



NEWSLETTERS

Greetings from the APA President! - November 2019

This newsletter is written to inform APA members of the happenings within our organization over the last three months.

Since the last newsletter in July the APA has put on another Art of Pruning Garden Tour, we have had two Tree Talks, a booth at the Solano Stroll, and there was an APA potluck at Katherine Randolph's house. Also since the last newsletter we have gained 7 new members with a total of 24 new members for the year.

July Events

Tree Talk

On July 28th APA member and Conifer Queen, Sara Malone, gave a Tree Talk at her home, Circle Oak Ranch in Petaluma, on Dwarf Conifers.

Sara is a past President of the American Conifer Society and she really knows her conifers! The talk covered dwarf conifers focusing on their care, culture, forms, varieties, and origins.

Below is a photo of the talk in Sara's living room. The talk was followed by a stroll around her garden where APA members were treated to a garden of 100's of different dwarf conifer specimens.





Lunch in the garden. Denise Mason and Veronica Valencia discuss which conifer is the best.



Randall Lee is staying hydrated and Melissa Hyams is keeping the sun off on this toasty day in Petaluma in Sara's garden.

August Events

Potluck

On August 4th, APA member Katherine Randolph held her 3rd annual APA Summer potluck at her home, Eagle Rock Gardens, in Mill Valley. For the last 3 years APA members have gotten together, some bringing their significant others, to relax and share some good food in Katherine's very nice home and garden. We had the biggest turn out to date this year, 35 people. If you didn't make it, come next year! I wait all year for Randall's wife Lucy's noodle salad!

September Events

Solano Stroll booth

For the 4th year in a row the APA had a booth at the Solano Stroll in Albany on September 8th. The Stroll provides a great opportunity for the APA to bring awareness of our organization to the public.

The booth is visited by crowds of visitors at this event which brings over 200,000 people to Solano Avenue. The APA handed out 'Hire a Pruner' postcards which direct people to the APA website to find a pruner for their gardens. We also took the opportunity to advertise the APA Garden Tour by giving out postcards and raffling off 2 pair of free tickets to the tour. APA members Evelyn Borchert, Veronica Valencia, and Michael Weber staffed the booth and represented the APA!



New Professionals meeting

On September 22nd, Dennis Makishima was the guest speaker at the APA New Professionals meeting. Dennis spoke to a packed room of New Professionals about overcoming barriers and taking the next step in their Aesthetic Pruning business and career. The New Professionals group meets quarterly. See below for info on the next meeting in December.

October Events

Garden Tour

The 4th Biennial APA Art of Pruning Garden Tour was held on Sunday October 6th. There were 6 gardens on the tour this time all in the East Bay and all pruned by APA Certified Aesthetic Pruners. Thank you to garden tour chair [Melissa Hyams](#) for her organization of the tour.

Thank you to the APA certified pruners of the gardens: Peter Bowyer, Jocelyn Cohen, Grant Foerster, Randall Lee, Melissa Hyams, and me!

Thanks to:

Barbara Eaton for doing the Garden Tour graphics each year!

Denise Mason for creating the website pages and updates!

Eric King for doing the pruning demos!

Shannon Snyder for raising the sponsorship dollars!

Michael Weber for putting out all of those postcards and fliers!

Jen Schuessler for the facebook page!

Greg Kitajima for organizing the docent schedule!

We sold 181 tickets, a record for our tours. The tour is our fundraiser for the year, and after expenses we took in \$5,686! 20% of the profits will go to funding the Sachiko Umehara APA Scholarship fund.

Tree Talk

On October 22nd, Bill Castellon treated us to a talk on Training a Young Japanese Black Pine. It was a great Tree Talk and it turned out to be very interactive with many questions from the audience and 30 people attending. Bill has agreed to do part two of the talk next Fall, 2020, so mark your calendars!



If you are not receiving all of our emails about the APA events please check your email settings on your APA account on the website.

In closing, I would like to put my email out there to any of you who have ideas or comments for the organization, or you may want to get involved with one of the APA committees?

apaPresident@aestheticprunersassociation.org

News

- **APA Yahoo groups account** is going away. Please use the APA Forum for communication amongst members. Currently there is a Professional forum and a CAP forum. We may be adding another forum to help fill the void left by the Yahoo group.
- **Members forum**- using the APA forum is a benefit of membership and is for active members only. Through the forum you can search for topics and read, post, or reply to any comment or topic. You will need to log into your account on the APA website and go to the forum page. You will want to subscribe to the forum so that you can receive notice of new topics that are discussed. It is very user friendly.
- **New Professionals**- meets quarterly to discuss different issues pertinent to starting and running a successful aesthetic pruning business. To join this group please contact Grant Foerster at lifepine@gmail.com The next New Professionals meeting will be on Sunday December 8th. Diane Shields will discuss Taxes with the group. More info to come.
- **The APA Sachiko Umehara memorial scholarship fund** is for students seeking to study aesthetic pruning and horticulture at Merritt College. The board is working on a page for the APA website for the scholarship.
- **CAP mentoring group**- Eric King and I have started a mentoring group for APA members who are interested in pursuing certification. We currently have 7 members working with us. To join please contact us at apa@aestheticprunersassociation.org

- **Check out the APA Facebook page** updated by Jen Schuessler. Thanks Jen!

- **Join the APA Instagram account.** Follow us at Aesthetic Pruners Association. If you have photos to share from APA events please [contact me](mailto:contact@apa@aestheticprunersassociation.org) at apa@aestheticprunersassociation.org

Admin view

Upcoming events:

New Professionals meeting

Diane Shields will discuss taxes and accounting for new professionals.

Date: Sunday December 8th

Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Executive Inn and Suites

RSVP to Grant Foerster lifeofpine@gmail.com

APA Annual Meeting

Date: Sunday January 26th 2020

Time: 10:30am to 1:30pm

Doors: 10:00am

Location: TBD

Guest Speaker: more info to come!

APA Youtube Channel

Don't forget- members can access CAP Michael Alliger's talk on 'The Numinous Art of Pruning' and his demo of the laceleaf maple pruning through a link in the APA website. Log onto the APA website and click on the Members page. You will see the talk under 'links'. The talk can be accessed by members only.

Welcome New APA Members!!

Evelyn Borchert

Carol Brant

John Griffith

Ann Owen

Vanessa Ruiz

Darlene Johnson

APA Board

President- Dina Blackwell

Vice President- Greg Kitajima

Secretary- Eric King

Treasurer- Melissa Hyams

Members at Large-

Barbara Eaton

Denise Mason

Michael Weber

APA Committees:

Craft Standards- Stand in Chair- Randall Lee

Education- Chair- Grant Foerster

Finance- Chair- Melissa Hyams

Membership- Chair- Michael Weber

Promotions- Chair- Dina Blackwell

Website- Chair- Denise Mason

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