

The KAI WIRE

山水會

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SANSUI-KAI OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jim Barrett will help us improve our trees at the November 11th meeting. Bring a bonsai please, no matter size or shape or age or variety or refinement. Mr. Barrett is a huge presence in the community being in bonsai for 50 years with many club affiliations and honors including placement of his bonsai foemina in Washington DC National Gallery.



Above the California juniper styled by Bjorn BJORHOLM, one of the many headliners at the GSBF Convention 2015

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Photo at left is Roy Nagatoshi as he enjoys interacting with Sansui-kai club members.

Thanks to all SSK members who donated food, beverages and raffle/ auction items in August. The event was extremely successful

GSBF Convention

Dan Kashinsky

I wasn't sure I wanted to go this year. But as I was driving back to LA from Riverside, I gave the GSBF Convention an A for content, an A for raffle and auction and sales, an A minus for hotel prices and B- for convention food except for the initial buffet which was yummiie. I was impressed.

I was happy I came and a little sad for those who didn't.

Club member Hank Fawcett won first in judged competition for his black pine. He will do a demo in January for Sansui-kai.

The non-judged show was quite good. I went around with the guest artists John Wang, Kathy Shaner and Bjorn Bjorholm as they critiqued the show. All of the pieces were above my own humble material (way). These artists, however, had much to say about improving the bonsai presented. Their suggestions surprisingly focused on basics such as apex direction, pot size shape and color, direction of trees with the accents and the nature of group shohin tree display. I was very impressed with their vision, knowledge and by their lack of agreement.

There was too much to see. The three demos by Mr. Wong and Bjorn Bjorholm were my favorites. They were wonderful. They were different in style and reflected the benefit of years with their sensei in Japan. I missed Tak Shimazu, David Nguy and more. There was too much quality to take it all in.

Harry Hiraos trees pots and viewing stones were auctioned for the benefit of his family, GSBF and the attendees.

Club member Jason Saito was very active in the raffle/auction. Other club members (Sonja) helped out. People came from across the US for the show. Congratulations to the show chairperson Cheryl Manning.



The juniper above was picked out immediately by John Wang and Bjorn Bjorholm as perhaps the best in the non judged display. Do you know the artist? Hint J.G.



Above California juniper by John Wang and friends Nathan, E.K. and his assistant.



Announcements

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.

JIM BARRETT MEMBER TREE CRITIQUE
November 11th 7:30

REFRESHMENTS FROM THE THRONES, MARY
TATRO AND BEJOU

BONSAI-A-THON XIX FEB. 28-MARCH 1, 2015
HUNTINGTON LIBRARY
8AM TO 4PM
THE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE
GSBF COLLECTION

VOLUNTEER AT THE HUNTINGTON
CONTACT TED MATSON

DECEMBER 9TH SALES AND AUCTION AT
THE MEETING. ALL MEMBERS AND
COMMUNITY NONMEMBERS ARE WELCOME

DONATION TO THE HUNTINGTON FROM
SSK IN AL LOMAN'S NAME

SEE ATTACHMENTS FROM HUNTINGTON
NEWSLETTER.
AND FROM TED MATSON
ANNOUNCING THAT VOLUNTEERS WILL BE
NEEDED AT THE HUNTINGTON TO ASSIST
DAVID NGUY ON THE BLACK PINES



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
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Roy Nagatoshi at Sansui-kai

Roy Nagatoshi owner of Fuji Nursery and honored bonsai artist arrived early with Alex Martinez to Sansui-kai for his demonstration. Roy will work on boxwood which he feels is excellent bonsai material. The box Roy brought was found in an abandoned nursery. He has had it for 3-4 years.

Roy likes boxwood because they are available and inexpensive. "I like to find the movement. The movement is present in this tree after the main trunk is removed". He looks for the movement as source of inspiration. The foliage can be formed in pads or natural branches. He prefers pads. The secret sauce (Miracle Grow) keeps the branches growing and green. All top and bottom tertiary branches, as is the custom, should be removed. Boxwood as well as elm and holly can be sheared even cutting through the leaves.

The nebari (roots) dictate the front.

The box does not go dormant so should be fed the year round. Insects are not particularly big problems.

The demo winner was Rick. Roy asked him to bring back the tree on his next visit to the club. He graciously donated his stipend back to a grateful Sansui-kai. We are lucky to have Roy Nagatoshi in our bonsai community.

Photo to the right of Roy and Rick who is the winner of this literati

