

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club

Volume 30, Number 5

May 2011



Meeting Time and Place

August 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

August 20, 2011 Meeting Annual Auction

Don't miss this amazing shopping opportunity - the Kofu Bonsai Kai Annual Auction!

(also a great opportunity to make room in your yard)

We all have plants sitting around our yards being watered and cared for that we just aren't using to their full bonsai potential. Maybe your taste has changed, or you want to downsize your collection or you've had your fun with a particular tree and are over it. Why not pass that plant along to someone who will develop it and in the process support your club and the programs and activities that you enjoy! And don't limit yourself to plants, think about pots, books, tools, whatever it is we'll auction it for the benefit of your club. Go on, get out there and rummage around!

Newer Members: This is the single best opportunity of the year to obtain bonsai material at a very reasonable price.

Our annual auction is one of Kofu Kai's most important fund raisers. This event helps Kofu bring you the excellent speakers and demonstrators that we have throughout the year. It also allows us to purchase the pots and other raffle prizes that you look forward to winning at the meetings.

All the items for the auction are donated, so please go through your bonsai or bonsai related items to make a donation to the raffle. Whether used or not makes no difference. It is through the generosity of our members that all of us continue to learn more about the art of Bonsai.

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Dan & Wanda 714-826-5024
Danesi

Bus Trip

Nina Ragle 949-497-5626

Meeting Refreshments

Open

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Newsletter Editor

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Pre-Meeting Workshop

Al Nelson 949-854-2681

Program

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open

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Anthony Chiusolo 714-998-3420

Mike Viljak 949-642-3577

Sunshine

Marybel 714-524-0275

Balendonck

Website

Ryan Cali 949-735-3463

WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

August 20, 2011 Meeting **Annual Auction**

(cont.)

Here are some of the Auction rules:

1. If you are donating items please arrive between 6:00pm and 6:30pm. To place them in the auction.
2. Fill out a tag with your name on it and attach it to the item you're donating. This is necessary in order to give you credit for the donation.
3. If you want to buy, you need to get a bid card from the auction clerks.
4. During the auction if you wish to make a bid on an item raise you bid card so the auctioneer can see it.
5. After the last item is auctioned off the clerks will total the sales for each person bidding. Payments for items will be accepted after the auction is completed and made with cash or check only.
6. After you have paid for you items you will take your receipt to the holding area and present it to the person in charge and obtain you items.

Those that made donations will receive a tax slip indicating what the items sold for at a later time.

JULY MEETING

Lindsay Shiba Helps Kofu Shape Up Trees

At our last meeting on Saturday July 16th Lindsay Shiba helped eleven Kofu members work on their trees in a three hour workshop. Our meeting room was a whirlwind of bending, trimming chopping and wiring as Lindsay made continuous rounds of the participants, offering advice and hands- on muscle. There was a wide variety of material being worked on including a huge juniper cascade, a California juniper, hinoki, an unusually fine natal plum and two large boxwoods. I distinguished myself by making a huge pile of dirt on the floor as I sawed off a rootball. Harry Hirao got into the act too by helping Lee Anthony with his very nice boxwood. Other members pitched in as well to help participants execute their designs. There was a constant buzz of conversation in the room as observers enjoyed making the rounds with Lindsay and learning from his comments with each workshop participant. We thank Lindsay very much for making the long drive down to Anaheim to help us shape up our trees. This means that more of you will be ready to show trees next year right?!!!

By Carol Upston



SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

MIKE STACY - WINNER OF MINIATURE CHERRY TOMATO PLANT
DONATED BY LINDSEY SHIBA

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

AUGUST, 2011 (#73)

Summertime and the living is easy - so goes the song. August brings some respite from the busy spring chores. It is a period of slow growth but greater responsibility. August brings higher temperatures but reduces pruning requirements. Trimming, repotting and styling is still in order. Continue to pinch the trees that require it, daily.

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage high levels of moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health regular, increased watering schedules must consistently renew 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 you 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 audit its functions.

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.

With the arrival of summer most of the formal bonsai shows have passed and the bonsaiist has the pleasure of displaying their own trees. The objective of a good hobbyist is pride in the finished tree. This is achieved by maintaining good health, continuing a selective feeding routine and paying attention to weather conditions that set the guidelines for proper watering requirements. Summer maintenance prepares the trees for fall and winter. Plan ahead.

Start with the constant surveillance of fast summer growth. Warm days and cool nights encourage the development of new tip growth, long internodes and

lush foliage. Maintenance must include pinching and plucking of the growing tips as

well as cutting back the branches. Reducing the branch extensions encourages shorter internodes, tighter evergreen formations and develops desirable twiggy growth on deciduous trees. Trim and shape unwanted growth. Maintain form and design.

A regular program of feeding during the summer months is important. Reduction of the nitrogen content of the fertilizer mix inhibits excessive green growth and allows the formation of chemical changes that produces the best fall colors. The basic mix of cottonseed meal (70%) and bone meal (30 %) can be altered to increase the bone meal, thereby providing more potassium and phosphorus to harden the woody growth. It induces the development of fruit and flower buds for next year. Don't feed plants that appear to be suffering from summer stress due to oppressive heat or moisture deprivation.

It's too late and risky to leaf prune in the hot summer months. You can do selective pruning of large leaves, burnt leaves and the obvious unwanted elongated branches and crossing branches. Keep your pots from getting too hot. Roots are easily damaged by excessive heat. Be sure your soil stays damp at all times. Keep the humidity high and the air moving around all of your trees.

Watch the wires. You would be surprised how fast spring training wire can cut into growing branches and leave permanent scars. Turn your trees to give them equal light exposure and even growth. Avoid placing trees on display benches next to hot reflecting walls. Be sure to rotate frequently.

Unfortunately, the restful summer period of bonsai enjoyment is also the most active period of pest proliferation. *Bugs* love the combination of warmth and moisture. They grow and attack your trees with relish. Keep up with regular spraying of Malathion, Isotex, Sevin, Orthorix Dormant Spray (Lime Sulfur), etc. Pick what works best for you. Apply under and over the leaf surface but out of the hot sun and not just before you water. Don't apply any chemicals when temperatures are too high.

Most transplanting is not done during the summer months. However certain materials such as Pomegranates, Ficus, Buttonwood, Cotoneaster, Pyracantha and most Bamboo can be repotted or transplanted at this time. Trees that were defoliated late in June are vulnerable to damage during the heat of the summer. Keep these trees in partial shade until they start growing again.

**HAIKU POEM:
By Marty Mann**

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

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
August, 2011

UP COMING EVENTS

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

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.

Helen Ho has had to retire from the position of Refreshment Chair due to health reasons. In the short time that she took on the responsibility she did an excellent job and made considerable donations to the refreshment table which I am sure we all enjoyed and are thankful for. Kofu Kai wishes her well.

Refreshment Chairperson needed.

If you are interested in getting involved in the running of Kofu Kai this is an excellent opportunity. The job requires you to attend meetings and set up the refreshment tables. There is very little to bring and any supplies or goodies you need to purchase will be reimbursed. You are also part of the Board and can attend Board meetings to get involved in the decision making process of the club.

If interested Please contact me at the meeting or via e-mail.

Manuel Martinez, manny22816@aol.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jerry Mattert & wife Dee Raun-Linde

SAY HELLO TO THEM WHEN YOU SEE THEM

BADGE DRAWING WINNERS

Patrick Ngo

Special Thank You

June Raffle Donations:

Manuel Martinez
Harry Hirao
Bill & Lois Hutchinson
Bassin's Bonsai Tools
Harley Newman
Shari Religa
Justine Keller
Helen Ho
Carol Upston

June Refreshments:

Helen Ho
Harry Hirao
Tom Culton
Alonso Uribe
Bobbie Hoffman
Lee Anthony
Patrick & Bory Ngo

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

NOT FOR AUGUST MEETING