

# *The Gazette*

*Official Publication of*

## *Dai Ichí Bonsai Kai*



*“Serenity Through Bonsai”*

August 2014  
Volume 29, Issue 8

## 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>

### 2014 Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Board

President	John Van de Wouw
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Doyle Saito
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Fundraising	<b>OPEN</b>
Treasurer	Scott Pogolian
Recording Secretary/Historian	Judy Unrine
Corresponding Secretary	CJ Harmatz
Program Chair	Doyle Saito
Co-Show Chairs	<b>OPEN</b>
Membership	CJ Harmatz
Librarian	Jim Morris
Website Chair	Scott Pogolian
Benefit Drawing Chair	Kevin Sweeney
Newsletter	CJ Harmatz
Hospitality	<b>OPEN</b>
Publicity	Tom Culton
Past President	Doyle Saito

Co-Founder/Sensei

Leila Kusumi

# **Dai Ichi Gratitude**

## **Benefit Drawing Contributors**

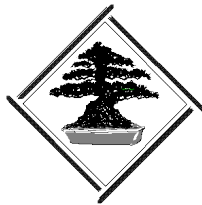
Koller Family, Doyle Saito, Barry Miller, Nelson Sanabria

## **Refreshment Contributors**

Doyle Saito, Jason Saito

## **Welcome New Members**

Tyler Ferrer



# **Refreshments**

**August** —Jason Saito, George and Judy Unrine

**September**— Barry Miller, Gib and Elissa Hoxie

**October**—TBD

**November**—TBD

**Please help out by volunteering to bring refreshments!**

## **President's Message**

The dog days of summer are upon us, warm monsoonal weather with some days more sultry than others. It's a good time of year to ensure that plants are cleaned out of dead and dying foliage along with morning watering in order to reduce the risks of pest infestations and fungus outbreaks. Be proactive with treatment if you think it is warranted. If you have questions about anything effecting your bonsai, our meetings are a great place to ask questions.

We have an additional change to the Dai Ichi Leadership to announce. CJ Harmatz has been our newsletter editor for the past several years, doing a wonderful job publishing great issues that always shine a favorable light on our club and bonsai community. This is the last issue of our newsletter that CJ will be publishing. Thank you for all your hard work! Jason Saito has agreed to pick up where CJ has left off and we look forward to future newsletters under Jason's stewardship.

This months demonstrator is Bob Pressler, owner of Kimura Bonsai Nursery located over the hill in Northridge. Bob has many years experience and is an accomplished bonsai master and has affiliations with the California Bonsai Society and the Nanpu Kai bonsai club, and he has extensive Japanese garden landscape design experience as well. This should be a great demonstration.

The Nanpu Kai bonsai show will be held downtown in Little Tokyo August 16th and 17th during the annual Nisei Week Festival. This year Nanpu Kai is celebrating John Naka's 100th birthday and all the contributions he made promoting the art of bonsai in Los Angeles and throughout the world. Be sure to swing by to enjoy the festival and see some truly masterpiece bonsai.

-- john

# **Dai Ichi Club Meeting Friday, August 15, 2014**

## **Robert Pressler**

I'm Robert (Bob) Pressler, owner of Kimura Bonsai Nursery in Los Angeles since 1996. I'm a member of the California Bonsai Society and the John Naka's club Nanpuki. I've studied with a variety of teachers starting informally with Frank Okamura at the Brooklyn Botanical gardens in the early 70's when I was a kid. I moved to CA in 1984 and a couple of years thereafter meet John Naka, Ben Oki and the whole crowd of Southern CA bonsai artists. And clubs which really helped me expand my skills and gave me the opportunity to share them with others. In 2000 I met Kenji Miyata at a convention in CA and since 2001 have been studying with him. I conduct several classes a month at my nursery as well as demo's and workshop for clubs near and far. The 110 tree forest in the photograph was created in 2001 as a memorial to the events of 9-11.



# Dai Ichi Club Meeting Friday, July 18, 2014

## Ben Oki



Ben puts extra holes in his pots for good drainage.



Japanese Black Pines like to grow closer to the ocean. Ben has had this tree for 20 years and he just let it grow.

Ben wrapped wire around the two trunks to make the trunk bigger. The tree tries to push the wire off. This wire has been on for 2 years.

Ben recommends the John Naka books for learning bonsai techniques. Cut off everything that is sticking straight up. He uses decomposed granite soil and does not use a strong fertilizer. Next Spring, this tree can be repotted. The best months are March and April. De-candle the whole tree at one time in April, May or June.







Over 20 years ago, Ben established a Bonsai Club at a Florida Prison. He still visits each year.

Ben travels a lot to do demonstrations throughout the country.



The finished design; at least for now. Wonder what this tree will look like in another 20 years!



**A Younger Ben Oki**





# Club Dig Close Up Pictures

The 40+ year old Junipers we missed by not showing up on a very hot day to dig!

Thanks Doyle for your persistence to set this up!



Thuan Lam  
Jason Saito  
Doyle Saito

Nelson Sanabria  
Kei Ikari  
Kevin & Aki Sweeney

Barry Miller  
Robert King  
Frank Goya

# REGISTER NOW!

Early Bird Full Registration until August 15  
is \$269.00.

August 16th and after, Full Registration is  
\$289.00

The Golden State Bonsai Federation  
With The American Bonsai Society Presents:

## BONSAI VISIONS OF THE WEST GSBF37

October 30th - November 2nd, 2014 | The DoubleTree Hotel | Sacramento, CA

### HEADLINERS



Peter Tea



Kathy Shaner



David De Groot

### SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS WITH:

Sam Adina, Ron Anderson, Yuko Carson, Juan Cruz,  
Gay Lynn Goetz, Dennis Makishima, Yuzo Maruyama,  
Hideko Metaxas, Frank Mihalik, Kenji Miyata, Seiji  
Morimae, David Nguy, Mike Pistello, Steve Price, Tak  
Shimazu, Bob Shimon, John "JT" Thompson

### ABS LEARNING SEMINARS WITH:

Ted Matson and Jack Sustic

**October 30— November 2, 2014 Sacramento, California**

**GSBF-37:** Golden State Bonsai Federation and American Bonsai Society presents **2014 Convention XXXVII "Bonsai Visions of the West"** at the Double Tree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way. Reservations for hotel 916-929-8855. Headliners include Peter Tea, Kathy Shaner and David De Groot, ABS Learning Seminars with Ted Matson and Jack Sustic, Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition, and Special Tribute to John Naka – 100 years (b. August 16, 1914). Demonstrations, seminars, critiques, workshops, excursions, benefit drawings, vendors, and much more. More information available at [www.gsbfcconvention.org](http://www.gsbfcconvention.org).

# Coming Events



## August 9-10, 2014 Santa Ana, California

**Satsuki Bonsai Society Show** from 9am to 4pm. Demo by David Nguy Saturday at 1pm. Demo by Ben Oki Sunday at 1pm. Raffle and/or auction after demo, vendors. Location: Boa Quang Temple, 713 N New Hope Ave

## August 9-17 , 2014 Los Angeles, California

**Nanpu Kai Bonsai Show celebrating 100 year birthday of John Naka at the Nisei Week Japanese Festival** cultural exhibits, entertainment, food, games, arts and crafts. Little Tokyo ((213) 687-7193

## Aug.16 & 17, 2014 Garden Grove, California

**Bonsai & NonBo Show 2014:** Demonstration 1:00pm on both days. Vendor, plant sale & auction. Location: Vietnamese American Buddhist Temple, 12292 Magnolia St. (Magnolia / Lampson) 9am - 5pm. For more information, call 949-331-4050

## August 23 – 24, 2014 Santa Rosa, California

**Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS):** 31th Annual show at the Santa Rosa Veterans building, 1351 Maple Ave. 10 AM – 5 PM Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday with demonstrations both days at 1 PM by club sensei Kathy Shaner. Large exhibit of members' trees, vendors' sales room, members' sales room, raffle and silent auction. Free admission, parking and treats. Contact Bob Shimon @ 707-884-4126 or [shimon@mcn.org](mailto:shimon@mcn.org)

## September 27 – 28, 2014 San Diego, California

**San Diego Bonsai Club:** Fall Show at Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Free admission. Show hours are 10 AM – 5 PM with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM both days. There will be Bonsai plants and trees for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information visit [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com), or contact Janice Hale.

## October 4 – 5, 2014, Thousand Oaks, California

**Conejo Valley Bonsai Society:** 11th Annual Bonsai Exhibition held at Gardens of the World's Resource Center, 2001 Thousand Oak Blvd. Hours are 9 AM – 4 PM with demonstrations in the Bandstand at 11 AM and 2 PM (both days). Free Admission. Note: No sales of bonsai related items. For information, call Marj Branson at 805-373-1330 or visit our website at [www.cvbs-bonsai.org](http://www.cvbs-bonsai.org).

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 August 15, 2014 - Robert Pressler*  
*Club Meeting Friday September 19, 2014—Robert King*  
*Club Meeting Friday October 17, 2014—Member Workshop*