



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Serenity through Bonsai

第一分盆栽會
盆中平穩

OCTOBER 2018 | VOLUME 33, ISSUE 10

THE DAI ICHI GAZETTE



DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Can you believe it's almost November? Like the seasons, the year just flies by so quickly. Now may be a good time to reflect on what you've accomplished this year, and what you wish to accomplish in 2019.

Whether it's to simplify your life by decluttering your benches, or acquire more trees to round out your collection, getting a good start to Fall/Winter cleanup and organizing work is always a good thing. You can never start too early.

Our annual Holiday Potluck and Bonsai Bingo has been moved up this year to our October meeting on the 19th. Bonsai Bingo has become a highlight of the year and each attendee is requested to bring a potluck dish and a bonsai related item as donation to the game. Everyone pigs out on really good food, and wins some great bonsai stuff! It's a really fun event and the whole family is invited, so plan on being there!

Next month, our feature demonstrator will be accomplished bonsai author, lecturer and artist, Harry Harrington. Harry's popular website www.bonsai4me.com has become an expansive resource for bonsai artists throughout the world. It features instructional articles on various advanced styling and horticultural techniques, as well as photo essays and current bonsai event coverage. Check it out before his demo in November, where he'll be discussing deciduous trees.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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And speaking of acquiring new material, there are a couple of upcoming auctions and sales coming up.

On October 21st, our friends at South Coast Bonsai Association in Palos Verdes will be holding their club auction. I've seen a few of the gorgeous trees that will be available (photos at right), and it looks like it will be a great opportunity to acquire some really nice trees.

The CBS Annual sale is also coming up on November 25th. This annual Sunday-after-Thanksgiving tradition is once again to be held in West LA at Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery. They always have fantastic selections so get there early. You won't want to miss it.

See the upcoming events on the last page for more info on the above mentioned sales.

Live. Love. Grow.

Jason Saito
Jason Saito

SOUTH COAST BONSAI ASSOCIATION AUCTION



CBS SALE



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NEXT MEETING

CLUB POTLUCK & BONSAI BINGO NIGHT
Bring your favorite foods and win some great prizes!

RENAISSANCE MAN RON REEKERS

It's challenging enough for one man to have the drive, passion, determination and skills, to master an art, and even more so challenging to master several. Ron Reekers is such a man. In addition to being an Aerospace Engineer, Ron is also a Tenth Dan Grand Master in Aam-Bu-Jutsu, and has studied and practiced Kalirongan Filipino Martial Arts, Largo Mano Eskrima, Tai Chi, Kempo, Danzanryu Jujitsu, Kadokan Judo, Shotokan, Kabaroan Eskrima, as well as founding a martial arts studio.

Mister Reekers is also an established fine artist with two degrees in fine arts from Cal State Long Beach, and has had his work shown and published throughout the world. Ron can also be seen at the many bonsai shows throughout California, offering his stunning bonsai prints and shirts for sale.

His deep appreciation of art sculpture and Japanese culture and aesthetics has led him to his mastery in bonsai development. Ron has trained with John Neilsen, Manny Martinez, and David Nguy, and for the last three years, Ron has been teaching Bonsai drawing techniques to interested students at his home.

Recently, Ron won the Golden State Bonsai Federation's Harry Hirao scholarship that helped pay for Ron's Bonsai training in Japan. For 32 days under the guidance of Mr. Nobuichi Urushibata, Ron attended Taisho-En International Bonsai School in Shizuoka Japan.

Ron brought out a nice fat trunk yardadori boxwood specimen for styling. He went over the styling options of the tree and which would make the best front of the tree.

"Boxwoods have a very soft wood, but you can *jinn* it. It will stay there for a very long time." The bigger branches that would otherwise be in the way, were jinned. He remarked as he was sawing the branch, "I was in Japan at Taisho-En, and I was cutting a branch with a Japanese saw, and had been going at it for awhile, and the teacher says 'you Americans, you don't know how to cut! These tools don't cut pushing, they cut pulling!' So when you cut with a Japanese saw, the pressure is placed on the pull stroke. Much easier."





"I've been apprenticing at David Nguy's Shisei-En, and we spend a lot of time working on his many developed trees. That was a big motivator for me to go to Japan and study bonsai. It's hard to be able to position yourself to be able to work on refined trees. Trees with refined wiring... the type of wiring that you would do if you were putting your tree into a show. At Taisho-En and even with David, they are very strict about wiring. Beautiful tree needs beautiful wiring. You don't want a beautiful tree and have ugly wiring. It won't do the tree justice.

"Boxwoods has two leaves per growth (instead of alternating leaves) so that means the growth can become very bushy. During branch selection, you want to choose your back branches looking from the front. You want to see the full picture from that perspective, for the best branch selection. You want back branches to fill out the circumference, but to also peek around the corner so they are "peek a boo" visible from the front. You will also bend the branch in to make it more compact."



"When it comes to aesthetics and beauty, there are no definitive answers. That's why we have critique groups where we talk about it. That's one thing I'd really like to see more in bonsai, is critique groups. Bring trees in and just talk about them. No one needs to be an expert, just talk about what you like about the tree. We could do that with this demo tree. What you like, don't like, what you would change or what you would leave alone. Constructive positive and negative feedback is always educational. That's how you critique a tree."

Ron then went on to style the tree while explaining his thought process in his design choices. His Japan adventures were also discussed as well as his thoughts on bonsai in general. You can check out Ron's full demo on our Facebook page.



RON REEKERS DEMO



Johnny Magana was the lucky winner of Ron's demo tree.



Watch Ron's full demo at
<https://www.facebook.com/DaiIchiBonsai/videos/>





BONSAI BINGO & POTLUCK

OCTOBER 19, 2018

Celebrating the holidays early this year, DIBK will be having it's Holiday Party/Potluck at the October meeting. Attendees are requested to bring a potluck dish and a bonsai related item as a donation to the game. Food suggestions to bring:

- Main Dishes • Side Dishes • Salads •
- Deserts • Drinks • Snacks

If you have any questions about what dish to bring, please contact Doyle at 310.940.0482.

We will also be having a Bonsai Bingo event, where everyone will be playing for some fantastic prizes and some major bonsai fun! Be sure to attend our last big blowout of the year!

UPCOMING

All events are tentative and subject to change.

NOVEMBER 16, 2018 | **HARRY HARRINGTON**
DECIDUOUS TREES

DECEMBER 2018 | **NO MEETING**
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

EVENTS

October 21, 2018
South Coast Bonsai Association Auction

South Coast Botanical Gardens
26300 Crenshaw Boulevard
Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274
Class Room A

Time: 10:00 AM

There will be tools, pots, dais and trees.
The trees will likely not be finished bonsai.

Cash only.

October 24 – 28, 2018
GSBF Convention 41 - Sacramento

McClellan Conference Center
Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily
Registration begins July 1st online at
<http://www.gsbfcconvention.org/> for Convention,
Workshops, Seminars, Excursions, etc.
For more information visit
<http://www.gsbfcconvention.org/>

November 25, 2018
California Bonsai Society Sale

Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery
1905 Sawtelle Boulevard
Hours: 9 AM – 1 PM
Setup will be Saturday, November 26 from
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM.
Interested DIBK members are encouraged to
arrive early to assist sales staff.

GRATITUDE

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

Benefit Drawing Contributors

Kevin McNally, Fred Floresca,
John van de Wouw, Oneda Family, Kajikawa
Family, Doyle Saito

Refreshment Contributors

Allan Sugimura, Doyle Saito, Jason Saito,
Dan Sawada, Alex G and Stephanie,
Michael Izumoto, May Schlotzhauer,
Reiko Shibasaki, and others.

Refreshment Signup for October POTLUCK

October is our Annual Potluck. Please bring any yummy dishes you desire. See you there!

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

Special thanks to

Ron Reekers
for his 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:
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