



# The Snippet



January 2016

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Inc.

Member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation

## Happy New Year!

**This Month's meeting is January 27,2016**

### Repotting

This year we will start off with a repotting assisted workshop. There will be four tables set up with a coordinator to assist those that need a refresher or initial instruction on repotting while experienced members can repot on their own. As always, please bring necessary tools, soil and pots. Working in a tray helps to reduce cleanup and a table cover would also be helpful. All members will be expected to help with cleanup this meeting.

### Membership Renewal

It's time again to renew your membership for the year 2016 in the Sei Boku Bonsai Kai. Dues for continuing members are Single \$35, Family \$45, "72+10" \$20. If you joined mid-year and paid less than the full amount you will need to renew your membership also. Please check the current membership list when you renew, if your information is still correct (did you change your email address?) you will not need to fill out a new form. Bring your check to the January meeting or mail to Randi Keppeler at SBBK's new address:

SBBK  
PO Box 4463  
Foster City, CA 94404

## President's Message

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all. I just returned home from our yearly planning meeting and I have to say we have a very educational and informative year planned for all of us. Thanks to all who helped plan out a year I'm really excited about. We are going to try some new formats this year that I think everyone will enjoy. In November we will have another workshop with a bonsai tree you can take home, I received a lot of positive feedback from this type of meeting last year. Please keep an eye on our SBBK calendar so you don't miss a meeting.

Kevin Corrigan

### SBBK What's Up!

January 27,2016 7:30 Monthly meeting at the San Mateo Garden Center

February 2,2016 1st Tuesday workshop, 7PM in the Rose Room at the San Mateo Garden Center

February 3,2016 SBBK Board Meeting, 7PM in the Rose Room at the San Mateo Garden Center, all members welcome

### In Passing

We are sorry to share the news that Kim Goldie passed away in early December. She has been in poor health for many years but was often able to attend our shows and remained a member in good standing. The club will make a donation in her name to the Lake Merritt Bonsai Collection.

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## Tentative Calendar for 2016 (subject to change)

- January 2016 Repotting workshop
- February 2016 Ryan Nichols, Bugs and Bonsai
- March 2016 Azalea Demo with Gordon Deeg
- April 2016 Anniversary Meeting with featured speaker, Mike Pistello
- May 2016 Open workshop
- June 4-5,2016 Club Show Headliner Dennis Makishima
- June 2016 Bonsai Club Challenge with local clubs, Gerry Fields, coordinator
- July 2016 Val's Surprise
- August 2016 Tanuki Bonsai Demo-Jerry Carpenter
- September 2016 Garden Tour and Bar B Q
- September 2016 Green Elephant Sale
- October 2016 Black Pine Extravaganza, Mentors
- November 2016 Big Bend and Wiring-Gordon Deeg
- January 2016 Bunjin Bonsai- Valerie Monroe

## Grapevines

We have a great opportunity for 12 members who want to dig up a 10 year old grapevine close by in Woodside on Saturday, February 20th starting at 10 AM. Lynne O'Dell has graciously opened her garden to our club members for this dig. These vines can be used and trained as bonsai after they adjust to living in a pot. Members would need to bring their own tools and supplies. We will pass around a sign up sheet at the January meeting and if there are more than 12 members signed up we will hold a lottery.

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai  
President Kevin Corrigan  
Kevnight@SBCglobal.net  
Vice President-Marsha Mekisich  
Marsha.mekisich@oracle.com  
Treasurer - Randi Keppeler  
rkahikikep@sbcglobal.net  
Recording Secretary - Irene Hall  
Corresponding Secretary - Kathleen Haley,  
Khaley57@gmail.com  
Board of Directors - Richard Oakes,  
Dennis Hawkins,Phyllis Swanson, Steve Iwaki  
Mike Mello, Michael Haley  
Special Consultant Gordon Deeg

Seibokubonsai.org

## Show Schedules

Details for the shows mentioned can be found at the Golden Statements website [www.gsbf-bonsai.org](http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org)

Jan.23-24 2016 Oakland, CA  
Bay Island Bonsai Annual Bonsai Exhibit Lake Merritt,  
Oakland Saturday and Sunday 10AM-4PM <http://bayislandbonsai.com/bib-annual-exhibit>

February 5-7,2016 Santa Nella, CA  
California Shohin Seminar at Hotel Mission de Oro.Registration Feb 5 10AM-5PM with demos from noon -5PM. Feb.6 registration opens at 8am.Exhibits and vendors and benefit drawings all days.[www.calshohin.org](http://www.calshohin.org)

February 27-28,2016 Oakland, CA  
Mammoth Fund Raiser, Lake Merritt, Oakland Auction Saturday at noon, Sunday 9AM-4PM. [www.gsbf-lakemerritt.org](http://www.gsbf-lakemerritt.org).

March 16-20,2016 San Mateo, CA  
Bonsai Society of San Francisco:Annual Bonsai Exhibit at the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, San Mateo County Event Center.  
[www.bssf.org](http://www.bssf.org) and [sfgardenshow.com](http://sfgardenshow.com)

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Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Meetings  
Fourth Wednesday of the Month  
San Mateo Garden Center  
605 Parkside Way, San Mateo CA 94403

Meeting 7-30 pm to 10 pm

## JT'S Tree Tips

Transplanting is the perfect beginning activity for the bonsai year. Start it now and you will have healthier trees with fewer problems throughout the year.

We in the Bay Area are very fortunate with our mild climate. Don't wait for the buds to swell on the deciduous trees - start now. If you wait, you will never catch up with it.

Each time we transplant gives us another opportunity to improve our nebari and accelerate the growth and development of our trees.

We want healthy and vigorous radial root systems for our trees and we all know that if we accomplish this we will have better bonsai. The root system affects everything above it. Repotting our tree accomplishes many things. It rejuvenates the tree by freshening the soil. It initiates the taper of the trunk for which we all strive. It can correct problems in the root system and may solve problems in the upper tree. By cutting back the roots, it makes the tree generate new absorbing root tips closer to the trunk making a more efficient plumbing system and allowing us to put the tree into a shallower and more appropriate pot. So, let's get to it.

One caveat; We do not completely bare root conifers. To do so might kill the tree!! We do need to get the field soil out of the mix, but not all at once. Taking out all the soil of a third or

half way around the trunk will insure leaving enough undisturbed roots to keep the tree alive while the bare rooted section builds up a new healthy set of roots. Two years down the line you can clean out the other part while leaving the new roots alone to maintain the tree.

REMOVE TREE FROM POT. If in bonsai pot, cut tie-down wires from beneath pot and loosen screen clips from drainage holes. If the tree will not come easily from the pot, use a sickle or knife to cut a wedge (higher at surface) between roots and pots along two short sides and one long side of the pot. From the cut long side of the pot, hold down the pot with one hand while your other hand pushes the upper trunk up to release the root ball. Don't grab the trunk where valuable bark can flake or rub off. Hold a Jin or sturdy upper branch. Take your time and do it right. Lift the tree and root-ball from the pot and put aside in the shade while you clean and prepare the pot.

PREPARE THE POT. Clean off the grunge, with natural fiber brushes, lime away and a good water scrubbing. Then put screens in the drainage holes and wires through the holes for tying the tree down later. If there are two holes in the pot put two wires in each hole. If you have four holes, use two wires, with one end through each hole. We'll discuss what to do with them later.

# Meeting Wednesday January 27,2016

## Repotting Workshop

**Volunteers: January 27,2016 7:00PM**

**Set up/clean up: Rich Oakes, Dennis Hawkins**

**Refreshments: Haleys**

**If you can't be at the meeting, please check your club member roster and find a substitute. We are counting on you.**

**Volunteers: February 24,2016 7:00PM**

**Set up/clean up: W.A.Baneff, Jerry Carpenter**

**Refreshments: Ruth Mun, Jane Alexander**

**If you can't be at the meeting, please check your club member roster and find a substitute. We are counting on you.**

**Volunteers: March 24,2016 7:00PM**

**Set up/clean up: Marvin Copeland, Kevin Corrigan**

**Refreshments: Cathy Coit, Klaus Diederich**

**If you can't be at the meeting, please check your club member roster and find a substitute. We are counting on you.**

**THE BENEFIT DRAWING IS  
ON**

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai  
PO Box 4463  
Foster City, CA 94404

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

