

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club

Volume 30, Number 1

January 2011



Meeting Time and Place: ****Note the Change****

January 22, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

It's that time of the year, **DUES ARE DUE**. Your newsletter will discontinue as of March if you have not renewed. **Contact Bill Hutchinson at the meeting or when making Annual Dues payments by mail, please use these directions:**

Make Checks out to: KOFU BONSAI KAI

\$20 per individual, or \$25 for couples or two persons at one address.

Include your Name, Address, Telephone Number, and e-mail address is mandatory if you wish to receive a newsletter.

MAIL Checks To: BILL HUTCHINSON

18317 COLVILLE STREET

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CA. 92708

If you joined during the months of Oct., Nov., or Dec. you are paid for 2011.

JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting will be a workshop demo using Bald Cypress as the material. If you would like to sign up please contact Carol Upston, Program Chair.

Even though this will be a demo on material that you may not have you will see many of the established methods used when transplanting trees.

Participants in the work shop will be assisted by several of our members. The tree will go home in a nice growing, training container. Everything necessary to complete the workshop is provided, participants only need bring their tools.

For those who are unfamiliar with this material I can tell you from personal experience that it is very hardy, rapid growing and easily trained. I have collected this material in nature and have not lost one. I am not saying this is a fool proof piece of material, just one that I believe will do better than most. So if interested refer to the flyer below. Manuel Martinez

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WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

Bald Cypress Workshop

At the January meeting of Kofu Bonsai Kai, Saturday January 22th, there will be a lively workshop. The workshop will be throughout our regular meeting and will include information about Bald Cypress collecting, cultivating and training. Carol Upston and Manuel Martinez will be giving the workshop. Bald Cypress will be available in two sizes, the larger will be \$100.00 and the smaller will be \$50.00. Participants will style, wire, root prune and re-pot their tree into a 12" plastic training pot. Soil mix, pots and wire will be provided. Please bring your own tools. Contact Carol Upston at jackdraw@earthlink.net, or call 310-346-4203 for further information and to sign up for the workshop, This will be a regular meeting.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

I would like to thank those of you who attended the Christmas party for the delicious food that we all enjoyed. It was good to see some folks that have not been around for some time. It was apparent that having the party mid-day made it easier for some members to attend.

We had a very nice turn out and it appeared that everyone had a great time. Besides the great food the raffle was the best of the year, as usual, and there were plenty of smiling faces carrying away a prize or two.

I would like to thank Apinya Culton for providing the party photos.

Manuel Martinez





KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

JANUARY 2011 (#66)

If deciduous trees start to sprout, bring them gradually into sunlight. If the tree is kept in a shaded area, new growth will be long, leggy and weak. Be careful to protect this new growth from any surprise cold or frost that causes dieback. When warm weather comes, so does the ever-present insect population. Be prepared to spray early with a good commercial insecticide or miticide. Follow manufacturer's directions for your mixtures.

Spray deciduous trees with a dormant spray (lime sulfur) before signs of new growth appear. Avoid the soil surfaces in the pots as well as the pots themselves. Dripping chemicals harm the tender roots and leave unsightly stains on the pots.

Survey the finished trees in bonsai pots. Are they still a proper match in size or color to the tree? Has the maturity and styling of the tree changed it enough to consider repotting into a new pot? Is it taller, wider, fatter? Now is the time to redesign 'completed' trees.

Make a list of the trees that will require repotting. Place a marker in the pots that require attention this year for identification. Begin with the conifers, followed by the deciduous trees, then the flowering and fruiting trees. Begin while they are still in a dormant stage or just beginning to emerge. Some of this activity can wait until later in February. Go easy on any pruning that may be required. Let the branches mature.

Wait until the sap begins to flow before you do any serious pruning or pinching of the new growing tips.

Review the nursery stock to determine the readiness of pre-trained material for transfer to a training pot or a display pot. Check your inventory of bonsai pots. If you don't have one that fits your needs, now is the time to shop. The best finds are at convention bazaars or bonsai specialty shops. The potting season will be upon you soon. It is nice to know you have a pot ready to meet your needs. Do you need more wire, screening, decomposed granite, pumice, insecticides, fungicides, miticides, Miracle-Gro®, cottonseed meal, bone meal, Do you have a supply of snail bait, Ironnite, gypsum, etc.

Another important activity at this time involves your tools. Sort them out. Sharpen all cutting edges; remove accumulations of rust and tar stains by using the new Japanese erasers. Dip tools into a bleach solution to purify them. Oil all surfaces for additional protection.

Study the trees to determine the need to rewire and reposition various branches. Do so with great care since branches on most varieties of trees are brittle during the dormant period. Remember, you are looking for the faults of basic bonsai design -- crossing branches, bars, sharp angles, ladders, and placement with the trunk. Good design distinguishes your tree's quality from "just another bonsai".

January and February is still a good time to gather wild seedlings (or, if you are lucky, old weathered trees from the wild) -- scrub or pin oaks, mountain pines and California junipers. Don't plan any wiring of newly dug material. Concentrate on the reestablishment of broken rootage and the encouragement of new growth.

HAIKU POEM:

Enter a new world
Keeping the trees all healthy
Each day the sun shines

By Marty Mann

<p>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 JANUARY -2011</p>
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UPCOMING EVENTS

BAIKOEN BONSAI KENKYUKAI 47th Annual Winter Silhouettes Show, founded by Frank Fusaji Nagata, January 15th and 16th, 2011 10am to 4:30pm. Ayres Hall, Los Angeles Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, California. Reception Saturday Evening 6:30 to 9:00pm.

GSBF 2011 BONSAI-A-THON, BEGINNER'S WORKSHOP –Saturday
February 26, 2011, 9:00 am till Noon. Huntington Gardens and Library, 1151 Oxford
Drive, San Marino, CA. For more information call Herb Eisenberg 310-545-5954

Get well wishes from Kofu Kai

TO:

Sharon Bassin, recovering from a long illness

Howie Kawahara, recovering from a fall

If you know of a club member who is ill let us know

Special Thank You

December Donations/Raffle:

Everett & Sharyn Bassin
Larry and Nina Ragle
Harry Hirao
Manuel Martinez
Al Nelson
Tony Peredo
David and June Nguy
Bill and Lois Hutchinson
Dan and Wanda Danesi

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

· **Improve your bonsai artistry and technique!**
· **Prepare your trees for exhibition!**
Most of us have a tree that is "difficult" to style and we may not know what to do with it. Most of us need to prepare our trees for the Annual Show or just simply would like to improve our techniques. No matter what our objectives are, we all can bring our trees to work on at the pre-meeting workshop were experts like Al Nelson, Paul Vasina and Harley Newman are near to lend a helping hand. Come and join us from 4:00pm -6:00pm prior to our monthly meeting.