



# Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter

March 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,

Finally, the rush of bonsai activity is roaring in like a Spring storm. In the midst of repotting season, we have our first bonsai exhibit with displays, demonstrations and plant sales! And for those involved with the Clark Collection there has been a flurry of Spring tours, during the exhibit change in the midst of repotting some huge and precious trees!

The good news is there will not be a general meeting of the Fresno Bonsai Society in March. The Fresno Home & Garden Show on March 3-4-5 (this weekend) will substitute for our monthly meeting.

There will still be lots of work to do. Set up for our bonsai exhibit will begin at 3:00 PM, on Thursday, March 2nd. As always, we need all the help we can get. Every member of the club should display at least one bonsai. If you have not provided Dwayne Berrett of the information about your bonsai, bring the tree on Thursday afternoon and we will get a label made for it. Bring a donation plant for sale.

We will need members at the show each day to welcome visitors and answer questions as well as water trees and help at the sales table. We still need one demonstrator for Saturday. And we will need everyone to help with take down on Sunday evening at 6PM!

On Thursday at 3PM, you may park behind the Horticulture building at the Fair Grounds, off of Butler Avenue. This is our only indoor bonsai exhibit each year. This is a great opportunity to show our art to the community.



### February FBS Workshop with Sam Adina

At our February meeting the FBS invited Sam Adina to provide us a workshop with an emphasis on olive bonsai. Sam is well known as an “olive specialist expert” but he informed us that he also like to work with California Juniper and Black Pine. Alas, we brought him a lot of olives to evaluate. His teaching style is to describe his ideas as he evaluates a piece of material and then to do some preliminary work before returning the tree to the owner to complete. Despite the cold wet day, the club enjoyed the pleasant style and good humor of his easygoing style. This meeting was held at the Gazebo Gardens Nursery and the facility was very good, aside from the same freight trains we enjoyed at Fresno City College!



Remember that all the newsletters and the updated event schedule of the FBS, along with numerous practical articles on bonsai topics are available on the FBS Website.

### Shohin Study Group this Month

The Shohin Study Group will meet at Pat and Linda Galle’s home on March 15th at 5:30 PM this month. The address is 1631 North Magnolia Avenue in Clovis (off Temperance between Nees and Shepard.) The topic will be accent plants or kusa-mono. This is a potluck.

### Mitch Did a Workshop at Round Valley

Harold "Mitch" Mitchell taught a workshop at Ed Clarks Nursery on a Saturday day in February. The sun was out and it was a beautiful day. Mitch explained how to create a fused trunk using Japanese maple seedlings. Students Drilled holes in a plastic disk and threaded the seedling through the hole. The trees were then replanted and In a few years they will fuse to create a multi-trunk style



*Above and left: Harold Mitchell's workshop*

*Below and bottom left: Bonsai Basics Class on re-potting*



### Bonsai Basics in February

The Bónsa Basics group met at Dave Soho's home in February and the topic was repotting. The group received a handout in advance about this important topic. Dave provided a brief discussion. Students then started to work. There were plenty of helpers to provide one-on-one guidance.





### Shohin Study Group Met in February

The Shohin Study Group met at Denny's Restaurant in Clovis in February. The group is growing and well attended. Steve Da Silva discussed presentation of shohin bonsai. Al Keppler brought several of his trees to discuss their development.

*Images above and below were provided by Cris*

*Saldana.*



**The Bonsai Basics Group will meet Sat, March 18th at the Reserve Area of the Clark Bonsai Collection at 9AM. The topic will again be REPOTTING. Bring trees, tools, soil, pots, and enthusiasm as usual!**



### FBS Went to School in Porterville

Gene Nelson and Mike Saul went to the Vine Street Community School in Porterville this month at the invitation of the school principal to offer an introduction to bonsai to the high school students. The students were shown a brief slide show to explain a little of the art and science of bonsai. Then they had an opportunity for some hands-on cutting and wiring on a juniper. The students quickly saw the foliage pads appear and the bonsai begin to take shape. Several of the students were obviously enthused about this.

The principal hopes to bring some of the interested students to the Koen-Nai in April.

*Images provided by Gene Nelson (who thus avoided being in them!)*



## 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	Shinzen Garden
October 15	Bonsai Basics	Wiring, styling and growth	Kareen Baker's
October 26-30	GSBF Convention	Exhibits, Workshops, etc	Sacramento
November 12	FBS General Meeting	Tool Care- John Wright	Shinzen Garden
November 19	Bonsai Basics	First Annual Bonsai Development Team Challenge	2152 Carson Ave Clovis
December 3	Bonsai Yard Sale	Bonsai, pots, books etc for sale	736 West Browning Ave
December	FBS Christmas Party		TBA
December 11	Bonsai Basics	Students encouraged to attend David Nguy Workshop	Round Valley Nursery
January 14	FBS General Meeting	Annual Bonsai Raffle, Bonsai Critique, and "Preparing Your Bonsai for Show"	Woodward Park Library
January 21	Bonsai Basics	Bonsai Potluck, Pre-Bonsai in the Ground Sales, and Rock Planting Project	6470 Manning Ave, Fowler
February 11	FBS General Meeting	Workshop with Sam Adina Olive Bonsai	Woodward Park Library
February 18	Bonsai Basics	Bonsai Development Team Challenge Repotting	TBA
March 2-5	Fresno Home & Garden Show	Bonsai Exhibit, Demos, Bonsai Sales	Fair Grounds
March 18	Bonsai Basics	Bonsai Development Team Challenge	TBA
April 8	FBS General Meeting	TBA	Shinzen Garden
April 15	Bonsai Basics	Bonsai Development Team Challenge	TBA
April 22-23	Koen-Nai & Blossom Festival	Bonsai Show, plant sales, Bonsai Auction, Demos, Toko Kazari	Shinzen Garden
May 06 8AM	General Meeting & Workshop	Oak Bonsai- JT Thompson	Shinzen Garden
May 20	Bonsai Basics	Bonsai Development Team Challenge	TBA
June 10	FBS General	TBA	Shinzen Garden

*Special thanks this month to Al Keppler and Chris Saldana for great photographs!*