



Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter April 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.

The 47th Annual FBS Spring Bonsai Exhibit is just a bit more than a month away. At the March 14th meeting, we learned that this year's event will be a bit different. The Exhibit will be held April 18 and 19th, in the Shinzen Garden at Woodward Park in conjunction with the Annual Blossom Festival in the Garden. The hours of the bonsai exhibit and festival have been changed to 11 AM to 5 PM.

The set up will occur at 4PM on Friday, April 17th.

The Spring Exhibit will be the April meeting. There will not be a meeting on April 11th.

This year, however, the bonsai display will be on the far side of the Koi pond on the east side of the garden, near the new construction site of the Clark Bonsai Collection. FBS members may park in the service yard on the east side of the park, adjacent to Friant Road and enter through the gait. All members are strongly encouraged to show one or more trees in the exhibit, including the Bonsai Basics group.

If you plan to show one or more trees, it is important that you email Dwayne Berrett with the information about each tree to be displayed, so that she can produce a placard. She needs the species of the tree, the years in training, and the age of the tree. Her email address is dberrett@me.com or call her at 284 3649 if you do not have email. The deadline for having these placards made in April 11!

All club members are encouraged to donate at least one bonsai to be sold at the plant sale for the benefit of the club.

If you would like to sell bonsai, other tree material or plants at the Spring Exhibit, please label the item with your name or initials and your asking price. The consignment fee for items sold at the plant sale is 20%.

A bento box lunch with drink will be available both days and will cost \$12. Night time security has not been arranged at the time of this writing.

The Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen

Continues to Progress

The perimeter fence of the new exhibit area of the CBCS, with it's shingled roof and gates, is now in place. The contours of the landscape and pathways have been formed. The first bench in the reserve area has been assembled.

Many of the landscape trees, including the first portion of a ginkgo forest, are in the ground.

By the end of March, the irrigation system should be taking shape, under the direction of Ray Thieme and Gene Nelson. The goal is to have the irrigation system and security system functioning by mid-April so that the trees can be move to Woodward Park.

The tentative plan calls for a "soft opening" with local officials, Shinzen leaders, and local bonsai supporters in mid July and the Grand Opening October 16th.

Curator Bob Hilvers has expressed appreciation to the several members of the FBS who worked so hard and gave so much of their time to accomplish this.

See images to right and below, from Homer Green.



Remember Please

If you would like an individual placard made for your bonsai to be displayed in the Annual Spring Exhibit, you MUST inform Dwayne Berrett of 1) species, 2) years in training and 3) age of each bonsai by the April 11th deadline.

If you plan to display a tree in the Annual Spring Exhibit, you must notify Ralph Schroeder by April 1st of the number of trees you will show (two bonsai per table.)

Please donate at least one bonsai to be sold in the plant sale for the benefit of the Fresno Bonsai Society.



Please Note

There will be no meeting of the FBS on April 11th. The meeting, if needed, will be conducted at the Spring Exhibit on April 18th.

Remember Please

Please inform Ralph Schroeder of how many trees you plan to display in the Spring Exhibit, please call him at 271 8299, if you have not done so.



Above: Ray Thieme demonstrated some bonsai skills and greeted the public at the Fresno Home & Garden Show in March.

Below: Genaro Cuan polishes a pot in preparation for the display, while Bob Wright and Ed Rendon prepare trees for the Home & Garden Show.



Bonsai Basics for April

The Bonsai Basics Study Group will meet Saturday, April 25th at Harold Mitchell's home at 9AM. The address is 1416 Roberts in Clovis. The topics will include air layering, watering, pesticides and diseases.

Appreciation Expressed

Harold Mitchell was the organizer of the FBS bonsai display and classes at the Fresno Home & Garden Show this year. This was the seventh year that Mitch has led this event, with help from Steve DaSilva and others. Mitch and the entire club would like to express thanks to Genaro Cuan, Dave Soho, Gene Nelson, Ray Thieme, and Ed Rendon for their hard work and time commitment for this event. The show was very successful this year. Ten people took the beginning bonsai class and many, many more viewed the trees. Many visitors inquired about bonsai and the club.

The event provided an opportunity to promote the new permanent bonsai collection at the Shinzen Garden.

Several visitors commented that they were unaware of the Shinzen Garden or even Woodward Park. This suggests that the FBS and the Shinzen have some large public knowledge barriers to overcome.



TED MATSON WORKSHOP COMING SUNDAY MAY 17 TO THE FBS

Shohin Workshop with Ted Matson At Round Valley Nursery

March 21st and 22nd marked a new milestone in Central Valley as Ed and Linda Clark hosted a weekend of Shohin Bonsai instruction with Ted Matson, at their Round Valley Nursery.

As expected the two classes on Saturday were fully subscribed, followed by a smaller group on Sunday morning.

Ted started each session with a brief discussion about styles of shohin bonsai and how to select appropriate species and raw material. Those participants who did not bring trees, and some who did, then entered the growing areas to “oooooh and aaaauh” over the great material Ed has to offer. Then the hands-on class began. Several participants commented on the great



quantity and quality of the pre-bonsai trees that Ed has developed.

Everyone complemented Linda on a wonderful lunch and her gracious hospitality.

There was talk of a follow-up workshop in the Fall this year. We are hoping that this becomes a regular biannual event to compliment the monthly Shohin Study Group that Steve DaSilva has organized.





FBS and Shinzen Represented at the Fifteenth Annual Chinese New Years Parade

Dwayne Berrett, Donald Hoisington, and Chuck Nelson represented the Fresno Bonsai Society and the Shinzen Gardens at the 15th Annual Chinese New Years Parade in Fresno's Chinatown, on March 17th.

The trio simply worked on bonsai and discussed the hobby, the bonsai society, and the new CBCS with the public. They distributed post cards and flyers for both.

They reported much interest from the community in bonsai and in the club.

and are summarized on the front page of this newsletter.

We welcomed new members, Ross and Patti Kelly, from Coarsegold.

Ralph Schroeder reminded the meeting of the upcoming Artisans Cup Bonsai Exhibit in Portland Oregon in September.

Below: Al Keppler polishes the trunk of a Juniper bonsai with

Above: traditional dragon dancers at the 15th Annual Fresno Chinese New Years Parade in China Town.

Left hand page, top the Shohin Workshop and below Ted Matson discussing Shohin fundamentals.

Bottom right: Al Keppler polishing juniper bark at the March FBS meeting, in preparation for showing the tree at some point.

March Meeting of the FBS

The March 14th meeting of the bonsai society was largely devoted to discussion of the upcoming Spring show, the new permanent bonsai collection at Shinzen, and the possibility of hold the 2017 GSBF Convention in Fresno. A straw vote on that decision was in favor of hosting the convention here. Details of the show were also settled,



The Artisan's Cup Bonsai Competition September 25-27

The Artisan's Cup is the first juried competition of bonsai in North America. It will be open to professionals and amateurs but only by invitation based upon photographic selection. This may well be the finest display of bonsai art ever in the United States. The exhibition will be displayed at the Portland Museum of Art in downtown Portland Oregon on September 25-27.

The judges will include some of the greatest names in contemporary bonsai: Boon Manakitivipar, Dave DeGroot, Colin Lewis, Walter Pall and Peter Warren.

Special hotel rates for attendees are being negotiated currently.

Several members of the Fresno Bonsai Society have expressed their plans to attend.

If you do plan to make the trip, please inform Mike Saul of your travel plans. We plan to reserve a guided bus tour for the FBS participants to visit the Portland Bonsai Village during the exhibition.

The Portland Bonsai Village is a Bonus Feature of the Artisan's Cup

The Portland Bonsai Village is a group of bonsai professionals who have gathered in a community, similar to the Omiya Bonsai Village near Tokyo, Japan. The Village includes internationally known bonsai talents including Ryan Neal, Randy Knight, Matt Reel, Austin Heitzman and Michael Hagedorn. There are also pot makers, stand makers, nurseries and yamadori tree collectors in the Village.

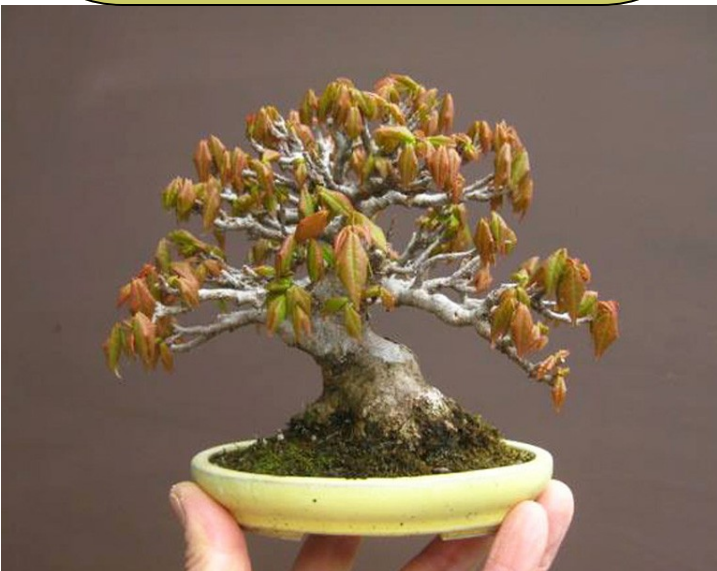
In the future, the plan is to develop an intensive training course in the bonsai gardens, a co-op to sell bonsai pots and stands produced in Portland, and a dormitory to provide long term housing for students and apprentices in the Village.

Guided bus tours will be available from downtown Portland, during the Artisan's Cup, to the Village.



A Word of Thanks to the Iseman Family

Thank you to Ruth Iseman Family for donating a beautiful huge Japanese Maple for the landscape at the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen. Our thanks for this generous gift. The CBCS also contains a bonsai donated by the Iseman Family in memory of Robert Iseman, our dear friend and member of the Fresno Bonsai Society.





Officers of the Fresno Bonsai Society

President Ralph Schroeder
ralsch@sbcglobal.net

President Elect Peter Schaffert
peteschaffert@gmail.com

Treasurer Bob Wright
wright8692@comcast.net

Secretary Art Zaragoza
artzara2@gmail.com

Webmaster Mike Reynolds
michaelreynolds465@att.net

Save the Date! Ted Matson Workshop with the Fresno Bonsai Society

Sunday May 17th 9 AM
Fresno City College Horticulture
Lab

Bring One or More Trees for
Help or Styling

Participants \$20

Observers Free

Details to Follow





Neer Hai Bonsai Nursery

3236 West Ashlan in Fresno

Stainless Steel and Black Metal Tools, Supplies, Pots and Trees





Bonsai Events in Coming Weeks

April 25 – 26, 2015 Sacramento, California

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai: Annual show will be held at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Hours are: Saturday Noon – 5 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM. Demonstration 2 PM both days

April 25 – 26, 2015 San Diego, California

San Diego Bonsai Club: 50th Anniversary exhibition and sale of bonsai at Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, with Balboa Park's 100th year events.

May 2, 2015 Camarillo, California

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society: Exhibition at Community Room, Camarillo Library, 4101 Las Posas Road from 10 AM – 5 PM. The exhibition will be supplemented by lectures and demonstrations by club members.

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, both days. Novice to master bonsai exhibits

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 on Saturday and 11 AM – 5 PM on Sunday

More Bonsai Events in the Coming Weeks

May 3, 2015 Watsonville, California

Watsonville Bonsai Club: 42nd Annual Bonsai Exhibit held at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge St. Over 50 outstanding bonsai, large and small, young and old, will be on display from 10 AM – 4

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 and Sunday 10 AM – 4



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE ANNUAL BONSAI EXHIBIT

- Set up time for tables will be 4 PM Friday, April 17th
- We have room for only 24 tables or 48 trees
- Therefore bring your best trees
- Set up time for the bonsai will be from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM on Saturday April 18th.
- Access to the Bonsai Display will be through the Service Gate on the East side of the park by the Maintenance Yard ONLY.
- Traffic through the Service Entrance will be heavy, so arrive at 9:30 AM (vendors will arrive at 10AM.)
- Bring Sale Plants on Friday, labeled with your initials, species and price.
- Security will be provided Friday and Saturday nights

HARRY HIRAO ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FROM GSBF

The purpose of the **Harry Hirao Annual Scholarship (HHAS)** is to provide a onetime grant of \$1,500.00 to a worthy bonsai enthusiast. This money must be used for educational purposes in the art of bonsai within one year of receiving the scholarship. The recipient cannot use these funds to acquire bonsai, pots, tools, books, or other physical items; it is to be used to further education in bonsai by studying with a recognized bonsai artist.

An application must be submitted no later than midnight on **July 15** to receive consideration. **The application is to be submitted to the Editor of the Golden Statements** designate **George Haas at 707-762-9154 or email gwhaas@comcast.net**.

The application must include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. Name, address, phone number, and e-mail address of the applicant.
2. Primary bonsai club and club membership history.
3. How many years of bonsai experience.
4. In 500 words or less, applicant will describe their bonsai educational goals and why they should receive the HHAS.
5. A brief description of how the funds will be used, and the person with whom the applicant will study.
6. If awarded the HHAS, applicant agrees that all funds awarded will be expended prior to the following annual convention.
7. Applicant will cooperate with and submit at least one article to the Golden Statements describing activities while using the HHAS funds, such as: demonstrations, workshops conducted or lectures given, and other actions with the bonsai teacher that increase skill and knowledge of bonsai. The deadline for submission of this article is July 20th following receipt of the scholarship.
8. Verification by the applicant's Club President of member in good standing with a GSBF Club.

SELECTION PROCESS HHAS Scholarship Committee will review all timely applications and verify eligibility. The selection committee will be made up of the GSBF President, Vice President, two board members appointed by the President, and the editor of Golden Statements. The selection committee's decision is final and the award shall be given at the annual GSBF convention. If no application is deemed worthy, the committee reserves the right to not award the scholarship for that year.