



Ted Matson at SSK in August

Members were asked to bring in their trees for advice from Ted Matson former President of GSBF and present co-chair of this years convention in Burbank.

There were a lot of trees put up there for advice; but no matter what the quality of the tree Ted answered all questions in earnest. This to me is an endearing aspect of his teaching because somewhere in the beginners ranks are the next serious bonsai artists to carry on the art.

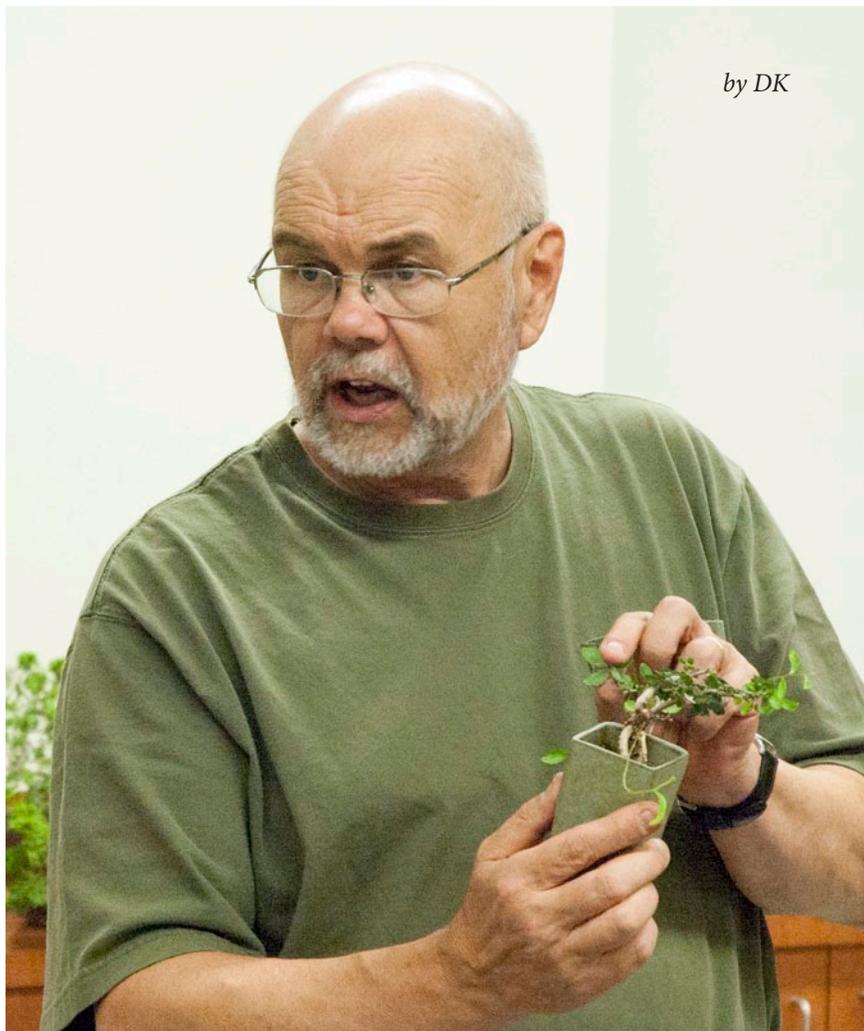
In the book "Fifty Ways To Please Your Sensei" Sansui-kai Press 2013 I remember reading and believe it is true that at a minimum the pot on presentation of the tree for advice should be clean, the weeds gone, the downward foliage and the "crotch" growth clipped, wires that are really poorly applied removed and spider mites etc blown off with a hose. I am always in a hurry it seems and I forget this.

Rick brought in his boxwood forest and commented to Ted that he felt that after all the advice given on his forest present and past that Ted was right on. It was the first time Rick could see clearly what was needed.

Sonja brought in a mystery tree that no one recognized. Ted called it as a *Bucida Spinosa* and proceeded on a discourse of the nature of the tree and its use as a bonsai.

Dan commented on pale boxwood leaves needing iron or less water. Ted felt that the actual color of the yellowing leaves on boxwood helped determine over-watering vs. mineral deficiency; and the mineral deficiency was not due to deficiency of minerals per se but the use of scoria and pumus would not hold and transfer minerals as well as akadama. This then would be a better solution then adding iron magnesium etc.

Ted plugged the GSBF convention several times and hoped members would come and also volunteer to help.



by DK

PHOTO DAVE WILLIAMS



Left Ted and Mitch Matsey; Above Al and Ted and a too tall juniper; to bottom left Ted with Rick Naber's boxwood forest *photos Dave Williams*



COMING EVENTS:

GSBF CONVENTION BURBANK OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 3, 2013

CONEJO SHOW OCTOBER 5-6 2013

SANSUI -KAI PRESENTS THIS COMING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11 AL NELSON

REFRESHMENTS SEPTEMBER:

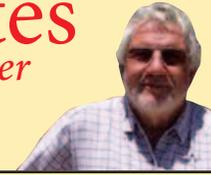
JOSH, GLORIA, ARIANA AND JEREMY AND AI LOMAN

*Naka Notes - Lessons from a Master is Jack Reynolds's collection of guidelines primarily from Sansui-Kai founder and master John Naka's texts, **Bonsai Techniques I and II** monthly care of your bonsai.*

Naka Notes

Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds
Contributing Editor



September is pretty much like August as far as bonsai care is concerned. It is generally hot, particularly in the first part of the month so care must be taken in watering but since most trees have finished their branch growth they will not require as much water as in the spring. Strike a balance between the amount of water given and the needs of the tree in the heat. One way to do this is to check the top quarter or half inch of soil, if it is damp a quarter to half an inch down then you don't need to water if it is dry then water until water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Small trees may need to be checked twice a day.

Trees that may become sunburned should be placed in the shade. This will start the tree into dormancy and inhibit sprouting of new growth too late in the year, such late growth usually freezes off or burns off in the fall and winter winds. Trimming should be reduced at this time of year. Don't remove growth until it has matured. If in doubt leave it for spring pruning. Reduce shimpaku only a little and with scissors not plucking.

Light feeding, particularly of trees that are still showing new growth is permitted at this season. Deciduous flowering and fruiting species may benefit from a low nitrogen high phosphorous high potassium fertilizer (0-10-10 such as Liquinox Bloom) to promote fruit development and strong roots.

Some things may be transplanted this month, particularly toward the end of the month. These would be pines and junipers. No severe root pruning should be done however so you should only be moving trees from one pot to another of about equal or larger size. If the weather remains hot, wait until October to repot. Willows, tamarix, olive and bougainvillea can be repotted or even started as cuttings at this season.

Pine candles and needle plucking can begin now for directional branch growth and ramification and needle reduction; but done under the guidance of an experienced bonsai artist.

AL NELSON AND COMPANY
SEPTEMBER 11TH 7:30 PM





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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www.Sansui-Kai.org



Raffle and BBQ

by Dan Kashinsky

The auction raised over 1200 dollars to promote club activity in the coming year. Thanks to members Marshall W., Mitch M., Elliot M., Hank F., Walter Z., Al Loman and Steve R. and those people who helped in the Auction: Eric P., Walter Z., Steve R., Nathan S., Dan K., Yoko Z. SPECIAL THANKS to the ILEENE AND DON BERKUS our hosts.

Thanks to Steve and Jason the web site is up. Check it out Sansui-Kai.org

On September 11th the club will feature Al Nelson and company creating a unique slab planting which will be auctioned. Don't miss seeing Mr. Nelson and take home one of his creations. An example of his troupe and work are on page 3

Refreshments Gloria, Josh, Al, Ariana