

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Bonsai Kai Club



MEETING TIME and PLACE

Meeting Date: August 20, 2016, 7:00 pm

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Boulevard, Anaheim

ANNUAL AUCTION

Drop Off Donations Between 5:30 and 6:30

The annual auction is a great opportunity to help support your club and also to find reasonably priced material to work on. Please have a look around your yard and take this opportunity to donate **trees, material, tools, books, pots, etc.** We all have trees and material sitting around that we have lost interest in. We just keep feeding and watering them, even though we're done with them. Why not pass those orphans along to people, who will enjoy working on them and help support your club too?

Thanks in advance to all of you who have helped our club throughout the year, and those who will be helping at the auction. We appreciate your efforts very much.

WHERE: The auction will be in the large hall at our regular meeting place. We hope to start the auction **on time at 7 pm.**

WHEN: Our regular meeting day, Saturday, August 20. Please come early to drop off auction donations, to view the merchandise, and to register for your bidding number.

I strongly suggest that you get a bidding number even if you think you won't bid. It's frustrating as heck to watch something sell for a ridiculously low price when you don't have a bidding number. Drop offs and registrations start at 5:30.

WHO: You must be a Kofu Bonsai Kai club member in good standing to bid at the auction. Anyone can join the club at the event or pay their dues in order to participate.

IMPORTANT: No one will be allowed to pay for items or remove them before the end of the auction.

Special Request: We will need volunteers to help arrange and number the auction items, to help record the sales during the auction, and to help with check out.

**WE ACCEPT CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS,
AS WELL AS CASH AND CHECKS.**

---Carol Upston

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July 16 Demonstration

JOHN NIELSEN



John Nielsen works on small-leaved olives.

Thank You, John Nielsen! Our scheduled July demonstrator **Jason Chan** came down suddenly with a virus, and long-time Kofu member and bonsai and botanical expert **John Nielsen** answered our fairly desperate call for someone to step in for our July 16th meeting. We owe him big time for this. Not only did he say yes, even though he had other pressing matters to attend to that day, he brought really nice material for the demo and the raffle. His talk and demonstration was on a special variety of small-leaved olive that he propagates and trains as bonsai material. He talked about how he propagates the olives and his techniques for rapidly developing them into shohin-size trees. One thing he does is to carefully seal the edges of all large cuts immediately after cutting, before the cambium layer has oxidized and turned brown. He uses the Japanese sealer that comes in the light-green tube. During the demo he trimmed, wired, styled, carved, and repotted two very nice little olives and donated them to the raffle, along with many other things from his growing area including some foemina junipers and a few twisted pomegranates. Thank you very much. **John**, for helping us out at the last minute and in such a generous way.



Photos
and article
by Carol
Upston.

Diane Winter and Michael Walsh were the lucky winners of the shohin olives.

★ BOWERS SHOW UPDATE ★

We are very pleased to announce that there will be a bonsai demonstration on Saturday, October 1st, by **Takuo Nakamura** followed by a small reception. The show will run September 28th through October 2nd. This is a correction from the original announcement, as set-up will now occur on the 27th. **Eric Stoner** will be photographing the trees on the 27th.



Photo above: Manny Martinez and Takuo Nakamura.



Photo right: Takuo Nakamura's tree from the 2013 show at the Bowers.

KOFU BONSAI KAI – BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN
AUGUST

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

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 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 also induces the development of fruit and flower buds for next year. Do not 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. If you wish, 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. You 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.

No transplanting 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

*A smile brings good thoughts
Of days that are forgotten
But memory stays*

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. August 2012

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 20-21 **Nanpu Kai** 27th Annual Show 10 am-5 pm both days during Nisei Week at Japanese American Community Cultural Center, 224 South San Pedro Street (Little Tokyo). Nanpu Kai will host several special guest exhibitors from the Bay Area, Capitol Area, and Central Coast of California, in addition to club members.

September 24 **San Diego Bonsai Club** Fall Bonsai Exhibit at Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Hours - 25 10 am to 5 pm both days with demonstrations at 11 am to 1 pm. Free admission. Bonsai pots and trees for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information visit www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com or contact Janice Hale.

- September 28 **Kofu Bonsai Kai** 2016 Bonsai Fest “The Bonsai Tradition: Cultural Arts of Japan,” at Bowers - October 2 Museum, John M. Lee Court, 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA. Hours 10 am to 4 pm daily. Demonstration by Takuo Nakamura on Saturday, October 1, from 1 to 3 pm. Free to Bowers Museum members or with paid museum admission. For more information go to Kofu Bonsai Kai’s website, <http://www.kofukai.org> or Bowers’ website, <http://www.bowers.org>.
- October 1-2 Conejo Valley Bonsai Society 13th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Resource Center at the Gardens of the World, 2001 Thousand Oak Boulevard. Hours 9 am to 4 pm both days with demonstrations in the Bandstand at 11 am to 2 pm. Free admission. No sale of bonsai-related items. For information, call Marj Branson at 805/373-1330 or visit www.cvbsbonsai.org.
- October 27- **Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention 39** “A Bonsai Convergence: Gather At the Rivers” Convention” at Double Tree by Hilton, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815, hotel phone 916-924-4900 (ask for the “GSBF Group Rate”). Headliners: Ryan Neil and Bjorn Bjornholm. Workshops and seminars from Kathy Shaner, David Nguy, Peter Tea, and others. For more information, contact: Scott Chadd, GSBF President, at 530-622-9681 or scottchadd@lotusbonsai.com. Also, go to <http://www.gsbfbconvention.org>. On-line registration opens on July 1, 2016.
- February 25- **Bonsai-A-Thon XXI** at Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. This is the annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at the Huntington. Event admission is free with Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registration between 8 am to 9 am. Event hours 8 am to 4:30 pm both days. Pancake breakfast, demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle, and auction. For more information visit www.gsbfhuntington.com.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

RAFFLE DONORS

*BOB and KIM WARNER
TISH MIYA*

REFRESHMENT DONORS

*JOHN NIELSEN
DIANE WINTER
CAROL UPSTON
HARLEY NEWMAN
WENDY TSAI
TOM VUONG*

NO AUGUST PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

There will **NOT** be a pre-meeting workshop before the August meeting.