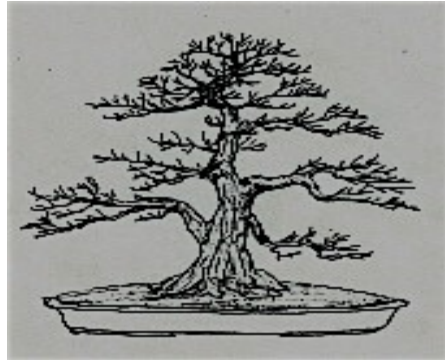


NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Our next meeting will be on

March 24, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Michael Sykes

Demonstrator

LA Arboretum (Oak Room)
301 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA.

Please bring something for the raffle.

Officers

Ken Teh

President

(626) 822-0077

Lindsay Shiba

Vice President,

Show chairman

(909) 473-0099

Ken Teh

Interim Treasurer

Mary Morrissey

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Refreshment Chair

(626) 579-0420

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Ann Erb February demonstrator

We were extremely fortunate to have Ann Erb as the demonstrator because care and maintenance of our tools is very important, but is not routinely taught. She brought many tools and accessories to show us the proper method to sharpen bonsai tools. Below is a sample of the different sharpening stones on the left.



She started the evening off by soaking a rusted pair of scissors in a diluted solution (1 tablespoon citric acid powder in about a quart of water, easily found in the grocery store, used for canning food). The concentration of citric acid and the soaking time can vary depending on the condition of the tool. Just remove

from the solution to easily check the progress.



For pruners/scissors, you first need to check the edges and then check the joint or pin holding the scissors together. If there is wiggle in the handles, then the pin



needs to be tightened carefully. In the picture on the left, Ann is using a pin ball hammer to gently tapped on the top and sides of the pin on top of an anvil that has an indentation for the pin head so it is not flattened when hammering. Check often to see the tightness of the handles. However, if you have a tool made by Masakuni, the hinge is held together by a tapered bolt and you need to tap on the bolt side that does not move. If you tap on the bolt side that moves on a Masakuni tool, the hinge will loosen further. Clean the blade with alcohol wipes (easier than carrying alcohol with you, and easily found in the drug store. Check the blade to see if there are one or two bevels, if there are two bevels, only sharpen the second.

If the tool is very dirty, then you can use sanding sponges (left), but you need to move in one direction only.



Cut the sanding sponges into smaller pieces for easier handling. Sanding stones are available in three grades, fine medium and coarse.

Ann followed by showing us how to sharpen scissors with a ceramic stone. Sharpen cutters on the inside of the tool, using your whole arm movement to slide the edge across the stone in one direction only. Feel along the edge of the edge so that there are no striations, just a fine bur. The ceramic stone she used was 240 medium grade. A diamond stone is 160/300 or 400, all used with water. An Arkansas stone used with oil will gum up and therefore will not sharpen your tools.

Branch cutters should be sharpened with a rat tail file. First though close the tool and hold it up to the light to see if there is any light between the edges. If you can see light, then the handles need to be aligned by tapping on the handles, check often. Sharpen toward the edge and check after 2 or 3 strokes to see if there is even pressure across the blade.



One important thing to do after you finish sharpening your cutters is to lubricate with Camilla oil. Don't use petroleum based oils, like WD40 because the cut edges of the plants will turn brown or die. Always clean your tools after using with alcohol wipes especially after cutting pines.

<http://www.baikoenbonsai.com> The following pictures show Ann sharpening a branch cutter, carving tools and using a low speed grinder to sharpen a pair of scissors. In each picture notice her hand placement and angle of the blade. The sharpening stone is placed over a rubberized netting (a rug stabilizer) so the stone will not move. Her left hand fingers are over the blade so that they maintain the pressure and angle while it



goes over the sharpening stone. In addition to showing us methods of tool sharpening,

Ann also showed us how she stores her wire when traveling in her tool bag. The wire is stored in spools or reels used for flying kites or fishing. They can be purchased inexpensively at hobby stores and Amazon.

The last thing that she showed us was something to support large trees upside down for repotting. A portable work bench purchased, for about \$20, at the local hardware store or Harbor Freight can be modified for this purpose. She made one change, two pieces of board, the length equaling the width of the opened bench were cut, then a hole, the diameter of the poles were cut at one end of the pipe, then threaded onto the piping (see the triangular boards hanging from the piping on the right). The shape of the board is not important. Finally swim noodles were placed on the top edge of the board to protect the plant and to prevent the tree from moving.



The end of the boards can be fastened by bungie cords to the bench or allowed to just sit on the piping. The boards can be moved easily to allow for different sizes and placement of the plant. She told us that she has also made a smaller table top plant holder using a lawn chair. Leo Mariscal, the newest member of the club, raffled.

won the bench in the

Two local sources for the Camilla oil, and sponges are as follows:

www.easternleaf.com in Chino

www.houseofbonsai.com in Lakewood

Please check the web site, <http://www.baikoenbonsai.com>, for further descriptions and videos that Tom has put in Utube.

Bus Trip to SD Spring Show!

Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai is sponsoring a bus trip to visit the San Diego Bonsai Club for their 51th anniversary Spring Show on Saturday, April 23th. The cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members per person round trip leaving the LA Arboretum at 10am. As guest to this event we ask you to bring a dessert for their SD bonsai club reception. For more information and tickets for the bus trip please

contact Lindsay Shiba (909)806-0937 or ljshiba@juno.com. If there is a demand for another bus stop in another location, we will consider if there is enough people to support it, please contact Lindsay.

Cookie / Snack sign-up for the March meeting.

Joe Gutierrez, Shirley Quan, Octavia Chin and Elaine Jeché. Thank you for signing up.

Events

May 14-15, 2016, 10-4pm, Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena Gardena, California. Annual Exhibit "Serenity through Bonsai" at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St. Novice to master bonsai exhibited. Hours are 10 AM - 4 PM both days with a demonstration at 1 PM ((Saturday) a round-robin and (Sunday) a Saikei demonstration by Mr. Frank Goya will be held). The demonstration items will be in the benefit drawing, which follows each demonstration. On Saturday a beginner's hands-on workshop at 10:30 AM will be held. For more details about our club and show visit our website <http://daiichibonsaikai.wordpress.com> or contact Doyle Saito at (310) 539-9265.

May 19-20, 2016, 10:30-4:30, San Marino, California at Huntington Library & Gardens. California Bonsai Society. Discover the timeless appeal of an ancient horticultural art form as the California Bonsai Society presents its 59th annual show, featuring more than 100 beautiful specimens created by bonsai masters. General admission. Brody Botanical Center

January 1 - April 24, 2016 Oakland, California

California Suiseki Society and San Francisco Suiseki Kai: are featured with the work of sculptor Jedediah Caesar at Unearthed: Found + Made, a new exhibition at the Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street. The Suiseki, all found in California, share a process with Caesar who imitates geological processes in making his sculptures, sometimes encasing found objects from the urban environment in clear or colored resin. For further information, go to <http://museumca.org/exhibit/unearthed-found-made>

March 12 - 13, 2016, Oakland, California

Bay Area Bonsai Associates (BABA): 35th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Lakeside Garden Center at Lake Merritt, 666 Bellevue Avenue. Show hours are Saturday 5:00 - 9:00 PM with light dinner, and Sunday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Demonstration by Mr. David De Groot, award winning bonsai artist and author, who has been involved in bonsai since 1972. Mr. De Groot served for 25 years as curator of the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection/Pacific Bonsai Museum. Demonstration starts at 6:30 PM, Saturday, followed by a raffle of the demonstration tree. Continuous plant sale including bonsai pots,

tools, soil, wire, and more, both days. Admission is free. For more information, please contact Bob Gould at 925-935-1914.

March 16 – 20, 2016, San Mateo, California

Bonsai Society of San Francisco: Annual Bonsai Exhibit at the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, San Mateo County Event Center, 1346 Saratoga Drive. Show hours are Wednesday – Saturday 10 AM – 7 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 6 PM. There will be trees for sale and demonstrations. For more information about the club, visit www.bssf.org, and for the Flower and Garden Show, including ticket information, visit <http://sfgardenshow.com>.

Apr. 2 – 3, 2016, Santa Cruz, California

Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai: 28th Annual Show at the Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, 10 AM – 5 PM both days with demonstrations at 2 PM. Saturday's demonstrator is Mike Pistello and Sunday's will be Katsumi Kinoshita. Raffle drawing for demonstration tree and trees especially prepared by club members. Sales area will include quality vendor and member trees, pots, and other related bonsai items. Fresh items will be in the vendor area on Sunday. Admission price of \$5.00 to the Museum includes entry to bonsai show/demo and complementary coffee, tea and cookies. For more information, contact Ed Lambing at edinbonnydoon@comcast.net.

April 2 – 3, 2016, Sacramento, California

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai: Annual show will be held at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Hours are: Saturday 11 AM – 5 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM with demonstration at 1 PM both days by Yuzo Maruyama. Amenities include refreshments, light snacks, door prizes, raffles and a silent auction. Member and vendor sales of plants and bonsai-related items will also be available. For more information, contact Bonsai Sekiyu Kai at bonsaisekiyukai@gmail.com

April 9 – 10, 2016, Sacramento, California

American Bonsai Association, Sacramento: 57th Annual Bonsai Show at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Show hours are Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM, with demonstration each day at 1:30 PM by American bonsai artist, Peter Tea. Beginner's workshop Sunday, 10 AM; daily raffle includes the demonstration tree; large vendor and member sales area. For more information, contact Renee Seely (916) 929-2106, breadcrust@comcast.net or visit our website <http://abasbonsai.org>.

April 9 & 10, 2016, Phoenix, AZ

The Phoenix Bonsai Society will be holding its 53rd Anniversary Bonsai Show on April 9 & 10, 2016, from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday. The event is free to the public. The show will be opened Saturday morning by a traditional Buddhist Blessing, opening the Valley Garden Center doors to over 50 bonsai trees, Suiseki, and companion plants. This year's show will also feature a Bonsai Pot

Competition sponsored by the Phoenix Clay Society. Phoenix Bonsai Society (PBS, 1962) events, unless otherwise stated, are held at the Valley Garden Center, 1809 N. 15th Ave. For more information, please visit our web site at www.phoenixbonsai.com and on Facebook.

April 16 – 17, 2016, Fresno, California

Kōen-nai no Bonsai (*Bonsai in the Park*) a fundraiser to benefit the GSBF Clark Bonsai Collection at the Shinzen Friendship Garden in Woodward Park. Hours are Saturday 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM and Sunday 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM with demonstrations by Kenji Miyata, Nippon Bonsai Association certified Bonsai Masters (Saturday), and David Nguy (Sunday) with auction of the tree following each demonstration. Huge bonsai auction on both the 16th and 17th of over 60 trees including the Ray Theime's Bonsai Collection along with Bonsai and pre-Bonsai from local and state wide artists. Sale of plants and Bonsai materials each day. Toko-Kazaru Bonsai Display Competition held during event with prize money awarded. For more information, visit clarkbonsaicollection.com or contact Bob Hilvers at bonsaigui@comcast.net or (559) 909-1051.

April 23 – 24, 2016, San Diego, California

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.

2016 Program/Demonstrator List

January 16 & 17, 2016	Winter Silhouette Show
January 28, 2016	Mary Morrissay, election of officers
February 25, 2016	Ann Erb, Demo
March 24, 2016	Michael Sykes, Demo
April 28, 2016	Tom Vuong, Demo
May 26, 2016	TBA
June 23, 2016	TBA
July 28, 2016	TBA
August, 2016	no meeting
September 22, 2016	TBA
October 27, 2016	TBA
November 17, 2016	TBA
December	no meeting

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