



CHERYL MANNING



by Mary Tatro Photos by DK

Cheryl Manning treated SanSui-Kai members to a slide-show and demonstration in the art of styling the boxwood. She created the boxwood presentation for the recent Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention Artist Studio and shared it with SanSui-Kai with her demo November 13.

Cheryl chose her demo tree from a group of twelve boxwoods with bonsai potential that were among 50 boxwoods she rescued. Boxwoods have small leaves, insignificant flowers and fruit and turn color. She favors the mature fissured bark and interesting rolled shai on the trunk. The boxwood has a symmetrical growing pattern in nature but can be styled to different bonsai approaches, she said.

Cheryl referred to her master teachers who looked for the best rootage, the best taper; and the thickness of the base in choosing boxwood bonsai material. However, she styled her demo tree, a 50-year-old boxwood, according to the "Cheryl Manning approach." That is, trim carve, hollow out and remove material to conform to a bonsai style design most suitable to the individual she selected. Using dead wood as a design element and steaming and bending branch

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As I See IT

Eric Percifield Club President

With Thanksgiving behind us and the holidays in full swing, Sansui-Kai prepares for our Christmas potluck dinner and member auction! The club's new Treasurer Grace Sy and Yoko Zipusch are coordinating main courses, sides and deserts with members. After dinner we'll host an auction where members can bring in items to sell! The club will receive 20% of the item sale price as a donation, and members can make some extra cash! Bring in your extra pots, tools, plant stock, styled trees and other bonsai related materials and help the club while earning a profit! Friends and families are welcome so I hope to see you there!

In November we enjoyed a very informative demo by talented artist Cheryl Manning. Cheryl chose a boxwood for her demo material, which she worked into a great base structure for a what will be a very nice tree. One of Cheryl's notable techniques is to study the selected material, then sketch an outline of the branch structure to help

visualize the placement of main branches and envision the future refinement of the tree. This is a very helpful way to choose between multiple design possibilities or to help decide which branches could be used for attractive and natural movement when there are too many branches to choose from.

As the New Year approaches, so does the annual officer election. All board positions are open for nomination for 2014, and this is a great opportunity to help serve Sansui-Kai and help coordinate club activities, events, and operations. Candidates will be announced at the January meeting, so if you are interested in volunteering on the club Board of Officers, please see any current board member for information or to announce your candidacy. Sansui-Kai is a non-profit, volunteer RUN CLUB, SO YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED AND NEEDED! HELP SANSUI-KAI GROW AND THRIVE IN 2014!

GSBF 2013

The GSBF convention has come and gone for 2013. Those that participated were rewarded by major bonsai talent both international, state and local.

SSK members, friends, supporters and teachers such as Convention cochair Ted Matson with Bob Hilvers, Russell Benson former SSK club president was convention treasurer, Elliott Farkas and Nathan Simmons organized the show trees, Dan Kashinsky and Steve Riley the raffle, Sonja Kobler was in charge of volunteers with support from Mitch Matsey, Josh Miller, Maggie Carpenter, Kathy Benson (who will do a demo at SSK in 2014), Gloria Downie, Wendy and M. Macasieb. Jim Barrett led a foemina demo at the convention and a saikey demo at SSK this year. Cheryl Manning taught the GSBF Artist Studio is also featured in this Kai Wire.

COMING EVENTS

WINTER SILHOUETTES 50TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION

January 18th and 19th, 2014

LA County Arboretum

Honoring JIM BARRETT

CALIFORNIA AISEKI KAI'S
annual show at the Huntington runs from
December 26th through January 2nd, from
10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. .

THE SHOHIN SEMINAR
January 31st to February 2nd at the Hotel
Mission de Oro in Santa Nella



All deciduous trees should be dormant by now. If you have not removed their leaves and fruit, do it this month. Japanese maples, Trident, and Chinese elms can have all leaves removed, including those that are still green (not Caitlin elms). Prune all of the twiggy tertiary growth having more than two nodes. Remove thick top branches leaving fine secondary and tertiary branches to form the crown and the top one third or one quarter of the tree. Open up the structure of the tree to allow better light penetration. Pinch excess evergreen growth to create tight, colorful new spring growth. Pull all moss off of the very base of the trunk and main roots and brush these.

Prepare supplies of potting soil mix, clean pots tools and screens to be ready for spring repotting. Label the trees that will require repotting in spring.

When trees are bare a dilute dormant spray of lime sulfur may be used as a fungicide. To avoid root damage cover the surface of the pot with plastic to prevent run-off or drip of the spray. A light mist of DILUTE lime sulfur on the top and bottom of the foliage and woody branches is quite effective. Some will not use lime sulfur as an insecticide on conifers. Apply lime sulfur at full strength on wet, aged deadwood such as jin and shari. A few drops of black ink or black acrylic tones down the usual orange color. Volk oil is also an effective non-toxic insecticide but not on buttonwoods. Do not use lime sulfur on azalea and camellia. And some prefer Volk oil on conifers.

Be sure to protect any semi-tropicals such as ficus and bougainvillea trees by placing them under a bench or inside. Overwatering can easily damage all but especially bougainvillea. Dormant trees use very little water but do not let them dry out. If a tree freezes do not water it until it thaws out. It is better to thaw the tree in an environment that is only a few degrees above freezing.

Evergreen trees can be given fertilizer that is high in potassium and phosphorous but low in nitrogen. Bone meal and blood meal and cottonseed may not decompose fast enough to be effective.

Branches are brittle and can easily break. Start your wiring with the lowest branches, proceed to the top, but only wire those branches that need to be repositioned. Strive for a delicate graceful appearance with Japanese maples and a more rugged ramification on trident maples. Hide the cuts by making them slanted to the back, making sure they are concave. Seal all raw scars over 1/4 of an inch in diameter.

This a good month to graft conifers so if you have some Shimpaku juniper stock that you want to graft to a California juniper now is the

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO HAVE DONATED TO THE RAFFLE AND AUCTION

Nov. raffle donations

Armando Trinidad, Sonja Kobler, and Walter Zipusch





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.

Administration

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shapes, reducing root mass over time by more than 50 percent contribute to creating a design that will take shape over time. She created several flexible design style drawings for the tree, and after some preliminary pruning decided on the windswept drawing. The design drawing remains flexible as the styling unfolds.

Along with her preliminary styling decisions during the demo, Cheryl makes recommendations for longer term styling of the tree. After this initial work, allow the growth to go wild, and allow the growth to determine the further trimming next year. She chose some branches that would pull energy for the winter before they would be trimmed for taper. Use guy wires to coax the very hard boxwood branches into windswept position over time. Tubing protects the bark. Twist the wire to tighten play, come back in a month and tighten again. Protect little sprouting branches and back buds. To carve shari, shave downward. Create taper by carving off branch thickness. Taper angles into windswept direction, pull and peel back with pliers, or nibble at the hardwood to reduce. Appreciate the value of the old wood and the dead wood in forming the design.

Other post-demo recommendations: carve, design and structure dead wood; remove 50 percent of root mass over time; repot every two years.

Cheryl offered a boxwood calendar: November thru February, protect from harsh cold; March thru October, fertilize; April thru May, repot with porous growing medium (boxwood prefers to be wetter rather than dryer, after repot, don't feed for one month); September thru October, second best time to repot.

PLEASE DON'T MISS THE AUCTION POT LUCK DEC 11, TIME 6:30PM

GSBF Olive John Wong Ernie Kuo and a GSBF Display Accent

