



## SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Hank Fawcett

I have had bonsai in Reseda for the past 37 years and this is the first year that has confused me. It may be hot in the afternoon and cooling in the nighttime creating a 30 degree temperature swing. Earlier in the year, the temperature reached 117 and the damage on my California junipers was horrible. For a short time, some of them looked as if they would survive but junipers tend to continue to die back slowly. So far, 3 of 18 are dead and all of them show dieback. A number of them are showing growth. Others remain in limbo. I am confused with the weather pattern but obviously, so are they. All I can do at this point is stay the course and treat them as if everything is back to normal. I put 40% shade cloth over all the California junipers. I have always left them in full sun because that is where they grow but, as I said, this year is different.

I love to scion graft with kishu on junipers. This year, I decided to try putting the grafted plants into my greenhouse and keeping the humidity high. Usually, my success rate is around 90%. I tend to put a lot more grafts than other people and typically my success rate turns out a decent plant in 2 years. This year has also been devastating for my grafts. The sun has been so intense that taking plants out of the greenhouse and putting them under shade cloth hasn't worked very well. Within several days, the scions get burned. Some recover when I reintroduce them into the greenhouse but the damage has already been done. It will take a second year

of grafting on the same tree to give me a fully grafted tree...assuming that the weather cooperates. Two of my very good trees remain in the greenhouse. I am very apprehensive about putting them outside.

*(Hank's President's message continued pg. 2)*

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### EVENTS

#### BOB PRESSLER

10 /10/2018 **Bob Pressler** at Sansui-kai finishing his juniper this coming Wednesday at 7:30 PM.

This bonsai will be in the December auction

*(page 5)*

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10/24-10-28/2018 GSBF CONVENTION

Info from Golden Statements page 4

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12/1/2018 Fresno Bonsai Society and GSBF Clark Bonsai Collection Annual Bonsai and sale

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2/23-24/2019 BONSAI-A-THON

Info from Golden Statements (page 4)

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2/16-17/2019 GSBF Bonsai Garden Lake Merritt annual auction and sale (see Golden Statements)

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And don't forget Winter Silhouettes at Arboretum in 1/19-20/2019

# Tanuki Demo

by Hank Fawcett

The tanuki demo for Sansui -Kai last month was by Anne Lofquist and it was awe inspiring. Tanuki typically has a bad connotation amongst bonsaiists, including me, but what she can do with a tree is brilliant. I highly recommend her style as a way of creating a beautiful and artistic tree. What I did learn at the meeting included the various products she uses to create her tanuki.

Find Ann Lofquists work on the web at the Conejo Valley site <http://www.cvbs-bonsai.org/cvbsbonsai/uploads/2016/07/conejo-valley-bonsai-society-07.2016.email-edition.pdf>

KWIK-WELD BY J.B. WELD  
KWIK WOOD BY J.B. WELB  
ALL PURPOSE PUTTY BY BONDO  
WOOD FILLER BY BONDO  
SPAR URETHANE BY VARATHANE  
PC PETRIFIER BY PROTECTIVE  
COATING

What she does is very creative. She adds dead-wood and augments that with JB weld products to create a flared base, she carves and sculptures the epoxy to create a very believable base and uses paints to create amazing trees. Yes, it is artificial but it is very, very effective.





# 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. When defoliated spray with high grade horticultural oil 98% pure and cover the soil to prevent contamination. Repeat monthly times two. Clean out pot debris and moss accumulation and check your pot holes for root growth (GS Ross).

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.

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

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 your garage for brief periods of time.

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

Azalea may be moved into the sun. Black pine and juniper may still be repotted as can quince (J.B.).

If you use sprinklers adjust them to the weather change perhaps turning them off for a day or two during the week to allow the soil and roots to dry down (D.K.).

Next Meeting  
Refreshments Reminder  
Gracie, Jack Reynolds, Eric P.

## **Golden State Bonsai Federation: Convention**

**41 “Creativity taking Flight”** held at the McClellan Conference Center. Registration begins July 1<sup>st</sup> online at <http://www.gsbfcconvention.org/> for Convention, Workshops, Seminars, Excursions, etc. GSBF recommended lodging is Lion’s Gate Hotel at McClellan Park. This year’s headliners are Yasuo Mitsuya, Suthin Sukosolvisit, and Bjorn Bjorholm. Please join GSBF and Yasuo Mitsuya’s esteemed students in honoring Mitsuyasan for his influence on bonsai in the modern era. Hosting Yasuo Mitsuya’s visit are: Kathy Shaner, Hideko Metaxas, Boon Manakitivipart, Kenji Miyata, Cheryl Manning, David DeGroot, Gordon Deeg.

*copied from Golden statements note error 2017 is 2019 below*

## **Feb. 23 – 24, 2017 San Marino, California**

**Bonsai-A-Thon XXIII** at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road. This is the annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington. Event admission is free with Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registration between 8 AM - 9 AM. Event hours are 8 AM - 4:30 PM both days. Pancake breakfast, demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle and auction. For more information visit The GSBF Collection at The Huntington



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  
Vice President for  
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**Josh Miller  
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**Librarian  
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**Dan Kashinsky  
Editor  
Kai Wire**

**Mel Carrillo  
Technical visual  
communication**

[www.Sansui-Kai.org](http://www.Sansui-Kai.org)

Bob Pressler will finish this Juniper this Wednesday  
October 10 at 7:30.  
The finished tree will be auctioned at the club meeting  
in December  
The bonsai was begun in a demo at Sansui-kai this  
Spring by Mr. Pressler.

