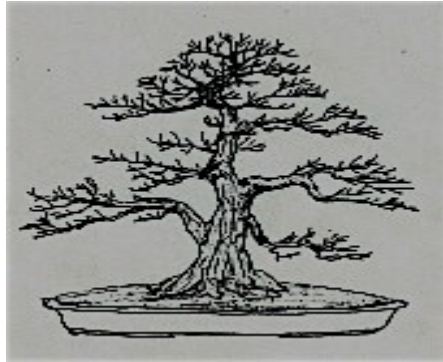


NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Bob Pressler

March 16, 2017, 7:00pm

LA Arboretum (Oak Room)

Note temporary change in room

301 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA.

Please bring something for the raffle

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Tom Vuong, Demonstrator



We are pleased to have our own Tom Vuong as the featured demonstrator in February. A self-taught bonsai master of amazing trees (most of which are bigger and taller than he is). He is currently working as member of the curation team to work on select California Junipers at Huntington. Tom has continued working on the trees where he made major trunk and branch bends, and some of those have had their heavy tape and towel layers removed, and are now growing out in preparation for the next detailed wiring and trunk cleaning. Tom was also a demonstrator at the Golden State Bonsai Federation 2017 Bonsai-A-Thon.

For our club meeting, Tom presented his technique for grafting that in his own words is “easy, cheap and it works”.

Here are his main tools that he uses, from left to right: 1) various sizes of cable/tie tape, 2) Electrical tape (see larger picture below) available at hardware stores, (Home Depot, Amazon) in different widths. It stretches and seals to itself; 3) wood carving tool for use on tree stems in hard to reach areas, 4) grafting knife, he sharpens it each time he uses it.

On the left is an enlarged picture of the tape and the sealer he uses.

First thing he does is to clean the foliage off the branch and keep leaves at the tip of the branch.





On the left is a juniper that he has begun to add scions to make the plant more compact and to change the foliage (from prostrata) to leaves that are more compact and smaller (Kishu shimpakiu) or to add a branch where it is needed.

Follow the sequence of pictures below: From left to right, top to bottom. 1) selecting a scion, 2) making the cut when you want to graft. Remember to cut away not toward you, about 1/3 of stem width;





3) the scion is trimmed to a "V" shape with one side slightly longer than the other, size can be smaller but not bigger than stem that it is grafted to; 4) scion is inserted; 5) the tape is stretched and wrapped at least 3x around the stem; 6-8) zip tape is wrapped and tightened then another set is wrapped in the opposite direction and tightened, ends are trimmed; 9) finished, the scion doesn't and cannot move.



The scion and stem are sealed with the pruning sealer only at the top above the tape.



If the stem is large, then larger sized tie tape is used. This method is 60% of the method, after care is 40% of successful grafting.



Above are photos showing his placement of his fingers and hands in relationship to the knife. His right-hand stays in one place with the knife blade facing out. The flat side of the blade is always against the stem/branch. His left-hand thumb pushes against the blade in a smooth motion, his fingers providing steady pressure to achieve a clean cut. This way he has the most control of the knife and less chance of cutting himself and cutting correctly.

The entire plant is covered with a clear plastic bag (2-3mm thick, www.uline.com) for 2-3 months in 50-75% shade, 3-4 hr sun, and watering every month. If the tips of the scion are bright green, leave bag on but cut some holes in the bag. After about 6 months he cuts the tie tapes but does not remove the tape. One year later, he cuts one side of the tape so it can fall off. It is important not to move the tree during this time. 1-2 years later the tree can be wired.

If you want to graft or add another branch from a potted plant, you can follow the same method with some modification. Position the branches and tie together, mark with ink the direction and location before taping and trimming. Follow the ink markings to orient the branches in the correct orientation.



In his example above, he has cut the bottom of the original plant. In practice, the plant would be intact and still growing in a pot, and the original stem/branch

branch he wants to graft to the

would extend above. Wrap with the stretch tape, starting from the bottom. Put tie tape starting in the middle, then below and then on top. No need for pruning sealer.



Junipers can be grafted from January to April. Elms and oaks easy to graft. Black pine use candle as the scion for more success. Tape with parafilm. No need for shade, without the sun slower healing, graft from April to June.

Tom is always willing to help, call him for help anytime.

Tom donated the plant to the raffle which was won by Walter and Octivia.

Thank You Luncheon, date changed to March 19.

The annual Thank You Luncheon will be held on Sunday March 19, 2017 at the Garden Café at 850 South Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007. This is a thank you from the club for all the work and efforts for putting on the Silhouette Show. Menu is grilled chicken steak, grilled pork chop, grilled sole fillet, Korean style grilled short ribs; satay beef chow mein; Oriental roasted chicken salad, fresh fruit, mango and ham salad; baked smelt; wild mushroom and salmon. Order when you arrive at the restaurant.

Please RSVP to Ken by March 12, by phone, text or e-mail, (kenwteh6@gmail.com)

Phone number 626 822-0077, e-mail kenwteh6@gmail.com.

Members free, club members can bring a guest if they want, cost is \$15.

Announcements

A membership roster for Baikoen is available for members by request only. Please let me know if you want one. The roster is for club members only and not for distribution.

March 25-26, 2017, California Bonsai Society, Huntington Library and Gardens, 60th Annual Show. from 10-5 p.m. Discover the timeless appeal of an ancient horticultural art form as the California Bonsai Society presents its 60th annual show, featuring more than 100 beautiful specimens created by bonsai masters. General admission. Brody Botanical Center

April 1, 2017, Mauro Stemberger demo in the Japanese Garden , Huntington Gardens, 1-4pm.

Award-winning bonsai artist Mauro Stemberger will create a living masterpiece for the Huntington's bonsai collection in a working demonstration in the Japanese Garden. This demonstration is open to all visitors on a drop-in basis. Stemberger's lifelong passion for bonsai—he started as a teenager in northern Italy, collecting wild trees from the Alps – and his professional background as an architect have given him a unique eye for design along with the technical skill to transform collected specimens into dramatic, highly expressive living sculptures.

April 22-23, 2017, Fresno, Shinzen Garden at Woodward Park, 9:30pm to 4:30pm

2nd Annual Kōen-Nai No Bonsai Fundraiser for the Clark Bonsai Collection at Shinzen. Enjoy a wonderful bonsai weekend in the beautiful setting of the Shinzen Garden at Woodward Park, at Friant and Audubon Roads. Hours are Saturday 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM and Sunday 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Peter Tea and David Nguy will provide demonstrations for this event. The event will include a huge bonsai auction with a wide selection of trees, complimented by a mammoth vender area. Toko-Kazari Display Competition will provide beautiful artistry together with tours of the Regional Bonsai Exhibit in the garden. Several Shohin workshops will be offered. For more information, contact Bob Hilvers at bonsaigui@comcast.net.

April 29 -30, 2017, San Diego Bonsai Club: Spring Bonsai Exhibition, San Diego Balboa Park at the Casa Del Prado Room 101, 10:00pm to 5:00pm

San Diego Bonsai Club: Spring Bonsai Exhibition at the Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Show hours are 10 AM – 5 PM both days with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM. Free admission. Bonsai pots and trees for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information visit www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com or contact Janice Hale.

2017 Program/Demonstrator List

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| January 19, 2017 | Sean Smith, workshop |
| January 21 & 22, 2017 | Winter Silhouette Show |
| February 16, 2017 | Tom Vuong, demonstrator |
| March 16, 2017 | Bob Pressler, demonstrator |
| April 20, 2017 | TBA |
| May 18, 2017 | TBA |
| June 15, 2017 | TBA |
| July 20, 2017 | TBA |
| August 2017 | no meeting |
| September 21, 2017 | TBA |
| October 2017 | TBA |
| November 2017 | TBA |
| December 2017 | Christmas Party |

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