

KOFU BONSAI KAI KOFUKAI.ORG

AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

Saturday August 18, 2018 at 7 pm

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

Important: There is no longer a pre-meeting workshop.

PEDRO MORALES FROM PUERTO RICO

Tropical Bonsai Specialist

FICUS/TROPICAL CRITIQUE - Bring your ficus bonsai or other tropical; reserve a space at

carolupston@icloud.com



Pedro J Morales was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1961 and moved to Puerto Rico with his parents soon after. His large family lives in Trujillo Alto and is full of people involved with plants through agriculture and ornamental horticulture.

Pedro was studying computer programming at the University of Puerto Rico when he started working part time at Jardin Selecto, a large garden center in San Juan. His bonsai interest began in 1980 when he met Hugo Storer during a university project on bonsai and he later joined the Club Bonsai of Puerto Rico. He studied with Adan Montalvo, a great master of bonsai in Puerto Rico. In 1993 Pedro started Futago Bonsai Jyuku, one of the most important bonsai schools in Latin America.

He has traveled to Many Latin American countries as well as Australia, China, Japan, Korea, India, Spain, Germany and has made many trips to the United States as a demonstrator, lecturer and exhibitor. He has been a headliner at three World Bonsai Friendship Federation Conventions and was the chairman of the WBFF convention in 2009, held in Puerto Rico. As president of the Federacion Bonsai De Puerto Rico he hosted the BCE FELAB convention in Puerto Rico as well as international conventions in 2014 and 2015.

Pedro wants to share his knowledge of bonsai with everyone who wants to learn and considers it an honor to travel the world and share his passion.

Photo credits unknown in this article. Contact

carolupston@icloud.com if you have photo credit info.



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Ficus trees may be the most malleable material in bonsai. You can chop them, dig massive stumps and style them, start cuttings of all sizes easily and you can also fuse together various bits of ficus to produce amazing bonsai, add aerial roots where needed and graft roots at the base where they are lacking. There are many kinds of ficus to work with and they work in any size of bonsai from tiny trees that sit on one finger to massive banyan style bonsai like the one in the photo. They are ridiculously healthy and if you keep them away from frost there are few serious problems with ficus. Another huge plus is that good material is very available and not expensive.

We may think of olives as a mediterranean tree but they also thrive in the tropics and are an invasive plant in Hawaii. Pedro looks pretty comfortable with this big olive so feel free to ask him olive questions too, as well as ficus, schefflera, and bougainvillea questions.

We don't know how many trees we can get to in the critique so if you are interested please email your request to carolupston@icloud.com

A special thanks to Bob Pressler and the California Bonsai Society for making this demonstration possible.



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THE KOFU KAI ANNUAL SHOW IS ALMOST HERE

Set up is on Wednesday September 5th. We expect to have the display materials at the museum by 10:00 am as usual. We appreciate all the help we can get. Photographer Eric Stoner will be setting up to photograph our trees and we will be once again giving a professional tree portrait to each person showing a tree. We expect Eric to start photographing at around 11:30 am and he's pretty fast so please have your tree here in time for it to have its picture taken. This year's photography is made possible by special donations from Manny Martinez, Anthony Chiusolo and from David and Debra Mauzy-Melitz.



We will need people to be at the show at all times from Thursday through Sunday. Museum hours are 10 am till 4 pm each day. We will begin taking down the show after 4 pm on Sunday.

There will be a sign-up sheet for docents at the August meeting but you can drop in and help talk to visitors any time. Attached to this email is a pdf of the show announcement for your use in promoting the event.

Tom Vuong is doing a bonsai demonstration at the show on Saturday September 8 at 1 pm.

Admission to the bonsai exhibit is free but does not include museum admission.



LAST MEETING WITH TOM VUONG

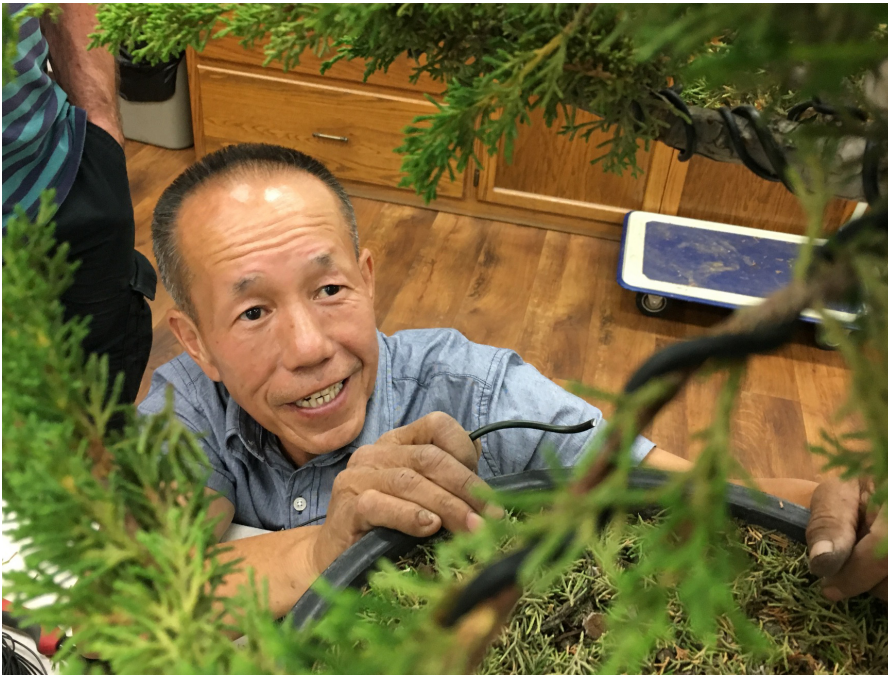


photo by Michael Walsh

Tom Vuong has become one of the most important demonstrators and supporters of the bonsai community. He's certainly is one of Kofu Kai's best friends. We ask him to do a demo, he always says yes; we ask him to demo at our Bowers show, he says yes; we ask if we can come to see his collection for one of our meetings and he not only says yes, he wants to do a workshop and demo (coming January 2019).

At the July meeting Tom arrived with a very nice juniper, shinpaku (maybe we should start spelling it right) grafted onto a prostrata type of trunk. There were many, many healthy grafts shooting off this tree and the trunk was nicely curved.

I could see by the expression on many faces in the audience that the quality of the material was appreciated. One or two people might have been drooling a little. It's that beautiful a tree. Tom spent the next two hours completely wiring and styling the tree and answering questions about shinpaku such as 'what to do about spider mites'.

When he was finished Tom donated the tree to the club for which we are very grateful. The tree will be photographed this summer to show it in it's best light and we will likely auction it off to raise funds for the club. Right now the plan is to offer the more valuable trees at our October auction with a reserve and if the reserve is not met to auction them online. We now have contact with three people who can box, crate and ship trees.

I ask you all to express your gratitude to Tom and all those who chop wood and carry water for the sake of the art of bonsai. They do it out of love for the art, it's true but it's always nice to be appreciated.

It costs a lot to open our doors each month, close to \$500.00 dollars per meeting to provide the quality bonsai experience offered by Kofu Bonsai Kai. That figure includes rent of the church classroom, storage unit rental, demonstrator's fees, insurance, Christmas party expenses, refreshment expenses, donations to other organizations, professional photography and on and on. Revenues have diminished steadily from the raffles and auction while at the same time, all expenses have been rising.

If you appreciate what we bring to the bonsai community please show it by buying raffle tickets or contributing items to the raffle or stuffing a few bills into the donation jar. We know that money is tight for many members. Even five or ten dollars in raffle tickets helps. If everyone did that the books would begin to balance again.

Mail dues to Ryan Cali, 52 Dianthus, Rancho Santa Margarita Ca 92688-1024.

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THE FUTURE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SEPTEMBER 5-9

KOFU KAI ANNUAL EXHIBIT AT THE BOWERS MUSEUM

SET UP DAY IS SEPTEMBER 5

CONTACT MANNY MARTINEZ TO SHOW A TREE

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**SEPTEMBER 15
LINDSAY SHIBA**



OCTOBER 20, KOFU KAI AUCTION!!!

WE'VE ALREADY RECEIVED SOME EXCITING DONATIONS

Kofu Kai Has just learned that we will receive three major trees and also some pots that were left over from the big sale in West Los Angeles recently. Our thanks to Robert Pressler, California Bonsai Society and the anonymous owner of the collection for this generous donation. Photos will be forthcoming.

Also, Harley Newman donated three chuhin and shohin bougainvillea bonsai and Justine Keller donated a white chojubai flowering quince.

Send photos of sexy auction donations to carolupston@icloud.com .

NOVEMBER 17, HARRY TOMLINSON FROM THE UK

**DECEMBER 1, KOFU KAI CHRISTMAS PARTY, 12
NOON TO 3 PM**

MAMMOTH RAFFLE, POT LUCK

18631 CHURCH LANE, HUNTINGTON BEACH

JANUARY 2019, DATE TO BE SET

**CLUB VISIT, DEMO AND WORKSHOP AT THE HOME OF
TOM VUONG**

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

I'd like to thank several people for a special donation made to Kofu Kai; Manny Martinez, Anthony Chiusolo, and Debra Mauzy Melitz with David Melitz. They generously donated funds toward our hiring of a professional photographer, Eric Stoner who has been photographing our annual show at the Bowers Museum. Thank you very much.

Also special thanks to all who've already donated to our annual auction; Justine Keller, Harley Newman, Michael Walsh, Robert Pressler and the California Bonsai Society.

Donations to the raffle and the refreshment table are always welcome.

**YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA
REVOLUTION. VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AND DON'T
FORGET OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG**