



Fresno Bonsai Society

Newsletter

March 2019

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 Everybody!

February was kind to us. We had dry days when we needed them and wonderful rain when we were idle. Little frost and freezing.

We had full attendance at our February meeting and a lot of fun re-potting. If our numbers continue to grow, we may need to look for a new venue!

At the time of this writing, we are preparing for the Fresno Home & Garden Show. We will meet in the Horticulture Building, at the Butler Street gate to the fairgrounds at 1 PM on Thursday, February 28th, to set up our bonsai exhibit and the plant sales. Everyone is asked to display at least one bonsai or tree in development. Bring your trees on that afternoon or evening. We will need volunteers to set up tables, arrange display, and put prices on sales items. We will need members to greet the public, water trees, and help with the sales table on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Finally, we will need lots of help to take down the exhibit on Sunday at 4 PM.

One of the principle reasons that we participate in the Home & Garden Show is simply to make the community aware of our club.

This has been a very busy month with two yamadori digs and our regular meetings and classes. We have enjoyed a lot of new members with bonsai experience and enthusiasm. Next month we will start with the Home & Garden Show and follow that up with our monthly meeting and Bonsai Basics. In April we will likely help the Clark Bonsai Collection in the Toko Kazari fundraiser and then the Asia Fest at Fresno City College at the end of the month.



February General Meeting of the FBS

We had a mercifully brief business meeting last month in which Dave Soho identified volunteers for the tasks at the Home & Garden Show. He also reminded members of the availability of some soil components for sale and thanked the Stephens family for providing our coffee and donuts. The group then broke up into various tasks and discussions. The Bonsai Basics group discussed the whys and hows of repotting. (The handout on this topic is available on the FBS website, together with earlier Bonsai Basics materials.) It was a chilling morning but no one seemed to mind. The next meeting will be March 9th at the Clark Bonsai Collection.



Our thanks to Jay Louie who provided us with fifty buckets for our soil trip and many other uses this year! Thank You Jay!

Boxwood Yamadori Dig at Fig Garden Golf Club

Thanks to Sean Miller, the FBS was allowed to salvage some beautiful old boxwood hedge trees following the recent closure of the Fig Garden Golf Club in north Fresno. Despite the cold rain, ten members were out on that Saturday morning in February, knees in the mud, freeing up these trees. The golf club had been in existence for more than 60 years, although the age of these hedges, bordering the tees, was not known. This was an excellent opportunity for our new members to acquire large trees with excellent root structure and old bark. We will see these bonsai for years to come.





Will Baddeley to Teach Carving at Round Valley Nursery

Will Baddeley is a bonsai professional from Suffolk, England. He owns and operates the Wildwood Bonsai Nursery. His passion is for native European species. His specialty is carving to create fascinating interest and age to bonsai. He is a master of both hand and power tools. His artistic style could be described as "rugged" and "organic." Take a look at the Wildwood Bonsai website for some stunning examples!

Mr. Baddeley is currently on a teaching tour here on the West Coast. He will be at the Clark Bonsai Collection to work on collection trees on Monday, March 11th. The following day he will provide a workshop for the Curatorial Staff at the garden. Others may attend for a fee.

Mr. Baddeley will offer a "bring your own tree and carving devices" class at the Round Valley Bonsai Nursery on Wednesday March 13th. The fee for that all-day workshop will depend upon the number of participants. The workshop will require a \$50 deposit as seating is limited.

Contact Ed Clark at 559-310-1513 to make your Reservation.

VERY SINCERE THANK YOU TO KIM BLACK, SENG TRAN, AND CRIS SALDANA FOR CONTRIBUTING GREAT PHOTOS TO THIS NEWSLETTER AND OUR FACE BOOK PAGE!

March 23 and 24...The BABA Show

Bay Area Bonsai Associates 38th Annual Bonsai Show ...One of the Best in California every year! Saturday, 5:00 pm -- 9:00 pm; Sunday, 10:00 am -- 4:00 pm

Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland

The Shohin Study Group

**Meeting Wednesday March 20th at 5:30
PM**

At Denny's on Herndon in Clovis

**Bring a Shohin Bonsai if You Have One
Topic to be Decided**



Shohin Study Group in February

The SSG met at Denny's in Clovis on a cold and windy evening last month. The turnout was light and the group discussed how the meeting might be re-structured to attract more participants. No clear conclusion was reached, aside from email reminders to the entire FBS before each meeting. The group also wanted to encourage every attendee to bring a tree. The discussion then turned to shohin bonsai. Al Keppler discussed his strategy for developing a ficus and a trident maple. Steve Da Silva then showed a Chinese elm and a hackberry that he had shown the group previously. Both speakers emphasized the need for constant surveillance and frequent pruning to maintain proportionality and branch taper in very small trees.



All FBS members are encouraged to attend the Shohin Study Group on the Third Wednesday of Each Month. New members, in particular, can learn the unique skills of this art.





More Urban Yamadori Junipers From Downtown Fresno

Thank you to Pete Schaffert for obtaining access from the Fresno Unified School District to dig some beautiful 40 year old Sabina junipers in downtown Fresno. It was clearly hard work and some appeared to be having more fun than others. Nine trees were salvaged.

Thank you to Pete also for providing some guidance to new members for aftercare of the trees.

We are looking forward to seeing them in future exhibitions!

Current Officers of the Fresno Bonsai Society

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Activities for the FBS in March

March 1-2-3 Bonsai Exhibit and Plant Sale at the Fresno Home & Garden Show.

March 9th General Meeting and Bonsai Basics at Clark Bonsai Collection Reserve Area 9AM till Noon

March 20th Shohin Study Group at Denny's Restaurant on Herndon in Clovis at 5:30 PM



Needed: Newsletter Editor for the Fresno Bonsai Society

Beginning September 2019

No Experience Necessary (Obviously)



2018-2019 SCHEDULE FOR FRESNO BONSAI SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 8 FBS MEETING 9 AM FOLLOWED BY BONSAI BASICS

OCTOBER 13 FBS MEETING & RAFFLE AND BONSAI BASICS

OCTOBER 25-28 GSBF CONVENTION SACRAMENTO

NOVEMBER 10 TRIP TO MARUYAMA BONSAI NURSERY

NOVEMBER 10 BONSAI BASICS

DECEMBER 1 BONSAI YARD SALE CLOVIS BOTANICAL GARDEN

JANUARY 12 FBS MEETING FOLLOWED BY BONSAI BASICS

FEBRUARY 9 FBS MEETING FOLLOWED BY BONSAI BASICS

MARCH 1-3 FRESNO HOME & GARDEN SHOW

MARCH 9 FBS MEETING (TOKONOMA DISPLAY) BONSAI BASICS

APRIL 13 BONSAI BASICS

MAY 11 BONSAI HOP (MEMBERS GARDEN VISITS)

JUNE 1 ANNUAL PICNIC