

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club



Meeting Time and Place

March 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

MARCH MEETING



On March 17th, Kofu welcomes back Ray Blasingame for a demonstration on a beautiful specimen of a classic bonsai species, trident maple. We all drool over the beautiful tridents in bonsai books and magazines and we are lucky to have a guy right here in our own back yard who not only is an expert on this fine trees but has been growing them commercially from seed in the San Gabriel Valley for a number of years. Ray will discuss all aspects of tridents and is also very expert in other favorite deciduous bonsai trees such as Japanese maple and liquidambar orientalis so bring your questions.

By Carol Upston

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Mike Viljak 949-642-3577

Sunshine

Marybel 714-524-0275

Balendonck

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WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

February Meeting



The February meeting was well attended for our founder, Harry Hirao, demonstration. As usual he worked on a California Juniper which he collected from the hills in the Mojave Desert. The demo went well and the trees turned out to be a very nice piece with great potential. Harry was assisted By Tom Culton and Peter Macasieb. The narrative for the program was supplied by Larry Ragle.

The trees were completed and Harry donated it to the club for the raffle. Thanks to all who attended for making the evening a success.

Manuel Martinez
President

BADGE WINNER

Neil Nguyen

DEMO WINNER

Kaz Hosozawa & sorry
missing name of 2nd winner

CONGRATULATIONS !!!



It's that time of the year, **DUES ARE DUE**. Your newsletter will discontinue if you have not renewed. **Contact Bill Hutchinson at the meeting or when making Annual Dues payments by mail, please use these directions:**

Make Checks out to: *KOFU BONSAI KAI*

\$20 per individual, or \$25 for couples or two persons at one address.

Include your Name, Address, Telephone Number, and *e-mail address is mandatory if you wish to receive a newsletter.*

MAIL Checks To:

BILL HUTCHINSON

18317 COLVILLE STREET

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA. 92708

If you joined during the months of Oct., Nov., or Dec. you are paid for 2012

*******IF NOT PAID, THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER*******

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

MARCH, 2012 (#79)

The prime time for potting is March. If you have created a supply of good basic potting soil, fertilizers and other chemicals you are ready to go. Are all the used pots clean? Do you have an assortment of good new pots to select for new plantings?

Your projects can be threefold:

- moving pre-trained material from nursery cans to selected bonsai pots, either for further training or for show.
- transferring trees which are already potted into larger or more appropriate pots because of changes in the basic shape, size or design of the trees.
- repotting trees that are ready to be refreshed with new soil and removal of excessive root growth to generally improve the health of the trees.

During repotting activities it is wise to study the tree. Remove excess branch growth, crossing branches and long internodes that may have been overlooked during the dormant months. Trees should be somewhat on the dry side when they are ready for repotting. The tree will be easier to remove from the pot. The combing of the root ball, after cutting away about 1/3, will free the fine roots and encourage regrowth. Do not allow fine roots to be exposed to the sun or drying winds—keep a spray bottle handy. Screen new soil mixes to remove the harmful fine dust. Keep newly potted material in partial shade for a week or so and then move them out into full sun. Allow new feeder roots to develop. Replace and replenish any lost soil.

Prioritize your work schedule. Varieties of conifers, such as Spruce, Fir, Hinoki Cypress, etc., can be done first. Next, take care of the deciduous trees that are best done while the leaf buds are still tight. Finally, do all of the Juniper varieties and the Bamboo specimens. Don't wait until late into April. Give newly potted material a chance to develop new growth in their new medium as the weather warms.

It is advisable to remove portions of the old foliage, as well as the heavier old roots, to encourage new growth. Do so with some limitation—to much removal shocks the tree. Root

divisions form whenever a root cut takes place. These divisions provide for better nutrient absorption. Branch trimming allows new branch divisions and desired branch twiggyiness.

Deciduous trees, such as Japanese Maple, Trident Maple, Gingko and Liquid Amber, can now be trimmed but wait a few weeks until the new growth has matured.

This is the time to begin the fertilization program on established trees. Use a slow release fertilizer just prior to the signs of new growth. Organic fertilizers such as Cottonseed Meal (75%), with a proportion of Bone Meal (25%), give the trees the desired boost during this growing season. Bone Meal is very slow acting but is beneficial in the long run. To insure the maximum blooming potential, new growth on flowering trees and azaleas should be watched. Keep the nitrogen content of fertilizers at a minimum in these early feedings since excessive green foliage and leaf growth weakens the flowering effort. Use a weak application just as the flower buds begin to swell and again as they open and develop. Do not feed after the flowers are fully open. Miracle-Gro®, applied on a bi-weekly basis, is an excellent all purpose fertilizer.

Plants are now growing vigorously. It's better to feed more often with light applications than less often with a heavy hand. Keep fertilizers away from the trunk of the tree. Broadcast granular food lightly over the pot surface and close to the pot edges. Do not feed newly transplanted or repotted trees for a month or two to let them become established. A low nitrogen fertilizers such as Super Phosphate keeps fruit and berries from falling off prematurely.

HAIKU POEM:

Tensely, I stride home
But, I stop in my garden
I stand calm again

By Marty Mann

<p>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 March -2012</p>

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Donn & Anna Bialik, Gerald & Kathleen Esra, Alex Uribe, Ted & Zaida Venter, Rod & Pat Wheeler, Joe & Naomi Zakimi

Say hello to them when you see them

UP COMING EVENTS

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

If you have not seen the complete program for the 55th, "The Iron Men", it can be seen at <http://californiabonsaisociety.com>

April 26, 27, 28, 29, 2012

Orange Empire Bonsai Society Exhibition – 23rd Annual Spring Garden Show at the South Coast Plaza. For more information contact David Nadzam at dnadzam@socal.rr.com or 714-345-6966

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

February Raffle Donations:

Manuel Martinez
Carol Upston
Harry Hirao
Bill & Lois Hutchinson
Bassin Bonsai Tools
Dick Anderson
Al Nelson

February Refreshments:

Manuel Martinez
Harry Hirao
Tom Culton
Justin Keller
Dr. Walter Johnson

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.**

PLEASE SEND YOUR BEST WISHES

Marty Mann is recuperating from a stroke

We wish him a speedy recovery