

NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Michael Roberts
Return of the Cork Bark Elms

Next meeting April 27, 2025
Bamboo Room

LA Arboretum
301 North Baldwin Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91007

Please bring something for the raffle

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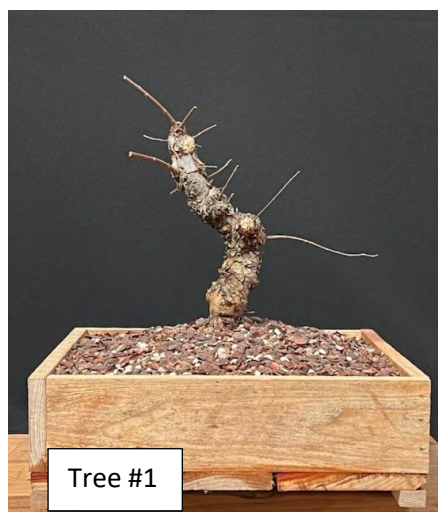
Tom Lau

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April 27, 2025 – Michael Roberts, The Return of the Cork Bark Elms



January 19, 2023 - Start of Michael Roberts work on three Cork Bark Elms in 5-gallon pots

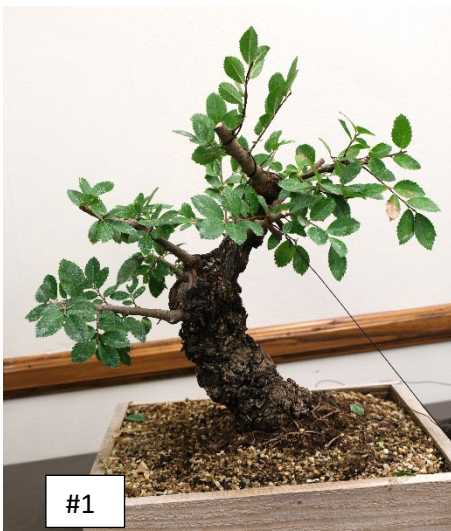


April 20, 2023, Spring trim





September 21, 2023 – The last time we saw the trees



Timeline, first line of photos under the date is the tree when brought in on that date. Photo directly below, shows the tree after work done by Michael Roberts.

1. January 19, 2023. All trees were removed from nursery pots, trimmed, and repotted into wood boxes. Tree #1 shaped during meeting. Trees #2 & 3 were repotted and put in wood box outside of meeting.
2. April 20, 2023. Trees #2 evaluated and trimmed of excess branches, raffled. Initial shaping. Tree #1 trimmed.
3. September 21, 2023. Tree #3 evaluated, trimmed, and shaped, and raffled. Trees #1 & 2 trimmed.
4. April 27, 2025, all three trees return for evaluation, trim and shaping.

If you are wondering why there are different faces. Mitch Fennel won tree #1 at the first raffle in January. In April, Lindsay Shiba won the tree, but it went back to the raffle and Mike Kelly won the tree, then Mike gave the tree to Joe Galgoul. Tree #3 was won at the raffle in September by Cedric Navarro.

Will Baddeley – March 20, 2025

The meeting began with a presentation from Lindsay to Bob Pressler. On the bottom left is a picture of the tokonoma from the CBS show with Bob's elm and a scroll in the background. Lindsay painted the scroll and presented the scroll to Bob at the meeting. The inscription on the box is shown below.



Shirley's Shimpaku



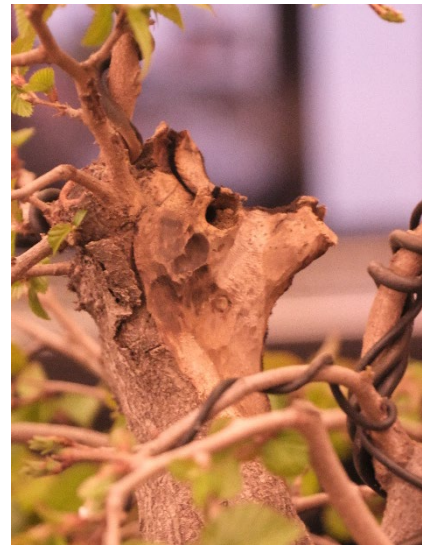
Creating deadwood on **Bonsai**, in the form of Jin, Shari or Uro, can enhance the tree's character significantly. A "Jin" is a bare-stripped part of branch, a "Shari" is a barkless part of trunk, and an "Uro" is a hollow, irregularly-shaped wound in the trunk. (from Bonsai Empire, <https://www.bonsaiempire.com/basics/styling/deadwood>).

You can see, above that Will carve/drilled into the trunk to create shari. Above right, the shari has gotten longer, and he has jin one entire branch. Bob Pressler pointed out that that branch was a bar branch, and the tree would look better. What do you think?



Next was a hornbeam from Manuel Dizon. You can see that there is an ugly wound at the top where a branch had been cut off.







Manuel and Will with the final tree. Note the Three channels above are interconnected, and water can drain at the bottom so the wood won't rot.

A few sources for carving tools, bits and burrs

<https://www.samurai.nl/>

<http://www.kaizenbonsai.com/>

<http://www.woodcarverssupply.com/>

<https://www.treelineusa.com/>

<http://bonsainibbler.co.uk/>



Will is an extraordinary carver and the work he shows exemplifies his experience. No amount of practice can replace experience. The relatively simple creation of a shari on the Shimpaku is the basis for more creative work like what he did on the hornbeam. Knowing bonsai and wood, he created channels in the wood so that water would not collect to result in rotten wood, each of the three channels leads to another then finally to drain out of the tree. Above are his collection of bits, drills, and brushes that he uses. He prefers to use old brushes, bits, and grinders rather than new ones because they leave a gentle more natural finish to the wood, that is why you see a wide variety of tools that he uses. We only saw a very small sample of his work at this short meeting.

[Will Baddeley - Bonsai Empire](#)

[Will Baddeley \(@wildwoodbonsai\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

Announcements

Refreshments will be provided by Peter Macaseib, Sanda Cea, Johan Garcia and Vic Skelton

April 5 & 6, 2025, 50th Annual Bunka-Sai Japanese Cultural Festival, 11am to 5pm, Ken Miller Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd (at Madrona Ave). Enjoy tasty plate lunches, sweets, arts and craft items, cultural performances, dance, music, martial arts, exhibitions, demonstrations. Presented by The Torrance Sister City Association.

April 9, 2025, deadline to sign up for the bus trip to San Diego for the San Diego Spring Show and Sale. Please see flyer. Sign up at the meeting.

April 19, 2025, Friendship Through Bonsai at Shisei-En 2. Demonstration by David Nguy from 12:30 to 3pm, Raffle and Live and Silent Auction. Please see flyer. The deadline to submit your name for attendance is over but if you haven't signed up please send me your name and I will forward.

April 25-27, 2025, April Spring Show and Sale, San Diego Bonsai Club. Saturday April 26, 2025, 10am to 5pm, Sunday April 27, 2025, 10am to 4pm. Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego. Free to the public. Club member bonsai exhibition. Trees, pots, and materials for sale (all sales are cashless). Bonsai technique demonstrations each day at 11:00am and 1pm. We will have a bus, cost is \$40, please see flyer.

April 28, 2025, GSBF Golden Zoom meeting with Scott Elser, 6:30 to 8:30pm. GSBF Member Clubs are invited to participate in our quarterly Golden Zoom speaker series. April's presentation will feature Scott Elser, 2024 Pacific Bonsai Expo best Extra Large Conifer Winner. This technique can help you to create new trees and/or improve your tree's nebari.

May 3, 2025, World Bonsai Day Presented by Clark Bonsai Museum, 10am – 4pm. Clark Bonsai Museum in Shinzen Garden, 114 W Audubon Dr., Fresno, CA 93720. Join us on Saturday, May 3rd, 2025, at 10am for a day of appreciation, education, and community as we honor the art of bonsai. This special event will take place at the Clark Bonsai Museum, nestled within the Shinzen Garden at Woodward Park, Fresno, CA.

May 1-31, 2025, Ben Oki Scholarship applications due. Please see flyer.

May 10 & 11, 2025, Serenity Through Bonsai, Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai, 38th Annual Bonsai Exhibit and Sale, Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA, novice to master exhibitors, daily demonstrations and drawings, bonsai plants, tools, and accessories on sale throughout the show. Free admission and parking. For more information bit.ly/DIBK-FB.

May 24, 25, 26, 2025, Santa Anita Bonsai Society Annual Bonsai Exhibit and Sale. LA Arboretum. Ayres Hall, LA Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA 91007, 9am to 4:30pm. Displays, demonstrations and sales.

June ?, 2025, Orange County Bonsai Society Bonsai Show (OCBS), Cool Japan Center in Irvine, 4199 Campus Drive, Suite A, Irvine, CA 92612.

June 8, 2025, LA Bonsai Swap Meet, 10am to 12pm, Woodley Park, 6076 Woodley Ave, Van Nuys (south end of parking lot). Enjoy a day of shopping, swapping, or selling bonsai plants, tools, and pots. EVERYONE is welcome to this free event. For more information, email minguseyes@gmail.com or join us on Facebook at LA Community Bonsai Swap Meet Group.

August 16 & 17, 2025, John Y. Naka Memorial Exhibit Bonsai Show, George J. Doizaki Gallery at the Japanese American Community Cultural Center (JACCC), 244 So. San Pedro St. in Little Tokyo, 10am to 4pm. The Naka Memorial Exhibit is a juried exhibition where jurors will help select the best trees out of the submission pool. This means we need your help to make this show the best it can be! Our 4 jurors are Carmen Leskoviansky, Matthew Galacio, Ryan Pitts, and Julian Tsai. Please use this link for submission instructions: [Submissions](#). **Deadline for application submission has been extended to June 1, 2025.** Details can be found at <https://nakamemoralexhibit.com>.

October 24-26, 2025, GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous, 9:00 AM – 5pm, 9:00 AM – Oct 26, 2025, 1:00 PM, Mission del Oro Hotel, 13070 CA-33, Santa Nella, CA 95322, USA
Biennial GSBF event. Headliners, Suthin Sukosolvisit and Mauro Stemberger will host BYT workshops on Friday. Multiple workshops will be held Friday and Saturday. Vendors all three days. Free educational seminars and BYB hospitality hours. Live and silent auctions. Registration for the convention and workshops will open on June 6, 2025. For more information, www.gsbfbonsai.org

New ZOOM Link. Baikoen meetings will continue to be recorded live and zoomed by Tom. Here is a new link. We will be streaming our meetings live to everyone. However, it is not interactive. We encourage people to either watch the recording on YouTube or join us in person.
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8328571089?pwd=1Fqg0SeV9vFT5RaF5vf3pyeVUAIYoE.1>

Tom's videos: If you have missed any of the videos that Tom has produced, here is the link to view all of them. https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=baikoen+bonsai+club

Baikoen Demo Schedule – 2025

April 17, 2025	Michael Roberts, return of the cork bark elms
May 15, 2025	Heike van Gunst, CBS Artist
June 19, 2025	Debra Maury-Melitz, Kusamono talk & workshop

July 17, 2025	Cesar Ordonez, CBS Artist
August 2025	No Meeting
September 18, 2025	TBA
October 16, 2025	TBA
November 20, 2025	Seth Nelson, CBS Artist
December 2025	No Meeting