

# ROOTS RUN DEEP

## June, 2009

### NVBC Happenings

**Monday 6/1 7pm: Bonsai Fundamentals: "Summer Care of Bonsai Trees"**

**Monday 6/15 7pm: Peter Tea: "The Care of Pine Trees"**

NEED MORE INFORMATION? [WWW.NVABONSAI.ORG](http://WWW.NVABONSAI.ORG)

### Calendar Notes (for the rest of 2009)

**June 1st.....Bonsai Fundamentals with James.** James will discuss "Summer Care of Bonsai Trees" from 7:00 - 7:30 pm. Bring a tree to work on and we'll team up as we did in May to help one another with our trees.

**Board meeting at 8:00 pm.**

**June 15th....Peter Tea will give a presentation on Pine Trees.** Bring a pine tree to work on and Peter will be available to give advice on our trees. This marks the end of the Peter Tea Study Group Series Part I.

**July 6th.....Working in pairs.** Bring a tree or two to work on. We will team up in pairs and help each other with our trees.

**July 20th.....Presentation Workshop TBA**

**August 3rd...Bonsai Fundamentals: "Criteria for the Selection of Bonsai Trees".** Bring a tree and we will discuss what to look for when selecting a tree for bonsai.

**August 17th..Presentation Workshop TBA**

**September 7th...Bring a couple trees to work on.** Club members taking the Peter Tea Study Group Series Part II will assist other club members with their trees.

**September 21st...Peter Tea: TBA**  
September will be our Club Picnic: More information in future newsletters.

**October 5th...GREEN ELEPHANT SALE....**bring trees, pots, tools, wire to sell. This will be an auction style sale as we've had in year's past. All items will need to have a tag with price and name. More on this later.....

**October 19th...TBA**

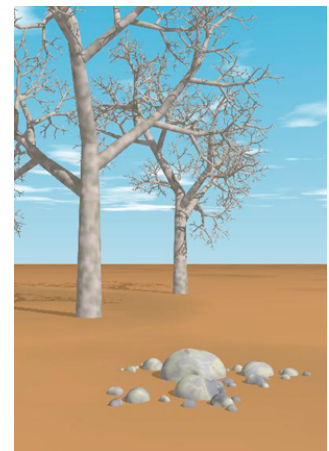
**November 2nd...Bring a couple trees to work on.** The members taking the Peter Tea Group Study Series Part II will assist club members with their trees.

November 16th...TBA

**December 7th ..... Peter Tea: "Winter Care of Bonsai Trees".** Bring a tree for the Silhouette Contest. We will vote on the trees to determine the one that the majority feel is aesthetically the best silhouette (deciduous tree with no leaves).

There will be a prize for the winner of the contest.

**December 21st ... Holiday Party:**  
Everyone is invited.



## Peter Tea Study Group Series Part II

The Peter Tea Study Group Series Part I is coming to a close in June. The nine club members who have participated in this workshop series will likely tell you it's been fun, challenging, and educationally rich. Peter presented the fundamentals of bonsai (i.e., watering, choosing a tree, repotting, wiring, pruning, fertilizing, preparing a tree to show, accent plants) and was extremely patient with our different styles of learning. With only four or five people in each four-hour shift, we were able to obtain one-on-one training that far surpasses what we have experienced in other workshops with 10 or more participants. Peter is an excellent teacher who has been well trained and believes that developing a solid foundation of basic skills is essential for full appreciation of the art of bonsai and the ability to create good bonsai trees. He is organized in his approach, encouraging with his words, and adept at recognizing what each individual needs to improve their skills.

For those who have not had the opportunity of working with Peter, he will be starting a second group series for us in July. It will consist of one weekend each month for six months. There will be sixteen four-hour slots available to club members. If you are interested in taking the Peter Tea Study Group Part II, please contact Rebecca Thompson at [thompstennis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thompstennis@sbcglobal.net) and request a space reserved for you. Study Group Series II:

July 11/12	Sat/Sun	Rich's??
August 8/9	Sat/Sun	Rebecca's
September 20/21	Sun/Mon	Rebecca's
October 10/11	Sat/Sun	Steve's
November 21/22	Sat/Sun	--Rick's
December 6/7	Sun/Mon	--Rick's

The Bonsai Club Board of Directors has determined that Peter's Study Group Series is an excellent training program, which will raise the level of our club's quality of trees. Therefore, the board has

determined that the club will contribute \$400 toward the Series Part II educational experience for our members. That contribution makes this workshop series more affordable for more members. The fee for six months of four-hour training sessions for Series II is \$137.50 for the six months. For two four-hour training sessions/or a full day of training the fee will be \$275.00 for the six months. The full fee is due by June 15th. The entire fee must be paid and there will be no refund should you miss a training day. These fees cover Peter's travel expense and his daily fee for teaching.

The following people have expressed interest in Peter Tea's Study Group Series Part II: Penny, Carol, Marcia, Lonnie, Ken, John, Steve, Rick, and Rebecca. If your name is not on the list and you wish to be a part of this training, please contact Rebecca a.s.a.p.

### Dedication of Japanese Garden

The board is working diligently to finalize all of the plans for the dedication of our new Japanese Garden at the Sr. Center. Many individual members of our club have donated their efforts to make this garden a reality. The non-board member who has devoted more time and back-breaking energy to the project is Rick Smith. He has put in more hours than can be counted (i.e., removing ivy, planting trees, setting the irrigation, watering trees by hand, spreading decomposed granite, and garden maintenance. Our thanks to Rick for his untiring devotion to organizing, designing, recruiting volunteers, and heading the work crews. All of his hard work and that of the other members who

spent hours removing the ivy will soon be rewarded with an official dedication ceremony for all club members to attend. Currently, we are in the process of having a bronze plaque made to honor those bonsai enthusiasts who have passed on from this world. In the last few years we have suffered the loss of many of our club's key individuals. This garden is our way of honoring their lives, their contributions to our club, and their devotion to the art of bonsai. Donations to cover the cost of the plaque will be gratefully accepted. Please see one of the board members if you wish to make a donation to this project.

### Thoughts on Water

Tao - Cheng 11th century

Of all the elements the sage should take water as his precipitator.

Water is yielding yet all conquering.

Water extinguishes fire or finding itself likely to be defeated escapes as steam and reforms. Water washes away soft earth or when confronted with big rocks seeks a way around.

Water corrodes iron 'till it crumbles to dust it saturates the atmosphere so that wind dies. Water gives way to obstacles with deceptive humility, for no power can prevent it following its distinctive destined course to the sea.

Water conquers by yielding, it never attacks but always wins the last battle. The sage that makes himself as water is distinguished for his humility; he embraces passivity, acts from non action and conquers the world.

## **Boon on Bonsai Styling**

The most important aim in styling a bonsai is a creation of natural feeling.

**Balance** is the beginning and the end. The natural outline of trees in general is asymmetrical triangle. Or it could be round, such as a broom style. Width of the outline should be based on the trunk taper. A tree with a large base with fast taper, outline can be wider. A tree with a skinny and tall trunk, outline should be narrow. These basics help to start the styling process. The longest branch (key branch or sashi-eda) can be on either side of the tree.

**Proportion** makes a small tree look big. A good bonsai should have the same proportion regardless of the actual size of the tree. If you take a picture of two different sizes of tree and compare them, you should not be able to tell how tall or how large they are.

The foliage should be in scale with the size of that bonsai. A larger tree should have a larger leaves or needles. For a small tree, the leaves or needles should be smaller. There is an exception to the rule. A deciduous tree that is shown without leaves in winter, the leaf size is not important.

**Trunk** is the soul of the tree. It is the most important thing in bonsai. All trees are not created equal. Different species of trees has a specific look. Maple should not have Jin and shari on the trunk. Open wounds can be infected with disease. Dead wood rots easily on maple. A good pine has rough bark and good taper. Collected junipers should have curves and twists. Natural dead wood make collected bonsai more valuable. A heavily carved trunk may devalue the tree.

Each tree is unique. Individuality is in the trunk. You have to bring out that beauty. Understand the focal point and

then make the focus on that part of the tree.

<http://sashi-no-eda.blogspot.com/>

### **Boon Suggests:**

#### **June Bonsai Care-**

Spring Care: Most bonsai grow quickly in June — this means you need to pay close attention to your entire collection.

Developed **black pines** are

this month. Depending on each tree's spring growth, may be done all in one day or spread out over several weeks to balance uneven growth. Remove fertilizer from strong pines being de-candled.

Although most pines that are not being de-candled should be fertilized moderately, very weak trees receive less fertilizer and a suitable amount of water.

Note: De-candle strong Japanese black pine and well fed trees only.

Let white pines grow this month. Fertilize weaker trees lightly. Fertilize all white pine in mid August.

**Deciduous trees** usually send out another flush of growth in June. Watch the wire. If necessary, remove wire that is digging in severely and re-wire.

Trident maple - Strong growth on developed trident maples may be defoliated, partially defoliated, or removed.

Chinese quince - Let new shoots grow to about 12 inches (8-10 leaves) before cutting back the new shoots to two or three leaves.

- Japanese Maple - you can partially defoliate strong trees. (I usually do not defoliate the whole

tree every year). Remove large leaves on the strong area and leave smaller leaves alone. Another technique for more mature tree is to remove one leaf from every pair. For shohin, after removing one leaf you can cut the other leaf in half.

- Shimpaku – for a refined tree – pinch runners. do not pinch trees in development.

As the weather heats up, protect deciduous trees from excessive heat and sun, especially after defoliation. Partial defoliation exposes shady leaves to full sun. Letting these leaves burn slows summer growth.

Once 3/4 of the flowers on a satsuki azalea have opened, remove all of the flowers from the tree. Cut back to 2 new leaves on 2 new shoots in strong areas (lower part and exterior parts of the tree). Cut back to 2 new shoots and keep 3 new leaves on weaker area (upper parts of the tree). Remove shoots growing straight up or down. Now is the best time to wire azalea.

June is a good time to **spray insecticide**, but use caution. Some insecticides may burn foliage in hot sun.

**Do not let the trees dry out.** Wiring and styling the trees that are dry or wilted can cause more stress to the trees.

### **Turning trees:**

We should turn our trees 180 degrees once a month. Or 90 degree every other week.

This will keep our trees in god balance. Every branch will get the same amount of sunlight.



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**Bonsai Happenings Around the Bay** <http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org/Events.htm>

**June 7**

**Seaside, California**

**Monterey Bonsai Club** 44th Annual Exhibition at the Monterey Buddhist Temple in Seaside at 1150 Noche Buena. Show hours are 11AM-4PM. Demonstration at 1:30PM by Katsumi Kinoshita.  
[joembyrd@pacbell.net](mailto:joembyrd@pacbell.net).

**June 13-14**

**Oakland, California**

**California Suiseki Society** 14th annual suiseki show will be taking place on June 13th - 14th, 10am - 5pm. Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland (Lake Merritt area). For further information contact Felix G. Rivera, 510 527-6255.

**June 13-14**

**San Jose, California**

**San Jose Betsuin Bonsai Club:** 39th Annual Bonsai, San Jose Betsuin Buddhist Church, 640 North 5th Street. Hours: Saturday, 12PM-4PM, and Sunday 11AM-4PM. Demonstration at 1PM on both days by "Mr. California Juniper", Harry Hirao. Ken Azuma, 408-730-4506.

**June 13-14**

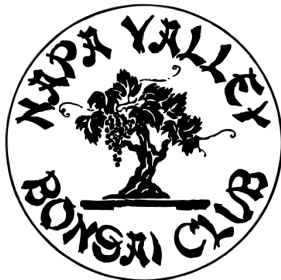
**Reno, Nevada**

**YukiYama Bonsai Kai:** Annual Bonsai show will be held at Moana Lane Nursery, corner of Lakeside Dr. and Moana Lane. Hours are Saturday, 10AM-5PM and Sunday, 10AM-3PM with demonstrations at 1PM both days. [www.BonsaiReno.org](http://www.BonsaiReno.org).

**June 27-28**

**Santa Ana, California**

**Vietnamese Bonsai Society:** 11th Annual Bonsai Show at the Pho Da Temple, 5110 W. Hazard Ave. Hours are 10 AM-4PM, daily Quoc Vo, 949-394-4933, or email: [dansirvine@yahoo.com](mailto:dansirvine@yahoo.com)



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