



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

*Serenity through Bonsai*

第一分盆栽會  
盆中平穩

# THE DAI ICHI GAZETTE



TAK SHIMAZU DEMONSTRATION | JULY MEMBER WORKSHOP PREVIEW

# DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

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### **Jim Tatsukawa**

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*On the Cover | Tak Shimazu getting started on his demo.  
Inside Cover | Working a tree at the DIBK Member Workshop.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everybody had a safe and sane 4th of July. I tried a recommended pyrotechnic from the expert at the fireworks stand and I can tell you our dog was not impressed. So I guess I won't be doing that next year.



Our upcoming meeting is a Member's Workshop.

This is one of my favorite club activities. We have had many lectures on developing bonsai, we have had the opportunity to display our bonsai, but at this meeting we actually work on bonsai! As can be seen by some of the finished pictures later on in the newsletter, the outcome can be quite stunning. The club will have wire, various tools, and perhaps some potting soil on hand, so please bring a tree or two. We have all levels of expertise in our club; sharing our knowledge and thoughts with others is a key purpose of Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai.

I want to thank Tak Shimazu for coming to our club and sharing his passion for bonsai with us. I consider Tak to be one of the top bonsai artists in America. I loved listening to his advice, but I really loved his bonsai wire caddy. I have seen many attempts at keeping one's wires from getting all discombobulated, I think Tak has come up with a great design. Check out the picture of it on page 3, he made it himself.

See y'all at the club meeting and be sure to bring a tree. If you have any friends who have expressed an interest in bonsai this will be a great meeting to bring them to so that they too can appreciate the bonsai creation process.

*John van de Wouw*

John van de Wouw  
President  
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai



TAK SHIMAZU



Tak started the demo by presenting two different 7 to 10 year old *Itoigawa* grown from cuttings, and attendees voted on which tree he was to work on. The first tree had been previously wired and was ready for further refinement, while the other had no training applied. The audience chose the first tree.

Tak explained, "In Japan, trees are wired and trained in stages, often taking years in between to finish. Unlike the demonstrations you see here where the entire tree is wired, cut back, pinched and styled, in Japan, large branches are wired first while smaller secondary branches are wired months later. This minimizes damage to the tree and its delicate branch structure, and allows the tree to recover in less stressful steps."

Living in an area where temperatures can reach 110 degrees, Tak explained he often uses two stacked nursery cans for his material in training. "With the double stacked pot, moisture is trapped between the two pots and it will not dry out as quickly. When I use clay nursery pots, it will often dry out within the day."





“With *Shimpaku*, over time the inside foliage will fall out as the new growth emerges, so now I remove the inside old growth to make wiring easier.”

Explaining wiring techniques, Shimazu said, “When you wrap your wire around a branch, you want the wire to go in the same direction that the branch is moving. For example, if you are wiring a branch to be bent to the left, the wire should be directed so that the angle over the top of the branch is going over to the the left side of the branch, and vice-versa for the opposite direction. The reason is that when you wire in the direction of the bend, the wire wraps and holds tighter around the branch. If you go the opposite way of a bend, it gets looser, and loose wire does not work well when setting the movement. When it comes to rewiring the same branch, the bend will be set already, in which case, you should wire in the opposite direction to avoid creating obvious wire marks in case it grows out too much.”

Tak finished the styling and Peter Macasieb was the lucky winner.



# BRING YOUR TREES AND GET READY TO STYLE! JULY MEMBER WORKSHOP MEETING



**By popular demand!**

we will once again be setting  
up our photo station  
for you to take pictures of  
your finished trees!

The best trees will get posted  
to our DIBK Facebook page,  
so bring your nicest material!





# MEMBER WORKSHOP

**JULY 21, 2017**

Bring your tools, wire, and bonsai material to our next member workshop! With the help of other members, you can create your next masterpiece. The club will also provide various trees for the members to style, which will be placed in the meeting's raffle.

Alternatively, you can watch and offer suggestions as experienced Dai Ichi members work on a variety of trees.

## UPCOMING

All events are tentative and subject to change.

AUG 18, 2017 | **ALBERT RIVERA**

SEPT 15, 2017 | **JASON SAITO**

*Saikai Demonstration  
and Optional Workshop (Details to come)*

OCT 20, 2017 | **STEVE IWAKI**

## EVENTS

### August 19 – 20, 2017 Viet Bonsai Today Society 2nd Annual Bonsai Exhibition

Bao Quang Temple  
713 N Newhope Street, Santa Ana  
Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
The show features demonstrations, club sales, vendors and an auction on both days. For more information, please contact Dinh Nguyen at (949) 302-3048, or Tom Vuong at (714) 878-8004.

### August 19 – 20, 2017 Nan Pu Kai: 28th Annual Show Nisei Week at JACCC

Doizaki Gallery  
224 S. San Pedro Street (Little Tokyo)  
Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
John Naka's club will host special guest exhibitors as well as club member's trees. Additional information about Nisei Week can be found at: [www.niseiweek.org](http://www.niseiweek.org)

### September 23 – 24, 2017 San Diego Bonsai Club 2017 Fall Bonsai Exhibition

Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park  
Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily  
Featuring demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM. Free Admission. Bonsai pots and trees for sale. For more information visit [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

### August 30 – September 3, 2017 Kofu Bonsai Kai Bonsai, A Living Art Form at the Bowers Museum

John M. Lee Court  
2002 N. Main St, Santa Ana  
Hours: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM daily  
Featuring bonsai trees of the members of Kofu Bonsai Kai and special presentations by noted speakers.

Questions? Call the museum at (714) 567-3695 or email Michael Walsh at [michaeljwalsh@outlook.com](mailto:michaeljwalsh@outlook.com).

For more event information, please visit  
[bit.ly/GSBF-MoreEvents](http://bit.ly/GSBF-MoreEvents)

## GRATITUDE

*Thank you to all of the members who contributed.  
The club truly appreciates your generosity and giving spirit.*

### Benefit Drawing Contributors

Gary Ishii/Chikugo-En, Doyle Saito,  
Janette Chun, Fred Floresca,  
Peter Macasieb, Gib & Elissa Hoxie

### Refreshment Contributors

Doyle Saito, Fred Floresca,  
CJ & Mark Levinstein, Jason Saito

### Refreshment Signup for July

Please fee free to bring your favorite yummys. Nom nom nom. ;9

*Please remember to sign the contribution sheet so that we may acknowledge your generosity.*

### Special thanks to

Tak Shimazu

*for his contributions to this issue of the DIBK Gazette.*

## ABOUT DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai ("Number One" Bonsai Club) was established in January, 1986.

Our club is dedicated to promoting the art of bonsai, and takes great pride in its family-oriented character.

The club meets on the third Friday of each month at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena, at 7:00 P.M. Each meeting features a bonsai demonstration, benefit drawing and the public is welcome.

[www.daiichibonsaikai.com](http://www.daiichibonsaikai.com)

***Please feel free to forward this publication to friends, family  
or anyone with an appreciation for bonsai.***

Do you have any comments, questions, or submissions? If so, please contact:  
**Jason Saito** ph 310.909.4598 | email [jason@zenpalace.com](mailto:jason@zenpalace.com)