

The Gazette

Official Publication of

Dai Ichí Bonsai Kai



“Serenity Through Bonsai”

May 2013
Volume 28, Issue 05

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.

Website—<http://www.daiichibonsaikai.wordpress.com>

2013 Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Board

President	Doyle Saito 310.539.9265 doylesaito@yahoo.com
1 st Vice President	John Van de Wouw
2 nd Vice President/Fundraising	OPEN
Treasurer	Carl Crouse crlbrdly@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary/Historian	Judy Unrine JudyysGarden01@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Browne
Program Chair	John Van de Wouw
Co-Show Chairs	Tom Culton/Peter Macasieb
Membership	Carl Crouse
Librarian	Jim Morris
Website Chairs	Scott Pogolian
Benefit Drawing Chair	Scott Pogolian
Newsletter	CJ Harmatz cjharmatz@verizon.net 714-514-5117
Hospitality	OPEN

Co-Founder/Sensei

Leila Kusumi (310) 327 0216

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai
27th Annual
Bonsai Exhibit
Serenity Through Bonsai

May 4 and 5, 2013

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

Show Schedule

Saturday, May 4

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 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 with Peter
Macasieb and Michael Sykes |
| 6:00 P.M. | Reception & Entertainment |

Sunday, May 5

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 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.

Dai Ichi Club Volunteers Needed!

President's Message

Herb Update: Carol Upston gave the club the rundown on Herb. Herb is currently recovering from a stroke and is doing well. He is alert and mentally fine. He does have paralysis on his left side and is still weak. Herb and his family are currently restricting visitors and are thankful for all the support. Herb will be moving to a stroke rehabilitation facility at Cedars-Sinai Medical center for an undefined period of time. Get well Herb.

Our annual show is just a few weeks away and our preparations are about complete. Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring food and drink. Dinner is scheduled for 6:00pm on Saturday. We have scheduled entertainment from the Halau Keali'I O Nalani, this is the local Hula club that practices in the Nakaoka Center. Following the dinner and show we will have our annual raffle to close out the nights entertainment. If you have not signed up to come to the show, no problem, bring a raffle prize or bake a cake and come on down to the nights party.

We could use a few more people to help with the beginner's workshop on Saturday morning, 10:30am. Donuts and coffee will be provided, again food for thought.

We have some great demonstrators for our show. Saturday will be the round robin demo with Michael Sykes and Peter Macasieb. Sundays demo will be the Saikei Master Mr Frank Goya.

If you need bonsai supplies we will have David and June, House of Bonsai, Mel Ikeda, and the Dai Ichi Club sale of trees, pots, wire, and tools.

A special thank you to the Ko Yu Kai Shohin club, they will again be showing a beautiful display of Shohin trees.

Thank you
Doyle

Dai Ichi Gratitude

Benefit Draw Contributions

Doyle Saito, Kevin Sweeney, Dai Ichi Club

Refreshment Contributors

Doyle Saito, Leila Kusumi



Refreshments

May— 2013 Dai Ichi Dinner Sign-up

Salads: Carol Upston, Carl Crouse, John Van de Wouw

Bread: Jim Morris

Main Dish: Milton Louie,
Leila Kusumi, Peter Macasieb,
Doyle Saito, CJ Harmatz,
Mark Levinstein,
Kevin Sweeney

Dessert: Tom Culton,
Scott Pogolian, Doyle Saito,
Jim Morris

Drinks: Doyle Saito

Table Cloths, Plates, Utensils:

Judy Unrine



June—TBD

July—No Meeting

Please help out by volunteering to bring refreshments!

April Dai Ichi Club Demonstration Mel Ikeda



Mel has all his supplies ready to work on 3–4 Procumbis Nana Juniper trees for a forest design.

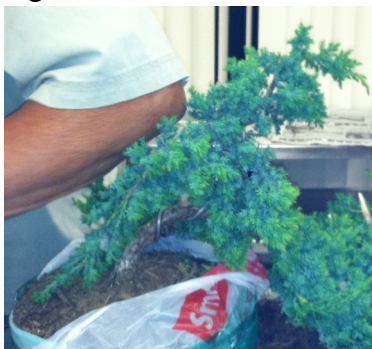
Styling Tree #1



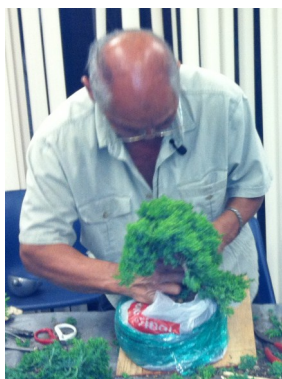
Styling Tree #2



Mel reminds us that reverse tapers get removed. Branches on inside curve get cut off.

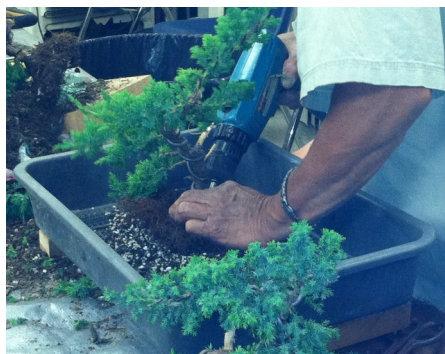


Styling Tree #3



Deciding what trees work best together. Mel emphasizes that you can't have opposing trunks and the apex of all trees need to be in the same area.

Mel shares a technique of screwing the trees into place in a colander type pot to allow the trees to grow for several years with good drainage while the root system joins together for future repotting.



Front View



Back View



The winner of the 2 tree forest was Kevin Sweeney. The winner of the single tree was CJ Harmatz.



GSBF Harry Hirao Annual Scholarship

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Harry Hirao Annual Scholarship (HHAS) is to provide a onetime grant of \$1,500.00 to a worthy bonsai enthusiast. This money must be used for educational purposes in the art of bonsai within one year of receiving the scholarship. The recipient cannot use these funds to acquire: bonsai, pots, tools, books, or other physical items; it is to be used to further education in bonsai by studying with a recognized bonsai artist.

APPLICATION

An application must be submitted no later than midnight on July 15 to receive consideration. The application is to be submitted to the editor of the Golden Statements.

The application must include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. Name, address, phone number, and e-mail address of the applicant.
2. Primary bonsai club and club membership history.
3. How many years of bonsai experience.
4. In 500 words or less, applicant will describe their bonsai educational goals and why they should receive the HHAS.
5. A brief description of how the funds will be used, and the person with whom the applicant will study.
6. If awarded the HHAS, applicant agrees that all funds awarded will be expended prior to the following annual convention.
7. Applicant will cooperate with and submit at least one article to the Golden Statements describing activities while using the HHAS funds, such as: demonstrations, workshops conducted or lectures given, and other actions with the bonsai teacher that increase skill and knowledge of bonsai. The deadline for submission of this article is July 20th following receipt of the scholarship.
8. Verification by the applicant's Club President of member in good standing with a GSBF Club.

SELECTION PROCESS

HHAS Scholarship Committee will review all timely applications and verify eligibility. The selection committee will be made up of the GSBF President, Vice President, two board members appointed by the President, and the editor of Golden Statements. The selection committee's decision is final and the award shall be given at the annual GSBF convention. If no application is deemed worthy the committee reserves the right to not award the scholarship for that year.

Here is a great article found on the internet to help you prepare to show your tree at the Dai Ichi Bonsai Exhibit in May.

Preparing Your Bonsai Trees for Display

Prepared by Ardie Apostolos for the 1/15/2013 PBS Meeting

Your tree reflects your artistic style, and all that you have learned to date. Come to the show, bring your tree, and enjoy explaining your vision to the public. It is very satisfying to watch the viewers enjoy your bonsai through your words and their own eyes!

To get your tree ready to show in a bonsai display:

1. Clean up the tree:

□ Late fall and winter are good times to keep looking at, and refining the small shaping that needs to be done. This is especially true with deciduous trees. Reserve “styling” or “restyle” of a tree for early spring; but smaller cuts to bring the pads back, is done in winter. Also look for “stubs” which may have been left from a previous styling session, and cleanly remove them.

□ While we often bury our tree’s roots in the spring and summer (to promote the growth of larger roots), winter is time to expose them by pushing back the soil towards the edge of the pot. If there are small roots which are growing up the trunk above the soil, these can be snipped at the trunk and soil line, as they detract from the larger buttress roots (Nebari) that you are trying to develop. If you are going to show the tree, remove this top layer of soil, as it usually contains branch snippets, wire pieces, leaves, etc. A new, fresh layer of soil looks better for display anyway. Feel free to use fine pebbles, plain scoria, plain chicken grit etc., as one of these may enhance the effect which you are going for with your particular tree, such as deep forest, craggy ridgeline, desert, etc.

□ If there is a nice covering of moss surrounding the trunk, you will approach this differently. Moss should not grow up the trunk of the tree. Moss should not cover up nice buttress roots, and moss should not have little plants poking up through it. Moss looks best at the base or underneath the root, so don’t let it get away from you. Moss also needs to be weed and debris free, so get your little brushes and tweezers out.

If there is calcium deposit on the base of your tree, it can be worked on with a SOFT nylon brush to remove the deposit. I find this is best done when the tree is dry, rather than wet, as brushing the wet calcium deposit tends to pull off bark.

Trees which have been wired for awhile should have the wire removed. If your branch is not staying in the position you wished, you may rewire it, taking great care to have the wiring job look professional and not tacky. For the most part, we try to show a more finished tree, rather than one under construction. There are times when it is nice to show a wired tree as a public education tool in shows. (Matsuri, or any venue where we are invited to give a talk on bonsai) For most very formal shows, wire is kept to an absolute minimum, and rarely shows on displayed trees. (i.e., very fine wire on finely ramified branches)

□ Do not put any lime sulfur on a tree's Jin or Shari just prior to a show! The yellow color will not show the tree well at all, and the smell will drive participants away!

Pine trees: Pull off dead needles, and needles which grow on the underside of branches. On Stone Pine, there will be a few needles which are twice the length of the others, and those should be pulled off.

Deciduous trees: Remove old or damaged looking leaves and any wire that has been on for awhile. This is especially true of winter or "Silhouette Trees". It is wonderful to see the tree's "skeletal" branching, not wire or lingering dead leaves.

Juniper trees: Hopefully you have been pinching back these types of trees often. This helps them remain nice and compact, and not turn back into bushes. However, all this pinching creates those dead needles at the tips, and all of this needs to be picked out when preparing the tree for display. The primary way to rid your Juniper of brown needles is a long session with a pair of tweezers. Play some enjoyable music, or listen to the T V whilst you pick! You can then finish by applying a fine spray of dormant oil, such as Volck Oil Spray. An application during the winter is good for the tree anyway, as it kills overwintering insects and their eggs. This spray also has the advantage of bringing out a nice green color to the dull wintered foliage. (I find it also enhances stone pine, and olive trees) Just follow directions for mixing, put it in a spray bottle to apply, and cover up the soil, and the pot with plastic wrap or newspaper first.

Olive trees: The leaves on our olive trees tend to show a lot of water spotting. These can be removed from each leaf by gently rubbing the topside of the leaf. Again, time consuming, but it will show how much you care about your tree.

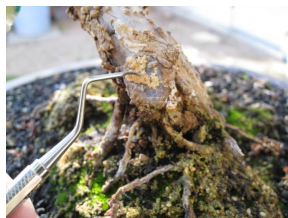
2. Clean up the pot:

□ The pot may have areas of calcium deposit on it, which needs to be removed as best as you can prior to a show. If you transplant your trees often, and are diligent about a good cleaning prior to putting the tree back in place, and if you are also diligent about oiling the pot, this job will be easier as the calcium deposits are kept to a minimum. If the deposits are minimal, you might be able to get away with a fine coat of oil rubbed on the pot otherwise a scrubbing is in order. This may necessitate removing the tree from the pot. Gently “lift” the tree out, (disturbing the roots and soil as little as possible) setting it down on wet paper towels, and further wrap the top of the root and soil with wet paper towel, keeping the whole thing damp and out of the sun and wind!

The most efficient way I have found to clean mineral deposit from pots is with muriatic acid, a brush and a lot of patience. This swimming pool acid can be caustic and dangerous to humans, as anyone who has ever splashed it on their skin, or breathed in vapors can attest! Wear gloves, eye protection and a face mask to prevent trouble. Pour out a little acid in a container, and work from that container with a brush rather than soaking a pot in the acid. On glazed pots, it is best to use a rag to apply the acid, and try the acid on an inconspicuous area first to make sure there is no damage to the glaze. Once you have gotten off as much of the mineral deposit as you can, wash the pot. Rinse the acid off the pot with water, followed by cleaning the pot in a tub with Lysol and water, and then rinse, rinse, rinse. Let it dry. Place new screen in the bottom of the pot, and apply a fine layer of oil to the outside of the pot with a soft cloth. I have found that Walnut Oil, (comes in a can from the grocery) to be my favorite. This oil does not get thick on the pot, turn sticky, or have an unpleasant smell. Refrigerate it to keep it from going rancid.

□ Now you are ready to secure the tree, and its present soil, back into the pot. Unless you have a thick, solid root mass, this will necessitate wiring into the pot as you are going to transport the tree. Moving a tree in the pot could cause a lot of damage to the roots if it jiggles around in the pot. On another note, bonsai artists often have a “precious” or expensive heirloom pot which they use for a specific tree. This pot is not the pot in which the tree lives, but is only the pot in which the tree is placed for a show. If for example, you have a pot that is very shallow, but you love the way the tree looks in it, you may change out a tree to such a pot for display. The process of lifting a tree from one pot to another, and then back again, will not cause the tree harm, if you take great care with the roots. This work is best done a few weeks before a show, allowing the tree a rest period before it is moved in a car, and again the tree must be wired in place.

Water your tree thoroughly in the early afternoon a day BEFORE the show for a small container, and a couple of days BEFORE for a big bonsai tree. This is to prevent any water from leaking on the stands or tablecloths used for display. Make sure that your bonsai tree and accent plant have a label with your name on the BOTTOM of the pots and stands. Secure as many little felt bumpers as you need on the bottom of the pot to prevent any damage to the tops of EXPENSIVE bonsai stands. If you have a specific “front” to your tree, mark it by placing a piece of wire, coffee stirrer, etc. This is very important for round pots. For the most part, you will not be the one setting up the display; others will be in charge of that. When you sign up for a formal show online, you will be asked specific s about the trees you wish to show. Please don’t substitute one tree for another species at the last moment, they will not be accepted for display, as a proper name tag has not been provided for the tree. Therefore, watch your deadlines closely.



Calcium and mineral deposits can be partially removed by gently picking or brushing with a soft brush (old toothbrush). Do not use a metal brush or Dremel, as this will damage the bark.



Small, unsightly roots growing up the tree trunk should be removed.



The browned needles of a juniper tree have to be painstakingly plucked out with tweezers



Moss looks wonderful in a bonsai pot, however it should not cover up the important root system which needs to be seen.

The large wires on this tree indicate that it still under construction as a bonsai. Typically we only show these trees in an educational setting for the purpose of demonstrating wiring. This wire would be removed for a formal show.



Support Our Club! **Take a Workshop**



Lindsay Shiba – Mt. Fuji Garden Center - July 19, 2013

Lindsay Shiba began learning bonsai in 1970 from his father, Katsumi Shiba (who had learned from John Naka). Lindsay continued his formal training under Khan Komai, who introduced Lindsay to the love of deciduous trees, accent plantings and displaying bonsai in formal settings. John Naka and Harry Hirao are Lindsay's present mentor-teachers.

Lindsay presents many demonstrations and workshops in California and around the United States. He teaches beginning through advanced \ workshop courses in bonsai at his family's nursery -- Mt. Fuji Garden Center (<http://www.mtfujigardencenter.com>) -- in Upland, California. During the last few years, Lindsay has been assisting Ben Oki with demonstrations and workshops. He is a past President of California Bonsai Society, a show chairman of Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai's Winter Silhouettes Show, and a member of Nampukai. Lindsay's Bachelor of Science degree in Ornamental Horticulture and minor in Irrigation from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, has gone "hand-in-hand" with his interests in bonsai and managing the family nursery.

There will not be a regular Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai meeting on this date

Workshop Details:

1. Seating is limited to ten (10) participants, initial priority will be given to Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai members. Seating will be opened up to the larger bonsai community six (6) weeks prior to the event based upon first come – first served of applications received with full payment.
2. Participants shall bring one tree only
3. Participants shall provide their own tools and wire
4. Class will be conducted at the **Nakaoka Community Center**
1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA, 90247
5. Class time will be from **12:15 PM to 4:45 PM** the day of the class
6. Registration is required for the class date
7. **Registration is \$30 for each class** and should be mailed to:
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai
c/o John van de Wouw
660 S Irena Ave, Redondo Beach, CA, 90277-4355

Coming Events

May 4 – 5, 2013: Gardena, California

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai: Annual Exhibit “Serenity Through Bonsai” at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St. Hours are 10 AM – 4 PM, both days. Novice to master bonsai exhibits. Beginner’s hands-on workshop at 10:30 AM Saturday, at 1 PM a round-robin demonstration featuring Peter Macasieb and Michael Sykes, and Sunday at 1 PM a saikei demonstration by Frank Goya will be held. The demonstration items will be in the benefit drawing, which follows each demonstration.

May 18 & 19, 2013: Santa Barbara, California

Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara: Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Road. Hours are Saturday 11 AM – 4 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM. Demonstrations at 1 PM on both days. Plant sales by the Club. Native plants suitable for bonsai in the Botanic Garden’s nursery. Books and other gifts in the Garden Shop. For more information, contact Ann Erb 805-929-4972, email annerb@charter.net or visit www.santabarbarbonsai.org.

June 15 and 16, 2013: La Cañada Flintridge, California

Descanso Bonsai Society: Annual Show at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive. Hours are 9 AM – 5 PM, with Demonstrations 11 AM and 1 PM each day. Sales area open to the public. Admission to the exhibition is free with admission to Descanso Gardens. A Saturday night reception 6 PM – 9 PM includes light refreshments, auction and raffle. For more information contact Michael Jonas at (818) 775-0813.

July 19, 2013: Gardena, California

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai: Workshop with Lindsay Shiba at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St. from 12:15—4:45 pm.. Cost: \$30

October 31—November 3, 2013: Burbank, CA

The GSBF Convention: Bonsai Artist Studio: Outside the Box—Expect the unexpected. Marriott LA Burbank Airport. Headliners: David De Groot, Suthin Sukosolvisit and Peter Warren. Details at www.gsbfcconvention.org

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai is a proud member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation
<http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org/>

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Gazette



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai
22720 Eastwood St
Torrance, CA 90505

Club Meeting Friday May 4 & 5—Annual Club Show

Club Meeting Friday June 21, 2013—TBD

Lindsay Shiba Workshop Friday July 19, 2013—NO Club Evening Meeting