



# conejo valley BONSAI society

Volume 16 Number 2 February 2019

A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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## President's Message

# Pitch In To Shape Our Year

By Marj Branson

It's February already, and your Conejo Valley Bonsai Society board has been hard at work creating a vibrant program for the coming year. But there's more to be done, and I invite all members to participate in the process. Here's an update on what we have done so far—and opportunities for each member to lend a hand.

### Demonstrator Program

Program Chair Nancy Smeets has lined up top notch demonstrators and other programs for 2019 (see page 2 for details). We already enjoyed Roy Nagatoshi's critiques of members' bonsai (see story, page 6). After this month's workshop, we will host several bonsai masters:

- March: Frank Yee
- April: Jim Barrett
- May: Mel Ikeda

And after a workshop in June, we will host Jason Chan for our July meeting. So mark your calendars and plan to attend all these terrific programs.

But later in the year, we would like to schedule at least one more demonstration, and we are eager for suggestions from all members. Already, some members have suggested a talk on soil mixes, fertilizers, and/or dealing with pests and diseases. If you have any other ideas, please let Nancy know.

### Field Trips and Activities

As in past years, we plan to augment our programs with some activities between meetings. For example, we are looking at visiting several nurseries. We will be making the selection at our February meeting along with setting the dates. If there's a bonsai (or non-bonsai) nursery you think would be interesting to visit, please let us know.

*Continued on page 5*

## Conejo Valley Bonsai Society Meetings

Westlake Village City Hall  
Community Room  
31200 Oakcrest Drive  
Westlake Village, CA 91361  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month  
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Visit Our Website  
[www.cvbs-bonsai.org](http://www.cvbs-bonsai.org)

Follow Us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/conejovalleybonsaisociety](https://www.facebook.com/conejovalleybonsaisociety)

## CVBS Membership

### Now Due: Membership Renewals

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society memberships expire on February 15th, so it's time to pay your dues for 2019. It's still a bargain at \$25 for one person, \$30 for two or more. That gets you a rich program of bonsai demonstrations, workshops, and activities as well as this award-winning newsletter.

Simply bring a check made payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society to our next meeting on February 21st or mail it to me, CVBS Membership Chair, 2727 Autumn Ridge Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362.

Thanks for your prompt attention and payment.

—Larry Kimmelman

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(Click on Email Address)

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# **CVBS Programs**

## **2019**

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

January 17	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting with <b>Club Elections</b> followed by <del>DEMONSTRATION: Roy Nagatoshi / Tree Critiques</del> <del>BRING YOUR TREES</del>
February 21	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
March 21	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <del>DEMONSTRATION: Frank Yee / Cork Jade &amp; Forest Planting</del>
April 18	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <del>DEMONSTRATION: Jim Barrett / Group Planting</del>
May 16	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <del>DEMONSTRATION: Mel Ikeda / Rock Planting</del>
June 20	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
July 18	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <del>DEMONSTRATION: Jason Chan / TBA</del>
August 15	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop and <b>Swap Meet</b> — <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
September 19	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by <del>PEER CRITIQUES—BRING YOUR SHOW TREES</del>
October 5 – 6 <del>TENTATIVE</del>	<b>16TH ANNUAL CVBS EXHIBITION</b> Gardens of the World
October 17	7:30PM : Brief Meeting followed by <del>DEMONSTRATION: (TBA)</del>
November 21	7:30 PM: Brief Meeting with <b>Club Elections</b> followed by Workshop— <b>BRING YOUR TREES</b>
December 19	7:30 PM <b>HOLIDAY POTLUCK, RAFFLE &amp; AUCTION</b>

# Best Time for Potting & Repotting

By Jim Barrett

February and March are probably the best two months of the year for potting and repotting bonsai and training trees from nursery cans to bonsai pots.

Deciding which bonsai needs repotting will depend on how long since its last potting and whether the tree has become root bound.

If the pot does not have a major inside lip, you may want to inspect the root ball by lifting the tree out of the pot. Look for a firm root ball with roots visible all around the sides and bottom.

Another indication that the tree needs repotting is the soil lifting above the edge of the pot. This shows that a mat of roots has formed on the bottom and is pushing the tree up. Trident maple bonsai are noted for this phenomenon.

One important reason for repotting is the tree has matured beyond its present container. Either it has grown larger or it deserves a more appropriate pot.

There are several things to consider when you decide to proceed:

- Decide which tree or trees you want to pot.
- Choose the pot. And it's a good idea to have a standby in case the first one doesn't work.
- Place the wire or heavy plastic screen over each drain hole. Mesh should be at least 1/8 inch holes. Make sure screens are held in place with wire clips.
- If you are going to tie the tree in [the pot], now is the time to install the tie wires. Use a wire of sufficient size and strength to do the job.
- Make sure the pot is clean inside and out.
- Have your favorite [soil] mix handy.

All of the preparations should be done before the root ball is disturbed. Many bonsai are lost or set back if the roots and soil are removed before everything is ready.

Some hobbyists take just enough soil and roots off to place the tree back in its original pot, leaving room for an inch or so of new soil. Others are more aggressive in cleaning out old soil and pruning the roots more severely. Both approaches are valid. It all depends on the condition of the tree, its root system, and the owner's goals for the tree. This all sounds pretty involved or complicated—it isn't, if you use common sense and do not get too rough with the tree.

Aesthetic considerations are:

- Tree and pot harmony or appropriateness.
- Is the tree placed in the pot properly?
- Is the tree planted at the proper angle or attitude?
- Is the front of the tree facing the viewer?

After repotting, place the tree in a shaded area to protect it from the wind. In a week to ten days, place it where you would normally. Wait about a month before fertilizing.

Speaking of fertilizers, you should have started fertilizing with organic fertilizers by now. Miracle Gro® and fast-acting fertilizers are best applied at ½ strength. Time-release and slow-acting chemical fertilizers, such as Osmocote® and Woodace®, are safe if you follow printed instructions. Some people add these to their soil mix. ☺



Jim Barrett

## Refreshments

# Be a Valentine!

February is the month for lovers. We are all aware the 14th is Valentine's Day, but did you know February has paved the way for romance all month long?

There is a day to make a new friend. And there are special days for flirting, "creative romance," hugging, and making promises.

Ever the Cupid, February has special days for buying roses (I'm sure a bonsai is a much better idea), chocolates, and perfume.

The road to true love is not always smooth, so there's a day for confessions. If you're unlucky in love, there is a national day to breakup!

Luckily, the road to the CVBS meeting and signing up for refreshments is never bumpy. Just take the leap of love and sign up.

We need someone to bring sweets for both March and April. May and June need both cold drinks and sweets.

Call me at (818) 865-1034, email me at [refreshments@cvbs-bonsai.org](mailto:refreshments@cvbs-bonsai.org), or sign up at the February meeting, and Happy Valentine's Day to you all!

—Denise Snavely

## 2019 Refreshments

	Cold Drinks	Eats / Sweets
Feb.	Denise Snavely	Rick Naber
Mar.	Damon DuBois	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
April	Mary Welz	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
May	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>

## CVBS Membership

# Interested in CVBS?

CVBS is open to anyone interested in the horticultural art of bonsai. If you are not a member, consider joining now. We meet on the third Thursday of every month at the Westlake Village City Hall (31200 Oakcrest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361). Meetings start at 7:30 PM, and include occasional demonstrations by bonsai experts, workshops, critiques, and member swap meets.

It's inexpensive and easy to join. Annual dues are \$25 for one, or \$30 for couples. Simply bring cash or a check (made payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society) to our next monthly meeting. You may also mail a check to: Larry Kimmelman, CVBS Membership Chair, 2727 Autumn Ridge Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362.

—Larry Kimmelman

# Bonsai-A-Thon 2019

**Saturday & Sunday, February 23rd & 24th, 2019  
7:30AM – 5:00PM**

We invite everyone – bonsai novices, enthusiasts and experts – to our annual fundraising event on behalf of the Golden State Bonsai Federation Collection at the Huntington. At the Huntington Brody Botanical Center Building, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA, 91108.

- **Featuring**
- **Extensive Bazaar Area** – Select vendors selling top-quality tools, pots and trees (raw material to display-ready); masterpiece trees on display
- **Bonsai Exhibit** – By the California Bonsai Society
- **Antique Bonsai Pot Display**
- **Demonstrations** – Initial training and advanced styling by experts
- **Daily Raffle & Auction** – Demonstration and donated trees, pots, tools, etc.
- **Guided Tours** – Led by Jim Folsom, Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, and Ted Matson, Bonsai Garden Curator.

## SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SCHEDULE

7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Early bird registration and Pancake Breakfast
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Bazaar and Bonsai Exhibits
9:00 AM–2:00PM	Initial styling and advanced refinement demonstrations (see details below)
10:00 AM –11:30 AM	SATURDAY Jim Folsom tour: Bonsai Court and Chinese Garden
10:00 AM –11:30 AM	SUNDAY Ted Matson tour of the Bonsai Nursery
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Hotdogs and Hamburgers Lunch Registered Bonsai-A-Thon attendees may purchase breakfast and lunch in the Head House
2:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Raffle and live auction

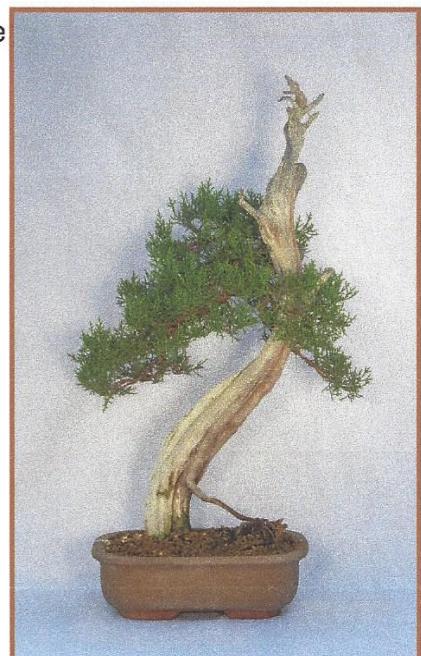
### Saturday Demonstrators

Kathy Benson, Mel Ikeda,  
Dennis Makashima, Cesareo Perez,  
Tom Vuong

### Sunday Demonstrators

Jim Barrett, Ann Erb, Frank Goya,  
Bob Hilvers, Cheryl Manning

Bonsai styled by these experts will be available in the auctions and raffles. This is your chance to own a great tree with a pedigree!



# Caring for the Pine Bonsai at Gardens of the World

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society has a long-standing relationship with The Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks. They provide us with rent-free space for our annual Bonsai Exhibition each October. In return, we provide care for their small collection of bonsai—including one we donated.

One of the bonsai at the Gardens of the World is a pine, which was in need of some hard trimming. Last month, Ann Lofquist, Larry Garfinkel, and I went to the Gardens and worked on it. In earlier years, it did not have enough candle pruning, which resulted in some long and leggy branches. We shortened the branches and wired the tree. Ann also did some restyling as she worked. Ann and I made plans for repositioning the tree in the pot at its next repotting.

—Marj Branson

**CVBS members Larry Garfinkel (left in photo at right) and Ann Lofquist working on the pine bonsai at The Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks.**



Photo by Marj Branson

## President's Message (Continued from page 1)

### Other Things To Do

There will be a number of spring bonsai club shows coming up that we could attend. Let us know your preference.

Perhaps most important, the annual Bonsai-A-Thon at the Huntington Gardens is February 23rd and 24th. This is the annual fundraiser for the Golden State Bonsai Federation's bonsai collection at the Huntington. (See pages 4 and 12 for the details.) I will have the entrance badges at our February meeting. The Bonsai-A-Thon is free—and you don't have to pay Huntington Garden admission to attend this event.

In addition to attending the Bonsai-A-Thon, there are several ways you can contribute. First, the organizers need more volunteers to help out during the weekend. Please see me if you can help. In addition, the fund raising depends on raffles and auctions. If you could contribute a bonsai-related item to the daily raffle or live auction, it would be appreciated.

### Library: Books, DVDs, and Magazines

Our library just received a contribution of books and DVDs (more on this next month), and we encourage members to take advantage of this free service. Every month, Librarian (and Vice President) Mike Blumenberg updates us on one of the books or DVDs (see the Book of the Month on page 10). The library is for club members' benefit. The books are available to check out on a monthly basis. Don't forget to use this resource.

### Mentoring

Membership Chair Larry Kimmelman looks after our mentoring program. For new members, it is a good way to be introduced to the world of bonsai and what is available to you. This is a stepping stone and from here members can take classes from a

variety of teachers in Southern California.

### Refreshments

As always, we need members to provide refreshments at each monthly meeting. Contributions don't need to be elaborate or difficult—bottled water suffices for cold drinks and you don't have to be a gourmet chef to provide eats/treats. There's plenty available at ordinary markets. So please sign up for any month that fits your schedule (see page 3). Refreshments Chair Denise Snavely will be circulating the sign-up sheets and would appreciate everyone's participation.

### Election Recap

Our annual election of officers was held, as previously reported, in January this year instead of the regularly scheduled November 2018 date. Blame it on the weather, which caused Westlake Village to close the Community Center, forcing us to cancel that month's meeting. Election Committee Chair David Whiteside presented a slate of nominees for the four officer positions:

- President: Marj Branson
- Vice President: Mike Blumenberg
- Treasurer: Ken Fuentes
- Secretary: Ken Martin

David called for additional nominations from the floor. As there were none, the four nominees were elected as your club's officers by enthusiastic acclamation.

I would like to especially thank former Vice President Ann Lofquist for all her contributions during her term in office. Not the least of these were the many excellent bonsai she donated to the club for our 2018 Holiday Auction. Ann's contributions were one of the reasons we had a record-breaking fundraising auction. Thank you, Ann!

See you Thursday, February 21, 2019. 

# Nagatoshi Critiques Members' Bonsai

By Ken Martin

Members who attended the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's January 2019 meeting were treated to the bonsai wisdom and humor of Roy Nagatoshi, owner of Fuji Bonsai Nursery in Sylmar. During the meeting, he analyzed and offered suggestions to improve the 17 trees a dozen members brought for his critique.

Roy is a graduate of Cal Poly Pomona with a degree in ornamental horticulture and now runs the nursery his father, Shigeru, started in 1965. He, therefore, is a rare second-generation bonsai master. Among many accomplishments, Roy is a past president of the California Bonsai Society and has given demonstrations nearly everywhere. He has frequently supported our club with demonstrations and critiques.

Ever gentle but quick with a quip, Roy provided a lot of great bonsai information in a palatable and entertaining way. Those who brought trees got some good advice that will improve the quality of their bonsai. The club is deeply grateful and thanks Roy for his time and expertise. 



**Roy Nagatoshi (left)** addressed the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society at its January 2019 meeting. He critiqued members' bonsai, offering tips and suggestions for improving each tree.

**Nancy Smeets:** A Jim Barrett juniper (right) that Roy had grafted Kishu shimpaku (*Juniperus Sargentii*, Kishu) scions onto three years ago. Down-hanging foliage should be removed. Jin all old non-shimpaku branches next year. Get rid of mold on trunk with vinegar.



Photos by David Whiteside



**Mike Blumberg:** A juniper that Ann Lofquist had grafted shimpaku (*Juniperus Sargentii*) onto (left). There were some spider mites present; Roy suggested trying Bayer 3-in-1 systemic pesticide to get rid of them. A question for Roy was, "Should the two lower branches be

jinned as the grafted foliage on them are a distance from the trunk?" Roy said he wouldn't. The diameter of the second branch was mostly deadwood and could be thinned somewhat with carving. He also suggested making the current backside the front and add some shari (deadwood) to the trunk.

**Rick Naber:** Youpon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*), a two-trunk tree (right). Roy liked the nice fat base. He suggested letting the second trunk grow taller to make the tree a true twin trunk rather than a tree with a fat lower first branch. He really likes this species and suggested every bonsai person ought to have one. A male tree is needed to pollinate the female.





Ann Lofquist: Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) propagated via air layering from a large plant in her mother's yard (left). Roy was amazed at the humble origin of this very nice tree. Ann's question was, "Where's the front?" Roy said to rotate the tree in the pot a few degrees so the apex leans toward the front.



Mel Carrillo: Black pine (*Pinus thunbergii*), which originally was Ann Lofquist's tree (above). The first branch could be wired lower, Roy suggested.

Ben Conway: Black pine (*Pinus thunbergii*) in what Roy said would make a "wonderful" bunjin or literati style bonsai (right). Ben said he had just purchased it recently and it is still recovering from the previous owner's overwatering. Roy pointed out that the branches are going in random directions; they should be wired in groups to make layers. Leave the current candles for now, he said. The tree can go into a smaller pot at some point. As an aside, Roy mentioned pine bark beetles, which can be treated with a soaking with Bayer Tree and Shrub.



Ann Lofquist: Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) has been four years in the ground (left). Roy said Ann can tilt this tree about 10 degrees when repotting to make the now back the new front. Roy liked this tree, which he said has a beautiful outline.



Ken Martin: Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*). Roy liked the movement (right). Needs more growth on the front of the apex. The now number one branch can be removed if it doesn't develop more.



Ken Martin: Olive (*Olea europaea*). This tree suffered a major setback two years ago (left). Roy suggested wiring the recently emerged branches to put some curves in them. Bring the apex toward the front.

Mel Carrillo:  
Chinese elm  
(*Ulmus parvifolia*).  
Cut top back a bit  
(right). Pot the  
tree deeper into  
soil.



Damon Dubois and  
Wendy Rector: Chi-  
nese elm (*Ulmus  
parvifolia*). Trunk  
angles 45 degrees  
left one-third up  
then angles 90 de-  
grees right (left).  
The top needs to be  
bent back to the  
left. The branches  
need to be wired.



Mary Welz: Juniper (*Juniperus*) that she won  
in CVBS's 2018 holiday raffle (left). Roy  
thinks the brown tips on the foliage were  
caused by the heat wave last July. It is now  
starting to recover and Roy said let it contin-  
ue to recover. It needs summer trimming.  
Roy commented that the original stylist had  
a different vision of bonsai than his, but per-  
haps the intention was to create a cascade.  
With Mary's concurrence, Roy removed a  
number of extraneous branches—including  
the original cascading branch.



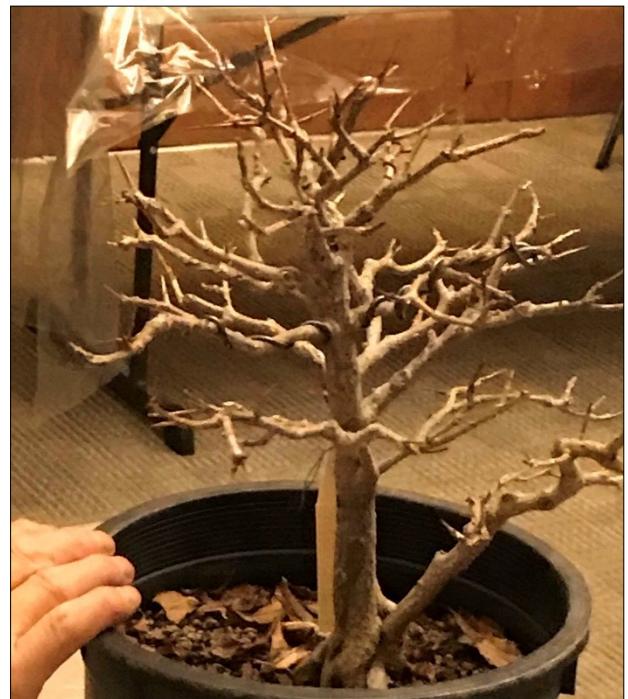
**Richard Winston:** Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*). Roy suggested this tree could be put in a round pot (left). He also noted that the tree has a nice slant to the right, but the apex should be moved to counter the movement, so it is over the center of the nebari. Roy also said to change the back to the front, and remove an eye-poking branch. Roy added that when trimming most deciduous trees, such as this hackberry, wait until a five-leaf branch develops then cut back to two leaves.

(*Juniperus procumbens*). Roy said this tree also needs to recover from last summer's heat wave (right). He said the tree's foliage is too wide for the size of the trunk. Jin most of the number one branch, he suggested. Remove bark from trunk and branches on junipers.

**David Whiteside:** Coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia* Née). Roy liked this tree (below). Although Roy said it has a nice style already, he suggested moving the front of the tree several degrees to show the widest nebari. The apex should be adjusted to lean to the new front.



**Marj Branson:** Twisted pomegranate (*Punica granatum* nejikan). Roy suggested keeping the second trunk (right). The competition for the apex should be eliminated.



**Richard Winston:** San Jose juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* 'San Jose'). This was a tree that Ken Fuentes used for a demonstration at CVBS's show last October. Roy suggested jinning a couple of branches, including one halfway up on the left. He said to try to keep mass one-half inch from the base of the trunk. Roy would like to approach graft shimpaku onto this tree if it is to be a shohin-sized tree.

## 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 her/his 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 your 2019 calendar and let us know when you would like to present your display.

—Marj Branson

## 2019 Niche Displays

Feb.	Mel Carrillo
March	Marj Branson
April	Volunteer Needed
May	Volunteer Needed

## Library

# Check Out the CVBS Library

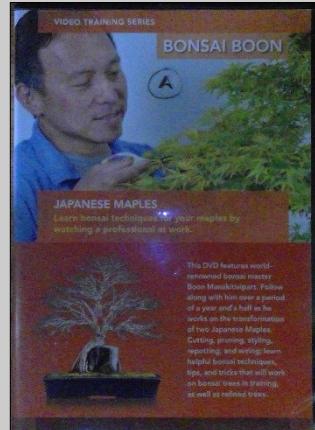
The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society has an extensive library of books, magazines, and DVDs available for members to borrow at no charge. The collection is available for your review at each monthly meeting. Material may be borrowed for a month at a time, so take home a book or DVD from our next meeting and return it at the following meeting. If you have any questions regarding the CVBS Library, please contact me at [librarian@cvbs-bonsai.org](mailto:librarian@cvbs-bonsai.org).

### Book of the Month

#### *Bonsai Boon Video Training Series*, Boon Manakitivipart

Winter is finally here! My Japanese maple dropped all its leaves and it was time to move it into a bonsai pot. I was anxious to get started but decided to hold off a bit so I could review "Japanese Maples," one of Bonsai Boon's video training series. The CVBS Library has a collection of Bonsai Boon DVDs, including "Scale Junipers," "Repotting Deciduous Trees," "Decandling Black Pine," "Wiring and Styling Black Pine," "Repotting Black Pine," and "Japanese Maples." This last video follows Boon over 18 months as he selects a Japanese maple sapling to create a bonsai, styles it, pots it, and begins to refine it. The potting section is exactly what I wanted to see before potting my own Japanese maple. The video provided clear guidance and the opportunity to watch a step over and over again until I was ready to tackle my own tree. Check out Boon's video training series at a future CVBS meeting.

—Mike Blumenberg



## Matson Unveils Spring 2019 Bonsai Volunteer Dates

Ted Matson has announced the late winter/spring schedule of volunteer work weekends on the bonsai collections at the Huntington Gardens. Volunteer weekends continue in March – June and are listed at right. "These dates work around the blackout dates as determined by Huntington Gardens, where there are other activities or events and traffic is limited," Matson said in an email.

Work is on bonsai trees in both the Golden State Bonsai Federation's collection and the Huntington's own collection. All levels of bonsai knowledge are welcome and sometimes Ted has mini teaching sessions, so no one feels overextended. CVBS members who have participated uniformly report very positive experiences. If you'd like to participate or carpool to one of the work sessions, please contact Marj Branson at [president@cvbs-bonsai.org](mailto:president@cvbs-bonsai.org) or (805) 373-1330.

—David Whiteside

## 2019 Work Dates

March 2 – 3 / 16 – 17 / 30 – 31

April 13 – 14

May 11 (Saturday only) / 18 – 19

June 1 – 2 / 22 – 23 / 29 – 30

# 'Goshin III' To Be Replanted at Huntington

**Editor's Note:** This article was provided by GSBF's team at the Huntington and edited slightly for style.

The Golden State Bonsai Federation and The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens will be regaining an important bonsai masterpiece on Saturday, March 23, 2019, as the California Bonsai Society hosts Jack Sustic, former curator of the North American Bonsai Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, DC, to lead the replanting of "Goshin III" during the 62nd annual CBS Bonsai Exhibition.

The public demonstration will take place from 1 – 4 pm in the Botanical Auditorium on the lower level of the Brody Botanical Center (near the elevator) at The Huntington, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, 91108.

The original "Goshin," or Guardian of the Spirit, is a forest-style bonsai created by John Naka, and is far and away the most famous American bonsai. The planting features 11 foemina junipers (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Foemina'), with training of the oldest starting in 1948.

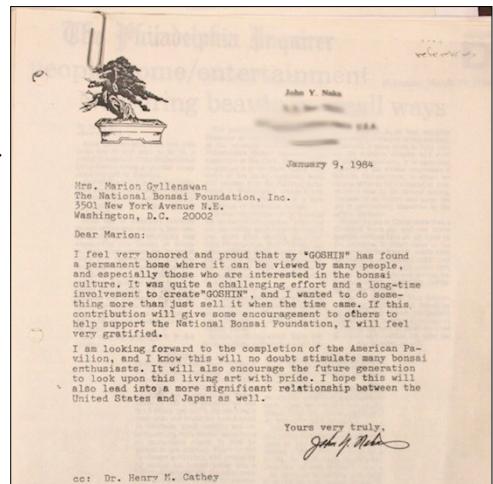
As arranged, the trees represent

John's children and grandchildren. John donated the tree to the National Bonsai Foundation in 1984, and it moved to the U.S. National Arboretum where it remains to this day. However, the California bonsai community felt the loss of such an important masterpiece and requested John to recreate it. So, at two different convention events in the 1990s, John and a team created replicas. Known as "Goshin II" and "Goshin III," the plantings were subsequently given to each of the GSBF Collection sites, the GSBF Bonsai Museum at Lake Merritt in Oakland, CA, and the GSBF Collection at The Huntington, respectively.

"Goshin III" arrived at The Huntington in February, 2001.

Due to various circumstances, including some of the aggressive work during the initial planting and using trees that had less developed root systems, "Goshin III" suffered. A couple trees died; others were weakened by degraded soil. In April, 2015, the forest was disassembled and the individual trees were planted in separate pots with good bonsai soil. Over the past few years, they were brought back to health and groomed to build more complete, refined foliage pads. Moreover, additional trees have been developed as replacements, so the replanted piece will look mature when completed.

Jack Sustic will lead the replanting team. While serving as curator of the U.S. National Bonsai Collection, Jack was responsible for the maintenance and care of the original "Goshin" for many years. However, as a friend and devotee of John's, Jack also par-



cc: Dr. Henry M. Cathey

Mrs. Marion Gyllenswan  
The National Bonsai Foundation, Inc.  
5501 1/2 York Avenue N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Marion:

I feel very honored and proud that my "GOSHIN" has found a permanent home where I can see it enjoyed by many people, and especially those who are interested in the bonsai culture. It was quite a challenging effort and a long-time involvement to create "GOSHIN", and I wanted to do something special to give it back to the United States. If this contribution will give some encouragement to others to help support the National Bonsai Foundation, I will feel very happy.

I am looking forward to the completion of the American Pavilion, and I know this will no doubt stimulate many bonsai enthusiasts. It will also encourage the future generation to look upon this living art with pride. I hope this will also lead into a more significant relationship between the United States and Japan as well.

Yours very truly,  
*John Y. Naka*

ticipated in the creation of both "Goshin II" and "Goshin III." With the other original team members passed on, Jack is the most qualified of any to ensure a faithful reproduction of the original.

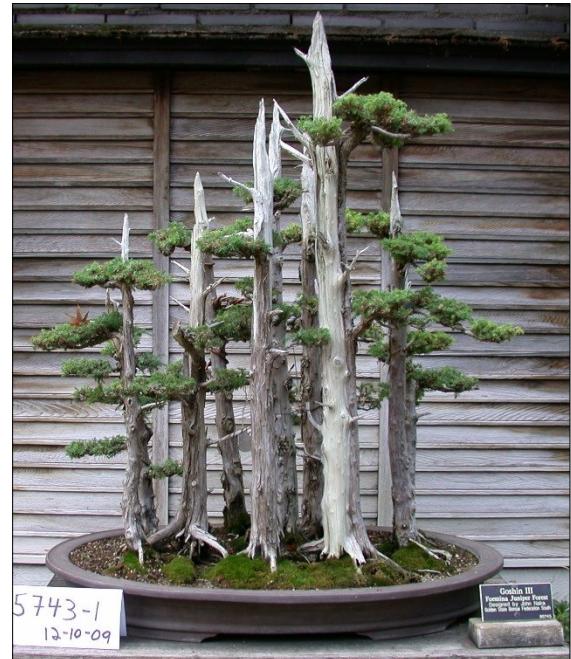
Started by John Naka in the 1950s, the California Bonsai Society is a club with members predominantly at the advanced level of the art. The 62nd annual exhibit will feature masterpiece quality bonsai, with a focus on trees that have been in training over a long time—often decades—so they no longer show evidence of training. In addition, the exhibition often has a mix of fine viewing stones. The exhibit runs from 10 AM – 5 PM both Saturday and Sunday in the Ahmanson Classroom and Banta Hall.



John Naka's letter donating 'Goshin' to the National Bonsai Federation (top, right).

'Goshin' at the National Arboretum (above).

'Goshin III' at the Huntington Gardens in 2009 (right).



## **Coming Events** (Click on the Addresses to visit Websites or send Emails)

**2019**

### **February**

#### **February 16 – 17, 2019 Oakland, California**

GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: The Annual Mammoth Auction and Sale Fundraiser will be held at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Lake Merritt. Saturday: Auction preview at Noon with Auction starting at 1 PM. Sunday: Vendor Sales start at 9 AM; Plant Sales start at 10 AM; Demonstration starts at 1 PM. Everyone is encouraged to submit their bonsai and bonsai-related items for consideration to be included in the Mammoth Auction at the earliest date possible. "Private collections to be featured." The Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt will be open that weekend 10 AM – 3 PM on Saturday, and Noon – 3 PM on Sunday. Please find time to visit the Bonsai Garden and observe the many installments under the Garden Revitalization Opportunity (GRO) Project. For more information or to sell bonsai, email [bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com](mailto:bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com) and visit <http://BonsaiLakeMerritt.com>.

#### **Feb. 23 – 24, 2019 San Marino, California**

Bonsai-A-Thon XXIII at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road. This is the annual fundraiser for the GSBF Collection at The Huntington. Event admission is free with Bonsai-A-Thon "early bird" registration between 8 AM – 9 AM. Event hours are 8 AM – 4:30 PM both days. Pancake breakfast, demonstrations, lunch, bonsai exhibits, large sales area, raffle, and auction. For more information visit The GSBF Collection at The Huntington. (See also page 4 of this newsletter for the full schedule.)



**Bonsai-A-Thon**  
Fundraiser for  
**THE GOLDEN STATE BONSAI FEDERATION COLLECTION**  
**AT THE HUNTINGTON**

**February 23 – 24, 2019**

### **March**

#### **March 23 – 24, 2019 Oakland, California**

Bay Area Bonsai Associates: 38th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue. Show hours are 5 – 9 PM Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday. Light dinner at 5:30 PM Saturday followed by a bonsai demonstration by club members from 6:30 – 9 PM. Benefit drawing of demo tree(s). Winning ticket must be present to win. Sales of plants, bonsai, and other bonsai-related items both days. Admission is free. Parking fee to the Lakeside Park entrance is required during the park hours. For more information, please contact Janice Dilbeck at [janicedilbeck@comcast.net](mailto:janicedilbeck@comcast.net).

#### **March 23 – 24, 2019 San Marino, California**

California Bonsai Society Show: Annual show at The Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, Ahmanson Room. Show hours are 10 AM – 4:30 PM both days. Demonstration Saturday at 11 AM will feature the reconstructing of John Naka's Goshin 3. Admission fee to enter Huntington Library and Gardens: Adult: \$29, Senior (65+): \$24, Student (f/t ID): \$24, Youth (4-11): \$13, Child (under 4): free, Groups (15+): \$23, Huntington Library Members free - Parking free.

### **April**

#### **April 6 – April 7, 2019 Sacramento, California**

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai: 42nd Annual show will be held at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Hours are 10 AM – 4 PM with a demonstration at 2 PM each day by Yuzo Maruyama. Free Admission. Amenities include refreshments, light snacks, door prizes, raffles, and a silent auction. Member and vendor sales of plants and bonsai-related items, as well as a food vendor will also be available. For more information contact Bonsai Sekiyu Kai at [bonsaisekiyukai@gmail.com](mailto:bonsaisekiyukai@gmail.com).

### **May**

#### **May 19, 2019 Van Nuys, California**

Sansui Kai: Annual Bonsai Show at the beautiful Japanese Garden, 6100 Woodley Ave. Show hours are 10 AM – 4 PM with a demonstration at 1 PM. Come view member trees, members sale table, Bonsai demonstration and tour the beautiful Japanese Garden. For more information contact: Steve Riley at [tonapahal1953@gmail.com](mailto:tonapahal1953@gmail.com).