



Fresno Bonsai Society

Newsletter

January 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 first meeting of 2015 will be Saturday, January 10th, a 9AM in the Fresno City College Horticulture Lab. During the business meeting we will discuss and vote on proposed changes to the bylaws. The proposed changes which were offered by Pete Schaffert to improve the clarity and equity of the bylaws were emailed to the membership in early January. The current bylaws are available on the FBS website. (A final decision by the FBS regarding hosting the 2017 GSBF Convention will be delayed until February or March.)

Following this serious work, we will have the Third Annual Ugly Tree Contest! Remember, to be considered in this offensive parade of freaks of nature, a tree must be in a bonsai pot. Ray Thieme, FBS Emeritus Member will judge the contest. All members are encouraged to participate.

Following the Ugly Tree Competition, we will hold the Annual FBS Bonsai Raffle. Please bring donation items for the raffle, including bonsai plant material that was too ugly to sell in the Yard Sale but not quite ugly enough to win the Ugly Tree Contest...or pots, books, magazines, or bonsai supplies. And bring your wallet too. Following the meeting we will working on trees.

The Seventh Annual Yard Sale a Big Success

The Seventh Annual Bonsai Yard Sale, on December 6th, once again attracted a large crowd from both ends of the state and the central coast. The weather was crisp, sunny and dry. The number of sellers grew to the point that space has become a premium.

This year saw some well known bonsai personalities from north and south in Scott Chad and Mel Ikeda. Ron Anderson was there from Santa Cruz. Kora Dalager and Bill Hashimoto were offering some beautiful old pots. There were buyers and sellers from the Hanford, Akatsuki and Fresno Bonsai Societies.

We saw more commercial sellers this year, offering accent plants, viewing stones, and both antique and new pots.

The spectrum of bonsai material from shohin to large California junipers, both finished and raw material was the largest we have enjoyed.

Several ideas were offered during the day.

It was suggested that every seller have their name clearly displayed on their sales table, so that if they wandered away and a customer was interested in an item, the seller could be easily found.

The start time of the sales remains an item of debate. Some would delay starting until later in the morning to allow those coming from a great distance an equal opportunity. Others would start the sales and set up time at 8 AM because many buyers arrive early. This issue needs to be discussed by Spring, as the advertising for this event starts in mid summer.



Above: Ed Clark and Mel Ikeda enjoy the camaraderie of the 7th Annual Bonsai Yard Sale.



Above and below: The yard sale has attracted more buyers and more sellers each year. Buyers from Sacramento, the Bay Area and the Los Angeles Basin arrived early this year.



January Bonsai Basic Group

The first meeting of the year for the Bonsai Basics Study Group will be Saturday, January 17, at Steve DaSilva's home. Steve lives at 6470 East Manning Avenue in Fowler. The class will start at 9 AM. If the fog is severe, they will delay until 10 AM. This will be an all day class.

The group will learn rock planting and a fused trunk style. The materials for the rock planting will cost \$30 and for the fused trunk bonsai, \$20.

Lunch will be available for \$5.

Contact Harold at 281-6130 or Steve DaSilva at 834-5464 for more information.



Below: Old friends paused for a picture at the 2014 Yard Sale from three different Bonsai Societies: Counter clockwise, from the bottom left, Nadine Kelly from the Hanford Bonsai Society, Chuck Nelson from the Fresno and Akatsuki clubs, and Toshio Fujimoto and Mike Nishitani from the Akatsuki club.



The Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen

The design plan for the CBCS has been completed and approved by the City of Fresno and the Parks Department. The site at the Shinzen Garden has been cleared and leveled. Bids for security, irrigation, fencing and construction are all in process. We are on our way! The more tasks that we can accomplish with volunteer labor, the more resources will preserve for the collection.

The CBCS is committed to clearing the site at the Clark Center completely by February 7th.

The first work party will begin at 9:30AM on December 16-17-18th at the Clark Center. Again, the start day is Tuesday December 16th. Volunteers will begin freeing rocks, landscape trees, and taking down fencing. Car pools are needed. Driver will be reimbursed \$20 per day.

Hand tools as picks, shovels, pry bars, wheel barrows, hammers, crow bars, drill drivers (with star and Phillip's bits) and Sawsals, will be needed.

Lunch will be available on site but volunteers may bring their own.

Some fencing will be taken down and boulders and cobbles prepared for transport on the 16th. December 17th is the day that the most help is needed as heavy equipment will be on site to move boulders and transport them to the Shinzen. The remaining tasks will be completed on the 18th.

On the afternoon of the 17th, the Shinzen Garden Committee will host a coffee as the work crews return to the Garden. Volunteers can walk the site and get an update on the project at that time.

Ted Matson Shohin Workshop at Round Valley Nursery in Lindsay

This is a very unique opportunity! Ed Clark has arranged for FOUR half day workshops with Ted Matson devoted to Shohin Bonsai, on March 21 and 22nd at the Round Valley Nursery in Lindsay. The workshops are limited to 12 students. The fee is \$45 per session. The sessions are 9 to noon and 1- 4 PM both days. The silent observer fee is on \$5. All participants receive lunch. Registration is first come, first served. The deadline to RSVP is January 31st, 2015.

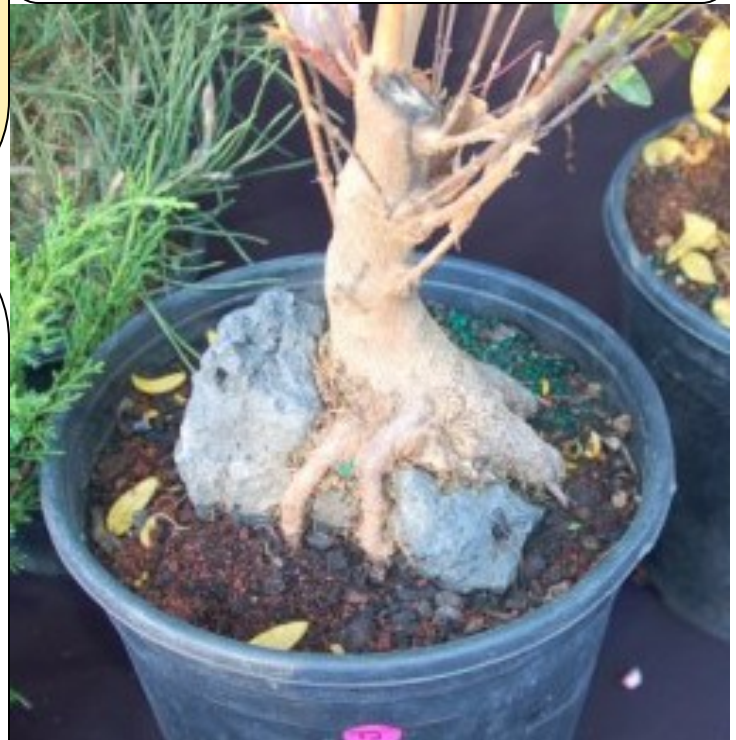
Ed has some wonderful shohin pre-bonsai material for sale for \$30-\$75 at the nursery (and larger material for \$100-\$200.) Examples of his trident maple and black pine material are pictured here from the yard sale.

For more information or to secure your reservations, contact Ed or Linda Clark at 559 310-1513 or 559 359-6559. Or at lecclark48@gmail.com.



Above: Shohin black pine, developed over 5 years by Ed Clark at Round Valley Nursery

Below: One of several root-over-rock tridents from Ed.



February 21 – 22, 2015 Oakland, CA 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 1 PM. Sunday: Vendor Sales start at 9 AM, Plant Sales start at 10 AM, and Demonstrations at 1 PM. Also on Sunday help us celebrate our 15th Anniversary! The Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt will celebrate the many bonsai clubs who have created and supported the Garden by inviting Bonsai Clubs from all over Northern California to showcase their best trees

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CBCS Plans, continued from page 3

At the time of this writing, there is rain forecast for those three days. The decision is to proceed with the work plan as much as possible because of our time constraints.

For more information, contact Bob Hilvers at 559 909-1051.

Volunteers are encouraged to contact one another and organize car pools.

The Shinzen Gardens and the CBCS Committee wish to again express their thanks to everyone who is donating their time and labor to this project.



The Shohin Study Group January

The Shohin Study Group has been cancelled for December in order for members to participate in the CBCS deconstruction December 16-18.

The group will meet in January on the regular evening at Al Keppler's home in January at 1595 West Indianapolis in Fresno. Contact Al at 559 227-5689 or Steve DaSilva at 559 834-5464 for the specific date and time.

Remember

**To Bring Your Donation To The
Annual Bonsai Raffle at the
And Your Most Hopeless Bonsai
To the Annual Ugly Tree Contest
January 10th at the FBS**



Are You Looking for a Larger Pot at a Good Price?

Joe Diebold and Company brought a large number of larger Chinese bonsai pots to the yard sale this year and many of us took advantage of his selection and prices. Mr. Diebold has a broad range of sizes and styles at excellent prices. If several members were to purchase pots for the coming repotting season, he would be willing to transport them to Fresno. Many of these pots can be seen on the internet at websites like Royola Pacific. If you are interested, he can be contacted at lackfoot95616@yahoo.com.



Need an accent pot or that smaller pot? Talk to Donald Hoisington at Bullseye Bonsai.



559 892-5449

**As Repotting Season Approaches,
Remember Nee Hai Bonsai**

Thank You
The Fresno Bonsai Society wishes to express thanks to Ray and Evelyn Thieme for hosting the Seventh Annual Bonsai Yard Sale.
We also want to express our thanks to Ralph and Deidra Schroeder and Gene and Dania Nelson for their gracious hospitality in hosting the Annual FBS Christmas Party.



Remember to Like FBS on Face Book and visit our webpage at [Fresnobonsaisociety .com](http://Fresnobonsaisociety.com)

