

# The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club



## Meeting Time and Place

MAY 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

### MAY MEETING



### Cheryl Manning

*Cheryl Manning is foremost an artist, and lucky for us her choice of artistry is Bonsai. She began her journey with a love of gardening which drew her to the Murata Bonsai Nursery in 1981. It was love at first tree, and she threw herself into the Bonsai world studying with many of the local Masters including John Naka. She became a personnel friend of the Naka family and today takes care of many of his trees. She is also an editor to John Naka's Sketchbook (Cheryl's drawing is on the cover of this book). Her passion for bonsai drove her to Japan where she studied under Bonsai Master Yasuo Mitsuya (See her website at <http://www.betterbonsai.com/index.html>). Cheryl will be presenting a slide show on the detail technique of trimming and defoliating broadleaf trees. She will also provide a program that will feature other timely techniques and stories about John Naka*

*Cheryl will be donating the tree she worked on for the slide presentation so please give her a warm Kofu Kai welcome.*

Ron Reekers

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Balendonk

#### Website

Open

**WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG**

# April Meeting



## *Larry Ragle April Lecture*

We were entertained by Larry Ragle at last month's meeting as he spoke on the subject of proper Bonsai displays.

His power point presentation was packed with information on this subject from the very formal Tokonoma displays of Japan to the almost market place type of display.

For us I believe that the key points of his presentation that we need to pay attention to are the following for the type of shows we do.

The tree should be properly trimmed and cleaned with no wire.

The pot should also be properly prepared.

There should be a nice covering of moss on the soil, no rocks or gravel showing.

The display stand should complement the tree and have sufficient space around the pot so as not to look crowded or unstable.

The accent piece should be exactly that. It should not detract from the tree or draw attention away from the tree. This should be something small, and not flowering, placed on a flat round or oval base.

While the above is a simplistic interpretation of a great deal of information that was presented it is meant to assist in your future display planning.

Thank You Larry Ragle!

M. Martinez

## *CONGRATULATIONS*



***Demo Tree Winner Ron Reekers***

## *BADGE WINNER*

**Joyce Battell**

## *NEW MEMBERS WELCOME*

***Tom Vuong, Jeff & Tracy Straley***

*Say hello to them when you see them*

## **KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS**

**BY MARTY MANN**

**MAY, 2013 (#81)**

Different trees have varied needs, as one may be more vigorous than another. The soil mix, pot size, and the environmental exposure to wind and sun affect watering methods. Just follow the ideals: water deeply; keep your bonsai damp, not wet and never dry. Judge by the weather conditions. Daily routines might instead become patterns of early morning watering on alternate days, as needed.

Continue to pinch and trim but hold off on wiring soft deciduous growth until it hardens. Direct your attention to the upper portion of most bonsai since this is the area that tends to grow fastest. Allowing this growth to develop too freely will deprive the lower branches of strength and nourishment. Check your wiring during this fast growing period. Don't let it cut into the tree.

Eliminate spurts of new branch growth. Cut back young whips to two or three leaf clusters to encourage fine twiggy branching and shorter internodes. Remove opposite branches that tend to form on many species naturally. Avoid bar branches throughout your design, however, this is not too important in the upper structures.

May's mild weather conditions encourage the population of undesirable insects such as aphids, white flies, spider mites and that nasty scale. Particularly, if you failed to spray the wintering trees with a dormant spray application then you will have to be attentive to the presence of a new crop of insects. Pay attention to regular applications of insecticides such as Malathion, Sevin, Isotex, etc. Maples are particularly susceptible to fungus diseases such as mildew when kept in the shade. Apply general-purpose fungicides such as Ortho Garden Disease Control at this time to ward off early summer damage. Avoid watering the foliage and allow air circulation and good light exposure.

Continue your repotting schedule into early May, if you have not already begun. Don't overlook the deciduous material that has already opened; however in these cases care should be taken to retain more of the old rootage and soil ball to prevent transplant shock and dieback. Be sure to provide good after-care. Protect from too much strong sun and wind for at least 2 to 3 weeks. Maintain the schedule of trimming and plucking as you repot. Prune the Elms, Maples and Gingkos.

We still hear criticism by many Japanese Masters about the timid habits of underfeeding American trees. The best all-around fertilizer is still the basic mix of 70% cottonseed meal and 30% bone meal or, if you have it, rape seed cakes. Foliar feeding with Miracle Gro is excellent. In all cases it's important during this fast growing period to feed as the new growth emerges. As this growth increases in size and diverts its sugar production from photosynthesis to woody growth, keep your eyes open for wire damage from earlier training efforts.

Azaleas require special care during this period. Some varieties may have completed flowering while others may still be in full bloom well into June. Wait until the blooms are faded before trimming, shaping, repotting or feeding.

May and early June are excellent air-layering months since this fast growing period encourages the formation of new roots much more easily.

It's also a good time of year to sit back and enjoy your trees.

## HAIKU POEM:

May your trees grow well  
Beauty and visual joy  
From strength and good health

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.

May 2012

## *UP COMING EVENTS*

**50<sup>th</sup> Annual Bonsai Exhibit June 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>**. Viewing time from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm at Orange County Buddhist Church 909 S. Dale, Anaheim, Saturday demonstrators – Peter Macasieb, Sunday demonstrator David Nguy,

***Bowers Museum Show, September 10-15.*** Please mark this on your calendar and start preparing your tree. If you wish to display please contact our show chair people Anthony Chiusolo or Michael Viljak. For those who displayed last year and wish to do so again please have a different tree as we will be having the show professionally photographed, for a new calendar and upcoming book

### *Special Thank You*

#### **April Refreshments:**

Harry Hirao  
Tom Culton  
Bob & Kim Warner  
Tish Miya  
Helen Ho  
Wendy Tsai  
Dr. Walter Johnson  
May McNey

#### **April Donations:**

Bill & Lois Hutchinson  
Harry Hirao  
Bob White  
Dan & Wanda Danesi  
Manny Martinez  
Harley Newman  
Al Nelson  
An Truong  
Imee Palacpac

### **PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP**

**Beginners, looking to get started!**  
**Looking to improve your bonsai**  
**artistry and technique!**  
**Preparing your trees for exhibition!**  
**Wondering how to get started in**  
**Bonsai and have questions? Have a**  
**tree that is "difficult" to style and**  
**you may not know what to do.**  
**Questions on preparing your tree or**  
**displaying it at the Annual Show?**  
**No matter what your objectives**  
**are, you can bring your trees to**  
**work on at the pre-meeting**  
**workshop were experts like Al**  
**Nelson, Paul Vasina and Harley**  
**Newman can assist. Meet from**  
**4:00pm -6:00pm prior to the**  
**monthly meeting.**