



SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Hank Fawcett

Special congratulations to Mel Carrillo and Jaime on the birth of Mia Jordan.

Thanks to everyone who supported the club in the annual show at the Japanese Gardens. The show was wonderful and the Gardens presented a special treat for everyone by celebrating the Art of Japanese Dance with the Genchi Minyo Kikuta Kai and the Classical Japanese Dance Group. Part of the dance celebration included the Sansui Kai members dancing with the group on stage. This was an extremely fun event for all.

The bonsai were wonderful and some of the showstoppers included a boxwood forest by Rick Nabor (below) and a mature olive by Jack Reynolds. All of the trees were beautifully manicured and presented and truly appreciated by everyone who attended the show. (continued page 4)



Bring trees tools etc for Peter Macasieb's demo Wednesday



Peter Macasieb



Rick's 2019 SSK Show tree

Mike Kelly Show Coordinator

Hello All, great show. It started off with a week of rain followed by a weekend forecast of more rain. We got a little wet setting up the show, but at show time the Bonsai gods prevailed and the sun came out and produced a glorious day in a beautiful setting. We were informed of the passing of our longtime Japanese garden contact Gene Green. Our new contact is a wonderful guy that I spoke to regarding upcoming events at the Japanese Garden. I'd like to thank everyone who helped. In the next couple of weeks I'll be putting together an open meeting for all members to make suggestions to help continue our momentum.

Let's not forget this months meeting will be a workshop by Peter Macasieb. I spoke with Peter and we are going to try a different format for our workshop. Peter will start by going from person to person and spend between 5-10 minutes giving advice , After he has gone around the room one time he will take a quick Break then go around one more time. See you all at Sansui Kai meeting on Wednesday June 12th.

Bring trees to work on and tools. Or come and observe.



Mike Kelly and his tree to the left

Naka Notes

Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds

Naka Notes June 2019



Jack giving demo at yearly show



Naka San photo from Cheryl Manning

Your main concern this time of year should be to carefully tend your trees during the heat. Rotate them every week or two. Hot pots can cook roots so protect the pot by covering it with sphagnum moss or burlap or place a board over the surface of the pot to shade the soil and the side toward the sun. Set trees on the damp ground in the shade. Put up shade cloth on an overhead frame. Water overhead in the morning so as to dampen the benches and surrounding ground. The higher humidity is good for the trees except for pines. Something I have learned from the scientific literature on needle cast disease in pines is that high humidity promotes it so I spray my pines infrequently. Junipers and deciduous trees all seem to like a good wash off though. Fertilize everything. Remember frequent dilute fertilizing is better than infrequent heavy applications. Fertilize trees half as much twice as often.

Trees can be defoliated this month but not later. Remember to remove all leaves and set the tree in a shady place for a couple of weeks until the new leaves are just beginning to pop. You should cut down on the water also because without leaves there is little transpiration and the soil will remain too wet. Flowering trees should have any remaining buds removed and most of the fruit. Leave a few for fall enjoyment but don't leave all the fruit on one branch. If you left fruit on the tree last year it might be a good idea to strip it all off this year. Fruits are very taxing to the tree.

Don't transplant this month. Exceptions are pomegranates, olives, bougainvilleas, willow, and tamarix. Shaping of trees can go on in June. Candle pruning of pines can be done this month even into July. If your pine is in the trunk development stage decandle in May or June. If you are trying to develop refinement decandle in June or July.

Air and ground layering can be done this month. Check for insect pests. Woolly aphids might show up in any apple relative. Spider mites are always a potential problem in junipers. Mealy bugs are always a problem at my house. Spray with a combination of malathion and Volk oil or malathion and Ultrafine. Be careful to mix the spray according to directions or weaker. It is possible to burn trees with too strong an oil mixture. Don't spray anything in the sun. Wait till sunset or move the tree into shade. .

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (FROM PAGE 1)

Special thanks to Mike Kelly for all of his hard work in organizing the numerous tasks for the show. Without him, the show would have been more of a display than a show. Special thanks to demos by Jack Reynolds and Michael Jonas.

The weather in the valley is starting to get warmer. So, I am back to watering daily. Not a heavy watering but enough to keep the soil from drying out.

I decided to repot my California junipers in May. I have a different method of repotting that doesn't require taking them out of their pots because, in actuality, this is a task relegated to a younger, stronger individual. Instead, I use a shop vacuum. Yep. I remove about 1.5" of soil around the entire perimeter using the vacuum. I cut the roots in that area, add decomposed granite at the bottom of the pot and a good mixture of akadama, pumice and scoria to within 1" of the top of the previous soil line. Then I add a low nitrogen organic fertilizer and add the final 1" with straight akadama. This method is not as thorough as a total repot but it does provide a good environment for the trees to grow their much-needed feeder roots.

Enjoy your bonsai. I hope they bring joy and happiness to your life.



Upper left the crew
Above Michael at the show demo
Left Jack's doing his demo





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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www.Sansui-Kai.org

Ted Matson Curator of the Huntington Bonsai Pavilion Comes to Sansui-kai

Ted's time at Sansui-kai was described by a younger member as a knowledge explosion. And so it was as Ted gently reviewed our work for the upcoming show. There was too much information to reprint here. Everyone tree was improved. What a resource Ted is for USA bonsai and Southern California in particular .

