



Bonsai Clippings

Mother Lode Bonsai Club Monthly Newsletter

March 2018

- January Meeting -

The MLBC January workshop was based on a great idea by Vince Owyong.



It was great fun and very informative for our members and was well received by all who participated from novice to experienced.



Club members broke up into teams, each under the direction of a experienced bonsai mentor. The teams then selected a “raw material” tree to shape, style and transform into a lovely new bonsai tree.



The newly completed bonsai trees were then included in the club's raffle, with some of the members winning the very same bonsai tree they worked on. They were totally thrilled!

A Fond Farewell and Thank You to Kendra

The MLBC is sorry to be losing one of it's valued members this Spring!

Kendra North is leaving our fair foothills and the club this spring and moving out of the area to be closer to her family.

She has given our club many years of her expertise, time and always with a smiling face. Thank you so much for all you have done for the club Kendra! We wish the best wherever you go and shall miss you.



- February Meeting -

There was no meeting of the Mother Lode Bonsai Club in February, instead many of the MLBC members attended the Golden State Bonsai Federation sponsored Shohin Seminar in Santa Nella, Saturday, February 3rd of this year. There were morning and afternoon class sessions with some classes meeting all day. This seminar was structured very differently from most in that the attendance for classes was based on a lottery system. If you were not enrolled in the class, you could stand in the back and listen to the information, but not actively participate in the class or workshop.

Some of our members went to browse the exhibition, shop the vendors and absorb the great information from the many workshops offered. Vendor tables encompassed the usual offerings, with almost half of both vendors' rooms dedicated to an extremely large and varied selection of bonsai pottery.



Carol Fairchild attended an all day class from Juan Cruz on Shimpacu Junipers and produced a very stunning bonsai tree to add to her collection. She then shared some of her newly acquired knowledge of raffia wrapping and wiring tips with some of us bonsai students.

V i n c e
Owyoung
directed a
w e l l
attended,
afternoon
class on
working
with and
s t y l i n g
b o n s a i
olive trees.



Nikie Hobba listened in on two different companion plant demonstrations and workshops, learning many new ways to approach planting mini containers.

A very successful weekend seminar with many expert instructors and many varied venues to offer bonsai enthusiasts.

- April Meeting -

Our April 7th meeting will again be held at the San Andreas Library in San Andreas and will feature a Spring workshop. Please remember to bring not only your favorite bonsai trees but also your tools and a plastic tarp to cover your work area.

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 at 209 454 9540 or e-mail at:

nhobba51@gmail.com

MLBC Bonsai Chat

- Questions - Answers - Comments - Items of interest -

Joan:

I am just starting off in the world of bonsai art and am wondering what tools to buy?

They all seem so very expensive.

Sue -

What Bonsai Tools Do I Need?



With the four above “Yes” tools you will be able to complete most any application on your bonsai tree. Total cost, less than \$75. It is not to say that you will not eventually need any of the tools that are marked as a “No”, however for one just starting out there is no need to spend a lot of money on items you will seldom use .. **just yet.** And too, you might like to pick up a few strands of wire to add to your tool box at around 2 or 3 dollars per roll, then throw in a few of these simple, quite inexpensive and very useful chopsticks..... You’re now good-to-go with the experts.



JKS

Total package price: Less than \$85.00. -

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.

This Month's Bonsai Calendar.....



1 - Watering - Don't be led into a false sense of security with our recent little rain showers and feel that your bonsai have been sufficiently watered. On these warm summer like days plants in small containers or pots can quickly dry out leaving your prized bonsai to wither and die in as little as just one afternoon. Now is the time to take the time to look over your garden on a daily basis and adjust your watering to a springtime 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, rain or no rain.

2 - Fertilizing - Now is the time to start preparing for spring fertilizing with your favorite ALL PURPOSE 10.10.10. DO NOT be particularly concerned as to the **Brand-Name** on the fertilizer package, rather be concerned more as the the three numbers on the package and the intended use for for that specific fertilizer. For azaleas, rhododendrons and acid loving plants use your favorite low nitrogen or 0.10.10. fertilizer. ----- Depending on the weather and the new young growth pattern of your bonsai, mid-April to early May is the best time to start the first of the three fertilizer applications for the entire year. Next months newsletter will feature a more informational article on this subject.

3- Repotting - Serious repotting and root pruning is **not advised** at this time of year through early November.

4 - Pruning - 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.

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 - Grafting - Start now with your grafting projects. You only have a week or two, better hurry.

8 - Propagating - Now is the time for rooting some of your favorite cuttings for new spring growth.

Watering Your Bonsai

Watering is crucial to the survival and health of your bonsai. It is so important to bonsai care that apprentices learning the art of bonsai in Japan are given **pruning shears** long before they're given **watering cans**. But don't let that daunt you. You can learn to water your bonsai really quite well.

If a bonsai's leaves are turning yellow and dropping,



it could be a sign of under watering. Just like a person a plant that is not receiving enough water can become dehydrated. There doesn't seem to be a hard and fast rule regarding how frequently you should water your bonsai, it really depends on the type of plant, the type of soil, and the location of the plant.

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

Take a look at our newly redesigned website that Carol Fairchild has recently constructed. Future elements are continually being added and Carol has invited any suggestions, questions or comments from club members. Carol would also like members to submit pictures of their bonsai for the website to show what members are doing, ... and growing.

MLBC Dues for 2018

Annual club membership dues are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for couples. To remain on the club roster please make payment no later than March 31. Checks may be made out to the Mother Lode Bonsai Club and mailed directly to the MLBC Treasure, 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 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

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.

**The Mother Lode Bonsai Club
has its regular meetings on the first
Saturday of every month at 10 a.m.**

Place: San Andreas Public Library, 1299 Gold Hunter Road, San Andreas, CA 95249

Visitors welcome - For more information call:
Richard Mc Kinstry 209 288 2330

Mother Lode



Bonsai
Club

Mother Lode Bonsai Club Officers

President - Richard Mc Kinstry
richardwandr@aol.com 209 754 5887
Vic President - Sonny Cozzo
sonnycozzo@yahoo.com,
Secretary - Shirley Ulm
sulmsafari@gmail.com
Secretary - Carol Belot
cjbelot@sbcglobal.net,
Treasurer - Paul Van Natta
njvannatta@gmail.com

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.

March 24 – 25, 2018 Oakland, California

Bay Area Bonsai Associates: 37th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue. Show hours are 5 – 9 PM Saturday and 12 noon – 4 PM Sunday. Light dinner at 5:30 PM Saturday followed by a bonsai demonstration by club members from 6:30 to 9 PM. Benefit drawing of demo tree(s). Winning ticket must be present to win. Sales of plants, bonsai, and other bonsai related items both days. Admission is free. Parking fee to the Lakeside Park entrance is required during the park hours. For more information, please contact Janice Dilbeck janicedilbeck@comcast.net

March 31 – April 1, 2018 Sacramento, California

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai: 41st Annual show at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Show hours are 10 AM – 4 PM daily with a demonstration at 2 PM. Amenities include refreshments, light snacks, door prizes, raffles and a silent auction. Member and vendor sales of plants and bonsai-related items, as well as a food vendor. For more information contact Bonsai Sekiyu Kai at bonsaisekiyukai@gmail.com.

April 4 - 8, 2018 Daly City, California

Bonsai Society of San Francisco Bonsai Exhibit at the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Avenue. Show hours are 10

AM - 7 PM Wednesday thru Saturday, and 10 AM - 6 PM on Sunday. There will be demonstrations daily and sales of bonsai trees, pots, and other bonsai-related items by the club. For more information contact Bernard Marque at imarque@yahoo.com, or see show website <http://www.sfgardenshow.com/the-show>.

April 6 - 7, 2018 Fresno, California

GSBF Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen: Kōen-Nai No Bonsai, Bonsai in the Park, 7775 North Friant Road. We have planned a new event style this year. Join us for an afternoon BBQ on Friday and a full day of bonsai on Saturday.

April 14 - 15, 2018 Sacramento, California

American Bonsai Association, Sacramento: Annual Spring Show at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center in McKinley Park, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Show hours are 10 AM - 4 PM with demonstrations by Peter Tea at 1:30 PM both days and a hands-on beginner workshop Sunday morning from 10 AM – 12 PM. There is a large member and vendor sales area, plenty of free parking and admission. A benefit drawing follows the demonstration each day and will include that day's demonstration tree and many bonsai and bonsai related items. For additional information call Renee Seely (916) 929-2106 or email breadcrust@comcast.net

April 14 - 15, 2018 San Jose, California

San Jose Betsuin Bonsai Club: 47th Annual Spring Exhibit at the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 640 North Fifth Street. Hours are Noon – 5 PM Saturday and Noon – 4 PM Sunday with demonstration at 1PM both days. Sales of plants and pots by the club and sales by vendors. For information call Jim Urhausen (408)275-8059.

April 14 - 15, 2018 Santa Cruz, California

Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai: 30th Annual Bonsai Show at the Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street. Show hours are from 10 AM - 5 PM with demonstration at 2 PM both days. Saturday's demonstrator is Jonas Dupuich and Sunday's is yet to be determined. Demonstration tree and trees prepared by club members will be part of the raffle after each day's demonstration. Sales area will include quality vendor and member trees, pots, and other related bonsai items. In addition, enjoy the Watsonville Taiko Drummers, a Martial Arts

demonstration, and other Japanese cultural events in the recently revitalized Abbott Square next to the Museum. Admission price is \$5.00 for both the Museum and the Bonsai Show. For more information, contact Ed Lambing at edinbonnydoon@comcast.net.

April 21, 2018 Modesto, California

Modesto Bonsai Club: 36th Annual Show at the Clarion Inn, 1612 Sisk Rd. Show hours are 10 AM – 4 PM with demonstration by Bonsai artist Sam Adina at 1 PM. Free admission, open to the public. Exhibit, multiple raffles, and sales of trees, pots and other related items.

April 21 – 22, 2018 Palo Alto, California

Kusamura Bonsai Club: 58th Annual Show, Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road. Show hours are Noon – 5 PM Saturday, and 11 AM - 5 PM Sunday with demonstrations at 1:30 PM each day. Saturday's demonstration by Darren and Laura Wong (Soh-Ju-En Satsuki Bonsai) and Sunday's demonstration by club members. Free admission and kids corner. Bonsai trees, pots, and other bonsai-related items will be for sale. For more information contact Charlene Fischer at charlenerae@mac.com or visit www.kusamurabonsai.org.

May 4 - 5, 2018 Sacramento, California

Sacramento Bonsai Club: 72nd Annual Show Buddhist Church of Sacramento, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Show hours are Noon - 5 pm , Saturday and 10 am - 4 pm Sunday with demonstrations at 2 pm by Bonsai artist Sam Adina both days, followed by benefit drawings. Free Admission, open to the public. Club member sales of bonsai-related items.

May 19 - 20, 2018 Oakland, California

Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai (BASA): 23rd Annual Satsuki Azalea Bonsai Show, Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave. Show hours are 10 AM – 5 PM Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday with demonstration by Johnny Uchida Saturday 1 – 3 PM (Demonstration tree to be raffled). Beginning bonsai workshop Sunday 1 – 3 PM limited space available, \$20 fee and sign-up required. Participating vendors – North American

Satsuki Bonsai Center – Rick Garcia and Shojuen – Darren and Laura Wong. Free admission. Public parking available. For more information contact George Haas at gwhaas@comcast.net or visit BASA website <http://satsukiazaleabonsai.org>.

May 19 – 20, 2018 Sacramento, California

Satsuki Aikokai Association: Annual show held at Shepard Garden Center 3330 McKinley Blvd. Show hours are 10 AM - 5 PM Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday with demonstrations at 1:30 PM both days by botanist and bonsai nurseryman Yuzo Maruyama. Create your own azalea bonsai class at 11 AM both days. Raffles, vendors and Satsuki information booth. Free entrance and parking. For more information contact: Ronn Pigram (916) 428 8505 or email - satsukiaikokaisac@sbcglobal.net

May 20, 2018 Van Nuys, California

Sansui Kai of Southern California: Annual Bonsai Show and Sale, Japanese Garden, Tillman Water Reclamation Center, 6100 Woodley Ave. Hours are 10 AM - 4 PM with demonstrations at 1PM. Entry fee \$5 to show and garden. There will be bonsai trees for sale as well as bonsai related things (pots, stones etc.).

June 2 - 3, 2018 San Mateo, California

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai: 35th Annual Show at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way (next to Beresford Park). Show hours are 10 AM - 4 PM both days with demonstration by Jonas Dupuich from 1 – 3 PM Saturday and Noon – 3 PM Sunday a workshop led by Jonas. Demo tree will be raffled off and one of the workshop trees will be raffled at the conclusion. 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 eclectic.gardener@yahoo.com.

June 3, 2018 Seaside, California

Monterey Bonsai Club: 55th Annual Exhibition at the Monterey Buddhist Temple, 1150 Noche Buena Street. Show hours are from 11 AM - 4 PM. Demonstration is at 1:30 PM by Katsumi Kinoshita. Bonsai door prizes and bonsai trees will be available. Silent auction area will include bonsai, pots, plants and books. For more information: email Rich Guillen at richguillen@sbcglobal.net or Drew Tucker at dtucker128@gmail.com.

