

DAI ICHI BONSAI KAI

Terenity through Bonsai

盆中平穏



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

s my term as club president ends, I would like to thank everyone that gave their time and efforts in helping to grow the club, and supporting our mission to promote the art of bonsai. We've accomplished a lot in the last two years and It has been an incredibly rewarding experience.

With so many choices of bonsai clubs in the Southern California area, I thank all of you for supporting and being members of Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai. Each and every one of you have made this club a family, and that is very special.

When I think about what the club truly stands for, I am constantly reminded of our clubs co-founder's, Jim Tatsukawa and Leila Kusumi.

Their determination, dedication and drive revolved around their selfless passion for sharing their bonsai skills and talents with others. We should all strive to become teachers and ambassadors of bonsai just as our founders were.

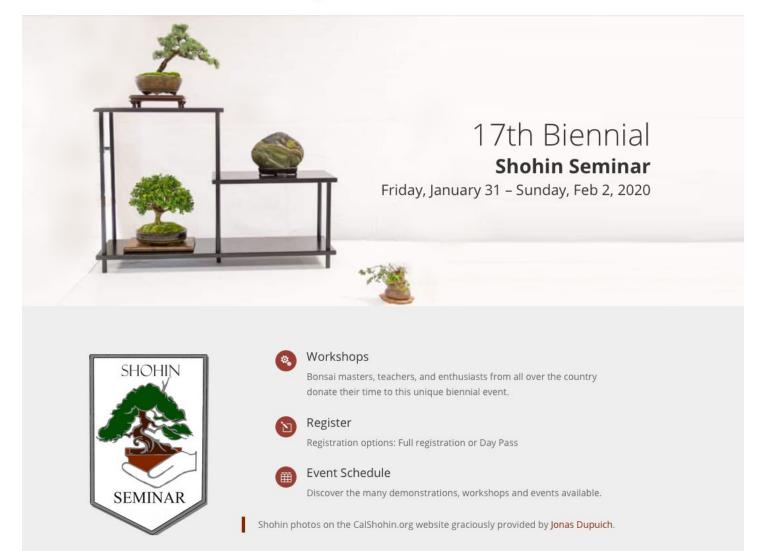
In the coming year, If every single DIBK member brought into the club, one new member to mentor and inspire, just imagine where we will be in two years. Five years. Twenty years.

Now that is a challenge I'd truly like to see accepted and fulfilled.

See you at the next meeting!

Live. Love. Grow.

Jason Saito



Registration is now open for the Shohin Seminar to be held in Santa Nella, CA. Forms are available at http://www.calshohin.org.

ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Individual Membership \$25.00 per year

Family Membership \$35.00 per year

Your dues enable the club to present activities such as our annual show, guest demonstrations, workshops, the *Dai Ichi Gazette*, club library, as well as refreshments and club raffles and events.

You can pay your dues in person at the next club meeting, or by mailing your check to:

> CJ Levinstein 827 East Marshall Place Long Beach, CA 90807

Or pay online via PayPal: daiichibonsaikai.com/membership

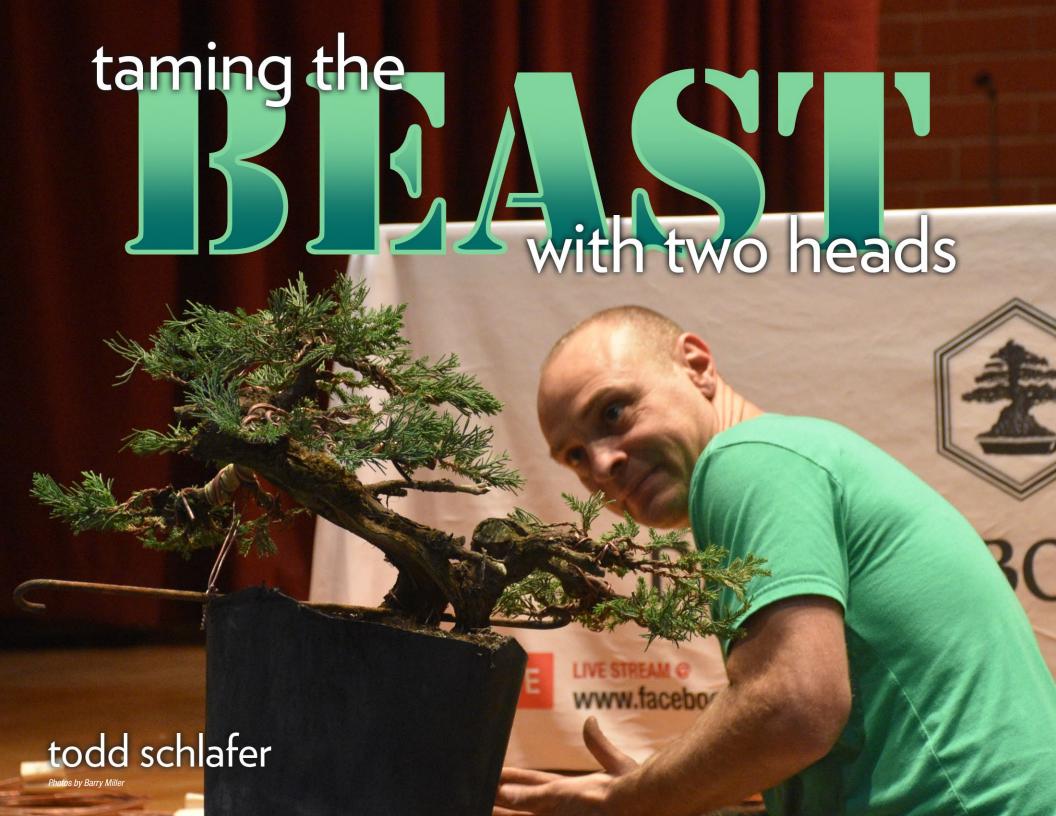


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Photos by Barry Miller





TODD SCHLAFER DEMO

losing the year out with a bang, the CBS Visiting Artists Program demonstrator,
Todd Schlafer, turned this beast of a Prostrata into a well refined and tamed piece of art.
The very old growth nursery stock was gifted with a nice chunky trunk and it possessed sinuous and reaching branches that went off in opposite directions. What a monster.

Todd was more than up to the task. He usually deals with collected material that has nothing but natural growth and no training other than what mother nature gave it, so in Todd's skillful hands, this was hardly a challenge at all.



Todd inspected the tree and guided us through the strengths and weaknesses of the material. The tree was almost two conjoined trees so it caled for either a secondary canopy or a mother-daughter, twin trunk composition. He proceeded to go through and remove any unnecessary branches while assessing the next move.

"By eliminating these branches, we really open it up and it gives us a clear view of the structure of the tree. One thing I always do as I'm making my branch cuts is I'll bend the cut branches until they break. This gives me an idea of the flexibility of this tree, and that knowledge is good to have when it comes time to actually bend your wired branches. It gives you a sense how hard you can push it... especially with collected trees."





"One thing I always do as I'm making my branch cuts is I'll bend the cut branches until they break. This gives me an idea of the flexibility of this tree, and that knowledge is good to have when it comes time to actually bend your wired branches. It gives you a sense how hard you can push it... especially with collected trees."

TODD SCHLAFER DEMO











With a few heavy branches to be lowered, Todd affixed a length of rebar to the trunk and to the edge of the pot. This allowed the branches to be further lowered than the wire alone would allow. "You'll notice I don't affix guy wires to the piot itself. When you do, it puts stress onto the root system, so by attaching the rebar to the trunk, that pressure is alleviated which is better for the health of the tree."



TODD SCHLAFER DEMO





"When collecting, do your research. Inevitably the first few trees you collect, you'll probably kill. When I first started, there were trees I didn't think I could collect. They were really nice but I left them with the thought of coming back when I knew more about them. It's also about the best time of year to collect. You want to limit the amount of negative variables to ensure the best chance for survival."





HID R LEFUDOS

TODD SCHLAFER DEMO

"All of the trees I collect go into straight pumice from New Mexico. A good medium promotes good root growth. I always leave some native soil in the rootball and they go into pots at least 24 hours after collection. On the second repot, I'll eliminate the native soil so that it is then in a 100% bonsai soil mix."

Todd finished off the styling and shared further stories and tips along the way. You can watch his full demo on our facebook page (link below).

Congratulations to the lucky winner, Bob Pressler, who won Todd's demo tree in our benefit draw raffle.

To learn more about Todd Schlafer, you can visit his web site at http://www.firstbranchbonsai.com.



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai was live — with California Bonsai Society and Todd Schlafer.

Published by Jason Saito [?] · November 15 · 🔇

TODD SCHLAFER - PROSTRATA STYLING DEMO

Thanks to Todd Schlafer for a very informative demonstration. It turned out fantastic!

Special thanks to the California Bonsai Society, and their Visiting Artists Program (VAP) for another world class artist's demonstration.



Watch Todd's full demo at https://www.facebook.com/DailchiBonsai/videos/



TODD SCHLAFER MASTERS SERIES WORKSHOP





Before the November meeting demonstration, Todd held a workshop and assisted attendees with styling and design choices for their finest trees.

He shared with us many tips and stories about his experiences collecting and working raw collected stock. It was a great productive day.









JAN CULEK MASTERS SERIES WORKSHOP

Photos by Doyle Saito





At our Masters Series workshop with Jan Culek, attendees worked on their trees as well as one of our club trees. It was a learning experience for all as he taught aspects of styling and refinement on an already styled old growth Prostrata that had been donated to the club. The tree came out beautifully and it will be available for sale at a future club auction.







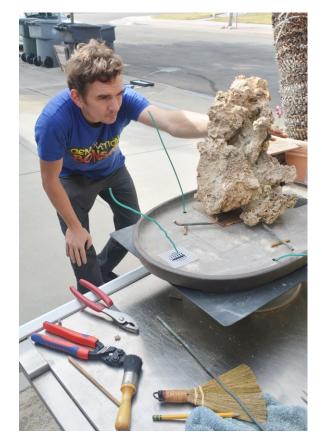






Above: Pre-visualization of the planting composition.

Below: Selecting the correct angle for the hardscape.



JAN CULEK ISHITSUKI DEMONSTRATION

When had the opportunity to present a demonstration with Jan Culek who is known for his handmade stones and slabs as well as the majestic *ishitsuki* rock plantings. Jan's demo utilized a tufa rock tower arrangement to complement the main tree which was a *Shimpaku* Juniper. His vision for the piece played upon the directionality of the tower and incorporated that same angle onto the stance and styling of the tree.

Jan discussed his outlook and philosophies on tree styling, as well as future development, as he expertly styled the untamed nursery stock into a refined tree. It was a fantastic learning opportunity to experience a unique European perspective on bonsai.

You can watch the full demo (in two parts) on our Facebook video page.







The assembled natural tufa stone was anchored into place with heavy gauge copper wire that extended into the stone by 4". It was cemented into the stone and wired to the pot at the correct angle and tension to keep the heavy structure in place until the newly planted roots set in.



JAN CULEK ISHITSUKI DEMONSTRATION









To learn more about
Jan Culek, visit his
web site at
www.janculekbonsai.com











JAN CULEK ISHITSUKI DEMONSTRATION

During his brief visit with us, Jan had the opportunity to work at the GSBF Huntington as well as have a bit of fun too.











Thanks to Marianne Yamaguchi and Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery for hosting the demonstration.

Special Thanks to Bob Pressler and Kimura Bonsai Nursery for his continued support and generous donation of materials for Jan's demonstration.



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai was live — with Kimura Bonsai and Landscape Nursery and Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery.

Published by Jason Saito [?] · November 17 · §



Thanks to Jan Culek for the great demonstration.

Special thanks to Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery for hosting the demonstration, and to Kimura Bonsai Nursery for donating the fantastic material.

Part Two:

https://www.facebook.com/DailchiBonsai/videos/2615655268512009/



Watch Jan's demo (in 2 parts) at https://www.facebook.com/DailchiBonsai/videos/



CALIFORNIA BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL SALE

nce again, Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery in West LA was the scene of the California Bonsai Society's Annual Bonsai Sale.

Many people journeyed into the frosty cold morning, for a chance at some

Many people journeyed into the frosty cold morning, for a chance at some great material at even greater prices. The crowd showed up early to get the best bargains. Here are some scenes from the event.







CALIFORNIA BONSAI SOCIETY ANNUAL SALE





















SHOW YOUR DIEK COLORS

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai



T-shirts are Glidden Ultra Cotton T-Shirts 2000 and available in men's size S, M, L, XL, XXL. Aprons are one size fits all with adjustable neck strap and three pockets.

Pictures shown are for illustration purposes only. Actual products may vary.

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT OUR CLUB MEETINGS. ONLINE ORDERING COMING SOON!

DECEMBER NO MEETING

May the magic
and wonder
of the
holiday season
stay with you
throughout the
coming year! . . .

See you all in Tanuary!

UPCOMING

All events are tentative and subject to change.

JANUARY 2020 | **ALBERT RIVERA** *Kishu Grafting Techniques*

EVENTS

Dec 26 – 30, 2019 California Aiseki Kai 28th Annual Show

The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino

Suiseki Exhibition Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

For more information, visit:

www.aisekikai.com

January 18 - 19, 2020 Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai 56th Annual Winter Silhouettes Show

Arboretum of Los Angeles 310 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia Hours: 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Exhibit, sales area, reception, raffle and auction.

For more information: Ken Teh: kenwteh6@gmail.com or visit www.baikoenbonsai.com

January 31 - February 2, 2020 17th Annual Shohin Seminar

Hotel Mission DeOro 13070 S Highway 33, Santa Nella Hours: 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Exhibit, sales area, Saturday night reception

For more information: http://www.calshohin.org

February 22 - 23 2020 Bonsai-A-Thon XXIII

The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens 1151 Oxford Road Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

For more information visit: www.gsbfhuntington.com

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 Draw Contributors

Gib & Elissa Hoxie, Shirley Floresca Doyle Saito, and Others

Refreshment Contributors

Allan Sugimura, Joan Shiosaki, Dan Sawada, Doyle Saito, Carol Takahashi, Fred Floresca. Louis Carrillo

Special thanks to

California Bonsai Society, Todd Schlafer, Jan Culek, Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery, Kimura Bonsai Nursery for their contributions to this issue of the DIBK Gazette.

ABOUT DALICHI BONSALKAL

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

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