

The KAI WIRE



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SANSUI-KAI OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Travis Goldstein Demo May 13th

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE SANSUI-KAI -May, 2015 by Jack Reynolds

The most important thing on my mind this month is the SANSUI KAI ANNUAL BONSAI SHOW at the Japanese Garden, May 30-31, hours are 10 AM to 4 PM. We will have room for about 30 trees in the main building. There will be eleven display tables plus a large horseshoe-shaped table that can hold about five trees. The show will not be a judged show. Members who want to show trees can have up to two trees and I would like anyone who can to have a third in reserve to fill gaps if there are any. Set up will be on Sat. morning between 7-10 AM. The garden opens to the public at 10 AM, so we want to be ready. There will be a signup form at this month's meeting for members to fill in so we have a count of trees. You should plan to display your trees as in any show. They should be groomed, accompanied by an accent both on stands. If there are beginner members who need help with stands or accents some of us old hands can probably help out so don't let the lack of a stand prevent you from showing a tree. It would be really good if you more experienced members would bring a few extra stands and accent plants to help make it all perfect. Teardown will be after 4PM on Sunday. No one should plan to remove their trees before then.

The garden will also provide three sale and display tables which will be under shade at the entrance of the main building. As you may remember the club created about 30 trees expressly for sale at this show. Any member who wishes to sell bonsai related items may also do so. The club takes 20% of those sales. Bring your stuff with prices marked please. We have been working on some educational displays also. We have a series of pictures showing the development of a juniper bonsai from beginning to end. Ed Partis, an emeritus member has kindly shared them for display. There will also be drawing examples of the five basic styles of bonsai. There will be club literature and a sheet on general care of bonsai as well. Obviously we will need members to man the sale tables and answer questions.

MEMBERS PLEASE PLAN TO HELP OUT AT THE SHOW Jack

INSIDE

-NAKA NOTES- COMING EVENTS-BOB PRESSLER



At the officer installation



FROM THE HUNTINGTON

The GSBF Huntington Collection is in need of quality pots, indoor stands, and bonsai books. As we upgrade our collection in general, we are currently looking for quality pots for our trees. We also need indoors stands for our displays at The Huntington. Also, don't forget your bonsai books. The Huntington has a collection of reference bonsai books, but we are in need of additional material to fill out our library.

The pots, display stands, and books you donate are tax deductible. We can use everything you can donate. Duplicates and excess items will be used in our auction and raffle at the Bonsai-A-Thon.

We greatly appreciate any donations.
Thanks
Bill Wawrychuk

's up

Travis Goldstein May 13th 7:30 PM

Sansui-Kai Show May 30th and 31st 10-4
Japanese Gardens

Santa Anita Bonsai Society Show
May 23, 24, 25 9-5

Descanso Show
June 13,14

Dai Ichi



Dai Ichi show was worth the short drive to Gardena. Bonsai displays were superior and sales tables good buys.





Water and Fertilizer

Venturing into summer, it is important to be vigilant with watering. Check pots daily and water when the first quarter inch of soil is dry. Plant soil should be damp but not wet and never dry. Check drainage holes for root plugging. Mature trees need less water. Just repotted bonsai may need less watering. Fertilize with small amounts of fertilizer with each watering or use time release less often. Use high nitrogen for most plants except flowering, which require less nitrogen to bloom.

Turn Turn Turn

Trees should be turned every two weeks to keep growth even. Broad leaf trees may burn in afternoon sun.

The Pines

Cut candles on your pines at the end of April. Some experts however wait until June. One method is to start at the bottom branches and remove the smallest candles. Two weeks later remove the candles at the top and the longest candles last. Cut the candles perpendicular to the base. This process should hopefully keep needles short and pine foliage compact. Pine needles may be cut to 1- 1/2 inch for further compactness.

Deciduous Trees

Deciduous trees such as elm and Japanese and trident maples will have slowed down by now. Trim all new twigs to one or two sets of leaves. Pay attention to the way new buds point, and trim for direction (JB). Deciduous trees need constant attention to keep upper growth in balance with the middle growth and the lower areas. Prune for shape and remove large leaves that block sunlight to the interior of the tree. From now on our task should be to encourage ramification, shape and health.

Cutting the Junipers

This is time to pinch (or cut) and wire junipers. It is necessary to pinch off the first new needle buds that appear on junipers in order to encourage compact interior growth. If pinching is not done the branches will get leggy and lose the appearance of

being a miniature tree. Wiring is necessary to guide branches in the direction needed and to allow for internal light. It is best to wire two branches at the same time.

Bugs

The signs mite infestation is weak growth and a sort of gray- green color to the foliage. Spider mites spin little webs among the needles. If you suspect spider mites hold a piece of white paper under a branch and run your hand across the branch. Look for very tiny reddish-brown specks smaller than the period at the end of this sentence. If the specks move or yield a reddish smear when you squish them, you have spider mites. The cure is to spray with an oil spray such as Volk Oil, Ultra Fine or Neem Oil. Mix it according to the directions on the bottle. You should spray weekly for about three weeks to make sure you get them all. Don't spray in direct sunlight or you may burn the foliage. Malathion may be added for particularly persistent problems. Safer Soap will work but may take longer and in my experience is less effective. Try making a nicotine extract by tearing up a cigarette in a cup of water and soaking it over night. The brown liquid can be added to any oil or soap at the rate of a tablespoon to a quart. Recent plant research has indicated nicotine may be toxic to bees.

Repotting

Repotting bonsai pot to bonsai pot is safe until the first two weeks of May especially pomegranate, most ficus, elms, wisteria, junipers, azaleas (after they bloom) and olives.





Sansui-Kai is dedicated to the learning, use and teaching of the horticulture techniques and artistic principles needed to grow, design and care for bonsai. Regular membership is \$22 & \$27 for Families.

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<http://www.sansui-kai.org/>

Sansui Kai Facebook
page:<https://www.facebook.com/SansuiKaiBonsai>.

Nice Little Party Officer's Installation *photo and text by EYHO*

Top left DAN, Newsletter- STEVE, Outgoing Secretary- JACK, President- ALBERT- Program VP -JOSH Membership VP and Raffle Chair- MARY, Secretary, -GRACE, Treasurer -SONJA, Outstanding Refreshments Chair. Not pictured ALAN Loman, Librarian and ARMANDO, outgoing VP for Raffle
Photo Michael J.

