

KOFU BONSAI KAI KOFUKAI.ORG

APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER

Saturday April 21, 2018 at 7 pm

Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd., Anaheim, East Classroom
There will be a pre-meeting workshop at 4:30pm, bring something to work on.

Big Changes Coming to SoCal Bonsai

World Class Demonstrators, Live Streaming of Meetings, New Opportunities

TED MATSON CRAPE MYRTLE BONSAI

PLUS LIVE STREAMING COMES TO KOFU KAI

For the second month in a row we have a featured tree that is perfect for our climate and could be seen more often as bonsai. Ted Matson, curatorial administrator of education, volunteers and communications programs for the joint Huntington/GSBF Collection at the Huntington Botanic Gardens.

I often notice that few people write down any notes at our meetings. Demos like last month's cork oak demo and this month's with Ted will be rich with practical information. It's good to be able to look up specifics when you need them.

There are a lot of subtleties to training natural looking crape myrtle trees including how to prune correctly. I'm really looking forward to this demo.



photo by Forest & Kim Starr



This is a photo from 2013 of Ted with one of his fabulous male/female pair of Yaupon Hollies. The male tree was shown again this March at the CBS show at the Huntington. It was thick with buds.



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Donations to the raffle and the refreshment table are always welcome. Thank you to all of you who contribute!

April Donors: Raffle, Ken Schlothan, Carol Upston, Dave Miles, Tom Culton;

Refreshments: Bob and Kim Warner, Debra Mauzy-Melitz, Justine Keller, Tom Culton, Wendy Tsai.



LAST MEETING WITH KEN SCHLOTHAN

At our March meeting we enjoyed a very thorough talk from accomplished bonsai artist Ken Schlothan on one of my favorite subjects, cork oak. This is truly one of the premier bonsai subjects available to us in Southern California and as we learned from Ken it is fast growing, sturdy, healthy and beautiful. Ken repotted an oak and was assisted by program chair Michael Walsh who also won the amazing raffle tree. Ken declined to be compensated for his demo and we thank him heartily for his donation and his expertise.

I hope to see many more cork oaks at bonsai events in the future.

A NEW ERA IN SOCAL BONSAI

CALIFORNIA BONSAI SOCIETY IS OPENING UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES

California Bonsai Society under the leadership of new president Robert Pressler, is making available world class demonstrators for all SoCal clubs who want to participate and is also offering a new Ben Oki annual scholarship and is developing a mentoring program to help interested members develop their skills and their trees. These Demos will take place at the quarterly CBS meetings as well as the regular club meetings on the usual club meeting dates for clubs participating in the program.

CBS will pay for the transportation and lodging of these demonstrators and will bring them to the various clubs. We will pay a demo fee in the range of \$200 to \$300 for the demo.

THE DEMONSTRATORS

May 2018

WILL BADDELEY WWW.WILDWOODBONSAI.BLOGSPOT.COM

Master Carving Demo

AT Kofu Kai May 19, 2018

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August 2018

PEDRO MORALES

Tropical Bonsai

This will mean that our Kofu Auction will move to either the September or October meeting.

November 2018

HARRY HARRINGTON

Deciduous and Collected Bonsai

NEW CBS PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO ALL

CBS Mentoring Program

As discussed in the board meeting during the show we want to start a mentoring program where we match younger less experienced members of the local bonsai community with some of our members.

The CBS members who would be the mentors will have the opportunity to share some of their skills and knowledge with an enthusiastic less experienced member of our community. They'd also get a willing set of hands to help with some of the work required to maintain our bonsai- this could really come in handy, especially at repotting time but really anytime. The person being mentored gets the opportunity to work hand in hand with some of our more experienced members and gets to see and handle mature bonsai rather than the sticks in pots many start out with. It'll be like getting private bonsai lessons for free!

This program can be a great service to all involved. We get to give some of our skill and knowledge to those coming up and they get the experience and pleasure of working with some pretty darn good bonsai teachers and on some pretty darn good trees. It is another way that CBS can help to guide and influence the future of California bonsai. It is also us as a club providing yet one more resource to the bonsai community.

The only way this program will work is if enough of us get involved, we need people willing to commit to being mentors before we can recruit people looking to be mentored. I'm asking that everyone consider being a mentor it could take as little as one Saturday afternoon or more if one wanted. And it is sure to be a huge plus for those being mentored.

It is important that everyone please respond by email, traditional mail or phone whether or not you are willing to be a part of this new program. My phone number is 818 259-8361.

Thank you all very much.

Bob Pressler

President

California Bonsai Society

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California Bonsai Society is proud to announce The Ben Oki Bonsai Scholarships

The California Bonsai Society (CBS) has set up a scholarship fund to honor Ben Oki - a man who devoted most of his life to enjoying and sharing bonsai. Ben was happiest when he was sharing his knowledge or working on a tree. To honor that sharing spirit Ben had we will be making five \$200.00 grants available to anyone in the bonsai community to be used to attend classes, a workshop or other bonsai related educational activity. To

apply, the applicant should write a short note detailing what they'd like to do with the funds - funds can be used for classes, materials to bring to a class, workshops, etc. as long as it is geared towards improving one's bonsai skills and knowledge with an outside source. They cannot be used to just buy a piece of material to work on your own.

Applicants who receive scholarships agree that in return for these funds within 15 days of completing class etc. they will provide CBS with photos and a short write up of what they did with the funds. This will be published on our website and in our newsletter.

The application period will be from April 15th through May 30th annually with the scholarships awarded by June 15th. Applications will be accepted from anyone in the bonsai community.

The scholarship will be awarded by random drawing.

Anyone in the bonsai community can apply by sending a short note stating that they are applying for the Ben Oki Scholarship. Applications should include name, address and email of applicant as well as name of teacher, workshop leader etc. and dates of said classes or workshops or other activity to improve one's bonsai knowledge. All applications need to be postmarked by May 30th.

Applications should be mailed via US postal service to

Ben Oki Scholarship

c/o 17230 Roscoe Blvd. Northridge CA 91325

Contact Robert Pressler for Application Form

818-259-8361

WE NEED NEW STORAGE SPACE OR A NEW SOLUTION FOR STORAGE

Kofu Kai has stuff. Important big stuff like our uprights, backdrops, table covers and tokonoma and also smaller stuff like raffle pots and items, records in plastic containers and some miscellaneous stuff that has accumulated over time. The fees on our storage unit are going up soon and we need to find a less expensive alternative.

One suggestion is that we ask members to store small batches of the smaller stuff so we could rent a smaller unit just for our uprights and tokonoma.

These small things really don't take up much room at all and most of them are in plastic bins.

Another possibility is that we could put a small storage shed on someone's property.

If you have a small corner of your garage, attic or other space where you could keep a few boxes of our stuff or if you have a yard where you would be willing to let us put a new shed, please get in touch with me, Carol Upston, carolupston@icloud.com, Manny Martinez, manny22816@aol.com, or Ryan Cali, racali9@gmail.com or any club member at all. This would almost entirely solve any financial issues we have with increasing expenses. Also please buy a few raffle tickets. Every little bit helps.

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The Bowers Museum has become a welcoming home for our annual bonsai exhibit in September. One of the things we do to say 'Thank You' is to set up a small display at the annual Cherry Blossom Festival usually held on the first Sunday in April but this year moved to the 8th because of Easter. We work on trees and talk to people for a few hours that day. It's a pleasant experience with live music by in the background. Sincere thanks to the participants.

Tom Culton working on a juniper. That's my pomegranate next to him needing a haircut.



Manny setting up.



Shari talking to the visitors.



Fullerton Arboretum Bonsai Show

Combined OC Clubs

Set up Friday April 13

Opens April 13 and includes Green

Scene event on April 21 and 22

continues through May 13

Kofu's weekend is May 12 and 13

If you want to attend the Green Scene

as a helper or exhibitor in the bonsai

area you must pre register and receive

a badge from Jim Pierce asap

jbpier44@gmail.com

The Kofu Kai May Meeting

will feature UK bonsai artist **Will Baddeley**

who is well known globally for being a very accomplished and self taught bonsai carver.

His main interest is in creating natural looking deadwood on deciduous trees with power tools and scalpels.

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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. 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.

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WWW.KOFUKAI.ORG

You can participate in the social media revolution. Visit us on Facebook and don't forget our website at kofukai.org!