

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club

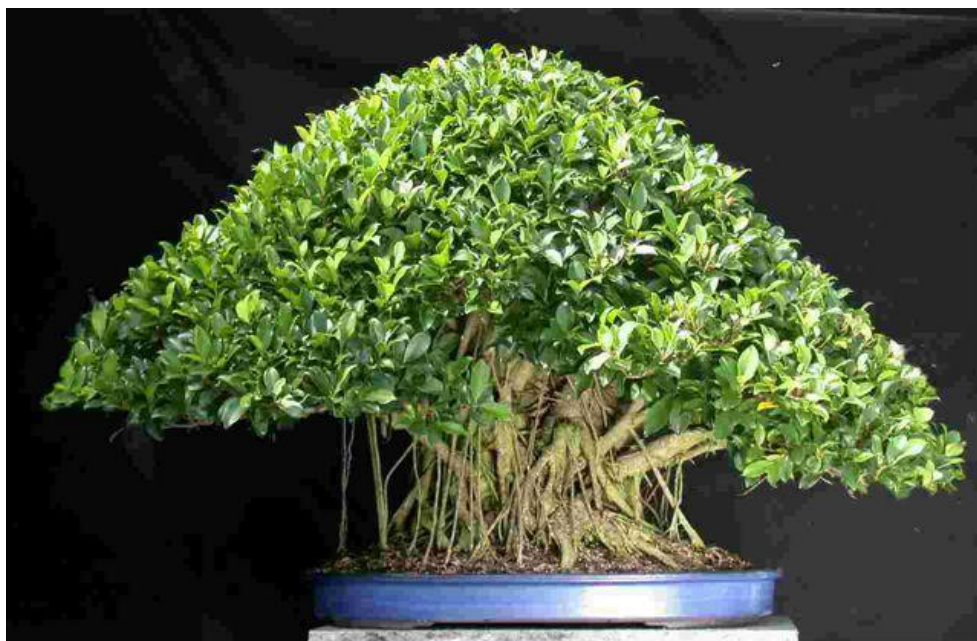


Meeting Time and Place

October 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

OCTOBER MEETING



Beautiful Ficus, probably Microcarpa, is by Jim Smith in Florida

Kofu Kai presents

All About Ficus: You Need One Of These!

With Manuel Martinez and Carol Upston

Our October meeting features a talk and demo by Manny Martinez and me, Carol Upston, on what may be the most versatile and trainable bonsai material in the world, the ficus family. There are many available types of ficus and we in southern California are fortunate to be able to train very fine ficus bonsai remarkably quickly. This talk will cover the different kinds of ficus available, their individual qualities and quirks and the techniques we can use to create very nice ficus bonsai. There will also be some fun contributions to the raffle table. Sometimes we think of plants that are easy to grow as not quite as worthy of our attention and Manny and I hope to convince you otherwise. Bring your questions!

I hope to see you all there

Carol Upston

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September Meeting



Frank Goya Demo

At the September meeting, we were honored to have Bonsai master Frank Goya present a demonstration on the art of Saikei. Frank Goya has traveled extensively teaching and demonstrating the art of Saikei. Frank was assisted by Herb Eisenberg, past president of Dai Ichi Kai, who provided commentary during the demonstration.

Saikei is the art of creating landscapes that combine living trees, rocks, gravel, and ground cover vegetation. The effect is to put the viewer into a natural world through the artful placement of the materials and the design of the topography. Frank has recently had one of his Saikei added to the National Arboretum collection in Washington D.C.

Frank had pre visualized the landscape in his mind prior to the event. Its intended name was to be “Red Rock Canyon.” It did not take long for the landscape to take shape. Frank’s key rock was a piece of red volcanic rock that vertically rose out of the ground. The “B” rock was placed on the opposite side of the tray and was accompanied by a lesser rock that appeared more as a boulder than a mountain. Frank had placed auto body filler at the base of the A and B rocks so that they would remain stable. A good tip for sure.

Next came the placement of 8 juniper trees that were trained and cared for in the bonsai manner. They were two to three years old and originated from cuttings. Their placement accentuated the shapes and placement of the main rocks so that all the energy of the combined elements was filled with balanced visual movement.

The addition of moss, wispy grasses and gravel added a further sense of realism to the scene. The rock canyon could now clearly be seen. A magical place was depicted and the viewer could only wish to visit a full sized version of the same place someday.

Thank you, Frank

Article and Photos by Jim L.



Winner of Demo Tree, Ann Erb

Bowers Show

Hi everyone

Just a slight apologize as I will be doing an article on the Bowers show for the next newsletter which will be accompanied with photos. The reason for the delay is the photographer who shot the exhibit had to go out of town and will not have the photos ready till after this goes to print. I apologize for this inconvenience but everyone that participated will be mentioned and Photos published.

Thanks for your patience.
Manuel Martinez

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

OCTOBER, 2012 (#86)

Fall is generally the climax of the luxurious growth of summer and the last spurt of activity before settling down for winter dormancy.

As leaved begins to drop be sure to remove the trash around your trees and on the surface of your pots. If clean-up is neglected these areas become a refuse for slugs, sow bugs and other undesirable creatures.

Transplanting is permissible at this time of year, specifically bamboo, boxwood, conifers, hornbeams, cotoneaster, podocarpus, privets, Pyracantha, wisteria, willows and most varieties of deciduous trees. The key to safe fall repotting is to minimize root disturbance and severe pruning but trees can be transferred into larger or different containers. If in doubt about the health or condition of a tree, wait until spring to repot.

As leaved begins to drop be sure to remove the trash around your trees and on the surface of your pots. If clean-up is neglected these areas become a refuse for slugs, sow bugs and other undesirable creatures.

Now is the time to anticipate and enjoy better autumn color by reducing watering time as well. As the length of the day's sunshine is shortened, the trees require less water. A balance must be maintained between the minimal watering and the loss of moisture by transpiration during intermittent warm spells.

Once the leaves on trident maple, Japanese maple, liquid amber, ginkgo, hornbeam and other colorful deciduous trees begin to lose their vigor and drop, keep the bonsai areas and pot surfaces cleared. Remove trash promptly. Continue to spray benches with an all-purpose insecticide and a final spray of fungicide. Pests seem to make a final effort to destroy and injure trees as they feed heavily prior to moving into the pupa stage.

Light conditions begin to change. Trees that have had full sun exposure find themselves in more shade. So, watch the location of trees at this time of year and rotate them into more favorable light exposures allowing them to continue storing strength and food for the winter.

This is a good time to work on basic training and design. Remove the wire applied this past year. Check for wire cuts. New wire can be applied but avoid the curls and marks of previous efforts. In spite of this period of slow growth, fall and winter training can still be effective. Before spring approaches don't overlook the new wire since new growth quickly causes wire damage. Study improper branch placement – crossing, bars, up and down growth.

There is still time to give bonsai a last good feeding. Evergreen and conifers may be lightly fertilized on a regular basis through the winter months since they continue to grow in our mild climate. Use food with little or no nitrogen--mainly potash and phosphorous, a 0-10-10 fertilizer. Low nitrogen fertilizers build dormant buds and store food in the form of starch used to produce healthy growth in spring. This is especially important for fruiting and flowering trees. Specifically azaleas, crabapples, ume and pomegranates improve after late feedings.

Limit cuttings, at this time of year, to hardwood specimens or tropical varieties. The use of a rooting hormones and a pre-soaking of a rooting stimulant, such as B-1 or Superthrive, improves the odds of success. A basic rooting medium such as 2 parts peat moss with 1 part perlite or coarse sand will serve you well. Keep the rooting medium slightly moist and shaded until evidence of new growth appears.

HAIKU POEM:

Our joy is reborn
When good health and stylish care
Show in trees each day

By Marty Mann

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| <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 October -2012</p> |
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NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Jim Lichacz and Pamela Ezell

Say hello to them when you see them

UP COMING EVENTS

House of Bonsai

Will host a Bonsai swap meet **November 2nd - 4th**. Three days. This is not supposed to be a sale but an opportunity to bring that stuff you have sitting around and see if you can trade for something else. If you're interested please contact Vicki at House of Bonsai 562-804-6888 for details.

Kofu Kai Christmas party
December 8th Saturday 12PM to 3PM



***Yes it getting to be that time of the year. Our gala Christmas party is at St Wilfrid Episcopal church in Huntington Beach. The event is pot luck with Kofu providing a ham, turkey and drinks. This is also the best Raffle of the year. Set the date and come enjoy an afternoon with your Bonsai friends.
More information to come.***

California Asikei Kai, Suiseki Show

Huntington Library and Gardens, Show Dates: December 27-January 2, closed on New Year's Day. Friends' Hall.

Special Thank You

July Refreshments:

Marge Blasingame
Tish Miya
Harry Hirao
Dan & Wanda Danesi
Gary & Dorothy Cleaveland
Ron Reekers

August Donations:

Harley Newman
Hary Hirao
Dave Miles
Bob White
Manuel Martinez
Carol Upston

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.**