

February Tips:

If a deciduous bonsai starts sprouting or blossoming, it should be brought out of the shade into the sunlight gradually.

Location: If left in the shade, the new sprouts will grow too long and spindly.

Watering: Because this month is cold and rainy, the bonsai will not need to be watered daily, but make it a point to check every day.

Fertilizing: No fertilizing this month.

Pruning: This is the best time to reshape any deciduous tree because it is bare. Do not do too drastic shaping because the branches may be too brittle. Check all plants to see that the wires are not too tight.

Transplanting: No transplanting or soil changing should be done this month unless bare-root stock is available for starting.

Miscellaneous: Prepare soil mixture for future use. Move all deciduous trees into a shady place. This will prevent them from sprouting during a warm winter. It will also help keep the trees in a dormant stage.

Bonsai Techniques I
by John Naka



MONTEREY BONSAI CLUB

JANUARY, 2012

February 7th Meeting

At our February meeting we will continue our tradition of holding a raffle of bonsai trees and pots donated by our members. This is a great time for you to pass on some of those bonsai you have long planned to "style" but never gotten around to. You know the ones I mean, stuck there behind your garage waiting for a new home.

In addition, to being a great opportunity for you to rid yourself of un-needed plants, you can also pick-up some valuable new ones from our Club auction. It is always a good time to pick-up some bonsai you can create for our Annual Exhibition door prize drawing. So bring your donations and your money to the next meeting and join in the auction fun.

The Bay Area Bonsai Associates are holding their annual exhibition this weekend at the Lake Merritt Garden Center. The highlight of this event is a demonstration by the hottest new bonsai master, Ryan Neil, on Saturday night. If you have the time, this is a great show to check out.

Domo Arigato

Thanks to Claudia Gomes and Larry Fobian who brought refreshments to the last meeting. Don Brightwell and Joe Byrd will bring refreshments to the next meeting.

Please sign up at the next meeting to bring refreshments for the meetings in the new year.

Don't forget to visit our Club Library at the next meeting to learn more about bonsai..

Coming Events

January 28-29 Oakland Bay Area Bonsai Associates: 31st Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Lakeside Park (Lake Merritt) Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue. Show hours are Saturday, 5-9 PM and a demonstration by Ryan Neil starts at 6:30 PM, followed by a raffle of the demonstration tree. Sunday hours are 10AM-4PM. A plant sale (including bonsai related items such as pots, tools, soils, wires, books, etc.) will be continuous both days. Admission is free.

Monterey Bonsai Club Officers

Katsumi Kinoshita, Sensei

Joe Byrd, President & Newsletter Editor

John Morrison, 1st Vice President

Bert Saunders, Publicity

Dianne Woods, Treasurer & Membership

Elinor Snortum, Secretary

Don Brightwell, 2nd Vice President

Atsuko Kinoshita & Sandy Yagyū,
Food Committee

MONTEREY BONSAI CLUB

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New Year's Party Notes

I think we can all agree that our New Year's party this month was our best yet. Many members and their families turned out to participate in the good food, great music, and fun White Elephant Gift Exchange. A special thanks goes to Atsuko Kinoshita and her team for organizing an excellent meal, most of it prepared by members. Tom Lawson, did his usual excellent job of entertaining us on his piano. His music really set the tone for the evening — upbeat and fun.

This year for the first time we had a White Elephant gift exchange organized by Greg Migdale. Thanks to Greg we finished off the evening with a very spirited exchange of gifts in which the most sought after gifts were “stolen” multiple times before the activity was completed. It was great to see so many members competing to see who could get the most coveted prizes.

Thanks to all members who participated and a special thanks to Ardelle Gilbert who brought some extra gifts for the Club's officers. We received a very nice “thank you” speech from the Monterey Buddhist Temple for our work on their Temple garden. They also provided us with lovely table decorations which made the room more festive.

To those members who could not attend, we extend an invitation to join us next year for a truly fun evening.

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February 4-6 Santa Nella California Shohin Seminar 2012 at the Hotel de Oro. Registration forms and information will be available starting October 30, 2011. Visit the website at www.calshohin.org or email calshohin@yahoo.com.

February 25-26 Oakland GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: Mammoth Fundraiser, 2012 at the Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue. On Saturday an auction of fabulous bonsai will be from 1-4PM, with preview at 12Noon. Sunday hours are from 9AM-4PM and will feature demonstrations by Collection Curator, Kathy Shaner and Team, many vendors, a large consignment sale of bonsai and bonsai related items and several raffle drawings throughout the day. For general information email www.bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com, visit www.gsbf-bonsai.org/lake-merritt/NewHome.htm or phone Randi Kerpeler 650-598-0127.