



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

*Serenity through Bonsai*

第一盆裁會  
盆中平穩

AUGUST 2017 | VOLUME 32, ISSUE 8

# THE DAI ICHI GAZETTE



JULY MEMBER WORKSHOP | CAROL'S CORNER



# DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## John van de Wouw

*President*

## Doyle Saito

*1st Vice President*

*Program Chair*

*Show Chair*

*Past President*

## OPEN

*2nd Vice President*

## CJ Harmatz

*Corresponding Secretary*

*Membership*

*Treasurer*

## Judy Unrine

*Recording Secretary*

*Historian*

## OPEN

*Co-Show Chair*

## Carol Takahashi

*Librarian*

## Kevin Sweeney

*Benefit Drawing Chair*

## Jason Saito

*Newsletter*

*Website*

*Social Media*

## OPEN

*Hospitality*

## Tom Culton

*Publicity*

## CLUB FOUNDERS

### Leila Kusumi

*Co-Founder | Sensei*

### Jim Tatsukawa

*Co-Founder | Sensei*



On the Cover | Johnny Magana, Shirley Floresca, and Michael izumoto working their trees at the Member workshop.  
Inside Cover | Kevin Sweeney styling his formal, upright Foemina.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was very good to see the great turnout at our Member Workshop last month. There were so many wonderful trees that we used up every inch of table space. Many trees were worked on, and everybody pitched in and shared techniques for styling bonsai. And there certainly was no shortage of opinions. In the end it was all good. I want to thank everybody who helped set up the room before we got started. Bonsai tip: we have been using a thin roofing paper on top of the tables that we work on and it really helps protect the tables and it also makes cleaning up a snap.



OK, classic bonsai story. A bonsai enthusiast is driving far from home and pulls into some random nursery. They rummage around and find a couple of old forgotten trees that are lucky to be alive, bring them home, style one and a remarkable bonsai is born. Way to go Barry.

Wow! This issue is featuring a bonsai book review by our very own Carol Takahashi. See what Carol has to say about the book she selected. Remember the club has many resources to help our members learn more about the art of bonsai. I include each and every one of you as part of this vast knowledge base and bonsai family. Please help lead Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai into the future and volunteer your time to make the club even better.

See you at our next meeting.

*John van de Wouw*

John van de Wouw  
President  
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai



"LIKE" US ON  
**FACEBOOK**

[www.bit.ly/DIBK-FB](http://www.bit.ly/DIBK-FB)



# CLUB WORKSHOP

Our July event was a workshop meeting, so DIBK members came prepared with their tools, materials, and a lot of passion. Members brought in everything from established material in need of minor refinement, to nursery stock that required full, initial styling. Advice and inspiration was given freely, and members went home with trees that were vastly improved. Lots of new people came to check out our club and will hopefully become new members of our DIBK family.



Tom Vuong and Barry Miller working on Barry's monster nursery stock Juniper.



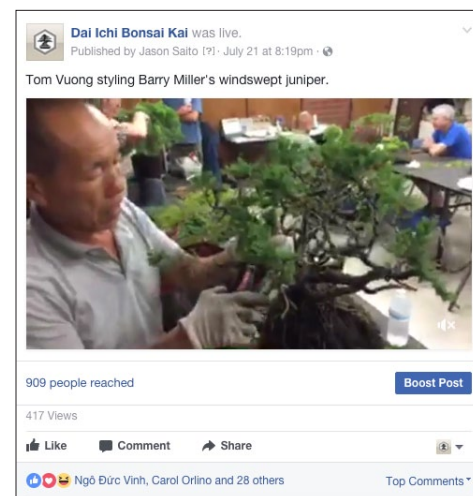


Everyone took a look and discussed ideas on what to do with this little guy.

Due to the overgrown leggy branches, it was decided that a windswept style would work well. Since this is the first styling from raw nursery stock, the goal here is to set the foundation for windswept style. Further refinement will come from multiple followup sessions, until a true windswept effect is achieved.



To give you an idea of where Barry's tree is heading, the photo above is of Tom's windswept style Shimpaku on display at the 2017 DIBK Exhibition.



You can check out a quick clip of Tom working the tree at [www.facebook.com/DaiIchiBonsai/](https://www.facebook.com/DaiIchiBonsai/) And while you're there, please "Like" our page!

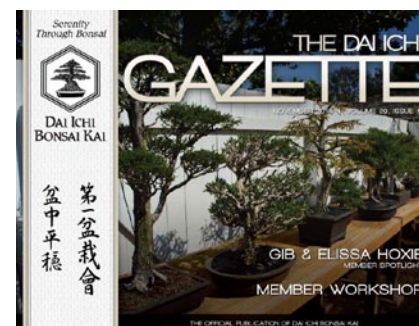




Above: Tucker checking out Elissa's very healthy Podocarpus. The foliage was so lush and lovely. Elissa really has a green thumb, and a great eye for bonsai, as she always brings the nicest trees!



Below: Gib working on his beautiful Twisted Pomegranate raft. This tree has a long history which is meticulously detailed and documented by Gib (see image at right). Gib and Elissa do this for all of their trees!



Check out more of Gib and Elissa Hoxie's beautiful trees in our November 2014 Issue of the *DIBK Gazette*! <http://bit.ly/hoxies>







Shirley and Fred Floresca spent the evening working on a few of their nicest trees. Fred's Shohin Bougie looked magnificent after a nice cleanout and trim. Shirley's saikei by Frank Goya just needed a cleanup to look healthy and vigorous. Further refinement to follow.

Johnny Magana worked on a nice Kishu. Johnny, along with Fred and Shirley, are students of Gary Ishii at Chikugo-En.



Kevin Sweeney styling his formal upright  
Foemina, as DJ Bruce watches on.  
Kevin has the coolest T-shirts :)



***PROTIP FROM KEV:***

Cover your soil when doing foliage cleaning and trimming.  
Much easier to keep your soil clean from debris that will  
eventually break down in your soil.





John van de Wouw working with Tucker McClure on his Moyogi Shimpaku



Glen Takahashi working his Nana



Michael Izumoto cleaning his Shimpaku

John van de Wouw helping Liz Do trim her Nana Juniper

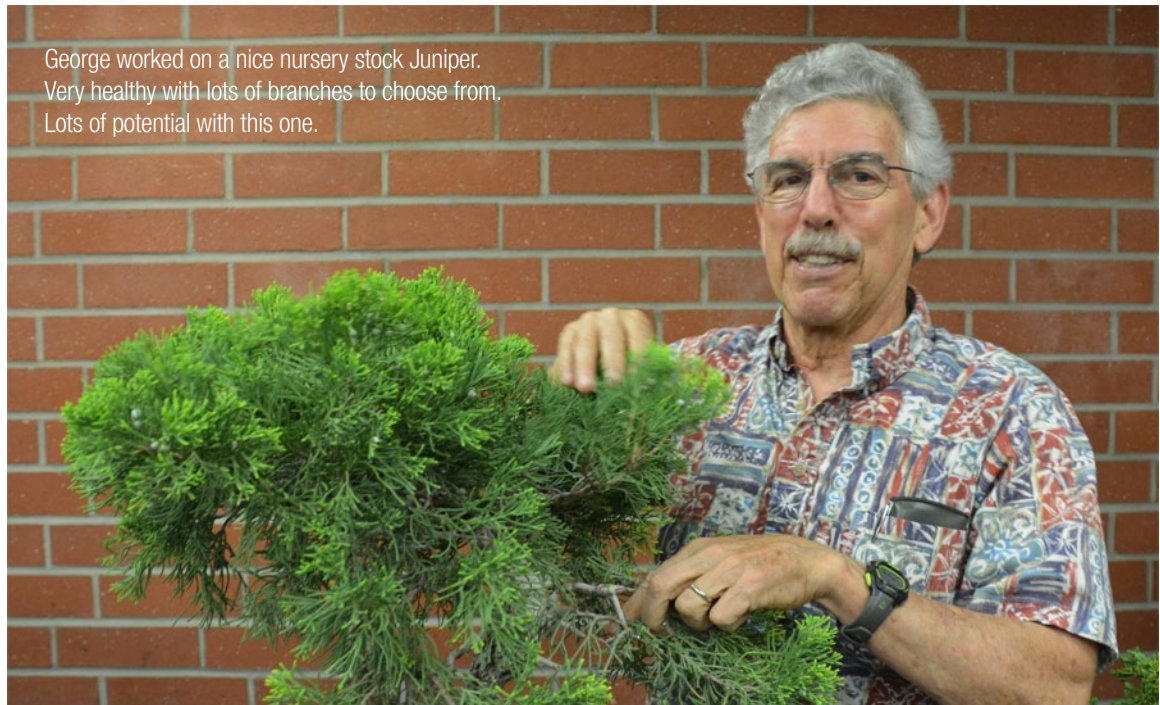




Allan Sugimura inspecting the material.



George worked on a nice nursery stock Juniper. Very healthy with lots of branches to choose from. Lots of potential with this one.



Judy Unrine cleaning the foliage on her Juniper.





# UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

## South Coast Bonsai Society Workshop with David Nguy Saturday August 26th Bonsai Jidai

4207 Walnut Ave Chino, Ca. 91710

By special invitation from our friends at South Coast Bonsai Association, Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai has been invited to attend their August meeting and workshop, to be held at 9:00am on Saturday August 26th at David Nguy's nursery in Chino.

You can bring your own tools and material, or you can purchase something from David's large stock of bonsai. Lunch and snacks will be provided and you must RSVP to attend. Contact Doyle Saito at (310) 940-0482 by 8/21 to reserve a spot.

## Saikei 101 Workshop Saturday September 16th Peter's Garden Center

814 N Pacific Coast Hwy, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

DIBK and *Art of Saikei* will be presenting a beginner's *saikei* workshop on Saturday, September 16th at Peter's Garden Center in Redondo Beach.

Attendees will create their own 3 or 5 tree, slate, rock, and juniper landscape planting. The workshop will be presented by saikei fanatic Jason Saito, and it is highly encouraged that participants also attend our September meeting the night before (Friday, September 15th), where Jason will be demonstrating techniques and methods for creating visually pleasing *saikei*. Space for the workshop will be limited and signup/pricing details will be released soon, so mark your calendars!



# Carol's Corner



## BOOK REVIEWS FROM OUR CLUB LIBRARIAN

As the club librarian, I look forward to sharing book recommendations with you in this new *DIBK Gazette* column. I haven't been doing bonsai as long as many members here, but I do enjoy learning from every available resource I come across, and one of the best ways I've found is through books. It's how we learned in school after all! Books are great because you can go at your own pace, and refer back to them whenever you have a question. Each month, I'll be hand selecting a small sampling of publications to bring to our monthly meetings, where club members in good standing can borrow them.

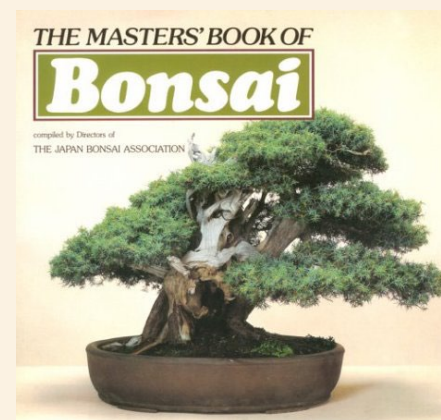
This month, we review *The Master's Book of Bonsai*. This book really helped me to maintain my flowering Quince and fruit-bearing Pomegranate.

***The Master's Book of Bonsai***  
*Compiled by the directors of  
the Japan Bonsai Association*  
Saburo Kato, Fusazo Takeyama,  
and Nobukichi Koide

This book has been very helpful to me, and is the first book I recommend to beginners, as it covers the history, craft, culture and care of bonsai.

Along with photos and illustrations of bonsai masterpieces and styles, the book explains the basics very well: growing from seeds, collecting plants from nature, growing from cuttings, grafting, layering and dividing. The authors describe the proper care of bonsai, including watering, feeding, prevention of disease, and weather protection. It explains how to group plantings, grow in rocks, and details the proper tools and equipment needed.

The book also includes an appendix with charts and illustration tables detailing ideal timing schedules for most species.



For a complete list of our library publications, please visit

**<http://www.daiichibonsaikai.com/media/library/>**

To check out a book, fill out the form on the library page, and you can pick them up at the next club meeting.





## ALBERT RIVERA

**AUGUST 18, 2017**

Since 2006, Albert Rivera has been a passionate bonsai practitioner. Studying under Roy Nagatoshi, Akira Kimura, and Tom Vuong, Albert is known best for his collected material (*yamadori*), specializing in Shimpaku grafted California Junipers. When Albert is not busy tending to his huge collection of trees, he is an active member of Descanso Bonsai Society as well as Sansui Kai.

Albert, along with his co-demonstrator Shawnee, will be working on a grafted Prostrata.

### UPCOMING

All events are tentative and subject to change.

SEPT 15, 2017 | **JASON SAITO**  
*Saikei Demonstration*

SEPT 16, 2017 | **BEGINNER'S SAIKEI WORKSHOP**

OCT 20, 2017 | **STEVE IWAKI**

NOV 17, 2017 | **HOLIDAY POTLUCK**

## EVENTS

### 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 26 – 27, 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.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

### August 30 – September 3, 2017 Kofu Bonsai Kai Bonsai, A Living Art Form at the Bowers Museum

John M. Lee Court  
2002 N. Main St, Santa Ana  
Hours: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM daily  
Featuring bonsai trees of the members of Kofu Bonsai Kai and special presentations by noted speakers.

Questions? Call the museum at (714) 567-3695 or email Michael Walsh at [michaeljwalsh@outlook.com](mailto:michaeljwalsh@outlook.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.*

### Benefit Drawing Contributors

Fred & Shirley Floresca, Gib & Elissa Hoxie,  
Barry Miller

### Refreshment Contributors

Tom Vuong, Doyle Saito, Barry Miller,  
Allan Sugimura, Tucker McClure

### Refreshment Signup for August

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.*

### Special thanks to

Carol Takahashi  
*for her 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)