



californiabonsaisociety.com

California Bonsai Society

In Person Meeting Wednesday February 14 at 7 PM

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, 1964 W.162nd St.,
Gardena (room 207/208)

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open

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President's Message

Well, so far we haven't really had all the rains that were being predicated for this winter - but we still have all of February and a bit of March left. Looks like we'll be getting some over the weekend. Lack of rain hasn't stopped the trees from waking up though. Last year I didn't start repotting until mid-February because it was so cold in Castaic- we even had snow! This year a week or so ago I noticed Pomegranates and elms starting to push new buds already and now we fully into it.

Speaking of potting this month our visiting artist is the most knowledgeable person in the country when it comes to bonsai containers- Michael Ryan Bell. February's PowerPoint Presentations will be on the History, Appreciation, Classification, Identification, and Discernment of Bonsai Containers. they contain an even mix of beginner, intermediate, and advanced information on those topics to appeal across the spectrum for members of all levels. He will also be identifying and appraising pots brought in by our members so be sure to bring in containers for Michael to answer questions on. Everyone who has ever seen or heard his program always walks away with a new appreciation for the containers that hold our precious trees. I hope to see many of you at our meeting on Wednesday February 21st at the

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute

1964 West 162nd St. Gardena, CA 90247 Meeting will start at 7pm.

We will have some extremely talented individuals this year as our Visiting Artists so I hope lots of you make an effort to show up at the meetings- everyone that does will be able to walk away with some new skill or bit of knowledge.

This is not an easy subject to broach but over the last several months I seen and heard of a number of bonsai collections that needed to be dealt with after a death or major illness. Unfortunately most of these were in very bad shape and that is really sad. It amazes me how often that something we devote so much time, money, energy and love too doesn't have a plan for their future after we can no longer care for them. I encourage everyone to think about what happens to your collection when you can no longer care for it. Make a plan now so that your family isn't left with trying to figure out what to do. Don't let a lifetime of devotion go to waste. Think of people you'd want to leave trees to, let them know and let family know. Arrange to donate them to a club or one of the public collections. Arrange for someone to hold

a sale with the money benefitting your family or CBS or another club. Maybe start thinking about thinning out the collection now so that there's a more manageable number to care for. The point is please don't let your lifetime passion go to waste make arrangements now. It will benefit your collection, your family and could benefit ours and other clubs.

I'm looking forward to what the new year brings and hope it's the best one yet for all of us. Hope to see you all soon.

Robert Pressler
President California Bonsai Society

The CBS annual sale in November was a big success for sellers and buyers.



Michael Ryan Bell

Our November Visiting Artist

Bonsai Containers; History, Appreciation, Classification, Identification and Discernment

Michael Ryan Bell, often referred to simply as MRB online, began doing Bonsai seriously in 2008 and purchased his first quality bonsai container in 2010. After a few months trying to find information on that container and others he realized that there was truly a lack of information available in /English on Bonsai containers. He set out to rectify that situation by creating a Chop and Signature database and a website with container artists profiles and biographies.

At present, there are more bonsai specific pottery artists marks on his site, japanesebonsaipots.net than in any single publication, in any language and it's still growing.

It is his stated mission to raise the standards of appreciation, awareness and selection of quality bonsai containers in the community. Since he began teaching about bonsai pottery, Ryan has lectured at the National Bonsai Exhibitions in America and the UK, the GSBF convention as a co-headliner and at nearly 100 clubs and organizations and. Also serves on the board for the American Bonsai Society.

February's PowerPoint presentation will contain an even mix of beginner, intermediate and advanced information on those topics to appeal to bonsai enthusiasts of all levels and there will be a Q and A session and an appraisal hour to follow.

Bring a bonsai pot to find out what it is and what it might be worth.



In Memorium



Recently the bonsai world lost two dear people, Frank Goya and Marge Blasingame.

Frank was 100 years old and Marge was 87.

We will send a special issue talking about these two special friends in the future.

If you have information, anecdotes or photos, especially of Marge, who always managed to avoid my camera, please send them to

carolupston@icloud.com

Our Last Meeting with Visiting Artist Hugo Zamora



Hugo Zamora Luna was The CBS visiting artist for November. He styled a black pine for the demonstration and established a design and a direction for its future development into a fine tree.

Hugo is from Mexico City, just a short plane ride away and many people said that they hope he will be visiting us again soon. He has experience with most of the kinds of trees that we have here in our collections.





BONSAI-A-THON

Fundraiser for

THE GSBF COLLECTION AT THE HUNTINGTON February 24 & February 25, 2024

The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens
Brody Botanical Center, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California

Young Choe, Bonsai-A-Thon Visiting Artist, Sponsored by Joshua Roth



Bonsai Exhibit by Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai,
honoring Legends Jim Barrett, Marge Basingame and
Ted Matson, located on the lower level of Banta Hall

Schedule

10am-5pm	Extensive Bazaar Area with more than 40 vendors selling top-quality tools, pots, and plants
10am-2pm, both days	Demonstrations: Initial training and advanced styling by experts. Trees will be auctioned off at the end of the day.
10am, Saturday only	Guided tour of the Nursery and Shoya House
10am, Sunday only	Guided tour of the Chinese Garden
2:30-4:30pm, both days	Live Auction followed by Raffle of demonstration trees and donated trees, pots, tools and more
10am-1pm Saturday	Young Choe Demonstration, in the auditorium on the Lower level of Banta Hall
10am-1pm Sunday	Young Choe Kusamono Workshop, Head House

Demonstrations on the Banta Hall lower level, 10am to 2pm

Saturday Demonstrators	Sunday Demonstrators
Kathy Benson, Marcus Juniel, Peter Macasieb, Tak Shimazu, Tom Vuong	Jason Chan, Kelly Lui, Mitch Matsey, Bob Pressler, Jason Saito

It's time to pay dues so that we can continue To bring the best bonsai artists to SoCal



CALIFORNIA BONSAI SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL 2024

Full Name, Printed _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code (5+4) _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

If you are 80 yrs. or older, what is your birth year? _____

I'm enclosing an additional 15.00 for a name badge and this is the name I want on the badge:

(print clearly) _____

CBS membership is \$25.00 per person for one year beginning February 23. One application per person.

New applicants must provide all information requested above.

Renewing members are required to provide their name and any changes to their contact information.

Seniors 80 and older do not need to reply.

Information about showing in our annual exhibit can be obtained by contacting the show chairman, Lindsay Shiba at shibalindsay@gmail.com or 909-806-0937.

Mail application and **check payable to California Bonsai Society** to

Carol Upston

1895 262nd St.

Lomita CA 90717-3346

Annual Membership Dues \$25.00

CBS Name Badge

\$15.00