

Fresno Bonsai Society

Newsletter

December 2021



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.

Officers of the FBS

President.....Chris Saldana
 Vice President.....Genaro Cuan
 SecretaryMarilyn Shelton
 Treasurer.....Bob Wright
 Board MemberTim Robinson
 John Wright
 Past President.....Mike Saul
 NewsletterCarol & John Wright



President’s Message

I would like to thank all those who helped in any way with the FBS Fall Sale in November. It was great to see so many members selling and buying. We also appreciate the vendors who came. This all contributes to what has become one of our best annual events. The silent auction was a success, raising money for the Clark Bonsai Collection and for some of our members. We are trying to highlight some of the upcoming bonsai events being scheduled around the state. Please see page 8 for information on the 2022 Shohin Seminar and the Pacific Bonsai Expo. It is great to see so many new members involved in bonsai basics this year. FBS is growing!

Chris

If you have any FBS related pictures, please send them to John Wright. We are always looking for interesting articles or pictures of member trees.

Upcoming Events

Dec. 11th FBS General Meeting, 9AM to Noon, at the Clovis Senior Center,
 Dec. 18th FBS Volunteer Day at the Clark Bonsai Collection, Shinzen Garden, 9AM to Noon



Special Recognition

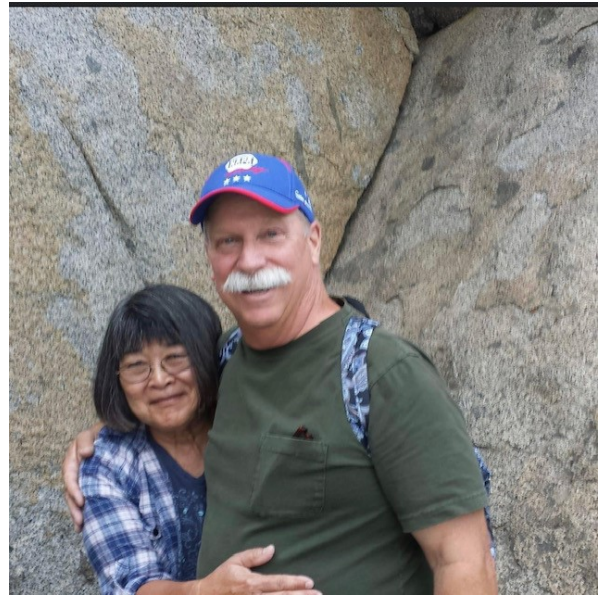
Mike and Lorene Reynolds live in Turlock. They retired there from Modesto a few years ago. Michael has been a quiet but essential supporter of the Fresno Bonsai Society for several years. He has been the web master for our club (and the Hanford club) for all those years.

They had been active members in the Modesto Bonsai Club for many years. Like many older couples, when they downsized their home in Modesto, and their back yard, they down-sized their bonsai collection. Almost all those trees were donated to the Fresno Bonsai Society. Lorene continues to maintain a few bonsai and her beloved succulent garden. Every now and then, Michael will arrive home with a small nursery tree that he saw as a bonsai that he couldn't resist!

Mike and Lorene devote much of their time now to work with their church's food bank for the needy in a near by rural community. Those of us who have grown to know with these folks truly appreciate their kindness. They are remarkably generous people.

Special Recognition

This being a time of the year for giving thanks, lets all take time to thank Don Stephens for providing the coffee and donuts at the Fall Sale. Don also provides the coffee and donuts at the FBS monthly meetings. It's his way of stepping up and supporting the FBS, but still something that needs to be acknowledged with our expression of thanks.



FBS Meeting Highlights

The November FBS meeting was held at the Clovis Senior Center. We had hoped to have a demonstration by Steve Iwaki, but an injury sidelined Steve. We will look to schedule him in the future.

FBS Board members Tim Robinson and John Wright stepped up to make presentations. Tim provided a great discussion of Black Pine bonsai, their growing, pruning and training in our area. Some notes from Tim are included below.

John Wright provided a brief discussion of fall Japanese Maple pruning to control growth next year. The technique involves cutting back to the pair of nodes just beyond where you want the growth to be next year. Then in the late spring, when the new growth hardens off, pruning back to where you want the growth to be. (continued next page)



President Chris Saldana



Tim Robinson



Tim Robinson's Notes on Japanese Black Pines

In a nut shell: if you don't have a healthy Japanese Black Pine (JBP) and don't know your root structure, then you are setting yourself up for potential failure on Japanese Black Pines.



Needle plucking is one of the problems we have here in our valley. If you eliminate the JBP's solar panels you restrict the ability of that tree to transpire. Here in the valley we have very low humidity. The low humidity does not allow the JBP to live its life to the fullest in our area because we live in a desert. Allowing more foliage will lessen the burden of the JBP's ability to grow strong and healthy and to develop a premier root system. When you set up and correctly grow a strong, healthy JBP you can then cut and develop the tree to a design you desire. Candle pruning timing is resetting the tree to develop energy in other parts of the tree. Do we candle prune the tree all at one time? We might, depending on the branch structure of that tree.



On the flip side, you can divert the flow to weaker branching and then on that same tree candle prune later. If your tree is not balanced, then divert the growth to a weaker branch to gather strength. The transpiration process in JBPs is the driving force to keep your tree healthy in our location. If you pluck, pluck, pluck, and you lose the ability for that tree to gather strength, due to our low humidity. Larger trees, and more developed

trees are less affected to needle plucking just simply due to the fact of the volume and mass of the tree and it's ability to transpire. Young trees crump faster than mature pines. The JBPs are not really designed to grow in such a temperate region but by tweaking what we know about their temperament we can have a nice JBP bonsai in this climate. I think we need a nuanced approach to the development and practice of cultivating JBPs in a arid environment.

My practice is different, making it not typical to what most professionals are teaching. The other important point is: if a pine or individual branch is weak, leaving it alone is the best strategy.

It was a Great Success!



FRESNO BONSAI SOCIETY
FALL SALE

November 20, 2021
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Clovis Botanical Garden
945 Clovis Avenue, Clovis



*Trees, pots, bonsai items,
Silent Auction.*
Vendors welcome

www.fresnobonsaisociety.com

Our annual fall sale was held on a cool cloudy day at the Clovis Botanical Garden. We had a steady stream of perhaps 300 visitors from about 9 in the morning until noon.

As in prior years, we conducted a Silent Auction, largely of dramatic large trees from the Clark Bonsai Collection and FBS members. The funds from the auction are an important source of revenue for the CBC. We had a half dozen vendors besides our members and the Clark Collection. We attracted a few buyers and sellers from northern and southern California and the Central Coast.

The sale offered a huge selection of new and used pots, books and a tremendous range of bonsai species and prices. This has brought a friendly and enthusiastic crowd every year since 2012, and one of our most popular club activities. The Clovis Botanical Garden has been a supporter in working with us to use this location. Many members are hard at work on trees they purchased, or thinking about what tree to put in that new pot come spring.







Bonsai Basics



Our next volunteer day at the Clark Bonsai Collection is December 18th

FBS members have a chance to support the GSBF bonsai collection at the Clark Garden on the third Saturday of the month. If you are interested in joining FBS members volunteering then, let us know, or just come to the garden at 9 AM to noon.

2022 Shohin Seminar

The 2022 Shohin Seminar will be held on February 4 –6 in Santa Nella. There is an entry fee which includes meals. There is also a single day option. This is a very worthwhile event. More details are available at:

<https://www.calshohin.org>

Pacific Bonsai Expo The Bridge Yard, Oakland November 12-13 2022

A juried exhibition featuring 70 outstanding bonsai displays and a selection of the community's top vendors. An event not to be missed .

Membership Dues

Membership dues for the Fresno Bonsai Society are \$40 per year for individuals or a family. Students are free. Make checks to the Fresno Bonsai Society and given to Bob Wright, our treasurer, along with a form filled out with your name, phone number and email (printed in large clear letters). Even if you have been a FBS member please complete a membership form. This will help ensure we have your current information. Bob will not be able to take money without the form. It gets hard to keep it all straight if you don't. Thank you