



conejo valley

BONSAI society

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A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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President's Message

No Show at Gardens of the World

By Marj Branson

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society will not hold our annual bonsai exhibition in October at the Gardens of the World. Although the Gardens are now open, their Resource Center, where we stage our annual show, is not open. So we have canceled our annual in-person exhibition for 2021. But we can publish photos of members' best bonsai in our October newsletter, so please plan your summer bonsai maintenance with that virtual event in mind. Details will be published later.

Meanwhile, for Gardens of the World fans, they have opened their pagoda, but the picnic area is still closed. And they are not holding their usual summer concerts this year.

If you're inclined to visit, it is open to have a walk through and enjoy the garden. It is on the honor system to wear a mask if you have not been vaccinated.

Fall Meetings Undecided

We still do not have an answer regarding when we can have access to the Westlake Village Community Center, our normal meeting venue. The Community Center is in Los Angeles County, and I have been advised that Los Angeles is working closely with the OSHA Covid-19 guidelines. There are more restrictions and requirements under these guidelines than in Ventura County.

Online Demonstrations

The June Zoom demonstration of Japanese black pines with Jonas Dupuich was excellent. CVBS co-sponsored the demonstration with the Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara. In case you missed it, I have sent to members via email the Internet link to the saved video, which the Santa Barbara folks kindly provided. I recommend viewing Jonas's excellent demonstration either your first time or to go back and review the



Marj Branson

demonstration if you saw it live. It is chock full of good information about black pines. Especially if you have black pines in your bonsai collection, I recommend you revisit it.

Ken Martin and David Whiteside's article on the demonstration starts on page 4 of this newsletter along with the screenshots taken by David Williams. Thank you all for your efforts in making this happen.

The last planned joint demonstration CVBS will cosponsor with the Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara in 2021 was on the evening of Thursday, July 8. Although you will not get this newsletter prior to the demonstration, I emailed members the information and the Zoom invitation so hopefully you were able to watch it. The demonstration was by Todd Schlafer, who specializes in collected junipers, one of which he styled. We will include an article about this demonstration in our Au-

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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

Visit Our Website
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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	NOTE SPECIAL TIME AND “PLACE”: ZOOM 7:00 PM: Online via Zoom (members in good standing will be emailed the Zoom link prior to the meeting) DEMONSTRATION: Sergio Cuan / Deciduous Trees
May 20	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop— BRING YOUR TREES
NOTE DATE June 8	NOTE SPECIAL TIME AND “PLACE”: ZOOM 7:30 PM: Joint Zoom event with Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara DEMONSTRATION: Jonas Dupuich / Japanese Black Pine Development and Refinement
NOTE DATE July 8	NOTE SPECIAL DATE AND “PLACE”: ZOOM 7:00 PM: Online via Zoom (members in good standing will be emailed the Zoom link prior to the meeting) DEMONSTRATION: Todd Schlafer / Styling and Detail Work of Collected Juniper
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	CANCELED DUE TO VENUE LIMITATIONS 18TH ANNUAL CVBS EXHIBITION
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

Beware Summer Sun and Drying Winds

By Jim Barrett

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

This month we can expect a slowing down of both roots and top growth.

Deciduous trees, especially Japanese maples, may need protection from direct sun and drying winds. Home Depot sells shade cloth in varying strengths, if you feel ambitious and want to build a shade frame over your more tender trees.

Make sure your watering program is not neglected. It may be that you will have to water more than once a day. Shohin [small] bonsai will need an extra amount of care in terms of water, shade, and maintaining a cool, humid atmosphere. ["Shohin" refers to trees that by one definition are 6 inches – 8 inches from base to apex.—Editor]

It is becoming more and more common to see shohin collections imbedded in a tray of damp sand. This not only provides humidity and moisture, but also keeps the pot cool.

If your trees are placed against a wall or fence, be sure to rotate them every week or so. This evens out the tree's form by exposing all sides to the elements. Trees left against a fence or wall tend to develop flat areas, stunted branches, and even dead



Jim Barrett

branches on the wall side.

Except for emergency potting, wait until early fall for this chore.

Crabapples and ume [*Prunus mume*, commonly called Chinese plum or Japanese apricot] should be left to grow wild until late September—the same with wisteria. Try stripping the first three to four sets (closest to the trunk), leaving only a few leaves at branch terminals. Try this on crabapple and ume. Do this also on the compound leaves on wisteria, but just strip the first few sets of leaflets on each leaf. This procedure should cause the tree to set more buds for next year's flowers.

Fertilizers high in phosphorous and potash, low in nitrogen, should be used this summer. Do not over fertilize. In fact, if you are using liquid or chemical fertilizers, cut the recommended dose in half. Over fertilizing during this semi-dormant period could cause root rot and other undesirable conditions.

If you are planning to add new plants to your collection or are just starting out, now is a good time to look for potentially good bonsai stock—especially deciduous material. You will find many bargains at the [Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's annual August Swap Meet—assuming that the coronavirus pandemic situation allows an in-person meeting].

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 (editor@cvbs-bonsai.org).

Please note that we list the month of the newsletter issue for each Virtual Niche Volunteer (right). For example, Larry Kimmelman provided photos for this, the July 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)	
July	Larry Kimmelman
August	Marj Branson
Sept.	Volunteer Needed
Oct.	Volunteer Needed

CVBS Membership

Interested in CVBS?

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society 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 at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of every month in the Westlake Village City Hall Community Room (31200 Oakcrest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361). Please Note: during the pandemic, CVBS has cosponsored several demonstrations via Zoom; links to those online programs are provided to members only. 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

Dupuich: Black Pines ‘are very, very forgiving’

By Ken Martin and David Whiteside

Back in the 1990s, when Jonas Dupuich first became involved in bonsai, he asked his teacher, Boon Manakitivipart, why he didn't see very many black pine bonsai. Boon said it was because they couldn't import them from Japan. "I quickly figured out that if we didn't start growing them now, we'll never have them," Dupuich recalled during an online presentation about Japanese black pines. "As luck would have it," he said, "Boon had some seeds and in January 1994, we planted them."

Jonas been growing Japanese black pines from seed ever since. He still has a couple of trees from this first batch. He showed a sequence of photos that illustrated how a small Japanese black pine can be developed and refined (see page 6).

The June 8, 2021, Zoom demonstration was for a combined virtual meeting of the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society and the Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara. The two clubs shared the cost; Santa Barbara handled all the details of orchestrating the demonstration. CVBS is very grateful for all the work Santa Barbara folks put into this program.

Many bonsai amateurs are afraid of growing Japanese black pines (*Pinus thunbergii*) because they are reputed to be very demanding and to require a lot of work. Dupuich doesn't share that view. "I've found them to be a really fun species," he said. "They are very straight forward as long as you know a couple of key concepts."

One basic concept, and a reason Jonas thinks pines are fun, is that they have three different kinds of buds or areas of new growth, and "that's not true of a lot of the species that we work with," he explained. The first type is an apical bud (some call this a terminal bud) at the tip of a branch. This kind of bud elongates into a candle and then becomes a shoot, which keeps the branch growing straight in the same direction. The second is an adventitious bud, which is what appears at the base of a decandling cut (more on this below); selecting which of these buds to keep determines a new direction for the branch's new growth. And the third is a needle bud, which forms in the sheath where needle clusters are joined (black pines have two needles per cluster, so the needle bud appears between the two needles). Needles are on the side of a branch, so they also change the direction of the branch's growth.

Another basic idea, Dupuich explained, is to follow a sequence of seasonal black pine care procedures. Each of the four seasons is best for one of the black pine techniques:

- End of winter or beginning of spring (maybe as early as January or February): a great time for repotting.
- End of spring or beginning of summer (around June in our area): decandling, if needed. Note that there are other operations that can be done at the same time as decandling such as some needle removal as required. You can even do some wiring. Don't fertilize for one month after decandling.
- End of summer, beginning of fall: heavy pruning and needle thinning as needed. For California, that's usually quite late—could even be November or December.
- All winter right up until repotting time: the best time for wiring.

Because of the early June date of this demonstration, Dupuich focused most of his comments on the very important procedure of decandling. Interestingly, he explained that "decandling" is something of a misnomer. Technically, the can-

(Continued on page 5)



Jonas Dupuich (above).

Apical buds elongated into candles (left below). Note the green stem and absence of needles.

Adventitious buds (middle below) form at the base of the remaining green stem about a month after decandling. Pluck these buds with tweezers leaving two pointing in the directions desired for the new growth.

Needle bud (right below), which forms between the two needles in the bunch's sheath.



Screen captures by David Williams

Dupuich (Continued from page 4)

dle is an elongated apical bud at the end of a branch; its needles have not yet grown out. Once the needles are developed, he explained, it's no longer a candle. It's a shoot or new branch. Even the Japanese term for decandling translates as bud cutting. Nonetheless, the decandling terminology remains standard.

Decandling produces a number of effects that are crucial to the development of a black pine: reduce needle size, shorten internode length, and improve branch density or ramification. Jonas said you shouldn't decandle black pines younger than 8 to 10 years old because at that age your main concern is to develop the trunk and roots. Decandling is stressful and slows this development. He emphasized several times that the tree should be very healthy, i.e., really, really strong before attempting to decandle. He said it is a "tough job to figure out when to decandle as a function of the tree's strength."

He showed a picture that illustrated new candle growth as all green stem, last year's growth, and two-year old growth (see photo this page). His definition of decandle is cutting the candle near the base of the green stem leaving some green tissue. The amount of green tissue you leave produces a difference in new growth: a lot of green results in slow growth while less green tissue yields faster growth of new buds.

Be sure your scissors are sharp so as not to crush the remaining stem tissue and inhibit budding. The cut should be 90 degrees to the stem. In about four weeks after decandling, new buds will form all around the decandle cut.

A lower cut into the brown, older growth he calls pruning. A kind of pruning that Dupuich calls "cut back decandling" is done at decandle time. Its purpose is to stimulate a bud to form at the juncture of a needle pair further back on the branch.

"One of the things that make pines fun is that as you realize how many different ways that we have to encourage different kinds of growth, it becomes a very flexible model for us," Dupuich said.

Here are some key decandling concepts:

- Staggered decandling: If you have a mixture of sizes of black pines, decandle the large trees first and the smallest ones last. This gives the large trees a longer post-decandling growing season, which results in longer needles—an appropriate scale for the bigger trees. The smaller trees' growing season is shorter, producing smaller needles, which looks more in scale for this size tree.
- Sequential decandling: For any individual tree, cut the small candles first. Then, 10 days to two weeks later, cut the large candles. This gives the smaller, weaker candles a head start on forming buds, giving new growth on their branches a longer growing season so they can gain strength.
- Same-day decandling: Leave less green tissue below the decandling cut on the smaller, weaker candles and more green tissue at the base of larger, stronger candles. The longer amount of green tissue delays the formation of new buds at the base. Like sequential decandling above, this gives new growth on the smaller, weaker branches more time to grow this season. The idea is to balance growth and strength throughout the tree.

Other things Jonas said, in no order:

- Needle thinning: The number of needle clusters remaining on a branch will define the strength of the branch in that area. If you want to strengthen a weak branch, leave more needle bundles. To slow down a strong branch, leave fewer. To balance the food-production by photosynthesis throughout the tree, leave more bundles of short needles and fewer bundles of long needles.
- Sources of pine seeds: He asks for cones from one of his neighbor's trees that he likes. He thinks this method is better than ordering online as he can carefully evaluate the parent tree. The trunk is the most important visual feature of



Jonas Dupuich with one-year-old Japanese black pine (above) during his June 8, 2021 online demonstration for CVBS and the Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara. .



Shoot (above) with a green stem (this year's growth) is defined as a candle. Last year's growth has a brown stem.

a black pine. Fissures in the bark of a parent tree should line up vertically so the cracks will be more pleasing in your bonsai. Seeds are tiny so a few go a long way.

- Watering black pines: Several of the attendees said they have black pines that are doing poorly, including yellow needles starting at the tip. More often than not this may be due to overwatering. Jonas sticks his finger in the soil deep enough to get to the top roots ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch) to check for moisture prior to watering. He said black pine soil should be 50 to 70 percent dry prior to watering whereas deciduous trees only 30 percent dry.
- He and others talked quite a bit about water quality and Dosatron chemical injectors. He said most water companies

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Dupuich (Continued from page 5)

will provide Ph and salt content of their water to users. It is best to start with knowing the quality of your water.

- Fertilizer: Jonas had been using cotton seed meal (7/3/2 percent N/K/P) in teabags for years (cheap and available) but critters in his yard had been causing problems. Lately he has been using neem seed meal (6/1/2 percent N/K/P). It has a foul smell and apparently the critters don't like it. He tends to fertilize pines all year round.
- Jonas loves colanders. He uses different sizes for potting his pre-bonsai. Colanders self-prune roots so they don't wrap around the bottom of a pot.

Despite all these issues and procedures, Dupuich maintains that black pines "are very, very forgiving," adding that "the tree is always very good about providing the feedback you need to do better next year as long as you learn how to read those signs."

Jonas Dupuich lives in Alameda, California. He became a full-time bonsai person about five years ago. He wrote *The Little Book of Bonsai* to help absolute beginners keep their trees healthy and to inspire them to learn more. The book guides readers through basic development techniques such as pruning, wiring, and repotting with text and photos that show how to get started. He also writes the blog *Bonsai Tonight* twice weekly. He said all the discussion about black pines in the June 8th presentation is contained in "excruciating detail" in his *Bonsai Tonight* blogs under black pines.

Jonas explained the black pine care processes well. He

is very articulate, easy to listen to, and to understand. If you are at all interested in black pines, go to his *Bonsai Tonight* blog and then search for black pine to get in detail all that he discussed in this demonstration. 🌲



A 26-year-old shohin Japanese black pine from seed in June 2020 (above). One of the trees from the seeds that Jonas and Boon planted in 1994.



Two hours later after decandling (above).



Another two hours after pruning to leave just two needle bundles (above).



Two months later (above). Internodes and new needles are shorter.



The same tree as it appeared in the fall of 2020 (above).



The now 27-year-old shohin black pine in the spring of 2021 (above).

Two Small Bonsai Demonstrated on YouTube

By Ken Martin

Online Video Reviews

This month, I'm again reviewing two bonsai professionals who consistently deliver good, informative instructional videos: Jason Chan and Bjorn Bjorholm.

Screen captures by Ken Martin

Jason Chan

Eastern Leaf Bonsai

Beginning Bonsai, Selecting branches to cut.

17.54 minutes

YouTube address: [Eastern Leaf Bonsai](#)

In this beginner lesson, Jason Chan styles a 1-gallon dwarf Japanese garden Juniper (*Juniperus procumbens* 'Nana') without using any wire. He wanted to show a good styling can be done with just scissors. He carefully explains the reasoning behind each step, especially branch selection. What I like about this demonstration is that Jason shows how a beginner can have fun styling an inexpensive nursery juniper with just scissors. In the very end, however, he does apply some wire.



Jason Chan (above) showing how to style a small juniper relying primarily on one tool: scissors.

In the end, Jason did apply some wire (left) to finish the styling.

Bjorn Bjorholm

Eisei-en Bonsai

Juniper Shohin from cuttings:

Part 1: 16.26 Minutes, Part 2: 31.33 Minutes

YouTube address: [Bonsai U](#)

My second online demonstration review for July 2021 is by Bjorn Bjorholm of Eisei-en Bonsai near Nashville, TN. I like to watch Bjorn because he has studied in Japan and knows bonsai history and explains every step in the process well.

The first thing I learned from this video was his definition of several bonsai tree sizes:

- Shohin: less than 20 cm (About 8 inches or roughly the distance between the little finger and thumb when outstretched. My span is exactly 8 inches.)
- Kifu: more than 21 cm but less than 30 cm (about 8 to 12 inches)
- Chiuhin: more than 31 cm but less than 45 cm (about 12 to 18 inches)
- Ogata: more than 46 cm (over 18 inches)

In Japanese shows, almost all Ogata-sized trees are 60 cm (2 feet) or taller. These tree heights are measured from the rim of the pot to the apex of the tree. The junipers he used for this demonstration were *Juniperus chinensis* var. Itoigawa (Shimpaku Itoigawa in Japan).

He said creating a shohin is difficult and keeping a tree shohin-sized longer than just a few years is very difficult. In Japan a shohin is often more highly prized than the next size up because of these difficulties. I had not heard this before.

He said in a couple of years he will do another styling on the older tree as Part 3 in this series. I was impressed in the number of branches he converted to jins. 🌲



Bjorn Bjorholm with 3, 4 to 5, and 7 to 8 year-old Shimpaku Itoigawa cuttings (top).

Bjorn's 7 to 8 year-old tree that he styled in Part 2 (bottom).

Massive Olive Transformed with Carving

Editor's Note: Conejo Valley Bonsai Society member Larry Kimmelman provided this virtual niche display for this, the July 2021 issue of CVBS's newsletter (see listing of virtual niche volunteers, page 3). Because physical meetings are on indefinite hold due to the pandemic, Larry set the display up in his backyard and photographed it. Here are some details about Larry's large olive, which he has dubbed "Really?"

I brought this large olive home from a Golden State Bonsai Federation workshop in November of 2016. It originated in 1891 from a Modesto, California, olive grove, and had been recovering from a fire in a grower's pot since 2004. Those dates were confirmed by the GSBF and the grower's pot. It's remarkably healthy now, and a joy to take care of. Because of its original size and condition, it did not appear to be a traditional bonsai candidate. Hence the name "Really?" After David Whiteside and I removed some of the large chunk of deadwood, extensive power-tool carving guru Gary Nanson transformed it into what you see now. After Gary finished the carving, he and Roy Nagatoshi helped move it into the current bonsai pot in 2017.

—Larry Kimmelman

Larry Kimmelman's large old olive 'Really?' in its original, uncarved, massive form (below) and as it appears now (right). Note both the large amount of deadwood that has been removed and carved as well as the significant growth of the living vein and foliage.



Photos by Larry Kimmelman



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.

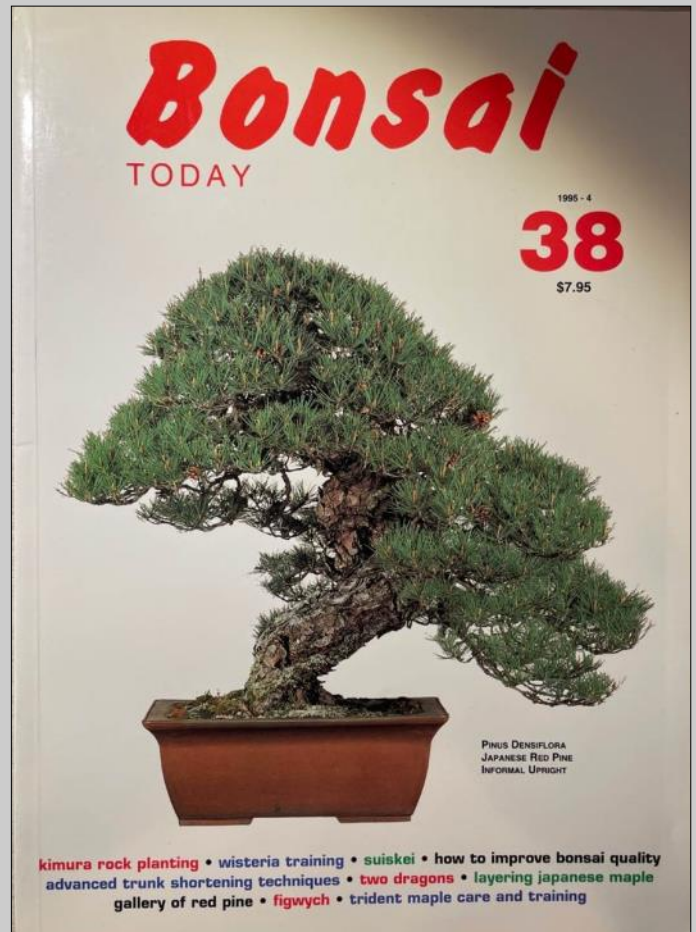
—Mike Blumenberg

Book of the Month

Bonsai Today edited by Wayne Schoech (Publisher: Stone Lantern Publishing, Passumpsic, Vermont) Issue # 38, 1995.

This issue's Book of the Month is a magazine. I've been traveling lately, so I selected something light weight and highly portable; an issue of *Bonsai Today* was the right answer. This highly regarded U.S. magazine has been out of print for more than a decade: In 2007, it merged with *Bonsai Europe*, creating a new Europe-based magazine called *Bonsai Focus* with a mix of Japanese articles and articles by Western specialists. But many bonsai enthusiast still consider each edition of the original *Bonsai Today* as a key part of their bonsai library. Many issues are still for sale at bonsai shows and online. The CVBS library has about twenty issues from the mid-1990s. I randomly selected issue #38 from 1995 to review. The issue included many interesting articles, but I zeroed in on an article titled "Wisteria chinensis" (*Wisteria sinensis*). A neighbor's home here in Ventura has a wisteria vine decorating their front porch and I've always enjoyed its beautiful flowers. Here's an article explaining how I can cultivate wisteria as a bonsai. It included advice on how to promote flowers or berries, how to comb out and trim roots when repotting, and tips regarding fertilizing. Now I just need to find a vine ready for transplanting! You can check out this issue or one of the other issues by contacting your friendly CVBS Librarian.

—Mike Blumenberg



Bonsai Focus Issue #38 (above), originally published in the 4th quarter of 1995 .

A blooming wisteria (left) illustrated *Bonsai Focus's* article, "Wisteria chinensis."

Photos by Mike Blumenberg

2021

AT PRESS TIME, THERE WAS ONLY ONE KNOWN IN-PERSON BONSAI SHOW, EXHIBITION, OR EVENT IN CALIFORNIA SCHEDULED DURING 2021 (see below). SOME GARDENS ARE 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.

July

July – 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.

October

October 2 – 3, 2021, Santa Nella, California

Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF) will host the 2021 GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous. The event theme is "Bonsai Rendezvous." A two-day event for renewal and celebration for the love of bonsai. No registration fee. Open to the public. Free bonsai demonstrations both days. Free professional bonsai critiques, Bring Your Own Bonsai, and Do It Yourself Bonsai settings. Vendors from Northern and Southern California in one huge location. There will be silent auctions for quality bonsai and related items. There will be no banquet dinners. Additional information and schedule of activities forthcoming shortly. Stay tuned to GSBF website. For further information or to volunteer in support of the event, contact Rich Guillen at richguillen@att.net or call 831-233-1612.



Shohin bonsai display (right) from a prior year GSBF gathering in Santa Nella. These biennial meetings are devoted entirely to shohin size bonsai.

Photo from Golden State Bonsai Federation announcement of its 2020 shohin seminar.

President's Message (Continued from page 1)
gust newsletter.

A CVBS Friend Visits

In June, CVBS friend, honorary member, and former vice president Ann Lofquist was in Los Angeles visiting her sister and collecting her bonsai trees, which various club members were looking after for her. It was good to catch up, and she had organized to have all her bonsai shipped back to her. She made boxes for all her trees. It was quite an effort, but it was well worth it. All seemed to go well as she reports she has received her trees at her new home in New England.

We are looking for niche display volunteers for Sep-

tember, October, and November. Please let me know which month you can do. Hopefully, we'll be meeting in person by then so the niche would be for our actual meeting and printed in the newsletter the following month. However, until we have clarification from the Westlake Village Community Center, we will continue doing photographs for the newsletter only (see pages 3 and 8).

In closing, a belated happy 4th of July to all. Unless you were traveling, hopefully your bonsai trees have had your full attention. With the weather turning hot, it's time to carefully watch your watering program. And don't forget those pesty bugs. I have found a few mealy bugs already.

Stay safe. 🌳