

# NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

October 18, 2018

Mel Ikeda

Junipers and Rocks

LA Arboretum (Bamboo Room)

301 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA.

Please bring something for the raffle

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## Tak Shimatsu – Critique and Workshop

<https://www.facebook.com/baikoenbonsai/videos/343837279509954/>

<https://www.facebook.com/baikoenbonsai/videos/1691796130946970/>

We all had fun and learned a lot of different things when Tak Shimatsu comes. He is amazing with a broad-based knowledge of bonsai and plants mixed in with a lot of common sense, excellent communication skills and lots of humor. Within two hours he was able to go around to each person present (there were

about 30 people and at least that many trees) all within two hours. The variety of plants and different stages of bonsai development provided a lot of discussion among people and with Tak. Here are a sample of pictures with people and their trees.















Alex wanted to know how to shape his cork bark oak. Tak holds the branch that he thinks should be the apex and Alex is covering the branch that will come off (the middle branch will come off too). Tak said that it's important to follow the size of the stem, in relation to the rest of the tree. The branch that Alex is holding is too skinny and if letting it grow, it will look bad because there is too much difference between the tree trunk and the branch that he wants to develop into the apex.





Even when he was giving bad news, he had a smile. This tree, *procumbens nana* was purchased at a local nursery. When Tak looked at it, he said that it had fungus and that the foliage needed to be sprayed with a fungicide and a systemic fungicide added to the soil. From the picture on the left, you can see brown tips and leaves, and stunted growth.





Juniper should

never be pinched. The ends of the plant need to be cut to the next segment, and then the small branches need to be cleared of all leaves (see above right), then each branch needs to be wired and shaped like the branch on the left. This gives "movement" and shortens/compacts the branch, so that "pads" of leaves can be arranged on the tree.



This juniper has brown leaves at the base of green leaves. Too much shade, plant should be in full sun.



The apex should not be pointed like an arrow. It should be shaped with several stems and more rounded.



The idea of using string to pull down a branch, especially one that is very young, is good. But a better way is to use wire. Wire should be used to shape the entire branch. With string the branch will be pulled down, but once the tip starts growing, it will grow up, or at right angle to the branch, like an “L”. This is not what you want. When the entire branch is wired, the branch can be pulled down, and shaped for movement and you will not have any strange branch directions.

Plants in the rose family (apples, apricot, plums, ume) should be repotted now, roots may be cut, but no branches. Trim branches in

January/February, when the buds at the leaf nodes swell or after they flower, then again in July. If you trim the branches at other times, you run the risk of die back and no flowers. And there is no back budding on old wood.

We thank Tak for an extremely informative, entertaining and useful workshop. It was great!

### Harry Harrington – November Demonstrator

As part of the California Bonsai Society Visiting Artist program, we are really lucky to have Harry Harrington as our demonstrator in November. He is the author of three books and has a web site [www.bonsai4me.com](http://www.bonsai4me.com). The author of 'Species Guides' in 2001; the first comprehensive study of plant species suitable for Bonsai available online; he will be doing carving on a tree.

### Cookie / Snack sign-up for the July meeting.

Refreshments by Ken Teh, Alex & Hedy Marien, Octavia Chin and Peter Marcasite. Thank you for signing up.

### Announcements

**September 29 - 30, 2018, San Diego Bonsai Club, Annual Fall Show** at the Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Show hours are 10 AM - 5 PM with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM on both days. Show is free and is open to the public. We will be selling bonsai and bonsai-related items (bonsai, pre-bonsai, bonsai pots, and others). For more information, please visit [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com).

**October 6 - 7, 2018 Thousand Oaks, California, Conejo Valley Bonsai Society: 15th Annual Bonsai** 9 AM - 4 PM with demonstrations in the Bandstand at 1 PM both days. Free Admission. No sales of



bonsai related items. For information, call Marj Branson at 805-373-1330 or visit our web site at [www.cvbs-bonsai.org](http://www.cvbs-bonsai.org)

**October 24 - 28, 2018 Sacramento, California,** Golden State Bonsai Federation: Convention 41 "Creativity taking Flight" held at the McClellan Conference Center. Registration begins July 1st online at <http://www.gsbfcconvention.org/> for Convention, Workshops, Seminars, Excursions, etc. GSBF recommended lodging is Lion's Gate Hotel at McClellan Park. This year's headliners are Yasuo Mitsuya, Suthin Sukosolvisit, and Bjorn Bjorholm. Please join GSBF and Yasuo Mitsuya's esteemed students in honoring Mitsuya-san for his influence on bonsai in the modern era. Hosting Yasuo Mitsuya's visit are: Kathy Shaner, Hideko Metaxas, Boon Manakitivipart, Kenji Miyata, Cheryl Manning, David DeGroot, Gordon Deeg.

**November 20, 2018.** Field trip to Ed Clark, Round Valley Nursery, 24022 Ave 230, Lindsay, CA 93247. Tom Lau will lead a caravan north to Ed Clark's Round Valley Nursery in Lindsay, Ca. Please contact Tom ([halfclueless@yahoo.com](mailto:halfclueless@yahoo.com)) if you want to go. He will try to arrange carpooling, and central points to meet. Ed Clark is a fascinating person to talk with and his knowledge about plant care and growth is legendary. You'll find plants, including pre-bonsai, that you'll never see anywhere else. And going with a group is the best way to go, finding the nursery is a challenge.

**Saturday & Sunday January 19 and 20, 2019, Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai, Winter Silhouette 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition,** founded by Frank Fusaji Nagata, Ayres Hall of Environmental Education, Arboretum of Los Angeles County, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA 91007. Demonstrations, sales area, club and vendor plants, pots, tools and more. Show hours are from 10am to 4:30pm with a demonstration at 1pm on both days. The reception is open to friends of Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai, when the Nagata-Komai Award will be presented to Ted Matson, followed by a giant raffle/auction. For more information contact Lindsay Shiba, [shibalindsay@gmail.com](mailto:shibalindsay@gmail.com), or Ken The, [kenwteh6@gmail.com](mailto:kenwteh6@gmail.com) or visit our website, [www.baikoenbonsai.com](http://www.baikoenbonsai.com).

**Feb. 23 - 24, 2019 San Marino, California,** Bonsai-A-Thon XXIII at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road. This is the annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington. Event admission is free with Bonsai-A-Thon "early bird" registration between 8 AM - 9 AM. Event hours are 8 AM - 4:30 PM both days. Pancake breakfast, demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle and auction. For more information visit The GSBF Collection at The Huntington.

#### 2018 Demonstrator List

January 18, 2018	Lindsay Shiba workshop
January 13 & 14, 2018	Winter Silhouette Show
February 15, 2018	Tom Vuong grafting workshop
March 15, 2018	Ann Lofquist, Tanuki Style of bonsai
April 19, 2018	Travis Goldstein, demonstrator



May 17, 2018  
June 21, 2018  
July 19, 2018  
August 16, 2018  
September 20, 2018  
October 18, 2018  
November 15, 2018  
December 2018  
January 19 & 20, 2019

Will Baddeley, Carving demonstrator  
Frank Yee, Jade plant demonstrator  
Peter Macasieb, demo/potluck  
Pedro Morales, demo from Puerto Rico  
Tak Shimazu, workshop  
Mel Ikeda, demonstrator  
Harry Harrington from the UK  
No meeting/ Happy Holidays  
Winter Silhouette Show

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