

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club



Meeting Time and Place

June 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

JUNE MEETING



Uyen Truong, Bonsai Artist

Please join us on Saturday June 16th when Uyen Truong will be with us for a unique critique.

You may not know that Uyen Truong is a very accomplished artist in painting and drawing as well as bonsai design. At our next Kofu meeting he'll bring all of his skills and will draw for you his design for your tree. Please bring a challenging tree or piece of materiel. Maybe you have a gnarly juniper sitting in a nursery pot and can't make up your mind how to start it. Or perhaps you have a potted bonsai that you'd like to improve, or a nasty stump that has you stumped. Whatever it is, Uyen will give you his best artistic vision and you will take home a drawing of the potential future of your tree. Uyen works fast so I'm not putting any particular limit on the number of people we will be able to accommodate. Obviously if 40 trees show up we won't get through them all. Uyen will choose which to work on and we will just keep going till it's time for the raffle.

Don't be shy about this, it's a special opportunity and as Uyen talks about and draws your tree, it will help everyone in the audience as well.

Carol Upston

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Alonso Uribe 323-496-2154

WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG



We need your help for the Orange County Fair

July 17th to the 30th for tree displays and for docent

Contact Anthony Chiusolo 714-998-3420
Or Mike Viljak 949-642-3597

May Meeting



Thank You AI!

We were entertained at our May meeting by the venerable and erudite AI Nelson and his crew. AI created a beautiful Saikei planting using some very tiny boxwoods and other miniature plants. Not only did AI explain the process of making the landscape planting, he provided information about his sources for all of the material including the stone used for the base of the saikei. AI also tried out his new stand-up routine on us and by the amount of laughter I'd say he's ready for prime time. Thank you AI for not only doing an entertaining demo, but for bringing along so many helpers and mentoring them.

Carol Upston

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

JUNE, 2012, (#82)

The end of June or early July is a good time to remove large leaves from the maturing spring foliage. This routine, just short of actual leaf pruning encourages smaller leaves to remain in scale with the tree. Do not do leaf pruning on an annual basis. Trim selectively, in stages, when new growth has hardened.

Feed the tree well for at least two weeks late in May before cutting Maple, Elm, Liquid Amber and Gingko. Use a low nitrogen formula to restrain spurts of new growth. Don't water as much during this growing period. Don't prune flowering trees until after flowering in order to allow new flower buds to form in the warm summer months, before fall and winter. This can be the time for propagation by cuttings, planting seeds, and air-layering. Softwood cuttings are best taken from newly hardened wood. Try a group of cuttings with various diameters taken from a single variety of a tree to plant as a forest. Plan ahead and treat this group as a unit when it has rooted and begun to grow.

Harsh summer sun is coming. Guard against sunburn. Protect deciduous trees as well as bamboo, especially if you use an overhead watering system. Rotate your trees regularly for even light exposure.

Reduce feeding deciduous trees in mid-June and for the last half of the year to discourage large leaves. Fall colors will improve (if nature co-operates with some cool nights) if fertilizers being used are low in Nitrogen (N) and higher in Potash (K) and Phosphorus (P). Flowering and fruiting trees can use some bone meal along with the regular fertilizing schedule.

With the renewal of active growth in May and into June so should attention be made to these ugly predators, insects and fungus. Aphids will multiply actively in warm weather. Fruit flies are attracted to the new young growth as the sugary sap flows. Continue your program of constant attention by the application of good commercial insecticides and fungicides. Check the underside of your leafy trees - a favorite hiding place for insect eggs and larvae growth. When you spray you must cover the upper and lower surfaces as well as the woody branches and trunk areas. While regularly scheduled spraying is the usual recommendation, it should be noted that too strong a chemical mixture can often do more harm than good. Don't overdo while emphasis is always on bugs and spores, attention should also be given to the accumulation of "trash" in your pots and in your growing containers. Keep your surfaces clean to discourage the harboring of unwanted tenants. Keep pulling those aggressive weeds that seem to find a home in well fed plants in containers. Get them out before they become too much a part of your root ball.

Proper consideration to light conditions of each of your trees is very important during this active growing season. Keeping material in a sheltered or shaded area can produce lanky and weak growth. If the weather becomes excessively warm then the deciduous trees should be protected from too much hot sun. Conversely, conifers and evergreen junipers will benefit from substantial exposure to full sun which will create harder and firmer foliage. Do not react to the theory that the sun is harmful. The only negative effect of this exposure is the increased evaporation and excessive moisture loss. You must compensate for the benefit of good light by adjusting your watering schedules. Most of your trees will thrive in the warmer weather, however special care must be applied to the leafy Maples, Birch, and Liquid Ambers whose surfaces should not be wetted and allowed to broil.

Spring has sprung. Now be attentive to the maturing bonsai as they face the oncoming summer conditions.

HAIKU POEM:

Soft hills of clouds drifting by
Warm days, sunlit skies
With comfort and nurturing

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
June -2012



Al Nelson, Ryan Cali, Howie Kawahara, Alex Espinoza and Jack Holms

BADGE WINNER

Howie Kawahara

DEMO WINNER

Alex Espinoza

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

*Lawrence Erickson, Russell Broadstone,
Jamie Chavarria, Barry Cohen*

Say hello to them when you see them

UP COMING EVENTS

*Kofu Bonsai Kai show at the Bowers Museum
September 25th to the 30th*

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.

Special Thank You

May Raffle Donations:

Manuel Martinez
Harry Hirao
Bill & Lois Hutchinson
Larry Ragle
Carol Upston
Dave Miles
Barry & Sandy Josephson
Anthony Chiusolo
Ron Reekers
Joe Hong
Ev Bassin
Gonzalo Rodriguez

May Refreshments:

Tish Miya
Joe Szabo
Tom Culton
Marybel Balendonk
Harry Hirao
Ron Reekers

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.**