

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club



Meeting Time and Place

July 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

JULY MEETING



Our July program features Roy Nagatoshi, one of the most renowned bonsai masters from Southern California. I talked to Roy last week out at his bonsai nursery, Fuji Nursery, in Sylmar. I asked him to sum up his approach to bonsai design. He explained that he follows the rules of nature, not of man when designing bonsai and that to follow the natural rules it's necessary to be very observant, to keep your eyes open to the natural world. He puts very few restrictions on his bonsai designs...if it looks good, keep it, he would say, rather than impose a particular formal style on each tree.

Roy will be demonstrating and talking about his favorite bonsai material, Kishu Shimpaku juniper and will be showing us his technique for approach grafting this beautiful foliage onto other types of junipers and also how to maintain Kishu so that it doesn't turn into a poodle tree but maintains the original bonsai design. He also will be bringing something interesting to put into our raffle. I hope everyone will be there on Saturday July 21st to welcome Roy and to learn from a fine teacher of bonsai technique and design.

If you haven't visited Roy's place, Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, you should make the trip. In addition to many well cared for trees for sale, you will learn so much from seeing Roy's collection of interesting bonsai. There are many trees in various stages of grafting always at Roy's so it's very helpful to take a close look at his work.

Carol Upston

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WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

June Meeting



At our June meeting a number of lucky Kofu members had a projected design drawn for them by artist Uyen Truong. Uyen was able to find an interesting design for each tree, no matter how unusual. Thank you, Uyen, for sharing with us your creative approach to bonsai design.

Carol Upston

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

JULY, 2012 (#83)

Summertime reduces the need to do any serious 'training' of bonsai. It's a period of watchful attention to the results of earlier care. July is the month to plan for the summer season changes of activities related to care and feeding of bonsai. Start a program that will provide fall colors by reducing the nitrogen content of your fertilizer. Continued use of the standard cottonseed/bone meal (70/30%) will provide most of the nutrients required for summer growth and good health. Introduce a change in food by using half strength liquid Hi-Bloom (2-2-10) that provides an excellent source of phosphorus. Continue to feed all conifers and other evergreen material to promote good summer health. Regular feedings of milder solutions are in order.

Regular feeding during the hot summer months can also be supplemented by early morning refreshing foliar feeding of Miracle-Gro or a diluted solution of fish emulsion. Avoid daytime heat. Allow wet foliage to dry during the day to prevent night forming fungus infection. A brisk spraying of your trees before feeding will remove dust layers and discourage red spider, mites, ants and other insects. Be sure to spray both the top and the bottom of the foliage.

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage high levels of moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health a change in watering schedules consistently renews 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 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 see if all is well. 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.

Repotting ficus, pomegranates or other warm weather tropicals is encouraged at this time. Avoid most other transplanting activity during warm weather. Watch for wire cutting conditions. As bonsai matures in the summer growing period it does so primarily on its woody surfaces.

Chewing insects are hard at work eating their way thru leaves and stems. Spray with Sevin. Mites are also active during warm weather months. Discourage them with a good miticides or one of the new combination fungicides/insecticide products now on the market.. A small amount of Volck Oil with these products creates better adhesion.

Approach your summer activity with an eye to enjoyment of the form and color of the trees. Fall will come soon enough if you keep up with summertime care.

HAIKU POEM:

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

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
July -2012**

Bonsai Lessons

Since I have become president it has become evident we have a number of new people and possibly struggling beginners in Kofu Kai.

I have been listening to questions from the audience and while good questions, it would appear that there are those who have had no formal training in this art. With that said I am prepared to offer monthly lessons to those who are at a beginners or novice level as this has always been the area where finding an instructor is difficult.

I have been teaching for about 10 years and have mostly worked with people who have scheduling problems or work odd hours and can't go to regular classes.

What I intend to do is briefly listed below and is intended as an invitation at the very least to curb your curiosity.

The classes will occur on a weekend day or if enough interest a weekday.

These classes will run in six month segments.

The first meeting date will be announced after a list of interested individuals is established. The class size will be no larger than 6 students.

The first meeting will be brief, approximately 2hrs. This will be a discussion of what I expect from you, the student, and my philosophy on teaching and where I hope to get you over a period of time. At this time you will have the opportunity to opt out or continue. This meeting will not count as one of the six sessions. Costs for lessons and materials will be discussed at this time.

The actual first lesson will be a collecting trip if all who commit to continuing are in agreement.

Sessions 2 to will be all about basics and you will be working on similar material, your own.

Sessions 3 to six will be structured but geared toward enhancing your basic skills and understanding design.

If you are interested contact me via Email at manny22816@aol.com, **subject matter - Bonsai lessons**, if you do not do computer call me at 949-770-9633 during the day.

Manual Martinez



Demo Prize winner

BADGE WINNER

Steve Ellison

DEMO WINNER

Don Teague

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

UP COMING EVENTS



Come visit the Orange County Fair
July 17th to the 30th and see our beautiful trees

ATTENTION CLUB MEMBERS: Kofu Bonsai Kai annual auction fund raiser will be August 18th, 2012. This is the time of year you clean out those items you have lost interest in or no longer have time for and make them a donation for the auction.

August 18th and 19th 2012, Nampu Kai annual show at Little Tokyo in Los Angeles at the Japanese/American Cultural Center.

***Kofu Bonsai Kai Show** at the Bowers Museum September 25th to the 30th more information to follow*

Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention XXXV "Cali-fornia Dreaming" at the Doubletree Hotel, 2011 West Point Way. October 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2012, Sacramento, California. Additional information forthcoming.

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.



Kofu Bonsai Kai is looking for someone who is interested in maintaining and updating our website. Anyone who is interested, please contact Manual Martinez at 949-770-9633 or email manny22816@aol.com.

Special Thank You

June Raffle Donations:

Manuel Martinez
Harry Hirao
Bill & Lois Hutchinson
Carol Upston
Bob White
Kaz Hosozawa
Tak Nakamura
Evetett Bassin

June Refreshments:

Bob Warner
Tish Miya
Harry Hirao
Everett & Sharyn Bassin
Tom Culton
Au Truong

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.**

WISHING PAUL VASIN WELL

**HE HAS RECEIVED HIS NEW KIDNEY AND HE IS
DOING WELL**

WE WISH HIM A STEADY RECOVERY.