

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club

Volume 30, Number 5

May 2011



Meeting Time and Place

July 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

JULY MEETING



Bringing a tree to a workshop is a sure fire way to move the design and development of your bonsai forward. Many of us have bonsai trees or pre-bonsai material that either hasn't been started or that is stuck at one point in its development. Maybe you can't decide where the front is, maybe there are awkward sawed-off limbs or protruding roots in the wrong spot. A workshop like this is an opportunity to work side by side with an accomplished bonsai master with long teaching experience who can help you solve your tree issues so that the tree can progress. I know that some of you may be shy about this. You may be thinking that you don't want to get up in front of everybody with your crummy tree and have someone point out the problems. I'm here to challenge that attitude. The art of bonsai requires courage, nerve, chutzpah. You'll get exactly nowhere by trying to never make a mistake. We learn much more from mistakes sometimes than easy successes, and in a workshop setting, everyone watching and participating learns from everyone else's experience. So it's time to man-up, bite the bullet, and enlist in the Kofu Kai Lindsay Shiba workshop! The workshop will start at 6PM and go till 9PM. Observers are welcome to arrive at 6PM. Everyone will have enough time with Lindsay and to work on their tree. Lindsay will be talking to the rest of us about what he's doing all during these sessions, and you will be able to ask questions from the audience. Participants should bring their tools, turntables and so on but if you're new and don't have them yet, no excuses, sign up anyway, we'll figure something out.

By Carol Upston

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Meeting Refreshments

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Cheryl Chassagne 949-770-9633

Pre-Meeting Workshop

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Publicity

open

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Anthony Chiusolo 714-998-3420

Mike Viljak 949-642-3577

Sunshine

Marybel Balendonck 714-524-0275

Website

Ryan Cali 949-735-3463

WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

JUNE MEETING

Kathy Shaner Weekend

In a joint venture by Kofu Bonsai Kai and the California Bonsai Society Kathy Shaner joined us for Bonsai workshops and a demonstration on the weekend of June 18th and 19th. On Saturday there was a lively workshop at the Kofu meeting place with five participants and numerous silent observers. The participants brought varied and challenging trees and worked with Kathy on the design and refinement of the bonsai.

That same evening Kathy did a demonstration which was well attended by members of both Kofu and CBS. To our great benefit, Larry Ragle brought his video set-up and projected close-up images so that we could all see exactly what Kathy was doing. Kathy left the choice of demo tree up to the audience and between a multi trunk boxwood and a fluffy California juniper, the crowd chose the boxwood. After a detailed demo covering the design, styling and future growth of the tree, it was raffled off and the lucky winner was none other than Leila Kusumi!! Leila was very happy with her good fortune and we look forward to seeing the development of the tree in the future.

The next day at the Huntington there were morning and afternoon workshop sessions with Kathy, sponsoby CBS. I hope everyone consider taking advantage of it.

By Carol Upston





UP COMING EVENTS

July Kofu Kai meeting well have Lindsey Shiba as our demonstrator. Lindsey wants to do a critique work shop where advice will be given on your tree and if everyone is in agreement the work will be done during the meeting. If you are interested in getting some help with one of your trees and want to participate contact Carol Upston at jackdraw@earthlink.net or 310-346-4203

September 9th, 10th, 11th Kofi Bonsai Kai Show at Bower Museum with lectures and demos. If you want to show please show Anthony Chiusolo or Mike Viljak.

April 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 2012
Garden Grove, California

California Bonsai Society: 55th Convention and Show at the Crown Plaza Anaheim Resort, 12021 harbor Blvd. and starring the iron men of Naka, Frank Goya, Harry Hirao, Shig Miya, Ben Oki and Richard Ota. Also featuring Tomohiro Masumi, Ryan Neil, and Cheryl Manning, Kenji Miyata, David Nguy, Kathy Shaner and the members of CBS. There will be workshops, demonstrations, auctions, drawings, a huge vendor area and prizes & awards for early registrations. For registration information contact Elizabeth Partch at elizabethpartch@yahoo.com

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

JULY, 2011 (#72)

Summertime reduces the need to do any serious 'training' of bonsai. It's a period of watchful attention to the results of earlier care. July is the month to plan for the summer season changes of activities related to care and feeding of bonsai. Start a program that will provide fall colors by reducing the nitrogen content of your fertilizer mix. Continued use of the standard cottonseed/bone meal (70/30% provides most of the nutrients required for summer growth and good health. Introduce a change in food by using half strength liquid Hi-Bloom (2-2-10) that provides an excellent source of phosphorus. Continue to feed all conifers and other evergreen material to promote good summer health. More frequent feedings of milder solutions are in order.

Regular feeding during the hot summer months can also be supplemented by early morning refreshing foliar feeding of Miracle-Gro or a diluted solution of fish emulsion. Avoid daytime heat. Allow wet foliage to dry during the day to prevent night forming fungus infection. A brisk spraying of your trees before feeding removes dust layers and discourages red spider, mites, ants and other insects. Be sure to spray both the top and the bottom of the foliage.

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage high levels of moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health a change in watering schedules consistently renews this moisture. Avoid wetting the leaves during the warm days- for two good reasons:

- Daytime water that adheres to leaves can literally cook them and cause severe leaf burn. If overhead watering is unavoidable, do so early in the morning to give time for surface evaporation.
- Excessive moisture in the crotch of leaf clusters or on their undersides creates environments that are ideal for the formation of fungus and the related health threatening damages.

Be reminded that summer vacationing puts an additional burden on your 'bonsai sitters'. A suggestion would be to let them water your trees for a few days before you leave to be sure that they are following your instructions. Trees requiring special care should be grouped together to simplify attention. Don't trust your automatic watering system without the back up of someone who can check from time to time to see if all is well.

Try forming a mutual watering pact with fellow bonsaiists. You do for them when you can and they will do for you. It's a great working arrangement and considerably safer than trusting your 'babies' to strangers.

Repotting ficus, pomegranates or other warm weather tropicals is encouraged at this time. Avoid most other transplanting activity during warm weather. Watch for wire cutting conditions. As bonsai matures in the summer growing period it does so primarily on its woody surfaces.

Chewing insects are hard at work eating their way thru leaves and stems. Spray with Sevin. Mites are also active during warm weather months. Discourage them with a good miticides or one of the new combination fungicides/insecticide products now on the market. A small amount of Volck Oil with these products creates better adhesion.

Approach your summer activity with an eye to enjoyment of the form and color of the trees. Fall will come soon enough if you keep up with summertime care.

HAIKU POEM:
By Marty Mann

Warmth and beauty pleases us
Green and colors glow
Life with pleasing style

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
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NEW MEMBERS

Ryan and Heddie Nichols

Ronald and Nancy Reekers

Say hello when you see them and welcome them to Kofu Bonsai Kai

Bonsai Tools and Supplies:

If you need any tools or supplies from Everett Bassin, contact him at 714-827-0661 or 714-392-5149 or email him a bonsaitools@mindspring.com. He will bring them to the meetings. He will not be bringing his entire inventory to the meetings.

BADGE DRAWING WINNERS

Helen Spiro

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

LIELA KUSUMI

FOR WINNING THE DEMO TREE

Special Thank You

June Raffle Donations:

Manuel Martinez
Harry Hirao
Mike Viljak
Dave Miles
House of Bonsai
Ryan Cali
John Deluca

June Refreshments:

Helen Ho
Manuel Martinez
Barry & Sandy Josephson
Kaz Hosozawa

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

· Improve your bonsai artistry and technique!
· Prepare your trees for exhibition!

Most of us have a tree that is "difficult" to style and we may not know what to do with it. Most of us need to prepare our trees for the Annual Show or just simply would like to improve our techniques. No matter what our objectives are, we all can bring our trees to work on at the pre-meeting workshop were experts like Al Nelson, Paul Vasina and Harley Newman are near to lend a helping hand. Come and join us from 4:00pm -6:00pm prior to our monthly meeting.