



Club President Jack Reynolds Will Give the Demo Wednesday January 11, 2017



Auction Turnout
December 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Jack G. Reynolds

As I write this we are twelve minutes into the new year. There is about four inches of snow on the ground and my rain storage tanks are all completely full (1600 gals.). Tomorrow my son is getting married. The year is getting off to a good start.

By all accounts the December pot-luck auction was a club success. I want to thank all the members who came and shared food. They also brought some nice bonsai material

Auctioneering



Below-Auctioneer Jack doing some heavy lifting for the club



President's Message *(from page 1)*

to be auctioned and were willing to spend some money to benefit the sellers and the club. That is called a win win situation.

This year I would like our members to be thinking about how we can recruit some new members. Talk to your friends who might be interested. Join a garden club or an art association and talk up bonsai. Be willing to do a little demonstration in front of a group even if it is just displaying a tree and talking about how you created it and what you think its future will be. Steve Riley, our Membership VP is getting obsessive about getting some new members. Let all lend a hand.

We will continue to meet on the second Wed. of each month at the Sepulveda Garden Center. The Japanese Garden has not completed its renovation yet but we will eventually return there and will have our show there as usual on June 3-4. Mark your calendar and start thinking about which trees you plan to enter.

Election of officers is coming up. Be thinking about helping the club by holding office. Some people are tired and need a rest. See you all in January. Jack



Left-Out of focus auctioneer Eric (photo is ok from author point of view). Steve in back counting coins



Refreshments to be annouced-await eagerly



January is a good month to study the structure and style of your deciduous trees. You can also study deciduous trees in nature. I have learned a lot from studying the local deciduous oaks because they are often very old and have wonderful drooping branches with interesting curves. Whenever you are out among trees, take note of the best ones and try to see what it is that makes them attractive. For your deciduous trees remove crossing branches and unnecessary heavy up going unsightly straight branches. Open the tree so light can reach the insides and negative spaces can develop. For the evergreen study trunk taper. Remove old needles from black pine leaving most on the bottom and least on top. Leave more needles on weak branches.

Watch your trees carefully for the first sign of needing water. Clean the pot drain holes with a wire brush to promote root health. Keep your trees damp but not wet. Elevate the edge of your pot about an inch to keep water from pooling if it should rain. Don't water pots that are frozen. Warm these pots slowly. Too much overhead watering can promote the dreaded needle cast fungus in pines so I would not do it at this season. Be sure to keep your tropical trees under some protection from frost. You can even put them in your garage for several days during particularly cold periods. Not more than 5-7 days.

The only trees that need fertilizer are conifers because they do not go completely dormant in southern California. A slow release 5-5-5 should be good. Soil amendments such as gypsum can be used to soften compact soils.

Now is the time to do your first application of lime sulfur dormant spray (diluted) to all your dormant deciduous trees. A second will be done in February. The purpose of lime sulfur spray is to kill fungus leaf curl as well as the eggs of many parasitic insects that have been deposited on the bark. Others will mix the lime sulfur (diluted) with Volcoil as an insecticide. Remove debris and weeds from the pot. Replace the first half inch of top soil with new soil mix. Lightly brush the trunk and roots to remove crud and moss.

Some rewiring, particularly of deciduous trees may be done this month but be careful of brittle branches. Drastic shaping should be left for the spring. Be very careful to remove old wire that is cutting into branches. You have to look!

Do not transplant (can to pot) anything at this season. Wait another month or two. Hardy black pine and juniper may be repotted (pot to pot) without much root ball disturbance.

Get your pots and soil ready for repotting and get your best ready for SHOW TIME.



Sansui-Kai is dedicated to the learning, use and teaching of the horticulture techniques and artistic principles needed to grow, design and care for bonsai. Regular membership is \$22 & \$27 for Families.

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A Successful Auction and Potluck

by EYHO

Jack brought the chicken (yum) and Dan brought the ham (ha ha I know what you are thinking). Steve got the drinks. Sonja provided all the utensil setups. Josh added items from the club for auction. Emma, BJ's family, and Mary and others did some fine baking. The turnout was good and folks brought worthy trees to bid on. Mr. Goya's saikeis went fast and all the olives went for a good price. I got an olive for my sister. Some donated their profits (80% of sales) to the club.

Jack and Eric were the auctioneers you can see in the photos. Dues were paid by the attendees.

The affair was upbeat and profitable for the club and its members. We made enough to sponsor 3-4 demos next year with worthy trees for raffle. Thanks to everyone who showed up and participated.

Cookie
Monster
Family

