



Fresno Bonsai Society

Newsletter

February 2017

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.

Greetings,

Despite cold winds and incredible rain, we were busy in January. We had great participation in both our monthly meeting (in the warmth of the Woodward Park Library and at the Annual Bonsai Potluck out at the DaSilva Home in Fowler. In addition to the annual raffle, Dave Soho introduced the concept of an open discussion of member's bonsai. The members offered advice on both the health of the tree and styling ideas. This seemed to be enthusiastically accepted by the attendees and several suggested that we do this regularly.

Our thanks to Steve and Laura DaSilva for hosting the annual potluck. More than 30 FBS members attended. Dave Soho provided all the materials for a rock planting for the Bonsai Basics group and a maple forest planning for intermediates.

Images of both events are on Twitter and Face Book.

February will be another big month for the FBS. Bonsai master Sam Adina will provide a workshop on February 11th. Sam is a well known teacher throughout California who specializes in Olives. Members who bring a tree for Sam to help (olive or any other species) will pay \$20 for the four hour class. Observers are welcome at no charge. The class will start at 9 AM. Our February workshop with Sam will be at the Gazebo Gardens, 3204 N. Van Ness.

In early March, two big events are coming. Ryan Neal will be at the Clark Bonsai Collection on March 1st and 2nd. He will do a demonstration on one of the big California Junipers which were donated by Richard Ramirez recently. This will be open to FBS members.

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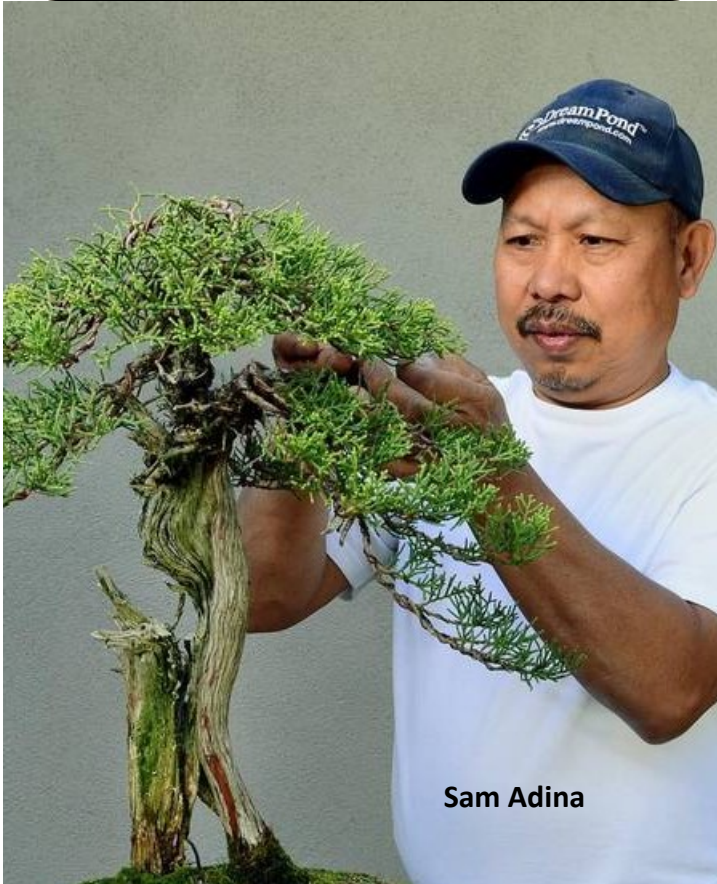
Immediately after (in fact, concurrently with) the Ryan Neal visit, we will set up the exhibit for the Fresno Home and Garden Show on March 2nd through 5th.

See you all at the Sam Adina Workshop!



Above: part of the 35 FBS membership in attendance at the January meeting.

Bottom: Peter Schaffert's son selling raffle tickets because he is much cuter and a better salesman than his dad...



Sam Adina

This is Sam's first visit to the FBS.

We have found a new venue for this workshop at the Gazebo Gardens Nursery on the corner of Shields and Van Ness, six blocks west of Blackstone. This is a large facility with heaters. It should be quieter and more comfortable.

Participants should bring an olive bonsai if they have one, but Sam will help you with any species if you do not. He is patient and very knowledgeable. Observers are welcome as well.

Sam Adina Workshop February 11th

At our February 11th meeting, Sam Adina, the sensei of the Modesto Bonsai Club, will join us for a workshop.

Sam is a well known teacher of bonsai. He has practiced the art for the past 17 years and was originally a student of Boon Manakitivipart, He has led several workshops at GSBF conventions and has taught a individual bonsai clubs throughout California and Arizona. He demonstrated at the 2016 GSBF Convention and taught a class about olive bonsai.



provided a sold out workshop on olive bonsai, his specialty.

The location of the workshop will be the Gazebo Garden, The class will be from 9 AM until 1 PM. The fee will be \$20 for members who bring a tree . Bring an olive if you have it and your tools.

FBS Calendar for February

February 11th FBS General Meeting and Sam Adina Workshop, 9 AM, 3204 N. Van Ness. Bring Olive or other bonsai and tools.

February 15th Shohin Study Group, 5:30 PM at Denny's on Herndon in Clovis. (SSG will meet on the third Wednesday of every month)

February 18th Bonsai Basics at Dave Soho's home, 3205 Carson in Clovis. The topic will be REPOTTING. Bring a tree, tools and supplies.



We still have FBS logo hats and polo shirts for sale and some pre-mix bonsai soil. See Dave Soho for information.

Please remember to LIKE the FBS and the Clark Bonsai Collection on Face Book. And FOLLOW the Clark Bonsai Collection on Instagram and Twitter for videos and updates on the collection. Please encourage your friends and associated to FOLLOW the CBCS on Twitter, FB, and Instagram also!



Ryan Neal at the Clark Collection

Ryan Neal is probably the best known and most sought after bonsai artist in America currently. He is coming to Fresno on March 1st and 2nd.

He began bonsai as a teenager. He graduated Cal Poly before devoting 6 years to an apprenticeship with Masahiko Kimura...the Magician of Bonsai in Japan. Neal has taught bonsai around the world, throughout Europe and across the United States.

He will spend two days in the Clark Bonsai Collection, working primarily on native junipers. Sadly, the second day of his visit will conflict with our set up for the Home & Garden Show. March 1st will offer a very rare opportunity to observe and perhaps work with one of the finest bonsai artists in the world. Plan to be there if you can.

FBS Exhibit at the Fresno Home & Garden Show

The FBS will have the first of two bonsai exhibitions this year at the Fresno Home & Garden Show on March 3rd through 6th at the Fresno Fair Grounds. We will provide a formal display and an education table with examples of trees in training and various bonsai styles. We will conduct demonstrations through out the show and conduct a plant sale for the benefit of the club. Because we have a workshop for our February meeting, planning and organization time for this event will be limited. There are numerous tasks that must be done to make our

Visit the FBS website for Bonsai Tips



Above: Olive Bonsai by Sam Adina from 2014 GSBF

event successful. Therefore, Dave Soho is asking members to consider where they can help and to contact him (sohofive@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

We need:

- 1) people to set up backdrops and tables on March 3rd and take down on March 6th evening
- 2) Everyone to donate at least one plant or bonsai for the sales table
- 3) Members to provide 1-2 hour demonstrations each day
- 4) Members to mingle with the visitors to answer questions
- 5) Members to water trees daily
- 6) Members to manage the sales table
- 7) Each member to display one or more bonsai
- 8) Members to bring spare tables, mats and accent plants to loan for display
- 9) Everyone to prepare their bonsai by cleaning and oiling pots, weeding and pruning
- 10) Members to take photos and video



Annual Bonsai Potluck

Steve and Laura DaSilva hosted the fifth annual bonsai potluck at their home in Fowler on January 21st and it was a rousing success. More than thirty FBS members arrived, despite a cool, wet morning, the sun shown the moment everyone arrived. Dave Soho organized a rock planting project for the Bonsai Basics group, utilizing tofa rock and miniature jasmine plants. The group managed to avoid any significant power tool injuries and the results of the plantings were beautiful. Thanks to Gene Nelson and Bob Wright. The intermediate members started forest plantings with Japanese maple starts. The results are pending. Steve gave a tour of his impressive bonsai collection and his growing field.

The day was completed with an outstanding lunch provided by both the hosts and the crowd. Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves.



Putting on a bonsai exhibit well is a large undertaking that requires help from everyone in the FBS.

This is a large part of our mission: to introduce bonsai to our community and display our art.





From the Shinzen Garden

Did you know??? Early February finds the Shinzen's 80-tree Ume garden in full spring bloom. Come see the riot of pink and white blossoms and stroll through the meandering paths over bridges and waterfalls to the tembo-dai viewing deck. Take a deep breath and express a welcome to yet another Spring.

Day of Remembrance for Japanese Internment

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 authorizing "exclusion areas" on the West Coast in preparation for the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans, most of whom were citizens.

At 10am, February 17th the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen will commemorative program in the bonsai garden. To follow,



Inspiration: Al Keppler obtained this shohin juniper from Steve DaSilva at the potluck. The original tree on the left and Al's first styling (wire and jins) on the right. Great artistry!

there will be a walk and talk tour of the Legacy Collection in the bonsai garden featuring trees created by Japanese Americans, some of whom were internees.

A hand-made cement bonsai pot, created during in an internment camp will be on display, and the Domoto Tree, which survived the internment of the Domoto family because of the care of their neighbors, will be displayed. The Domoto tree is shown below.



Bonsai Almanac for February

February is beginning of repotting season in our climate zone. Deciduous trees should be repotted first and conifers later, although junipers may be repotted now as well. Ume and Japanese maples are done first. There is a danger to deciduous species if repotted after the buds have opened. Too early is better than too late. (Trident maples, however, may be safely repotted as long as the new leaves are red.) Once trees are repotted, be careful to protect them from a sudden hard freeze. Trident maples will tolerate very aggressive root pruning.

Do NOT bare root conifers. Old garden soil from conifers should gradually be removed over 2-3 repottings. After repotting, trees should be left out in the sun (contrary to old advice) as heat from the sun will stimulate root growth and may produce shorter internodes.

All species should be sprayed with dormant spray, except spruce, azalea, and those just repotted.

If a deciduous bonsai, in shade, begins to bud, it should be placed out in direct sun. If left in shade, it will produce longer internodes. This is undesirable as the tree will lose its compactness.

It is too early to fertilize, but iron, and other soil additives may be added. Gypsum is suggested for Black Pines if the local water is alkaline. Fruit bearing species may be pruned after blossoms have dropped. Cuttings for propagation may be started in late February and grafting on deciduous species should start this month. This is the final month to graft pines and other conifers.

Kenji Miyata Final Visit

Kenji Miyata was a great asset to Central California Bonsai and the Clark Collection. He is a certified bonsai master. His extraordinary talents clearly improved the collection. Now he is moving to Georgia. He made his final tour recently and demonstrated a thread graft on the Domoto tree before offering his guidance on other bonsai.



Fresno Bonsai Society Calendar for 2016-2017

DATE	EVENT	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
September 10	First General Meeting	Book Sale and Bonsai Work	Shinzen Garden
September 17	Bonsai Basics	Introduction to Bonsai	Shinzen Garden
October 5-16	Big Fresno Fair	Bonsai and Suiseki Display	Fair Grounds
October 8	FBS General Meeting	Pot Selection- Bob Wright	TBA
October 15	Bonsai Basics		
October 26-30	GSBF Convention	Exhibits, Workshops, etc	Sacramento
November 12	FBS General Meeting	Tool Care and Sharpening	Shinzen
November 19	Bonsai Basics	Team Styling Competition	
December 3	Bonsai Yard Sale	Bonsai, etc for sale & raffle	736 W. Browning
January 14	FBS General Meeting	Club Raffle, Member Tree Critique,	Woodward Park Library
January 21	Bonsai Basics	Bonsai Open House and Rock Planting Workshop	Manning Avenue Fowler
February 11	FBS General Meeting	Sam Adena Workshop Olive Bonsai	Gazebo Gardens 3204 N. Van Ness
February 18	Bonsai Basics	Repotting	2152 Carson Ave Clovis
March 2-5	Fresno Home & Garden Show	Bonsai Exhibit, Demos, Bonsai Sales	Fair Grounds
March 18	Bonsai Basics	Team Styling Competition	
April 8	FBS General Meeting		
April 15	Bonsai Basics		
April 22-23	Koen-Nai & Blossom Festival	Bonsai Show, plant sales, Bonsai Auction, Demos	Shinzen Garden
May 06	FBS General Meeting	Workshop with JT Thompson Oak Bonsai	
May 20	Bonsai Basics		
June 10	FBS General Meeting		