

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club



DECEMBER CHISTMAS PARTY



Christmas is upon us and on December 10th we will be having our annual Christmas party. This year due to some cost cutting and generous donors we have done well. The board has decided to spend a little more than usual on the Christmas party to return some of our good fortune to our membership. As usual the event is a pot luck and we ask those attending to bring a favorite dish that will feed about 10 to 12. The club will provide the Ham, Turkey, soft drinks and wine for the event.

This event is one of the best raffles of the year and this one is shaping up to be spectacular. Santa's helpers are already out shopping for a wonderful selection of goodies. We also encourage anyone who wishes to donate to the raffle to do so, which will make it just that much better.

Bringing food and donations is not mandatory and no one should feel obligated to do so, nor stay away because they can't. We hope that all of our members come and join their fellow Bonsai enthusiasts for a wonderful afternoon of food and socializing.

Looking forward to seeing you there.
December 10, 2011, Noon till 4pm, St Wilfrid Episcopal Church,
18631 Chapel Ln, Huntington Beach

Manuel Martinez, President

Executive Board

Officers

Founding President:

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President

Manuel Martinez 949-770-9633

Vice President

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Recording Secretary

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Past President

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Auction

Bill Hutchinson 714-964-6973

Badges

Lois Hutchinson 714-964-6973

Benefit Drawing

Dan & Wanda 714-826-5024
Danesi

Bus Trip

Nina Ragle 949-497-5626

Meeting Refreshments

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WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

NOVEMBER MEETING

For our November meeting Kofu Kai welcomed bonsai master David Nguy who conducted a workshop on four California junipers with their owners. As members watched, David evaluated each tree and discussed it's potential design and got the owners working on their material. There was a whole lot of clipping and wiring going on and by the end of the evening the audience could clearly see the future design of each tree emerging. The workshop participants were Dave Miles, Mike Viljak, Anthony Chiusolo, and Paul Vasina. The audience came away with a lot of useful and detailed information about how to trim California juniper foliage for the fastest and best long-term development, how to find and reveal the live veins and how to wire complex foliage pads which give the desired result while maximizing the health of the tree. We are very fortunate to have people like David Nguy here in Southern California who can offer us advanced techniques and information. I know David is very busy right now and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to him for making the time for this workshop.

By Carol Upston





President's message

We have just had our last meeting for the year and are preparing for our gala event, the annual Christmas Party.

This year has been a busy one for some of our members and the board. We have had several shows with some going simultaneously. Two shows at the Bowers Museum, and one each at the Orange County Buddhist temple in Anaheim and the Orange county Fair. We actually had an opportunity to do another but it was during the middle of the fair. I am happy to say that all the shows were well received and successful. Of course none of this would have been possible without the participation of our membership, so THANKYOU TO ALL THAT PARTICIPATED.

I would also like to mention that during all of this we had several new members and a couple of old ones who have never shown their trees before, participating. This is really terrific because it is what the club is all about. We want to promote the art and in doing so have more individuals show the results of their endeavors.

We have also had some new members come to us from our shows at the Bowers Museum and contacts with other clubs and nurseries. Should anyone think of a venue where we can promote our organization please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the board members.

While I feel that this has been a pretty good year for Kofu Kai as always there are issues that come up and some members have voiced their dissatisfaction with how we do things. I would like to address some of those issues at this time and solicit your opinions or comments.

DEMONSTRATIONS; This year we have not had as many demonstrators who donate their demo tree to the club raffle as in the past. I will be very honest and tell you that this has been for cost savings reasons. The going rate for someone to come and do a demonstration or talk is currently \$150. It has increased due to those doing the demonstrations asking for more because of the rising cost of materials. As it stands today most demonstrators ask for the \$150 plus the cost of material and that starts to get expensive. The last meeting consisted of the demonstrator working on members trees and talking about their various stages along the way to being designed into a final show piece. This type of demonstration helps keep the clubs expenses down and also benefits the membership. I did announce that we will probably do more of these types of meetings and asked those present, and now those reading this, to contact **Carol**

Upston, carol@mossfactory.com, to let her know if you are interested in participating in one of these demo workshops and what material you have to be worked on. I want our membership to participate and benefit from our programs. I would urge our membership to also contact Carol about any programs you feel would be off interest.

RAFFEL; There has been some comments about what is on the table. Again I need to mention that this is a very costly part of our meeting. Pots, tools and some supplies are just getting more expensive. In talking to presidents of other organizations they mention that the expense far exceeds the return. I can tell you that is exactly what is happening with our group. When I first took over I was told that the quality of the items was poor and for that reason no one was buying raffle tickets. So I embarked on buying Quality pots and some nice tools to put on the table. We continued to lose money on those raffles. We were very fortunate this year to have some very generous people donate their collections and pots to the club for raffle purposes and as a result we did well overall. The board will be discussing this at our next meeting so if you wish to have a say or comment on this subject please contact me or Carol.

NEWSLETTER; I am pleased that approximately 90% of you that are receiving the newsletter are happy with its content and the manner it is being sent out (email). I know that there is still a small portion of our membership that have not made it into the world of computers, and currently are still receiving the newsletter the old fashion way. I want to give a big thanks to those of you who have supported Kofu Kai by going E-mail. While there is a cost consideration in doing this there is also another and I feel more important issue. The mailed newsletter has in the past been a very time consuming task and very expensive. The newsletter where it is currently has become easy with the tools that are available using various computer programs and the internet. Also storing old newsletters for reference has become a simple task requiring no physical space. I am sure that those receiving the newsletter are not aware of it but we actually have been doing two versions of it. The mailed version does not have all the content of the emailed version. The main difference so far has been picture content. Because there is no cost per page on the internet for the size of the newsletter we have been putting as many photos as we have available of our events and meetings in the emailed version and omitting them from the mailed version. I have taken the position that this is a reward to those members who support the club by receiving it via email and keeping down our expenses. Hopefully this process will make it easier to find a new newsletter editor in the future should we need to. I will tell you that the cost of the newsletter has been reduced by 55 to 65% of its previous cost and reduced the work load by 80%.

FIELD TRIPS; We had a bus trip to San Diego Bonsai dedication at the collection south and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. I did ask if there was an interest in going to the Bristle cone Pines and there was a very good response and hopefully this will be the year we do it. Probably no earlier than July.

Let me just say thank you if you have stayed with me this far in reading the above. I am also sure that you are thankful that I don't do a president's message every month. I hope to hear from you on any of the above subjects and anything else you wish to bring up about the club.

In closing I wish to thank those whose generosity has helped our organization this year through their donations and discounting of their products so that Kofu Kai can continue to offer a quality event. Whenever possible please support these businesses.

**House of Bonsai
Victoria Lee
5214 Palo Verde Ave.
Lakewood, CA 90713**

**Bonsai tools
Everett Bassin**

714-827-0661 or 714-392-5149
@mindspring.com

West American Import & Export
David & June Nguy
323-223-9102
714-914-7001
By Appointment

Marty Mann
Articles from
"Bonsai Ideas"

And those members who continually donate to the raffle and refreshment table, your names
are published monthly

Best wishes, Merry Christmas and a Happy, Safe and prosperous New Year!!!

Manuel Martinez
manny22816@aol.com

UP COMING EVENTS

48TH ANNUAL WINTER SILHOUETTES SHOW: January 13th - 15th 2012 at Ayres Hall,
Los Angeles Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, California

John Y. Naka Design Award: The American Bonsai Society in fellowship and remembrance of our American Grand Master is pleased to announce that the 2012 John Y. Naka award program is now open and accepting photographic entries from across the North American continent. The program is open to both professionals and hobbyists, competing separately, using either Native American plant material or plant material grown entirely in North America. All North American regional associations, local clubs, study groups and professional Bonsai educators are encouraged to enter trees of members or students of their organizations who exhibit the spirit of artistic design taught by John Naka. Entry deadline is April 1, 2012. Visit the ABS website at <http://absbonsai.org> for details.

**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

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 at bonsaitools@mindspring.com. He will bring them to the meetings. He will not be bringing his entire inventory to the meetings.

*Congratulations to
Lee Anthony winner of the Demo Pot*

BADGE PRIZE WINNER
Kris Kurniadi

Special Thank You

October Raffle Donations:

Manuel Martine
Ryan Cali
Harry Hirao
Bill & Lois Hutchinson

October Refreshments:

Ev & Sharyn Bassin
Tish Miya
Harry Hirao
Tom Culton
Wendy Tsai
Manuel Martinez IV

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

NONE THIS MONTH