

The Gazette

Official Publication of

Dai Ichí Bonsai Kai



“Serenity Through Bonsai”

December 2013
Volume 28, Issue 12

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 Chair | Scott Pogolian |
| Benefit Drawing Chair | Scott Pogolian |
| Newsletter | CJ Harmatz cjharmatz@verizon.net 714-514-5117 |
| Hospitality | OPEN |
| Publicity | Tom Culton |
| Past President | Herb Eisenberg |

Co-Founder/Sensei

Leila Kusumi (310) 327 0216

No Meeting in December



Have a Very
Happy and Healthy
Joyous Holiday Season!

See You in the New Year!

Support the Club!

Don't Forget to Pay your 2014 Dues

The New 2014 Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Board
We could still use some more help!

| | |
|--|------------------|
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| Past President | Doyle Saito |

President's Message

Another bonsai year has come and gone. Our trees are going dormant and the weather is getting cold and rainy. With the shorter days and cooler nights, the need to maintain your bonsai will decrease. Flowering trees, such as pear, quince, cherry, crab apple, and plum will bloom during the winter and early spring. You should try to hold back any pruning until after the flowering period and enjoy the beauty of these deciduous trees. Spraying your deciduous trees with a lime sulfur solution over the holidays will greatly reduce the stress on the trees when all the bugs now in winter hibernation wake up and start chomping on your trees.

The California Bonsai Society will have their annual holiday sale on Sunday December 1st. This will be at the Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery, 1905 Sawtelle Blvd. West Los Angeles, CA 90025 310.473.5444.

The hours will be 9:00 am to 3:00pm.

Since this is the December issue and my two years of duties are up, yup this is my last president's message. It has been a wonderful two years being president of Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai, but all things must end. Thank you to everyone who has supported the club and me during this time.

Thank You – Mahalo – domo arigato gozaimasu
Doyle

Dai Ichi Gratitude

Benefit Draw Contributions

Doyle Saito, Carl Crouse

Refreshment Contributors

Doyle Saito, Tom Culton

Suthin Demo Refreshments

Frank Goya, Maggie Carpenter, Doyle Saito, Leila Kusumi,
Augustine Gaeta



Refreshments

December—No meeting

January—CJ Harmatz, Mark Levinstein, Carl Crouse,
Jason Saito

February—Jason Saito,
Doyle Saito

March—Barry Miller,
Jason Saito

April—Doyle Saito



Please help out by
volunteering to bring
refreshments!

Ryan Nichols Presentation

Ryan Nichols certainly has a passion for soil. He gave a wonderful presentation of the Science of Bonsai Soil. Ryan instructed that the “What” informs but the “Why” transforms. Principles should never change; practices should change and adapt. Here are a few key points he covered.



Root hairs do most of the nutrient and water uptake. Optimal root growing conditions—Cool climate species 50-65 degrees and warm climate species 70-85 degrees Fahrenheit. Ryan uses a meat thermometer to accurately measure the soil temperature. A seedling mat can be used to maintain correct temperature..

Different soil components have different nutrient holding capacities called cation exchange capacity (CEC). Typically organic matter as the highest CEC, followed by clay. There are numerous bonsai soil ingredients. Most of which, are large aggregates that provide ample drainage and large pore space. Each soil ingredient has different nutrient and water holding capacities. These differences are only considered advantages or disadvantages based on how **we maintain** our bonsai.

Soil ingredients are not the enemy... we are our own worst enemy when we fail to understand and properly manage bonsai soils based on the different ingredients we add to them!

Soil ingredients are not the only things that determine nutrient and water holding capacity. **Particle size also plays a large role in nutrients, but mainly water-holding capacity.**

- Capillary action: small pore space = greater force of adhesion and cohesion (water held more tightly)
- Finer soils hold more water



Soil particle size effects plant growth. As particles size increase, growth rate decreases. The real danger is when soil pore space becomes significantly larger than root diameter. Ideal size should be from 2mm-4mm.

A drainage layer does not really help water drain. It allows for water to be stored in the center of the pot (a sort of reservoir) and provides a rapid recharge of air to the soil as water builds up and is flushed out by gravity each time we water.

When watering trees in a good bonsai soil mix, water then thoroughly to make sure that the water gets everywhere. **Drip systems and bonsai soils do not mix well!**

Remember the 3 things that determine water-holding capacity of bonsai soils - soil type, particle size (small hold more water), and volume of soil (more soil = more water)

These are California Redwood trees that Ryan is growing. These trees do not usually do well in Southern California but Ryan has figured out the right soil and growing conditions. He grows them in larger pots and places them out of the sun when hot under a shade cloth.



Special Demonstration with Suthin Sukosolvisit



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



The group looks on as Suthin masterfully instructed us how to make decisions on how to style each tree. With each step, he helped us see what might work and gave us time to process each possibility.



Raffle winner Al Callanta



Thanks Mannie for being our auctioneer for the evening.



Auction winner Mark Levinstein



Auction winner Leila Kusumi



California Bonsai Society



Annual Thanksgiving Member's Sale

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sunday December 1, 2013

at

Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery

1905 Sawtelle Blvd.

West Los Angeles, CA 90025

(310) 473-5444

(Just west of the 405, between Olympic and Santa Monica Blvd)

- * The sale will be in the parking lot on the south side of the Nursery. Wear old shoes as the lot is unpaved.
- * Individual Bonsai Sales Area for each participating CBS Member
- * Knowledgeable personnel available to help you with your bonsai needs
- * Hurry to get a Great Deal on your future Bonsai Masterpiece

**Only Cash and Check(s) will be accepted-
No Credit Cards**

Coming Events

January 18 & 19, 2014: Arcadia, California

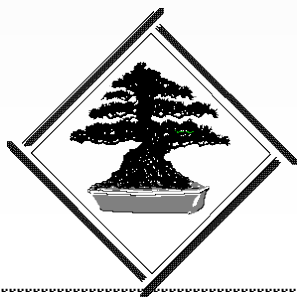
Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai presents “Winter Silhouettes” 50th Annual Celebration. Time 10am—4:30pm. Place: Arboretum of LA County, 310 North Baldwin Ave, Demonstrations at 1pm.

January 31—February 2, 2014: Santa Nella, California

California Shohin Seminar at the Hotel Mission de Oro. Friday (Jan 31): Registration, Demonstrations, and Exhibit and Vendor areas Set Up. Everyone is invited to share their treasured Shohin Bonsai in the Exhibit. Saturday (Feb 1): Exhibit Opens for Viewing, Vendor Sales Critiques, Workshops, Bazaar & Benefit Drawing Sunday (Feb 2): Exhibit Open 10:30-Noon. Critique and Demonstration, Business Meeting. Registration Forms available on the website on November 1st 2013. For general information email: calshohin@yahoo.com, website: <http://www.calshohin.org/> or phone: Randi Keppeler 650-598-0127

February 22 & 23, 2014: San Marino, California

Bonsai-A-Thon XVIII at The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino; annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington Botanical Gardens. Admission to the event is free with Bonsai-A-Thon “early bird” registration between 8 AM – 9:30 AM. Event hours are 8 AM – 4:30 PM both days. Sunday morning: bring-your-own-tree workshop led by Ted Matson – limit 10 people (for details contact Ted, tmatson@earthlink.net). Pancake breakfast, tour hosted by Jim Folsom (Director of the Garden), demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle, and auction. For more information, contact Marge Blasingame, (626) 579-0420, margeblasingame@att.net.



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

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Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai
22720 Eastwood St
Torrance, CA 90505

Club Meeting Friday December 20, 2013—No Meeting

Club Meeting Friday January 17, 2014 - TBD

Club Meeting Friday February 21, 2013—TBD