



# Conejo Valley Bonsai Society

A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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VOLUME 11 NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2014

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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

# Prepare for October Exhibition

By Marj Branson

Roy Nagatoshi, owner of Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar, will be our guest at the August meeting. Instead of the usual demonstration, Roy will critique members' trees. We ask that all members bring in one tree each for Roy to review. It is very helpful to get his expert suggestions on how to improve your tree. And, with our 11th Annual Exhibition coming up the first weekend in October, this is a great time to get your favorite tree into show-ready shape.


Regarding our show, with this hot weather it's advisable to keep an eye on your trees and pick two or three you can display in October. You can bring one for Roy to review if you would like help—but please make it a tree that needs refinement or fine-tune trimming to prepare it for the show. This is not the time to ask for basic styling advice or have major work done.

Last month we had our workshop and swap meet. Both worked well for all. Thanks for participating in the swap meet. This has become an annual summer activity for us.

It has been suggested that we take a club trip to visit Muranaka Bonsai Nursery in Nipomo sometime in October or November. Let Rick Naber or me know if you are interested. We can plan an autumn program at our Thursday meeting.

We have been advised that internationally renowned Mauro Stemberger is coming out in November. A program is being put together for him that we can participate in for a fee. Please bring your program suggestions or thoughts to Thursday's meeting so we can discuss ideas.

I would like to pass on a quick reminder of the upcoming Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF) Convention from Oct. 30th to Nov. 2nd in Sacramento. Check page 5 and the [GSBF website](#) for the program details.

See you on the Thursday the 21st. 




President Marj Branson

## Library

# Our Library Includes DVDs and Books

Larry Kimmelman

We now have seven DVDs in our library plus assorted magazines and 13 books, including John Naka's *Bonsai Techniques I* and four American Bonsai Society booklets especially useful for beginners. If you have an idea for a DVD that we might add to our growing library, please email suggestions to me at [kimmelman@verizon.net](mailto:kimmelman@verizon.net).

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. 

## Contact Us

(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  
3<sup>RD</sup> 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.

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

## Barrett's Bonsai Tips

# As Summer Wears On, Consider Defoliation and Watch the Water

By Jim Barrett

Ahh! Good old summer. Between the heat and the not so good water, most maples (at least mine) look pretty tired.

If the maples are healthy, consider leaf pruning them towards the end of this month. Remove every leaf—large, small, healthy or shriveled. Leaving some or pruning in stages only makes the tree try to survive on what is left. I don't recommend leaf pruning red or lace leaf varieties, but mountain or trident maples may be defoliated. This will help create a tighter inner ramification and allow the tree to develop another set of fine twigs. Also, with the first cold snap, the leaves should turn color. Though such defoliation is done in the spring in Japan, for us here in southern California, leaf pruning then only leads to the new leaves browning out in summer. Always remember that defoliation is stressful for the tree, and should only be done if the tree is totally healthy.

If you candle pruned your black pines in June or July, you should have many new shoots appearing at the base of the cut-off candles. Selectively remove those shoots that are growing vertically off horizontal branches, leaving one or two side shoots and one for the new terminal of each branch. What you want to promote is a fine network of twigs.

On vertical branches in the upper areas and the top of the tree, remove the center candles, leaving one, two, or

three side shoots. On more mature trees and more intricate networks of twigs and branches, leave fewer new shoots.

In October or November, you will want to remove some of the new growth you left this summer. More about this next month.

Think about rotating your trees—especially if they are displayed against a wall or fence. Turning them periodically will even out the growth and may prevent dieback.

Some trees are entering a semi-dormant period now and, for this reason, seem to need less water. Don't think that something is wrong unless the tree shows signs of distress. Heat buildup in soil above 80 or 90 degrees tends to slow growth. This is natural. Do not water if the soil is still wet. It takes practice and knowledge of your plants' needs to keep them healthy and happy. Fortunately most plants survive most mistakes.

If you fertilize this month, do so sparingly. I recommend a very diluted liquid fertilizer low in nitrogen if you must fertilize.

Spraying fungicide to control powdery mildew or needle cast may also kill beneficial fungi present in soils. It's not a bad idea to cover soil surfaces with plastic or a portable shield to keep drips and spray off of the soil.

Wire that was put on earlier this winter or spring should be checked—especially on deciduous trees. Remove all

## Refreshments Volunteers Needed!

By Grace Sy

Quench your thirst while summer is not over!

Thank you to the July refreshment volunteers.

Refreshing drinks were provided by Grace while scrumptious sweets were provided by Mike Mulhern.

We need volunteers in October and November. Please sign up at the next meeting, or you can email me at [wkhlady@yahoo.com](mailto:wkhlady@yahoo.com), or call (818) 915-8545 to volunteer. 🏠

### 2014 Refreshments

	Cold Drinks	Eats / Sweets
Aug.	Clark Sullivan	Nancy Smeets & Ann Lofquist
Sept	Jordan Blake	Jill Peters
Oct.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Nov.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

wire and reapply it only on those branches that do not hold their position and shape.

No repotting except emergency repotting until this fall. 🏠

## CVBS Membership

### Come Join Us!

By Larry Kimmelman

Please welcome new members Lydia Su from Agoura Hills, and Jordan Blake. 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. 🏠



## Crapemyrtle

Editor's note: Ken Martin provided the niche display for our July 2014 meeting. The tree was full of flower buds but only a few blossoms, so when the buds opened later Ken took another photograph. Here we show two photos from the niche display (below) and Ken's later photo (right).

This tree has been a bonsai for more than 20 years. I've had it for 15. You can tell it is an older tree by the large nebari (base). Initially, it was an informal upright tree. Four years ago it was blown off a concrete wall by a strong Santa Ana wind. It lost several major branches as a result. Shortly after this accident I restyled it into a cross between informal upright and a broom style. For years I did not fertilize it properly and it did not bloom. Several years ago I started giving it 0-10-10 in the fall and spring and it has rewarded me by blooming nicely with pinkish-white flowers. Crapemyrtles bloom on new (this year's) growth. To maximize flowers, the precise flowering time of the tree should be noted. New shoots in the spring should be trimmed regularly until one month before flowering. This increases the number of possible flower shoots. The flowers on this tree starting opening about July 15th, so I stopped trimming mid-June.

—Ken Martin



Photo by Ken Martin



Photos by David Williams

2014

## August

### August 16 – 17, 2014 / Garden Grove, California

Vietnamese Bonsai Society: 15th Annual Bonsai and Nonbo Exhibition at the Vietnamese American Buddhist Association in Orange County, 12292 Magnolia Street, Garden Grove. 9 AM – 5 PM both days. Demonstration at 1:00 PM on both days. Vendor, plant sales & auction. For more information please call (949) 331-4050.

### August 19, 2014 / Ross, California

Marin Bonsai Club: Annual Auction at the Marin Society of Artists building (note new location) at Marin Art and Garden Center. Preview at 7 PM. Auction begins promptly at 7:30 PM. Sales area as well. Join us for this entertaining bonsai acquisition opportunity. More information at [marinbonsai.org](http://marinbonsai.org).

### August 23 – 24, 2014 / Santa Rosa, California

Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS): 31st 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](mailto:shimon@mcn.org).

## September

### September 27 – 28, 2014 / San Diego, California

San Diego Bonsai Club: Fall Show at Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Free admission. Show hours are 10 AM – 5 PM with demonstrations at 11 AM and 1 PM both days. There will be Bonsai plants and trees for sale, as well as other bonsai-related items. For more information visit [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com), or contact Janice Hale.

## October

### October 4 – 5, 2014 / Thousand Oaks, California

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society: 11th Annual Bonsai Exhibition held at Gardens of the World's Resource Center, 2001 Thousand Oak Blvd. Hours are 9 AM – 4 PM with demonstrations in the Bandstand at 11 AM and 2 PM (both days). Free Admission. Note: No sales of bonsai related items. For information, call Marj Branson at (805) 373-1330 or visit our website at [www.cvbs-bonsai.org](http://www.cvbs-bonsai.org).

### 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.gsbfcconvention.org](http://www.gsbfcconvention.org).

## 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

August	Larry Kimmelman
Sept.	Jill Peters
Oct.	Jordan Blake
Nov.	Grace Sy