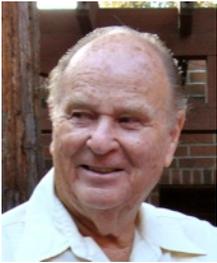




Descanso Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER April 2010



President's Message

by Jim Barrett

I think spring has sprung! Our bonsai and stock are growing like crazy.

Remember our show is not that far away and is one of the ways the club fulfills its mission, which is to educate the public about the art of bonsai.

The Descanso Bonsai Society has passed its fortieth birthday and is still going strong thanks to the support of its members. Your support and enthusiasm for the society's activities are what make this organization one of the best bonsai clubs in southern California.

The Baikoen Bonsai Society is sponsoring a bus trip to San Diego to attend the San Diego Bonsai Club show and reception on April 24th. They really need our support. See newsletter for more information.

Speaking of support, the Santa Anita Bonsai Society is forgoing their June meeting to attend our reception and auction at our show. Let's give them a great evening of hospitality, food, and best ever bonsai display.

Start choosing your trees now and get them ready. Those wishing to show trees in the novice room are encouraged to show as many trees as you can. This part of the exhibit is always popular with the public, and these are the only trees that receive helpful hints from the judges.

Michael Jonas, our April demonstrator, will cover a lot of good information on re-potting. Join us 'April 20th! You'll be glad you did.

April Niche

Marge Blasingame, Denny Roche

April Demonstrator

As this is still a great time for repotting, our own Michael Jonas

will be demonstrating repotting techniques with discussions about soils, rootage, tying trees securely when using a pot that has 1, 2, or multiple drain holes or wire holes.

He will discuss repotting timing of dormant trees and trees with new growth. He will discuss after care of newly repotted trees.

April Refreshments

Roberta Daniels, Gloria Downie,
Summer Lopez, Marge Blasingame



Cesareo Perez, Virginia choke cherry
March DBS Niche

Many Thanks to

Jerry Bañuelos, Kathy Benson, Gonzalo Rodriguez,
Maggie Carpenter, Helena Seltzer, Jim Pelling,
Ellen Keneshea, John Wang and Michelle,
and Marge Blasingame

For donating to the March Raffle!

Next Club Meeting April 20, 2010

Club Meetings are held on
the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Van de
Camp Hall, Descanso Gardens
1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada Flintridge

April Tips

Since our meetings are sometimes well past the middle of the month, we will attempt to include information that is important for the next month as well.

This time of year can be a very busy one for those of us with deciduous trees.

Deciduous trees need constant attention to keep upper growth in balance with the middle growth and the lower areas. Cut long shoots in the tops of maples, elms and especially zelkova, to one or two nodes or leaves. Rub off unwanted sprouts before they develop into shoots.

Prune for shape and remove large leaves that block sunlight to the interior of the tree. From now on our task should be to encourage ramification, shape and health.

Fertilize your trees with slow acting fertilizers or time-release plant food. It is better to feed a little more often than a lot once in awhile.

Resist candle pruning your black pine bonsai until June or later. Black pine, in growing containers that need more development can be candle pruned in May.

Repotting—bonsai pot to bonsai pot—can still be done safely, especially pomegranate, most ficus, elms, wisteria, junipers and azaleas. Olives can be potted, or if you wish, they can be worked on now.

Watch for powdery mildew on maples, quince, crabapples and crepe myrtle.

Watch for aphids and spider mites. They will be very active this year. If your trees are infested with black ants chances are you have aphids or scale.

Keep after the trees you want to show in June. A little work often will save a lot of work later on and the tree will look super.

Be on the lookout for quality display stands, slabs, etc.



Baikoen Bus Trip to San Diego

Baikoen is chartering a bus to go down to the San Diego Bonsai Club Show.

*Bus leaves from the Arboretum at 2 p.m. April 24th.
Cost is \$25.00 round trip.*

*Bus will arrive in time for the reception Saturday night.
To reserve a seat, send check to:*

Martha Bailey
202 West Cypress Apt. B
Monrovia, CA 91016
626 358-2640



OFFICERS

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DBS WEBSITE

www.descanso-bonsai.com

DBS MARCH MEETING



Jim Barrett created a lovely five zelkova saikei for our March demonstration, and a Happy Summer Lopez was the lucky winner.

A few notes from Jim:

Saikei don't have to have rocks.

Trees that can't stand on their own aesthetically can work well in groups.

Individual problems mellow and disappear because you're looking at the whole.

Moss is a great soil retainer for saikei, but if you use moss, try not to get thick pads.

Groups should have an odd number of trees, though once beyond eleven, this ceases to be important.

You might go into a group planting with a plan, but you'll change it almost every time.





DBS NEWSLETTER
% Jim Pelling
944 Pine Grove Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90042-1354



April 24-25 – San Diego, CA

San Diego Bonsai Club: Spring Bonsai Exhibition and Sale. Balboa Park in the Casa Del Prado, Room 101. Free admission and parking. 10AM-5PM both days.. Demonstrations daily at 11AM. and 2PM. Bonsai trees, plant stock, pottery and tools for sale. For more information, contact Maria Barbosa, 619-606-6523 or bonsaigarden@earthlink.net

May 1 & 2, 2010 – Gardena, CA

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Annual Show & Exhibit, Bonsai related sales and demonstrations, Reception on Saturday May 1st. Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena, for details go to <http://daiichi-bonsai.com/>

May 14th & 15th – Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara, Annual Show and Sales, See www.santabarbarabonsai.org

May 23- 25...—...Los Angeles Arboretum

Santa Anita Bonsai Society, 47th Annual Show & Exhibit Reception on Saturday May 24th (6:30 pm) at the Los Angeles Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA

DBS Board Meeting

Open to all club members interested in getting involved in club operations & management

Next meeting July 26, 2010

At Elizabeth Likes' s home
9916 Rancho Caballo, Sunland 91040

Join the Descanso Bonsai Society

\$25 - Single \$30 - Couples

Payable to: Descanso Bonsai Society
See Membership Chair Bill at the next meeting
or send to:

Bill Wawrychuk
4315 Beulah Drive
Flintridge, CA 91011-3322