



Bonsai Clippings

Mother Lode Bonsai Club Monthly Newsletter

May 2016

- May Meeting -

May's meeting demo featured David Anderson as he presented many of the various techniques surrounding the skill of **urban collecting**. Urban collecting or 'Yamadori,' describes using plants salvaged from yards, parking lots or even trash heaps as potential bonsai.

David explained that some landscapers know how hungry bonsai enthusiasts are for such treasures and sell old plants removed from job sites, while others will just give them away. Sometimes landowners will already have specimens dug up and bare rooted for you, as David explained was the case with several old grape plants he recently added to his collection.



Also, many homeowners will on occasion readily trade new plants for their old overgrown landscape shrubs. If you see something special it may well be worth your knocking on a door or two and offering to replace the old plant with a new nursery plant. Take a look around your own yard, what you find may truly amaze you. A beautiful old bonsai might just be lurking out of sight under some old weeds out behind a fence someplace. Happy Hunting...

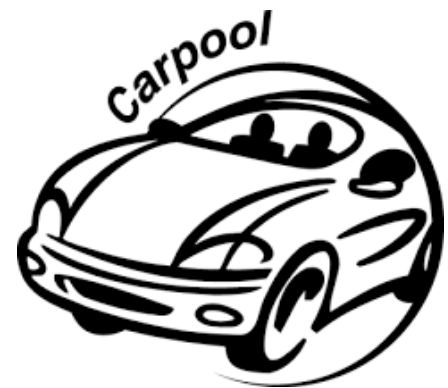
- A Special Club Event -

On Sunday, May 22, the MLBC hosted a small open-air bonsai display and demo by Frank Garcia in conjunction with the Tuolumne County Master Gardeners Annual Horticultural Tour where-in numerous local horticultural groups were present with informational displays.



Car Pooling

In the past several club members have expressed a desire to set-up car pooling for various bonsai related events around the state. Most recently Nikie Hobba has asked if anyone would care to ride-share to a couple of noted bonsai shows in the Bay Area. She would appreciate a call if you are interested.



- Show and Tell -

We all owe a special thanks to those members who bring in trees for the Show and Tell table.



Golden Chain,
Last month's Show & Tell
by Joan Scroggs

We are fortunate that every meeting features several noteworthy trees for our enjoyment. Trees on the Show and Tell table provide a unique learning experience and are an important part of each meeting. It is an opportunity for the newer members to see fine quality bonsai up close. Further, it is the chance to ask the grower about the culture and styling of the tree. Even the most experienced members of our club have a few trees that for one reason or other do not grow well for them and can benefit from words of wisdom from others who are successful with those particular trees. Best of all, we can enjoy the results of the owners' hard work by seeing some really fine bonsai. The Show and Tell table is part of what makes our meetings special. If you haven't brought in trees to the Show and Tell table in the past, we invite you to do so. We all would like to see them and hear what you have been doing with your bonsai.

- June Meeting -

At our June meeting guest sensei **Vince Owyong** will present a lecture/demonstration on the somewhat simple but very useful technique of **air layering**, where-in one might secure a rather aged and fine bonsai specimen in just a few minutes.



Air layering is a somewhat simple technique to propagate a new bonsai tree and will be the subject of discussion at our

next meeting. The principal of air layering is to force a section of an established tree to form

new roots at a certain point by interrupting the stream of nutrients from the existing root system. This means you can use air-layering for several purposes;

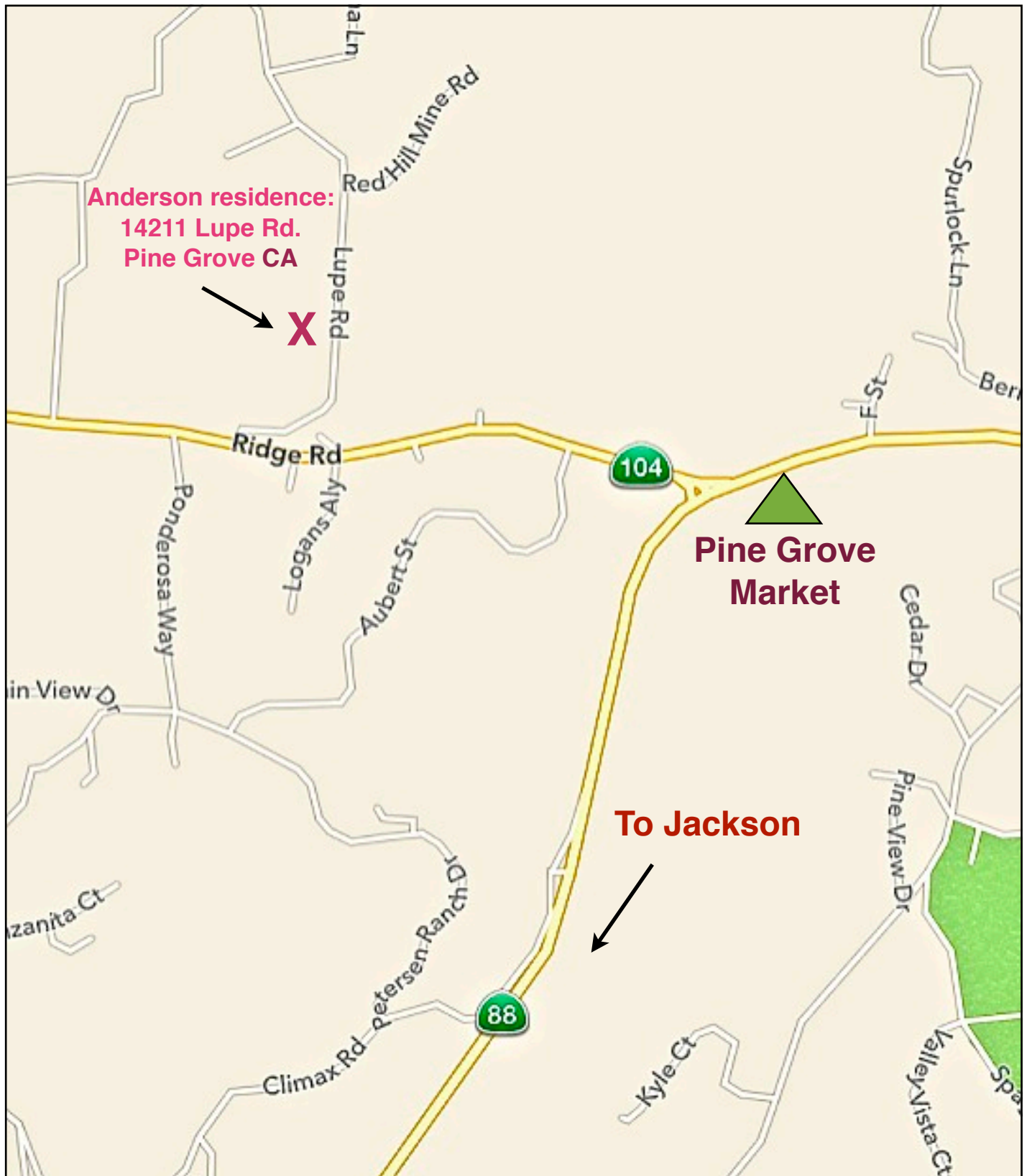


reducing the length of a trunk, growing a better Nebari (root flare or surface roots) or selecting a branch to be grown as a separate tree. Air-layering should most often be undertaken during the spring when the tree has already started growing after its' winter sleep.

Mark it on your calendar to attend; that's June 4th, 10am at the Oak Shadows Mobile Home club house. We look forward to seeing you .

July Meeting

There will be NO meeting of the Mother Lode Bonsai Club on Saturday the 2nd of July, instead we are to meet at David & Susie Anderson's residence in Pine Grove on Saturday the **9th** of July for our Club's annual summer potluck picnic. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at our June meeting for those expecting to attend. Below is a detailed map showing the way.....





This Month's Bonsai Calendar...

1 - Watering - Now is the time to take the time to look over your garden on a daily basis and adjust your watering to a **summertime** schedule. Remember, we are still in a serious drought and close attention to a proper watering schedule is most certainly necessary to keep your plants alive.

2 - Fertilizing - You should now have finished with the last of your Spring fertilizing, if not, get to it..!!

3 - Repotting - Serious repotting or root pruning is **NOT ADVISED** at this time of year through early **November**.

4 - Pruning/Defoliating - As with most all trees in our area, drastic pruning is best accomplished in January, however you may lightly prune excessive small growth as necessary most anytime. You should be finished with defoliating.

5 - Styling - Better accomplished in the cold winter months however most any time will work. Remove any old wire that has completed its' job or may be starting to cut into tender bark and limbs.

6 - Insect disease and critter control - Remove dead plant material. Maintain defensive treatments for fungus. Watch for and treat insect infections and scale.

7 - Propagating -. Now is also the time to move your tropical plants to an outdoor morning sun only area, this will take advantage of a more efficient water and humidity atmosphere that is NOT found inside most homes. - You only have another week or two to finish your air layering projects, better hurry. -

Plant your favorite tomatoes now!



Your Bonsai and Weeds



Weeds can often be found growing within your bonsai composition. Not only are they unsightly but their removal is certainly very necessary as they take away valuable moisture, nutrients and soil from the bonsai.

Weeds can easily find their way into the pot via the wind, onto the surface of the soil or can also be present in the soil that is used at repotting time, particularly if organic soil such as leaf mould, bark or sphagnum moss is used.

The roots of most any weed can quickly become entangled within those of your

bonsai so weeding should be carried out by hand as soon as they emerge. The best way to remove established weeds from the soil of your bonsai is to gently remove the unwanted weed using a chopstick or small flat metal tool to first loosen the soil around the weed's root, then a slight tug should do the trick. Give it a slight shake to then remove soil attached from it's roots. In some instances complete removal of an established weed during the growing season is a difficult task without causing damage to the bonsai. Unfortunately without complete removal of the entire weed root system many weed species are able to regenerate and reappear at a later date.

Another common way of removing weeds is to use a herbicide weedkiller, ... AND, why SHOULDN'T Glyphosate or RoundUp be used on weeds found in and around your bonsai? This method if not applied by a very experience nursery person can not only kill the intended weeds, but can also completely destroy your precious bonsai. And too, Glyphosate or Round-Up can become inert or heavily diluted once it comes into contact with the soil. It can then become 'locked up' in the soil and remain active for many years. As there is no warning as to whether this weedkiller has or has not broken down successfully in the soil, it is very possible for a bonsai in the confines of a small pot to be affected by any locked up weedkiller residue without one realizing it is there, with disastrous consequences.

I would strongly suggest you avoid the use of weedkillers as the risk of ***killing*** your bonsai is very real when using glyphosate, Round UP, alcohol, vinegar or any other such harsh chemical on your bonsai. Stick to the old fashion method of 'pull and shake', and if the weed's roots are so entrenched within the bonsai's roots that they will not come loose then just cut the weeds back and wait until mid January to bare root the entire bonsai to then extract the entwined weed roots.

- MLBC Bonsai Chat -
- Questions, Answers, Comments,
Items of Interest -

This space below is yours....



What's going on in your bonsai garden?

All members of the MLBC are invited to participate in this very informal Q & A "*Bonsai Chat*".

Send your correspondence to -
Joan Scroggs at:
JScroggsKTVU@aol.com

Deadline for publication is the
third Monday of the month.

Visit the new MLBC website at:
www.MotherLodeBonsai.org

Webmaster Annie Dunaway-Costain has invited all Club members to send her their suggestions, questions and comments for publication on our new website. Also requested are photos of your best bonsai and those bonsai you may have in various stages of developmental growth and styling. Here's where to send your correspondence and photos:

Annie Dunaway-Costain
motherlodebonsai@yahoo.com

Mother Lode Bonsai Club Schedule for 2016

Regular Meetings: First Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. (Except July & Sept when the meeting will be held on the **second** Saturday of the month).

Place: Oak Shadows Mobil Home Park Clubhouse, 1330 Calaveritas Rd, San Andreas, CA

Visitors welcome - For more information call: Bob Dean at 209 754 5887.

Meeting

Program

June 4 - Air Layering - **Vince Owyong**
 July 9 - **Summer Potluck**
 Aug 6 - Accent Plants
 Sept 10 - Suiseki - **Jerry Braswell**
 Sept 24 - **MLBC's 1st Annual Show**
 Oct 1 - Shohin
 Nov 5 - Azalea & Camellia Pruning -
 David Anderson
 Dec 3 - **Christmas Party Potluck**

Meeting Refreshments



Person #1

Backup

Jun - Linda Wise	Shirley Ulm
July - Summer Potluck Picnic	
At The Anderson Residence	
Aug - Claude Chandler	RayMona Cunha
Sept - Open	Open
Oct - Doug Lau	Barbara Olivier
Nov - Open	Open
Dec - Christmas Party Potluck	

MLBC Dues

Annual club membership dues are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for couples. Checks may be made out to the Mother Lode Bonsai Club and mailed directly to the MLBC Treasurer, Paul Van Natta, Mother Lode Bonsai Club, 10843 Knoll Dr, Valley Springs CA, 95252, or simply hand your check to Paul at our next regular Saturday meeting.

Free Newsletter Ads -

Each household membership may place a five line ad related to bonsai in four newsletters each year free of charge. Send a copy of your ads to Joan Scroggs, your newsletter editor, before the third Monday of the month to appear in the next publication. -

INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED HANDS ON BONSAI INSTRUCTION FOR THE SERIOUS BONSAI STUDENT

All day, once a month, one-on-one bonsai classes. \$50.00 per student per day. Class size limited to five students. Call Joan Scroggs at: 209 532 4880. -

BONSAI CLASSES AT DAVID ANDERSON'S

14211 Lupe Rd. Pine Grove, CA, 209 296 5887 -
 4th Sat. of the month through Nov. 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Bring your own bonsai or buy nursery stock from David. Bring your own pots, tools & lunch, David will supply soil & wire. \$10.00 per person.

Events By Others.....



GSBF's Bonsai and Suiseki Garden Lakeside Park, Oakland CA. Open: Wed., Thurs., Fri. 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Sat. 10:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m., Sun. 12:00 noon– 4:00 p.m. Enter at gate across from Boat House.

June 4 and 5, 2016, San Mateo, CA
Sei Boku Bonsai Kai: 33rd Annual Show at the San Mateo Garden Center. 605 Parkside Way (next to Beresford Park). Show hours are 10 AM to 4 PM both days, with demonstration by Dennis Makishima from Noon – 3 PM on Saturday (tree will be raffled off at the conclusion of demo). Sunday Dennis will lead an open view workshop from Noon – 3 PM. Large club member plant sale, vendors, door prizes and our always popular raffles. Admission is free. Dr. Bonsai will be available to offer styling and care tips. For more information contact Marsha Mekisich at ateclectic.gardener@yahoo.com.

June 12, 2016, Seaside, CA
Monterey Bonsai Club: 53rd Annual Exhibition at the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, 1150 Noche Buena Street. Show hours are from 11 AM – 4 PM with a demonstration at 1:30 PM by Katsumi Kinoshita. There will be a benefit drawing for bonsai trees. Silent auction area will include bonsai trees, pots and pre-bonsai material. For more information contact Rich Guillen at richguillen@sbcglobal.net or Dianne Woods at vinca27@comcast.net.

June 18 – 19, 2016, Livermore, CA
Valley Bonsai Society: 8th annual show at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane. Show hours are 10 AM – 4 PM on both days with demonstration by an expert bonsai artist at 1 PM. The finished trees will be raffled off at the end of the demonstration. Member's sales table. Admission is free. For additional information contact Charles Harder at bonsainut@comcast.net

August 20 – 21, 2016 Santa Rosa, CA
Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS): 33rd Annual show at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue. Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday with demonstration by Bonsai Master Artist Kathy Shaner from 1 to 3 PM both days. Demo trees will be raffled. See the largest bonsai exhibition. Large bonsai vendor and member sales. Exciting silent auctions or “buy it now”. Free refreshments by the Bonsai café. Free admission and parking. For more information visit our website www.rebsbonsai.org or contact Bob Shimon at (707) 884-4126 or shimon@mcn.org

September 24 – 25, 2016, Penryn, CA
Sierra Bonsai Club: Annual Show at the Placer Buddhist Church, 3192 Boyington Road, in conjunction with the 52nd Annual Food Bazaar. Show hours are 11 AM – 5 PM Saturday and 11 AM – 4 PM Sunday. Bonsai demonstration will be held in the temple both days, along with other cultural events throughout the day. It is a yearly celebration for the whole family to enjoy. For more information, contact Lucy Sakaishi-Judd (916) 300-8103

Sept. 24 – 25, 2016, San Diego, CA
San Diego Bonsai Club: Fall Bonsai Exhibition at the Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Show hours are 10 AM – 5 PM both days with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM. Free Admission. Bonsai pots and trees for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information visit. www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com or contact Janice Hale.

October 8 – 9, 2016 Oakland, CA
East Bay Bonsai Society: Annual show held at the Lakeside Garden Center at 666 Bellevue Ave. Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM Saturday and 11 AM to 4 PM Sunday with demonstration and raffle from 1 to 3:30 PM on Sunday. Free admission and show will feature over 50 trees of various varieties and ages. For more information contact us at ebbs@eastbaybonsai.org

October 27-30, 2016 Sacramento, CA
Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention 39 “A Bonsai Convergence: Gather At The Rivers” Convention. Headliners: Ryan Neil and Bjorn Bjornholm. More Workshops and Seminars from: Kathy Shaner, David Nguy, Peter Tea, and others. Where: The Double Tree By Hilton 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815. Hotel phone: 916-924-4900 (ask for the “GSBF Group Rate”) For more information, contact: Scott Chadd, GSBF President at: 530-622-9681 or scottchadd@lotusbonsai.com. On-line registration opens on July 1, 2016 Click here: <http://www.gsbfcconvention.org>

Copyright © 2016

JKS