

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Bonsai Kai Club

Meeting Time and Place

Saturday, November 15, 2014 at 7:00 pm

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim, CA



October Demonstrator

Travis Goldstein



Some of you may know Travis Goldstein from Masakuni display and sales at many of the major Bonsai events, but along with them are often beautiful Bonsai Trees that he has developed. Travis' passion for Bonsai started at a very early age and over the years, he has nurtured that enthusiasm by visiting many of the major Bonsai nurseries and Masters in Japan such as Kunio Kobayashi at the Shunka-En, Masashi Kimura at Omiya Bonsai Village, Tomohiro Masumi's shoin nursery (Koju-En) out of Kyoto, to name just a few. At home he has studied under Mas and Gary Ishii, and currently owns his own nursery in Thousand Oaks called the California Bonsai Studio (website: <https://www.californiabonsai.com/>)

This month he will be demonstrating carving techniques which will give everyone a unique opportunity to see how to approach carving; the art behind the technique and aftercare. Please join us in welcoming Travis to Kofu Bonsai Kai.

Ron Reekers

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Balendonk

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Bob warner

WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG



Kofu Kai Christmas Party

Christmas is upon us and on December 13th we will be having our annual Christmas party. This year due to some cost cutting and generous donors we have done well. The board has decided to spend a little more than usual on the Christmas party to return some of our good fortune to our membership. As usual the event is pot luck and we ask those attending to bring a favorite dish that will feed about 10 to 12. The club will provide the Ham, Turkey, soft drinks and wine for the event.

This event is one of the best raffles of the year and this one is shaping up to be spectacular. Santa's helpers are already out shopping for a wonderful selection of goodies. We also encourage anyone who wishes to donate to the raffle to do so, which will make it just that much better.

Bringing food and donations is not mandatory and no one should feel obligated to do so nor stay away because they can't. We hope that all of our members come and join their fellow Bonsai enthusiasts for a wonderful afternoon of food and socializing.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

December 13, 2014, Noon till 4pm, St Wilfrid Episcopal Church, 18631 Chapel Ln,
Huntington Beach

October Presentation



At our last meeting, well-known bonsai sensei Mel Ikeda gave a very entertaining demonstration of raft style technique. At Kofu we try to have a good mix of demonstrators during the year to appeal to people of all skill levels and the cool thing about Mel and his raft technique is that everyone can enjoy it and put it to use right away. The crowd was very intently watching all phases of the demo and I think it was significant that almost no one left the hall early that evening. I really liked seeing the light bulbs go on over some of the newer members' heads when they realized that raft style can be done with material that is immature and which has little character when viewed upright. Turn it on its side and it's an almost instant landscape. It's good to have a quick result available in an art form that can sometimes take years to achieve maturity.

Thank you very much Mel for your demo, for donating the raft to the raffle and for donating your fee back to the club. We very much appreciate your support.

Mel had a good suggestion for the future: that those members who have demo trees from his past visits could bring them in when he visits us again, so please contact me if you have a Mel raft or other demo tree.

Carol Upston

BOWERS MUSEUM SHOW

The Kofu Kai Calendars are in and will be available at the meeting. The cost is \$8.00 ea. please bring exact change for your purchase

For those who participated in the show the photos of your tree will also be available at the meeting



Demonstration Prize Winner

Bill Ward



November

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

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 cleanup 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 cleanup 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, umes 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:

Wasted years can be renewed
Awake and aglow
New seasons will come

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
November -2010

Badge Prize winner
Jim Reese

UP COMING EVENTS

Aiseki Kai, 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Viewing Stone Show
Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, Botanical Center 1151 Oxford Road San Marino
December 26, 2014 – January 2, 2015, 10:30–4:30 (closed New Year's Day)

Special Thank You

Refreshment Donations:

Bob & Kim Warner, Dr Walter Johnson, Manuel Martinez

Raffle Donations:

Dave Miles, Dan & Wanda Danesi, Manuel Martinez, Harley Newman, Anthony Chiusolo, Takeshi Kawahara, Kax Hosozawa, Gib & Elissa Hoxie

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 Ryan Cali, Paul Vasina and Harley Newman can assist. Meet from 4:00pm -6:00pm prior to the monthly meeting.**