramirez style a Juniper bonsai from scratch at the demonstration table.

Right: Ray Thieme and Richard Kassabian discuss an olive

Far Below: Genaro Cuan answers a bonsai question for a visitor.



Below: The new work shelter in the reserve area of the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen Garden



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-lished in the June newsletter. The election will be held at the June BBQ.



Ted Matson Workshop Sunday May 17th

It is pretty easy to sing the praises of Ted Matson as an teacher, artist, and bonsai master. He is patient, clear, and comprehensive. He has a broad knowledge of bonsai and it is well organized. He claims that his best skill is in selecting good material, but he is far more than that. The FBS brings Ted to teach two or three times each year because he provides so much to every level of student.

Ted has been studying bonsai for 35 years with icons like John Naka, Melba Tucker, and Roy Nagatoshi. He was past President of Shohin Bonsai Society, the California Bonsai Society and Nampu Kai, a group comprised of John Naka's students. He was a co-founder of the California Shohin Society. He has served as President and trustee of the Golden State Bonsai Federation, and was a former Editor of Golden Statements. (His articles have appeared in various bonsai publications and newspapers.) From 1998 to 2004, Ted served as the Chair of the GSBF Collection at the Huntington Committee. He lectures and demonstrates at conventions and clubs across the United States and is constantly traveling to teach bonsai. His trees have been shown in international bonsai exhibits like the JAL.

We are indeed very fortunate to have access to a teacher of this skill. Don't miss it.

Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai



Annual Satsuki Azalea Bonsai Exhibition

May 16 and 17, 2015

Saturday and Sunday, 10 AM to 4 PM both Days

The Artisan's Cup Bonsai

Competition

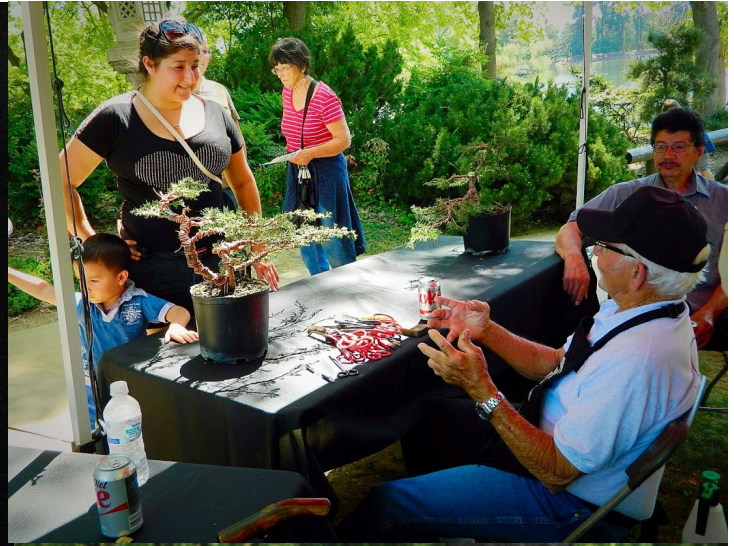
The Artisan's Cup Competition promises to be the premier artistic event for American Bonsai. The exhibit will run from September 25th through September 27th at the Portland Museum of Art. This event has been developed by Ryan Neal, Michael Hagedorn and the Portland Bonsai

Village community. Early hotel reservations are advisable. One day tickets to the event are \$12 per person in advance and \$15 at the door. Weekend passes are \$60 and passes for all meals and ceremonies are \$120 per person. Remember to inform Mike Saul if you plan to go so that we may arrange a group bus to the Bonsai Village. Tickets are available at www.eventbrite.com/e/the-artisans-cup-tickets.

More Images from the 47th Annual FBS Bonsai Show

Photos by Art Zaragoza, Mike Saul and Friends





Custom Bonsai Pottery
By Cory Condry
salvagedfarmspottery@yahoo.com

May Is a Big Month for Bonsai in California

May 2, 2015 Camarillo, California

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society: Exhibition at Community Room, Camarillo Library, 4101 Las Posas Road from 10 AM – 5 PM.

May 2 – 3, 2015 Gardena, California

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai: Annual Exhibit “Serenity Through Bonsai” at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St. Hours are 10 AM – 4 PM

May 2 – 3, 2015 Palo Alto, California

Kusamura Bonsai Club: 55th Annual Show at the Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road. Show hours are Noon – 5 PM

May 2 – 3, 2015 Sacramento, California

Sacramento Bonsai Club: 69th Annual Bonsai & Suiseki Show at Buddhist Church of Sacramento, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Hours are Noon – 5 PM

May 2 – 3, 2015 Jackson, California

Amador Bonsai Society: **14th Annual Bonsai Show** held in conjunction with Sierra Madre Garden Club’s and Mother Lode Rose Society’s Flower Show and Exhibition, “Springtime in the Foothills” at the Amador County Senior Center, 229 New York Ranch Rd.

May 3, 2015 Watsonville, California

Watsonville Bonsai Club: 42nd Annual Bonsai Exhibit held at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge St

May 16 – 17, 2015, 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

May 16 – 17, 2015, Sacramento, California

Satsuki Aikokai of Sacramento: Annual Bonsai Show will be held at the Shepard Garden Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Hours are Saturday 10 AM – 5PM

May 16 – 17, 2015, Oakland, California

Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai: **20th Annual Satsuki Bonsai Exhibition** at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. Hours 10 AM to 4 PM