



SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Hank Fawcett



MAY 2019

As you are already aware, our annual show will be on May 19 th at the Japanese Garden at the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant at 6100 Woodley Ave, Van Nuys. Presently, our set-up is at 8 am on Sunday but I will try to get permission for 7 am. I should have the answer for the May meeting.

The annual show provides all members the opportunity to display one or more of their favorite bonsai.

To help the members with their trees, Ted Matson will be the May 8th guest. He will provide very helpful with positive critiques that will enable the members to show their trees in a positive light. I urge everyone (even if they later decide to not show) to bring a tree for this enlightening night with Ted.

Presently, we do not have a complete list of trees to be shown at the show. Please determine which trees you wish to bring and advise the show chairman of your choice.

The weather has been very accommodating for repotting and for taking my grafted trees out of their bags. The temperature is mild and the wind is minimal. There are still a few remaining in the greenhouse but most of the grafted trees are outside under shade cloth. Philippe learned to graft this year and 100% of his kishu grafts were successful. Congratulations, Philippe!

INSIDE

The Sheriff is coming to town

Naka Notes

Tom Vuong

Heart Warming Stuff

TO SIMPLYFY THINGS, BONSAI FOR HIM IS GRAFTING, BRANCH BENDING
AND AIR LAYERING.



DO NOT FOLLOW THE SEASON. FOLLOW THE TREE.

Tom appeared early at Sansui-kai. He had already done a day long grafting workshop at Mike Kelly's home but he was still bustling full of energy. Tom struck up conversations with members he knew. I asked him to look at a large heavy maple forest of mine that had lost 5 trees. Was it too late to repot. Yes, I could repot now. He reorganized the trees in more traditional forest configuration in seconds. He is very fast.

His demo consisted of the usual slicing and taping. Of interest he brought in candles for the pine grafting. Any tree within the same family can be grafted with other subspecies material. For pines they need not be secluded in shade or hot house but like pines in general can be in the sun. They like and need sun. Graft from bottom to top and outside in. Always remove needles around the graft. Safety first. Hold the knife with your right hand but push with your left. Always know where the other hand is. Pines are easy. (continued on page 5)

Naka Notes

Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds

Naka Notes April 2019

Venturing into summer, it is important to be vigilant with watering. Check pots daily and water when the first quarter inch of soil is dry. Plant soil should be damp but not wet and never dry. Check drainage holes for root plugging. Mature trees need less water. Just repotted bonsai may need less watering. Fertilize with small amounts of fertilizer with each watering or use time release less often. Use high nitrogen for most plants except flowering, which require less nitrogen to bloom.

Trees should be turned every two weeks to keep growth even. Broad leaf trees may burn in afternoon sun.

Cut candles on your pines at the end of April. Some experts however wait until June. One method is to start at the bottom branches and remove the smallest candles. Two weeks later remove the candles at the top and the longest candles last. Cut the candles perpendicular to the base. This process should hopefully keep needles short and pine foliage compact. Pine needles may be cut to 1- 1/2 inch for further compactness.

This is time to pinch (or cut) and wire junipers. It is necessary to pinch (cut) off the first new needle buds that appear on junipers in order to encourage compact interior growth. If pinching (cutting) is not done the branches will get leggy and lose the appearance of being a miniature tree. Wiring is necessary to guide branches in the direction needed. It is best to wire two branches at the same time.

The signs mite infestation is weak growth and a sort of gray- green color to the foliage. Spider mites spin little webs among the needles. If you suspect spider mites hold a piece of white paper under a branch and run your hand across the branch. Look for very tiny reddish-brown specks smaller than the period at the end of this sentence. If the specks move or yield a reddish smear when you squish them, you have spider mites. The cure is to spray with an oil spray such as Volk Oil, Ultra Fine or Neem Oil. Mix it according to the directions on the bottle. You should spray weekly for about three weeks to make sure you get them all.



Jack giving demo at yearly show



Naka San
(photo from
Cheryl Manning)

More Naka via Jack
from page 3

Don't spray in direct sunlight or you may burn the foliage. Malathion may be added for particularly persistent problems. Safer Soap will work but may take longer and in my experience is less effective

+++++

CHECK THIS VIDEO OUT FOR CLEAR BASIC BONSAI POTTING

Recommended

<https://bonsaitonight.com/2016/08/02/repotting-a-trident-maple-bonsai/>

+++++



EMMA'S ENTRY
INTO THE 2018
SANSUI-KAI
SHOW



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
Secretary

Mike Kelly
Vice President for
Programs

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



More on Tom Vuong from page 2

TO SIMPLYFY THINGS, BONSAI FOR HIM IS GRAFTING, BRANCH BENDING AND AIR LAYERING.

Everyone who wished to was given supervision grafting. I would like to know what he knows he does not yet know. If you know what I mean. It has been said before how generous he is with his time and knowledge. Tom Vuong did not disappoint. Thank you!

The Sheriff is coming to town May 8th. Better bring your bonsai or stay out of Dodge

