

KOFU BONSAI KAI

MAY, 2017 NEWSLETTER

Hello all. This is an improvised newsletter for this month. Manny is recovering from surgery and will, we hope, be back in action by next month. May McNey is also in the hospital and we hope she will be back home soon.

MAY 20, 7 PM DEMO

CAROL UPSTON (REALLY LIKES) **ROCKS**



Before and after of the demo at the Fullerton Arboretum exhibit.

For this month's demo Carol Upston will be doing a demonstration and talking about the great usefulness of stones in bonsai. I will be beginning the first phase of what I call "The Black Island Project", a large, really large planting involving many free standing planted rock islands.

KOFU BONSAI KAI

I'll be talking about kinds of rock, how to anchor things onto rock, how to stabilize rocks, how to use rocks to stabilize trees, the kinds of man made rock that you can create and my secrets to skipping... the long and unpredictable traditional process for growing root over rock and getting better results instantly. If we have time, I will do a quick demonstration of this technique.

There will be a ready to plant rock island arrangement in the raffle.

I promise to reveal all of my darkest rock secrets and answer all questions truthfully!

THE BIG BLUE POT 36 x 20". To big to haul around, a gift from a generous friend after I



cared for his collection for a while. I need to design a modular planting so the pot and the islands can be moved separately so it can be moved and shown easily.



LAST MONTH'S DEMO JOHN NIELSEN SAVES THE DAY (AGAIN)

Our intrepid program chairman, Michael Walsh has been doing a great job booking our demos in advance. In fact we are booked well into 2018. But no matter what he tried, who he contacted, we've been unable to book April and May of this year. It was just one of those things. We thought we had someone lined up for April but at the last minute it fell through and John Nielsen was the guy who answered the emergency call, in spite of having an event of his own on the same day. Thank you so much John.

KOFU BONSAI KAI

Not all heroes wear capes.

John's subject was one of my favorites, propagation.

He shared his techniques for making stem and trunk and root cuttings, for how to handle different species

cuttings, temperature, watering, feeding, light and so on. Also growing from seed. He demonstrated his air layering technique on a Chinese Elm. As always, John was extremely generous with his donations for the raffle. Many of us went away with very nice itoigawa material and many other things and Jim Pierce won the grand prize of numerous itoigawa cuttings that John started in a tented pot. Jim tells me it looks like they are already putting out new growth.

Thanks to Raffle donors Manny Martinez, Paul Vasina, John Nielson, Dan and Wanda Danesi, Wendy Tsai and Peter Macasieb.

Thanks to refreshment donors Bob and Kim Warner.

A special thanks to Shari Religa and all those who stayed to help clean up.

A BIG thanks to everyone who helped at the Kofu weekend of the Fullerton Arboretum show. There will be a future article.

THERE WILL BE A CLASS AT 4 PM BEFORE THE MAY MEETING!!

