



November Meeting

Monday, Nov 20, SPECIAL DATE

This meeting will be a business meeting with a few attractions:

- We will have two stand makers onsite to show their work
- We will also have some Fall color or Winter silhouette trees on display.
- Gordon will be offering some material for sale with all proceeds to SBBK since he missed the Green Elephant.

Looks to be a busy meeting with election of officers and bylaws approval and any other business related topics.



Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Breaking News for Sei Boku Members Only

Do you believe in Santa Claus Sei Boku. do you really believe? Straight from Mrs. Claus comes this special Holiday message. News of our Holly Jolly Christmas Party made it all the way to the North Pole and caught Santa's attention. Our level of Christmas spirit so impressed Santa that he shared with Mrs. Claus and Rudolph that he has decided to make a brief appearance and asked Mrs Claus to share the good news with us. Santa apologizes for not telling us himself, but he is simply too busy in Santa's workshop working with his elves making toys (and bonsai goodies). Now mind you boys and girls making an appearance by Santa is no small feat but Rudolph made his route and checked it twice just for you Sei Boku. Santas visit may be a fly by, it may be in spirit or? So, Sei Boku plan to be there on **Sunday December 10th from 2 to 5 at the Congregational Church of Belmont located at 751 Alameda De Las Pulgas in Belmont.** If you are a true believer, gather up all your Christmas spirit and use your imagination, you just might see Santa Claus. Those of you

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President's Message

By Steve Iwaki

I just returned from Japan where I re-connected to my cultural roots. Bonsai enthusiasts, Mike Rosenthal and Christine Weigan joined me. It was Christine's first trip to Japan and we all enjoyed Kyoto and Takamatsu to get our bonsai fix.



We flew into Osaka, spent 3 days in Kyoto where we took in shrines, temples and gardens. We even took a train to the ceramic town, Tokoname, known for making high quality bonsai pots. Although there were fewer kilns, some of the surviving studios have been established for generations.

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President's Message (continued)



Next, we took a train to the southern island of Shikoku, in particular the port city of Takamatsu. Ritsuin Park is located in this port city, which is considered one of the three best gardens in Japan.

For the finale, we visited Kinashi and Kokobunji bonsai villages, both known for pine bonsai.

We met up with Yamaji-san, owner of Sanshoen, cultivator and exporter of Japanese white pines as well as being one of 18 bonsai nurseries off the Kokobunji train stop. The trees were amazing, many started by his father in the ground at least 45 years ago.



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Calendar

Nov 20 — Monthly Meeting (Mon) "Business"

Dec 5 — *First Tuesday Workshop*: Valerie Monroe
San Mateo Garden Center 7-9 pm

Dec 10 — Holiday party: Sunday, 12/10/23 2-5pm
Congregational Church of Belmont
751 Alameda de Las Pulgas, Belmont, CA

2024:

Jan 24 — Oaks: "JT" Thompson

Feb 28 — Repotting: Gordon Deeg

Refreshment Rotation

Nov Mtg

Jeremy Foster, Bree Tiura

Howard & Pam Gallegos

Jan Mtg

Richard Dobson

Gerry Fields

Share a photo of your favorite tree winter silhouette? Send photos to mwei2cre8@msn.com to select from for the Dec or Jan Snippet.

Santa Claus is Coming to Town (continued)

arriving early at 1:30 for setup will have additional time for a possible Santa sighting before others arrive. It is Santa's wish for you to take time to gather... together with your Sei Boku friends and have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas. Attending certainly sounds like a great way to celebrate this year's holiday season. HO HO HO Merry Christmas.

Bring: Appetizer or dessert ready to share with serving utensils plus what you would like to drink and/or share. Oh, don't forget cookies and milk for Santa HO HO HO. Decorated suitable size bonsai displays for table center pieces being mindful of table clothes or for decor to display around the room.

Giftng options: To participate in our Holiday gift exchange HO HO HO bring a wrapped bonsai related item. To participate in our Holiday raffle, bring an unwrapped bonsai related item and share holiday cheer. Everyone attending will receive a ticket and have a chance to win a raffle HO HO HO.

Christmas is always a very special time of year; Santa will be looking for you HO HO HO Merry Christmas to all.

Bonsai Deadwood, by Francois Jeker

"Bonsai is the art of the fourth dimension. It is the art of time. The bonsai that we contemplate tells us the events of his past life through its trunk, bark, branches, healed wounds, and scars..."

The presence of deadwood on some of our bonsai shows us the time passing, the test overcome, the pain, but also life that invariably will take over."

GSBF Replay: Jonas Dupuich "Pot Selection"

<https://bit.ly/40p7Ff6>

Recall last year's Pacific Bonsai Expo

<https://bit.ly/3MtS1t2>



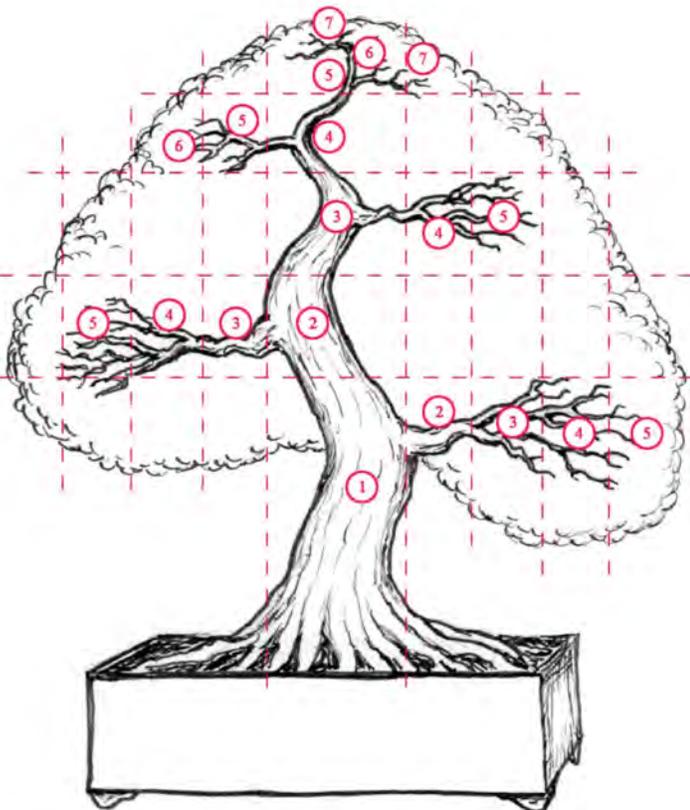
Bonsai by Numbers (by Peter Tea)

(shared in his GSBF Rendezvous Seminar)

"The numbers in the diagram represent a bifurcation (divide in the branches) and taper change. Focus on what needs development now vs. development later. Start with 1 and work your way up and out."

<https://www.ptbonsai.com/bonsai-by-numbers>

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Concept by Peter Tea



Seasonal Tips

By Jerry Carpenter

- This time of year we are normally starting to repot flowering fruit trees that have gone dormant.
- The last thinning* of Black Pines along with some wiring can be done this month.
- Be sure to clean up falling leaves and moss before the rains come in strong.

* On pines, just before maintenance pruning and wire training, if it has not been done already, it is possible to remove the old needles to allow more light to penetrate, to activate the dormant buds inside the tree and to sort through the terminal buds at the ends of the branches to leave just two of them. [Bonsai Empire: Bonsai Calendar]

Resource Recommendation:

Bonsai Tonight Bonsai Guides:

<https://bonsaitonight.com/guides/>

Bonsai Empire: Bonsai Calendar

<https://www.bonsaiempire.com/basics/general/calendar>

Note: always consider your local climate, conditions, and current weather for any guidance offered.

Bonsai: A Patient Art, The Bonsai Collection of the Chicago Botanical Garden

"Bonsai is a patient art. As in the birth of any entity, beginnings are important. They are filled with promise and expectation. They are imbued with a vision. Likewise, ends bring closure—resolution, a job well done, a life well lived. But perhaps most essential in this art of commitment are the middles: the years filled with shaping and waiting for fulfillment, years of care and artistry, years of nurture.

"Bonsai is perhaps the ultimate collaboration, bringing together human mastery and nature's mystery... The collaboration unfolds over decades, even over a succession of caretakers, as the tree is usually longer lived than its human partner.

"When passed through generations, bonsai becomes truly an art of stewardship."

Editors Special Note:

Consider sharing your projects with the club by submitting some photos and captions for the Snippet. Please send your entries to jcsf1090@comcast.net

President's Message (continued)



Yamaji-san, owner of Sanshoen



As Mike and Christine can attest, the people were polite and hospitable, the culture rich with history, and the food was beyond fantastic! For me, my return visits to Japan always brings a deepen sense of cultural connection and discovery.

Please welcome our new members:

- Gianne S.
- Christian S.
- Diane B.
- Evangeline Del C.
- Virginia K.

Membership contact: seibokubonsaikai@yahoo.com



October Meeting Recap

Jennifer Price was our special guest from Chicago, and held an interactive styling of a Coastal Redwood with some carving.

Special Thanks to Steve Iwaki for providing the beautiful Redwood burl material.



Special thanks to the Diederich family for donating the proceeds of Klaus' pottery sale to SBBK.



Visit us on the web at <http://seibokubonsai.org/>
 or at <https://facebook.com/seibokubonsai>
 or at <https://instagram.com/seibokubonsai>



Sei Boku Bonsai Kai

President:

Steve Iwaki

Vice President:

Jerry Carpenter

Treasurer:

Randi Keppeler

Recording Secretary:

Mike Rosenthal

Corresponding Secretary:

Jerry Carpenter

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Joshua Diaz

Caroline Koss

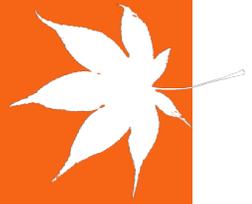
Kevin Corrigan

Bill McDonald

Past President, Valerie Monroe

Show Chair: Marsha Mekisich

Consultant: Gordon Deeg



Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Inc.
 Proud member of
 Golden State
 Bonsai Federation



The club bylaws are written to help guide the club so it can run in an organized manner. Periodically, the bylaws need to be updated to reflect changes in policy or procedure. As a member in good standing, you have a vote in adopting the changes to the bylaws. Please take the time to read the bylaws for the vote at the November meeting.

When reading the bylaws, the blue highlights indicate a section where a change is being made. The yellow highlights show existing wording that will be deleted from the final document. The red text is the updated or new wording that will appear in the bylaws.

BYLAWS OF SEI BOKU BONSAI KAI

Pending Approval

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1. The Club shall be known as SEI BOKU BONSAI KAI.

Section 2. The Club shall be a non-profit **tax exempt** organization **under section 501(c)(3)**, and shall not operate in any manner which would result in pecuniary gain or profit to any member, and none of the earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member. Reimbursement of reasonable expenses and lecture fees however, may be made to members. Under no circumstance shall more than forty-nine percent (49%) of the members of the Executive Board be “interested persons”.

Section 3. The principal office of the Club is located in San Mateo County, California. The County of the Club’s principal office shall be changed only by amendment to the Bylaws.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

Section 1. The purpose of the Club is exclusively educational, within the meaning of applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code, to create interest in the development, cultivation, propagation, and artistic display of Bonsai, with the object of bettering the skills of those engaged in such pursuits, the improvement of the quality of their bonsai, and development of a higher degree of efficiency in their bonsai related endeavors. Lectures, demonstrations, workshops, and exhibits will be held in the furtherance of the Club’s objectives.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any person who is interested in Bonsai shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Annual membership dues shall be for individuals or families, as set by the Executive Board. Family membership shall be limited to an **adult married** couple and their children under eighteen (18) years of age. Any member whose dues for the calendar year are not paid on or before the regular February membership meeting shall be dropped from the membership roll. Dues are not refundable upon termination of membership. Dues for new members joining after the June membership meeting, shall be **half (1/2) three-quarters (3/4)** the yearly amount for that calendar year. A badge fee shall be collected for all new and replacement badges. Memberships shall be non-assessable, **except by an affirmative vote by the membership of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast**. A member of this Club is not responsible for the debts, liabilities, or obligations of the Club.

Section 3. Resignation of members from the Club shall be effective upon written notice to the President. Dues are non-refundable upon termination of membership by resignation.

Section 4. Any member determined by the Executive Board to be engaged in conduct prejudicial to the interests or purposes of the Club may be asked to resign. If such member does not resign, the membership, by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote, may terminate his/her membership.

Section 5. On recommendation of the Membership Committee or a member of the Executive Board a member may be nominated for Honorary Lifetime Membership in SBBK for extraordinary contributions to the club. Once nominated approval should be by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee. If conferred members will be notified in the Snippet and dues for that individual would be exempted.”

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. The Elective Officers of the Club shall be: President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, **Assistant Treasurer**, and **three (3) six (6)** Directors.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall consist of all of the Elective Officers and the immediate Past-President. For the purposes of the **501(c)(3) organization, California Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation Law**, the Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors. Members of the Executive Board shall not be personally liable for debts, liabilities, or obligations of the Club. The names and addresses of the President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer are reported annually to the State of California in order to maintain the Club's Non-Profit Corporation Status.

Section 3. All business of the Club will be conducted by the Executive Board at regularly scheduled meetings, or at specially called meetings.

Section 4. Terms of Office:

- A. The term of office shall be the calendar year.
- B. President and Vice-President: one (1) year term; no more than **four (4) two (2)** consecutive one (1) year terms in the same office.
- C. Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary: one (1) year term; consecutive terms may be served.
- D. Treasurer: one (1) year term; consecutive terms may be served.
- E. **Assistant Treasurer: one (1) year term; consecutive terms may be served.**
- F. Immediate Past-President: shall serve until successor leaves office.
- G. Directors: one (1) year term; consecutive terms may be served.

Section 5. Resignations of elective officers from their offices shall be effective upon notice in writing to the President. Vacancies on the Executive Board shall be filled for the remainder of the term of office by vote of the Executive Board. The office of Immediate Past-President, if vacated, shall be filled by a member appointed by the President.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. **PRESIDENT:** Is the Chief Executive Officer, with the overall responsibility of the Club's operations. Shall preside over all regular membership meetings of the Club and at all Executive Board meetings. Shall be the liaison between the Club and the Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF). Shall appoint such committees as necessary to properly run the activities of the Club. Shall be the Initial Agent for Service in matters related to California Corporations as they pertain to the Club.

Section 2. VICE-PRESIDENT: Shall assist the President in promoting the Club and its activities. Shall preside over regular membership meetings of the Club and Executive Board meetings in the absence of the President. **Shall be responsible for the staffing of the San Mateo County Fair exhibition by the Club in August. Shall be the Chairman of the annual Club Exhibit held in June.**

Section 3. **RECORDING SECRETARY:** Shall be responsible for the recording of all minutes of the Executive Board meetings and any other meetings so designated by the President. Shall maintain a file of all minutes. Shall distribute current minutes to all Executive Board members.

Section 4. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Responsible for the monthly (excluding December) publication of the Club's newsletter, "The Snippet". Shall notify the Club members of all regular membership and special meetings and list member "volunteer" assignments for the regular membership meetings through "The Snippet". Shall keep permanent files of correspondence, both sent and received, as well as copies of "The Snippet". Shall distribute all correspondence to the Executive Board members for action or information. Shall exchange newsletters with other local clubs. **Shall be responsible for publicity and donation solicitation for the annual Club Exhibit held in June.** Shall record the meeting minutes in the absence of the Recording Secretary. **Shall distribute an updated roster of all members with contact information.**

Section 5. **TREASURER:** Shall be responsible for all financial matters of the Club. Shall collect and deposit all monies and pay all bills. Only the Treasurer and/or the President are authorized to sign checks. Shall be responsible for maintaining records of all financial transactions, and for reporting these activities to the Executive Board and the Auditing Committee. Shall be responsible for filing and maintaining records related to the Club's Non-Profit Corporation Status; the Franchise Tax Board, the Internal Revenue Service, the State Board of Equalization, and the City of San Mateo. Shall maintain a listing of all of the Club's members and assets.

Section 6. ASSISTANT TREASURER: **Shall be responsible in assisting Treasurer with financial matters of the Club. This position can serve concurrently as a Director.**

Section 7. DIRECTORS: Shall attend all Executive Board meetings to assist the President and other officers in making decisions for the betterment of the Club.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President shall appoint such committees as necessary to manage the activities of the Club. **Program will be decided at Annual Planning Meeting and regular Executive Board Meetings. The President shall appoint Committee Chairpersons for those committees defined in the By-Laws. The President will have the discretion to appoint any ad-hoc committees that she/he determines to be necessary for proper administration of club duties. Ad- hoc committees will serve only for the duration of that President's appointment unless continued by his/her successor".**

Section 2. Auditing Committee: There shall be a special three (3)member Auditing Committee appointed by the President. The Auditing Committee shall meet with the Treasurer and the President prior to the February membership meeting to audit the Club's books.

Section 3. Nominating Committee: **After asking for volunteers at the regular August membership meeting,** shall consist of three (3) members appointed by the Executive Board no later than the regular September membership meeting. Members of the Executive Board shall not unduly influence the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominees to the membership at the regular November membership meeting. Additional nominations may be made by the membership. All nominees must agree to the nomination and be advised of the responsibilities of the position.

Section 4. Library Committee: Shall be responsible for maintaining the Book and Video library.

Section 5. Membership Committee: Shall be responsible for membership activities **and maintaining materials. Materials include packets on bonsai instruction, and registration of new members. Activities include staffing the welcome desk and the buddy system.**

Section 6. Program Committee: Shall be responsible for defining and staffing the regular membership meeting programs.

Section 7. Benefit Drawing Committee: Shall be responsible for staffing and running the benefit drawings held during the regular membership meetings, **the annual Club Exhibit in June,** and at all other times as designated by the Executive Board.

Section 8. Show Committees: **Several committees responsible for organizing various functions throughout the year, Club Birthday Celebration, San Mateo County Fair, Annual Club Exhibit. Several committees appointed by the Annual Show Committee Chairperson, responsible for organizing various functions at the Annual Club Exhibit.**

Section 9. Sunshine Committee: The President is allocated a sum per incident as set by the Executive Board to be used at his/her discretion for the purpose of remembering members during a time of distress.

Section 10. Education Committee: Shall be responsible for developing and running workshops and training programs such as the first Tuesday workshop.

Section 11. Hospitality Committee: Shall be responsible for setting up the refreshment table at the regular membership meetings. Shall provide a rotating schedule of members to provide monthly refreshments. Shall be responsible for inventory of necessary supplies.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular membership meetings shall be held on the fourth (4th) Wednesday of each month, except November and December, at the time and place designated by the Executive Board. The November meeting shall be held the Monday before Thanksgiving. The Annual Holiday Party is held in December instead of the regular membership meeting.

Section 2. No business shall be brought on the floor at the regular membership meeting, except as required by the Club Bylaws.

Section 3. The Annual Meeting shall be the regular November membership meeting. At this meeting, committee chairpersons shall make their reports and elective officers shall be elected. Installation of officers shall take place at the regular November membership meeting.

Section 4. Regular Executive Board meetings shall be held at such time and place as may be designated by the President. The President may call special Executive Board meetings as necessary. A quorum of the Executive Board, consisting of at least half (1/2) of the members of the Executive Board, must be present before a meeting can be called to order. Any Club member may attend the Executive Board meetings, and with permission of the President Chair-person, may address the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII VOTING

Section 1. Individual Members in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote, and Family Memberships shall be entitled to two (2) votes, on all matters brought before the membership. Members must be present to vote.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected by a majority of the membership voting.

Section 3. Amendments of these Bylaws shall require an affirmative vote by the membership of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

Section 4. A quorum of the membership shall be twenty-five percent (25%).

Section 5. Any action of the Executive Board shall be approved by a simple majority of the voting board members.

ARTICLE IX FUNDS

Section 1. The funds of the Club shall be expended only by order of the Executive Board. No member or group of members may incur any indebtedness in the name of SEI BOKU BONSAI KAI, directly, without the express permission of the Executive Board.

Section 2. All members of the Club shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed that on dissolution of the Corporation, the assets, after debts have been satisfied, shall be distributed as required by **law to another tax exempt organization. the Articles of Incorporation.**

ARTICLE X RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. The conduct of business of the Club shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order - Revised, and unless otherwise provided, by these Bylaws.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of SEI BOKU BONSAI KAI and that they were duly adopted by the Executive Board and Membership on the **27th of November 1996. 20th of November 2023.**

Amended on the **27th of November 1996. 20th of November 2023.**

Jane Lancaster

Corresponding Secretary

Valerie Monroe

Past President