

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Bonsai Kai Club



MEETING TIME and PLACE

October 17, 2015, at 7:00 pm

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

October 17 Demonstration

Photo by Carol Upston



FRANK GOYA

For the October meeting, we had the honor of hosting **Frank Goya**, a member of the group known as the "Iron Men of John Naka." **Mr. Goya** has a long history with the southern California bonsai community and is one of bonsai's early pioneers. For the meeting, **Mr. Goya** will perform a demonstration on *Saikei*. For those that have never heard of *Saikei*, *Saikei* are tray landscape arrangements that consist of bonsai trees, rocks, and ground cover. They resemble natural settings such as trees, hills, mountains, and rivers. His *Saikei* works are extremely coveted by many bonsai enthusiasts, who often try to win one during a raffle.

Mr. Goya belongs to many bonsai clubs including the California Bonsai Society and Nanpu Kai. He is also one of the *senseis* at the Marina Bonsai Club. He is active in nearly every bonsai club in southern California. We hope that you will join us this month in welcoming one of the greats, and what's sure to be an outstanding demonstration. ---Jason Chen

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SEPTEMBER 19 DEMONSTRATION



Photo by Carol Upston

LINDSAY SHIBA

We just wanted to thank **Lindsay Shiba** for joining us during September's meeting. It was great to see him transform a regular five-gallon nursery can Leyland Cypress into a styled bonsai tree. During the demonstration, he took the time to wire each branch and arrange them. He explained how he removes the inside pocket branches on the trunk when choosing branches. He also mentioned that while he arranges the branches, he puts movement in the branches to match the movement of the trunk as well. Another tip he gave was to leave some extra branches when doing a first styling, as later on they may become nice options for *jins* once the branches thicken.

One of the highlights of the demonstration was the use of two large plumber wrenches to create movement in the thicker trunk. Sometimes we have to get creative in the way we approach working on a bonsai tree and utilize tools that can get the job done. He closed the demonstration by briefly talking about controlling burning on Japanese maples, something that we all struggle with in southern California.

---Jason Chan

GSBF CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

October 29 – November 1, 2015

It's not too late to sign up for the October 29-November 1, 2015, GSBF Convention 38 in Riverside, CA. Here are a few highlights to pique your interest. On Wednesday, October 28, there are two excursions planned for early arrivals. Excursion #1: *Suiseki* hunt in the Yuha Desert from 7 am to 7 pm; Excursion #2: Tamarisk Dig from 9 am to 5 pm.

Thursday, October 29, will feature two demonstrations by two high-powered bonsaiists from southern California: David Nguy from 8 to 11:30 am followed by Tak Shimazu from 1:30 to 5 pm.

KOFU BONSAI KAI EXHIBIT

BOWERS MUSEUM

September 23 – 27, 2015

The Kofu Bonsai Kai show at the Bowers Museum was a great success. Our trees continue to improve each year, and the level of club participation this time was really amazing. We always had plenty of docents and not only the people who signed up, but many who came almost daily to help out when they could. The public attendance was also very good and was mentioned by the museum staff. David and June Nguy did a heroic job demonstrating a before and after design on Saturday afternoon in only an hour and a half. There were a lot of good questions from the audience, which included many museum patrons. The reception also went very well. Richard Turner's talk on Sunday was very interesting and enjoyed by the audience. A happy coincidence was the opening of the new exhibit of Japanese bamboo sculpture the same week as our exhibit.

There are a lot of people to thank this year.

First, the family of Harry Hirao, *Sensei*, generously has donated a legacy tree to Kofu Bonsai Kai. Thanks to Lindsay Shiba who is now the caretaker of this tree when we are not showing it. We are very grateful for this gift.

Huge thanks go to Manny Martinez for coordinating, negotiating, designing, and arranging this entire event, from cultivating a good relationship with the Bowers to enlisting the exhibitors, to designing the displays, acquiring new tables, somehow convincing his wife to make new, better fitting backdrops (thank you Cheryl!), arranging for and supervising the photography of the trees, booking the caterers, and much more, all this with a hip replacement surgery on September 8th. It was a heroic effort.

Thanks also to publicity chair Michael Walsh for placing many ads and announcements for us this year.

A special thanks to those who came to help, to set-up, to talk to visitors, to serve at the reception, Ruben Ayala, Anthony Chiusolo, Amy Chiusolo, Gonzalo Rodriguez, Wendy Tsai, Dave Miles, Larry and Nina Ragle, Bob White, Tak Nakamura, Paul Vasina, Leif and Phuong Schmit-Kallas, Peter and Marissa Macasieb, Debra Mauzy Melitz, Dan and Wanda Danesi, Jason Chan, Sharilyn McKibben, Shari Religa, Julio Martinez, Al Nelson, Marybel Balendonck, Allan Sugimura, Doug McGavin, Dave Nadzam, Gary Lai, Joseph Gaytan, Tom Vuong, Rishi Bissoon, and **everyone else** who was there to help.

Many of you came frequently to help talk to visitors and it really helped lighten the load for everyone.

Thank you!

---Carol Upston

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

OCTOBER (#86)

Fall is generally the climax of the luxurious growth of summer and the last spurt of activity before settling down for winter dormancy.

As leaves begin to drop be sure to remove the trash around your trees and on the surface of your pots. If clean up is neglected these areas become a refuge for slugs, sow bugs and other undesirable creatures.

Transplanting is permissible at this time of year, specifically bamboo, boxwood, conifers, hornbeams, cotoneaster, podocarpus, privets, Pyracantha, wisteria, willows and most varieties of deciduous trees. The key to safe fall repotting is to minimize root disturbance and severe pruning but trees can be transferred into larger or different containers. If in doubt about the health or condition of a tree, wait until spring to repot.

As leaves begin to drop be sure to remove the trash around your trees and on the surface of your pots. If clean up is neglected these areas become a refuge for slugs, sow bugs and other undesirable creatures.

Now is the time to anticipate and enjoy better autumn color by reducing watering time as well. As the length of the day's sunshine is shortened, the trees require less water. A balance must be maintained between the minimal watering and the loss of moisture by transpiration during intermittent warm spells.

Once the leaves on trident maple, Japanese maple, liquid amber, ginkgo, hornbeam and other colorful deciduous trees begin to lose their vigor and drop, keep the bonsai areas and pot surfaces cleared. Remove trash promptly. Continue to spray benches with an all purpose insecticide and a final spray of fungicide. Pests seem to make a final effort to destroy and injure trees as they feed heavily prior to moving into the pupa stage.

Light conditions begin to change. Trees that have had full sun exposure find themselves in more shade. So, watch the location of trees at this time of year and rotate them into more favorable light exposures allowing them to continue storing strength and food for the winter.

This is a good time to work on basic training and design. Remove the wire applied this past year. Check for wire cuts. New wire can be applied but avoid the curls and marks of previous efforts. In spite of this period of slow growth, fall and winter training can still be effective. Before spring approaches don't overlook the new wire since new growth quickly causes wire damage. Study improper branch placement – crossing, bars, up and down growth.

There is still time to give bonsai a last good feeding. Evergreen and conifers may be lightly fertilized on a regular basis through the winter months since they continue to grow in our mild climate. Use food with little or no nitrogen--mainly potash and phosphorous, a 0-10-10 fertilizer. Low nitrogen fertilizers build dormant buds and store food in the form of starch used to produce healthy growth in spring. This is especially important for fruiting and flowering trees. Specifically azaleas, crabapples, ume and pomegranates improve after late feedings.

Limit cuttings, at this time of year, to hardwood specimens or tropical varieties. The use of a rooting hormone and a pre-soaking of a rooting stimulant, such as B-1 or Superthrive, improves the odds of success. A basic rooting medium such as 2 parts peat moss with 1 part perlite or coarse sand will serve you well. Keep the rooting medium slightly moist and shaded until evidence of new growth appears.

HAIKU POEM:

Our joy is reborn
When good health and stylish care
Show in trees each day

By Marty Mann

This article has been extracted from the recently published book called ' Bonsai Ideas'. © By Marty Mann. Material is not to be copied without publisher or author's permission. October -2012

CALENDAR of EVENTS

October 29 - **Golden Statement Bonsai Federation (GSBF) 2015 Convention 38** “Bonsai Fusion: Where Tradition Meets Innovation” at the Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street near Main, Riverside. Headliners: Bjorn BJORHOLM and John Wang. Guest Artists: David NGUY and Tak SHIMAZU. Demonstrations, seminars, critiques, workshops, benefit drawings, vendors, and much more. Additional information available at www.GSBF2015.com

December 26 - **California Aiseki Kai 26th Anniversary Exhibition of Viewing Stones Show** at the Botanical Center of the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA, January 3, 2016 10:30-4 each day (Closed New Year's Day). Free parking. For more information go to California Aiseki Kai's website: www.aisekikai.com.

2016 EVENTS

February 27- **Bonsai-A-Thon XX** annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington at The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Admission to the event is free with Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registration between 8-9 am. Event hours are 8-4:30 both days. Pancake breakfast, a tour hosted by Jim Folsom (Director of the Gardens), demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle, and auction. Sunday only: A behind-the-scenes tour of The Huntington Bonsai Nursery with Ted Matson. For more information, contact Bill Wawrychuk at (818) 790-9415 or b_wawrychuck@yahoo.com.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

September Refreshments:

Thanks to the many generous donors to the evening's refreshment table. Each item was delicious and greatly appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who stayed behind and helped clean up after the meeting was ended.

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

There will be a pre-meeting workshop from 4 pm – 6 pm before the October 19 meeting. Let expert Kofu members **Ryan Cali**, **Paul Vasina**, and **Harley Newman** help you with your bonsai questions and objectives. Bring your tree in to get it prepared for the 2016 annual exhibit.