

CBS Newsletter

December 2019



Christmas Party

Sunday December 8, 2019 10:30 am

Join Chico Bonsai in Celebrating the Holiday Season

We plan to celebrate the holiday season with a member brunch. Plan to bring your favorite dish or if short of time bring finger foods, drinks, etc!!!. A society pin will be given to all members who attend.

Everyone gets a chance to show off their Christmas flare for styling. Bring in a holiday decorated bonsai to our meeting. The society will award a bottle of holiday champagne to the winning tree.

All current members who attend will be entered in a drawing to win this year's door prize. The prize is a closely held secret only known to Santa, but from off the record rumors from Santa's elves, it is a meeting worth attending if only to enjoy the cuisine, company of other members, and have a chance at having the winning ticket.

Leo has purchased 7 beginner trees to be included in the raffle. There will be not silent auction for this meeting.

If you do not feel lucky winning raffles, bring your bonsai plant material for a member exchange. All who bring in a bonsai plant will receive a bonsai plant from another member. Tickets will be issued for the exchange and a drawing will be conducted to distribute the plants. All who bring a plant will receive a plant.

What to Bring to Meeting:

- Bonsai Decorated Christmas Tree.
- Your Favorite Dish for the Potluck Luncheon.
- Bring Plant Material for a member exchange raffle.
- Plant material for monthly meeting raffle.
- Be prepared to have a good time.



Silent Auction

Winner of Novembers silent auction:

Steve Liner

Winning Bid:

\$40.00

Plant Material:

Olive

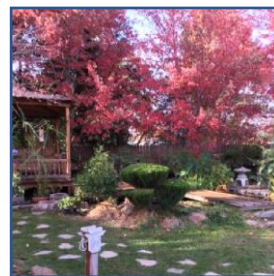
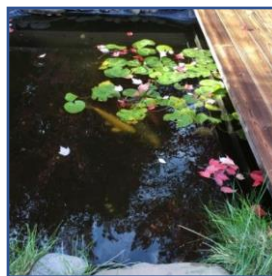


Silent Auction Tree

Evening at Dave McMahan's

By Leo Martinez

Many Thanks to Dave McMahan for hosting another society open house. It was a beautiful setting, with Dave's bonsai nicely displayed and meticulously cared for. An extra treat was serene pond stocked with koi and a tea house that was a real treat. The following are some pictures submitted by Leo Martinez from the event.



CBS Potpourri

Membership

Current Membership is 48

Chico Bonsai Society is now on  **Pinterest**

Chico Bonsai Images can now be found on Pinterest. Last month the wrong code was mistakenly given in the newsletter. This is the correct code. Be sure to follow CBS.

Access from Mobile Phone: _____ →

Access from Desktop: <https://pin.it/17qy6xigjxupif>

Chico Bonsai Society is now on  **Instagram**

If you already have an account, please follow us at: **chicobonsaisociety1976**.

Access from Mobile Phone: _____ →



Staying in Touch – Recovering Member Emails

We still have not been able to contact the following CBS members:

- David and Lori Angel
- David and Susan Englund
- Emmanuel Reevo
- Michael Bacani
- Ron and Kim Lewis
- Ruby Cazares
- Samantha Muntifering
- Thom Smith

Please forward any information to: jemcdonald@protonmail.com



Chico Bonsai Society

CBS Website

The society website is now published. We are looking for a caretaker who will be in charge of its maintenance and keeping it up to date. Please contact any of the society officers if you are interested.

CBS Store

Our CBS store is now fully stocked and open. New polo shirt design is now available. See: Steve Liner at our meeting for details prices and details.



Bonsai Down Under

A Visit to Brisbane Botanical Garden

By John McDonald

A recent trip to Australia included a visit to the Brisbane Botanical Garden at Mt. Coot-Tra, to tour the permanent bonsai exhibit. Some images from the exhibit are shown here and more on Pinterest. It might be incorrectly assumed that all the bonsai material would be from Australia. In fact, almost the opposite was found.

In a brief chat with one of the gardens bonsai caretakers, Perry Naumann, stated that when bonsai was first taking hold in Brisbane in the 1960's, plant material and styling was adopted from Japanese and Chinese methods using the plant material outside of Australia [see Image 1]. When Australian plant material was used it attempted to copy styling for these trees

rather than using styling better suited to Australian varieties and their unique forms.



Image 1: Ficus salicifolia - Willow Leaf Fig

As times have changed so have attitudes about bonsai and using Australian native material. Indigenous Australian varieties are now styled according to how they are shaped in the wild according to Mr. Naumann.

One native variety that is used commonly for beginning bonsai enthusiasts is the Port Jackson Fig [*Ficus rebginosa*]. The PJ Fig [see image 2] is native to New South Wales and Queensland, Australia. Mark McCrone writing for the Australian Native Plant Society writes that it is an excellent beginners' tree and is 'the most frequently grown species recorded in the Australian Plants as Bonsai database' [see Growing the Port Jackson Fig in References and Information below.

Care Guide/Mark McCrone	
Lighting	5-7 hours of morning sun
Temperature tolerance	Can tolerate 32 degree F temperature if covered. Over 100 degrees [likes misting].
Pruning	Tolerant of root pruning
Miscellaneous	Likes to form aerial roots
Watering	Tolerates overwatering, misting in summer. Taper to once 10-14 days in winter.
Feeding	Fortnightly in warmer months. Beware: To much fertilizer will create larger leaf and aggressive plant growth.



Image 2: *Ficus rubiginosa* - Port Jackson Fig

See images of other bonsai from Brisbane Botanical Gardens at our Pinterest Site



Information and References

Bonsai Society of Australia: <https://bonsai.asn.au/>

Growing the Port Jackson Fig / Mark McCrone: <http://anpsa.org.au/APOL2007/jun07-1.html>

Growing Australian Bonsai / Listing of Native Australian Seed Vendors: <http://anpsa.org.au/APOL6/jun97-3.html>

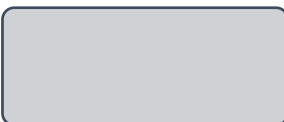
CBS Classified

Do you have anything to sell or trade? Send image, and information to John – jemcdonald@protonmail.com. Free of charge to Society members.



Exampe - Branch Bender / \$XX

- Like new branch bender. Used only once on Sunday
- Joe Bonsai, 530-555-5555 or email blahblah@baghmail.com



Title What is it? / Price

Description

Contact informat

Bonsai Maintenance

December [SF Bay Area – Please compensate for differences in Chico weather]

December

General

- Improve overall design of trees; eliminate crisscross branching, excessively heavy top branches, unsightly vertical twigs and unnecessary crotch branches; reduce long internodes
- Study trunk taper and placement of equally balanced branches; remove excessive branching
- Study radial effect of rootage; look for a defined apex or a soft, rounded top; reestablish basic designs
- Review exposure of trees to sun at its lowest angle; move all trees into full sun
- Satsuki azaleas: leaves produced during summer show fall color
- Rotate all trees at least once a month

Fertilizing

- Scratch soil surface to aid penetration of nutrients
- Never feed a dormant tree unless the fertilizer is low in nitrogen

Watering

- Adjust automatic watering system for winter
- Assure that plants receive sufficient water; rains may not penetrate through soil profile

Insect, disease, & weed control (see Appendix 9)

- Apply second of three dormant sprays (see November for precautions)
- Continue to use either Diazinon or Malathion for aphids, Sevin for ants, and Ortho's Funginex for powdery mildew

Styling/Pruning

- Trimming should be minimal this month
- Maples: prune before cold weather to minimize bleeding; lightly wire
- Satsuki azaleas: continue thinning of summer's growth and reduction of floral buds; wire and bend smaller branches; wait until March to prune larger branches
- Deciduous trees: check wiring, remove if necessary
- Ume: ensure blossoms for next year by moving plant to a warm location, after the first frost, and misting daily; anticipate flower buds within two weeks.

- Black or hard pines: if not done in Nov., remove needles from previous year(s) and cut-back to create desired shape of crown
- Monterey pines: if heavy cut-back is necessary, do it this month
- Group plantings: reexamine shape, height, flow; direction; wire if needed; remove wire before it bites into bark

Repotting

- Review and, if needed, replenish supplies of potting mix; screen materials and aggregates (i.e.: pumice, sand, lava rock, decomposed granite, etc.) as well as organic humus (i.e.: fir and cedar bark, redwood)

Propagating/Collecting

- Graft only true firs, spruce, and pine (see Appendix 8)

Personal reminders:

Reference: Hillenbrand, R., Faulk, S., Gallagher, C., Roth, J., Makishima, D., Castellon, B., . . . Manakitivipart, B. (2002). *San Francisco Bay Area: Calendar for bonsai Care*. Oakland, CA.

Other Winter Considerations:

- Keep bonsai sheltered from extreme cold and wind. Because bonsai are in a shallow dish, its roots are fragile. Frigid air and strong winds can cause winterkill. Move trees to a protected spot such as a shelf in a shed or garage or a bench in a cool, unheated greenhouse. Non-tropical bonsai need no light because they are dormant.
- Water bonsai thoroughly before moving them to their winter location.
- Spray trees with fungicide and insecticide to eliminate overwintering spores and insects that may overwinter in the soil or on your dormant bonsai trees.
- Graft conifers and other evergreen shrubs and trees.
- Test soil for dryness. If soil feels dry, water until moist, but avoid overwatering.
- Prune heavy branches of most deciduous trees and evergreens toward the end of winter.
- Do not prune maples and pines.
- Do not fertilize temperate or tropical bonsai.
- Wire and shape trees.
- Plan which trees that need repotting in early spring. Young need more, older trees less.

From the President's Desk

Meeting Agenda

December 8, 2019

Christmas Potluck, Tree decoration, Door prize and Exchange Auction [see page one].

Behind the Scenes

CBS Board and Club Meeting Minutes

Attendee's: Adam Jacobsen and Leo Martinez. Absent: Ruben Rodarte, Steve Liner, John McDonald, Pat Gilmore and Luke Smith

Minutes Submitted by Leo Martinez: Finalize Xmas party and brunch.

Total Budget = \$200.00 – Prizes for current members.
Membership door prize drawing for all members who attend
CBS pin will be given to each member attending.
Small trees will be purchased for member raffle.
Brunch Menu: Adam will send message to members on what to bring. Meat platter, cheese, crackers, cakes. Other additions TBD.
Leo to purchase a bottle of Champagne to award for best decorated Christmas bonsai tree.

Current Paid Membership [including partners, as of March 2019]:	47
Current Club Account Balance [as of October 31, 2019]:	
Business Checking	\$7308.36
Petty Cash on Hand	\$ 237.00
Total	<u>\$7545.36</u>

Future Calendar of Events

Unless noted, board meetings are at 9:30 am and regular meeting starts at 10:30 am

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------------|
| • January 12 th | Meeting/Board | • April 12 th | Meeting/Board |
| • February 9 th | Meeting/Board | • May 2nd and 3rd | <u>Annual Show</u> |
| • March 8 th | Meeting/Board | • May 10 th | Meeting/Board |



*Bonsai in Winter: Grass Valley
by Leo Martinez*

Chico Bonsai Society (CBS) is a non-profit organization whose intent it is to promote the appreciation, knowledge, and cultivation of Bonsai through education, publicity, display and any other means which would advance the Art of Bonsai.

Membership: Chico Bonsai Society is a social hub based on the common interest of the Art of Bonsai. Membership is open to the general public, come join us. Guests and visitors are always welcome.

Annual Individual Memberships dues are \$30.00 per year plus \$5.00 for each additional member of the household. To join the CBS, mail your name(s), address, telephone and e-mail address plus a check made payable to the CBS for the correct amount to: **Leo Martinez, 1236 Whitewood Way., Chico, CA 95973.**

CBS Board of Directors

President	Adam Jacobsen	adamjacobsen33@gmail.com
Vice President	John McDonald	jemcdonald@protonmail.com
Secretary	Luke Smith	smit5821@gmail.com
Treasurer	Leo Martinez	LeoRMartin@gmail.com
Annual Show	Patrick Gilmore	gilappl@gmail.com
Society Store	Steven Liner	stephenliner7@gmail.com
Director	Ruben Rodarte	rubenrodarte123@gmail.com
Newsletter	John McDonald	jmcDonald@protonmail.com
Refreshments	Carol Crljenica	tambura33@sbcglobal.net

The **Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF)** is an educational organization which provides services and activities promoting the wonderful art of bonsai. GSBF is made up of member clubs in California and affiliate clubs in the adjoining states.

- **Publication:** [Golden Statements Magazine](#) [free digital version], the official publication of GSBF, is printed four times each year with current bonsai articles and calendars of local club shows and events.
- **Education:** The Federation awards grants to assist the clubs with programs and provides several categories of bonsai scholarships which are available to worthy individuals. There is also an internship program in which qualified students are given assistance to study with a bonsai master in Japan or elsewhere.
- **The Chico Bonsai Society is a current member.**

The **American Bonsai Society (ABS)** is an international non-profit corporation founded in 1967 to promote knowledge of, and interest in, bonsai – and to serve as a national focal point for bonsai fanciers. The ABS publish the *ABS Bonsai Journal*, hold member conventions, and provide educational and support services to the bonsai community.

Individual Membership dues are \$45.00. Join the ABS online at: <https://www.joinit.org/o/american-bonsai-society/4n47EfHaY6Fs6oMoy>.

