



SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Hank Fawcett



In my opinion, our annual bonsai show at the Japanese Gardens was a fantastic success. The trees on display were beautiful and they highlighted the care and talent of our members. A special thanks is in order to the docents who gave up their busy Sunday to answer questions and to enhance the experience of the guests.

Jack Reynolds and Philippe Baron were wonderful as they entertained the crowd with their bonsai demonstrations. The show is typically for finished trees however Robert Nowicki convinced us to display a tree in progress.

As usual, the venue at the Japanese gardens was magnificent and the staff was very accommodating. Betty Ethridge kindly and effectively handled all of the details of the show set-up and Ian was on hand to assist with last minute requests.

And thanks to the artistic talents of Mel Carrillo, the show is on display on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHBiohkbnhM>.



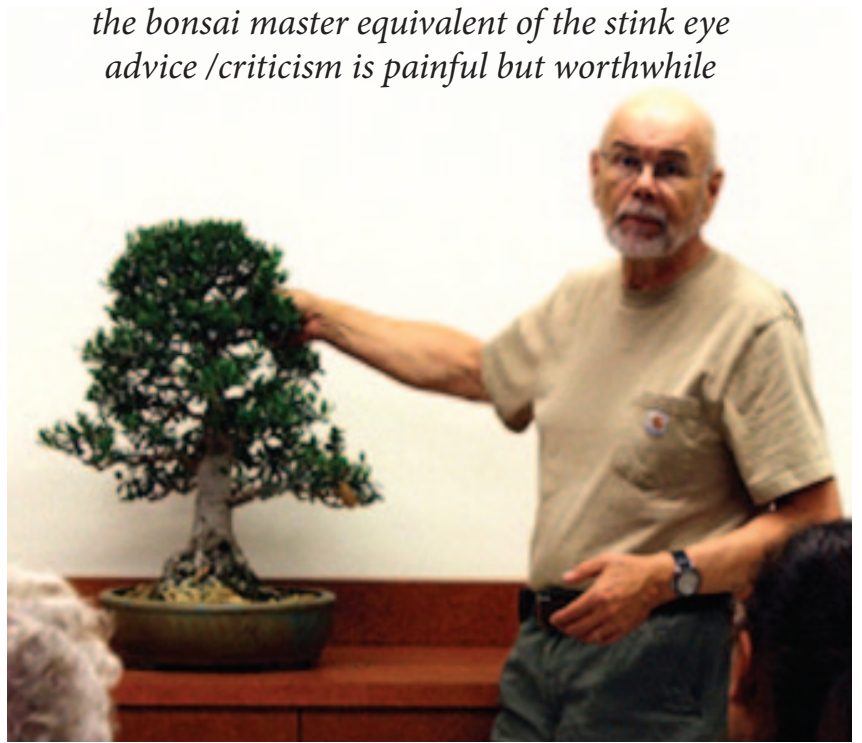
Ted Matson Curator of Huntington Bonsai

Ted Matson reviewed our trees before the show and had some great advice...and criticism. Rather than linking this input to a specific tree I will throw them out generally.



- Pot soil should be clean and not homogenous in color and texture. White soil is distracting.
- WD 40 on pots and spray oil on leaves. Walnut oil is helpful (ed).
- Small trees remove distracting thorns and stubs.

the bonsai master equivalent of the stink eye advice /criticism is painful but worthwhile



-Scale noted on an olive. Use Ultrafine or Volk which may not be readily available. Neem oil not helpful. “Infestations are bad manners in a show.”

-Finish your jin (gin) by splitting the ends. Use toothbrush and water to prepare shari for lime sulfur. Use water mist near the shari after lime sulfur is applied but be careful. This is the evaporative mist method. Remove irregular unsightly edges to shari from edges growing in.



- Attempt to balance front back and sides. Not turning plants is a cause of imbalance.
- Delicate trees look for subtleties and “quiet”. Use delicate stands and pots.
- High mountain trees should have comparable accent plants. Also accent plant should match season (ed).
- Give trees in show enough space between.

And much more....

A show should be uplifting experience for the club.



Naka Notes

Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds

Candle pruning nursery stock can be started earlier than black pine that has been in a bonsai pot for some time. For instance, nursery stock may have their candles pruned this month. The object is to produce shorter internodes and an abundance of branches (JB). Needle plucking is a personal choice and, if done, should not be done on a weak, unhealthy tree (JB). Bonsai black pine, depending again on maturity and health, may have the candle pruning program start as early as late May or as late as mid-July. The later you prune, the shorter the internodes (JB).

This is the month to TRANSPLANT satsuki azaleas after they have flowered. Cut off the flower at the base cleanly. You can also transplant olives pomegranate, ficus, blue cedar atlas, willow tamarack and maples if the growth has hardened and roots are not disturbed much.

For deciduous trees cut back the branches to one or two nodes. The first month of summer, trees will be leafed out and growing rapidly. It is important to ROTATE your trees every 2 weeks to insure even growth. Deciduous trees may be moved into PARTIAL SHADE. However too much shade will promote large leaves.

When WATERING, spray the foliage benches and ground to raise local humidity. MAPLES are sensitive to over watering, which can make their new leaves small and misshapen, and old leaves get brown tips. Check your pot drainage and tip the pot to one side with a stone if drainage is questionable.

It is easier to use GUY WIRES or directional pruning to shape the branches of deciduous trees than to wire the branches thick with leaves. Cut back the branches to one or two nodes. Remove enough leaves to show the good points of the trunk. Use leaves to cover defects such as reverse taper and also negative space that is too large. Remove the straight branches and those that cross-over or go the wrong way and pick the branches that are interesting (ed)

Fertilize with low nitrogen and high phosphorous on deciduous trees.

This is a good month to DEFOLIATE deciduous trees like ginkgos, elms and maples. Remove every leaf. You may WIRE after defoliation but be careful to prevent wire cuts. There are guidelines for partial defoliation. Check with our Librarian

FERTILIZE everything this month. Be sparing on fruiting and flowering trees. Fertilize with low nitrogen and high phosphorous on deciduous trees.

Next Meeting
Grace, Jack, Eric P
refreshments

Le Show 2018

All show trees will be shown on the
Sansui-kai Web Page



Its a family affair



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
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Refreshment
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**Librarian
David Lim**

**Dan Kashinsky
Editor
Kai Wire**

**Mel Carillo
Technical visual
communication**

www.Sansui-Kai.org



Some of the nice work in the show.
Other trees not shown will be on
the web <https://www.sansui-kai.org>
and on You Tube
<https://www.youtube.com/>