



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Serenity through Bonsai

第一盆裁會
盆中平穩

SEPTEMBER 2017 | VOLUME 32, ISSUE 9

THE DAI ICHI GAZE



ALBERT RIVERA DEMO | VIET BONSAI TODAY SOCIETY EXHIBITION | SOUTH COAST BONSAI SOCIETY WORKSHOP

DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

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On the Cover | Albert Rivera explaining grafting techniques at the August DIBK meeting.
Inside Cover | A creep of Tortoises at David and June Nguy's Nursery.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bonsai at Dai Ichi Bonsai Club is alive and well. Nothing gives me more pleasure than welcoming new members to our club, which we have consistently done this year, and our last meeting was no exception. Welcome all!



There is and has been a lot going on in the bonsai community lately with demonstrations, workshops, and shows. Many of these have been caught on film and shared within this month's newsletter. The Calendar in the back highlights upcoming activities; please support our sister organizations and together we can keep the art of bonsai strong.

Speaking of workshops, DIBK has been cultivating a relationship with Peter's Nursery in Redondo Beach, to the mutual benefit of each other and to our membership. Saturday, September 16, DIBK and The Art of Saikei will be holding a saiikei workshop. This is a beginner's workshop but don't let that hold you back if you have interest in learning more about this particular stylized bonsai art form. There is still room available.

See you at our next meeting, and here's a challenge: bring a friend.

John van de Wouw

John van de Wouw
President
Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai



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www.bit.ly/DIBK-FB



ALBERT RIVERA

COLLECTOR.

GRAFTER.

ARTIST.



Our August demonstrator was Albert Rivera. Albert hails from the San Fernando Valley where temperatures often soar into triple digits, so it's no small feat that his bonsai collection grows healthy and vigorous. In his presentation, Albert shared some tips on how he does it.

"When the California Juniper collecting season is over, I start digging Rocky Mountain Junipers. In my area, they do better than Sierra Junipers and other high elevation *yamadori*. I typically graft them with Kishu as they do so much better when grafted. They grow stronger and their roots do so much better, so it makes sense. I think everybody should have at least one grafted *yamadori* in their collection.

"I always encourage people to graft trees because not only is Kishu Shimpaku more desirable, but it's also a stronger species when it's grafted. 100% Shimpaku does really badly in my area but once it's grafted to a local woodstock, it takes off like gangbusters. In the South Bay, where your climate is cooler, it should do a lot better than in my area.



"When doing Juniper maintenance, you want to obviously clear the downward facing shoots. Keep an eye out for foliage that doesn't have swelling at the tips or is a darker color. That means it is not an active growing tip because they haven't received enough sunlight, and that's the foliage that I will remove. This leaves the stronger, active tips to remain and develop."

*Special shoutout to Barry Miller for doing a great job on capturing the detail of Albert's demo on the TV cam!
Thanks Barry!*



"For the health of our trees, we have to sort of take a step back. We have to put the artistic side on hold and concentrate on the horticultural aspect, because the trees need to be healthy and vigorous before we can style them. I have a protected part of my garden where my trees that are struggling are kept. I mist them twice a day and I only water when there's a need for it. The water and fertilization is strictly controlled so I can monitor their progress carefully. You also need to take a step back and actually allow the trees time to recover. It's human nature to try to intervene on behalf of the sick tree, but the worst thing you can do is overcompensate with its care."

"Feeding and keeping the tree well trimmed during the growing season encourages backbudding. By removing all of the inactive growth (the foliage that doesn't get sun), and only leaving the strong healthy shoots, really gets the development going, and these grafted trees will backbud for sure."





"Why copper wire? I prefer it because you can use thinner wire to get the same hold on a branch as a thicker aluminum wire. In this case, less is more and the tree will respond better with less restrictions.

"I usually wire my grafts with a heavy gauge for protection. I have strong Santa Ana winds and grafts need protection in case they got knocked over. Nothing worse than a graft accidentally splitting after you've spent years nurturing it."



This Prostrata actually came from Home Depot. They're out there folks; you just have to look for them. Go to the back and hunt around the returns and the stuff that's going back to the wholesaler. You'll be surprised at some of the neat treasures you will find.





ALBERT'S ORGANIC FERTILIZER CAKE RECIPE

Bone meal, blood meal, feather meal,
rapeseed extract, seaweed extract,
Superthrive, Elmer's school glue, flour,
and liquid fish extract.

*"The liquid fish extract stinks to high
heaven, but it's good stuff. The Elmer's
glue holds the cakes together and allows
slow release. I'm not a big fan of tea
bags on all of my trees :)"*

*"My dogs took a liking to the cakes. I had
a buddy of mine test them for toxicity and
they weren't toxic, but I needed them to
stop, so I tried adding habanero extract,
but they still ate them. I then discovered
odorless fish extract and increased the
Elmer's glue, and that did the trick as
they stopped eating them."*



Congratulations to Joe Ortega, the lucky winner of Albert Rivera's
grafted Shimpaku demo tree.



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai shared your live video.

Published by Jason Saito [?] · August 19 at 5:39pm · 🌐

Albert Rivera did a fantastic demonstration at DIBK last Friday. Check out
part 1.

Thanks to Phil Aupperle and Liz Do for their fantastic camera work.



322 Views

View Albert's full demo at www.facebook.com/DailchiBonsai

THERE ARE ONLY
A FEW SEATS LEFT
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

BEGINNER'S SAIKEI DEMO & WORKSHOP



At this two-day demo and workshop, you will learn the skills to create a beautiful 3 or 5 tree Saikei (landscape planting) using common nursery stock and building materials. Design, horticultural techniques, aftercare and maintenance will be discussed. Learning materials and Saturday lunch will be provided. **Spaces are limited so reserve your spot today.**

Friday Demonstration* - September 15, 2017 - 7:00pm

Ken Nakaoka Community Center

1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA 90247

*Demonstration is free and open to the public

Saturday Workshop - September 16, 2017 - 9:00 am

Peter's Garden Center

814 N Pacific Coast Hwy, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Create your own Juniper, Seiryu Stone on Slate Saikei

PRESENTED BY DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI & ART OF SAIKEI

3 TREE WORKSHOP SOLD OUT

~~\$85 - 3 Tree planting - 3 Procumbens Nana Juniper, 18" Black Slate~~

\$125 - 5 Tree Planting - 5 Procumbens Nana Juniper, 26" Black Slate

*To reserve your spot, call or text
Jason Saito at 310.909.4598
or email jason@zenpalace.com*



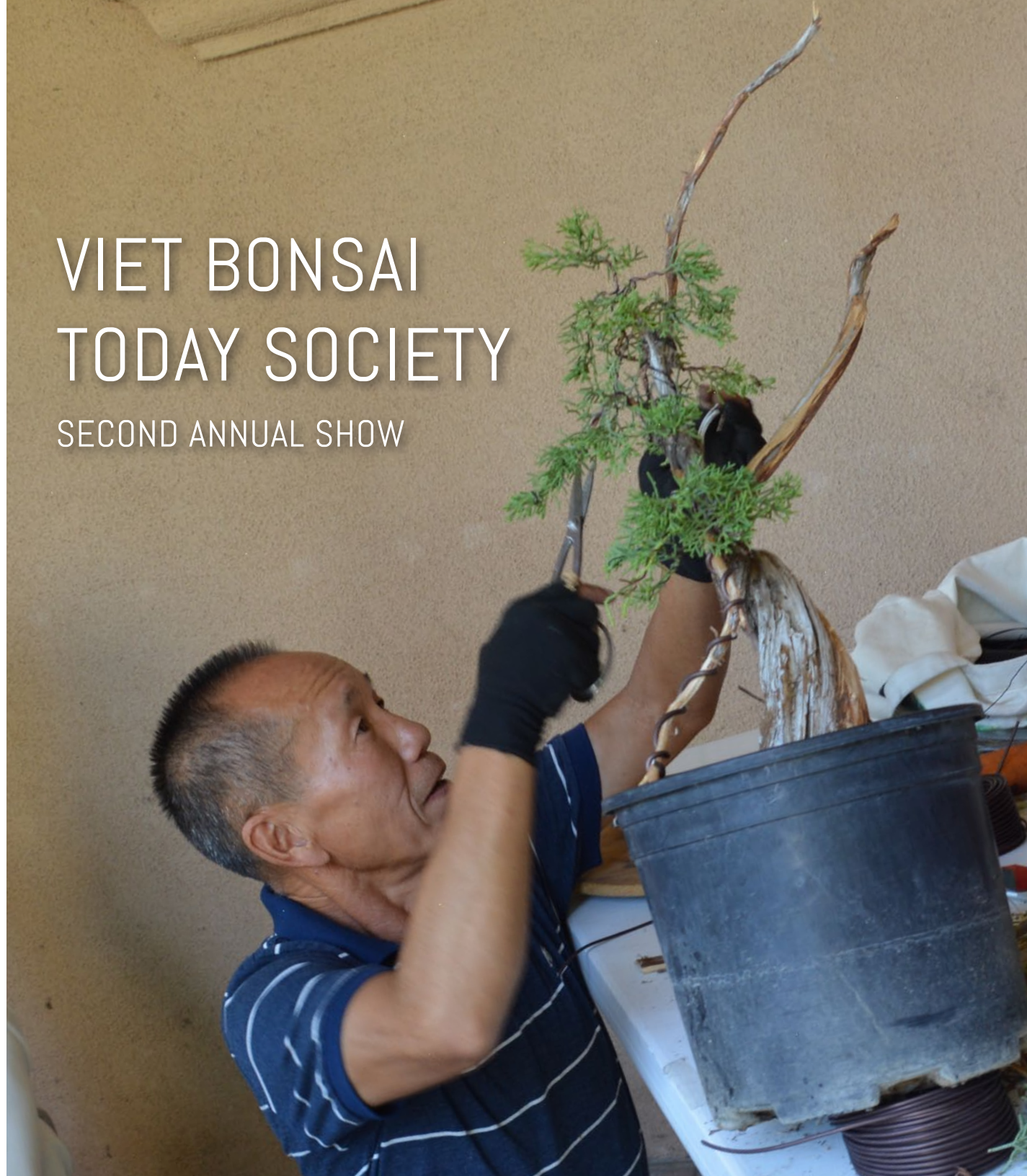
The Viet Bonsai Today Society held its second annual exhibit which showcased their members' finest trees. Led by Club President Dinh Nguyen and Tom Vuong, the roughly 10 member club has many years of experience between them, and by viewing the exhibit, it shows.

The exhibit was held at the beautiful Bao Quang Temple in Santa Ana and featured demonstrations, sales, and of course, many beautiful trees.

The club meets on the 4th Sunday of each month at Tom's house. For more information, please contact Dinh Nguyen at (949) 302-3048. or Tom Vuong at (714) 878-8004.

VIET BONSAI TODAY SOCIETY

SECOND ANNUAL SHOW







SOUTH COAST BONSAI SOCIETY

DAVID NGUY WORKSHOP

Chino is a long way from the South Bay, but it is worth the drive to visit the private nursery of David and June Nguy. By invitation from our friends at South Coast Bonsai Society, DIBK members attended SCBS's annual workshop with David Nguy. The day was very productive with a lot of nice styling being accomplished. Good times.





David Nguyen Shows Liz Do the finer points of styling a Juniper.



Brian Grant working his Juniper



Keith Waters detailing his Boulevard Cypress



David Nguyen showing the branches who's the boss.



Kevin and Skyler enjoying the day.



Ken Ueda and Louis Camerota



Danny Westall and Lewis Song



Our thanks to David and June as well as Brian Grant and the South Coast Bonsai Society, for inviting us to their club workshop.

SAIKEI

THE HISTORY AND ART OF JAPANESE LANDSCAPE PLANTING



JASON SAITO

SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

Jason has been into bonsai for about 6 years and is primarily focused on *saikai*. *Obsessed* is actually a better word. From an early age, he's had a passion for miniatures including Kokeshi, building scale model dioramas, miniatures and dollhouses. It's no wonder that when he began studying bonsai, it would eventually lead to creating miniature landscape plantings.

He has studied with Frank Goya - Marina Bonsai, Al Nelson, Mel Ikeda and John Wang.

Jason will be discussing the history and art of saikai, as well as tips and techniques used to create realistic portrayals of landscape scenery. The demonstration will also be Live streamed on the DIBK Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DaiichiBonsai. Watch the live stream, ask questions and participate!

UPCOMING

All events are tentative and subject to change.

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

OCT 20, 2017 | **STEVE IWAKI**

NOV 17, 2017 | **HOLIDAY POTLUCK**
BONSAI BINGO

DECEMBER 2017 | **NO MEETING**
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

EVENTS

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

October 7 – 8, 2017
Conejo Valley Bonsai Society:
14th Annual Bonsai Exhibition

Gardens of the World
2001 Thousand Oak Blvd.

Hours: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Demonstrations at 11 AM (Saturday) and 2 PM (Sunday) in the Bandstand. Free Admission.

For information, call Marj Branson
at 805-373-1330 or visit
www.cvbs-bonsai.org

October 25 – 29, 2017
GSBF Convention 40
"Bonsai New Horizon"

Riverside Convention Center
3637 5th St, Riverside

GUEST ARTISTS - Bill Castellon, Tom Elias, Frank Goya, Jim Gremel, Gasy Ishii, Peter Macasieb, Ted Matson, Frank Mihalic, Fred Miyahara, Pauline Muth, Mike Pistello, Steve Price, Kathy Shaner, Tak Shimazu, Bob Shimon, Cary Sullivan, Michael Sykes, Jonny Uchica, Bill Valavanis, Steve Valentine.

Registered attendees may sign up for excursions, workshops, seminars, and critiques.

The public is invited to visit our Vendor Bazaar and exhibits: Judged Bonsai Show, Bonsai Exhibit, and Viewing Stone Exhibit.

For more information, please visit
www.gsbfconvention.org

For more event information, please visit
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

Doyle Saito, Al Rivera, Peter Macasieb,
CJ Levinstein, Salas Family, Louis Carrillo

Refreshment Contributors

Doyle Saito, Joe Ortega,
Mark & CJ Levinstein, Louis Carrillo

Refreshment signup for September

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 to our new members

Tanner & Heidrun Croshaw

Special thanks to

Albert Rivera, Barry Miller, Phil Aupperle and Liz Do, Tom Vuong / Viet Bonsai Today Society,
Brian Grant / South Coast Bonsai Society, David and June Nguy / Bonsai Jidai
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

***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