



# Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter November 2018

## *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!*

Road trip!!!! In place of our usual monthly meeting, we will make a field trip to the Maruyama Bonsai Nursery in Sacramento on Saturday, November 10th. The caravan will depart from the Trader Joes parking lot at Friant and Fresno streets promptly at 6 AM. The purpose of the trip is primarily to purchase bonsai soil components including akadama, pumice and volcanic cinder. The nursery has other potting supplies and a large inventory of bonsai and pre-bonsai. Participants should bring 5 gallon buckets if they have them. To participate, please contact Dave Soho in advance so that he can organize drivers and riders. Riders should donate for gas money. This is a fun trip.

For those who do not wish to make the trip, we will hold our third Bonsai Basics class at 9 AM at the GSBF-Clark Bonsai Reserve Area in Shinzen Garden. The topic will be **Pruning & Pinching**. Everyone should bring a tree (preferably a conifer if they have one) and their tools. The handouts for this and earlier classes may be found on the FBS website shortly.

We are starting to organize the 10th Annual Bonsai Yard Sale on December 1st. More to come on that shortly.

## What Happened at the October Meeting?

At our last meeting, President Dave Soho started the agenda by asking for suggestions for a venue for the January and February FBS meetings. If those months prove to be cold and wet as previously, the Clark Collection Reserve area is too noisy and uncomfortable. No specific ideas were forthcoming.

Dave then reminded us of the December 1st Annual Bonsai Yard Sale. This will be held at the Clovis Botanical Garden. Organization for that event will be next month.

Dave also mentioned the our exhibit and sale at the Fresno Home & Garden Show, March 1-2-3. Set up for that event will be February 28.

Peter Schaffert announced that the club has an opportunity to collect some "urban yamadori" junipers. Members were advised to contact Pete if interested. Date and time are still to be announced.

Bob Hilvers announced that Ryan Neil will be at the Clark Collection December 1st and 2nd. (The conflict with the yard sale could not be avoided.) The cost and arrangements (for those who are not part of the Curatorial Staff) are yet to be decided.



*Photos by Nick Trujillo and the FBS Newsletter Staff*





We also learned that Will Baddeley will be here to offer a workshop some time in March. Mr. Baddeley is a well known bonsai carver from England. Following the business meeting, Pete Schaffert and Nick Trujillo conducted the Annual FBS Raffle. There were several very generous donations to the raffle table this year. There lots of happy winners and lots of laughs. The meeting adjourned.

The Bonsai Basics Class discussed bonsai as art, basic styles, and the “rules” of bonsai design. They also discussed the principles of when and how to water bonsai. Members of the class who did not have trees were then given a tree to work on. The trees were donated by Jack Green and Gene Nelson (with our thanks.)

Remember to inform Dave Soho if you wish to go on the Trip to Maruyama’s Bonsai Nursery on November 10.

## November Activities for the FBS

Nov 10 Field Trip to Maruyama’s Bonsai Nursery in Sacramento. Departs at 6 AM.

Nov 10 Bonsai Basics Class at Clark Bonsai Collection at 9 AM. Topic is Pruning & Pinching

Shohin Study Group will not meet in Nov or Dec.

Intermediate Study Group will meet Wednesdays at 9:30 AM unless changed





## Barrett Bonsai Pots for Sale

Two Jim Barrett pots for sale; pictured below.

Both is excellent condition. Both signed.

The smaller is a mami pot with cream glaze.

The other is a shohin cascade pot with a grey crackle glaze. The shohin cascade was \$20 new several years ago. The selling price is \$15 for the shohin pot and \$8 for the mami. Please contact Mike Saul if you wish to buy. (I am the agent, not the seller. The Coke Zero is not for sale.)



Mike Reynolds and his wife, Lorene (pictured above) have donated numerous trees to the Fresno Bonsai Society. In addition, Mike has been our web master for several years, entirely out of generosity and kindness. Yet he is almost an unknown face to the members! Mike and Lorene were in Fresno last week and were able to tour the GSBF-Clark Bonsai Collection.

The FBS acknowledges our gratitude to this wonderful couple.

**Remember to visit the FBS website every month for updates and bonsai information. Please LIKE us on Facebook .**





### Intermediate Bonsai Study Group

For the past couple years, as FBS members graduated from the Bonsai Basics class, many had asked that the club provide training for bonsai at the next level. That concept got started with the leadership of John Wright and an offer from Bob Hilvers. This intermediate class has begun on Wednesday mornings in the Clark Reserve Area. Mr. Hilvers obtained some Japanese ambers and some twisted shimpaku junipers (from Round Valley Bonsai) and offered to lead discussions focused on styling these trees. The primary focus has been on Literati. The next hurdle will be make this level available to those who



must work during the week. The format of the class is simply group discussion and questions posed by Bob. The concept is that the styling and development of the trees will go on over the next 1-2 years.

There are currently eight participants and the group is open to anyone in the FBS.

### The Curatorial Staff at The GSBF-Clark Bonsai Collection

Every month we encourage members to volunteer at the Clark Bonsai Collection. The need for this is actually unique to our community. The other two public bonsai collections have waiting lists to become a volunteer! Fresno is a much smaller demographic, of course.

That aside, it is difficult for us to convey the camaraderie and benefits of volunteering as either a docent or a curatorial staff member.

The smiles in the photos at the right are genuine. Volunteers get real gratification about explaining bonsai to visitors as much as by seeing the transformation of beautiful bonsai.

The fringe benefits include access to bonsai masters like Ryan Neil when they visit.

**Special Thanks to Nick Trujillo and Steve DaSilva for contributing photos to this month's newsletter. This is a reminder to everyone in FBS who owns a smart phone to PLEASE take a few photos at any FBS event you may attend and send them to Mike Saul. The more photos, the less text that I must invent!**



Do you have friends or family who have expressed an interest in Bonsai. Bring them to the next meeting for a visit.

Visitors are always welcome. Even in-laws.





As prior years with three “headliners”; two well known bonsai masters from the USA and one from Japan. There were two bonsai exhibits; one of about 50 trees from northern California and a smaller “juried” exhibit offering cash prizes. There was a much larger suiseki (viewing stone) exhibit as well. There were 20 workshops, ranging from

### GSBF Convention in Sacramento

The 41st annual convention of the Golden State Bonsai Federation was held at the McClellan Convention Center on the last weekend in October. This new venue was large and comfortable and beautiful with excellent parking. The format was





\$60 to \$325 (tree included) with bonsai artists from California and Japan. There was a large vendor area, as usual, offering raw material, finished bonsai, pots of all sizes and quality, tools and supplies. In addition to workshops, the convention offered critiques of the exhibits, taught by masters and “round robin demonstrations each day. There were banquets each evening and a very large raffle of bonsai items was conducted at both.

Our own Bob Hilvers was teaching and helping with the bonsai exhibits.

Ed and Linda Clark from Round Valley Nursery were selling in the vendor area.

Bob Wright and I made a one-day, kamikaze, round trip to the convention on the opening day. Attendance was light. That is a benefit for those shopping early for pots or plants.

The convention center venue was excellent. It was spacious, colorful and offered excellent close free parking. The exhibit trees demonstrated outstanding technical skills and some unique species. They were worth the trip.

We did not attend the banquet, of course, so I cannot comment upon the food or the raffle.

## Shohin Study Group October Meeting

The Shohin Study Group met at Steve DaSilva’s home in Fowler for their October meeting. The focus of the meeting was simply to dig some small field grown olives. Jack Green reported that the trees had “really sweet little shohin trunks!” Steve still has some trees available.

The group had their usual potluck dinner. They decided not to meet again until January 16th.





# Current Officers of the Fresno Bonsai Society

**President David Soho**

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## Looking Ahead to the December Yard Sale

The 10th Annual FBS Bonsai Yard Sale will be Saturday, December 1st, at the Clovis Botanical Garden in Clovis. Anyone may buy, sell or trade any bonsai related items at the yard sale (this is NOT a rummage sale.) A word to new members: this is usually an opportunity to buy new tree material and pots at reasonable prices, but come early. The sale starts at 8 AM and ends at 2 PM.

We will rent some tables from the CBG and supply some of our own. We will need help with set up and clean up. If you plan to sell and need table space, please contact Dave Soho early.

We will be able to unload next to the tent shelter but vehicles must be parked in the public park lot or on Clovis Avenue.

We will need volunteers to do the following:

- Bring donuts and make coffee
- Bring drinking water
- Set up tables and chairs
- Mark prices on club sales items
- Help at the club sales table
- Help customers transport purchases to their car
- Take orders for lunch and pick it up
- Help with clean up and take down

Contact Dave Soho or Mike Saul if you will volunteer to Help.





# 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