

The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Bonsai Kai Club

MEETING TIME and PLACE

July 18, 2015, at 7:00 pm

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim



JULY 18 DEMONSTRATION

ROY NAGATOSHI



Photo by Carol Upston

This month's meeting will feature **Roy Nagatoshi**. Roy Nagatoshi has been involved with the bonsai community for many years. His first experience with bonsai started in 1959 under his father **Shigeru Nagatoshi**. Roy owns and operates a bonsai nursery in Sylmar called Fuji Bonsai Nursery where he teaches classes regularly.

He has given lectures and demonstrations for many conventions over the years including: California Bonsai Society Conventions, Golden State Bonsai Federation Conventions, Pacific Northwest Bonsai Federation Conventions, Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Festivals, and the American Bonsai Society Convention. He is also a member of many local bonsai clubs.

During this month's meeting, he will conduct a bonsai tree critique on member trees. He has a wealth of information to share, so please bring any tree that you would like a critique on.

---Jason Chan

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June 20 Demonstration

TED MATSON



Photo by Carol Upston

Our last meeting was a blast with **Ted Matson** doing a great carving demonstration. **Ted** brought in several trees all at different stages of carving. The first being a raw material olive with a stump which required the use of a heavy bit. His second tree was a privet that needed some additional work inside of the trunk. Last was a demonstration on a boxwood with a finer detail bit and finishing bit to show how even a small bit can make a large difference on the character of the tree.

He explained the most popular power tools and bits used for power carving. He also went into detail on thinking about what you are trying to accomplish when carving a tree, such as depth, and even listening to the sound that the tool makes to indicate your progression.

Overall, the demonstration was very informative and gave a comprehensive overview on the basics of carving a bonsai tree. Several of the members were within the “splash” zone so it was very entertaining.

---Jason Chan



Photo by Carol Upston

**Ted Matson and
Lucky Raffle Winner
of the Japanese
Boxwood Demo
Tree**

**MICHAEL
WALSH**



JUNE FOEMINA WORKSHOP

Ten happy Kofu members participated in the **Michael Sykes** foemina juniper workshop on the day of our June meeting. **Fred Miyahara** came along with **Michael** to help out. As you can see, the material was really big and had to be delivered to the church by the nursery. However, it didn't remain tall for long, and by the end of the workshop, much shorter trees were well on their way to being future show trees.

Photo by Carol Upston



Michael Sykes with Trish Miya.



Fred Miyahara helps Bob Warner air layer the top and style the bottom.



The delivery.



BONSAI STOLEN FROM SAN GABRIEL NURSERY

On June 17th, 2015, [San Gabriel Nursery & Florist](http://www.san-gabriel-nursery.com/) had more than 20 bonsai stolen. They were valued at \$1,000 to \$9,500 each. If you happen to run across someone trying to sell a bonsai who you find questionable, please contact San Gabriel Nursery at (626) 286-3782 to let them know.

To view all 20 bonsai, go to <http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com/bonsai-stolen-from-san-gabriel-nursery.html>



Photo from San Diego Bonsai Club website.

KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS

BY MARTY MANN

JULY

Summertime reduces the need to do any serious 'training' of bonsai. It's a period of watchful attention to the results of earlier care. July is the month to plan for the summer season changes of activities related to care and feeding of bonsai. Start a program that will provide fall colors by reducing the nitrogen content of your fertilizer. Continued use of the standard cottonseed/bone meal (70/30%) will provide most of the nutrients required for summer growth and good health. Introduce a change in food by using half strength liquid Hi-Bloom (2-2-10) that provides an excellent source of phosphorus. Continue to feed all conifers and other evergreen material to promote good summer health. Regular feedings of milder solutions are in order.

Regular feeding during the hot summer months can also be supplemented by early morning refreshing foliar feeding of Miracle-Gro or a diluted solution of fish emulsion. Avoid daytime heat. Allow wet foliage to dry during the day to prevent night forming fungus infection. A brisk spraying of your trees before feeding will remove dust layers and discourage red spider, mites, ants and other insects. Be sure to spray both the top and the bottom of the foliage.

Watering is an important summer chore. Warm summer breezes encourage high levels of moisture expiration through healthy leaf surfaces. For balanced plant health a change in watering schedules consistently renews this moisture. Avoid wetting the leaves during the warm days- for two good reasons:

- Daytime water that adheres to leaves can literally cook them and cause severe leaf burn. If overhead watering is unavoidable, do so early in the morning to give time for surface evaporation.
- Excessive moisture in the crotch of leaf clusters or on their undersides creates environments that are ideal for the formation of fungus and the related health threatening damages.

Be reminded that summer vacationing puts an additional burden on your 'bonsai sitters'. A suggestion would be to let them water your trees for a few days before you leave to be sure that they are following your instructions. Trees requiring special care should be grouped together to simplify attention. Don't trust your automatic watering system without the back up of someone who can check from time to time to see if all is well. Try forming a mutual watering pact with fellow bonsaiists. You do for them when you can and they will do for you. It's a great working arrangement and considerably safer than trusting your 'babies' to strangers.

Repotting ficus, pomegranates or other warm weather tropics is encouraged at this time. Avoid most other transplanting activity during warm weather. Watch for wire cutting conditions. As bonsai matures in the summer growing period it does so primarily on its woody surfaces.

Chewing insects are hard at work eating their way thru leaves and stems. Spray with Sevin. Mites are also active during warm weather months. Discourage them with a good miticide or one of the new combination fungicides/insecticide products now on the market.. A small amount of Volck Oil with these products creates better adhesion.

Approach your summer activity with an eye to enjoyment of the form and color of the trees. Fall will come soon enough if you keep up with summertime care.

HAIKU POEM:

Full days with hot sun

Bonsai-ing with great pleasure

Why complain - love it

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. July-2012

CALENDAR of EVENTS

August 15-16 **Nanpu Kai** annual bonsai exhibit as part of Nisei Week, 10 am to 5 pm both days, at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 South San Pedro Street, Los Angeles.

September 22-27 **Kofu Bonsai Kai** annual exhibit at Bowers Museum, 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana. Set up and photos will be on the 22nd. Further information will be forthcoming.

October 29 - **Golden Statement Bonsai Federation (GSBF)** 2015 Convention 38 "Bonsai Fusion: Where Tradition Meets Innovation at the Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street near Main, Riverside. Headliners: Bjorn Bjorholm and John Wang. Guest Artists: David Nguy and Tak Shimazu. Demonstrations, seminars, critiques, workshops, benefit drawings, vendors, and much more. Additional information available at www.GSBF2015.co

SPECIAL THANK YOU

June Refreshments:

Wendy Tsai, Justine Keller, and Bob and Kim Warner.

Raffle Donations:

John DeLuca, Dave Miles, Bill and Lois Hutchinson, and Manny Martinez.

All donations are appreciated.

PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP

There will be a pre-meeting workshop from 4 pm – 6 pm before the July 18 meeting. Let expert Kofu members **Ryan Cali**, **Paul Vasina**, and **Harley Newman** help you with your bonsai questions and objectives. Bring your tree in to get it spruced up for the annual exhibit.