

KOFU BONSAI KAI

SEPTEMBER, 2017 NEWSLETTER

Saturday September 16, 2017 at 7 pm

Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd., Anaheim, East Classroom

There will be a pre-meeting workshop at 4:30pm

KOFU KAI WELCOMES BACK TRUONG DINH UYEN

Uyen Truong has been a regular demonstrator at our meetings in the past and we are very pleased to welcome him back. He is a very accomplished painter and bonsai artist.

Uyen will be critiquing the trees of seven lucky Kofu members and **creating a drawing for each person** that shows how the tree could progress in the future. These talks by Uyen have always been very helpful and entertaining for everyone. Sometimes he has time to do a bit of work on some of the trees too, with the owners permission.

If you have a tree that you'd like bring for design help please contact me, Carol Upston, at carolupston@icloud.com right away to reserve your space.

I look forward to seeing you all soon. We may have a few visitors from the Bowers show so if you see new people milling about, please make them welcome.



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THE 2017 BOWERS SHOW

It was a week of epic heat but our trees and our volunteers enjoyed air conditioned comfort at the Bowers. With two steamers working, our setup was done in record time. Special thanks to Nina Ragle, Chuck Medina, and Jim Pierce for steaming the fabrics. Thanks to **all** who were there to set up and take down, especially Anthony and Amy Chiusolo and Harley Newman. We all owe major thanks to show chairman Manny Martinez. Without Manny's efforts, this would not be happening.

Also this year we had five people showing with us for the first time: Jim Pierce, Justine Keller, Bill Vincent, Bill Ward and Joyce Battell. All but jim Pierce are students of Al Nelson, so thanks also to Al for doing such a good job of mentoring.

There were a few members who were there helping almost every day, particularly Tom Culton and Gonzalo Rodriguez. Thank you for your participation and Tom, thanks for all the cookies!

Special thanks to Tom Vuong and Takuo Nakamura for showing two trees each and for doing the demos. Thank you!

Sometimes members travel far to participate in our show. Thanks to Lindsay Shiba for taking care of Harry's tree for us and bringing it back and forth from Lytle Creek. And thanks to Dave Miles, one of our most stalwart supporters, who was vacationing in Palm Springs with his family and drove in and back again to show a tree. Dave Nadzam also had a long commute from an outlying area. Thanks to you all and to everyone who helped make this show great.



Takuo Nakamura's California Juniper

There were lots of opportunities to talk to people.



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Manny Martinez' Japanese Maple



Tom Vuong did the Saturday demonstration.

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There was a good crowd.



Eric Stoner captured the trees for us.



On Sunday afternoon, Tak Nakamura and Manny Martinez gave a talk and demo on getting started in bonsai.

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The 'Mystery' Tree

There was a huge amount of interest in this very unusual tree, exhibited by Takuo Nakamura. He knows it by its common name "Madagascar Tree".

After some searching online we've found the latin name of the tree for those searching for one to buy. It's a mouthful, **Operculicarya decaryi**.

It has other common names including Jabilly and elephant tree. Per Wikipedia, It's a thick stemmed succulent plant species found in Madagascar and also grown as a bonsai tree. Tak says it grows fast.

Once you have the latin name you'll find the plant is available from many sources including San Marcos Growers. You can order from them through major retail nurseries like Armstrongs. Other sources are also available. Good luck!



Mystery Accent

This little plant also caused a lot of conversation. It was shown by Harley Newman and was part of his late wife's collection of rare succulents.

I've determined that it's in the genus *Albuca* but there are over a hundred species in that genus and I've not found this exact one.

But no worries, because Harley generously gave this little plant to me at the close of the show and I will propagate the little bulbs and make it available when the new ones get growing.