



conejo valley BONSAI society

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A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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Conejo Valley Bonsai Society Meetings

(When Covid-19 restrictions are lifted)

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

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conejovalleybonsaisociety](http://www.facebook.com/conejovalleybonsaisociety)

President's Message

Get in the Swing with CVBS

By Marj Branson

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's schedule of activities for 2021 is getting into full swing, as readers will see in several articles throughout this issue of the club's newsletter.

- In a brand-new activity, Mike Blumenberg and David Whiteside met up online for a mini workshop (see page 4). If you, like me, have been missing the camaraderie and education of CVBS workshop meetings, now you can recreate those same experiences via an online software platform called Discord. As you will find in the article, the program allows video and audio so club members can show each other their collections, focus on particular bonsai, exchange ideas, and share projects—all live and in real time.
- In a related story, CVBS Field Trips and Activities Chair Damon DuBois explains how to download and install the Discord software (see page 5). Damon also shows how to access the CVBS-only space on the Discord server, complete with screen capture photos for illustration. I encourage all club members to follow Damon's instructions and get online with other members right away. It's easy, it's free, and it's available 24/7.
- If you have been missing the sage advice of your club mentor, Discord is one option. But there are other platforms available such as Apple's FaceTime software. Larry Kimmelman and his mentor, David Whiteside, used this program recently to work out a plan for one of Larry's projects, air layering a maple he currently has growing in the ground. (See details in the story on page 6.) Again, I encourage all members to contact their mentors and arrange a time to meet up



Marj Branson

CVBS Membership Last Call: Pay Dues

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society needs your support. Most important, you can do this by paying your annual dues for 2021. Still a bargain at \$25 for individuals, \$30 for couples, your dues support CVBS overhead and expenses. Please write a check (payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society) and mail it to: CVBS Membership, c/o Marj Branson, 1169 Triunfo Canyon Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

(Continued on page 10)

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CVBS Tentative Programs 2021

If you are interested in the CVBS Mentoring Program, please contact Marj Branson for more information & applications to participate.

January 21	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
February 18	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: TBA
March 18	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
April 15	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: TBA
May 20	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
June 17	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: TBA
July 15	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
August 19	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop and Swap Meet — BRING YOUR TREES AND OTHER ITEMS
September 16	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by PEER CRITIQUES—BRING YOUR EXHIBITION TREES
October 2 – 3	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 18TH ANNUAL CVBS EXHIBITION Gardens of the World
October 21	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
November 18	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting with Club Elections followed by DEMONSTRATION: TBA
December 16	TENTATIVE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM HOLIDAY POTLUCK, RAFFLE & AUCTION

Tips for Spring Potting and Repotting

By Jim Barrett

Editor's Note: While the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's monthly meetings are suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic, our trees still need attention. We will continue to publish Barrett's Bonsai Tips for the duration.

If you plan to transplant wisteria after blooms are gone, don't fertilize for at least one month after repotting. If you have wisteria and do not plan to repot, fertilize right after the blooms are gone. It is said that wisteria require three to four times as much fertilizer as most bonsai. Just make sure the fertilizer you use is slow release.

Fertilize quince, ume, crabapple, and pomegranate this month. Do not fertilize satsuki azaleas until blooms are gone.

If you plan to repot azaleas, you can still trim fairly severely. Azaleas that have not been repotted for two or more years may be repotted this month, especially if the plant is to be heavily pruned. Wash all of the exhausted soil from the roots, making sure that you clean out all of the old soil directly under the base of the tree. Be careful of the fine feeder roots and do not let them dry out.

Several soil mixes are now being used. All provide excellent drainage with the ingredients tending to provide an acid reaction on the pH scale (pH 5 to 6 is recommended by Mr. Richard Ota).

Repotting or potting for the first time:

- Black pine from nursery container to pot or pot-to-pot
- Trident maple from nursery container to pot or pot-to-pot
- Zelkova from nursery container to pot or pot-to-pot
- Beech, hornbeam, juniper, and Atlas cedar may all be potted or repotted now

Most deciduous trees should be in full leaf by now, so wait until the new growth has hardened if you plan to repot maple, elm, hornbeam, and zelkova.

Fertilizers such as cottonseed with bone meal and blood meal may be used. Use four parts cottonseed and one part bone meal to make a good, safe fertilizer for the promotion of blooms and good color. Stop feeding one month before blooms appear.

If your elms, Japanese maples, pomegranates, etc., are leafing out, wait until this new growth hardens before repotting

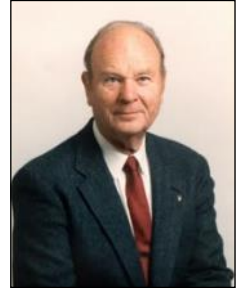
Look out for woolly aphids on apple, quince, and other plants attractive to aphids. Malathion with a little horticultural oil mixed in should do the trick. The oil allows the Malathion to stick and penetrate the white fuzz covering the critter. Spray again in about ten days. This treatment will also take care of regular aphids and spider mites.

Start fine-tuning show trees [for the CVBS annual exhibition or for a niche display]. Trees to be shown should not have large-gauge wire on trunks or visible on large branches. It is, however, permissible to have wire on medium to small branches providing it is neatly applied. Annealed copper or anodized aluminum are preferred wire choices.

If you wish to darken bright copper wire, soak it overnight in Purex or diluted muratic acid (swimming pool acid). Wash it with clear water before using.

Start getting rid of moss growing on trunks and base roots. Be careful not to damage rough bark trees such as black pine and cork bark elm.

Are you planning to change pots before [showing it]? Do it now so the tree will look settled in its show container. This is a common practice in Japan. The show pot is then stored away after the show and the tree is returned to its everyday pot. 🌳



Jim Barrett

CVBS Niche Displays

Virtual Niche Display Program

In normal times, the Niche Program consists of club members setting up mini exhibition displays on a table in our meeting room. But with the Westlake Village City Hall Community Room shuttered for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic, this is not possible.

So we are doing virtual niche displays. We are asking niche display volunteers to set up their displays at home, photograph them, and send the pictures plus some comments (a paragraph or two will do) to our newsletter editor, David Whiteside.

Please note a change in nomenclature for the listing of Virtual Niche Volunteers (right). We now are listing the month of the newsletter issue for each volunteer. For example, Ken Martin provided a photo for this, the March 2021 issue (see page 8). Future volunteers, please note that we will be asking you to do the same as long as in-person meetings are not possible.

We encourage all members to sign up for the niche display! Please have a look at your 2021 calendar and let us know when you would like to present your display.

—Marj Branson

2021 Niche Displays (Month of publication)	
March	Ken Martin
April	David Williams
May	Rick Naber
June	David Whiteside

CVBS Membership

Interested in CVBS?

Please join me in welcoming our newest member, Rob Webb of West Hills.

CVBS is open to anyone interested in the horticultural art of bonsai. If you are not a member, consider joining now. Once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, we will resume meeting on the third Thursday of every month (except for this month of March, which has been canceled—see page 2) in the Westlake Village City Hall Community Room (31200 Oakcrest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361). Meetings start at 7:30 PM. Membership includes demonstrations by bonsai experts, workshops, critiques, member swap meets, and this award-winning newsletter.

It's inexpensive and easy to join. Annual dues are \$25 for one, or \$30 for couples. Simply write a check (made payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society) and mail it to: CVBS Membership, c/o Marj Branson, 1169 Triunfo Canyon Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

—Nancy Smeets

Gather Online for a Mini Workshop via Discord

By Mike Blumenberg and David Whiteside

Which view should I use for the front of this tree? Should I keep this branch or remove it? Before the Covid-19 pandemic forced the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society (and most other bonsai clubs) to cancel our regular in-person meetings at the Westlake Village Community Center, club workshops were a great opportunity to ask these types of questions and get advice from club advisor Ken Fuentes, our mentors, and fellow club members.

These interactions are some of the things that have been missing from our bonsai experience over the past year. Many of us have learned how to remain in touch with family and co-workers virtually, using online platforms such as Apple FaceTime or Zoom, so why not do the same for our CVBS meetings?

To make this possible, CVBS Field Trips and Activities Chair Damon DuBois has created a club account on another popular platform called Discord, a software application similar to Zoom. Called in Discord-speak a “server,” this is an online space where we can gather in groups of any size whenever we choose. It provides both video and audio connections for any number of people and for unlimited time. And it’s free!

For details on how to download and set up Discord on your PC, tablet, or smartphone, see Damon’s article on page 5. It’s simple to create your own account within the CVBS Discord space and connecting over it becomes easy with a little practice.

On Saturday, March 6, we gave it a test, holding our own virtual club workshop meeting via Discord. It allowed us to establish an audio/video link but didn’t limit the duration of our meeting or cost any money. Prior to this test, we each created our own Discord accounts within the CVBS account. Once these individual accounts were established, it was easy to link up with each other. Mike used his Microsoft Surface laptop while David used his Apple iPad. Both worked fine.

We spent some time viewing our collections and discussing specific trees—just like we used to do at the club workshops (see screen captures, this page). We spent some time discussing one of Mike’s maples and looking at a tree he is “babysitting” for Ann Lofquist. David asked Mike to look at his shohin-size Tatar maple and semi-cascade Japanese maple, both already pushing spring foliage.

One of the challenges of using this application, and any other video software, was the lighting. Since our trees are outside, we met outside. It was a typically sunny southern California afternoon with bright sunlight and deep shadows. It took a little experimentation to find a good position for Mike’s laptop that allowed David a clear picture of him and his trees. David, who previously had his trees set up in shade facing away from the sun, which worked well.

In the near future, CVBS may host a virtual workshop for all club

members or mini workshops for just two or three at a time. Also, advisor Ken Fuentes will offer one-on-one consultations via Discord (watch the April issue for details on that). To participate, you’ll need to download Discord using the hyperlink provided in Damon’s how-to article. As stated above, it’s free and easy to install and can be used on virtually any computer, tablet, or smartphone. 📱

Screenshots by David Whiteside



As with all video applications, lighting can be an issue while conducting a workshop via Discord.

Strong backlighting (top right) will make the subject appear too dark to be visible.

Set up in the shade, facing the shade, worked better (middle right).

Mike shows the soil he’s trying with his bonsai (bottom right). This is a screen shot taken on David’s iPad—note he’s visible in the upper left inset.

Instructions for Downloading and Installing Discord

By Damon DuBois

Here's a link that explains how to download and install it:

- Installation Guide – Discord <https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/articles/360034561191-Installation-Guide>

Here's a link that explains how to create an account:

- Getting Started – Discord <https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/articles/360033931551#accountcreation>

They're all pretty simple and pretty much like signing up for anything else.

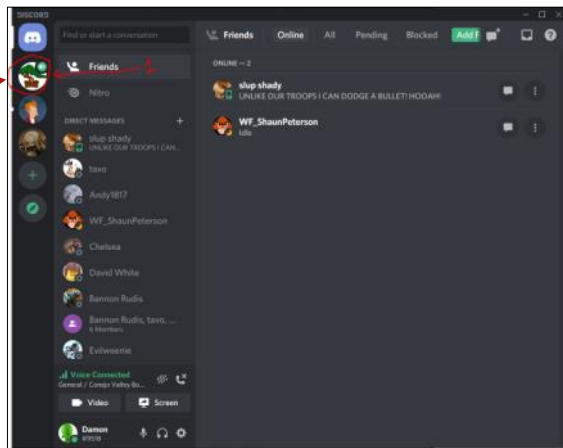
And here is a link that you can click once it has installed Discord that will allow you to join our club's server:

<https://discord.gg/NF4qdZXnc8>

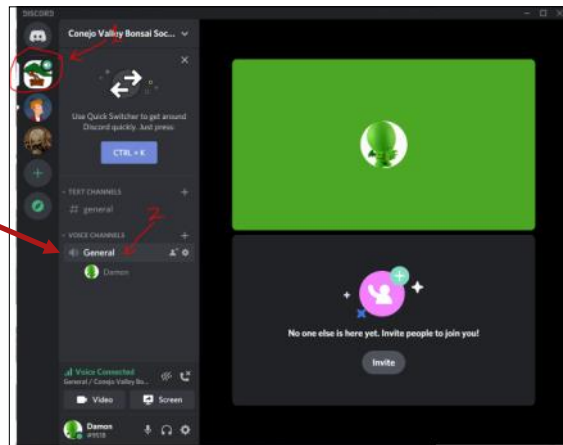
You should see something that looks like this:

Steps to join:

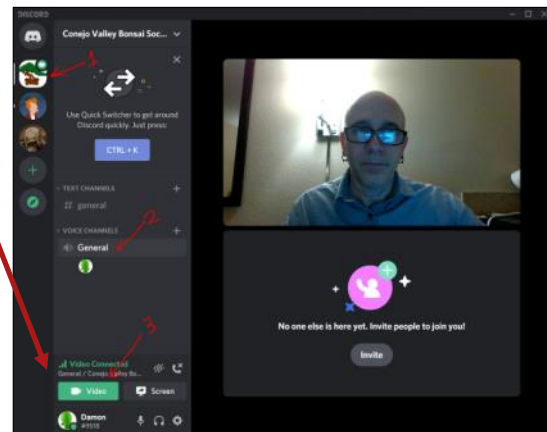
1. Click on the bonsai icon on the left



2. Click on "General" under "Voice Channels"



3. Click on the Video button in the lower left corner to activate your video.



And that's it!

The Discord server is always live 24/7 so club members can join the channel at any time. There's no time limit, and no limit on how many people can join. And CVBS members do not have to wait for anyone to get started—a Discord session does not require a club officer or committee chair to be online with you. So, download Discord, sign up for the CVBS server, contact club Advisor Ken Fuentes, your mentor, or any other club member to agree on a time to meet, and get online! See you and your bonsai on Discord. 🌲

Using Apple FaceTime for Online Mentoring

By David Whiteside

One of the challenges bonsai clubs face during the restrictions forced by Covid-19 is how to preserve interaction among members. The solution developed by the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society is to utilize online video conferencing platforms. If you have a CVBS mentor, consider arranging for a one-on-one meeting to discuss one of your bonsai projects.

I mentor CVBS Member Larry Kimmelman. On Friday, March 5, 2021, Larry and I met via an Apple FaceTime call to discuss one of his bonsai projects: a pre-bonsai maple that he has been growing in the ground (see photo, right).

First, we examined the trunk from top to bottom. There is a long stretch of the trunk where there is very little taper. We found, however, that there is nice trunk taper near the apex. So, we developed a plan to air layer the top of the tree, turning it into a potentially nice smaller bonsai. We chose two branches to be removed to make room for the air layering (see screen capture, below right). Larry plans to do this air layer while the tree remains planted in the ground. We estimate it will take from 6 months to a year for the air layer to be ready to be removed and put in its own pot.

Second, we checked the base of the tree. Here, we found surface roots that have the potential for a good nebari—but again a straight trunk with little taper (see screen capture, below left). There is, however, a strong branch that could be converted into the continuation of the trunk, creating a semi-cascade style.

All this was possible because Larry used his iPhone to show me the tree and to zoom in to the details. I was able to see all this quite clearly on my iPad. We chose the FaceTime application because we both have these Apple devices. If you don't have Apple products, there are other online platforms such as Zoom and Discord (see articles pages 4 and 5) that could achieve the same results.

All CVBS members are encouraged to contact their mentors or any experienced member and arrange similar online meetings. And CVBS Advisor Ken Fuentes is available for one-on-one consultations via Discord. Please contact Ken directly via his email address (on page 2) to arrange a consult—and watch this space for an article about my own consultation with Ken in the next issue. 🌳



Larry Kimmelman's in-ground maple near a wall in his backyard (above). How to proceed: dig it up and put in a container now or leave it in the ground while air layering another, smaller bonsai at the top?

The base and nebari (surface roots) of Larry's maple as seen on David's iPad (below left).

Larry points at the point where he plans to remove two branches and air layer the top (below right).

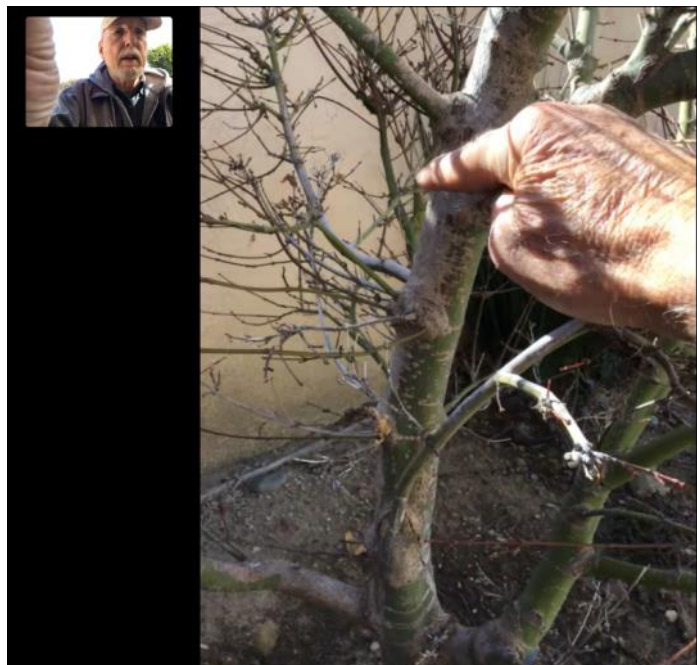
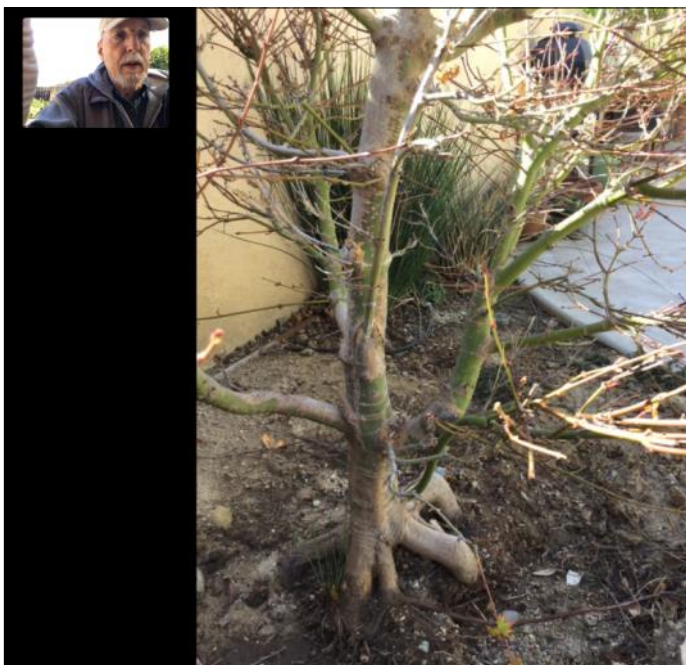


Photo (top right) by Larry Kimmelman. Screenshots (bottom) by David Whiteside

The Real Thing: Two Bonsai Masters

By Ken Martin

Online Video Reviews

This month for a change of pace I've chosen short demonstrations by two acknowledged Japanese bonsai masters: Kunio Kobayashi and Masahiko Kimura. I have seen both these gentlemen demonstrate at Golden State Bonsai Federation events. Both of this month's online demonstrations are on YouTube. Both, I feel, are well worth watching.

Kunio Kobayashi
SakkaTen Bonsai demo
10 minutes
Type "SakkaTen Bonsai demo by
Kunio Kobayashi" into YouTube

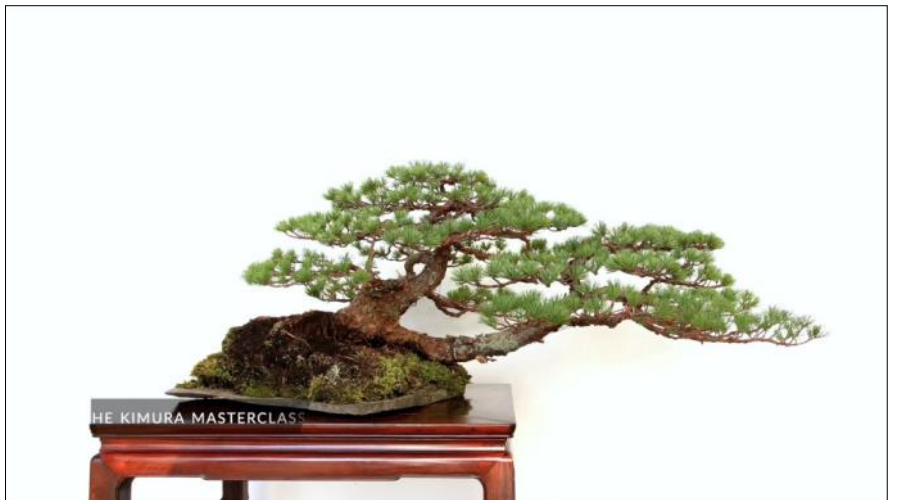
Mr. Kobayashi works on a Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Since he doesn't speak English, there are a few subtitles that allow the viewer to kind of figure out what he is doing. Bending a large branch with raffia and a guy wire is featured as well as carving some deadwood on the trunk. There are good before and after shots at the end.



Masahiko Kimura
18 minutes
Type "Masahiko Kimura creates a
Bonsai" into YouTube

Mr. Kimura is world renowned regarding his other-worldly styling of junipers with lots of deadwood. Here he tackles a Japanese white pine (*Pinus parviflora*). By the way, this species of pine doesn't do well in our climate. Its natural habitat is in the mountains of Japan. Again, Mr. Kimura doesn't speak English, so an off-screen person asks him questions, which he answers. The answer is translated and displayed as footnotes.

This demonstration is a teaser in that the past life of the tree is discussed, dead branches are removed, soil is removed to display the nebari, a large second trunk has raffia installed (the raffia is dyed to match the trunk), and this trunk is lowered. Rather than show the remainder of the demonstration, the demo ends with before and after shots! The after does show all the work we didn't get to see to finish the tree. 🌲



Screen captures by Ken Martin

Shohin Bonsai Display Plus Viewing Stone

Editor's Note: Ken Martin provided this virtual niche display for this, the March 2021 issue of the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's newsletter (see listing of virtual niche volunteers, page 3). Because physical meetings are on indefinite hold due to the coronavirus pandemic, Ken set the display up at home and photographed it himself. Here are some details about this interesting shohin bonsai display.

A shohin display is supposed to be an abstract landscape. One way to display the trees is to put the tree that grows highest on the mountain. (such as a juniper) on top. Next in order down the mountain are the pine, elm, and succulent. The latter could be growing in a marsh.

Shohin bonsai are small trees. Although definitions of shohin vary somewhat, a common standard is that shohin bonsai should be 5 - 8 inches (13 - 20 cm) from the soil to the apex. Note that the pot is not included in the height measure.

Someday I'll breakdown and buy a shohin stand, but for this photo I used several stands to simulate the effect. The pots for each tree should be different in shape, color, and size. I tried to do that. (The literati juniper at the left in the photo at the bottom of this page is in a pot handmade by Seattle-area potter Ann Christiansen, who is CVBS Editor David Whiteside's sister.) Also, I tried to make two groups: on the left the suiseki (viewing stone) and elm lean toward the juniper and on the other side the pine and succulent lean toward each other.

—Ken Martin

Enlarged view of the suiseki (viewing stone), which I acquired at a Bonsai-A-Thon sale from the estate of the late Southern California bonsai master Harry Hirao (right).



From highest to lowest in photo below:

- Literati juniper
- Literati black pine
- Broom style Chinese elm
- Succulent—jade plant
- Suiseki (viewing stone) from the Harry Hirao collection

Photo by Ken Martin



Mobile-Mode Bonsai Library Continues

Just a reminder that while our club meetings are suspended amid the Covid-19 outbreak, I am providing the CVBS Book Mobile! If you want a good bonsai book or DVD to review while staying home, then give me a call and request a book, pamphlet, periodical, or DVD. We'll arrange for it to be sanitized and delivered (or picked up). For a complete list of our library holdings—books, pamphlets, DVDs, and periodicals—please see page 7 of the April 2020 issue of this newsletter.

—Mike Blumenberg

Book of the Month

Keep Your Bonsai Alive and Well by Herb L. Gustafson (Publisher: Sterling, June 30, 1995) 96 pages.

Spring is in the air, the buds on my maples are swelling, and it's time to repot our deciduous bonsai. Before jumping into this task, I decided to consult one of my favorite references from the CVBS library: *Keep Your Bonsai Alive and Well* by the late Herb L. Gustafson (July 20, 1946 - March 6, 2020). The author had many decades of experience with bonsai when this book was published in 1995; he penned more than a half-dozen books about bonsai during his long career. I appreciate this book's combination of straight-forward guidance and pictures.

Chapter 6 focuses on repotting. It starts with a question: "Does it need to be repotted?" To address this question, he advises the bonsai curator to "probe the soil with a fingertip," and he provides pictures to contrast loose and hard-packed soils.

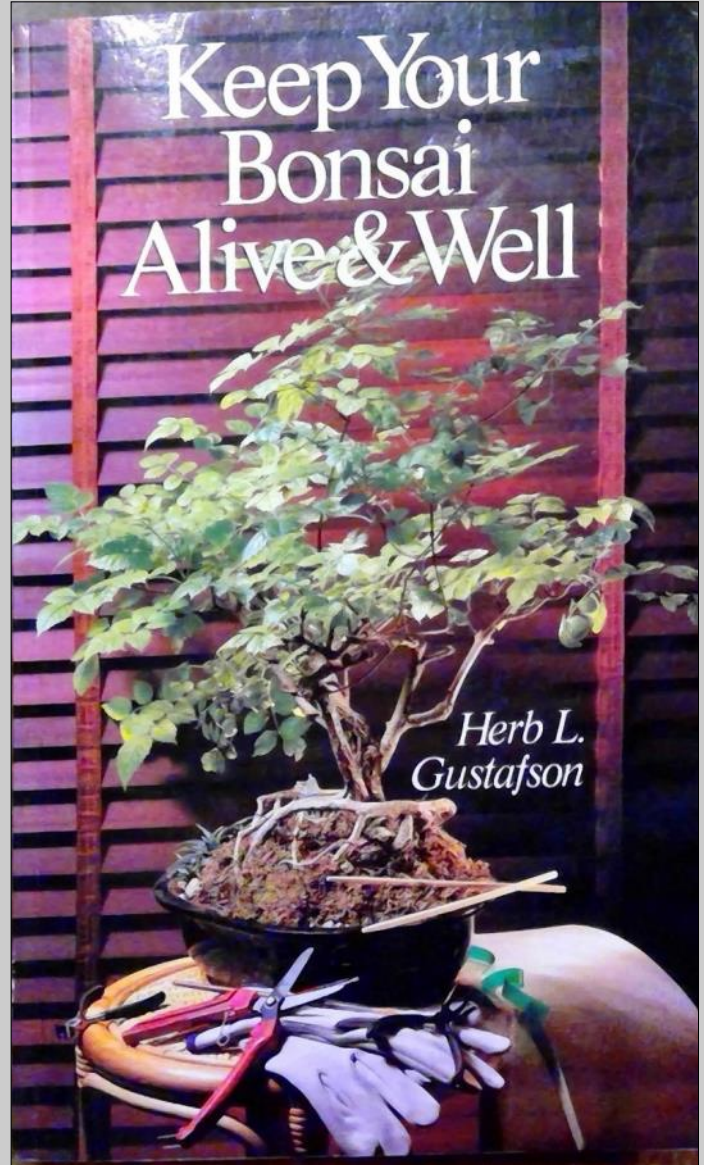
If the bonsai needs to be repotted, then he goes on to provide step-by-step guidance and a series of pictures illustrating each key step. (See the figures below.) It's almost as good as having a mentor available to provide guidance and answer questions. If you would like to check it out, please contact me and I'll be happy to make arrangements to lend you the book.

—Mike Blumenberg



This issue's Book of the Month, one of Herb Gustafson's more than half-dozen bonsai books, *Keep Your Bonsai Alive & Well* (right).

The opening page of Chapter 6: Repotting (top left). The first question is: Does it need to be repotted?



A page of potting illustrations (bottom left) shows just how to do it.

Photos by Mike Blumenberg

2021

AT PRESS TIME, THERE WERE NO KNOWN IN-PERSON BONSAI SHOWS, EXHIBITIONS, OR EVENTS IN CALIFORNIA SCHEDULED DURING 2021. SOME GARDENS MAY BE OPEN—IF YOU WISH TO VISIT ONE, YOU ARE ADVISED TO CONFIRM STATUS OF THE GARDEN AHEAD OF TIME. THERE ARE SOME VIRTUAL BONSAI EVENTS SCHEDULED OR IN THE WORKS; WE WILL LIST THOSE AS INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

March

March—Ongoing, 2021 Los Angeles, California / Online

Japanese American Cultural & Community Center: Bonsai at Home. A Virtual Exhibit on its website that features photographs that JACCC members and bonsai club friends took of their own trees in their home environment. The online exhibit includes two trees from Conejo Valley Bonsai Society members Bob Pressler and David Whiteside. You can find the JACCC Virtual Exhibit at Bonsai at Home — Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (www.jaccc.org). (If that link doesn't work for you, please try cutting and pasting <https://www.jaccc.org/bonsai-at-home> into your web browser. You may need to press the “Control” key while hovering the cursor over the link.) A great way to get your 2021 bonsai year underway.

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

online using Zoom, Discord, FaceTime, or any of the Microsoft, Google, or Android apps.

- And coming next, CVBS members can get personal attention from club Advisor Ken Fuentes. In next month's newsletter, David Whiteside will describe how he and Ken met up on Discord to study his shohin-size willow leaf ficus. Grown from a root cutting, this little pre-bonsai needs a plan for development. If you have situation on which you'd like Ken Fuentes' advice, contact him and arrange a time to meet on Discord.

Meanwhile, we have entered discussions with our sister bonsai club in Santa Barbara about cosponsoring online demonstrations via Zoom. Previously, such nationally known bonsai experts as William Valavanis have addressed the Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara, which has approached CVBS about working together for future demonstrations. Stay tuned for developments on this front. Please note that if we proceed with this sponsorship, it will cost substantial sums, so it's even more urgent that members pay their 2021 dues (see box, page 1).

A Word from Our Sponsor

All these programs and activities are good reasons to remain engaged with CVBS—which means paying 2021 dues. I would like to thank those members who have sent checks for this year's dues. If you have not yet sent your renewal check, please do so. Please see details in Membership Chair Nancy Smeets' article on page 3.

I'd also like to thank the many members who have stepped up to support our virtual Niche Display program. Although we currently have volunteers for the first half of the year, we are still looking for participants later in 2021. (See the current list on page 3.) If you can do a display later in the year, please email me.

I hope many members joined me in watching the virtual Bonsai-A-Thon on Saturday, February 27. Presented online via Zoom from the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens in cooperation with the Golden State Bonsai Federation, it was a pleasure to watch. Both the Japanese bonsai activities and the Chinese penjing presentations were fun and educational. As a GSBF member club, the CVBS would like to thank Ellen Keneshea and bonsai collections curator Ted Matson for their tour of the bonsai courts, the Ben Oki Bonsai Nursery, and the “Lifelines/Timelines” bonsai exhibition. Thanks also go out to Phillip E. Bloom, the June and Simon K.C. Li Curator of the Chinese Garden and Director of the Center for East Asian Garden Studies, who introduced the garden's new penjing court and discussed the history of this art form. Both sessions included time for questions from audience members.

Tom Lau, who put the presentation together, also deserves a big thank you. Tom has put the program on YouTube, so you can check it out if you missed it or would like to revisit it. I'm happy to report that the videos of the event are now live. Here is the link: <https://www.huntington.org/videos-recorded-programs/virtual-bonsai-thon-2021>.

For any of you interested in learning by volunteering to help Ted Matson curate the bonsai collections at the Huntington Gardens, patience: he cannot take on new volunteers yet. The first wave will be existing volunteers who have been vaccinated and are comfortable coming back.

With more and more people getting the Covid vaccine shots, hopefully we will get closer to getting back to normal or at least have small group get togethers. Even while the Westlake Village Community Center remains closed, vaccinated members may be able to gather safely elsewhere, such as at a nursery.

The first day of spring is Saturday March 20th. So review your trees and see which need to be repotted. The window is short! (See Barrett's Bonsai Tips on page 3 for details of seasonal care.)

And remember, daylight savings time begins March 14th, so you will have more time in the afternoon/evening to work on your trees!

Stay safe. 🌱