



# Fresno Bonsai Society Newsletter November 2015

## *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 will be Saturday, November 14th, at 9AM in the azumaya within the Shinzen Garden at Woodward Park. (Members are reminded to bring their club badge and to inform the gatekeeper that they are here to work in the Shinzen Garden.) In the business meeting we will discuss the December 5th bonsai yard sale and the Christmas Party that same evening at Wassabi Off the Hook in Fig Garden Village. The upcoming bonsai dig near Prather will be discussed. Following the brief business meeting, we will retire to the reserve area in the bonsai garden to work on trees.

The 38th Annual Convention of the Golden State Bonsai Federation will be held October 29 through November 1st at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside California. If you are new to bonsai or have never attended a GSBF convention, we urge you to consider devoting a day to this event, despite the distance. The convention will provide two spectacular bonsai exhibits, a suiseki exhibit, numerous demonstrations, and a huge vendor area where you will find a great selection of trees, pots, tools, books and supplies. It is worth the drive if you love bonsai.

## October Meeting of FBS

### Revisited Several Issues

The FBS met at the azumaya within the Shinzen Gardens in October. President Peter Schaffert noted that there were no chairs and limited electricity. He suggested that we continue to consider other options for a meeting place. The previous meeting had been held in the reserve area at the bonsai garden but the road noise was intolerable.

After discussion, a motion was passed to expand our exhibit at the Home & Garden Show.

The FBS will continue to exhibit some bonsai at the Annual Blossom Festival.

It was decided to plan the FBS Christmas Party for the evening of Saturday, December 5th, in the evening after the Annual Yard Sale. The party is tentatively planned for Wasabi Off the Hook.

The November 21st yamadori dig was discussed. Those wishing to participate must contact Dave Soho or Donald Hoisington. The cost will be \$10 per tree. Donald may be reached at [bullseyebonsai@gmail.com](mailto:bullseyebonsai@gmail.com) and Dave's email is [sohofive@yahoo.com](mailto:sohofive@yahoo.com).

Harold Mitchell confirmed that the initial name tags had been purchased and were available for new members to pick up.

The club then adjourned to the reserve area shelter to work on bonsai.

*Editor's Note: I was very proud to see all these new members pairing up with experienced FBS members. This is why we have a club!*



*Above: Chris Saladana discusses a juniper with Bob Hilvers*

*Immediately below: Kim Black, Kareen Baker and Lori*

*Lewallen observe Pete Schaffert style his juniper.*

*Bottom: Marilyn Aguilar explaining her plans for a new tree with Howard Latimer.*







### Would You Like to be Notified of Classes and Sales from Round Valley Bonsai Nursery?

If you would like to be on the Round Valley Nursery mailing list, simply email your name, email address, and mailing address to Ed and Linda Clark. The phone number is 559 310-1513. The email address is lec-clark48@gmail.com. Remember to call ahead if you plan to visit the nursery.



*Top left: Jack Green contemplates a boxwood*

*Above center: Ray Thieme putting final touches on his needle juniper*

*Below: Ed Armbruster works with Dave Soho*



*Above: Regan Schaffert works carefully and patiently along side her dad at the November meeting.*



*My sincere thanks to the Fresno Bonsai Society for the beautiful and fascinating book on Chinese Bunjin Bonsai and the inscription, which I received for the honor of being your newsletter editor.*

*Mike Saul*



*Left: Steve DaSilva's first place entry*

*Below: Dave Soho's cascade won a ribbon*

*Next page, upper left, Ken To's Shohin Boxwood received a second place in that division (in contrast to your editor's opinion that it was clearly the winner!)*



**The Annual FBS Bonsai Yard Sale**

**Saturday, December 5th, 2015**

**736 West Browning Avenue, Fresno**

**8AM till 3PM**

**Buy, Sell or Trade all Things Bonsai**



### **Fresno Bonsai Society Members Take Most of the Ribbons at the Big Fresno Fair**

Congratulations to Ken To, Donald Hoisington, Dave Soho and Steve DaSilva for winning several categories and multiple first place ribbons in this year's Fresno Fair Bonsai Competition.

Thank you also to Steve DaSilva, Ken To and others, who provided demonstrations for the public at the fair several evenings.

This year's Best of Show award went to Mr. Vargus with a juniper pen ching.





### Mary Saruwatari Remembered

We were very sad to learn that Mary had passed away recently. Many of our long time members remember Mary's enthusiasm and generosity. They recall that she had produced some beautiful greeting cards made from images from the Golden State Bonsai Convention that was held here in Fresno in 2006. She donated those cards to the club. Mary was aware of her illness and as one of her last acts of generosity, she gave her bonsai and pots to the Bonsai Study Group Students. We will miss her kindness, her humor and her cheerful smile. The club wishes to express their sympathy to her husband, Gary and her sister, Elaine Petry.



### October Bonsai Basics Study Group

There were 17 students at the October Bonsai Basics meeting! The group is divided into Beginners and Intermediates in order to meet the needs of each level. The focus of the beginners was to identify the skills needed in starting and selecting nursery material. The intermediate group discussed building boxes for raft styles, wiring, and an open discussion about styling some member trees. The classes were led by Harold Mitchell, Dave Soho and Gene Nelson.

The November class will be at Howard Latimer's home.

*See photos above and below of the Basics Class.*





The October meeting of the Shohin Study group was hosted by Chris Saldana (left above). This sunset photo by Steve DaSilva includes Ken To, Pat Galle, Mike Saul, and Kareen Baker.

### Time-Based Art

*Bonsai exists at the intersection of the temporal and the eternal. Each tree is only ever a snapshot in time as it is ever growing and changing under its own power and the tutelage of the artist. But it is also a symbol of the insistence of life itself.*

*From an inscription at the Artisans Cup*

### Bonsai Basics Study Group November

**This month's meeting will be at the Latimer home, 4534 East Rialto, at 9AM. This is off Maple, north of Gettysburg and west on Rialto. Members should bring chairs and trees to work on.**



### Shohin Group is Just Fun

I had an opportunity to attend the Shohin Study group on a weeknight evening in October. It was really pleasant. The group meets for a pot-luck dinner (the food was outstanding). Then we enjoyed a little sake from Ken To. We spent some time discussing Chris Saldana's bonsai and then everyone worked on their little trees while we discussed individual shohin. Ken To and Steve DaSilva are experience shohin artists who offered useful advice. The Shohin Study Group is a very good natured and helpful group of people. More FBS members should take advantage of this opportunity.

### Shohin Study Group for November

The Shohin Group will meet November 11th, at 4:30PM in the Shinzen Garden. Guest speaker Bob Hilvers will discuss ***Air Layering Shohin Bonsai***. Bring a dish to pass and trees to work on or discuss. Contact Steve DaSilva for final details.

### Clark Bonsai Collection Shinzen Grand

#### Opening Was Successful

Sally Ramage, President of the Shinzen Board of Directors, expressed her delight at the visitors and the stunning new visual experience that the CBCS brought to the Shinzen Garden Grand Opening, October 17-18. The event drew hundreds of visitors, including both families and VIPs from the community. There were many photos and many congratulatory speeches. The ribbon cutting brought visitors from northern and southern California bonsai communities



*Continued from page 6*

including board members from the Golden State Bonsai Federation. Abe Farr, President of GSBF spent the evening. Members of the Clark Board of Directors and the Shinzen Garden Board toured the exhibit. The Director of Fresno Parks and Recreation praised the exhibit as a beautiful addition to the city parks and a remarkable joint venture of these four organizations.

The afternoon was greatly improved by sake and Japanese beer tasting, followed by an excellent tepanyaki dinner for 130 people.

The Sunday attendance was nearly as large as the day prior. The bonsai demonstration on Sunday attracted several viewers.

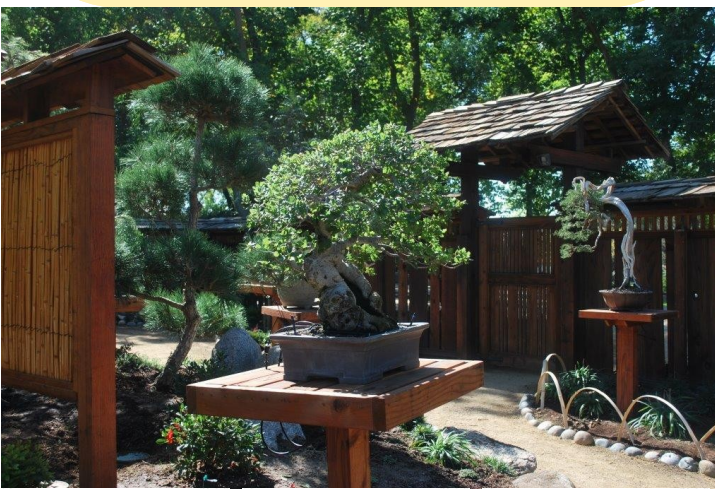
Ms Ramage noted that the next challenge was to train a sufficient number of docents for the bonsai area. Three days after the opening, the Shinzen Garden has already received five requests from schools and other groups for guided tours of the bonsai exhibit.



Above: Sid Mukai, General Contractor, and six of the Fresno Bonsai Society members who donated many hours to the CBCS this summer.

Below: Docents Linda Galle and Mike Baldwin at CBCS

Bottom: Ray Thieme and Gene Nelson, the irrigation team!



## The green dragon has left Hanford for Woodward Park

**T**he green dragon has left Hanford and has traveled north to Fresno.

He protected the bonsai garden in a rural setting at the Clark Center for Japanese Art and Culture. He has moved to an urban park named Woodward Park in Fresno. He is now



BY HOMER CEE GREENE JR.

The CBCS got great press coverage...because of editorial above from Homer Green Jr and North Fresno Neighbors article below.



Provided by Statens Friendship Garden

Bonsai trees are a significant part of Japan's artistic culture.

## Historic piece of Hanford finds home in Woodward Park

By Dana Velaloo  
NORTHEAST NEIGHBORS

sculptures in this grouping are reflective of the Cali-

### Ted Matson Shohin Workshop at Round Valley Nursery

Ed and Linda Clark at Round Valley nursery will sponsor two half day shohin workshops with Ted Matson, again this year, on December 12, 2015. The nursery is in Lindsay. Participants may register for one or both workshops from 9AM till Noon or 1PM till 4PM.

Round Hill Nursery has Manawa Black pines and Itoigawa junipers, which have been grown and twisted specifically for shohin bonsai, at very reasonable prices. They also offer Kyshu shimpaku for shohin, and a large variety of maples and larger pre-bonsai trees.

Those who attended last year are encouraged to return with that tree. Pine prices range from \$30 to \$50 with some larger and more developed specimens in the \$110 to \$200 range.

The fee for each session is \$50 which includes lunch. Observer fee is \$5 and includes lunch.

In order to secure your place at the workshop, please send the \$50 fee (after you have made your reservation by phone or e-mail) to Linda Clark at the Round Valley Nursery address by November 20. They must have a minimum number of people.

The address is :

Round Valley Nursery, 24022 Ave. 230, Lindsay, CA 93247

The phone is 559 310-1513 or 559 359-6559.

Space is limited and they filled up last year.

Register early.



## Officers of the Fresno Bonsai Society 2015-2015

President...Peter Schaffert Esq

peteschaffert@gmail.com

President Elect...Dave Soho

sohofive@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President...Ralph Schroeder

ralsch@sbcglobal.net

Recording Secretary...Art Zaragoza

artzara2@gmail.com

Treasurer...Bob Wright

wright8692@comcast.net

Bonsai Basics Study Group...Harold Mitchell

mitchsgreenthumb@yahoo.com

Shohin Study Group...Steve DaSilva

treekutter@hotmail.com

Webpage Editor...Mike Reynolds

michaelreynolds465@att.net

Newsletter Editor...Mike Saul

tinytreeme@sbcglobal.net

Please LIKE the Fresno Bonsai Society and the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen on Face Book.

Visit the Fresno Bonsai Society webpage for photos, events, previous newsletters, and useful bonsai tips including answers from Harold Mitchell.

### If You Plan to Collect Yamadori

If you plan to participate in the dig this winter or to collect wild trees elsewhere, note that there is a brief discussion of how to do this in John Naka's book, *Bonsai Techniques Volume 1*, on page 198.

Hopefully, Dave Soho or other experienced collectors will be there to help.

### From the Shinzen Garden Board and the CBCS

*First of all, sincere thanks to everyone in the Fresno Bonsai Society who worked so hard to make the bonsai exhibit reality. Special thanks to Gene Nelson, Ray Thieme, Bob Wright, Dave Soho, Sid Mukai and his team of Marty and Eddie.*

*Secondly, keep your calendar clear for the First Annual Fundraiser for the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen, April 16th and 17th 2016.*

### A Haiku

*Willow leaves fallen,  
The spring gone dry,  
Rocks here and there.*

Yosa Buson (1716-1783)

## Bonsai Tasks for November

We have had a warm Fall with a sprinkle of rain.

Continue to watch for cold winds and hot days.

If warm days occur, transfer deciduous trees to shady areas to minimize budding and new growth.

Water less this month, but trees should not be allowed to completely dry out, even in winter dormancy.

Remove dead leaves from deciduous trees and remove all fruit and seed pods.

Remove pine needles with burned tips and any long needles that are two years old.

Fertilizing may continue until December, for trees that are not dormant. Conifers do not go completely dormant, and some recommend continued light feeding during the winter, with potassium and phosphate primarily.

Deciduous trees, in particular, will be too brittle to wire this month, because of reduced sap flow. Avoid wiring.

Transplanting is not advisable in November. Repotting is safer just before the new buds begin to grow in spring. Repotting is traumatic

and broken root hairs don't have the ability to repair themselves as they are not growing.

This is the month to study groves and multi-tree arrangements, because trunks stand out when not obscured by foliage. Repositioning individual trees should wait for spring repotting.

Apply lime sulfur to all dead wood. Wet the wood and apply full strength to the jins and shari.

Apply winter doses of systemic insecticides.

Remove moss from potted trees, as it may harbor insects or disease and holds excessive moisture.

This is the season to start evaluating your needs for soil and other supplies. Start screening and storing soil mixtures.

Finally, this is the season to enjoy the season...the gold of ginkgos and the reds and oranges of your maples.

*Summarized from Bonsai Basics Volume 1 by John Naka and Bonsai Ideas from Marty Mann and season notes from Peter Tea.*

## Coming Bonsai Events Elsewhere in California

Bonsai-a-thon XX at the Huntington Gardens in San Marino, California. Demos, exhibits, sales, raffle and auction. February 27-28, 2016.

Mammoth Fundraiser at the GSBF Bonsai Exhibit at Lake Merritt, Oakland California. Bonsai displays from multiple clubs, raffles, vendor sales. Also February 27-28, 2016



# Fresno Bonsai Society

## Schedule for 2015-2016 Season

September 12	First Meeting of the Year	Shinzen Garden 11AM
September 19	Bonsai Basics Group	1416 Roberts, Clovis 9AM
October 10	Monthly FBS Meeting	Shinzen Garden Azumaya 9AM
October 7-18	Big Fresno Fair Bonsai Exhibit	Entry Deadline Sept 12
October 17-18	Grand Opening Clark Exhibit	Shinzen Garden
October 24	Bonsai Basics Group	1416 Roberts, Clovis 9AM
Oct 28-Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	GSBF Convention	Riverside Convention Center
November 14	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden (Pruning Day)
November 21	Bonsai Basics	4534 East Rialto, Fresno 9AM
December 5	Annual Bonsai Yard Sale	736 W. Browning, Fresno
December 5	FBS Christmas Dinner	Wasabi Off the Hook Restaurant
December 19	Bonsai Basics	1416 Roberts, Clovis 9AM
January 9	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden Azumaya 9AM
January 16	Bonsai Basics	6470 East Manning Ave, Fowler
February 5-7	Shohin Convention	Santa Nella, California
February 13	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden 9 AM
March 4-6	Home & Garden Show	Fresno Fair Grounds
March 19-20 (?)	Blossom Festival	Shinzen Garden
April 9	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden
April 16-17	Shinzen Fundraiser	Shinzen Garden
May 14	Monthly Meeting	Shinzen Garden
May 21	Bonsai Basics Group	4534 East Rialto, Fresno 9AM
June 11	FBS Year End Potluck	To Be Decided

