



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

*Serenity through Bonsai*

第一盆栽會  
盆中平穩

# THE DAI ICHI GAZETTE

JUNE 2017 | VOLUME 32, ISSUE 6



*Serenity through Bonsai*

DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI 32nd ANNUAL BONSAI EXHIBIT & SALE | EXHIBITION CATALOGUE



# DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

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*Co-Founder | Sensei*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The art that is bonsai. There are very few art forms that have the dimension of time as an essential element in its creation, while at the same time providing a moment frozen in time, focusing your mind to that singular event when displayed. There are many endeavors which require husbandry of plants and animals, but these are not art forms in the traditional sense. This issue of *the Gazette* celebrates our clubs effort which culminates every year with our annual show. This is a great issue to see the fruits of our labors and reflect on a job well done.



Again I want to thank all those who visited and participated in our show. It takes many members to make this the success it was. Thank You! With your help we expanded our circle of friends, shared information about bonsai techniques, and generally had a good time. Till next year...

I have many latent projects in the back of my mind. I tried to search the internet to bolster my position in describing this particular one, but I found nothing. Maybe that means it's worthy of pursuit... catalog all bonsai cameos and appearances in TV shows and movies. Why is it that they are so often used? I can quickly rattle off their appearances in Star Trek, MSNBC interviews, and The Simpsons. I think it is because bonsai quickly convey so many emotions at once: serenity, longevity, and they are majestic. It's great to be involved with such an appreciated art form. As they say, may your bonsai live long and prosper. See ya'all at our next meeting!

*John van de Wouw*

John van de Wouw

President

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai

*On the Cover | Tom Vuong's gorgeous windswept Shimpaku in the DIBK Tokonoma.*

*Inside Cover | Bonsai display at the 32nd Annual DIBK Show and Sale.*





## *Serenity through Bonsai*

This year's DIBK show, "Serenity through Bonsai," was a phenomenal success. It brought together the club's friends and supporters to share with the public, the beauty and serenity that bonsai can bring.



The exhibit showcased a variety of different styles of bonsai, at all artist levels.

The exhibit was well attended, and club members, as well as friends and supporters of the club, lent their very best trees, offering them in harmonious displays of art.

The public was excited to participate in the beginner's bonsai workshop led by a great group of experienced and talented bonsai students and artists. Participants got the chance to learn bonsai basics and create their own Juniper Nana bonsai. People either experience these workshops as a fun way to spend the morning, or a first step into a lifelong passion for bonsai. The latter is why the club continues to carry on this show tradition.

Attendees were then treated to a round robin demonstration with John van de Wouw, Peter Macasieb and Allan Sugimura. The group all worked through the demonstration, creating beautiful bonsai out of pre-bonsai stock. All trees were placed into the Saturday raffle, and many lucky people went home with some fantastic material.

Later in the day, the attendees were further encouraged to network and enjoy a great meal at the show reception and dinner. The selection of food was varied and all incredibly delicious thanks to everyone that contributed a dish to the feast. Seconds were a must! The after dinner entertainment was provided by Mai No Kai Traditional Japanese Dance group.







Ken Nguyen "Ken SoCal Bonsai Supply"



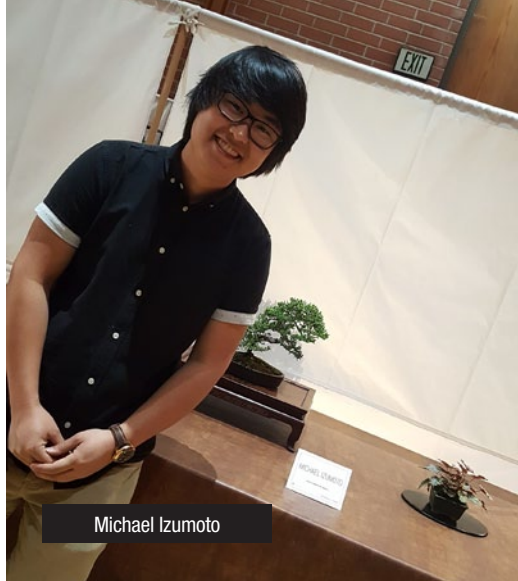
Barry Altshule "Legacy Cork Oak"



Mel Ikeda

Many people came early for the best selection, and went home happy with some nice, new material. The selection of bonsai material was vast and sales were brisk.





Michael Izumoto



Allan Sugimura



Glen Takahashi



Shirley Floresca



Fred Floresca







Michael Jonas



Peter Macasieb



Robert King



Brian Grant



Gib & Elissa Hoxie

Photos by Carol Takahashi



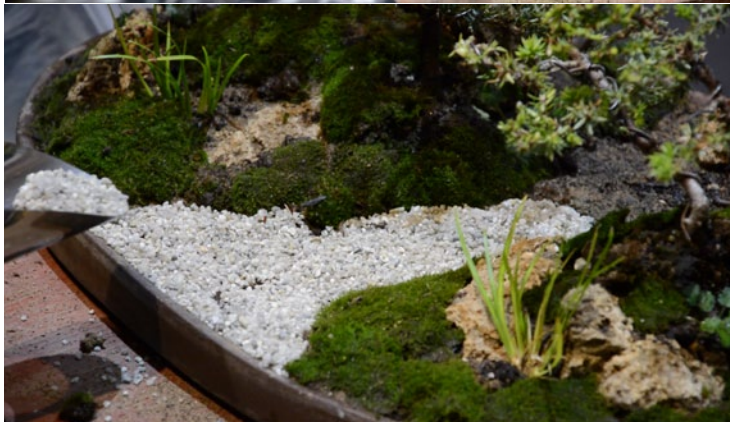
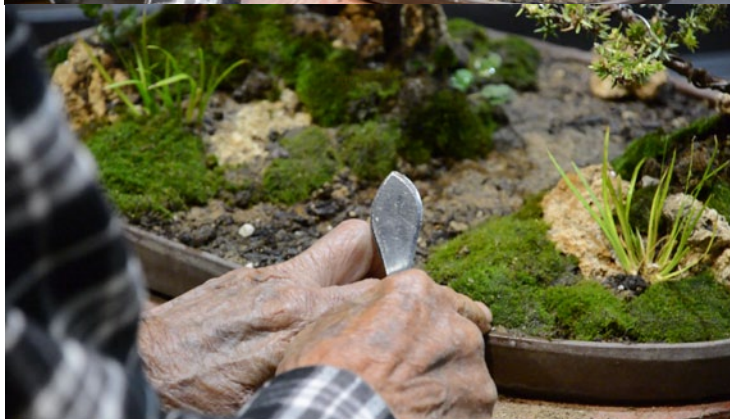
Video captures by Shirley Floresca



Sunday brought us another great demonstration with Frank Goya. Assisted by Jaime Chavarria, Frank showed the attendees what it takes to create a three-tree Juniper sai-kei. In addition to the Junipers, the beautiful tray landscape consisted of natural rock (hardscape), Irodium and Dwarf Mondo grass (accents) as well as white sand to simulate the water feature. Frank then donated the finished sai-kei to the Sunday raffle. Congratulations to the lucky winners!



In all, it was a great weekend that gave the general public, as well as club members, a chance to interact and learn about the art of bonsai as well as the opportunity to own some great material.





# SPECIAL THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT CONTRIBUTED TO MAKING THIS YEAR'S SHOW A SUCCESS!



GRATITUDE

## Friday Setup

Keith Waters, Doyle Saito, Tom Culton, Allan Sugimura, Jason Saito, John Van de Wouw, Kevin Sweeney, Fred & Shirley Floresca, Tom Vuong, Peter Macasieb, Joe Ortega, Glen Takahashi.

## Sunday Breakdown

John Van de Wouw, Allan Sugimura, Jason Saito, Doyle Saito, Tom Vuong, Peter & Marissa Macasieb, Tom Culton, John Monos, Shirley & Fred Floresca, Glen & Carol Takahashi, CJ & Mark Levinstein, Keith Waters, Brian Grant, Michael Izumoto, Kei Ikari, Joe Ortega, Robert King, Jaime Chavarria.

## Plant Sale

Fred & Shirley Floresca.

## Vendors

Mel Ikeda, Ken Nguyen "Ken SoCal Bonsai Supply", Barry Altshule "Legacy Cork Oak."

## Food Reception/Dinner

CJ Harmatz, Apinya Culton, Yumi Carillo, George & Judy Unrine.

*Centerpieces created and donated  
by Judy & George Unrine.*

## Beginners Workshop Instructors

Barry Miller, John Van de Wouw, Kevin Sweeney, Robert King, Kei Ikari, Mark Levinstein, Michael Izumoto, Jason Saito, Dr Ching Chin, Allan Sugimura, Joe Ortega, Tak Shimazu, Tom Culton, Tom Vuong.

## Round Robin Demonstrators

John van de Wouw, Peter Macasieb, Allan Sugimura.

## Sunday Demonstration

Frank Goya - *Frank graciously donated his two of his beautiful saihei to the Sunday raffle.*

## Saturday Benefit Drawing Donations

Liz Do, 247 Garden, Doyle Saito, Gary Ishii "Chikugo-En", Tom Vuong, Allan Sugimura, Milton Louie, Patricia Vargas "sumie", Maryanne Yamaguchi "Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery", Michael Jonas, CJ & Mark Levinstein, Mel Ikeda, Leila Kusumi, James Harlow & Family, Janette Chun, John Van de Wouw, Allan Sugimura's Demo Trees, Peter Macaseib's Demo Tree.

## Sunday Benefit Drawing Donations

Liz Dom 247 Garden, Doyle Saito, Jason Chan "Eastern Leaf", Mel Ikeda, Fred & Shirley Floresca, Akie Uyemura "sumie", Mr. Frank Goya

## Event Photography

Jason Saito, Carol Takahashi, Shirley Floresca

## Special Thanks to

### City of Gardena, Community Center – Pauline Moses

For their ongoing support of the DIBK show, use of the Ken Nakaoka facility, as well as assisting with show setup and cleanup.

### Entertainment

Mai No Kai Traditional Japanese Dance



Gary Ishii | Chikugo-En  
Sargent Juniper





DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

*Serenity through Bonsai*



2017 EXHIBITION CATALOG



“WHAT I LIKE  
ABOUT BONSAI IS  
THAT IT HAS A  
BEGINNING  
BUT NO END.  
  
A BUD TODAY  
BECOMES  
A BRANCH  
TOMORROW.”

— John Naka

*Serenity through Bonsai*



PETER MACASIEB | CHINESE ELM



GIB HOXIE | MELALEUCA



ELISSA HOXIE | CORK BARK OAK

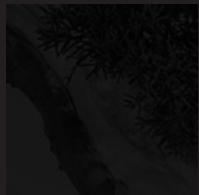


TINA HSU | OLIVE





PETER MACASIEB | SHOHIN DISPLAYS







MICHAEL IZUMOTO | PROCUMBENS NANA



SHIRLEY FLORESA | JACQUELINE HILLIER ELM



TOM CULTON | PROSTRATA



FRED FLORESA | KISHU SHIMPAKU





GLEN TAKAHASHI | PROCUMBENS NANA



CAROL UPSTON | CHINESE ELM



HANK FAWCETT | OLIVE

“SOMETIMES, YOU HAVE  
TO COMPROMISE WITH THE TREE...  
SOMETIMES, THE TREE  
HAS TO COMPROMISE WITH YOU”  
— Frank Goya

*Serenity through Bonsai*

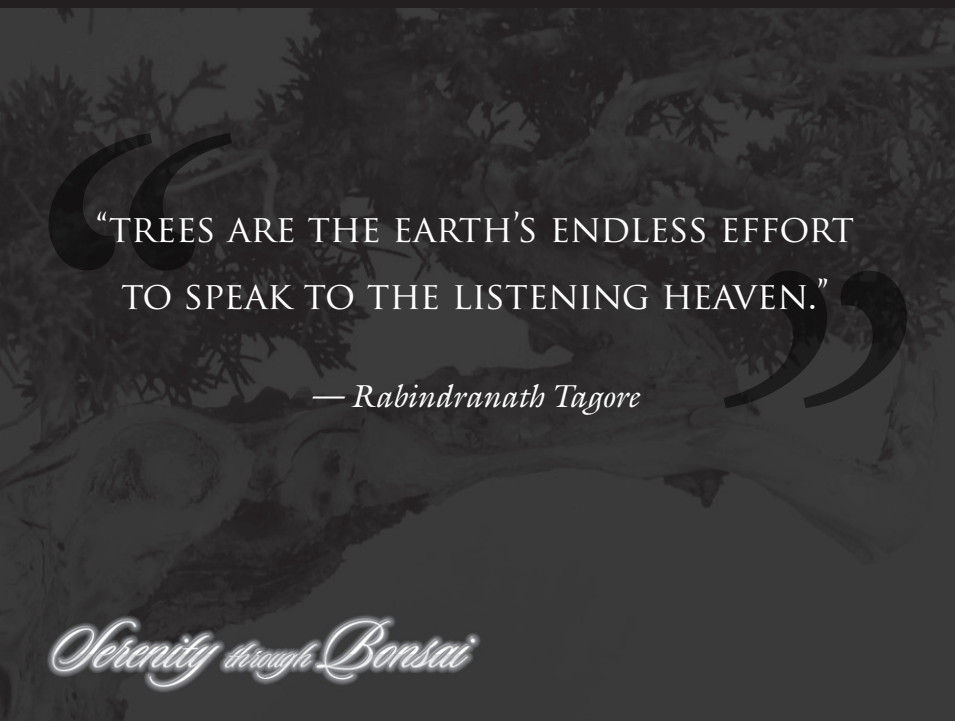




FRANK GOYA | GINKO



DOYLE SAITO | PROSTRATA



JOHN VAN DE WOUW | PROSTRATA





TED OKA | OKINAWAN HOLLY



KEITH WATERS | PROCUMBENS NANA



ALLAN SUGIMURA | PROCUMBENS NANA

“YOUR TREE HAS TO TELL A STORY.  
YOUR DESIGN HAS TO  
MAKE THE STORY BELIEVABLE.”

— Mel Ikeda

*Serenity through Bonsai*





ROBERT KING | PROCUMBENS NANA



KEITH WATERS | BRAZILIAN PEPPER



LEILA KUSUMI | TWISTED POMEGRANATE



LIZ DO | CORK BARK ELM







IVAN SALAS | CHINESE BANYAN



JAIME CHAVARRIA | CHINESE ELM SAIKEI



KEN UEDA | OLIVE







TUCKER MCCLURE | YAUPON HOLLY



JUDY UNRINE | GINKGO | PROCUMBERNS NANA

CREATE.



BRIAN GRANT | STAR JASMINE





FRANK GOYA | BOUGANVILLEA



MICHAEL JONAS | OLIVE



KEI IKARI | JAPANESE BLACK PINE



“THE MOST REWARDING THING  
ABOUT BONSAI TO ME,  
IS TO SEE A STUDENT PROGRESS.”

— *Leila Kusumi*

*Serenity through Bonsai*





盆中平穩  
為一盆栽會  
冬 昭慶書

TOM VUONG

TOM VUONG | SHIMPAKU

*Serenity through Bonsai*





Photo via The Press Enterprise.

## JUNE 16, 2017

SoCal bonsai artist and teacher, Tak Shimazu will be our June demonstrator.

Born in Kumamoto, Japan, Tak immigrated in 1968 to Cypress in Orange County before moving to Riverside two years later. He supported his family for 40 years with a business, Tak's Gardening Service, specializing in Asian-style designs before branching into bonsai as a hobby with his brother as a tutor.

Tak is considered a master working with Pine and Juniper, and has taught and demonstrated throughout Southern California.

Tak will be working on an Itoigawa Juniper at the demo. Don't miss out!

## UPCOMING

All events are tentative and subject to change.

JULY 21, 2017 | **MEMBER WORKSHOP**

AUG 18, 2017 | **ALBERT RIVERA**

SEPT 15, 2017 | **JASON SAITO**

*Saiki Demonstration  
and Optional Workshop (Details to come)*

## EVENTS

**June 24 – 25, 2017**

**Marina Bonsai Show at the  
VJCC Annual Summer Festival**

12448 Braddock Drive, LA 90066

Hours: 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM Sat  
11:00 AM – 8:00 PM Sun

Admission is Free. In addition to the show, there will also be food, games, ondo dancing, cultural exhibits and demonstrations. For more information please visit [www.vjcc.com](http://www.vjcc.com)

**August 19 – 20, 2017**

**Viet Bonsai Today Society  
2nd Annual Bonsai Exhibition**

Bao Quang Temple

713 N Newhope Street, Santa Ana

Hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

The show features demonstrations, club sales, vendors and an auction on both days. For more information, please contact  
Dinh Nguyen at (949) 302-3048,  
or Tom Vuong at (714) 878-8004.

**August 19 – 20, 2017**

**Nan Pu Kai: 28th Annual Show  
Nisei Week at JACCC**

Doizaki Gallery

224 S. San Pedro Street (Little Tokyo)

Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

John Naka's club will host special guest exhibitors as well as club member's trees.

Additional information about Nisei Week can be found at: [www.niseiweek.org](http://www.niseiweek.org)

**September 23 – 24, 2017**

**San Diego Bonsai Club  
2017 Fall Bonsai Exhibition**

Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park

Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily

Featuring demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM.

Free Admission. Bonsai pots and trees for sale.

For more information visit

[www.sandiegobonsaclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaclub.com)

For more event information, please visit

**[bit.ly/GSBF-MoreEvents](http://bit.ly/GSBF-MoreEvents)**

## GRATITUDE

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

### Refreshment Signup for June

Please fee free to bring your favorite yummys. Nom nom nom. ;9

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

### Welcome New Members

Gary Lai

### Special thanks to

Carol Takahashi, Shirley Floresca, The Press Enterprise  
for their contributions to this issue of the DIBK Gazette.

## ABOUT DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai ("Number One" Bonsai Club) was established in January, 1986.

Our club is dedicated to promoting the art of bonsai, and takes great pride in its family-oriented character.

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 the public is welcome.

**[www.daiichibonsaikai.com](http://www.daiichibonsaikai.com)**

***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)