

NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Travis Goldstein,
demonstrator

LA Arboretum (Bamboo Room)

301 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA.

Please bring something for the raffle

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Ann Lofquist - Tenuki demonstration

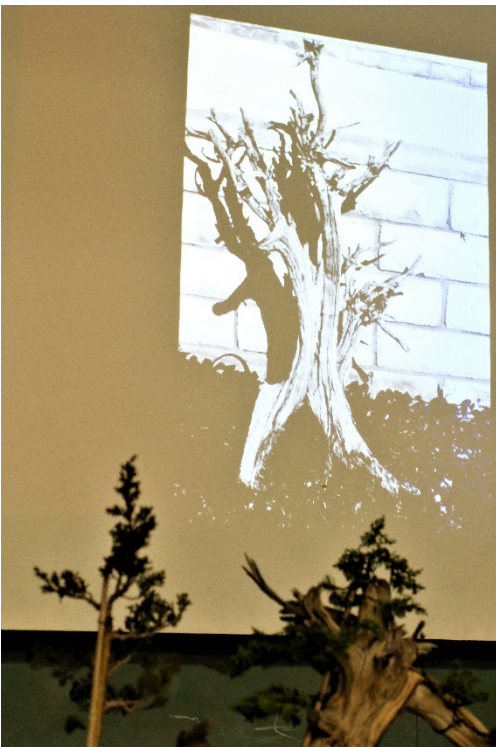
Video of her demo is on Facebook,

<https://www.facebook.com/baikoenbonsai/videos/1086564558150067/>

Seeing is believing and you must see Ann Lofquist's plants to really appreciate her artistry and creative thoughts and methods, to appreciate her art. She has refined the technique to a higher level.



She brought several of her plants for us to see during her talk. She didn't give us an actual demo but gave a talk with a slide show along with plants to show the process. It was a challenge to see where the live plant and the dead wood interfaced.



Ann is a landscape artist, and she brings to her bonsai craft some of same skill sets. First off, I apologize for the quality of the pictures. Taking pictures of projected pictures messes up the color that the camera sees so the picture quality is not there.

Ann starts with a piece of dead wood, maybe from a tree that died, maybe she found it or one of her plants died, or maybe someone gives it to her. The bottom line is don't toss your dead tree stumps, you never know when you'll need it. A picture of a stump she got at Fuji Nursery is above left. Directly below the picture is the tenuki she created using that stump.

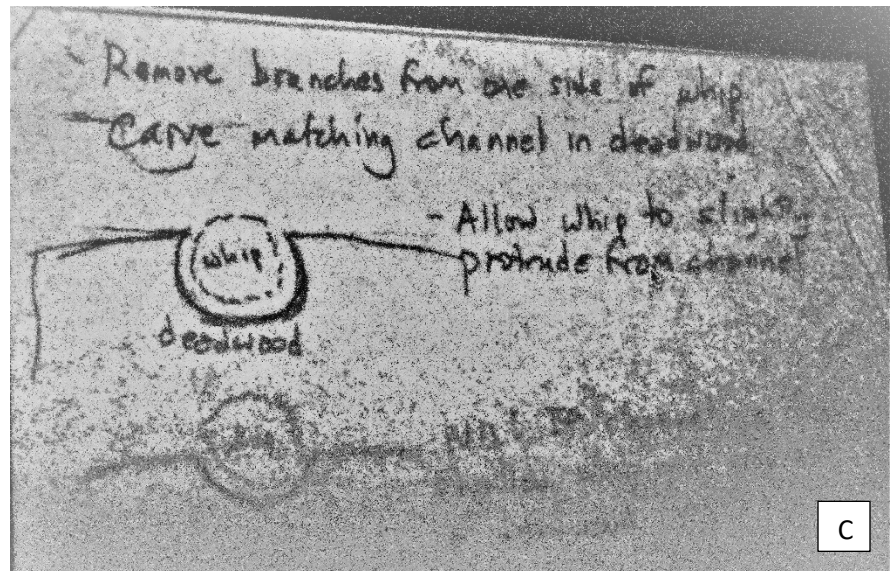
Here are the steps she used. 1) Study the dead wood, look at the shape and direction of the wood grain.; 2) Carve a channel in the dead wood to hold the “whip (A)”. As you can see from the drawing (B), the whip will be about three quarters below the surface of the dead wood (C). Make sure it is not protruding half way out. This way the plant and



A



B



C

deadwood will merge as the plant grows and look natural.

3) She uses KwikWood, an epoxy compound, to embed the whip into the deadwood.
4) Instead of screws to hold the whip in place, she uses wire covered with tubing over the whip/plant area to protect the tissue (D, E, F, F).



D

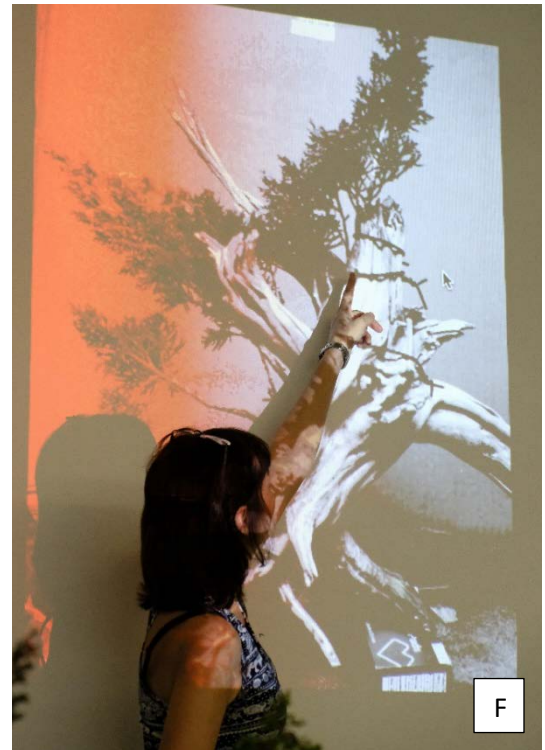
5) After about 30-60 minutes the wire holding the whip can be removed and the whip can be wired/styled in place on the dead wood as you can see above (G) and excess KwikWood can be removed. Remember while the KwikWood is still soft, it can be etched and carved to simulate the look of real wood. Can you tell the difference where the live wood and dead wood meet? (G)



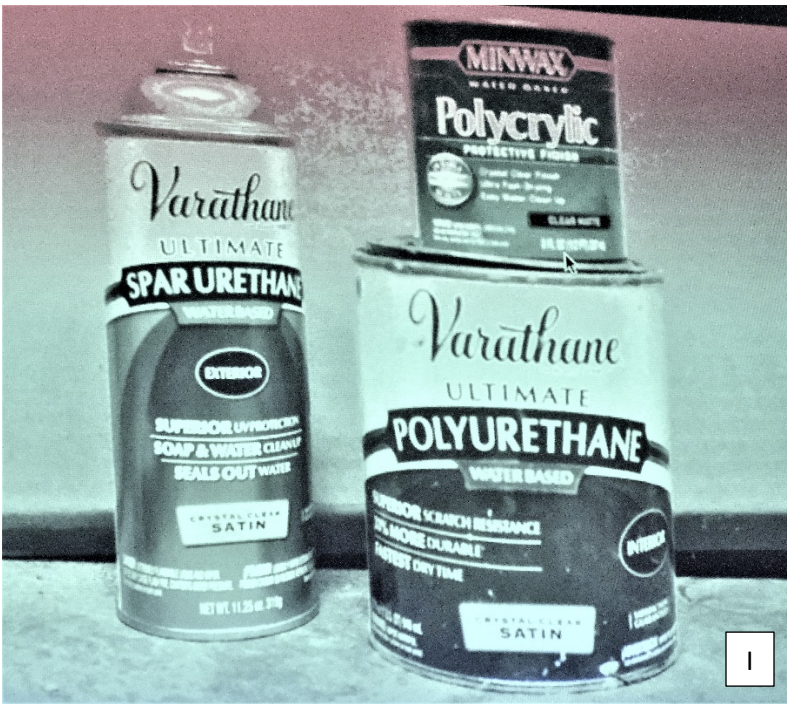
6) Other things can be used instead of KwikWood (H). Which one is better is a tossup. You need to consider the cost and how much you plan to use. KwikWood is



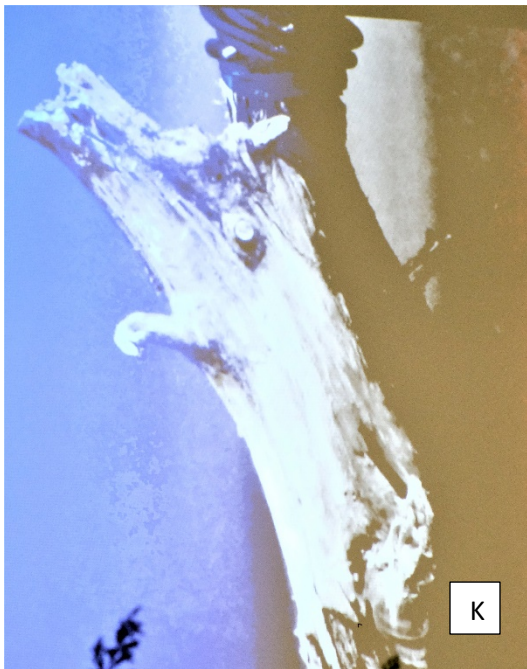
approximately \$6/pkg whereas Bondo products come in quart and gallon sizes and costs about \$20+. Both do the same things.



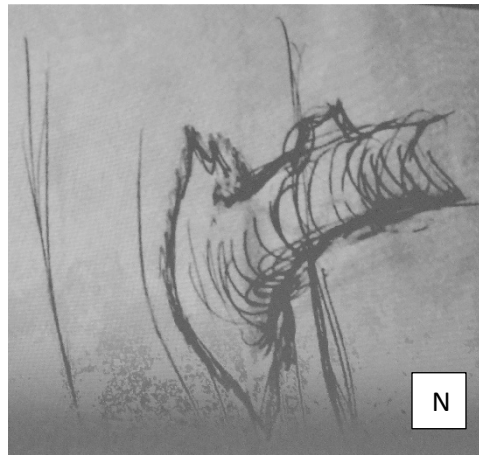
7) One other concern is preservation of the dead wood from rotting or disintegrating when exposed to water. Ann uses several products to protect her dead wood skeleton (I, J).



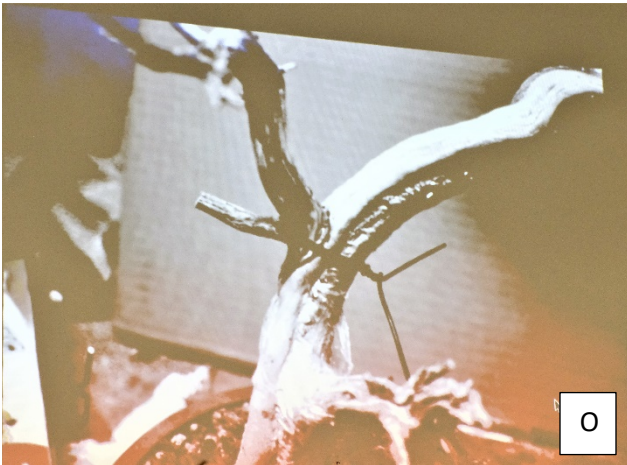
8) Another consideration is if you want to extend a branch. In (K) you see the original plant stem. But Ann wanted to make it longer (L) by adding a branch as you can see here.



9) There are two main things to think about when adding a branch. When you want to join a heavy branch, a larger joining surface area is a stronger than a smaller one (M). And it doesn't matter the shape of size



because you can mode and refine the joining area with KwikWood or a Bondo product. Then you add, mold and carve so it looks seamless. After it is dried, then she colors and if it is



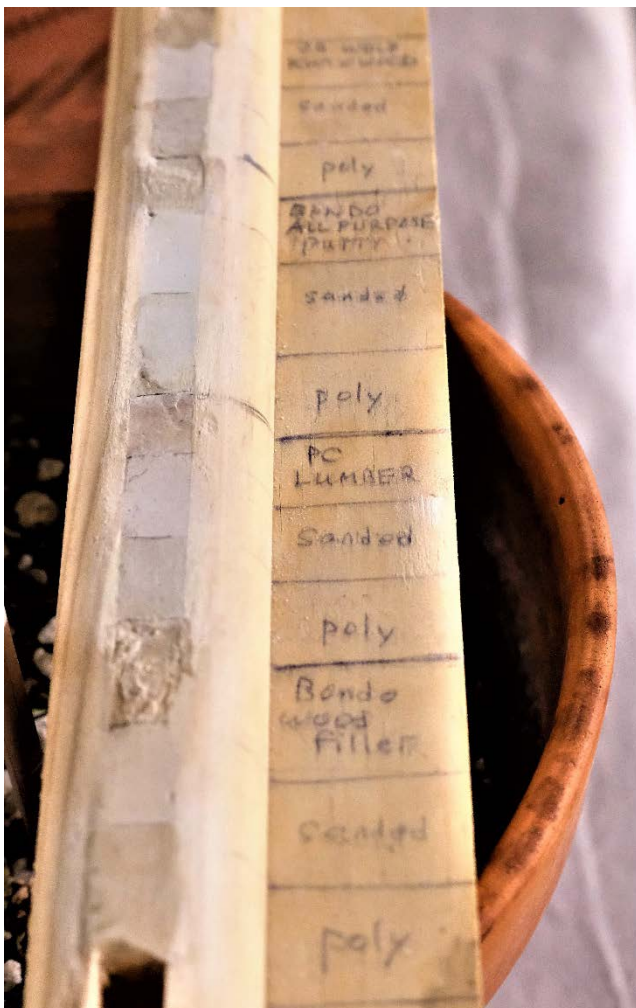
near the surface of the soil, then add a little green to simulate moss growing on the wood (Q). In this Rosemary plant, the whip is a young plant. She covers the plant with saran wrap (P) before adding the KwikWood and some dead wood pieces. By covering the plant, she can remove the added piece if she wanted (space between her fingers) (Q).

Sorry I

didn't take a picture after she took off the piece.



Some other things that can be done using these techniques is add/modify root or change the shape or arrangement of the nebari, and to add footing to a pot to help with drainage.



We thank Ann Lofquist for an amazing and intriguing presentation. She gave us a comprehensive talk of Tanuki and to show us that it widens our horizons on what is possible to do with our bonsai plants. The possibilities are endless and only limited by our imagination.

For more information please see the video from Tom on Facebook (link is at the beginning of the article, and another article at this link:

<http://bonsailearningcenter.com/2016/02/creating-a-tanuki-bonsai/>

Cookie / Snack sign-up for the November meeting.

Refreshments by Peter and Marissa Macasib, Greg Katbol, and Johan Garcia. Thank you for signing up.

Announcements

April 15, 2018 Fresno, California, GSBF Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen, Koen-Nai No Bonsai, Bonsai in the Park, 7775 North Friant Road. The Koen-Nai Fundraiser for the GSBF Clark Bonsai Collection has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 15th. The event will include two Silent Auctions (one ending at noon, the other at 4PM). There will be a larger combined plant sale by the Clark Collection and Fresno Bosai Society. There will be guided tours of the Clark Bonsai Exhibit and the Toko-Kazari Tokonoma Display Competition. This will take place concurrently with the Spring Multicultural Faire with music, dance, food, and artists from our diverse community.

April 28 - 29, 2018, San Diego Bonsai Club Spring Show, San Diego, California at the Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Show hours are 10 AM - 5 PM with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM both days. Free admission; there will be Bonsai plants, Bonsai Pots for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information visit www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com, or contact Abe Far 619-384-0004

May 5 - 6, 2018 Gardena, California, Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai: 33rd Annual Bonsai Exhibit & Sale "Serenity through Bonsai" Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd Street. Show hours are 10 AM - 4 PM. The show features an exhibition and sales area. Saturday events: beginner's workshop, round-robin demonstration, private dinner reception (open to all SoCal bonsai club members), and our club auction. Sunday events: Saikei demonstration by Frank Goya. The public is welcome, and admission and parking is free.

May 19 - 20, 2018 Santa Barbara, California, Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara, Annual Bonsai Exhibition and plant sale in Fellowship Hall at Trinity Lutheran Church, 909 N. La Cumbre, (Corner of Foothill Rd.). Hours are 11 AM - 4 PM Saturday and 10 AM - 4 PM Sunday with demonstrations by Ann Erb and Mel Ikeda. Free admission. For more information, contact Joe Olson 805-964-0869, email joeyuccaseed@verizon.net, or visit www.santabarbarbonsai.org.

May 20, 2018 Van Nuys, California, Sansui Kai of Southern California, Annual Bonsai Show and Sale, Japanese Garden, Tillman Water Reclamation Center, 6100 Woodley Ave. Hours are 10 AM - 4 PM with demonstrations at 1 PM. Entry fee \$5 to show and garden. There will be bonsai trees for sale as well as bonsai related things (pots, stones etc.).

2018 Demonstrator List

January 18, 2018

Lindsay Shiba workshop

January 13 & 14, 2018

February 15, 2018

March 15, 2018

April 19, 2018

May 17, 2018

June 15, 2018

July 19, 2018

August 2018

September 21, 2018

October 19, 2018

November 16, 2018

December 2018

Winter Silhouette Show

Tom Vuong grafting workshop

Ann Lofquist, Tanuki Style of bonsai

Travis Goldstein, demonstrator

Will Baddeley, Carving demonstrator

Frank Yee, Jade plant demonstrator

Peter Macasieb, workshop/potluck

no meeting

Tak Shimazu, demonstrator

TBA

TBA

No meeting/ Happy Holidays

Shirley Quan

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