



President's Message by Jack G. Reynolds

Summer is supposed to be a time for relaxation and enjoyment of leisure but we at Sansui Kai are going to be busy for the next two months. We have our regular meeting on August 10 followed by our BBQ auction at the Berkus home on the 20th. Be thinking about the things you want to bring for that. As usual the club will furnish the main dish of BBQ chicken plus the drinks; soft, beer and wine along with paper plates and plastic ware. Members are to bring a side dish, salad or dessert. Festivities will start at 4 PM and we hope to be done by 8ish. For those who don't remember, the address is 4111 Valley Meadow Rd., Encino. We have been going to the Berkus' for many years for this event. They truly have been great supporters of the club. As many of you know Ilene, Don's wife died recently but he insisted that we have the BBQ there anyway. What a generous and thoughtful thing to do. The club is ever grateful.

Then in September, in addition to our regular meeting we have taken on a bonsai demonstration at the Sylmar Olive Festival. The club views this as an opportunity to get our name before the public and possibly recruit new members. The board has succeeded in getting a booth at no cost to the club. We were able to do this thanks to Rick Nabors. We are getting this because we are providing olive related interest in the form of demonstrations of the creation of olive bonsai. We also will be selling olive and other bonsai. This is a good opportunity for the club. Volunteers will be needed to man (person) sale tables and answer questions. Demonstration trees have been purchased and will be auctioned at our December Christmas auction meeting. I will do at least one demonstration but if any other member who is experienced would like to take one on I would be happy to let them have a go. The festival is at El Cariso Park, 13100 Hubbard St., Sylmar, Sept. 24 (1-9 PM) and 25 (1-7 PM) We will need to arrange for sale tables, a shade tent, a few chairs. Members may sell their trees here. There would be the usual 20% going to the club. The club has also bought some small olives to be sold as club trees. More on this later. I hope to see you all at the next meeting Wednesday August 10th



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Mr. Vuong during a previous
Demo
The Tree Thomas will create
For SSK Will Be In the
Raffle Wednesday August 10
photos from internet



WHAT'S UP

August 10th Sansui-kai presents Thomas Vuong. His tree supplied by the club will be raffled that evening

August 20th a Saturday our annual BBQ and Auction at the Berkus home. Bring a swim suit, items for raffle and a dish either horderb vegetable, salad or desert. The club will provide the rest. Have some fun, get out of the heat and pick up an item for your collection or sell some pots and stock

August 20 and 21 Nan Pu Kai show during Nesei Week at the Japanese Cultural Center in "Little Tokyo". Not to be missed.

Sylmar Olive Festival
El Cariso Park September 24th and 25th. We will sell Bonsai olive trees. Jack will work on larger olives that we will auction in December

GSBF Convention 39 October 26-30,
2016 Double Tree Hotel by Hilton,
Sacramento



Jim made three drawings of the eventual styling of his demo tree

photos on this page by EYHO

JUNE PAYS US A VISIT



Visit from an old friend and club member all the way from Texas





The bonsai are in their summer slump. By now most of their growth has slowed or stopped completely. What should we be doing? Be very water vigilant. Check everything at least once day and make sure that nothing is going too dry. Water in the morning and spray everything including trees, benches and surrounding walls and ground beneath them. The humidity is good for the trees. Keep your pots from getting hot by covering with shade cloth and perhaps moss. Check again about sunset and water anything that looks too dry.

If you have nerve enough to go on a vacation, make sure that someone reliable will take over the watering. Organize your plants in groups to make it easier for the person to water correctly. Ask them to come before you leave to demonstrate competence. Consider a drip system, but even that needs to be checked daily to see if there are any clogged drippers or if the cat has knocked it out of a pot. John Naka says that automatic sprinklers are not completely accurate because there is a tendency to over-water. In addition, every tree requires different watering.

Pinch trees to shape and contour and cut shoots back but avoid hard cutting, which will promote tender growth. Trees may be trimmed for shape, to remove dead leaves and unwanted (crossing) branches, but no drastic pruning should be done on most trees because it will promote new tender growth that will tend to either burn off in the heat or freeze off this winter.

Rotate trees regularly every two to three weeks to prevent one-sided growth.

Don't transplant or repot anything at this season. Possible exceptions would be olives, pomegranates and bougainvilleas, bamboo and ficus that love the heat. Bougainvillea should be cut back hard after the bloom but do not over water them.

Wiring can also be done. **Look for ingrown wire.** Remove so the green layer (cambium) is not disturbed and the wire falls off.

Fertilize as usual. Why fertilize if growth has stopped? The answer is that growth hasn't really stopped. Everything is pushing its root growth now. And fruits may be growing on the fruiting verities. To be safe and not "burn the roots" use dilute low nitrogen fertilizer.

Cut pine candles may now be having shoots, which can be limited to two for branch ramification. Those at the top may have the verticals saved.

Be on the alert for infestations. See July Naka Notes for suggestions.

Remove ingrowing wire by cutting and not by unwinding. You have to look.

Water and rotate trees diligently.

Shade your trees to protect from burning, especially broad leaf and deciduous bonsai



Jim Barrett's Foemina Formal Upright

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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“The formal upright style of traditional Japanese bonsai represents God. The tree never bows as do most other styles that lean forward to the viewer in respect. The Japanese style of Tachiki represents the formal upright as natural and the way a tree should look as opposed to Myogi or a stylized trunk and tree”.

“Look for worthy roots, a very straight trunk and taper. If not straight turn the tree until curves are minimized or hidden. Wire all branches for positioning with traditional first branch, next back branch and 2nd branch to start then repeating towards an asymmetric pyramid display. Start the first branch 1/3 up the tree and bend down. Trim the branches in tradition arrow style with a prominent lead branch point”.

“Say, how old is that bonsai of yours Mr. Barrett? Well, it is as old as it looks”.



Mr. Barrett holding court
photos by EYHO

