



The Snippet



February 2016

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Inc.

Member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation

President's Message

This Month's meeting is February 24,2016

Tree Improvement

This month we will have a tree improvement discussion with Valerie Monroe and John Thompson. Members are encouraged to bring trees that they have questions about. If you are unsure of the direction your tree should take, the next step in shaping or wiring or presentation, this is the workshop for you. As many trees as possible will be discussed so everyone please bring in a tree.

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

Members who have not renewed by March 1 will not be in the club roster.

I would like to welcome Klaus Diederich as our newest SBBK board member. Klaus will bring a wealth of business and planning experience to our board, thank you for volunteering.

I would also like to thank Geraldo Ortiz for his work on our website. Geraldo and his cousin revamped our website with many new features, he will give a demo of the new site at this month's meeting.

I enjoyed my time in Santa Nella at the California Shohin Seminar. For those of you that have not attended this event you come away with a wealth of information about Shohin and bonsai in general. It is put on every other year so I look forward to the next one in 2018.

Please remember to pay your membership dues and bring in a donation for our monthly raffle table.

Kevin Corrigan

SBBK What's Up!

February 24,2016 7:30 Monthly meeting at the San Mateo Garden Center

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

March 2,2016 SBBK Board Meeting, 7PM in the Rose Room at the San Mateo Garden Center, all members welcome

In Passing

We are sad to report the passing of two members Emma Kong and Tom O'Rourke recently.

Emma Kong died after a long battle with cancer in January. She and her husband Tim Kong have long been supporters of bonsai both in SBBK and other clubs which they belong to. She was always a willing helper in our

The Snippet

annual Shows both in setting up, clean up and hospitality. She leaves behind memories as a loving wife, mother and grandmother to three. Our sympathies to the family.

Tom O'Rourke passed away early February after a long illness.

Tom O'Rourke and his wife Marie have been supporters of SBBK. since its beginning ,although in recent years they have often only attended the Christmas parties.

Tentative Calendar for 2016 (subject to change)

February 2016 Tree Improvement with Valerie Monroe and JT.

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

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

February 27-28,2016 Oakland, CA
Mammoth Fund Raiser, Lake Merritt, Oakland Auction
Saturday at noon, Sunday 9AM-4PM. 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 and sfgardenshow.com

April 2-3,2016 Santa Cruz, CA
Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai:26th Annual Show at the Museum of Art & History,705 Front Street. 10AM-5PM Saturday demo 2PM with Mike Pistello and Sunday demo 2PM Katsumi Kinoshita.\$5 admission to museum.
edinbonnydoon@comcast.com

April 2-3,2016 Sacramento,CA
Bonsai Sekiyu Kai Annual Show will be held at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd.Saturday 11AM-5PM,Sunday 10AM-4PM.Demos at 1PM both days by Yuzo Maruyama.
bonsaisekiyukai@gmail.com

The Snippet

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

J T'S Tree Tips

Continue to transplant your trees. Do it now! Healthy deciduous trees can be bare rooted. Weak deciduous trees can be partially bare rooted, removing the field soil on 1/2 or 1/3 of the root ball leaving the rest of the root ball intact. You can get the rest cleaned out when you transplant in a year or two. Conifers should not be totally bare rooted but at least one section of old field soil should be cleaned out if any still remains like in the weak deciduous trees above.

Grafting time is here for pines junipers and other species. Keep some shoots toward the side of the tree to use as scions. But don't use the very tip of a vigorously growing shoot as this can be too strong a scion for the graft to take. Plan out where you will be putting these grafts. If you will be grafting deciduous trees, cut some scions and put them in damp paper towels and in the crisper of your refrigerator. When the tree buds start moving, bring them out and use them for your grafts. Remember that you will have better success if the under-stock's sap is moving before the scions does.

Develop your techniques. Learn from what you did last year. Practice whenever you can and you will succeed. Practice on workshop nights. Practice at home. Practice in your sleep.

Remember to use dormant spray again around Valentine's day. It is best to do it on a day that the temperature will not get above 55° or you could burn the foliage. Barry Coate has recommended using superior oil like Volk Oil® or Ultra-fine® oil which smothers wintering-over bugs like scale. Try copper spray or lime-sulfur, except on Ume, spruce, azaleas and tropical trees, to protect deciduous and fruiting and flowering species. This will head off big problems later on.

When you cut back on branches this month, leave just a tiny stub for die back. If you cut an entire branch, do not

cut into the branch collar which is that swollen area where the branch attaches to the trunk. Remember that the tree is getting active and will soon generate new growth to heal over the cuts.

Now that the pine needles have matured and hardened, if you haven't already removed them, it is time to take off the all the old needles and some of the newer needles on the plump and healthy shoots. This opens up the interior of the tree to the sun and airflow that is necessary to generate back budding. Remember to leave more needles on lower branches and interior buds; and if weak, don't touch at all. Watch out for those that have already started new tiny buds. It would be a shame to accidentally pluck out those tiny buds you try so hard to generate.

Plan to collect some trees this year. Whether it is a neighbors pyracanthas hedge or an oak dig or a trip to the mountains or desert for junipers, don't pass up this great way to find super material. It also gives you a chance to observe the branching and twigging patterns of your favorite trees. Collect interesting mosses and lichen in flats for use at show time. The best accent plants for a bonsai are those that are growing up along side it in the wild.

JT

Meeting Wednesday February 24,2016 Tree Improvement with Val and JT

Volunteers: February 24,2016 7:00PM

Set up/clean up: W.A.Banef, Jerry Carpenter

Refreshments: Jane Lancaster , Kathleen Haley

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.

Volunteers: April 27,2016 7:00PM

Set up/clean up: Gerry Fields, JT

Refreshments: Board

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

