



SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Hank Fawcett

Enjoy your bonsai. I'm sure they enjoy your constant care

Thankfully, the weather is taking a winter break from the triple digit temperatures and has settled on the mid to high 80's. I am fertilizing again with Miracle Grow by using the venturi hose connection and the California junipers and the Kishu junipers are shooting nicely.

I love to graft from January thru March so now is my time to prepare the trees. Since I typically graft 20 to 30 trees, I need to get a head start to ensure the trees are cleaned and ready. That way, I don't waste time going back and forth with cleaning and grafting. To me, it makes the task very tedious. Additionally, for the next 2 months, I will spray with insecticide and fungicide on both the trees with the scions and the trees to be grafted to ensure that fungus and spider mites don't become an issue while the grafted trees are in bags for 3-4 months.

Last year, I was told that in Italy, grafting is done in the crotch of branches. This is definitely not the way I learned from Mas Ishii with additional tutelage from Tom Vuong but I decided to try it. Maybe it would be the fastest and best way. Well, it didn't work for me. In fact, it was a total disaster. Of the 20 or so grafts, none of them were successful. Hopefully, if any of you try it, best of luck and wishing you much success.

I will however, continue doing my grafting the same way I have been doing it for years.

I had a wonderful opportunity to take Bjorn BJORHOLM's workshop presented by Dai-Ichi bonsai. The all-day workshop was \$175 and the drive to Gardena was almost 2 hours but the experience was well worth it. Bjorn is an amazing artist and a wonderful teacher. Some say that he is the best bonsai artist in the USA. I definitely feel that he ranks right up in the top. I am sure that he will be back next year. I highly recommend his workshop to everybody.

Harry Harrington

at Sansui-kai for the November meeting
Take this opportunity to meet one of the premier bonsai artists in the world. Wednesday November 14 at 7:30

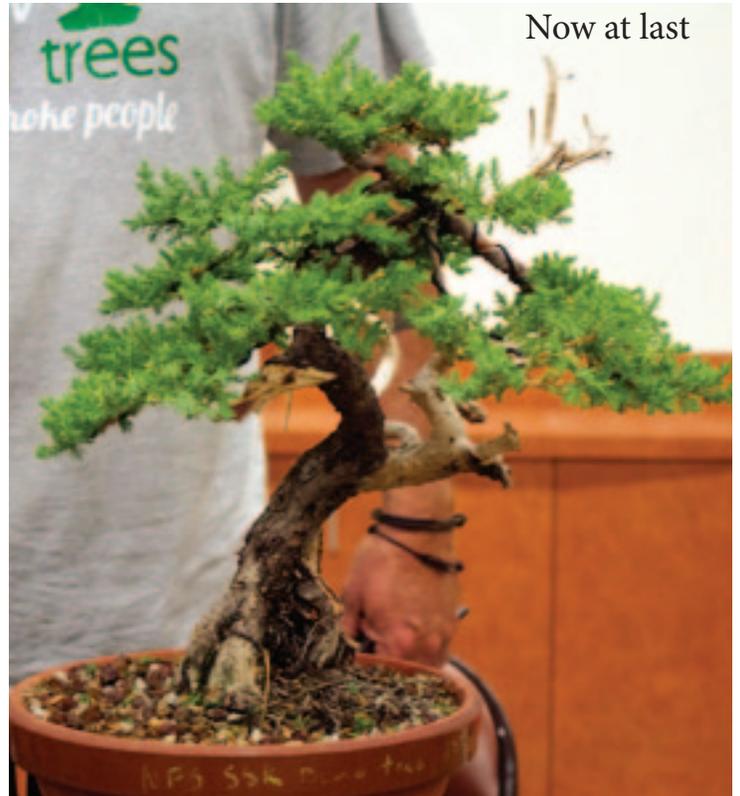


Bob Pressler in October 2018

He dropped in early for his demo taking over the board meeting (why not he is a past president of Sansui-kai) displaying his tree hugging refreshing and uplifting spiritual attitudes with his T-shirt inscriptions (I do bonsai so I don't have to choke people).

Bob Pressler was again himself. Bob is here to complete the last of series of demos. The bonsai will be auctioned in December. It was a soft schmooze with a superior bonsai artist to watch and take in what one may.

Bob liked a rectangular gray pot with rounded corners for the spring repot. He felt the dead wood should be brought over the apex after soaking and the shari on the left extended. The maturation of the bonsai was impressive.





Naka Notes

Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds

Many trees will go dormant this month. But if your plants have sprouted during the recent warm periods they may need some help. Put your deciduous trees in shade and defoliate any that still have leaves by December.

Fertilize with low nitrogen high phosphate fertilizer (Such as Super Phos). Prune twigs and debris from the pot. Avoid drastic branch bending. Scrub out debris from your drainage holes.

Conifers will not be dormant and will need attention. They will need more water than your dormant trees. But if their foliage starts to yellow cut back on watering and keep on the dry side. Use mild low nitrogen fertilizer, such as cottonseed and bone meal or commercial 5-5-5.

Wiring can be done (careful wood may be brittle) but no transplanting. October is the last month for transplanting. Perhaps quince is an exception.

Look for wire digging into branches in all trees. Remove wire by cutting and not unwinding. Junipers can have their fall clean-out.

Pine candles can be thinned starting now (David Nguy recommends waiting until December). Remove all but 2 lateral candles on each branch. All old growth needles should be removed as well as unsightly long needles. Remove all but 3-5 bundles of needles on each branch with fewer needles on top branches and more on the bottom branches.

When frost is a possibility or temps drop below 40, tropical trees such as Bougainvillea, or Ficus and even Pomegranate should be put under an overhang or inside for brief periods of time.

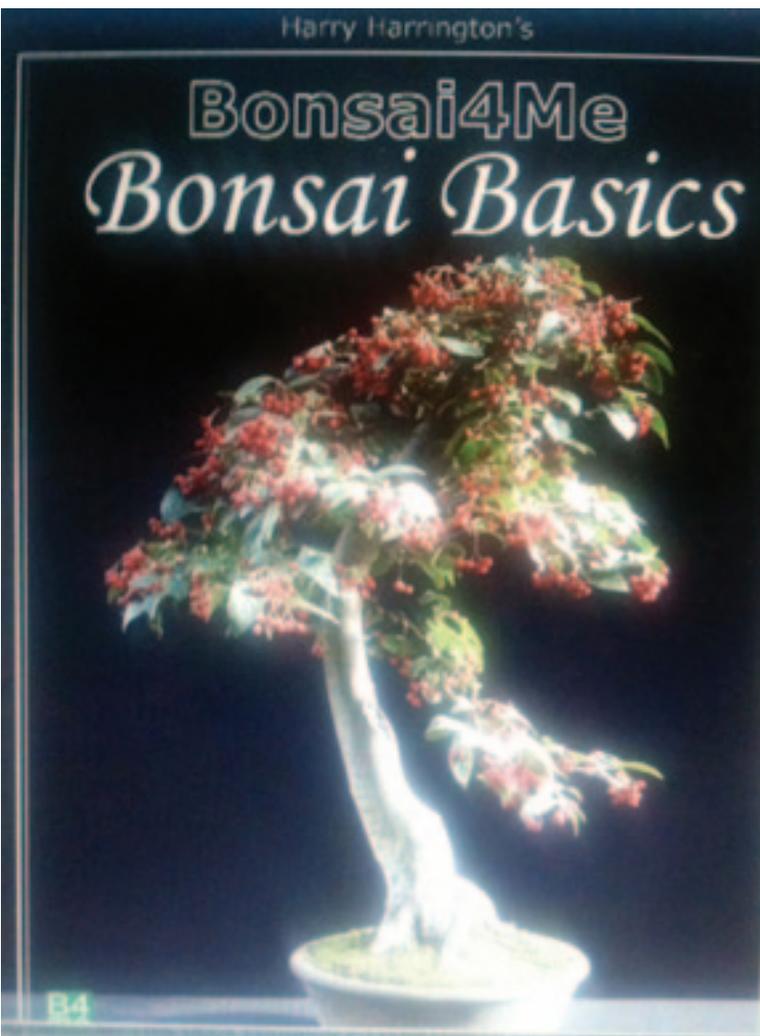
Tilt your bonsai pots so water will drain more effectively in the rain (what's that).

Next Meeting
Refreshments Reminder
Dan, Steve

Steve's Niche tree



HARRY HARRINGTON NOVEMBER 14 SSK



Harry started working professionally as a Bonsai artist and writer in 2000 after a back injury. His website www.bonsai4me.com starting life as a collection of private notes about Bonsai that were published as 'Species Guides' in 2001; the first comprehensive study of plant species suitable for Bonsai available online. Since that time bonsai4me has grown on an annual basis and now attracts over 1.5 million different visitors each year from around the world.

The success and popularity of the 'Progression Series' (articles and photo series showing the development of a Bonsai over many years) in bonsai4me.com has led to Harry writing and publishing 3 books on the subject via B4MePublishing; Bonsai Inspirations 1 published in 2011, Bonsai Inspirations 2, published in 2012 and Bonsai Basics, published in 2013.

From Mr. Harrington's web page



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
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**Mike Kelly
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**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

Also, our thanks to Alan Pollack, M.D, for his very generous donation to the club of over 30 pots.

the sale. Get there early or wait till next year



Steve is hoping to revise an interest in members bringing in a niche tree to share with club what they have been working on. This has been a club tradition. Here is the signup list for the upcoming meetings.

October Steve See page 3

November Eric P.

December Auction Pot luck

January Rick

February Michael J

March Dan Kashinsky

April Jack Reynolds

May

June

July