

# KOFU BONSAI KAI KOFUKAI.ORG

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER - **2019 DUES ARE DUE**

**Saturday February 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm**

Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim

Kofu Kai in association with the California Bonsai Society welcomes

## ELSA BOUDOURI

This will be a critique of our trees.



Elsa Boudouri is our first demonstrator of 2019 who comes to us through the generous efforts of the California Bonsai Society. CBS books the artists and pays for their transportation and expenses and the clubs and individuals who book them pay a reasonable fee. Our guest artist this month is from the mediterranean area; Greece by way of Italy.

From her bio:

The Art of Bonsai and it's growth and development in Greece is her main interest and nature, trees and plants are her inspiration. She began to be interested in bonsai at age 14 but had to postpone her involvement due to school where she studied medical laboratory technology, the teaching of the English Language and the methodology of teaching.

During the decade from 2003-2013 She lived and gardened in the mountains and taught herself the art of bonsai, the physiology and pathology of trees and learned how to adapt bonsai culture to the local climate while training around 200 bonsai.

Since 2008, she is a founding and active member of the Greek Bonsai Forum [www.mybonsai.gr](http://www.mybonsai.gr) and she also has a blog called Bonsai Cosmos at <http://bonsaicosmos.blogspot.gr/>. In 2013 she established the Bonsai Club of Thessaloniki, Greece.

She has been active in bonsai exhibitions, competition juries and awards. More recently she has demonstrated in China and elsewhere. From September 2016 through today she lives and studies with her teacher Enrico Savini in Bologna, Italy at his Progetto Futura European Bonsai School.

**Important:** This will be a critique of our trees. Critiques give everyone a chance to learn from our various varieties and styles of bonsai.

Please don't feel shy about participating. Since Elsa is from the mediterranean area, she is very familiar with the species that thrive here including olives, oaks, and junipers. I see from her facebook page that she also is familiar with pines and deciduous trees. I'd like at least 10 people to bring trees for her to talk about. For example I'm bringing an olive to ask about repositioning some branches and getting them to set in place quickly. Do you have a tree you'd like an expert opinion on?

Please contact me to sign up for the critique so we have an idea how many are coming.

[caroluspton@icloud.com](mailto:caroluspton@icloud.com) or text or call 310-346-4203

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It's time to pay the light bill.

if you haven't already paid your dues, here is a handy form you can print out and mail with your check to Ryan Cali, 52 Dianthus, Rancho Santa Margarita, 92688-1024 Or if you paid your dues in September through December of 2018, you are paid up for 2019! Thank you!

## Kofu Bonsai Kai Membership Application

Annual Dues : \$30.00 Single \$35.00 Couple

Please Print Clearly

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s)\_\_\_\_\_

**\*E-Mail**\_\_\_\_\_

**Mandatory!!!**

Paid:

\_\_\_\_ Cash, in person only

\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Payable to Kofu Bonsai Kai

Mail-in Address:

Ryan Cali  
52 Dianthus  
Rancho Santa Margarita  
Ca 92688-1024

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Thanks to all who have helped with your dues, participation, donations and your valuable time.

P.S. Since I have everyone's attention, I really need at least two people to come early to meetings, between 6 and 6:30 pm to help me set up. My regular people are no longer able to make it so please contact me (Carol Upston) if you can be early.

P.P.S. I will be doing a Tanuki demo this year on an amazing gnarled piece of dead star jasmine. If you can do a demo for free for Kofu, let me or Michael Walsh know.

Carol Upston

## THE FUTURE

**Kofu Bonsai Kai and CBS present**

**Elsa Boudouri**

Saturday February 16 at 7pm

Anaheim United Methodist Church

1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim

**Bonsai A Thon!**

February 23 and 24

Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino

Demonstrations, Vendors, Exhibits, Pancakes!

See Flyer Below

**California Bonsai Society**

**Annual Show**

March 23 and 24

Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino

Reception Saturday March 23 6pm

All members of the bonsai community

are welcome to attend the show and

## It Was A Beautiful Day!



**I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU** but every winter I vow to improve my grafting skills because who doesn't want to be able to switch foliage types, put branches where they're needed and generally advance the design of their trees faster?

The problem is, well, life and it's annoying habit of getting in the way of our best plans. So I was very happy when Tom Vuong proposed a grafting workshop at his home as a fundraiser for Kofu Kai.

Working with Tom right there with all scions and supplies provided made it easy to practice and have Tom make sure we were doing it right.

I must have placed at least 30 grafts on one juniper and I continued at home the next day.



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The weather was especially fine with warm sun and clear skies after days of rain. It was a little disappointing to have only half of the ten available spaces in the workshop taken because of the missed opportunity and because all the funds went to Kofu Kai, but you can lead a horse to water, etc. Those of us who signed up and those who came to observe and enjoy Tom's amazing collection spent a great day learning about all sorts of things and enjoyed a delicious lunch courtesy of Tom and Hannah.

The folks in the photo above are the ones who stayed the entire day. It was a happy experience.



It's hard to get a feel for the scale of the place in photos. It's really stunning what Tom has accomplished.



Did I mention that Tom has a lot of truly ginormous junipers and rows and rows of fine olives and pines too?

I hope that if you missed this event you will be able to pay a visit to Tom sometime in the future.



## Bonsai-A-Thon

Fundraiser for  
**THE GOLDEN STATE BONSAI FEDERATION  
COLLECTION AT THE HUNTINGTON**  
**February 23-24, 2019**



*Daily Benefit Drawing & Live Auction*

*Bonsai Styling Demonstrations  
by Noted Bonsai Masters  
Bonsai Show  
Antique Bonsai Pot Exhibit*



*Select Vendors Selling Top-Quality  
Tools, Pots and Trees*

**GSBF Early Bird Passes For  
Bonsai Club Members**

**7:30am - 5:00pm**

**General Public**

**10:00am - 5:00pm**

**The Huntington Library  
Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens  
Brody Botanical Center  
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA**





## An Important Bonsai Event

The Golden State Bonsai Federation and The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens will be regaining an important bonsai masterpiece on Saturday, March 23, 2019, as the California Bonsai Society hosts Jack Sustic, former curator of the North American Bonsai Collection at the US National Arboretum in Washington, DC, to lead the replanting of "Goshin III" during the 62nd annual CBS Bonsai Exhibition. The public demonstration will take place from 1 - 4 pm in the Botanical Auditorium on the lower level of the Brody Botanical Center (near the elevator) at The Huntington, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino.

The original "Goshin," or Guardian of the Spirit, is a forest-style bonsai created by John Naka, and is far and away the most famous American bonsai. The planting features 11 foemina junipers (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Foemina'), with training of the oldest starting in 1948. As arranged, the trees represent John's children and grandchildren.

John donated the tree to the National Bonsai Foundation in 1984, and it moved to the US National Arboretum where it remains to this day. However the California bonsai community felt the loss of such an important masterpiece and requested that John re-create it. At two different convention events in the 1990's, John and a team created replicas. Known as "Goshin II" and "Goshin III," the plantings were subsequently given to each of the GSBF Collection sites, the GSBF Bonsai Museum at Lake Merritt in Oakland, CA, and the GSBF Collection at The Huntington, respectively. "Goshin III" arrived at The Huntington in February, 2001.

Due to various circumstances, including some of the aggressive work during the initial planting and the use of trees that had less developed root systems, "Goshin III" suffered. A couple trees died; others were weakened by degraded soil. In April, 2015, the forest was disassembled and the individual trees were planted in separate pots with good bonsai soil. Over the past few years, they were brought back to health and groomed to build more complete, refined foliage pads. In addition, new trees have been developed as replacements, so the replanted piece will look mature when completed.

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Jack Sustic will lead the replanting team. While serving as curator of the US National Bonsai Collection, Jack was responsible for the maintenance and care of the original "Goshin" for many years. However, as a friend and devotee of John's, Jack also participated in the creation of both "Goshin II" and "Goshin III." With the other original team members passed on, Jack is the most qualified of any to ensure a faithful reproduction of the original.

Started by John Naka in 1950's, the California Bonsai Society is a club with members predominantly at the advanced level of the art. The 62nd annual exhibit will feature masterpiece quality bonsai, with a focus on trees that have been in training over a long time-- often decades--so they no longer show evidence of training. The exhibit runs from 10 am - 5 pm both Saturday March 23 and Sunday March 24 in the Ahmanson Classroom and Banta Hall.

**There will be an evening reception** on Saturday March 23 beginning around 6:00 pm in the exhibit area. This is a special reception put on by the Huntington not only to celebrate the CBS show but also to thank all of the people in the bonsai community who contribute to the GSBF collection, the Bonsai A Thon and all of the Southern California bonsai activities, so all are welcome.

## **Founding President**

Harry Hirao

## **President**

Carol Upston 310-346-4203

carolupston@icloud.com

## **Vice President**

Open

## **Recording Secretary**

Open

## **Treasurer**

Ryan Cali

## **Past President and Show Chair**

Manuel Martinez

manny22816@aol.com

## **Board of Directors**

Larry Ragle 949-497-5626

## **Program Chair,**

## **Publicity**

Michael Walsh

## **Website**

Bob Warner

## **Meeting Refreshments**

Kimberly Warner

## **Show Co-Chairs**

Anthony Chiusolo 714-998-3420

Mike Viljak 949-642-3577

## **Badges**

open

## **Benefit Drawing**

Dan and Wanda Danesi

714-826-5024

David and Debra Melitz

949-274-0370

## **Membership**

Ryan Cali 949-735-3463

52 Dianthus

Rancho Santa Margarita CA

92688-1024

## **Newsletter Editor**

Carol Upston



**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.**