Thanksgiving Nov. 23rd

Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai

November 2017 NEWSLETTER

Program For November 11th

November's meeting will feature the steps and procedures necessary for planting a tree on a rock slab, presented by Mike Nelson. He hopes to introduce you to some new twists on an old theme, and reveals techniques to make your slab planting easier and more successful.

We have had several demonstrations on how to plant a tree on a large rock or stone but I can't remember that we've ever had this kind of demonstration. Should be very exciting and informative.

Mike Nelson started creating bonsai over 45 years ago and now has "far too many" trees in his collection (according to him). He is a former member and officer of Midori Bonsai Club in San Jose, and currently belongs to the Santa Cruz, Watsonville and Monterey Clubs. He is especially fond of maples and flowering bonsai, and experiments with unusual native plants as bonsai material.

Mike during demo in May 2016

This is an opportunity to bring a slab and tree and get expert advice on how to go about getting them together.

General Meetings:
Monthly, 3rd Saturday, 9 a.m.
Live Oak Grange Hall
1900 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Workshops: (Members Only)
Monthly, 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Aptos Grange Hall #800
2555 Mar Vista Drive
Aptos, CA 95003

Club Officers:

President: Ed Lambing
edinbonnydoon@comcast.net

Vice President: Gareth Shepherd
gareth.shepherd@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Sean Berry
sean.d.berry@gmail.com

Treasurer: Helen Klee
hkleester88@yahoo.com

Past President: Marc Shaw
marcshaw@sbcglobal.net

Director at Large Position 1: Ed Lambing
edinbonnydoon@comcast.net

Director at Large Position 2: Vacant until new president names a new Show Chairman

Newsletter Editor: Ed Lambing
edinbonnydoon@comcast.net

Daylight Savings Time Ends November 5th

Refreshments for November will be provided by:
Roberta Barnett
Ed Lambing
Nathaniel Rhett

October's Program

The sale that took place on October 21st was very special. Bonsai enthusiast John R. Knight cared and added to his collection for many years and his touch was evident in the incredible bonsai displayed within the Grange. John recently passed away and his two sons, Rob and David, wanted to find good homes for their dad's treasurers. Rob contacted our club and, after several months, the sale occurred on October 21st.

Rob Knight with photo of his father

Rob spoke eloquently about his father's passion for bonsai and thick, heavy trunks. The brothers desire to find good homes for these trees was fulfilled. Out of a total of 127 trees, all sold except 16. That's 87%. Pretty incredible. In addition, there were 49 pots of all shapes and sizes. Every one of these pots sold. Again, incredible.

All in all, the sale was a tremendous success. Rob was extremely pleased and happy with the process and respect his dad's trees garnered from our club members.

Looking over Silent Auction table

Sale setup before the sale begins

It was announced at the sale that Rob and David had discussed the 20% that would come back to the club as a result of any sales. After discussion, they decided to increase the percentage to 50%. This, of course, is extremely generous and very much appreciated. As a result, our club's share of the $5,351.00 total sales is $2,675.50. This will definitely help us bring in highly qualified demonstrators.

More trees for Silent Auction

Happy Thanksgiving

Continuing with the sale of the John R. Knight Collection, Rob has made a request that I believe is worth repeating. He has requested that those who purchased trees to please stay in touch with him. He and his brother are anxious to see and watch the progression of taking one of their dad's trees and turning it into a show quality display tree. His contact information is contained herein. In addition, your humble newsletter editor is also interested in following the progression of these trees. It would be awesome to see which tree makes it into one of our annual shows. So please keep me informed along with Rob!

Rob Knight - Phone Number - 332-2916, Email me@robknight.net

Alert Alert Alert Alert Alert Alert Alert

Our General Meeting in November will not be the third Saturday of the month, but rather, the second. So please everyone, make note that our meeting will be on November 11th and NOT the 18th.

- - - Special Announcement - - -

The November 8th Workshop will feature two things that you may be interested in:

First, JT will instruct members regarding care, cleaning, and sharpening of bonsai tools. The repot season is fast approaching and now is a good time to get your tools into prime operating condition. Bring your tools and get good advice regarding how to properly care for them.

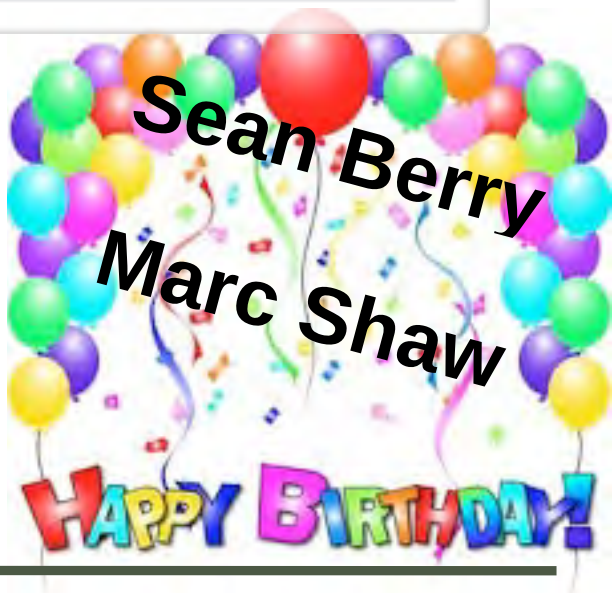
Second, Linda Berman-Hall will have a special spray that can be applied to pine trees that are susceptible to Sudden Oak Death. An email was sent out on October 24th that explained what this is about. If you did not get the email, please contact Helen Klee for specifics.

Don Hilbert will be selling his pre bonsai material and pots during the November 11th General Meeting. This is a good time to select very good pre bonsai material at very reasonable prices.

It's time to pay renewal dues. Single $25.00, family $40. See Helen Klee and please your birth month.

Club Member Activities

Who is Having a Birthday in November?



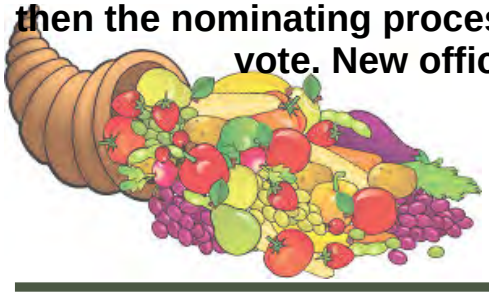
Other Club Issues

Board Member Elections Coming

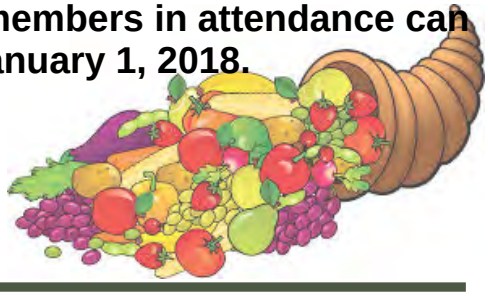
The slate of nominees was announced by the Nominating Committee Chairperson Gareth Shepherd, at the October General Meeting. Nominees thus far are:

President - Pete Logan
Vice President - Sarah Tiller
Secretary - Deborah Wittich
Treasurer - Helen Klee

Additional nominees will be sought during the November General Meeting and then the nominating process will be closed so that members in attendance can vote. New officers will be installed on January 1, 2018.



Bring on the pecan pie!



Demonstrator Schedule

The following schedule of demonstrators for calendar year 2017 and beyond is presented with the understanding that it is fluid and certainly not final. We appreciate your indulgence and patience as things develop and demonstrators become more clear and committed.

November 11, 2017 - Mike Nelson - Planting on a slab.
Don Hilbert Plant Sale
December 16, 2017 - Holiday Potluck. Gift Exchange with a twist.

January 20, 2108 - Jonas Dupuich **-** Evaluating Bonsai – Learn a repeatable process for evaluating bonsai before purchase.
February 16, 2018 - TBD

March 17, 2018 - TBD

April 21, 2018 - TBD

May 19, 2018 - TBD

June 16, 2018 - Annual Garden Tour.

July 21, 2018 - TBD

August 18, 2018 - Live & Silent Auction.

September 16, 2017 - TBD

October 21, 2017 - TBD

If anyone has ideas or suggestions for demonstrators or events, please submit them to Ed Lambing, our Programs Chairperson, or any other member of the board.

And Now, A Little Humor:

- **Atheism is a non-prophet organization.**
- **Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: You stay here; I'll go on a head.**
- **I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.**
- **A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said:"keep off the grass."**

Bonsai Care For November:

The growth that has been coming on since summer should be hardening and will no longer snap like a bean if you bend it. But try this – Exercise the branch before you bend it. By this I mean pre-bend it, using the fleshy part of your fingers and palm supporting and twisting the branch in the direction you wish to ultimately bend it before actually putting the wire on. Trust your fingers to tell you if you have gone far enough. Fingers are actually more reliable than your eyes. You can get much more acute bends this way. If it still resists, you may need to use raffia to support it. Spray the bent branches with an anti-transpirant like Anti-Stress 2000® or Cloud Cover® or Wilt-Pruf®. This is an ideal time to fashion those branches before they harden off totally over winter.

Deciduous trees should be wired when most of the foliage has fallen off but before they become brittle later into the winter dormancy period. Remove the foliage when about 75% of the foliage has turned color. If you wait until December, any cutting will cause the tree to bleed excessively.

You can still style and transplant those junipers (they really love fall transplanting) and early flowering trees but protect them from frosts if we get some cold weather.

For most trees, now is the time to clean off the top layer sphagnum moss we had on during the hot summer season and the top soil that has accumulated spent fertilizer and weed seeds. This is also the time to clear moss that may be growing up into the bark of your trees. Silver moss that you used for the show can be taken off and put in your landscaping where it will get early morning sun and regular water. You can grow a new crop for next year. Clean off dead leaves and remove weeds. Add some super phosphate to the top soil and any transplanting that you do.

Be sure to clean out the foliage in the crotch areas and allow the sunlight into the interior to stimulate new buds and expose bugs. December is the best time to do this for pines but if the pine needles have hardened, clean out the old needles on your trees to let the sunlight in. Leave on more needles on the bottom branches 10 to 15 pairs and 7 to 10 on top. At this point we want to encourage as much sun as we can. Later we'll thin out even more.

But watch that you don't damage tender needles that haven't hardened. Use tweezers. Days are getting really short and cooler.

Remember to make your first application of dormant spray at Thanksgiving. Ultrafine® oil, Neem Oil, copper and lime sulfur sprays do well. Do not mix them together!

Water your trees when they need it. This means that you should wait until the upper soil has dried and is lighter in color before watering. Then water thoroughly. Don't keep them too wet and remember that as they slow down their growth they use less water. If too much water is accumulating in the pot, tip the pot up on one side with a board to help drainage.

Whatever shade cloth you have had for your trees could be eliminated at this point in time.

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National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, also referred to as **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day** or **Pearl Harbor Day**, is observed annually in the United States on December 7, to remember and honor the 2,403 citizens of the United States who were killed in the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

On August 23, 1994, the United States Congress designated December 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. On Pearl Harbor Day, the American Flag should be flown at half-staff until sunset to honor those who died as a result of the attack on U.S. Military and naval forces in Hawaii.