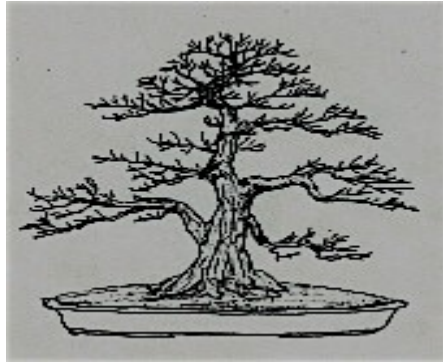


NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Our next meeting will be on

August 25, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Bonsai Bingo
Potluck

LA Arboretum (Bamboo Room)
301 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA.

Please bring something for the raffle

Officers

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Vice President,
Show chairman

(909) 473-0099

Ken Teh

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Ted Matson - Demonstrator



We were pleased to have Ted Matson as the demonstrator of the month. His encyclopedic knowledge of all things bonsai was show cased on this day. He is presently the curator of the GSBF Collection at the Huntington, lover of shohin bonsai, and co-founder of the California Shohin Society.



He returned with the pomegranate tree (above far right) that he used in his demo last year. The tree had been allowed to grow, was pruned once, but no secondary or tertiary branching was allowed. Branches were cut back to the first bud to keep plant compact. Straight branches were removed as well as redundant branching. Pomegranates are tropical plants so need to be worked on when

actively growing which is usually summer time in our area.

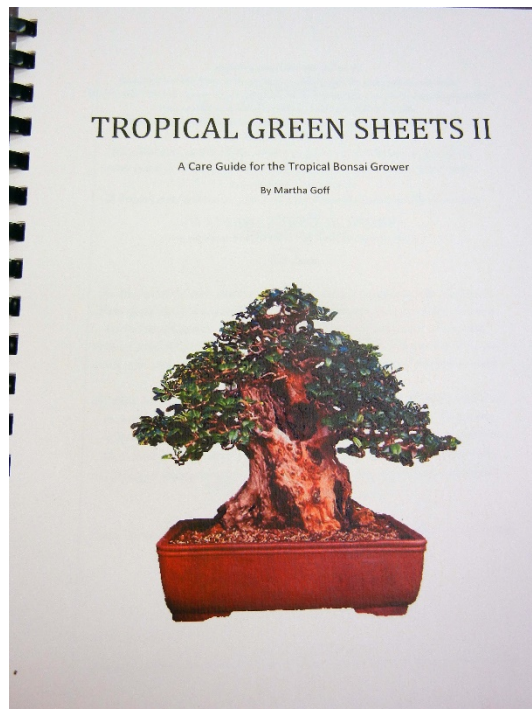
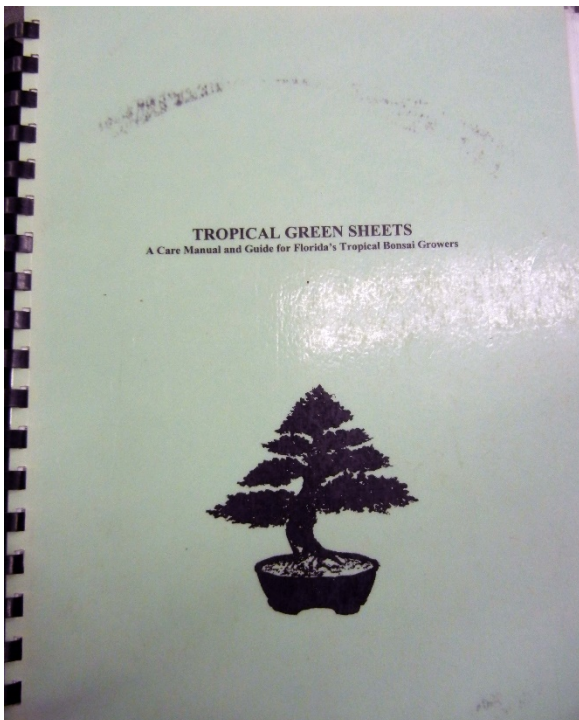


Refined detailing and attention to dead

wood came

next. Usually lime sulfur is not applied in tropical plants. Sometime India ink is used on old wood to blend new cuts. The color and hue would blend in more easily with the existing bark.

Ted brought with him two books, pictures of the book covers are below.



Both books are available on Amazon for about \$35-\$45. The books by Martha Goff have complete cultural conditions for growing tropical plants. Plants are listed individual with common and scientific names, growth conditions, even root pruning times, soil, ramification, bud breaks. Everything you wanted and didn't know you needed to know about tropical plants. Really amazing books.

The pomegranate plant is a shohin cascade, typically 11 inches or 20cm (for Japanese), but the cascade part of the plant may be much larger and there are no restrictions for the cascade part.



A closer look at the plants Ted is holding above.

Above left are examples Ted brought in name bonsai (burtt davyi ficus). The biggest question for us was, how does he keep them alive with all the hot weather we have been having? He says that he has them outside and waters them the same as all his other plants



The plant above and to the left is a willow leaf ficus, or Mexicana ficus. This is an amazing plant. Started from cutting, it can withstand severe cut back, but only in the summer or during its active growing season. You can see that Ted is examining the different branches on the left and then begins trimming and

defoliating the tree.

The finished tree is on the right, and a top view of the tree is in the middle above. Cuttings readily root, and in fact trimmings were collected by members during the meeting and some put up for raffle. Treat cuttings like succulents. And these tropical plants do not survive below 40°F so they need some protection from frost.

Ted used Apex fertilizer (14:14:14), and Dr. Earth life. He puts about one tablespoon of the Apex fertilizer for each of the small mame (you can see it in

the pot as small black

rocks) and he adds more monthly.

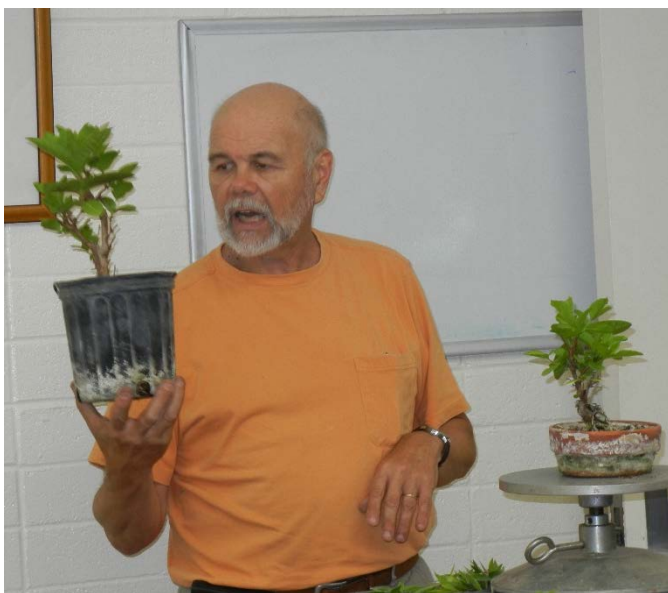
This ficus he received from Melba Tucker. At the beginning of the evening it looked like this (see right) and by the end of the evening it was reduced to this (below).





With a healthy ficus, you can defoliate once in the summer and then again in the winter in our climate. Between 35-40 days before a show you can defoliate and new budding will pop out. Plants are trimmed to contour the shape, remove cross roots and branches, improve layering or pads. The trees are very resilient so you should not hesitate to make cuts. Cut where you want buds. Trim the cut with a sharp knife to make the edges smooth and there will be no budge from the new shoots, resulting in a smooth taper on the stem. If you want to improve nebari and at the same time stimulate the growth on top, plant in a plant tray. The kind you find in the nursery holding several 6 packs of flowers or vegetables.

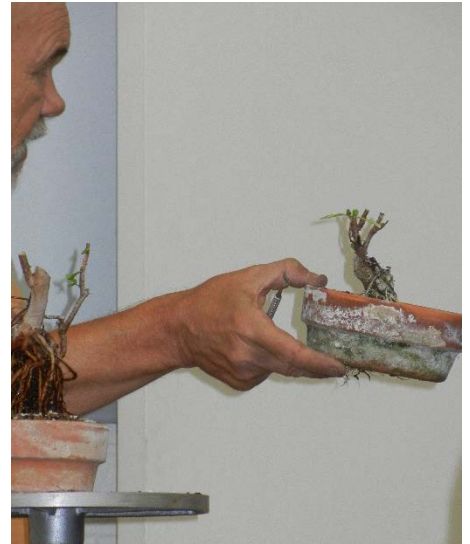
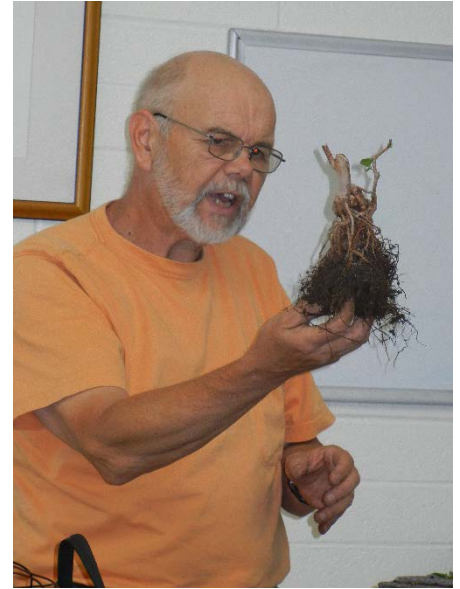
His soil mixture is 1/3:1/3:1/3 pumice/Kanuma, lava or scoria and Fresno hard pan (from Bob Pressler). He also adds agricultural charcoal, diatomaceous earth and for California juniper, DG (decomposed granite).



The last set of trees that he worked on was a Mexican guava. His main objective with these trees was to exfoliate and bark removal.



Taking out of the pot, he carefully cleaned and removed bark, and then started trimming. And as you can see from this sequence of pictures, he succeeded very well.



He scraped/carved the bark off in certain sections of the stem to expose the sap wood to lend more character. Instead of using cut paste, he uses duck seal (from OSH an inexpensive alternative).

The winner of the raffle was Nick Kapp. Sorry I missed taking the picture.

Announcements

Special Fun meeting, August 25, Bamboo room. Potluck dinner and bonsai bingo. The club will provide chicken and ribs. Please provide side dishes. Please phone Lindsay at 909-473-0099 if you want to let him know what you will bring or have questions. More details will follow from Tom. Sorry I will be on vacation.

Winter Silhouette Show will be on January 21-22. There will be one meeting before the show on January 19. This may be a meeting for accent plant and or how to display your plants.

New meeting day and room change for 2017. Meeting day will change to the third Thursday of the month and we will meet in the Bamboo room.

Date change. October 2, 2016 (Sunday) field trip, Ed Clark - Round Valley Nursery, 24022 Avenue 230, 93247-9723 - Lindsay, CA, phone 559-562-1019

Tom Lau is the lead in organizing a field trip to this nursery in the central Valley for pre-bonsai plants. Ed currently specializing in shohin shimpaku juniper and Japanese Black Pines and was once a commercial Japanese Maple and Magnolia grower for a major company. This three-acre nursery is about 200 miles, north, driving time is a little more than 3 hours. Lots of nice plants according to Big Joe and Tom. The trip would be by a caravan of SUV vehicles. Tom is trying to arrange people to carpool. Please send him your name, phone # and email address to add to the list if you haven't already done so.

Events

August 20 - 21, 2016 Santa Rosa, California, Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS): 33rd Annual show at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue. Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday with demonstration by Bonsai Master Artist Kathy Shaner from 1 to 3 PM both days. Demo trees will be raffled. See the largest bonsai exhibition. Large bonsai vendor and member sales. Exciting silent auctions or "buy it now". Free refreshments by the Bonsai café. Free admission and parking. For more information, visit our website www.rebsbonsai.org or contact Bob Shimon at (707) 884-4126 or shimon@mcn.org.

August 20 - 21, 2016 Los Angeles, California, Nan Pu Kai: 27th Annual Show during Nisei Week at Japanese American Community Cultural Center, 224 S. San Pedro Street (Little Tokyo). Show hours are 10 AM to 5 PM both days. The Nisei Week festival celebrates many Japanese Cultural Arts, including ceramics, dolls, Taiko, clothing, painting, calligraphy, Samurai arts, and Ikebana in addition to

Bonsai. John Naka's club will host several special guest exhibitors from the Bay Area, Capitol Area and Central Coast of California at this year's show in addition to club members. Additional information about Nisei Week can be found at: www.niseiweek.org

October 27-30, 2016 Sacramento, CA, Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention 39 "A Bonsai Convergence: Gather At The Rivers" Convention. Headliners: Ryan Neil and Bjorn Bjornholm. More Workshops and Seminars from: Kathy Shaner, David Nguy, Peter Tea, and others. Where: The Double Tree By Hilton 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815. Hotel phone: 916-924-4900 (ask for the "GSBF Group Rate") For more information, contact: Scott Chadd, GSBF President at: 530-622-9681 or scottchadd@lotusbonsai.com. On-line registration opens on July 1, 2016 Click here: <http://www.gsbfcconvention.org>

2016 Program/Demonstrator List

January 16 & 17, 2016	Winter Silhouette Show
January 28, 2016	Mary Morrissay, election of officers
February 25, 2016	Ann Erb, Demo
March 24, 2016	Michael Sykes, Demo
April 28, 2016	Tom Vuong, Demo
May 26, 2016	Frank Goya, Demo
June 23, 2016	Mel Ikeda, Demo
July 28, 2016	Ted Matson, Demo
<u>August 25, 2016</u>	<u>Bonsai Bingo!</u>
September 22, 2016	Tak Shimazu, Demo
October 27, 2016	Roy Nagatoshi, Demo
November 17, 2016	Steve Valentine, Demo
December 2016	Christmas Party
January 21-22, 2017	Winter Silhouette Show

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