

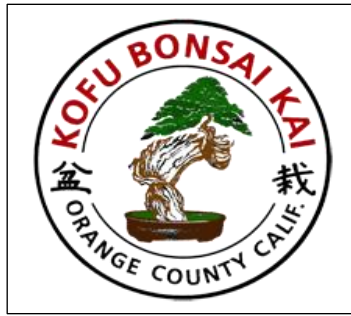
# The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Bonsai Kai Club

## MEETING TIME and PLACE

February 20, 2016, 7:00 pm

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Boulevard, Anaheim



It's that time of the year, **DUES ARE DUE**. Your newsletter will discontinue if you have not renewed. Contact **Ryan Cali** 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:

**RYAN CALI**  
**52 Dianthus**  
**Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688-1024**

*If you joined during the months of October, November, or December 2015,  
you are paid for 2016.*

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# February 20 Demonstration

## Manuel Martinez



Photo by Carol Upston

This month let's talk about soil, which makes our trees thrive, and sometimes causes problems as well. This is usually a subject we often give little attention to. It's transplant time and with the weather we have, maybe this is a good time to rethink how you have been approaching your planting medium.

This may be old information for some but it never hurts to revisit some old teachings and possibly some new ideas. Not only will we talk about the soil but how your habits and climate zone may affect your mix.

Areas that I will cover will be aggregate, organic, containers, fertilizers and watering habits.

For those who attend I will bring some soils and items for the raffle.

So bring your concerns and maybe I will have an answer for you.

## Important Announcement

Due to a rise in the cost of renting the facilities, we will be having most of our meetings from now on in the east classroom rather in the main hall at the church

## **January Meeting**

### **Peter Macasieb Grafting Workshop and Demo**



At our last Kofu meeting on the special date of January 23rd, Kofu Kai members enjoyed an afternoon workshop with Peter Macasieb in which he grafted their junipers with Itoigawa juniper scions. Peter showed in a very detailed way exactly how he achieves such a high degree of success with his grafting. Attendees learned all about the tools, techniques and aftercare that increase chances of a successful graft. Peter repeated this information for the full membership at the evening meeting. He also demonstrated how he gets amazing little shohin black pines with gnarly thick trunks in just a few years.

After grafting seven fresh Itoigawa scions on a really fine prostrata juniper which he had pre-styled, Peter generously donated it to the raffle and it was won by one of his delighted students, Julio Martinez. Peter was glad too, because now he will be able to see the progress of this fine tree.



Peter Macaseib with the proud winner of the demo tree,  
Julio Martinez

## 2016 CALENDAR



The 2016 Kofu Bonsai Kai Calendar will be available at the meeting. The calendar features the members' trees from the 2015 Bowers show. Cost to members will be \$8.00 each.



## KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

February

It's still too early to concern yourself about feeding the trees. It is a good time to prepare fertilizer supplies. Chemical and organic liquid fertilizers require no advance planning. They can be freshly mixed when you are ready to apply. If you are a user of the recommended dry mixes such as Cottonseed Meal (75%) with Bone Meal (25%), now is the time to make a supply. Keep the finished product in a dry place. If it gets wet it will begin to ferment and will drive you out of your home! Acid based fertilizers are best for azaleas and camellias as well as conifers and junipers. The idea, when feeding in early spring is *slow release*. Don't rush your trees into a spurt of new growth too soon.

During this 'idle' time, occupy yourself with a program of pot cleanup. All those pots, that have been sitting around waiting for your repotting activities to begin, have probably accumulated layers of soil and salt deposits. Scrub them with a strong soapy solution and bleach. Apply a lime-off cleaner or a strong vinegar solution to the white spots, or just some elbow grease and cleanser. Try using one of the new Japanese erasers to work on the stubborn spots. Rinse the pots well. Allow them to dry in the full sun to prevent infestation carryover.

Don't overlook the last step in your pre-spring dress-up program. Look at all of the finished trees. Are the pots clean? Is the surface of each planting clear of winter trash and properly surfaced with fresh soil or dressed with D.G.? Are there signs of moss growth? Are the edges of the pots trimmed to allow a channel along the rim for drainage?

The tendency at this time of year, during the last months of dormancy, is to ignore normal bonsai care. Don't stop your regular routines. Watch for insect or fungus activities that silently harm the trees. Aphids, in particular, become active when the weather turns slightly warm. Look for these destructive wingless creatures that damage plants by sucking the juice out of new growth, causing twisting and curling effects. There are four kinds of aphids--the bright-green, the yellowish- melon, the reddish- brown and the almost black variety. The aphid nymphs are usually yellow-green and the adults are dark green. Control is relatively easy with most of the common brands of insecticides. Follow label directions to get the best results.

### HAIKU POEM

As the sun does shine  
The birds, the bees arrive  
The bright day begins

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. JAN 2012

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 27- **Bonsai-A-Thon XX** Annual Fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington at The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Admission to the event is free with Bonsai-A-Thon "early bird" registration between 8-9 am. Event hours are 8-4:30 both days. Pancake breakfast, a tour hosted by Jim Folsom (Director of the Gardens), demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle, and auction. Sunday only: A behind-the-scenes tour of The Huntington Bonsai Nursery with Ted Matson. For more information, contact Bill Wawrychuk at (818) 790-9415 or [b\\_wawrychuck@yahoo.com](mailto:b_wawrychuck@yahoo.com).
- March 20 **The Next LA Community Bonsai Swap Meet**  
Sunday, from 10 am to 3 pm at Jesse Owens Park  
at 7100 White Oak Ave., Reseda
- April 23-24 **San Diego Bonsai Club** Spring Bonsai Exhibition at the Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, from 10 am to 5 pm both days with demonstrations at 11 am and 1 pm. Free admission. Bonsai pots and trees for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information, visit [www.sandiegobonsai.com](http://www.sandiegobonsai.com).
- May 21-22 **Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara** Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens, 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, from Saturday 11 am to 4 pm, Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. Demonstrations at 1 pm both days. Plant sale by club. Native plants suitable for bonsai in the Botanic Garden's nursery. For more information, contact Tom Post (805) 964-2717, email [tompostart@yahoo.com](mailto:tompostart@yahoo.com) or visit [www.santabarbarabonsai.org](http://www.santabarbarabonsai.org).

## SPECIAL THANK YOU

### Raffle Donors

Kaz Hosozawa  
Wendy Tsai  
Dan and Wanda Danesi  
David and June Nguy

### Refreshment Donors

Peter Macasieb  
Michael Walsh  
Carol Upston  
Bob and Kim Warner  
Wendy Tsai  
Dan and Wanda Danesi  
Justine Keller

## PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

WANT TO START OFF 2016  
IMPROVING YOUR BONSAI  
ARTISTRY AND TECHNIQUE?  
BEGINNERS: WONDERING HOW TO  
GET STARTED IN BONSAI AND  
HAVE MANY QUESTIONS? HAVE  
QUESTIONS ON HOW TO PREPARE  
AND DISPLAY YOUR TREE AT THE  
ANNUAL SHOW?

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR  
OBJECTIVES ARE, COME TO THE  
PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP FROM 4  
PM – 6 PM BEFORE THE JANUARY  
23 MEETING. LET EXPERT KOFU  
MEMBERS **RYAN CALL**, AND  
**HARLEY NEWMAN** HELP YOU WITH  
YOUR BONSAI QUESTIONS AND  
OBJECTIVES.