



Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter December 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.

From FBS President Pete Schaffert

Season's Greetings All,

I hope you are all enjoying the holidays and watching the seasons turn your deciduous trees into red, orange and yellow works of art.

I am cordially inviting all of you to the annual Fresno Bonsai Society Yard Sale and to our holiday party. I want to thank Ray Thieme for generously hosting the yard sale at his home at 736 West Browning in Fresno. Many people have contacted me about the yard sale, so I am optimistic that the yard sale will be bigger than last year.

For those bringing items to sell, please remember to bring tables if you have them. The sale begins at 8:00 until 3:00. Also, we will be having our yearly raffle at the yard sale this year at 12:00, so please bring donation items. I will ask any vendors that are not part of the club if they would like to support us by donating items for the raffle as well. We will be taking orders for rice bowls for lunch.

The holiday party is at Wasabi Off the Hook, right around the corner from Ray's home. We will begin festivities at 7:00. If you haven't already RSVP'd, please let me know ASAP so I can get a full head count.

Our next meeting will be on January 9 at 9:00 at the Shin Zen Gardens Gazebo. At the business meeting we will discuss the To-Do list for our show at the Home and Garden Show on March 4, 5, & 6. We will also have one of our more experienced members present on getting trees prepared for showing and display.

We also need to discuss if and who will be doing a soil run to Sacra-

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-mento this year. Some of our members have generously given their time each year to load up tons of akadama and lava each year, and its time to pass the torch to others for this necessary and important task.

See you soon,

Peter



The Shohin Study Group will not meet in December. The January meeting will be a full day meeting and potluck at Steve DaSilva's home. This will be a joint gathering with the Bonsai Basics and Intermediate Study Groups on Saturday, January 16th. Field grown trees will be discussed.

Please remember to complete the survey of the FBS members regarding the FBS Website. Mike Reynolds works very hard to make the website useful for all our members and attractive to visitors. Your guidance will help us make this a more functional tool for you. Email your response to tiny-treeme@sbcglobal.net or bring it to the Yard Sale!. Thanks!



Peter Schaffert Esq, FBS President

Winter Silhouette Display Planned

Do you have a deciduous bonsai with beautiful ramification that has been hidden from view all summer? Bob Hilvers, curator of the CBCS is asking you to loan it to the Shinzen for a Winter Silhouette Exhibit in January and February. Call Bob at 559 909-1051.

From Dwayne Berrett and the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen Garden:

Come to the Shinzen and the Collection to enjoy the stunning fall colors. The leaves will be dropping soon and our rotating bonsai exhibit will be changed on January 1.

If you will have a treasured bonsai from your collection in winter silhouette, please contact Bob Hilvers to explore including it in the CBCS winter display.

If you find a couple of hours to host at the Collection during the holidays even if it's last minute, please call or email

Dwayne Berrett at dberrett@me.com or 559 284-3549.



Above: Sid Mukai and Chris Saldana watch as Al Keppler sketches a plan for a bonsai

Right: Jack Green and Wayne Reddin listen to Dave Soho explain a juniper technique

Below: Dave Soho and Wayne Reddin evaluate some raw material for bonsai at the November FBS meeting

Photos and Text provided by Art Zaragoza



should bring their own tables. Set up for the sale will be on Friday evening. Several members and retail folks have committed to participate and the sale has been larger each year. Harold Mitchell announced that he has been caring for a demo tree that will go into the raffle this year.

The Annual FBS Christmas Party will be at Wassabi

Off the Hook in Fig Garden Village at 7PM that same December 5th evening.

Members were reminded of the Ted Matson Shohin Workshop at Round Valley Nursery on December 12th. There will be a morning and afternoon class with lunch provided. Each session will be \$5 for observers and \$50 for participants. Members were encouraged to sign up in advance with Ed and Linda Clark because the classes will fill up.

The Annual Ugly Tree Contest will be held at the January FBS meeting. Trees must be in a pot and not completely neglected for one year.

The FBS will provide a much larger display, classes and bonsai sale at the Home & Garden Show, May 4-6 this year. Planning for that event will begin in December.

November General Meeting of FBS

Lots of Planning and Lots of Teaching

The November meeting was held on a beautiful day in the Shinzen Garden. Pete Schaffert outlined the plans for the Annual Bonsai Yard Sale on December 5th at 8AM at 736 West Browning in Fresno (graciously hosted by Ray and Evelyn Thieme). Members were asked to bring a donation for the club raffle to be conducted at noon that day. Those who plan to sell at the yard sale

Bonsai Basics November Meeting at

Howard Latimer's Garden

The Basics Study Group met in Dr Howard Latimer's wonderful bonsai garden in November. New members who had not previously seen his beautiful old natural trees, many yamadori, were particularly awed. Dave Soho and Gene Nelson worked with novice members. They emphasized horticulture and skills needed to keep trees healthy in a pot. Harold Mitchell worked with intermediate students on bonsai skills. Harold has developed a brochure for students that contain the basic course content.

One student commented: "The bonsai were just beautiful and Mitch is a great teacher!"

Bonsai Basics in December

The Bonsai Basics Study group will meet at the Round Valley Nursery in Lindsey on December 12 and participate in Ted Matson's Shohin workshop.

The group will meet at Steve DaSilva's home in January for their annual Bonsai Rendezvous where they will learn about field grown trees. That will be January 16th in Fowler. It will be a potluck lunch.

The Intermediate Study Group will be meeting at the Latimers regularly in the future.

Below: Harold Mitchell demonstrates with a juniper, while Dave Soho explains a point to a new student. Photos provided by Ross Kelly.

From Dwayne Berrett and the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen Garden:

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Shohin Study Group November

The Shohin Study group listened to a discussion of air layer techniques with Chinese Elms to produce shohin bonsai, by Bob Hilvers, at their November meeting. The gathering was in the evening in the Reserve Area at the Clark Bonsai Collection in Shinzen Garden. The meetings begin at 5 PM and include a potluck and some adult beverages imported from Japan before the class.

Above: Bob Hilvers discusses air layer techniques with elms

Below: Ken To starts work on a shohin after Happy Hour?



Above: FBS members show community spirit at Pruning Day in Shinzen Garden



Remember to bring your raffle donations to the Annual Bonsai Yard Sale on December 5th.

And inform Peter Schaffert if you plan to attend the Annual Christmas Dinner at Wassabi Off the Hook at 7PM that evening.

**Ted Matson Shohin Workshop at
Round Valley Nursery— December 12,
2015 in Lindsey— 9AM and 1PM Classes**

Contact Ed Clark at 559 310-1513

December Bonsai Almanac

Flowers offered to the Buddha

Come floating

Down the winter river

Yosa Buson

The dormant season has arrived. Watering should be reduced because cool temperatures reduce evaporation and absent leaves no longer transpire, but even in dormancy, trees absorb some water and require moisture in the soil. Do not water if freezing temperatures are predicted for that night.

Bonsai should not be repotted during dormancy. Repotting is best done as buds swell in Spring. Hair roots, damaged by repotting do not re-grow during winter dormancy.

Now is the time to study groves for the spacing and relationships between trunks. Fine wiring for some styling can be done safely.

Lime sulfur (dormant spray) should be applied to jins and sharis. Winter sprays of Volk Oil or Neem oil should be applied to suppress scale or mite eggs. Systemic insecticides may be applied



at least once during the winter dormancy. Agents such as Seven or Merit should may be applied in dosages slightly less than the manufacturers recommendations. Some recommend spraying benches with fungicides and insecticides during the winter to kill lingering insects.

Conifers and other evergreens may be fed in our warm winter climate, but not deciduous species. Many authors advise organic fertilizers high in potassium and phosphate but low in nitrogen.

Moss should be removed from soil surfaces because moss will harbor insects and disease. Moss may cause excessive water retention in the soil.

Winter is the time to concentrate on cleaning up your display and work areas.

Gather up unused pots and wash them with hot soapy water, then rinse with dilute chlorine bleach solution.

Now is the time to clean lime deposits from pots with vinegar solution and a stiff brush. Those sandpaper erasers, used to clean sap from tools, work well to scrub lime from pots.

Winter is also the time to begin collecting and sifting soil components for repotting season.

February repotting will be here too soon.

From Bonsai Ideas, by Marty Mann and Bonsai Techniques I, by John Naka.



Harry Harrington

Ted Matson Shohin Workshop

Ed & Linda Clark at Round Valley Nursery will sponsor the Second Annual Shohin Workshop with Ted Matson on December 12th in Lindsay. Classes will be from 9 till Noon and 1 till 3PM and cost \$50 for each session. Observers will be \$5 and both include lunch. Round Hill offers an outstanding selection of raw material for shohin and larger bonsai. Seating is limited. Contact Ed at 559 310-1513

Upper left: Cris Saldana and Kyle Pounder struggle with a pine on the hillside

Below: Tired and happy, Cris Saldana, Kyle Pounder, Mr. Love with friend, and Donald Hoisington after the dig.



Yamadori Dig Near Prather

Last month Donald Hoisington arranged a digging trip for yamadori in the foothills near Prather. The trip proved very successful

Kyle Pounder dug a beautiful large oak. Others captured Manzanita, Oaks and Cedars. Cris Saldana dug a pine with an amazing bend out from beneath a much larger dead tree.

Mr. Love, the property owner, was very cordial to the FBS and invited everyone to come back just as soon as we would like. Donald is hoping to set up a date in December but will make sure there is no conflicts with other events.

Besides trees several ferns and accent plants were taken as well.

Now the focus will be on after-care of these native trees, before we see them in the annual FBS Show!

Reminders for December FBS

The 8th Annual Bonsai Yard Sale is December 5th and 736 West Browning at 8 AM.

The Annual FBS Christmas Party is December 5th at Wassabi Off the Hook at 6 PM.

Bonsai Basics will meet at the Ted Matson Shohin workshop December 12th

Images from the 2015 Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention
Large Vendor Area and Beautiful Exhibit this Year





Left page, upper left: Ed Clark and Gary Ishii share a laugh in the vendor area.

Left page, upper right: Round Valley Nursery sales table

Left page, bottom left: Harold Mitchell and friend

This page, upper right; Bob Hilvers' Pigmy Cyprus

The Fresno Bonsai Society website has been redesigned by web master Mike Reynolds. The site is now more beautiful and artistic than ever. New content and images are being added and updated regularly. Go to fresnobonsaisociety.com. Then like the FBS, the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen and the Shinzen Gardens on Face Book!

Fresno Bonsai Society

Schedule for 2015-2016 Season

September 12	First Meeting of the Year	Shinzen Garden 11AM
September 19	Bonsai Basics Group	1416 Roberts, Clovis 9AM
October 10	Monthly FBS Meeting	Shinzen Garden Azumaya 9AM
October 7-18	Big Fresno Fair Bonsai Exhibit	Entry Deadline Sept 12
October 17-18	Grand Opening Clark Exhibit	Shinzen Garden
October 24	Bonsai Basics Group	1416 Roberts, Clovis 9AM
Oct 28-Nov 1 st	GSBF Convention	Riverside Convention Center
November 14	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden (Pruning Day)
November 21	Bonsai Basics	4534 East Rialto, Fresno 9AM
December 5	Annual Bonsai Yard Sale	736 W. Browning, Fresno
December 5	FBS Christmas Dinner	Wasabi Off the Hook Restaurant
December 12	Bonsai Basics	Ted Matson Shohin at Round Valley Nursery
January 9	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden Azumaya 9AM
January 16	Bonsai Basics and Shohin Group	6470 East Manning Ave, Fowler
February 5-7	Shohin Convention	Santa Nella, California
February 13	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden 9 AM
March 4-6	Home & Garden Show	Fresno Fair Grounds
March 19-20 (?)	Blossom Festival	Shinzen Garden
April 9	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden
April 16-17	Shinzen Fundraiser	Shinzen Garden
May 14	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden
May 21	Bonsai Basics Group	4534 East Rialto, Fresno 9AM
June 11	FBS Year End Potluck	To Be Decided