



# Descanso Bonsai Society

## NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2015

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Michael Jonas



The weather has cooled down and I swear that I knew the evening summer ended, when I walked outside and the night air was cool and moist. Oh we'll have some more heat, but it won't be as hot or as long and the evenings will be a relief after the warmth of the day.

This coming meeting on September 15th is our annual potluck/auction evening and it will be wonderful. There are a few changes to be aware of though. First we are not able to offer you the tram ride driven by a knowledgeable docent, because the Garden doesn't have a person, at this time, with a class B driver's license, who is capable of giving us an informed tour of the Garden. We are exploring the possibility of a walking tour to a new and previously unopened part of the Garden. At this time I cannot definitely say that is going to happen, but we shall see.

The rest of the evening should go pretty much as it always has with dinner out in the main patio area al fresco. We will stage the food in Van de Kamp Hall instead of in the usual area this time. We will have the auction in Van de Kamp Hall so it should be pretty comfortable for everyone.

Please remember to bring a salad, side dish or a desert capable of feeding at least 8 individuals. The club will supply chicken, drinks, paper plates and utensils. We will eat around 7:00 and the auction will be around 8:00.

I hope to see everyone there and please remember that this is one of the club's most important and enjoyable evenings. I am counting on all of you to be a part of its success.

The money the club raises on this night funds all of our club activities. Thank you for your support.

### September Auction and Potluck

This is our annual potluck and auction, so **EVERYONE** please bring an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert to share.

### MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED TO OUR AUGUST RAFFLE

Jerry Bañuelos, Peter Macasieb,  
Fred Seeley, Sonja Kobler



August Niche  
Kathy Benson – Rosemary

**Next Club Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 15, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m. Potluck!!!**

Van de Camp Hall, Descanso Gardens  
1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada Flintridge

Descanso Bonsai Society  
\$25 - Single \$30 - Couples  
Payable to:

Descanso Bonsai Society  
See Membership Chair Fred at  
the next meeting or send to:  
Fred Seeley  
27124 Crystal Springs Road  
Canyon Country, CA 91387

## SEPTEMBER TIPS by JIM BARRETT

Although fall is approaching, hot, dry days are still a good possibility.

Watering properly should be top priority. If a plant begins to show stress because of lack of water, you may want to place the tree in full shade for 2 or 3 weeks. Return it to partial sun when new growth looks strong and healthy.



September and October are clean-up and pruning months. Fall pruning of quince or crabapples can wait until leaves fall or you can prune for shape now, removing all long summer growth.

Black pines should also be pruned, leaving 1, 2 or 3 of the new candles that have grown from the terminals left when they were pruned in June or July. What candles you choose to keep will be determined by your design goal for each tree. If you have an instructor, have him or her explain the procedure. Remove old needles, especially those hanging down.

Junipers may be trimmed to maintain their shape. Within reason, they may be trimmed rather drastically this month so that the new growth fills in to take the old growth's place---a good practice once or twice a year to keep the bonsai shape we strive for.

Pruning hard will also give you an opportunity to wire the secondary and tertiary branches, a tedious but important task.

However, try not to prune shimpaku too hard. They do not respond well to drastic foliage removal.

The next two months are important ones. What you do to your trees now will reflect favorably or unfavorably on your design next spring.

Watch for heavy top growth on elms, zelkova and trident maples. Remove thick vertical and horizontal branches now so they have time to start healing before the trees go into dormancy.

Remember to watch for signs of disease and pests.

Start choosing your spring exhibition trees, making sure to pick one or two more than you will show. This ensures that you will have what you need when the time comes. Besides, it will make you work harder to improve your best trees.

## Descanso Bonsai Society Annual Potluck and Auction

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Please bring bonsai and pre-bonsai and/or bonsai tools, pots and accessories for the club to auction. *Your club needs your help!*

**Friends and family are welcome!**

**Be ready to bid on choice vintage bonsai pots, bonsai and much more!!!**

**Potluck dinner 7 p.m.**

**Auction 8 p.m**

**The club will provide the main dish and drinks.  
Please bring an appetizer, salad, bread , side dish or dessert!**

August Niche  
Fred Seeley – Grafted Shimpaku



**October 29 – November 1, 2015 Riverside, CA  
Golden State Bonsai Federation 2015 Convention**  
at the Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street near  
Main

Headliners: ***Bjorn Bjorholm and John Wang.***

Guest artists: David Nguy and Tak Shimazu.

More information available at [www.GSBF2015.com](http://www.GSBF2015.com).

# DBS AUGUST MEETING



Peter Macasieb was our demonstrator and worked on a Montezuma Cypress, the national tree of Mexico. Montezuma Cypresses are fast growing (so don't wire tightly), and do well in California, where they are evergreen, Peter told us. They tend to grow by riverbanks and like a lot of water. Peter styled the tree as a flat top. Jerry Bañuelos (who donated a beautiful Tokoname Yoshimura Shuho pot to the auction), won the demo tree, and Sonja Kobler won the smaller cypress (above, left).



## DESCANSO BONSAI SOCIETY OFFICERS

President	Michael Jonas	(818) 776-0813	<a href="mailto:Mjonas48@hotmail.com">Mjonas48@hotmail.com</a>
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Newsletter	Ellen Keneshea	(818) 363-5752	<a href="mailto:ekeneshea@socal.rr.com">ekeneshea@socal.rr.com</a>
	DBS WEBSITE		<a href="http://www.descanso-bonsai.com">www.descanso-bonsai.com</a>

### DBS Board Meeting

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

[Next meeting](#)

**TBD**

At Elizabeth Likes's home,  
7 p.m.,  
9916 Rancho Caballo,  
Sunland 91040

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



**September 25 – 27, 2015 Portland, Oregon**

**The Artisans Cup** held at The Portland Art Museum. This is the first Artisans Cup, and DBS's own Ted Matson has a Foemina grove in competition. The event will also feature select artisans who are creating distinctive

**September 23 – 27, 2015, Santa Ana, California**

**Kofu Bonsai Kai:** 2015 Bonsai Fest at the Bowers Museum "The Bonsai Tradition: Cultural Arts of Japan" – John M. Lee Court, 2002 N. Main St., Hours are 10 AM – 4 PM daily. Featuring bonsai trees of the members of Kofu Bonsai Kai and special presentations by noted speakers (names, dates and times to be announced). Free to Bowers Museum members or with paid museum admission. Final speaker and presentation schedules will be posted on the Bowers Museum Website: <http://www.bowers.org/> and Kofu Bonsai Kai: <http://www.kofukai.org/>. Questions? Call the museum at (714) 567-3695 or email Michael Walsh at [michaeljwalsh@outlook.com](mailto:michaeljwalsh@outlook.com).

**September 26 – 27, 2015, San Diego, California**

**San Diego Bonsai Club:** 50th anniversary fall exhibition and sale of bonsai at Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Hours are 10 AM – 5 PM with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM daily. Free admission, donations are appreciated. Bonsai of various sizes and species plus other bonsai related items are for sale at attractive prices in club member's sale area. For more information visit [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com) or contact Gary Jones via the website.

**October 3 – 4, 2015 Thousand Oaks, California**

**Conejo Valley Bonsai Society:** 12th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Resource Center at the Gardens of the World, 2001 Thousand Oak Blvd. Hours are 9 AM – 4 PM both days with demonstrations at 11 AM (Saturday) and 2 PM (Sunday) in the Bandstand. Free Admission. For information, call Marj Branson at 805-373-1330 or visit our web site at [www.cvbs-bonsai.org](http://www.cvbs-bonsai.org).