



# Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter

November 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!

The bonsai work season is slowing, but candle cutting, juniper work, and bench clean up are still ahead of us.

The Annual GSBF Convention is behind us and the Annual Bonsai Yard Sale is rapidly approaching.

The next general meeting of the FBS will be Saturday, November 11th, at 9 AM. We will meet at the Clark Bonsai Collection in Shinzen as usual.

This will be an entertaining and informative meeting. We had very positive feedback following last year's meeting in which members brought their own trees for styling suggestions and horticulture advice from our most experienced members. We will do that again at this meeting. The renowned Al Keppler, Ray Thieme, and Bob Hilvers will offer guidance about our bonsai. This provided lots of good natured laughs and useful, hard-to-come-by information last year. Several people asked us to repeat it this year.

We will also discuss the plans for this year's 9th Annual Bonsai Yard Sale at the Clovis Botanical Garden.

Thus, everyone is encouraged to bring a tree for discussion and a tree to work on. Most importantly, everyone is encouraged to come to learn more about the Art of Bonsai.

## October Meeting

We are sad to report that if you missed the October meeting, you missed one of the best bonsai raffles and opportunities for good material in a long while. Several nice little trees appeared as raffle donations and some tools, pots, club logo clothing, books and plants all went for very small investments.

And if you needed to catch up on your sleep from a busy week, Mike Saul provided a great opportunity with a slide presentation and display of accent plants and kusamono.

We anticipate conducting another bonsai raffle later this year, for those who missed this one.



Images from the October meeting: raffle items above and kusamono and examples of pots on left.



## April Grigsby Ceramics

Call 561 445-1533





## Bonsai Basics in October

The introductory bonsai group met at Dave Soho's home on October 28th. The group discussed the basic styles and began learning wiring, before evaluating their own bonsai. The group will meet again on November 18th. The topic will be bonsai soils and pot selection.

## Some Seats for David Nguy Class Still Available

At this time there are still a few seats left for David Nguy's classes on Shimpaku Juniper styling at Round Valley Nursery in Lindsey. The classes will be Saturday, December 9th, for larger trees and Sunday, December 10th for smaller bonsai.

David is a world famous bonsai teacher who studied in Japan under Kimura. He is a regular instructor at the GSBF Convention Classes.

The trees for this workshop are very high quality Kyushu junipers with excellent movement. Students should either travel to the nursery before the class or arrive early to select their tree. The smaller trees cost between \$35-\$85 and large trees \$165 to \$500. (Given the unique quality of the material, this appears an excellent value.)

There is an additional fee for the workshop itself. Students are advised to make a deposit to secure their seat. Lunch will be available too.

Call 559 310-1513 or 559 359-6559 for reservations or more info.

Bonsai Basics students, in particular, are encouraged to consider participation.



*Above Left; David Nguy at Round Valley Nursery.*

*Above & below right: Bonsai Basics group discuss five basic style. Below, Jack Green and Mary Linda watch Sean Crawford prune his cascade juniper.*





Above: Left to right, Jack Green, David Soho, and Sean Crawford manned a table to introduce visitors to the Fresno Bonsai Society at the Annual Plant Sale at the Clovis Botanical Garden.

### Volunteer Appreciation Party

The Clark Collection through a BBQ picnic for the docents and curatorial staff on October 21st. The party, included great food and door prizes. The large majority of both volunteer groups are members of the FBS. The Galle family arranged a beautiful lakeside venue near Sanger for the gathering. *Images left and below from the party.*





Ron Workman and Gene Nelson are very faithful volunteer members of the Curatorial Team at the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen Garden. The Curatorial Team provided care to the 140 bonsai in that collection two mornings each week, under the guidance of the collection curator, Bob Hilvers. This provides these FBS members with invaluable experience and practice.

### Bonsai Almanac for November

November can be tricky in our Central Valley environment. Cold windy days may dry out soil but there is much less evaporation as the leaves disappear from deciduous species. Unexpected warm days may confuse budding and deciduous trees should be shifted briefly to shady areas. Trees may require watering due to wind losses. Water less but do not allow any species to dry out completely. Feel the soil, don't just look at it.

Remove dead leaves, fruits and seed pods. Remove moss from potted trees. Clean benches. Apply a final winter dose of insecticide or dormant spray.

Remove two year old pine needles, burned or distorted pine needles.

Balancing of black pine may be done by needle pulling from vigorous bonsai. Be certain you understand this strategy before applying it.

Fertilizing with phosphate and potassium in half strength may be continued through November with conifers, but should be stopped for deciduous species. This is an ideal time for pruning and wiring junipers. Transplanting is not advisable until Spring. This is the season to study forest plantings in particular as the trunk and branch structure is much easier to see when not obscured by foliage.

And this is the season to start evaluating your needs for the coming repotting season...soil components, supplies, or new pots. Most importantly, spend time studying your bonsai and enjoying them.

# Current Officers of the Fresno Bonsai Society

President David Soho

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President Elect Mike Saul

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Secretary Peter Schaffert

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Treasurer Bob Wright

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Web Master Michael Reynolds

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Liaison to Clark Collection Linda Jacobsen

mljjacobsen@gmail.com



FBS Logo caps and polo shirts remain available.  
See Dave Soho



BULLSEYE BONSAI



## FBS Calendar for 2017-2018 Season

September 9	FBS Meeting and Presentation on Bonsai Diseases and Pests with Pro. Beth Teviotdale	Clark Collection Reserve Area
September 23	Bonsai Basics: Introduction to Bonsai with Dave Soho	Carson Avenue, Clovis
October 14	FBS Meeting: Bonsai Raffle and "Evolution of Bonsai Art in the	Clark Collection Reserve Area
October 28	Bonsai Basics: Styling and Wiring with Dave Soho	Carson Avenue, Clovis
October 25-29	GSBF Convention Forty	Riverside Convention Center, Riverside CA
November 11	FBS Meeting: Bring a Tree Critique with Al Keppler	Clark Collection Reserve Area
November 18	Bonsai Basics: Soils and Pot Selection with Bob Wright and Dave Soho	Carson Avenue, Clovis
December 2	Annual Bonsai Yard Sale	Clovis Botanical Garden
January 20	FBS Meeting: Carving a Redwood with Bob Wright	Clark Collection Reserve Area
January 27	Bonsai Basics: Repotting with Dave Soho	Clark Collection Reserve Area
February 2-4	Shohin Convention	Double Tree Inn, Sacramento
February 10	FBS Meeting: Mini Bonsai Show and Discussion of Preparation	Woodward Library
February 17	Bonsai Basics: More on Soils & Repotting with Dave Soho	Carson Avenue, Clovis
March 2-5	Fresno Home & Garden Show, FBS Display	Fresno Fair Grounds
March 24	FBS Meeting: Air Layering with Pete Schaffert and Thread Grafting with Saul	Clark Collection Reserve Area
April 13-14	Koen-Nai and FBS Outdoor Show	Shinzen Garden
May 12	FBS Meeting: Spring Work with Elms and Tridents with Al Keppler	Clark Collection Reserve Area
May 19	Bonsai Basics: Judging of Team Bonsai & Watering and Summer Care—Soho	Carson Avenue
June 2	Annual FBS Potluck Picnic	Clovis Botanical Garden