



## Hank Fawcett Olive Demo

We had a speaker cancellation so President Hank Fawcett jumped in to demonstrate root development enhancement in an olive donated by Bob Pressler of Kimura Nursery.

Hank cut back the branches until finding some harmony in the tree and then defoliated.

Shear cutting the base for trunk development and root enhancement can be done on olives. Members of the audience volunteered that they have been successful as well with pomegranate, bougainvillea and ficus.

Hank first emphasized finding the trunk flair which is characteristic of olives and mandates the front. If the flair is not worthwhile he emphasizes making a flat cut in an area where the flair may be enhanced. He then proceeded to taper the base at a 45degree inward angle and about ¼ inch high with a knife; this to enable new roots to push out easily laterally. He put growth hormone past on the flat cut edge of the trunk and screwed the wooden board onto the cut edge. The board prevents the natural tendency for roots to go down and allows their lateral development.

He placed a screw at the top to secure the tree in the can with wire. The new roots are easily damaged with movement. He will place the tree in his greenhouse but if not available a large plastic bag and shade will do.

“Expect new growth in 2-4 weeks”.



# Peter Macasieb



Above Too much sugar?  
Below Which is before and which is after?  
Thanks to a master-Peter Macasieb



# Naka Notes

Lessons from a Master

by Jack Reynolds



Jack giving demo at yearly show

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. Humidity is good for the trees. Keep your pots from getting hot by covering with shade cloth and perhaps 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 in the heat or freeze 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 and bougainvilleas, bamboo 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. Remove so the green layer (cambium) is not disturbed and the wire falls off. 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 verities. 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. See July Naka Notes for suggestions. Follow instructions and then cut back. If you use oil spray wash off in AM after PM application or you can have a real setback.



Naka San photo from Cheryl Manning

# MORE SHOW TREES





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  
Secretary

Mike Kelly  
Vice President for  
Programs

Josh Miller  
Vice President for  
Benefit Drawing

Steve Riley  
Vice President for  
Membership  
Website Editor

Librarian  
David Lim

Dan Kashinsky  
Editor  
Kai Wire

Mel Carrillo  
Technical visual  
communication

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

# Milt Huckabee by EYHO

Milt's family called Sonja to tell her that Milt had passed away. Milt was President of Sansui-kai from 2008-9. I last saw him when he dropped into our show at the Japanese Gardens a few years ago. He presided over Sansui-kai at a time when all southern California clubs were richer in members. Ours at the time was full of characters who loved bonsai and totally enjoyed the rock and roll of the club. Milt liked to present himself as a country boy. He told stories sometimes the same ones over and over playing down his bonsai skills (rocks are best for survival purposes) and praising others. I found him extremely insightful especially in business as he straightened out the club's finances using his acumen. He taught several members of the club how to survive retirement in the stock market. I also found him to be a quick and accurate study of people's character. Good by Milt. Thanks for carrying Sansui-kai those years. It was nice to have known you.



Milt (right) and Bud Al