

# The Kofu Kai Review

The Monthly Newsletter of the Kofu Kai Bonsai Club



## Meeting Time and Place

JUNE 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd, Anaheim

## JUNE MEETING



### David Nguy Black Pine Demo

On Saturday, June 15, Kofu Kai is happy to welcome back David Nguy. David has been presenting a series of demonstrations in a valiant attempt to help us all understand the correct way to prune black pine in order to create and maintain a fine bonsai. Last year there were a lot of people who were helped by his demo and were inspired to try it for themselves. Whether you are a new member with no pines or someone who thinks they already know it all, you will find inspiration and valuable information to help you achieve your bonsai goals

Carol Upston

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Balendonk

#### Website

Open

[WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG](http://WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG)

## May Meeting



Last month Kofu members enjoyed a slide show and lecture by accomplished bonsai artist Cheryl Manning. Cheryl gave a very enjoyable and educational talk which focused on building ramification in deciduous and other broadleaf trees and also on leaf pruning techniques used in bonsai. We learned why we need to defoliate and how to go about doing it. She also shared some photos and memories of her time with the late bonsai master John Naka and showed in photos the long term development of some of his trees.

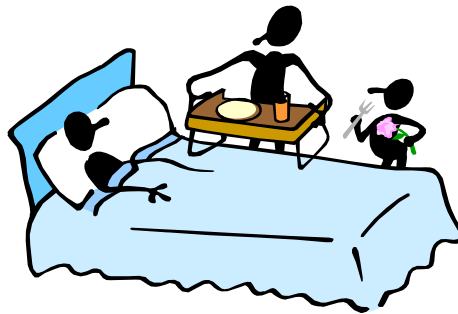
Cheryl also emphasized some health issues with bonsai, especially the need to keep the pot and roots cool in the heat of summer.

The information Cheryl gave us is the kind of instruction that can help us all continue to improve the design and health of our trees.

Carol Upston

## ***SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR JUNE MEETING***

This month we will have David Nguy doing a demonstration. In addition, we have asked him and his wife June to set up a table or two to sell Bonsai related items to our members. They have tools, wire, soil and pots. If you have a special request please contact them at 714-914-7001



## **UPDATE ON HERB EISENBERG**

Well, great news, Herb came home on Wednesday afternoon and is watering his own bonsai trees. He is going to physical therapy daily and he and Judy have a helper to give them a hand. Herb will be able to chat on the phone soon, they just want to keep the calls brief for a while so he can build up strength. We wish him a speedy recovery.

*CONGRATULATIONS*



*Demo Tree Winner*

*BADGE WINNER*

*Linda Gonzalez*

# *NEW MEMBERS WELCOME*

*Jeffery HO*

*Say hello to them when you see them*

## **KOFU BONSAI KAI - BONSAI IDEAS**

**BY MARTY MANN**

**JUNE, 2013**

The end of June or early July is a good time to remove large leaves from the maturing spring foliage. This routine, just short of actual leaf pruning encourages smaller leaves to remain in scale with the tree. Do not do leaf pruning on an annual basis. Trim selectively, in stages, when new growth has hardened.

Feed the tree well for at least two weeks late in May before cutting Maple, Elm, Liquid Amber and Gingko. Use a low nitrogen formula to restrain spurts of new growth. Don't water as much during this growing period. Don't prune flowering trees until after flowering in order to allow new flower buds to form in the warm summer months, before fall and winter. This can be the time for propagation by cuttings, planting seeds, and air-layering. Softwood cuttings are best taken from newly hardened wood. Try a group of cuttings with various diameters taken from a single variety of a tree to plant as a forest. Plan ahead and treat this group as a unit when it has rooted and begun to grow.

Harsh summer sun is coming. Guard against sunburn. Protect deciduous trees as well as bamboo, especially if you use an overhead watering system. Rotate your trees regularly for even light exposure.

Reduce feeding deciduous trees in mid-June and for the last half of the year to discourage large leaves. Fall colors will improve (if nature co-operates with some cool nights) if fertilizers being used are low in Nitrogen (N) and higher in Potash (K) and Phosphorus (P). Flowering and fruiting trees can use some bone meal along with the regular fertilizing schedule.

With the renewal of active growth in May and into June so should attention be made to these ugly predators, insects and fungus. Aphids will multiply actively in warm weather. Fruit flies are attracted to the new young growth as the sugary sap flows. Continue your program of constant attention by the application of good commercial insecticides and fungicides. Check the underside of your leafy trees - a favorite hiding place for insect eggs and larvae growth. When you spray you must cover the upper and lower surfaces as well as the woody branches and trunk areas. While regularly scheduled spraying is the usual recommendation, it should be noted that too strong a chemical mixture can often do more harm than good. Don't overdo while emphasis is always on bugs and spores, attention should also be given to the accumulation of "trash" in your pots and in your growing containers. Keep your surfaces clean to discourage the harboring of unwanted tenants. Keep pulling those aggressive weeds that seem to find a home in well fed plants in containers. Get them out before they become too much a part of your root ball.

Proper consideration to light conditions of each of your trees is very important during this active growing season. Keeping material in a sheltered or shaded area can produce lanky and weak growth. If the weather becomes excessively warm then the deciduous trees should be protected from too much hot sun. Conversely, conifers and evergreen junipers will benefit from substantial exposure to full sun which will create harder and firmer foliage. Do not react to the theory that the sun is harmful. The only negative effect of this exposure is the increased evaporation and excessive moisture loss. You must compensate for the benefit of good light by adjusting your watering schedules. Most of your trees will thrive in the warmer weather, however special care must be applied to the leafy Maples, Birch, and Liquid Ambers whose surfaces should not be wetted and allowed to broil.

Spring has sprung. Now be attentive to the maturing bonsai as they face the oncoming summer conditions.

HAIKU POEM:

Soft hills of clouds drifting by  
Warm days, sunlit skies  
With comfort and nurturing

**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 June -2013</p>
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## *UP COMING EVENTS*

***Bowers Museum Show, September 10-15.*** Please mark this on your calendar and start preparing your tree. If you wish to display please contact our show chair people Anthony Chiusolo or Michael Viljak. For those who displayed last year and wish to do so again please have a different tree as we will be having the show professionally photographed, for a new calendar and upcoming book

### **June 15 and 16, 2013: La Cañada Flintridge, California**

**Descanso Bonsai Society:** Annual Show at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive. Hours are 9 AM – 5 PM, with Demonstrations 11 AM and 1 PM each day. Sales area open to the public. Admission to the exhibition is free with admission to Descanso Gardens. A Saturday night reception 6 PM – 9 PM includes light refreshments, auction and raffle. For more information contact Michael Jonas at (818) 775-0813

## *Special Thank You*

### **April Refreshments:**

Harry Hirao  
Tom Culton  
Bob & Kim Warner  
Harry Hirao  
Cheryl Chassagne

### **April Donations:**

Bill & Lois Hutchinson  
Harry Hirao  
Manny Martinez  
Selma Bukstein  
Larry Ragle  
Marge Blasingame  
Steve & Judy Anthonng  
Rishi Bissoon

## **PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP**

**Beginners, looking to get started!  
Looking to improve your bonsai  
artistry and technique!  
Preparing your trees for exhibition!  
Wondering how to get started in  
Bonsai and have questions? Have a  
tree that is "difficult" to style and  
you may not know what to do.  
Questions on preparing your tree or  
displaying it at the Annual Show?  
No matter what your objectives  
are, you can bring your trees to  
work on at the pre-meeting  
workshop were experts like Al  
Nelson, Paul Vasina and Harley  
Newman can assist. Meet from  
4:00pm -6:00pm prior to the  
monthly meeting.**