Volume 33 • September 2018

### SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The August auction was a wonderful success and the money received will go a long way to providing the club with future demonstrations. The donated trees from David Bergstein successfully went to a number of our happy members. Josh Miller brought in quite a number of his fine bonsai pots and the bidding for them was very active. Thanks to everyone who participated.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank Michael Jonas for having the foresight to establish Sansui-kai as a 501 (C)3 non-profit organization. It gave the club the ability to receive the donations from David Bergstein. Additionally, for anyone that wishes to donate to Sansui-kai, their charitable donations are tax deductible.

Hopefully, everyone had an opportunity to see the Nanpu Kai Nisei Week bonsai exhibit in downtown Los Angeles. There were 30 beautiful examples of exquisite bonsai on display. If you missed out, please look at the GSBF website, http://www.gsbfbonsai.org/Articles.asp?ID=274, for upcoming shows in our area.

Thankfully, the extreme heat in the valley has subsided. I have installed 40% shade cloth and an overhead misting system for my bonsai. This should help with future temperature spikes. Wait a minute! Didn't I write in a previous President's message that foliage should not be watered during the day? Yes. However, further research dispels that myth. So, it is okay to mist during the day. And that is what I have started to do. We make our choices and proceed to do what we feel is best for our trees. Enjoy your bonsai. They are living art.

\*\*\*\*

Eric as auctioneer



Page 1

### The Auction





GOOD auction this year with happy purchasers and fun food. Think Emma's pie.





# Naka Notes Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds



September is pretty much like August as far as bonsai care is concerned. It is generally hot, particularly in the first part of the month so care must be taken in watering but since most trees have finished their branch growth they will not require as much water as in the spring. Strike a balance between the amount of water given and the needs of the tree in the heat. One way to do this is to check the top quarter or half inch of soil, if it is damp a quarter to half an inch down then you don't need to water and if it is dry then water until water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Very small trees (shohin) may need to be checked twice a day. Look at the drainage holes for cobwebs and other obstruction and clean with a bristle brush.

Trees that may become sunburned should be placed in the shade. This will start the tree into dormancy and inhibit sprouting of new growth too late in the year; such late growth usually freezes off or burns off in the fall and winter winds. Trimming should be reduced at this time of year. Don't remove growth until it has matured. If in doubt leave it for spring pruning. Reduce shimpaku only a little and with discrete scissor cutting not plucking or mowing.

Light feeding, particularly of trees that are still showing new growth is permitted at this season. Deciduous flowering and fruiting species may benefit from a low nitrogen high phosphorous high potassium fertilizer (0-10-10 such as Liquinox Bloom) to promote fruit development and strong roots.

Some things may be transplanted this month, particularly toward the end of the month. These

would be pines and junipers. No severe root pruning should be done however so you should only be moving trees from one pot to another of about equal or larger size. If the weather remains hot, wait until October to repot. Willows, tamarix, olive and bougainvillea can be re-potted or even started as cuttings at this season.

Pine candles and needle plucking can begin now for directional branch growth and ramification and needle reduction; but done under the guidance of an experienced bonsai artist.

Refreshments
Grace Eric P. and
Michael Jonas

#### More on the Auction



(Left) this Japanese pot made in 5000 BCE is worth a fortune and I will now retire. And you were too preoccupied to see it.
(Below) forget bonsai. I'm opening a winery (Way Far Below) Club members take the auction quite seriously



You paid what?



Page 4



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.

Hank Fawcett President

Jack Reynolds Past President

Sonja Kobler Refreshment Chairperson

> Gracie Sy Treasurer

Eric Percifield Secretary

Mike Kelly Vice President for Programs

Josh Miller Vice President for Benefit Drawing

Steve Riley Vice President for Membership Website Editor

> Librarian David Lim

Dan Kashinsky Editor Kai Wire

Mel Carrillo Technical visual communication

www.Sansui-Kai.org

## CONING TO SANSUI-KAI SEPTEMBER 12TH ANN LOFQUIST

ANN'S DEMO TOPIC WILL BE ADDING AND ALTERING DEADWOOD ON EXISTING TREES (ALTERNATIVES TO TRADITIONAL CARVING) AND TANUKI BONSAI.

ANN AKIMI LOFQUIST first developed an interest in bonsai in the 1980s which was cemented by a summer spent in Japan in 1990. Ann is a landscape painter and a former professor of Art at Bowdoin College, Maine. Her work is currently represented by Craig Krull Gallery in Santa Monica.

