

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Bonsai Kai Club



MEETING TIME and PLACE

Meeting Date: July 16, 2016, 7:00 pm

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Boulevard, Anaheim

July 16 DEMONSTRATION

JASON CHAN



This month's presenter will be **Jason Chan**, a former program chair for Kofu Bonsai Kai. Jason has been interested in bonsai for more than 12 years, dating back to the creation of his business Eastern Leaf in 2004. He has studied under **David Nguy** since 2012 and has assisted him in many demonstrations at bonsai clubs throughout southern California. In 2014, **Jason** was elected to the executive board of the Golden State Bonsai Federation, and last year he became the editor of *Golden Statements*, GSBF's quarterly bonsai publication. **Jason** was one of the featured demo artists at the 2016 Bonsai-a-Thon, where he styled a nana procumbens juniper. You can also see him on Eastern Leaf's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/easternleaf/videos>, which features several videos catering to newer bonsai enthusiasts. Jason most enjoys working on junipers and Japanese black pines. For our meeting this month, he will be doing an initial styling on a 5-gallon juniper, with a discussion of branch placement, pruning techniques, and proper wiring methods.

---Michael Walsh

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June 16 Demonstration

KEN FUENTES



At our very warm June meeting, **Ken Fuentes** gave us a thorough talk about Ficus bonsai with a special emphasis on Ficus Salicaria, or willow leaf ficus. He donated a very nice tree to the raffle, and it was won by **Ginger Ragazzi**.



Ginger Ragazzi won the Ficus Salicaria demo tree. Congratulations, Ginger!

AUCTION TIME IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

I've been pestering you all about paying your dues and really appreciate the people who paid up at the last meeting. There's a reason for this. It costs a fair amount of actual money to operate this club, and we who are serving as officers and committee chairs try to balance the books as best we can.

The raffles don't cover the cost of renting the space or pay for demonstrators, material, special events, insurance and other expenses of running the club.

The annual auction in August is a major fundraiser for Kofu Bonsai Kai.

I'm asking you all to start now to look around your yards and garages for trees, material, pots, tools, and so on that you would consider donating to our annual August Auction. Expenses are always creeping upward, and your generous donations make our organization what it is.

The auction is also a very good way for your fellow club members to obtain bonsai material at a reasonable cost. If you have trees or pre-bonsai that are just sitting around, in which you have lost interest or will never have time to develop, please consider contributing to the auction, and of course I hope you'll all be there as bidders too!

Thank You Very Much!

---Carol Upston

★ BOWERS SHOW UPDATE ★

We are very pleased to announce that there will be a bonsai demonstration on Saturday, October 1st, by **Takuo Nakamura** followed by a small reception. The show will run September 28th through October 2nd. This is a correction from the original announcement, as set-up will now occur on the 27th. **Eric Stoner** will be photographing the trees on the 27th.

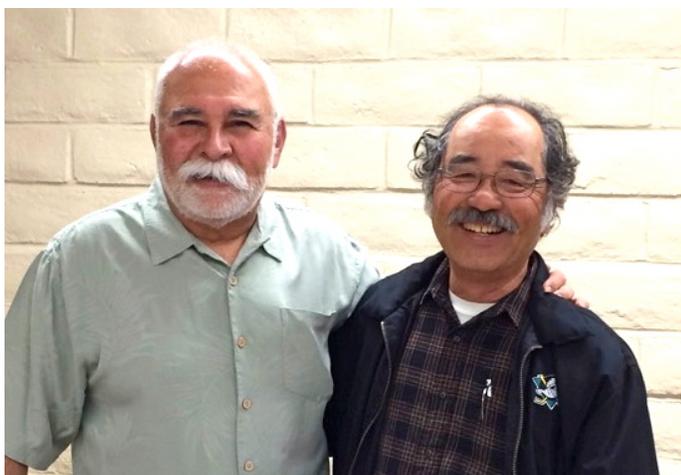


Photo above: Manny Martinez and Takuo Nakamura.



Photo right: Takuo Nakamura's tree from the 2013 show at the Bowers.

KOFU BONSAI KAI – BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

JULY

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. Continued use of the standard cottonseed/bone meal (70/30%) will provide 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. Regular 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 will remove dust layers and discourage 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:

*Full days with hot sun
Bonsai-ing with great pleasure
Why complain - love it*

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

July -2012

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 20-21 **Nanpu Kai** 28th Annual Show 11 am-5 pm both days during Nisei Week at Japanese American Cultural Center, 224 South San Pedro Street (Little Tokyo). Nanpu Kai will host several special guest exhibitors from the Bay Area, Capitol Area, and Central Coast of California, in addition to club members.

September 28 **Kofu Bonsai Kai** 2016 Bonsai Fest “The Bonsai Tradition: Cultural Arts of Japan,” at Bowers - October 2 Museum, John M. Lee Court, 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA. Hours 10 am to 4 pm daily. Demonstration by Takuo Nakamura on Saturday, October 1, from 1 to 3 pm. For more information go to Kofu Bonsai Kai’s website, <http://www.kofukai.org> or Bowers’ website, <http://www.bowers.org>.

October 27- **Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention 39** “A Bonsai Convergence: Gather At the Rivers” Convention” at Double Tree by Hilton, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815, hotel phone 916-924-4900 (ask for the “GSBF Group Rate”). Headliners: Ryan Neil and Bjorn Bjornholm. Workshops and seminars from Kathy Shaner, David Nguy, Peter Tea, and others. For more information, contact: Scott Chadd, GSBF President, at 530-622-9681 or scottchadd@lotusbonsai.com. Also, go to <http://www.gsbfcconvention.org>. On-line registration opens on July 1, 2016.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

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*KEN FUENTES
CAROL UPSTON*

JULY PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

There will be a pre-meeting workshop before the July 16 Kofu meeting from 4 pm – 6 pm. Let expert Kofu members **Carol Upston, Paul Vasina,** and **Harley Newman** help you with your bonsai questions and objectives.

It’s a great way to improve your bonsai artistry and techniques and how to prepare and display your trees for the Annual Show.