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THE BONSAI GAKUSEI

*Newsletter of the Modesto Bonsai Club
SEPTEMBER 2006*

PROGRAM

Date: Saturday, Sept. 16, 2006

Location: Blue Oak Nursery, 784 Albers Road.

Program Schedule:

9:00a Executive Board Meeting
 10:00a Club Business Meeting/ Bonsai Basics
 11:00a Lunch Break: Bring a brown bag lunch. Club provides some drinks and snacks.
 12:00p George Fujita's Demonstrations
 1:30p Workshop

REMINDER: Each member is responsible for cleaning his/her work area/table before leaving.

A Message from your President...

The August club meeting was lightly attended for our first Bazaar/Sales/Drawing. Many plants and pots were donated by members for the drawing. Club members brought and designed trees for the sales table.

Sam and other mentors helped many with their trees and some of the club trees.

Sam later did some demonstrating with Cork Oaks and collected California Junipers. He pointed out that the summer heat is not a time for fertilizing bonsai. Summer is a time for cleaning up, thinning out, and pinching back the growth to maintain the styling. The down-growing foliage is to be taken off either by pinching (or cutting if pinching doesn't work).

Some branches may have to be protected by wrapping with raffia if they are susceptible to wire marks. Wiring must be done with a thought to not wiring too tightly, you

should be able to slip a strip of paper between the wire and the branch.

Many of the members had a touch of Deja-vu of George's styling. Sam was trimming and styling a Juniper and was going to cut the top off as there was quite a bare area of trunk. The audience voiced their opinions and Sam wired down some upper branches to fill in.

The Hospitality area was full as Hana brought hot dogs, chili, nachos with cheese sauce, pasta salad, lemonade, coffee, chocolate chip cookies, carrot cake, lemon cake, and ice water.

Remember that the field trip to Lotus and El Dorado nurseries will be October 14 at 7am from the Krispy Kreme area of the parking lot at Briggsmore and Prescott roads. Bring your lunch and be prepared to have a fun day. The club will provide a continental breakfast in the morning and soft drinks throughout the day. There will be lots of room for plants, etc.

Your president, Richard



**Dedicated to the memory of our dear friend
Faye Nunes
Jan. 24 1932 – Aug. 7 2006**

2006 MEETING SCHEDULE

September16: George Fujita – Various trees

October21: Ruben Guzman – Juniper

November18: Pick trees for 2007 Show, work on styling.

December: Holiday Social

CLUB INFORMATION

Welcome to our new members...

Anne & Peter Camarena

Cheryl & Calvin Haupt

Sadly our club needs a new secretary. Anyone willing to take on this important office is asked to please let Richard know.

Thanks go out to Hana McKinstry for all the work she did last month on the refreshment table. It was wonderful!

Please be sure to sign up for our annual field trip. Only \$25 per person. It will be a great time! See Janet Wakefield.

Are there any suggestions about where to have our holiday social this Dec.? So far we have Beijing or Aqua Shi restaurants. (a little music or dancing?)

If you are starting out in bonsai or just didn't bring a tree to the meeting, no problem, you can still participate in the workshops and get that all important hands on experience. There are club trees available to anyone who wants to style them. Ask Brad or Richard to point out the club trees at our next meeting and pick out one to work on.

Each month Brad will feature a \$5 table at Blue Oak with great plants that need a good home. Be sure to check out these deals!

Be sure to visit Blue Oak Nursery on the first Thursday of each month. Sam and Brad will be there along with other members working on their trees. Come out between 6 and 9 pm. Sept. 7th, Oct. 5th and Nov. 2nd.

Instructor

Sam Adina

Board of Directors

President

Richard McKinstry

Vice President

Pam Grassmidt

Treasurer

Janet Wakefield

Secretary

open

Members-at-Large

Bill Hawley
Mary Miller
Spencer Tope

Past President/ Membership Chair

Doris Gaberel

Other Support

Club Wire Supply

Spencer Tope

Greeter

Audrey Poulo

Hostess

Hanna McKinstry

Librarian

Betty Bennett

Newsletter Editor

Mary Miller
mary.k.miller@sbcglobal.net

Web Master

Andrew Poulo
modestobonsaiclub.com

*gakusei (gok-say) noun a student or school

UPCOMING SHOWS AND EVENTS

September 16-17 **San Mateo, CA**
San Mateo Bonsai Club 43rd Annual Fall Exhibit at the Central Park Rec. Center, 50 East 5th Ave. 12-5 on Sat. and 10-4 on Sun.

September 23 **San Jose, CA**
Midori Bonsai Club 45th Annual Show at St. Edwards Episcopal Church, 15040 Union Ave. (at Hwy 85) 10-5pm

November 2-5 **Sacramento, CA**
Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention XXIX at Double Tree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way.

For much more subscribe to Golden Statements at <http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org>

DON'T



Camera is too close.

DON'T



Camera eye level is too high.

DON'T



Flash casts shadows.

DO



Camera eye level is just right.

MEMBER TIP OF THE MONTH

Keep Your Bonsai Healthy

Proper watering, good light, air circulation, fertilization, all the things that go into growing healthy bonsai are the very things that protect your trees from insects and diseases.

Bonsai suffer, and insects and diseases thrive, in messy, dark and wet environs. Pick or cut dead leaves off, keep the surface soil clean, wash the leaves off when you water, and keep your hands and tools clean at all times.

Avoid locations that are too dark, lack good air circulation or are persistently wet. If you have more than one bonsai, don't let them touch. Keep at least 6 or 8 inches between each tree. The larger the trees, the more space they need.

When you follow the guidelines above, two good things happen. Your bonsai are healthier, and, as a result, they have a good chance of being free of harmful insects and diseases.

(from Bonsai Today #98)

- *submitted by Brad Coleman*

Directions to Meeting Site: The **Blue Oak Nursery** is on the east side of Albers Road, 1 mile north of Hwy. 132 (Yosemite Blvd.). Watch for the big blue sign with the blue oak silhouette. Turn into the gravel lane and follow it to the end. Park in designated areas.

Mailing Address: Modesto Bonsai Club
P.O. Box 578518
Modesto, CA 95357