



Conejo Valley Bonsai Society

A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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CVBS on the Web

(Click on name to visit Web site.)

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society

CVBS CaféPress Store

CVBS Online Bonsai Gallery

Other Bonsai Groups

(Click on name to visit Web site.)

Golden State Bonsai Federation

American Bonsai Society

Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara

California Aiseki Kai

Descanso Bonsai Society

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai

Shohin Bonsai Society of So. Cal.

Sansui-Kai of So. Cal.

Santa Anita Bonsai Society

South Coast Bonsai Association

San Diego Bonsai Club

President's Message

Nichols To Discuss Soils in June

By Marj Branson


Our May meeting was a workshop. We were all busy working on our trees. Ann Lofquist and Frank Greenway collaborated on the niche display; Ann provided a shohin semi-cascade juniper which Frank complemented with a waterfall suiseki (a Japanese viewing stone).

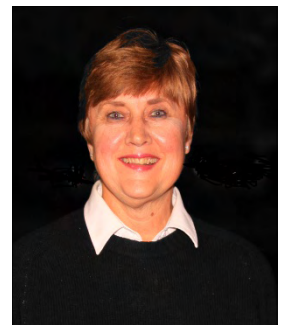
Our June meeting will prove to be an interesting evening. Ryan Nichols will be discussing bonsai soils and the science of growing bonsai. We have all worked on trees, styled and wired them, tenderly cared for them—only to see them die because of poor health of the roots or poor soil. This is an important part of our bonsai care that we quite often fall down on. Last October Ryan spoke at the Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention and there were many compliments

I would like to remind everyone that this year we will have our 11th annual bonsai show. As in the past, the show will be at the Gardens of the World. This reminder may seem early—the show is the weekend of October 4 – 5—but the summer passes so fast that we don't think about preparing for our show trees. Check out your collection and give this some thought now.

This weekend is the Descanso Bonsai Society's annual show, both Saturday and Sunday. There are club member items for sale as well. They offer plants as well as other bonsai items, so if you need plants or anything else, please check it out. These spring shows are great to see. Take in as many as you can.

The 1st Annual L.A. Bonsai Swapmeet will be held Sunday June 29th at the Jesse Owens Park from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. See ad, page 5, for details. If you would like to sell or buy, check it out.

With the morning overcast weather, watch your watering: too much or too little can be a disaster. The June gloom tends to do this. Also, it is a good time to check your trees for scale and aphids. And watch your wiring! 




President Marj Branson

Library

Our Library of DVDs and Books Has Grown

Larry Kimmelman

With the addition of the Al Nelson DVD "Painted Daiza—Japanese Style" donated by Scott McVey, we now have seven DVDs in our library. If you have an idea for a DVD that we might add to our growing library, please email suggestions to me at kimmel-mail@verizon.net. In addition to the DVDs, we have assorted magazines and 13 books, including John Naka's *Bonsai Techniques I* plus four booklets especially useful for beginners.

Members are welcome to borrow club library materials for a month at a time, and we only ask that the borrowed materials be returned at the next club meeting. Please note we also have novice books that provide bonsai basics to help our newer members. 

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(Click on E-mail)

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Conejo Valley Bonsai Society Meetings

Westlake Village City Hall
Community Room
31200 Oakcrest Drive
Westlake Village, CA 91361
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
3RD Thursday of every month

CVBS Programs

2014

If you are interested in the CVBS Mentoring Program, please see Larry Kimmelman for more information & applications to participate.

January 16	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Peter Macasieb / Itoigawa/Kishu Juniper Grafting
February 20	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
March 20	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
April 17	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Bob Pressler / Boxwood. Third of a series from raw material to finished bonsai
May 15	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
June 19	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Ryan Nichols / Bonsai soils and the science of growing bonsai
July 17	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Roy Nagatoshi / Styling/Critique of Club Members Trees (each member will be allowed to bring in one tree)
August 21	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
September 18	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING TREES YOU PLAN TO EXHIBIT
October 4 – 5	11TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION Gardens of the World
October 16	7:30PM : Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
November 20	7:30PM : Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: Ann Erb / Japanese Black Pine
December 18	HOLIDAY POTLUCK 7:30 PM

Barrett's Bonsai Tips

Moving into Summer, Deciduous Trees Require Proper Pruning

By Jim Barrett

It has been a warm spring moving into summer. If you have been pruning your deciduous trees properly, you should be seeing more and finer twigs, which, in turn, make for a more mature looking tree and a great winter silhouette.

Continue to prune fast-growing elm, zelkova, and maple twigs, leaving one or two nodes on each new branch. Usually the distance between nodes is regulated by the amount of nitrogen the plant is able to use. The more available nitrogen, the longer the internodes—this assumes that the plant is healthy and vigorous.

Because not all bonsai grow at the same rate, you must pay attention to the habits of each one. If you have crabapple, ume [*Prunus mume*, known variously as Chinese plum or Japanese apricot], or quince, prune all new growth to one or two nodes around the first week in July. Then do not prune again until next fall. Flower buds form during summer and early fall and pruning during this period reduces the number of flowers you may get next spring.

Along with this procedure, feed high phosphorus and low nitrogen fertilizers. Satsuki azaleas should not be fed until after blooming. Once the peak blooming period is over, pluck, or better yet, cut all of the flowers off, making sure to remove any seedpods.

After blooming, azaleas can be trimmed severely and repotted. New

flower buds will form on the new summer and fall growth.

If you have black pine bonsai, try to finish your favorite candle pruning procedure by mid-July or earlier.

How you needle prune black pine will depend on the health, the age, and your goals for each tree. Check with your instructor or bring your untrimmed black pine to the next meeting for advice.

Aphids are really out in force now. Watch for them especially on apple, quince, and ume. Spray with an appropriate insecticide. You may want to introduce ladybugs purchased at your local nursery. (Let me know how you keep them in your yard.)

Be sure to check out the sales area at [the Descanso Bonsai Society's] June show. You will find some great buys on plants, pots, and other bonsai items.

Warm, dry days are ahead of us, so pay attention to your watering program and hold back on the high-nitrogen fertilizers. 🌱



Jim Barrett

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed!

By Grace Sy

Spring is almost over. Summer is near!

I have one thing on my mind: to get enthusiasts to sign up for July, August, and September 2014.

Thank you to Dick and Kazue Winston for April's yummy treats and Grace for the refreshing drinks.

Larry Kimmelman's May cold drinks entertained our thirst and Nancy Smeets's May delicious and yummy homemade pasta pleased our palettes. Thank you both!

Please sign up at the next meeting, or you can email me at wkh lady@yahoo.com, or call (818) 915-8545 to volunteer. 🌱

2014 Refreshments

	Cold Drinks	Eats / Sweets
June	Ken Martin	Evans Thomas
July	Volunteer Needed	Mike Mulhern
Aug.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Sept	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Oct.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

CVBS Membership

Come Join Us!

By Larry Kimmelman

Whether you are a visitor to our website, a reader of our newsletter, a guest at a monthly meeting, or have already decided to join our club, there are effectively no barriers to entry. Annual dues are \$25 for one, \$30 for couples.

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, starting at 7:30 PM, in the Westlake Village City Hall (located at 31200 Oakcrest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361).

To join our club, please bring your check (made out payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society) to our next monthly meeting, or mail it to: Larry Kimmelman, CVBS Membership Chair, 2727 Autumn Ridge Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. 🌱

Grace Sy's 'Not Bad for a Novice' Bonsai Garden

Last year I decided to set up my own small bonsai garden on the side of the house. Now, my bonsai garden is my hangout place when I get bored. Working on bonsai is interesting and stress free!

I have 10 trees that are styled and wired. Two California Junipers that are grafted with Shimpaku. One is perfectly styled and the other one is in the process of getting styled. It's not ready for the show, though (smile). To be honest, my grafted trees are styled by Roy Nagatoshi, my bonsai teacher.

I am not ready to wire grafted trees—too delicate for me—but I do the trimming. But wiring non-grafted trees is a lot of fun and makes me feel good (not to mention fertilizing, repotting, and watering ... with the help of "Bonsai AI").

My bonsai garden is not bad for a novice lady like me (smile).

My bonsai garden contains the following species:

- Twisted Pomegranate with flowers
- Hibari Elm/Chinese Elm

- Bougainvillea
- Lavender Star
- Polendina (flowering tree) ready for styling
- Junipers: Shimpaku, Kishu, Itoigawa, and Procumbens Nana
- Oak
- Crabapple
- Blue Atlas Cedar

Three clubs are my inspiration: Conejo Valley Bonsai Society, Descanso Bonsai Society, and Sansui Kai of Southern California. Know why? Because by just watching the bonsai demonstrators and looking at the bonsai enthusiast members' trees I am inspired. They have their own artistry.

Everyone has different ways of doing it, and that is where I learn the most.

—Grace Sy



Photos by Grace Sy



CVBS Niche Displays

Our Niche Display Program

In the Niche Program, club members set up a mini exhibition display. Such a display consists of:

- The tree in a nice bonsai pot
- An accent plant
- A stand

All these items are important to create the balance for a good display. We aspire to present the best display possible for everyone's pleasure and edification, so the niche is often assembled by one of the more experienced members. However, it is also our desire to give less experienced bonsai hobbyists an opportunity to learn by

doing. So if any less experienced member feels his/her trees are not ready for a finished display, it is worthwhile to create a display that is a work-in-progress. It will be up to the club member to determine which category his/her display falls into, and then the work-in-progress display can become the talking point of work done, work intended, and suggestions from the floor.

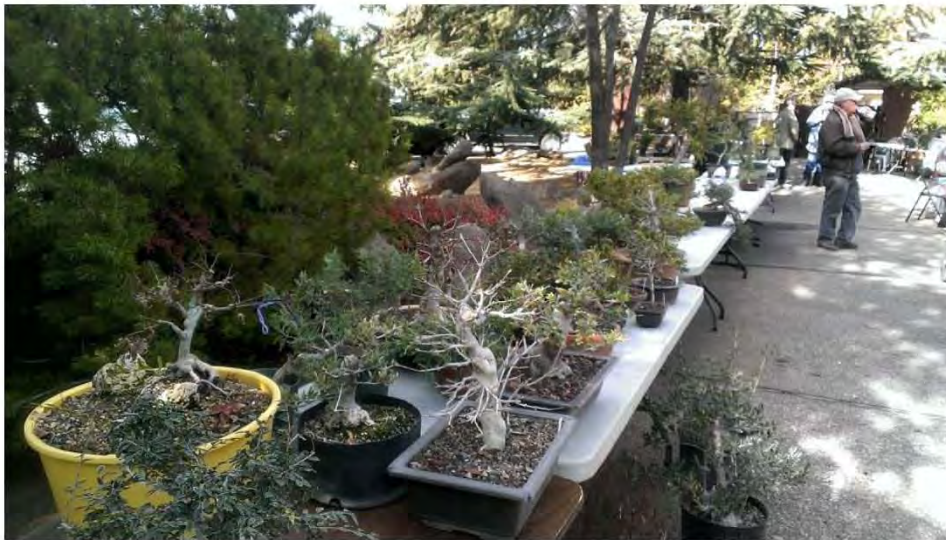
We encourage all members to sign up for the niche display! Please have a look at the calendar and let us know when you would like to present your display.

—Marj Branson

2014 Niche Displays

June	David Whiteside
July	Ken Martin
August	Larry Kimmelman
Sept.	Volunteer Needed
Oct.	Volunteer Needed

**1ST ANNUAL
L.A. BONSAI SWAPMEET**
SUNDAY JUNE 29 FROM 10:00 TO 3:00
JESSE OWENS PARK
7100 WHITE OAK AVE., RESEDA, CA 91335



Come out and enjoy a day of buying, selling or swapping bonsai trees, tools, pots and paraphernalia with the Los Angeles Bonsai Community. Everybody is welcome and there is no charge to attend or participate. We will be open at Jesse Owens Park (south of Sherman Way) on Sunday June 29 from 10:00 to 3:00.

**Come out and see what may be available for you to
experience in this first ever event.**

Disclaimer: This event is set up and produced by the Los Angeles bonsai community in general and is not club or federation sponsored. Individuals are responsible for any applicable taxes and methods of payment. The organizers of this event are not responsible for the outcomes of any transaction and no guarantees are implied. For more info contact Michael Jonas 818-776-0813 mjonas48@hotmail.com

2014

June

June 14 – 15, 2014 / La Cañada Flintridge, California

Descanso Bonsai Society: Annual Show at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive. Hours are 9 AM – 5 PM, with Demonstrations 11 AM and 1 PM each day. Sales area is open to the public. Admission to the exhibition is free with admission to Descanso Gardens. A Saturday night reception 6 PM – 9 PM includes light refreshments, auction and raffle. For more information go to www.descanso-bonsai.com or contact Michael Jonas at (818) 776-0813.

June 14 – 15, 2014 / Encino, California

Sansui Kai of Southern California: Annual show in conjunction with the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society at Sepulveda Garden Center 16633 Magnolia Blvd. Hours are 9 AM – 5 PM Saturday and 9 AM – 4 PM Sunday. This is a family friendly venue with club bonsai sales, amazing vendors from the succulent, iris, and native plant community. Admission is free. For more information contact Dan Kashinsky at (818) 512-7661 or Kaptankaiser@gmail.com for timing of lectures on bonsai, succulents and native plants as well as entertainment and day-end feast.

June 21-22, 2014 Anaheim, California

Orange County Bonsai Society: 51st Annual Bonsai Exhibit at the Orange County Buddhist Church, 909 S. Dale Ave. Exhibit hours are 10:30 AM – 4 PM both days. Demonstration at 1 PM each day followed by a benefit raffle. Demonstration trees will be included in raffles each day. Bonsai pots, tools and accessories along with books, trees and plants will be on sale. All ages welcome. Free admission and parking. There is a possibility of a schedule conflict with the venue. Please email or call to confirm exhibit dates/times prior to attending. For more information contact ocbonsai@gmail.com or Ken Schlothman at (714) 553-7516

June 28 – 29, 2014, San Andreas, California

Calaveras Bonsai Club: Club's first indoor show will be held at the Calaveras County Library, 1299 Gold Hunter Road, San Andreas. Free admission; show hours: Saturday 11 AM – 5 PM and Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM. Demos will be presented on both days at 1:30 PM. Members' sale, vendors' tables, beginners' workshop on Saturday at 10 AM for \$25 and an intermediate workshop Sunday at 10 AM for \$30. Call or email contact below before June 15, for \$5 workshop discount. For more information contact: Dan Balsley at (209) 603-1823 or email dbalsley1@gmail.com.

August

August 23 – 24, 2014 Santa Rosa, California

Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS): 31th Annual show at the Santa Rosa Veterans building, 1351 Maple Ave. 10 AM – 5 PM Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday with demonstrations both days at 1 PM by club sensei Kathy Shaner. Large exhibit of members' trees, vendors' sales room, members' sales room, raffle and silent auction. Free admission, parking and treats. Contact Bob Shimon @ (707) 884-4126 or shimon@mcn.org.

October

October 30 – November 2, 2014 Sacramento, California

Golden State Bonsai Federation and American Bonsai Society present 2014 Convention XXXVII "Bonsai Visions of the West" at the Double Tree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way. Reservations for hotel (916) 929-8855. Headliners include Peter Tea, Kathy Shaner and David De Groot, ABS Learning Seminars with Ted Matson and Jack Sustic, Joshua Roth New Talent Bonsai Competition, and Special Tribute to John Naka – 100 years (b. August 16, 1914). Demonstrations, seminars, critiques, workshops, excursions, benefit drawings, vendors, and much more. More information available at www.gsbfconvention.org.

Club Members Go to Santa Barbara Show

Grace Sy, Al Espinoza, Rick Naber and I went to the Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara's show on Saturday May 18th. The show was held at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. There was a beautiful display of trees which we enjoyed seeing. The Santa Barbara club has their own club sale where they sell bonsai material—trees and pots, etc. They also had a display of various oak trees. It is good to compare the different leaves and appearance of the various oaks. The Botanic Garden has a sale area where they sell California natives. This is a good spot to pick up small accent plants.

—Marj Branson

Al Espinoza, Marj Branson, and Rick Naber at the Santa Barbara Bonsai Show in the Botanic Gardens (right).

