



SANSUI KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Mar. 2016

Jack P. Reynolds

Our last meeting had a small but dedicated group who came to work on the trees we will sell at our show in May (21-22). I would like to thank all those who came and put together about thirty small juniper bonsai in two and a half hours (below right).

I hope I haven't forgotten anyone but the hard workers were: Dan Kashinsky, Al Espinoza, Mary Tatro, Josh Miller, John and Margaret Throne, Sonja Kobler, Marshall Winer and grandson, Peju Olusanya, Emma Janza and Eric Percifield. Josh purchased the trees and pots from Art Galindo (also a member) with club funds. I furnished growing medium, wire and other supplies. We got an assembly line going and everyone pitched in to get a job done in what I would call record time. I have a dozen of the trees at my home and they are all doing well and with a little clipping should make excellent sale trees.

It seems that there is a natural law of clubs that ninety percent of the work is done by ten percent of the members. However in this case **forty-five percent of the paid UP** members showed up to work. I am encouraged. Looking forward to our March meeting. Jack Reynolds President



Jason teaching bonsai basics at the Bonsai-a-thon *photo Keith*

COME SEE THE ALEX MARTINEZ
DEMO ON WEDNESDAY
MARCH 9TH 7:30
TAKE HOME THE TREE





Lucky two with individual teaching from Kathy Benson at the Huntington Bonsai-a-thon

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Below Mitch spreading the joy of bonsai

Photo by Keith



Peter's contribution to the Bonsai-a-thon display

photo EYHO



In this odd year most trees have broken dormancy. This presents some problems. We may later get more frosty nights. Bring trees coming out of dormancy into sunny locations to stimulate the new growth but be ready to move them back into protection if the weather should turn cold.

WATER

Watering needs to be handled carefully as well. Over watering will promote large leaves or leaves with browning at the tips.

BLOOMERS

Many flowering trees will be in bloom. When they have bloomed out eighty percent of their flowers, remove the remaining buds and all of the bloom. This will prevent stressing the tree. Leave a few blooms on fruiting trees so that a few fruits will develop for the fall. The same should be done with berries.

FERTILIZER

It is not too early to use high nitrogen fertilizers and magnesium, sulfur and iron can be added for good leaf color. Conifers can also be fertilized with organic fertilizers. Liquid fertilizers can be used such as one half or one-quarter strength Miracle Grow.

TRANSPLANTING

From March until June is the time to transplant. There are two reasons to transplant; the first is that the tree needs to be moved to another pot for aesthetic reasons; the second is for reasons of health of the tree. When transplanting into a new pot there will probably not be much of a size change and roots will not be disturbed too much. Some root pruning will undoubtedly be necessary. Remove large unsightly roots but leave enough white fine feeders to sustain the tree. Remember to remove some foliage if you remove a significant number of roots in order to maintain a balance between water uptake and water loss.

Trees that are vigorous such as willows may have to be potted every year but in general the decision to change soil should be made when the tree shows signs of slowing down in growth or signs of being root bound.

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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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Naka continued
BUGS

Insects can be bad at this time of year particularly aphids and scale. Check early and often. Spray with Ultra Fine and Malathion or other insecticide as directed. It is better to use slightly dilute mixes due to the fact that trees in pots tend to be more sensitive to insecticides than those in the

ground. A second spraying with lime sulfur can be done now if you did not do it in Feb. Do not spray lime sulfur on new growth or flowers unless you are willing to suffer some damage to same.

CUTTINGS

This is the perfect time to start deciduous cuttings, especially large ones. Grafting of deciduous trees can also be done but it is too late for junipers.



Rick above and Peju left teaching one on one at the Bonsai-athon

Photo by Keith Martin