

*Serenity  
Through Bonsai*



DAI ICHI  
BONSAI KAI

第一分盆栽會  
盆中平穩

# THE DAI ICHI GAZETTE

FEBRUARY 2015 | VOLUME 30, ISSUE 2

DAVID NGUY  
JUNIPER STYLING

## WINTER SILHOUETTES 2015

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI



# DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So what is the next big thing that our club is working towards? Our 35th Annual Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Show!

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have a little over two months before it is upon us. I want to encourage all of our members to display a tree, including our newest members! If you need guidance about how to present a bonsai in a show setting, Leila Kusumi will be providing a demonstration on displaying your trees at our April meeting. I know that there are at least a couple of members, who have never displayed their trees in our show. I have been turning the screws on these members, and as of now I have at least one who says they will put a tree in. Way to go!

Living in Southern California one can truly say the weather is never boring. Last month when I wrote the President's Message, it was rainy and cold out. Now, it's 4pm on a February afternoon and it's 83 degrees in Redondo Beach. All I can say is to stay on your toes and care for your bonsai, as the season and weather dictate. I am still in the process of re-potting (a little behind schedule) and I am thinking towards the start of a serious fertilizing regime here for the spring. Also with the start of new growth, I have been keeping an eye out for pests that love to feast on new buds and growth. Some of these tender new buds are the ones we have been waiting for, to aid in the development of our trees. Keep them healthy and strong.

Our demonstrator this month is Fred Miyahara and he will be showing us his time honored techniques for re-potting bonsai. Come learn what he thinks of the latest soil mixtures and how he handles the root balls of more established bonsai.

*John van de Wouw*

John van de Wouw  
President  
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai



*On the Cover | A very old Ficus by Zhao Sheng Che.*

*Inside Cover | Chinese Elm by Scott Pogosian on display at the 2015 Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai Winter Silhouettes Show.*



## DAVID NGUY

### JUNIPER STYLING DEMO

David Nguy was our featured demonstrator for February and he really showed us his skills by working on three Prostrata Junipers supplied by the club.

First off, David polled the crowd on which front showed off the tree's best attributes. He then went on to explain how he approaches setting up the structure to balance the foliage; by removing bar branches and eliminating unnecessary limbs, in order to achieve the desired, triangle structure. He showed us his technique for cleaning out foliage by eliminating down facing and inside foliage to allow strong branches to grow healthy. He then passed off the tree to his capable assistant, Jason Chan, to finish the cleanout and wiring.

He then moved on to the second Prostrata Juniper, which was a little more challenging than the first, as the branch structure was one dimensional and needed serious finessing. David explains, "after choosing the apex branch, I like to eliminate the inside branches that we don't need. Once they are eliminated, we can then work on the structure." He then applied wet strips of raffia to the main trunkline and number one branch, in order to protect the branch for a radical bend. "When you apply the raffia, make sure you tightly and evenly wrap, not only the trunk, but the branch you are bending as this helps to eliminate cracks when you bend the branch." Once wired, the branch bent like butter (not really, but it was pretty easy to bend).







*Jason Chan works on detail wiring as David checks the work.*



*Mel Ikeda watches as David examines the structure of the tree.*



*Congratulations to the lucky winners of David's trees. From left to right, Barry Miller, Nelson Sanabria, David Nguy, Neil Nguyen, and Jason Chan.*



*Paparazzi out in full force. Thanks Michael Izumoto, for the great footage!*

He then detail wired the tree into a very nice future bonsai.

The third tree David styled was another Juniper donated by the club. Other than a nice twist in the trunk, the tree was pretty much a stick without much movement, so David decided to make a *shohin* out of it. Cutting off about 3/4 of the height, he styled and shaped the tree, complete with Jinned branches which gave it a tremendous sense of age.

In record time, David and Jason completely styled three trees that were raffled off that night.

Congratulations to the lucky winners, Barry Miller, Nelson Sanabria and Neil Nguyen.

*For more information about David Nguy, his nursery and his school, Bonsai Jidai, please visit:*

<http://bonsaijidai.com>.





## BAIKOEN BONSAI KENKYUKAI • 2015 WINTER SILHOUETTES SHOW

Cheryl Manning  
Ume



On January 17th and 18th, Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai held their 51st annual Winter Silhouettes show at the LA Arboretum in Arcadia. The show featured deciduous trees in their winter forms, where the structure of the tree can be fully viewed and appreciated. The show also featured vendors, demonstrations and an auction to benefit the club. As always, the Silhouettes show was a fantastic way to kick off the new year.

Lois Hutchinson  
Ginkgo



Dick Ryerson  
Trident Maple Grove

Marybel Balendonck  
Trident Maple



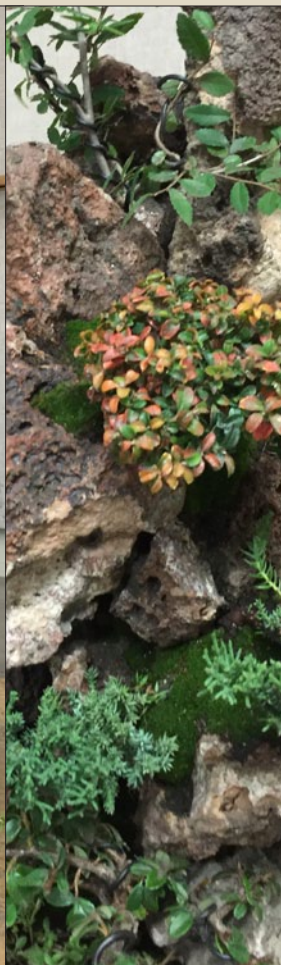
Leila Kusumi  
Korean Hornbeam



Ken Teh  
Chinese Elm

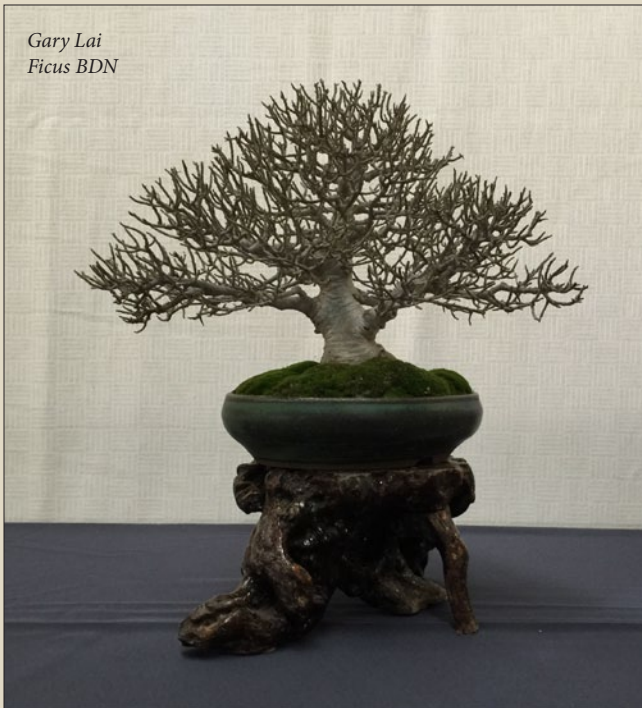








Gary Lai  
Ficus BDN



Scott Pogolian  
Chinese Elm



Marge Blasingame  
Cork Bark Elm



## Have You Renewed Your Club Membership Yet?

Your dues enable the club to present activities such as our annual show, guest demonstrations, workshops, the *Dai Ichi Gazette*, the club media library, as well as refreshments and club raffles.

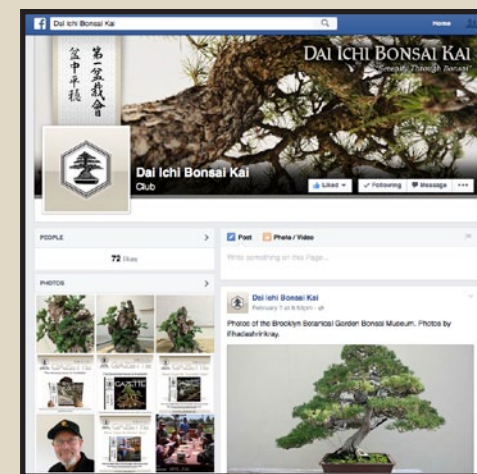
**Individual Membership**  
**\$25.00 per year**

**Family Membership**  
**\$35.00 per year**

If you have not already done so, please support the club by paying your dues, and by encouraging your family and friends, to join the club.

You can pay for your dues at the club meeting, or by mailing a check to:

CJ Harmatz  
2828 Allred Street  
Lakewood, CA 90712



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND  
GET YOUR SHOW TREES READY!



DAI ICHI  
BONSAI KAI

# Serenity through Bonsai

## 30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BONSAI EXHIBIT & SALE

May 2 and 3, 2015  
Ken Nakaoka Community Center  
1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena

### SATURDAY • MAY 2

10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. Show & Sales Area Open  
10:30 A.M. Beginner's Hands-on Workshop  
(free tree to first 15 newcomers to sign up Saturday morning)  
1:00 P.M. Round Robin Bonsai Demonstration  
6:00 P.M. Reception & Entertainment

### SUNDAY • MAY 3

10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. Show & Sales Area Open  
1:00 P.M. Mr. Frank Goya, Saikei Demonstration

Novice to master exhibitors, daily demonstrations and drawings, bonsai plants, tools, and accessories on sale throughout the show. Free admission and parking.

**For more information, please call Doyle Saito at (310) 539-9265.**

**Directions:**  
405 Freeway or Artesia Boulevard (91 Freeway) to Western Avenue. Western Avenue north to 162nd Street. Turn east (right) on 162nd Street to the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, located on the south side of 162nd Street at 1670 W. 162nd Street.



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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome, our newest members to DIBK

Paul Minerich, Bryan Keith, Jason Chan and Kevin McNally

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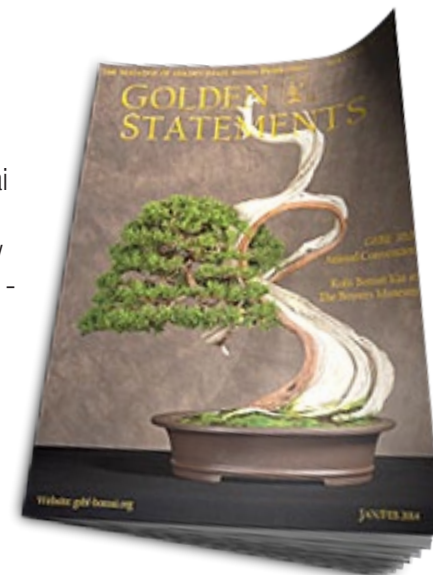
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(Updated 1/2015)



The GSBF Website works together with the Golden State-ments Magazine to bring you current bonsai related stories, photographs, special events, technical information, and more.

GSBF membership is too large and active in bonsai related endeavors to cover it all in the quarterly publication. And so, there is a news blog for posting more club shows, field trips, information on bonsai care, maintenance and styling.

There are two postings per week, Mondays and Thursdays. There are no deadlines. Articles in MS Word and photos (300-72 ppi) can be submitted via email to the Editor of Golden Statements at [gsEditor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsEditor@sbcglobal.net) to be posted within a week or two.

You can also subscribe to receive automatic notifications of new posts via email.

Make GSBF Website your first connection to membership information, programs and benefits!

[www.gsbf-bonsai.org](http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org)

## GOLDEN STATE BONSAI FEDERATION



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### Bay Island Bonsai Associates Annual Exhibit 2015 (part 3)

Posted on February 6, 2015



The Bay Island Bonsai (BIB) Associates' bonsai exhibition offers a variety of accent plants to complement their bonsai on display. These images include viewing stones and artwork by Mas Nakajima. Just a final look at a wonderful 2015 BIB exhibition of bonsai and art forms. [\(more...\)](#)

### The American

Posted on February 2, 2015



By Mauro Stemberger

*"A trip is from restless seeking new answers and return calm with a thousand other questions."*

The chance to travel and cultivate my passion is one of the things I love most in my life. During the month of May 2012, immediately after participating in the Exhibition Italian National UBI, I travelled to the United States to spend 10 days visiting new places and

doing what I love, Bonsai. The person who made it possible for my trip is the famous American Bonsaiist Jim Doyle, who runs Nature's Way Nursery in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. My journey made various visits to New York, Harrisburg, Washington DC, and to the Kennett Collection in Kennett, Pennsylvania, where I could work on some specimens, including a San Jose Juniper (*Juniperus San Jose*) of considerable dimensions. [\(more...\)](#)

### Bay Island Bonsai Associates Annual Exhibit 2015 (part 2)

Posted on January 29, 2015



The Bay Island Bonsai (BIB) Associates' bonsai exhibition presents the bonsai enthusiast and guest a wide range of species and bonsai styles, including quality pots and stands. Here is a second look at the exhibition. These images include the deciduous trees and some shohin on display. [\(more...\)](#)



Golden State  
Bonsai Federation  
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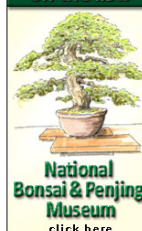
Calling all  
Bonsai to the  
Mammoth Auction &  
Sale at the Oakland  
Lakeside Garden  
Center

Saturday, Feb 21  
Auction Preview: begins at  
NOON  
Auction: begins at  
1:00PM

Sunday, Feb 22  
Vendor Sales: 9:00AM to  
4:00PM Plant Sales: 10:00AM to  
4:00PM Demo by Kathy Shaner:  
Noon to 3:00PM  
Drawing at 2:00PM

[Click here for details about  
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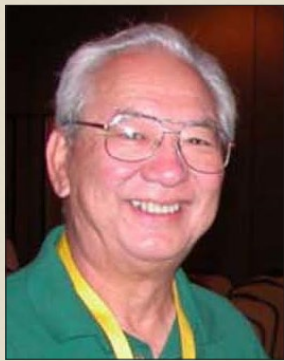
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## FEBRUARY FRED MIYAHARA POTTING DEMO



**F**red Miyahara has become a master on many aspects of bonsai, especially in the area of grafting and the Japanese black pine. He has done thousands of grafts using shimpaku scions onto San Jose junipers, and Nishiki (cork bark), Mikawa and Awaji scions onto black pine stock.

Mr Miyahara has many grafted shimpakus, and hundreds of black pine which he started from seed. Fred learned from American and Japanese masters. Some of his teachers and mentors have been Mas Ishii, Ernie Kuo, Dennis Makishima, Bill Castellon, Kathy Shaner, Boon Manakitivipart, and Kenji Miyata. He has also learned a large amount by studying books and articles, and most importantly, from experimenting on his own, the various methods and techniques. Mr Miyahara is regarded as one of the best black pine experts in Southern California.

Fred will be discussing Potting techniques at the February Demo.

## EVENTS

**February 28 – March 1, 2015**

**San Marino**

**Bonsai-A-Thon XIX**

The Huntington Library and  
Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Road

Admission to the event is free with  
Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registra-  
tion between 8 AM – 9:30 AM.

Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Pancake breakfast, demonstrations,  
lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales  
area, raffle, and auction. Sunday only:  
“Bring-Your-Own-Tree” Bonsai  
Consulting Clinic.

For more information, contact Marge  
Blasingame, (626) 579-0420 or email  
margeblasingame@att.net.

**March 7, 2015**

**Palos Verdes**

**Cherry Blossom Festival**

**South Coast Bonsai Association Show**

South Coast Botanic Gardens

26300 Crenshaw Boulevard

Members of the South Coast Bonsai  
Association will be displaying their  
trees at this event. Check out!

Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

See website for details and admission.  
www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org

**May 2 – 3, 2015**

**Gardena**

**Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai: Annual Exhibit  
“Serenity Through Bonsai”**

Ken Nakaoka Community Center,  
1670 W. 162nd St.

Hours: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Admission is free. Novice to master  
bonsai exhibits, sales, auction.

Saturday - Hands-on workshop at  
10:30 AM, round-robin demonstra-  
tion 1PM. Sunday - Saikei demon-  
stration at 1PM For more details about  
our club and show visit: [www.bit.ly/DIBK-Web](http://www.bit.ly/DIBK-Web) or [www.bit.ly/DIBK-FB](http://www.bit.ly/DIBK-FB).

## GRATITUDE

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

### **Benefit Drawing Contributors**

Doyle Saito, Chikugo-En Nursery,  
David and June Nguy,  
Nelson Sanabria, Louis Carrillo

### **Refreshment Contributors**

Doyle Saito, Jim Morris, Kei Ikari,  
Barry Miller, Judy & George Unrine,  
Jason Saito

### **Refreshment Signup for February**

Barry Miller, Michael Izumoto, Louis Carrillo

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

### *Special thanks to*

Zhao Sheng Che, David and June Nguy, Jason Chan, Michael Izumoto,  
Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai, Golden State Bonsai Federation,  
Candy J Shirey, San Gabriel Nursery.

*For their contributions to this issue of the DIBK Gazette.*

## ABOUT DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

**D**ai Ichi Bonsai Kai (“Number One”  
Bonsai Club) was established in  
January, 1986 and takes great pride  
in its family-oriented character. Our club is  
dedicated to promoting the art of bonsai.

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 is open  
to the public.

Our annual bonsai show is held on the first  
weekend in May at the Nakaoka Community  
Center. Other club activities include: bonsai  
digs, annual auction, potting parties, outings  
to nurseries and private gardens.

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*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)