

The KAI WIRE

山水會

Volume 32
July 2017



SANSUI-KAI OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Tom Vuong July 12 7:30 Sepulveda Garden Center

HERE IS OUR CLUB SCHEDULE
AS ARRANGED BY JOSH MILLER

Wednesday July 12 demo Tom Vuong

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August 9 Wednesday: Barbecue/Auction

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September 12 Wednesday: Tom Vuong continues

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October 11 November January

Inquiries out for Cesario Perez, Roy Nagatoshi,

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December 13 Wednesday: Holiday Pot Luck/Auction

SANSUI-KAI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - July 2017

by

Jack G. Reynolds

The board has generated some feedback about the show. I will give you a short form of some of the suggested improvements. 1) The sale needs to have a list of all items for sale with owner and price information to keep it orderly. 2) Better coordination with the garden so that there is agreement between our publicity and theirs. This may mean a one day show. (To be discussed at a future meeting). 3) A shorter simpler demo, (Time flies when you're having fun).

Steve Riley has created a business card for the club. Members are encouraged to take a few to hand out to friends or anyone who is interested in bonsai and our club. It contains information on meeting place and time and the website. No phone number is given so the cards will work even though there are changes in the board. This brings up a matter of the club logo which will also need to be discussed at some point.

I hope you are all staying cool and watering your trees regularly. Be well, Jack

Left Bob Pressler working on the first of three stages on this bonsai



June Demo with Bob Pressler

by Mary Tatro

June demonstrator Bob Pressler began the first of a three-stage styling of a 15-20 year old Procumbens Juniper.

This initial trimming identifies the focal trunk line and branches to use. He removes all other growth and greenery in order to encourage and stimulate desired branching and foliage masses. He leaves growing tips on selected branches which, with more air and light, will get vigorous energy and backbudding.

He leaves jin wood from cut branches for later carving and wiring, as the tree progresses and takes shape. With a jin pliers, he squeezes, rips, pulls, tears the wood in the direction of the grain, leaving a desired dead wood shape and taper that will be later wired and styled into the overall composition.



Below Bob Pressler begins the first of 3 parts to develop this tree for the club



He is giving the tree time to recover before stage two wiring, and root work, which will be in February – the ideal season for Juniper repotting. In the meantime, he will fertilize normally and treat for mites, which is done with soap and water sprayed on the underside of branches and foliage.

Speaking of jin and shari (left) is a poor reproduction of Mr. Gremmel's amazing shimpaku shown at the BABA. See him at the yearly GSBF convention in Riverside in October. Bob Pressler will (above) headline at the convention.



July

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 varieties. 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.

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 New Zealand 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, 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. Cut off the wire so the green layer (cambium) is not disturbed and the wire falls off. Do not unwind to save wire. Mistake.

S'up

Tom Vuong Wed July 12
Kofu Bonsai kai at the Bowers in the fall



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

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Mary Tatro
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Steve Riley
Vice President for
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Dan Kashinsky
Editor
Kai Wire

www.Sansui-Kai.org

Wadda you know?

Is it too late (early July) to defoliate tridents and Japanese maples?

Must you remove all leaves?

Is there a difference in technique for defoliating trident and Japanese maple?

What are 3 good reasons for defoliating?

What are two good reasons not to defoliate?

Winners will be announced at a subsequent meeting along with a list of prizes.



Above Jack has a very appreciative response for his demo at the Sansui-kai yearly show

Left Emma at Descanso 2017
photo by eyho