

The KAI WIRE

山水會

Volume 32
April 2017

SANSUI-KAI OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



WOW!! Peter Macasieb Will Design a Pine Shohin for Sansui-kai at the April 12, 2017 Meeting

HERE IS OUR CLUB SCHEDULE

AS ARRANGED BY JOSH

APRIL: Peter Macasieb (pine shohin demo)

MAY: Ted Matson (Bring your own tree for critique and show preparation tips)

JUNE: Marcus Juniel (carving)

JUNE: Annual Show

JULY: Tom Vuong (Carving)



Above: Peter Macasieb during a previous SSK demo April 12



SSK Pot (ting) Party Left:
Happy faces at the tree preparation for yearly show meeting in March

photos by EYHO

Pot(ting) Party

Break out your lavalamp. Light the incense. Lock the door. Say what you want, these meetings are always fun and you get a chance to ruin a potential bonsai for sale at the show.

Photos by EYHO





Ahh... spring has sprung, and it is time to do everything at once. First, general care; everything has sprouted and is growing well so remember to rotate trees to keep their growth even.

WATER

Water is very important as always. Make sure that everything is getting enough but not too much (tilt your trees when raining heavily to promote drainage). Deciduous trees will be very thirsty as they put on new leaves. Naka recommends that pines be kept on the dry side to insure that needles are short and sturdy. If you are courageous you can even let them wilt a little before watering. This practice is recommended for mature trees that have achieved their desired growth.

TRIMMING

New growth on deciduous trees can be trimmed but wait until it has hardened (gotten woody) before doing so, then trim back to no more than three buds. If you are careful, you can direct the new growth by trimming a bud that is pointing in the direction that you would like the branch to go.

PINES

This is the first month that you can candle prune older pines that have achieved their growth. You should wait to prune candles on young trees until May or even June. This is a good month to create jin, because growth is vigorous and healing rapid.

TRANSPLANTING

Almost anything can be transplanted this month. When transplanting pines be sure to take some of the old soil with the tree because it contains a fungus that keeps the trees especially pines but most trees healthy.

FOOD

Conifers can be fertilized all year in southern California because they do not go dormant in our warm climate. Fruiting and flowering trees should receive low nitrogen, high phosphate fertilizer. Super phosphate is good. Most things will love Miracle Grow used at half strength.

BUGS

Watch for insects. Aphids can be bad, as can spider mites. Spraying with the hose can dislodge some of these pests, but sometimes we must resort to insecticides. Malathion and Volk oil or Ultra- fine will get many pests. The Safer Soaps can be used on delicate things. Sometimes insecticides will burn so be careful and follow directions.



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

Jack Reynolds
President

Sonja Kobler
Refreshment
Chairperson

Gracie Sy
Treasurer

Mary Tatro
Secretary

Josh Miller
Vice President for
Programs

Open
Vice President for
Benefit Drawing

Steve Riley
Vice President for
Membership
and Website Editor

Librarian
Open

Dan Kashinsky
Editor
Kai Wire

www.Sansui-Kai.org

SANSUI KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - March 2017

by
Jack G. Reynolds

It has been a busy spring. I find myself spending a minimum of three to four hours every day working in and around the bonsai. The greenhouse and the surrounding benches are my sanctuary and also my slave master. There is never enough time to get everything done.

I have had numerous little natural history vignettes recently. I have a menagerie of animals in the greenhouse living among the plants. Many days and evenings during the winter my tree frogs were singing. I have at least two. They show up in strange places. One was in a pot with a succulent that had not been watered in over a month. I can tell them apart because they are different sizes. So far they have failed to spawn in the water containers or perhaps they have and the goldfish ate the eggs. Maybe they are the same sex.

Yesterday I found the resident alligator lizard warming himself on the seedling mat next to a flat of Ficus seedlings. He is sometimes under the terrarium which I keep to create a humid chamber for cuttings etc. When I watered the seedling a cockroach ran out and he ate it. Yippee!

Then he scampered up one of the Ficus bonsai and remained there for at least an hour while I finished the watering.

**DON'T FORGET OUR SHOW
AND SALE IN JUNE 3-4. START
THINKING ABOUT WHAT TREES
YOU WANT TO SHOW AND GET
THEM READY.**

DID YOU MISS MAURO?

Too bad for you. He worked on my California at Michael's place. He was great. Way up there if you know what I mean, but always with the basics of wiring.

Also got a chance to see what Michael and Hank are up to.
KK

S'UP

Sansui-kai annual bonsai show June 3,4

Get your trees ready and bring them to
TED'S CRITIQUE at SSK in May

Carving Workshop April 15,16.
Call BOB PRESSLER for details
