



# Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter February 2016

## *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 Everyone!***

The next meeting of the FBS will be Saturday, February 13th, at 9 AM, in the Reserve Area of the Clark Bonsai Collection in Shinzen Garden.

During the business meeting we will have a sign up sheet for various responsibilities for both the Fresno Home & Garden Show (March 4-6) and the Shinzen Gardens Annual Spring Blossom Festival (March 19th). Dave Soho is the chairman for the Home & Garden Show activities. He has outlined plans for a large demonstration at noon each day and mini-demos through out the day at our display. In addition, the club will sell bonsai and plants at both events. Members of the FBS will all be asked to donate plants or small bonsai for the club sale at these events. These plant sales will be our major fundraiser the year. We will have a much larger bonsai display this year and there will be a need for volunteers to serve as docents for the exhibit. Jennifer Waite will be our liaison with the event. Two weeks later, we will exhibit trees again and conduct a plant sale at the Blossom Festival. This will be a one day event this year, unlike the past.

Please bring the bonsai you plan to exhibit in these two events, to the club meeting on February 13th for help with touch up and advice with display. We will try to pair trees with stands borrowed from other members if possible.

We will also discuss a possible field trip to one of the bonsai garden fundraisers in northern or southern California at the end of February.

As always, bring a tree to work on or for advice. See you there!

## January meeting of FBS

The FBS met at the Woodward Park Public Library last month (this was graciously arranged by Dwayne Berrett.)

The first agenda item was our Spring Show at the Fresno Home & Garden Show, March 4-6. Jennifer Waite will be our liaison with the show and Dave Soho will be the chairman for the event. Set up will start on Tuesday March 1st. We will have twenty five tables. Whether or not we will have a plant sale at this event is undecided. Jennifer suggested that low cost plants would likely be much more popular at the Home & Garden Show.

The FBS will provide our traditional bonsai exhibit just two weeks later at the Shinzen Spring Blossom Festival. This will be Saturday, March 19th from 10AM till 4 PM. Peter Schaffert will be the chairman for the Blossom Festival.

Bob Hilvers, curator for the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen discuss the Winter Silhouette Exhibition to open that weekend at Woodward Park. Several members of the FBS will loan deciduous bonsai for that exhibit. He also announced the orientation for volunteers at the CBCS that following weekend. (See the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen Face Book page.)

Mr. Hilvers also announced the fundraiser planned for the CBCS, April 16-17, at Woodward Park. This event is expected to energize interest in Bonsai in the community. It will include demonstrations by Kenji Miyata and David Nguy. The Toko-kazari Tokonoma Competition will be held that weekend.

Following this contest, Mike Saul provided a discussion and Power Point on "Preparing



*Above: Jennifer Waite discusses the Fresno Home & Garden Show.*

*Below: An excellent turnout at the January meeting*

*Opposite page: Ray Thieme and Bob Hilvers judge this year's Annual Ugly Tree Contest.*

*Opposite page, lower left: the triumphant winner!*



Your Bonsai for Exhibition."

He then provided a slide show from the Artisans Cup Bonsai Exhibit in Portland, Oregon from September of last year.

**Go to the FBS Website for  
FBS Event Information and New Bonsai  
Education**

**And remember to Like FBS and the Clark Bonsai  
Collection at Shinzen on Face Book**





### Bonsai Rendezvous 2016

The Bonsai Basics and Intermediate Study Groups and the Shohin Study Group met at Steve and Laura DaSilva's home for the Annual Bonsai Rendezvous last month.

Al Keppler and Harold Mitchell provided a lesson in rock planting or pinching style bonsai using tofa rock.

The Shohin group also worked on their individual trees and finalized plans for their display at the upcoming Shohin Seminar in Santa Nella on February 5-7.

Some participants dug and purchased field grown trees from Steve.

This was a potluck that was very well attended, despite cool weather.

*See photos on page 4.*







*Above: Al Keppler demonstrating at the Bonsai Rendezvous*

*Below: Gene Nelson helping Glen and Judy Shaw with tofa rock preparation*

*Bottom: Ken To working on a Shohin juniper*

*Photos provided by Al Keppler (unclear how he took the one above?)*



### Shohin Study Group this Month

The next meeting of the Shohin Study Group will be Tuesday, February 2nd, at the home of Pat and Linda Galle, 2576 Sequoia in Sanger. The meeting will start at 5PM. This will be a pot-luck dinner as usual. The group will finalize the plans for their display at the Shohin Seminar in Santa Nella the following weekend. Contact Pat Galle at 399-8371 or Steve DaSilva at [treekutter@hotmail.com](mailto:treekutter@hotmail.com) for more information.

**The Annual Shinzen Blossom Festival will be Saturday, March 19th, at Woodward Park. The FBS will exhibit our trees as always. Note that this will be a one day event this year. Details to follow.**

**Select your trees and begin preparation now!**

### Please Help

Once again, We are trying to keep an inventory of equipment and supplies which belong to the Fresno Bonsai Society. If you are storing any items which belong to the FBS, please email a description of what you are storing to Deanna Mogg at [deanna.mogg@gmail.com](mailto:deanna.mogg@gmail.com). In the future, if these items come into or out of your care, please inform her. Thanks!

## February Bonsai Basics Study Group

The Bonsai Basics and Intermediates will meet at the home of Prof. Howard and Mary Ann Latimer on Saturday, February 20th at 9 AM. The address is 4534 East Rialto Avenue, in Fresno.

The discussion will focus on soil mixes, soil additives, and repotting. Some bonsai will be repotted. In addition, students are encouraged to bring trees for discussion and guidance.

For additional information, contact Harold Mitchell at [mitchsgreenthumb@yahoo.com](mailto:mitchsgreenthumb@yahoo.com).

## Bonsai Almanac for February

February is beginning of repotting season in our climate zone. Deciduous trees should be repotted first and conifers later. 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 in winter months.

Trident maples will tolerate very aggressive root pruning. Do NOT bare root conifers. Old 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.

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

If a deciduous bonsai begins to sprout or blossom, 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. Iron-tone, 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.



THIS SPACE FOR RENT....





### The FBS Another Day

The Fresno Bonsai Society was formed in the late 1960s. We were visiting Nee Hai Bonsai Nursery last month and owner, Grey Anderson, brought out his personal scrapbook. He showed us some fascinating clippings from the early FBS newsletters and the Fresno Bee.

The image at the left of a rock planting was on the front page of the FBS newsletter (then called "Bonsai-tana" ) from September 1977. Grey was the newsletter editor and later president of the club. The newsletter was typed on a typewriter (not even electric) and reproduced on a mimeograph device (for those old enough to recall the method and the odor of ether.)

During that same period, in his early days as a bonsai nurseryman, Grey also hosted a local television show about bonsai! The photo below portraits his TV show, with it's rather austere back round. Stardom still eludes Pete Schaffert!



忠實

## Bonsai Events in California in February

### February 5-7 Santa Nella, California

The California Shohin Society organizes the Biannual Shohin Seminar in Santa Nella, California, where bonsai masters, teachers, students and general enthusiasts from all over the country gather to learn and share their love of Shohin bonsai. At the Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella Village. Everyone must purchase a one day registration (\$30) in order to access the exhibit or the vender area. Go to <http://www.calshohin.org/>

### February 27 – 28, 2016 San Marino, California

Bonsai-A-Thon XX at The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road; annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington. Admission to the event is free with Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registration between 8am – 9am. Event hours are 8am – 4:30pm both days. Pancake breakfast, a tour hosted by Jim Folsom (Director of the Garden), demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle and auction. Sunday only: a behind the scenes tour of The Huntington Bonsai Nursery with Ted Matson. For more information, contact Bill Wawrychuk at (818)790-9415 or [b\\_wawrychuk@yahoo.com](mailto:b_wawrychuk@yahoo.com).

### February 27 – 28, 2016 Oakland, California

GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: The annual Mammoth Fund Raiser will be held at 666 Bellevue Ave. (Garden Center Building). Saturday: Auction preview at noon with Auction starting at 1pm. Sunday: at 9am, Plant Sales start at 10am, and Demonstrations at 1pm. The Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt will celebrate the many bonsai clubs who have created and support the Garden by inviting Bonsai Clubs from all over Northern California to showcase their best bonsai display and promote their club activities. Attendees will be eligible to vote for their favorite display. Bonsai Garden will be open 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Noon to 4pm on Sunday. For more information or to sell trees, email [bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com](mailto:bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com) and visit [www.gsbflakemerritt.org](http://www.gsbflakemerritt.org).

### Officers of the Fresno Bonsai Society

President	Peter Schaffert	<a href="mailto:peteschaffert@gmail.com">peteschaffert@gmail.com</a>
Pres Elect	Dave Soho	<a href="mailto:soho5@yahoo.com">soho5@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Art Zaragoza	<a href="mailto:artzara2@gmail.com">artzara2@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Bob Wright	<a href="mailto:wright8692@comcast.net">wright8692@comcast.net</a>
Past Pres	Ralph Schroeder	<a href="mailto:ralsch@sbcglobal.net">ralsch@sbcglobal.net</a>
Bonsai Basics	Harold Mitchell	<a href="mailto:mitchsgreenthumb@yahoo.com">mitchsgreenthumb@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter	Mike Saul	<a href="mailto:tinytreeme@sbcglobal.net">tinytreeme@sbcglobal.net</a>

**The Fresno Bonsai Society website is now more beautiful than ever. New content and images are been added and updated. Go to [fresno-bonsaisociety.com](http://fresno-bonsaisociety.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 <sup>st</sup>	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	Woodward Park Public Library 9 AM
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	Blossom Festival	Shinzen Garden
April 10	Ted Matson Workshop	Shinzen Garden
April 16-17	Shinzen Fundraiser: Tōen-nai no Bonsai	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