

The Gazette

Official Publication of

Dai Ichí Bonsai Kai



“Serenity Through Bonsai”

February 2011
Volume 26, Issue 2

About Our Club

Dai 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, and outings to nurseries and private gardens.

2011 Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Board

President	Herb Eisenberg (310) 545-5954 heisenbergmb@verizon.net
1 st Vice President	Open
2 nd Vice President/Fundraising	Doyle Saito (310) 539-9265
Treasurer	Carl Crouse crlbrdly@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary/Historian	Dorthy Ray/Judy Unrine
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Browne
Program Chair	John Van de Wouw
Co-Show Chairs	Gary Lai/Herb Eissenberg
Membership	Carl Crouse crlbrdly@yahoo.com
Librarian	Judy Unrine judyyou@verizon.net
Website Chairs	Peter Macasieb
Benefit Drawing Chair	Open
Newsletter	Doyle Saito doylesaito@yahoo.com
Publicity	Tom Culton

Co-Founder/Sensei

Leila Kusumi (310) 327 0216

February 2011 Meeting -

Friday February 18, 2011 7:00 P.M.

Mel Ikeda

We are very pleased to have Mel Ikeda at Dai Ichi once again. Mel Ikeda grew up with bonsai, working with his father at the family's Ikeda Bonsai Garden. Mel also learned from John Naka, Harry Hirao, and Khan Komai, and his abilities to skillfully teach bonsai have made him a greatly sought after instructor.



For more information
and to see photos in color visit us on the web at:
<http://daiichi-bonsai.com>

President's Message

by Herb Eisenberg

I find that doing a bonsai demonstration is always a learning experience for me. Usually, my approach is to attempt something that I haven't previously done. I try to plan ahead as much as possible and then just let the demonstration follow its' own path. Perhaps it's not always apparent but I do like all of the questions and comments. We had several new members with us in January so, while many of the clubs members are quite experienced, I tried to spend a fair amount of time going over a few bonsai basics. That seemed to work out well since it appeared that there were a whole variety of opinions on some of the basic elements of creating a bonsai.

Doing a demonstration requires some interesting skills in both clock and crowd control. In spite of these challenges I value members' comments on how to refine my initial design. While time did not allow me to incorporate everyone's input at the meeting, I will do a fair amount of "tweaking" over the next weeks and months, as this new bonsai starts to mature. Special thanks this month to Program Chair John Van de Wouw for running the Benefit Drawing. Until we can find a new chair, several board members have agreed to pitch in and help run the monthly raffle. Storage space for the drawing materials is also a challenge and we are currently working to find a long term solution to this issue. Any ideas or assistance would be appreciated. Congratulations to Doyle Saito on issuing his first newsletter. It was a lot better than my first attempt and I'm looking forward to next months' edition. Thanks also to Ruben Espinosa for coordinating a bountiful refreshments table. Finally, welcome to the new members who joined the club in January. They will be individually recognized in an upcoming newsletter so that we can all greet them personally.

Happy bonsai,
Herb

Dai Ichi Thanks

Contributors to the Refreshment Table in January:

Leila Kusumi, George & Judy Unrine,
Doyle Saito, Tom Culton, John Van De Wouw,
Masami Tamura

Contributions to the Benefit Drawing table from:

Herb Eisenberg, John Van De Wouw

Refreshments

February

Robin Espinosa

March

Tom Culton



Welcome

Welcome to the following new members

Chong Kim

Youngsin Kim

Presidents Demo



Herb discusses the importance of muck and the different ways to prepare and create muck

Clinging to Rock



Clinging to rock style planting



Neil Nguyen the winner of the benefit drawing

Background

Clinging to Rock style plantings represent an alternative platform for bonsai beyond the traditional fired clay pots that we see most often. The absence of sides found on the pot provide a very dramatic, unobstructed view of the trees. However, special attention must be given to insure that the trees are securely fastened to the stone and that the soil will not erode.

Creating a Slab Planting

- Select stone slab: granite, flagstone, slate, concrete (ciment fondu)
- Develop a basic concept, then make a sketch or drawing.
- Leave open space
- Remember the triangle
- Place smaller trees toward open side
- Plant at multiple elevations
- Acquire several trees (juniper, elm, etc.) and pre-shape & wire
- Create an adequate supply of muck (clay, sphagnum moss, soil).
- Place trees in approximate position on slab.
- Epoxy wire tie-downs onto slab.
- Complete perimeter of land area with muck and fill with soil.
- Firmly place trees and wire together if necessary.
- Install moss.
- Mist heavily.

Supplies & Suppliers:

- ✦ Slab –Thompson Building Materials
- ✦ Trees – Home Depot, Chikugo-en, Moneta Nursrey
- ✦ Clay – Blinks, Walsers art supply
- ✦ Soil - shohin bonsai mix ; akadama, scoria & pumice (diatomaceous earth)
- ✦ Moss – collect and grow in shade

References:

Forest, Rock Planting & Ezo Spruce
Bonsai It's Art, Science, History and Philosophy

Saburo Kato
Deborah Koreshoff

Winter Silhouettes



The Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai, Winter Silhouettes exhibition held each January at the Los Angeles Arboretum's Ayres Hall. Featuring only leafless trees the show presents some of the most refined bonsai in our region.





THE GSBF COLLECTION AT THE HUNTINGTON

Presents

Bonsai-A-Thon XV

**Saturday & Sunday, February 26th & 27th, 2011
7:30AM – 4:30PM**

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SCHEDULE

1. Registered Bonsai-A-Thon attendees may purchase breakfast and lunch in the Head House west of the Conservatory building.
2. Initial styling and advanced refinement demonstrations by:

7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast ¹
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Bazaar and Bonsai Exhibits
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Jim Folsom tour of the GSBF Bonsai Collection at the Hunting- ton
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Demonstrations ²
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Hotdogs and Hamburgers Lunch ¹
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	ONLY ON SUNDAY: Larry Ragle PowerPoint presentation: “ John Naka – The Ultimate Artist”
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Raffle and live auction

Saturday...

- Harry Hirao
- Mel Ikeda
- Cesareo Perez
- Kathy Benson
Cheryl Manning

Sunday...

- David Nguy
- Marcus Juniel
- Ray Blasingame
- Ken Teh
- Peter Macasieb

Bonsai-A-Thon XIV 2011

Fundraiser For

THE GSBF COLLECTION

AT THE HUNTINGTON

Saturday, February 26th & Sunday, February 27th

HOW TO GET IN

Attending the Bonsai-A-Thon is free, but does require registration at the Botanic Center. You can speed the process by filling in the “ticket” at the bottom and showing it to the Bonsai-A-Thon registrar or the Huntington security guard.



**Feb 26th – 27th
2011**

Bonsai-A-Thon Participant

Name:

**If you haven't already renewed your Dai Ichi
Membership please take a moment to do it now!!**

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai

Membership Form

Mail membership form with your check (payable to *Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai*) to:

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Membership

9615 Arkansas Street

Bellflower, CA 90706

____ Individual \$15.00/year ____ Family \$25.00/year ____ New Member

____ Renewal ____ Replacement badge needed

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

I heard about the club (circle one);

Daily Breeze

Gardena Valley News

Website

Other

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Gazette



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai
22720 Eastwood St
Torrance, CA 90505

Club Meeting Friday February 18, 2011 **Mel Ikeda**

Club Meeting Friday March 18, 2011—Ben Oki

Club Meeting Friday April 15, 2011—TBD