



THE BENT TWIG

A monthly newsletter of the American Bonsai Association of Sacramento
December 2016

Thursday December 15th ABAS Annual Holiday Party Don't forget, this month's meeting is early in the month to avoid conflicts with the holidays that are fast approaching! Join fellow ABAS members for an awesome potluck, gift exchange, bonsai tree decorating contest, and the opportunity to just socialize for an evening. Invite your friends and family. Turkey and ham are provided by ABAS. **Bring a side dish or dessert to share, as well as, a plate and flatware for yourself and your guest(s).** The bonsai tree Christmas decorating contest and gift exchange are optional but lots more fun if everyone participates. To participate in the gift exchange, bring a bonsai related wrapped gift, value not to exceed \$20.00. There will be a special prize for the decorated bonsai tree voted best by the audience. Doors open at 5:30 PM for decorating and table set up, drinks and finger food at 6 PM. Dinner begins at 6:30 PM. Here are some pictures from last year's party.





Last Meeting Tuesday November 22nd, ABAS TIPs (Tree Improvement Program)

Member Bob Bugay assisted by Paul Holtzen and many other Member led our TIPs Program for this year. Members brought in trees for evaluations and recommendations for improvement. One member told me he learns more from these types of exercises than the guest demo's. One thing is sure, we get a great first hand look at how to evaluate a tree for its potential now and down the road a few years. Bob covered everything from picking the front, branch selection and positioning, tree health, tree tilt and lean to what pot would look good. Everyone in attendance learned something I'm sure. Thanks Bob and Paul.





At our Pre-Meeting Workshop Kathleen & Renee took us through the steps they use to get ready to repot. The season is upon us, so get ready, time to roll.



OUR BOARD – 2016-17

President – Renee Seely

Vice President – Kathleen O'Donnell

Treasurer – Patti Fletcher

Recording Secretary – John Cota

Corresponding Secretary – Mark Mendenhall

Members at large – Barbara Kelly, Doc Ward, Timm Johnson

Past President - Dino Pappademos

Club News and Announcements:

Big News!! ***ABAS Annual Auction moved to our May Meeting*******

The Board has decided to move the annual auction to our regular May Meeting, this year it's May 23. This action was taken to better align the auction with our Annual Show for promotion purposes and to allow us to present trees for auction in fresh spring foliage rather than declining fall foliage. We also want to encourage members to submit items for auction that are considered quality trees or material. Stock trees and seedlings can be sold during the year at any meeting, our annual Show and both Garden Center Sales. Details for sellers and times will be published later this Spring.

Repotting Workshops We have scheduled two repotting workshops, Saturday January 21 and Saturday February 11, at Renee's 9:00-2:00. Sign-ups at the November Meeting. The cost is \$10 to cover materials. For information contact Renee Seely at breadcrust@comcast.net or call (916) 929-2106. Information is also on the ABAS website.

Beginner's Workshop Beginning in January we will be expanding the Pre-Meeting workshop to one hour 6:00-7:00 and will focus on our beginning members with a Bonsai Study Course directed at beginner and intermediate level techniques. Doc will be coordinating the program.

Meeting Refreshments Please consider bringing in refreshments for one or more of our upcoming meetings. I think we all enjoy these snacks during the meeting but they don't happen by themselves. The Club provides funds for the items, we just need volunteers to do it. Sign up sheets will be circulated at the next meeting.



Programs and Topics

Upcoming events: Please refer to our website for more details

<http://abasbonsai.org/index.html>

Thursday December 15, Annual Holiday Party, Gift Exchange, Tree Decorating Contest

Tuesday January 24, Sam Adina Styles an Hinoki Cypress

Tuesday February 28, Peter Tea gives us a presentation on Conifers

Tuesday March 28, Show Prep and display components led by Carmen Scott & ABAS Members, Accent Plants w/ Ann Hultgren

Saturday & Sunday April 1&2, Bonsai Sekiyu Kai Annual Show, Sacramento Buddhist Church.

Saturday & Sunday April 8&9, ABAS Annual Show featuring Jonas Dupuich.

Tuesday April 25, Timm Johnson tells us everything about Azaleas

Sunday April 30, ABAS Annual Bus Trip

Saturday and Sunday May 20&21, Satsuki Aikokai Annual Show, Garden Center

Tuesday May 23, ABAS Annual Auction

Saturday June 10, Tentative Date for the ABAS Annual Home Tour

Tuesday June 27, Annual Luau, Election of Officers, 'Power of One' Drawing.

Tuesday July 25, Suiseki viewing stones

Tuesday August 22, Oaks with Steve Cozens

Saturday & Sunday August 26&27, Redwood Empire Bonsai Society, Annual Show, Santa Rosa

Tuesday September 26, Creating Saikei with John Cota