

JULY 2020 | VOLUME 35, ISSUE 7



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Serenity through Bonsai

第一分盆栽會
盆中平穩

THE DAI ICHI GAZETTE



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Serenity through Bonsai

July started out with so many fantastic possibilities... eating in restaurants, going to a beauty salon/barber, stores and gyms were open to the public. Outdoor activities were starting to ramp up and organized sports were just down the street. With all the great things happening, I had the hope of having a July meeting, even with masks and social distancing in the auditorium.

Well here we are, take care everyone. Do not take things for granted. Love the people you care about and let them know, but in a safe manner. I miss hugging my friends. Shaking hands with friends is a thing of the past, with a fist bump the standard norm. Bonsai friends are a strange bunch, everyone is from a different background, race, gender, and social status. Yet stick a beautiful tree in front of them (or even an ugly tree) and conversations will continue for hours. Discussions of what to do next, what is the best feature, what pot to use, what is the front and well, this just doesn't stop.

I want to thank CJ Levinstein and Jason Saito for putting together the mask design, ordering and mailing them out to all our paid membership. CJ came up with a great way to show our appreciation to our members who have supported our club in so many ways.

Thank you and stay safe.

Doyle Saito



Doyle Saito
President
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai

DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doyle Saito
President
Program Chair

Jason Saito
1st Vice President
Show Chair

Fred Floresca
2nd Vice President

CJ Levinstein
Membership Chair
Treasurer

Joan Shiosaki
Corresponding Secretary

Shirley Floresca
Fundraising Chair

Carol Takahashi
Librarian

Kevin Sweeney
Benefit Drawing Chair

Barry Miller
Hospitality
Club Photographer

Dan Sawada
Publicity

Michael Izumoto
Website / Social Media

OPEN
Recording Secretary
Historian
Newsletter Editor

CLUB FOUNDERS

Leila Kusumi
Co-Founder | Sensei

Jim Tatsukawa
Co-Founder | Sensei

The world, and the bonsai community, have felt the effects of the current COVID pandemic, and while the necessary precautionary steps have halted in-person activities, we still strive to fulfill our mission of keeping bonsai alive and growing in Southern California.

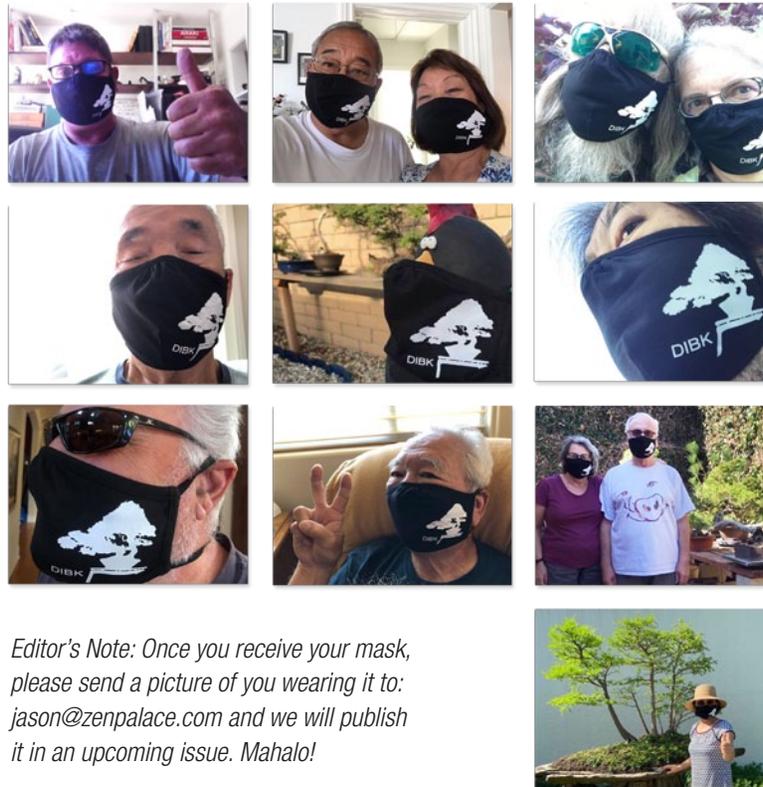
Hopefully, you are all using this time to refine your trees and to concentrate on their further development. We look forward to the time when the health exposure threats have become minimized so we can once again gather to celebrate our passion for bonsai.

Any organization is only as strong as its membership. It is with great pride and appreciation that we would like to thank our wonderful members for their continued support and dedication to our club and our mission.

To show our appreciation, we have created custom DIBK branded face masks to keep our members healthy and safe. If you've paid your membership dues this year, you will be receiving your masks shortly (if you haven't already.) Please wear them in good health.

Stay safe and be well.

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai



Editor's Note: Once you receive your mask, please send a picture of you wearing it to: jason@zenpalace.com and we will publish it in an upcoming issue. Mahalo!



IN THIS ISSUE

4 CHRIS SAMBOLIN PEREZ
Video Demonstration

5 ON THE BENCH
Member's Collections at a Glance

5 BONSAI EMPIRE
Online Learning

7 DIBK SHOW & SALE
Exhibition Catalog Reprint from 2016

SUPPORT DIBK BY BECOMING A MEMBER!

Individual Membership
\$25.00

Family Membership
\$35.00

Your dues enable the club to offer resources and benefits such as:

- Monthly demonstrations
- Monthly members workshops
- Access to our club library
- Benefit draw raffles
- Annual show and sale
- Subscription to our award winning newsletter *the Dai Ichi Gazette*.
- Custom DIBK Face Mask*

**While supplies last*

You can pay your dues by mailing your check to:

CJ Levinstein
827 East Marshall Place
Long Beach, CA 90807

Or pay online via PayPal:

http://www.daiichibonsaikai.com/?page_id=1655

Unfortunately, due to the COVID situation, our scheduled demonstrator, Christopher Sambolin Perez, had to be cancelled. However, he has graciously filmed a video demonstration for us which can be viewed on our Facebook page.

Christopher A. Sambolin Perez was born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, in 1996. He was born and raised in Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico and has been living there for 22 years. He is the eldest brother of three and aspires to be a role model to them. He received his bachelors degree in Microbiology from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, San German campus in 2019. Christopher is currently working to obtain a master's degree in plants biotechnology in the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, Barranquitas campus.

In June of 2010, he started working with bonsai because of his aunt who inspired him from a young age. His journey with bonsai began when his aunt took him to visit Futago Bonsai, Pedro J Morales' garden, and it was there when the passion for bonsai came to life as he was given the opportunity to work on his first bonsai. After that experience, he was motivated to join the Bonsai Club of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez chapter, where he currently has the presidential position.

Shortly after Christopher began his bonsai passion he became a student of William Acosta and Pedro J Morales. Through the years he started attending seminars, lectures and workshops with several international artists from all around the world (Japan, Italy, Indonesia, China, USA, Spain, Mexico).

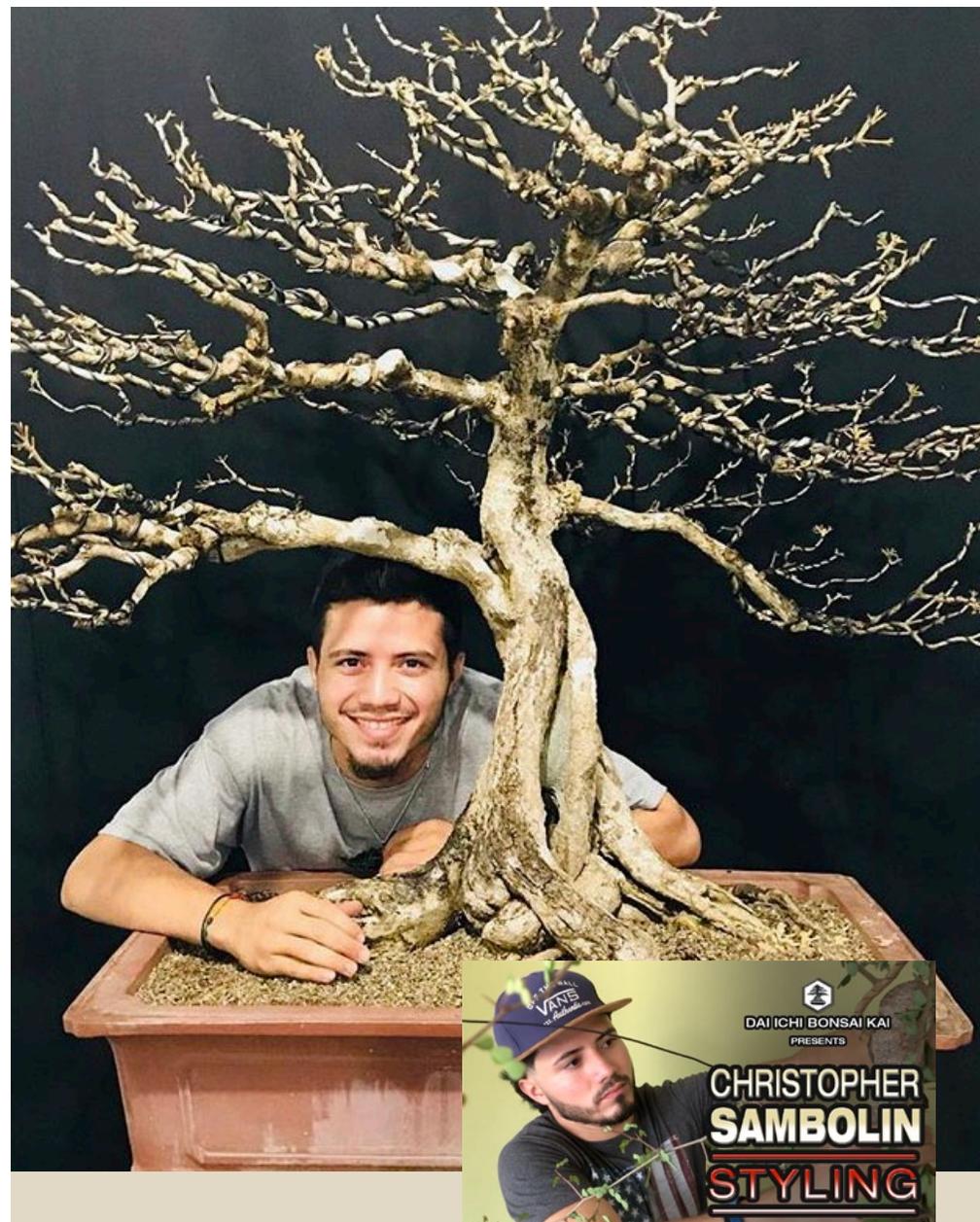
Christopher also participated in the Felab 2016 new talent contest where he finished second out of 6 countries. He also has performed demonstrations at the National Bonsai Show of Puerto Rico and has assisted in demonstrations of bonsai artist like Hugo Zamora from Mexico and with his mentor and teacher from P.R, Pedro J Morales and William Acosta. In 2015, Christopher met his idol Mauro Stemberger in a workshop in Futago, since that day he has been networking with Mauro. After three years he became a student of Mauro Stemberger and started traveling to the Italian Bonsai Dream School in Feltre, Italy.

Currently Christopher Sambolin is working on improving his skills and knowledge about bonsai but also in the science field, specifically in the microbiology and plant biotechnology area. He has been studying the microorganisms related to plants and hopes that knowing more about the biology of the plant will help him have a better relationship with his bonsai.

At the moment his focus is studying and doing bonsai, for Christopher bonsai is a lifestyle that he has decided to pursue for the rest of his life. He develops a perspective of taking care of nature and spreading the passion of loving nature through bonsai. Sambolin is extremely grateful for all of the support he has received from his mom, family, and friends throughout the years of his bonsai journey. Without their continued support he wouldn't have had the same success in his academics or bonsai.

Chris Sambolin Perez

DEMONSTRATION



Watch Chris' demo at

<https://www.facebook.com/DailchiBonsai>

Looking for resources to further your bonsai knowledge?

Our friends at Bonsai Empire has graciously offered Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai members and supporters, a 20% discount on two of their video classes. Discounts are being offered on:

Bonsai Fundamentals (2 hours)
by Michael Hagedorn \$45 with discount

Bonsai Intermediate (3.5 hours)
by Bjorn Bjorholm \$48 with discount

This is a limited time offer and will expire on July 31.

To take advantage of the offer, go to:
<https://www.bonsaiempire.com/courses>

- Navigate to the Fundamentals or the Intermediate course
- Click on enroll now
- Register your account
- Enter your discount code: Dailchi
- Click "Apply" - 20% discount is now applied
- Select your payment method

After payment you can start you online course at any time. If you have any questions, please contact:

Oscar Jonker
Bonsai Empire
info@bonsaiempire.com
www.bonsaiempire.com

ON THE BENCH

This month's collection is courtesy of Mark and CJ Levinstein. They have been practicing bonsai for many years and their collection shows it.



Show us what you're working on! It could be finished trees that you were going to show this year, or maybe that great piece of nursery stock that you just picked up. Share your vision. Please send pics to jason@zenpalace.com.

Serenity through Bonsai

Exhibition Catalog from the
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Show & Sale
reprinted from the June 2016
issue of the *DIBK Gazette*.

盆中平穩
為一盆栽會
冬 碩 書



AL NELSON
LIVE OAK



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

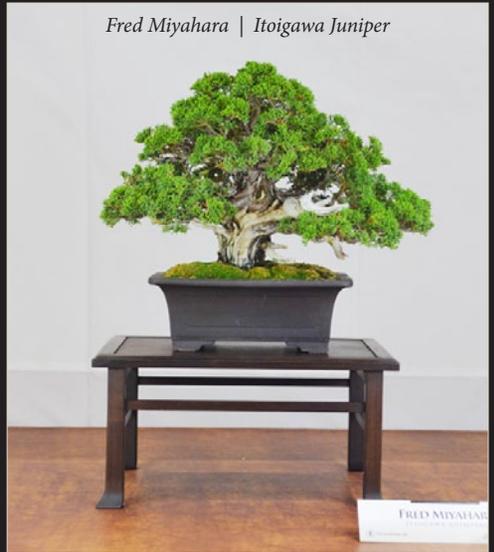
Serenity through Bonsai



2016 EXHIBITION CATALOG



“WHAT I LIKE
ABOUT BONSAI IS
THAT IT HAS A
BEGINNING
BUT NO END.
A BUD TODAY
BECOMES
A BRANCH
TOMORROW.”
— John Naka



Michael Izumoto | Japanese Black Pine



Tom Vuong | Olive



Ken Uyeda - South Coast Bonsai Association | Live Oak



“SOMETIMES, YOU HAVE
TO COMPROMISE WITH THE TREE...
SOMETIMES, THE TREE
HAS TO COMPROMISE WITH YOU”
— Frank Goya

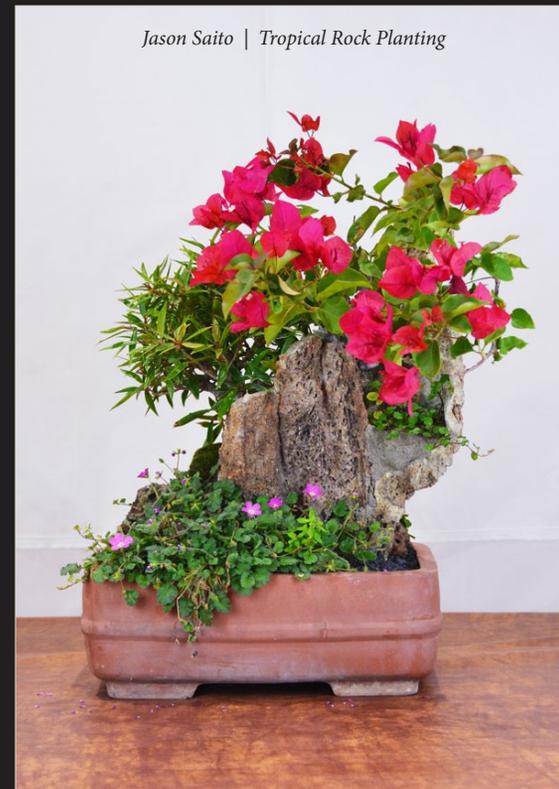
Frank Goya | Ginkgo



Tony Nguyen | Shimpaku



Jason Saito | Tropical Rock Planting



Tom Culton | Prostrata Juniper



“TREES ARE THE EARTH’S ENDLESS EFFORT
TO SPEAK TO THE LISTENING HEAVEN.”

— Rabindranath Tagore

Serenity through Bonsai

David Nguyen | Shimpaku



Kaz Murai | Bouganvillea



“YOUR TREE HAS TO TELL A STORY.
YOUR DESIGN HAS TO
MAKE THE STORY BELIEVABLE.”

— Mel Ikeda

Serenity through Bonsai

Jason Chan | California Juniper



Kei Ikari | California Juniper



Robert King | Foemina Juniper



GROW.

Serenity through Bonsai

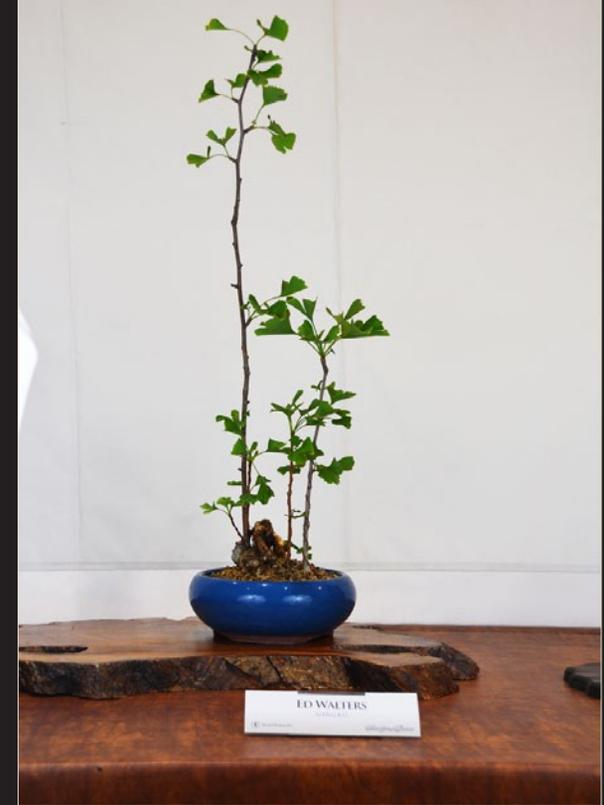
Kei Ikari | Japanese Black Pine



Allan Sugimura | Chinese Elm



Ed Walters | Ginkgo



Ted Oka | Kishu



“THE MOST REWARDING THING ABOUT BONSAI TO ME, IS TO SEE A STUDENT PROGRESS.”
— Leila Kusumi
Serenity through Bonsai

Jason Saito | Kingsville Boxwood Saikei



JASON SAITO
KINGSVILLE DWARF BOXWOOD SAIKEI
JASON SAITO BONSAI ARTS & SUPPLIES
The Bonsai Society of America

Keith Waters | Prostrata Raft



June Nguy | Japanese Black Pine



JUNE NGUY
JAPANESE BLACK PINE

Jaime Chavarria | Rosemary



JAIME CHAVARRIA
ROSEMARY

Tyler Ferrer | Japanese Black Pine



TYLER FERRER
JAPANESE BLACK PINE

Michael Sykes | Yaupon Holly



MICHAEL SYKES
YAUPON HOLLY
Michael Sykes



Dee Fann | Grape

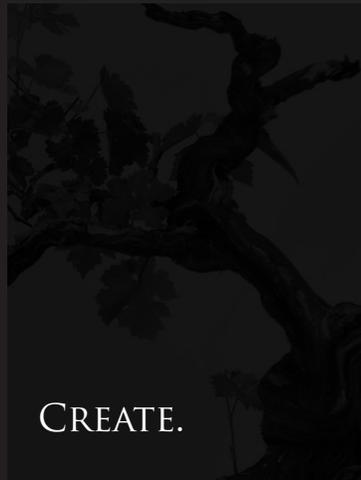
DEE FANN

John van de Wouw | Prostrata Juniper



JOHN VAN DE WOUW
John van de Wouw

Tom Culton | Prostrata Juniper



CREATE.

Doyle Saito | Pomegranate



DOYLE SAITO
POMEGRANATE

Keith Waters/South Coast Bonsai Association | Shimpaku



Harry Hirao | Viewing Stones



DAI NICHU BONSAI KAI VIEWING STONE
DONATED BY HARRY HIRAO

“IT’S THE ABILITY TO LISTEN TO
THE TREE THAT MAKES A BONSAI ARTIST EITHER
A MASTER, OR AN AVERAGE PERSON,
IN THE ART FORM.”

— Warren Hill

on Harry Hirao from the PBS series, EGG The Arts Show.

Serenity through Bonsai