



Bonsai Wire

Marin Bonsai Club

Monthly Meeting
3rd Tuesday, 7:30PM
Marin Art & Garden Center
30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Ross, CA

September 2009

President's Letter

First of all, a big thank you to all who came to our big fundraiser of the year, the auction, and a special thanks to all those who helped. This is one of the most important events of the year for our club and raises much needed funds for our demos, rent and other expenses. Many people got some great trees, pots, stands, accent plants, tools and books at bargain basement prices. There were a lot of bonsai enthusiasts from clubs across the Bay Area and many walked away very happy.

It is not too early to start thinking about our fall show, which will be on Friday evening, November 13 and Saturday, November 14. Please start thinking about which trees you want in the show. Bring them to a workshop to get them into shape. We are again having one of the world's great bonsai masters, Marco Invernizzi, as our demonstrator on Friday evening.

We will also have a raffle on Friday and Saturday, so please start thinking about donations. We are requesting all members to bring at least one raffle item to donate. If you have a tree, pot, tool or book that would be great. But non-bonsai items would also be welcome...a bottle of wine, a dinner for two at your favorite restaurant, whatever strikes your fancy.

A special event at this year's show will be Marco as the "Bonsai Doctor". Marco will be available for either ½ hour or 1 hour to individuals (\$40 and \$75). This is an opportunity for you to bring a tree or several trees to Marco to have him give you ideas on styling or work on your tree. This is a very rare opportunity to have a great bonsai master all to yourself. Slots will fill up fast, so call me for a reservation (415-472-6685).

For our September meeting our very own John Doig will be the demonstrator. John has done several demos with Tim Kong over the last few years and also demo'd at the Marin County Fair. This will be his first formal demo for our club, so please come and support him.

- Craig Thompson

2009 Auction Results

As this year's auction chairperson, I am happy to report another respectable year in profits for the club despite an overall economy which presented some unusual challenges. Total sales were not off much from past years, but with more people taking some commission from their sales instead of outright donations the total income for the club was markedly down. This wasn't unexpected and considering the pinch almost everyone is experiencing we were relieved to have done so well.

The auction was well attended and we were pleased to see so many members from the general public and other clubs there to check out this year's bargains. We had a hard working auction crew of at least 16 people who kept the entertainment going, answered questions, fed our guests, kept track of all the sales and made sure the right items went home with the right people. Many others made donations to this annual fundraiser and those who could not attend I'm sure were with us in spirit.

There were some changes this year which kept the auction moving at a brisk pace and offered a variety of purchasing options to interested buyers. The new seating arrangement seemed to give everyone,

including all the auction workers, a better view of the auction, and the sales table for less expensive items proved quite popular, especially when prices were dropped towards the end of the evening. More changes are in store for next year as well. Refreshments will move inside the auction room for better access and the ability to keep an eye of items being auctioned while refilling the wine glasses, and the sales area will be expanded. The big change will be moving the auction to September in hopes that a fall date will allow those we lose to summer vacations to attend. Anyone having other ideas on how to make the auction bigger, better and more profitable please let us know. It can always be improved.

Thanks once again to all those who gave so generously of their time, trees, money and energy to make the annual auction a success. We depend on all club members and appreciate any contribution you can manage to keep our club strong financially and a vital source for studying and appreciating the art of bonsai.

- Candace Key, auction wrangler



Refreshments schedule:

September 15 - Sharon Bone and Dan Keller

October 20 - Michael Jaffe. ***We need a second volunteer to share the job.***

- Marlene Philley

Our newsletter is what YOU make it!

There are four or five club members who regularly contribute to the newsletter (and we thank them) but ALL members are encouraged to share their knowledge, insight, opinion, etc.

Please send newsletter submissions (articles, notices, photos, whatever) to: Sharon Bone, sbone27@comcast.net.

Deadline for inclusion in the October 2009 issue is September 25.

Taskmaster - September 2009

This is an odd, in-between time in the North Bay Area microclimates. Warm, occasionally really hot days; cool, occasionally really chilly nights; stillness or light breezes to occasionally very windy. Warm can make your trees thirsty. Hot can toast them dry. Cool or chilly can slow growth and water uptake. Wind can burn or dehydrate leaf edges.

It all comes down to a few rules, and a couple of gambles. The rules are: As much full sun as possible when safe (not too hot and no wind) - for satsukis and deciduous will generate the best fall show of color. A last application to everything of cottonseed 70%/bonemeal 30% for a low nitrogen, long-term feed, plus foliar feed with a sprinkle of Miracle-Gro or the like. After that, the buds all get set and healthy for spring and it's 0-10-10 all winter (Nov, Dec, Jan). The gamble is whether you can sun these plants without burning or overdrying them.

Wiring is good to do on all evergreens, but use a loose wire and a soft hand, because branches swell in Fall and Winter. Wiring is good on escape branches (don't cut them yet) and summer growth, but the gamble on all this wiring is whether you can avoid bark scarring.

Repotting is a good thing for any slow-draining evergreen right now - just go lightly on root pruning, and supply bright shade for 3 weeks. Repotting fruiting and flowering trees at the end of September through October will insure healthy roots, but the gamble in all this repotting is whether the work done now will cause flowers and fruit to fail in Spring and whether you can protect these repotted plants if we get an extended hot, dry, windy spell.

Check your air-layer roots, strike the top tree loose and plant it now if it seems reasonably developed. All these repotted and air-layered trees need the last of the warm weeks to develop strong roots for winter. The gamble? See heat/wind/shade/sun warning above.

The trees are beginning to respond to the sun's more oblique rays, less intense UV exposure, longer nights, and they slow down. So hand water at this time of year, preferably with a watering can, so you can decide pot by pot whether to water lightly or heavily, whether aphids, mites, inchworms, leaf-rollers and adelgid are getting a start here and there. No gamble with this one - this is the safe way.

Try to watch the sun
Try to have some fun
Autumn's going to be a long run
You never know what tomorrow will bring.

- The Taskmaster

Beginners Workshops with Tim Kong

September 3 and 17, 7-9:30pm

Cost: \$65 per person for two workshops.
Instruction, trees and wire provided
Class size limited to 12

Livermore Room, Marin Art & Garden Center

Please call Michael at 945-9930 to register

September Meeting/Demonstration

I have been asked to be the speaker/demonstrator for the September 15 meeting of our club. My topic is a wiring demonstration – not just an ordinary one but a great one. Now we all know that wiring demonstrations can be as boring as watching paint dry. However, the goal is to turn that around. You may want to take No Doze before you arrive, if you so choose, but not necessary.

This meeting will be an audience participatory event so please bring your pliers and wire cutters – you may find yourself actually doing some wiring. Please come with your questions, perhaps a questionable wiring endeavor, and whatever you think will make me loosen up and give out more information!! This is my first attempt in this highly competitive realm – applause and laughter will be appreciated.

We will have fun -- so -- BE THERE!!!

- John Doig

BAY AREA BONSAI EVENTS

September 1,3,4,5,7,8,9

Oakland, CA

GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: Edu-Fun Yasuo Mitsuya, a master of Gendai in Japan, teacher of Kathy Shaner, will have workshops and seminars at the Garden. Reservations will be on first come first served basis. Workshop details are available on: http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org/lake-merritt/Mitsuya_atBGLM.htm. For more information, send email requests to bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com or gsbcnorth@gmail.com.

September 19-20

San Mateo, CA

San Mateo Bonsai Club 46th Annual Bonsai Exhibit at San Mateo Central Park Recreation Center, 5th & El Camino Real. Hours are Saturday, 12PM-5PM and Sunday 10AM-4PM. Demonstration at 2 PM both days. Bonsai sale and raffle after the demonstrations. Free Admission. For more information, contact Sam Tachibana stachibana@sbcglobal.net, 650-548-9470.

September 26

San Jose, CA

Midori Bonsai Club: 48th Annual Bonsai Show at the Northside Community Center, 488 6th St. Includes 18 separate, 2 and 3-point displays of fine bonsai. At 1:30PM, nationally acclaimed artist Boon Manakitivipart will style a bunjin Japanese Black Pine. Sales of trees, tools, pots and bonsai accessories will be offered by Jim Gremel, Shibui Bonsai, Inc., and others. Free styling help and advice for the public from "Dr. Bonsai". Contact JT at (408)371-7737 or jtbonsai@earthlink.net

October 3

Salinas, CA

Salinas Bonsai Club: Annual bonsai show at the Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church, 536 Lincoln Ave. Show hours 11AM-4PM. Demonstration at 1:30PM by Katsumi Kinoshita. A raffle of the demonstration tree and other items will follow the demonstration. Tea and cookies will be served and there is plenty of parking. For more information please contact Don White, 831-724-9283; whiteslib@aol.com or Maggie Brubaker, 831-663-5044; maggee36@aol.com

MARIN BONSAI CLUB EVENTS

September 1, 2009: Workshop

Starting at 7pm, our monthly bring-your-own-tree workshop with Tim Kong and Jay McDonald. Fee is \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

September 3, 2009: Beginner's workshop

Two evenings, Sept. 3rd and 17th, sensei Tim Kong will teach a beginner's workshop. Cost is \$65. Instruction, trees and wire provided. Call 945-9930 to reserve your space.

September 15, 2009: Wiring Demo/Workshop

John Doig will be doing a wiring demo/workshop. Bring a tree, tools and wire.

October 6, 2009: Workshop

Starting at 7pm, our monthly bring-your-own-tree workshop with Tim Kong and Jay McDonald. Fee is \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

For a list of currently scheduled MBC events for the remainder of the year, see

<http://www.marinbonsai.org/events/index.php>.



Marin Bonsai Club

2009 Marin Bonsai Club Officers:

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|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President | Craig Thompson | 415-472-6685 |
| VP Programs | Candace Key | 415-491-1989 |
| VP Shows | Jay McDonald | 415-847-8909 |
| Secretary | Michael Jaffe | 415-945-9930 |
| Treasurer | Frances Noles | 415-461-0437 |
| Historian | Carolyn Robbins | 415-460-0339 |
| News Editor | Sharon Bone | 415-898-9618 |
| Librarian | Tim Burke | 415-259-7372 |
| Hospitality | Marlene Philley | 415-924-5134 |
| Docent Coord | Jeanette Arnold | 415-883-2651 |

Marin Bonsai Club

PO Box 437

Ross, CA 94957

www.marinbonsai.org

Address Correction Requested

Please Forward



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