



# Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter

June 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.*

**The Next Meeting of the FBS is  
Saturday, June 11th at 9AM.**

## FBS Meeting in May

The general meeting of the FBS was held at the Reserve Area of the Clark Bonsai Collection and was presided over by Dave Soho. He reviewed the three major events that we had participated in this Spring, including the Fresno Home & Garden Show, the Shinzen Garden Blossom Festival and the Koen-Nai No Bonsai fundraiser for the Clark Collection. Bob Wright reported the revenues from each event and noted that our club finances are well in the black currently.

Bob Hilvers noted that the Koen-Nai earned well more than expected at near \$9000. Bob noted that the Clark Collection Committee will have to decide what activities will be most productive with our resources for next year. He made a point that the collection will have to engage the eight other bonsai clubs in Area C of the GSBF, if they are to grow that event and the collection.

Another major question, which was not settled at this meeting, was how many and which activities the FBS will participate in next Spring. The Home & Garden exhibit was deemed very successful and the organizers would like us to return. The consensus of the FBS at this meeting was that the club should only do two of the three events. (Perhaps as a result of too many shows, it was noted that the bonsai from FBS in the Blossom Festival were poorly displayed and prepared. It was proposed that there be a small committee to select and arrange trees for future shows. And that more continuous effort be made at teaching bonsai display.)

Following this discussion, there was a presentation on basic bonsai information for docents and a walking tour of the current exhibit.

## Bonsai Basics in June

The final meeting of this year for the Bonsai Basics Study Group will be June 9 am at 1416 Roberts Avenue in Clovis Ca.

(Participants: don't forget to park on Sunnyside, not in front of homes on Roberts, please.) The class will be focused on decandling and pine management. Those members who participated in the pine workshop at Ed Clark's Round Valley Nursery should bring those pine so we can discuss your plans. Please don't candle prune prior to the class. Mitch wants to see the pines from the first workshop also. He has black pines for those who don't have any pines.



## April Bonsai Basics

Bonsai Basics in April saw enthusiastic 15 students including 3 new folks. The class focused on leaf pruning and air layering. It was very well received. Harold Mitchell noted that last years students brought all the supplies needed to do their own air layers. They explained what they were going to do and how to new members. The Bonsai Basics class is achieving Harold's goal of developing both practioners of bonsai and teachers. He notes that teaching is the best way to learn. The Bonsai Basics Study Group has virtually tripled in size in the past year and added many new active members to the Fresno Bonsai Society.



*Below and Upper right: Attentive students and a large assortment of bonsai at the April Bonsai Study Group. The Group met at the Latimer garden.*

*Opposite page: The May meeting of the FBS at the Shinzen Garden.*



## Black Pine Decandling

**Steve Da Silva will be teaching and working with Black Pines at the Shinzen Garden on Friday, June 3rd at 10AM . Steve is a certified Aesthetic Pruner and very knowledgeable in Black Pine management and care. If you would like to learn and help, bring hand pruners, hat and gloves.**

## Volunteers Needed to Docent at the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen

Many members of the FBS have volunteered as docents and frequently attended in the bonsai exhibit. As the vacation season starts, more volunteers are need to help. The bonsai exhibit cannot be open to the public without a docent present to both answer questions and supervise.

The bonsai exhibit has established a new policy because of the intense summer heat. The exhibit area will be closed if the forcast temperature is 100F or higher. In June, for example, the bonsai will be closed on Fridays and open only from 10AM until 2PM on Saturday and Sunday. This will avoid the hottest part of the day in the late afternoon.

This does not require a sophisticated knowledge of bonsai and a class is available for training.

If you would like participate in this enjoyable service, or simply want more information, please contact Linda Jacobsen at

[ljjacobsen@gmail.com](mailto:ljjacobsen@gmail.com).





### April Ted Matson Workshop

On April 10th we enjoyed another outstanding lesson from Bonsai Master Ted Matson. Ted walked from student to student and discussed both the seasonal needs of the tree and styling suggestions. Ted has the unique skill to address the needs of both beginners and experienced bonsai practioners alike. His broad knowledge of both horticulture and bonsai, and his speaking skills, make him an outstanding instructor. Ted has been helping the Fresno Bonsai Society for more than 14 years.





## The Kinoshita Family and David Nguy Make Outstanding Donations to the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen

From Linda Jacobsen

The GSBF Clark Bonsai Collection has been honored once again by donations from Mr. and Mrs. Katsumi Kinoshita. Two of his previously donated trees have been in the legacy collection for some time and are currently on display in the Yamadori Exhibition: the "Del Monte Ogre," a 100+ year old Coast Live Oak, and a Wind Influenced Monterey Cypress.

While attending the Kōen-nai no Bonsai/Bonsai in the Park fundraiser last month, Katsumi made another donation of a beautiful Blue Atlas Cedar, currently on display in the tokonoma, attracting the admiration of visitors who ask, "Is it real?" because of its amazing color and beauty of form. See photo below .

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## Bonsai Almanac for June

By now all healthy bonsai should be in full foliage and new growth hardened off.

We are entering the hot season. Remember to rotate your bonsai in relationship to the sun so that growth is balanced throughout the summer. We will get little rain. John Naka recommended soaking the foliage, soil, ground and even overhead shade to increase the local humidity. If the soil is draining well, you cannot "over-water".

June is the correct month to defoliate. The purpose of defoliation is to reduce leaf size, slow growth (to reduce internode length) and allows light into interior branches. Defoliation makes wiring easier. (Defoliating does NOT produce back budding . Some species, such as hornbeams, Japanese maples, and beeches do not tolerate defoliation as well. )

Cutting or pruning can be done now, both to maintain shape and encourage back budding in some species. This is an awkward time to wire new growth if the foliage is soft and green.

Some species, such as Trident maples may still be thread grafted this time of year if the green shoots are partially defoliated for use as the graft.

Rapid growing species should be fertilized now and Marty Mann says that foliar feeding with Miracle Grow is "excellent"

Insecticide spraying should begin now to prevent scale and spider mite damage. This should be continued every 2 weeks during the cool morning hours only, throughout the summer.

## Bonsai Events in California Coming Soon

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### June 12, 2016, Seaside, California

Monterey Bonsai Club: 53rd Annual Exhibition at the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, 1150 Noche Buena Street. Show hours are from 11 AM – 4 PM with a demonstration at 1:30 PM by Katsumi Kinoshita. There will be a benefit drawing for bonsai trees. Silent auction area will include bonsai trees, pots and pre-bonsai material. For more information contact Rich Guillen at [richguillen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richguillen@sbcglobal.net) or Dianne Woods at [vinca27@comcast.net](mailto:vinca27@comcast.net).

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### August 20 – 21, 2016 Santa Rosa, California

Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS): 33rd Annual show at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue. Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday with demonstration by Bonsai Master Artist Kathy Shaner from 1 to 3 PM both days. Demo trees will be raffled. See the largest bonsai exhibition. Large bonsai vendor and member sales. Exciting silent auctions or “buy it now”. Free refreshments by the Bonsai café. Free admission and parking. For more information visit our website [www.rebsbonsai.org](http://www.rebsbonsai.org) or contact Bob Shimon at (707) 884-4126 or [shimon@mcn.org](mailto:shimon@mcn.org).

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### August 20 – 21, 2016 Los Angeles, California

**Nan Pu Kai:** 27th Annual Show during Nisei Week at Japanese American Community Cultural Center, 224 S. San Pedro Street (Little Tokyo). Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM both days. The Nisei Week festival celebrates many Japanese Cultural Arts, including ceramics, dolls, Taiko, clothing, painting, calligraphy, Samurai arts, and Ikebana in addition to Bonsai. John Naka's club will host several special guest exhibitors from the Bay Area, Capitol Area and Central Coast of California at this year's show in addition to club members. Additional information about Nisei Week can be found at: [www.niseiweek.org](http://www.niseiweek.org)



### From Donald Hoisington at Bullseye Bonsai

Hello everyone.

Due to ever increasing effort towards vending and an upturn in sales, the Nursery is low on trees. Because of this I am extending an invitation to all the members of the Fresno Bonsai society who may have trees that they wish to sell. My benches are quickly becoming bare and because of this I am extending an invitation to you all. As many of you know I vend up and down the state as well as do a lot of online sales. So there is a lot of exposure for any and all trees that are at the nursery.

I am not looking to outright buy trees; instead I am hoping to allot space for commissions or consignment. Healthy and sellable only, no stick trees or ones that you're hoping to just get rid of. My nursery works largely with beginners and intermediate artists so those are the kind of trees I look for. However, I do have a growing number of collectors so some nicer stuff is welcome. Especially for our trips up north. I am willing to accept pre and finished Bonsai. I cannot guarantee when or how quickly trees sell. If you are interested please let me know. Everything thing is open to negotiation and debate.

If you are interested please contact me at 559 892 5449 or

[bullseyebonsai@gmail.com](mailto:bullseyebonsai@gmail.com)



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### **Kinoshita Family and Nguy Donations**

Atsuko Kinoshita made another significant donation to the Collection: a concrete bonsai pot made in one of the Japanese Internment camps during WWII. This is a very special historical and cultural artifact for which the Clark Bonsai Collection is honored to be the conservator.

Below: "The Del Mote Ogre" donated by Kats Kinoshita

Upper right: the graceful California Juniper donated by David Nguy to the CBCS



David has also been very generous with his time and skills, most recently assisting in the preparation of some of the auction bonsai for the Kōen-nai no Bonsai/Bonsai in the Park April fundraiser for the CBCS and in donating and performing a demonstration styling of a California Juniper, which was subsequently auctioned for the benefit of the CBCS.

The CBCS was also honored to receive the donation of a spectacular, ancient California Juniper from Bonsai Master David Nguy. This bonsai, estimated to be approximately 1000 years old, is now the oldest in the collection. The tree is earning the awed admiration of the many visitors to the current exhibition: Yamadori: Art as Tradi-

**Visit the FBS Webpage for all the news letters, the calendar, informative articles, and images of the many club activities.**

**Then Like us on Face Book together with the Clark Bonsai Collect Shinzen and the Shinzen Gardens.**



## The FBS Plans to Make a Showing at the 2016 Big Fresno Fair

The Big Fresno Fair is October 5-16 this year, but the deadline to sign up to enter is September 10th for paper entries and September 12 for online entries. The FBS has previously won many of the awards in the bonsai exhibition at this event. The grand prize has often gone to an FBS member for the last few years. Last year much of our membership was simply too occupied with the grand opening of the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen to participate. Like the Home & Garden Show, this event provides exposure to bonsai to a large audience. This is part of our mission. This year, with strong support from Jennifer Waite and Dave Soho, we plan to have every member, from novice to senior, display a tree.



The venue is secure and the bonsai are watched carefully. They are beyond reach from the public. Consistent watering will be provided. We may provide some demos and signs to promote the club.

Bonsai are displayed without tables or accent plants.

Prizes are awarded for various sizes and styles of bonsai, including separate categories for first-time participants.

It costs only one dollar to enter each tree. There are small cash prizes in each category.

This is an excellent opportunity to practice bonsai display skills like pot preparation, pruning, and weeding.

Every member of the FBS is urged to select one or more of their bonsai in early September and enter those trees, online, at <http://www.fresnofair.com/floriculture>. The rules and categories are explained on the website.