

NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Peter Macasieb
Shohin Black Pine

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 7:00pm
Bamboo Room

Arboretum of Los Angeles County
301 North Baldwin Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91007

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Please bring something for the raffle

June Demonstrator – Peter Macasieb, June 16, 2022

Peter Macasieb was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the US in 1983. He began studying bonsai by reading John Naka's book until he met Harry Hirao in 2004. His relationship with Harry Hirao began when he was invited to assist him in a bonsai demonstration.

Peter has also studied with Boon Manakitivipart and Tak Shimazu where they introduced him to grafting and the art of *shohin*. He has won best of show in the Santa Anita Bonsai Society and the John Naka Award with his shohin display at Descanso Bonsai Society. He keeps busy teaching, performing demos, running a shohin study groups, and convention workshops, and just retired from his Post Office job in October.

Peter, better known as Mr. Shohin, is a member of California Bonsai Society, Baikoen, Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai, Santa Anita Bonsai Club, Kofu Kai and Orange County Bonsai. If you went to the Santa Anita show, his shohin displays occupied one entire side of the show. He will work on a shohin Black Pine.

May 19, 2022 Demonstrator – Yannick Kiggen

Yannick surprised us. Usually when someone comes to do a demonstration, it is a straightforward show of technique with minimum of explanation. Yannick's skills as a teacher, knowledge and communication

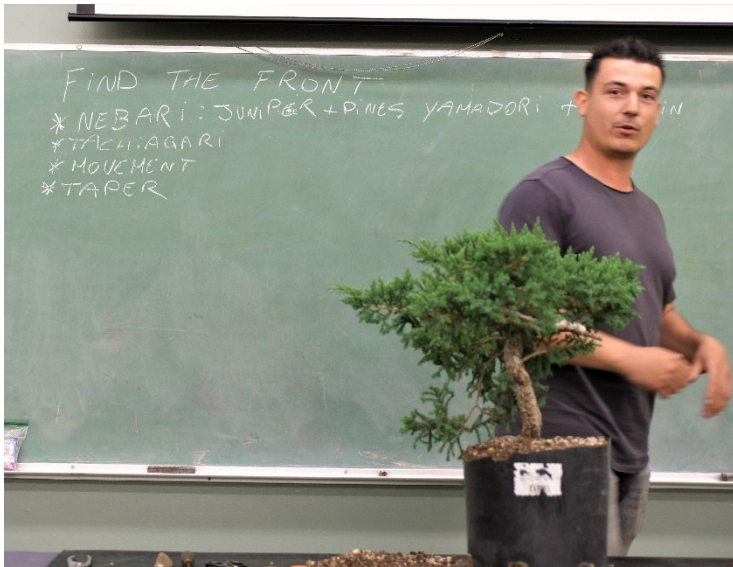


expertise are outstanding. Combined with his charisma and artistic drawings of styles of trees, with why and historical background of what he was doing was a refreshing approach for newbies as well as for people with more experience with bonsai. Everyone came away with a better understanding of how and why they are doing bonsai.



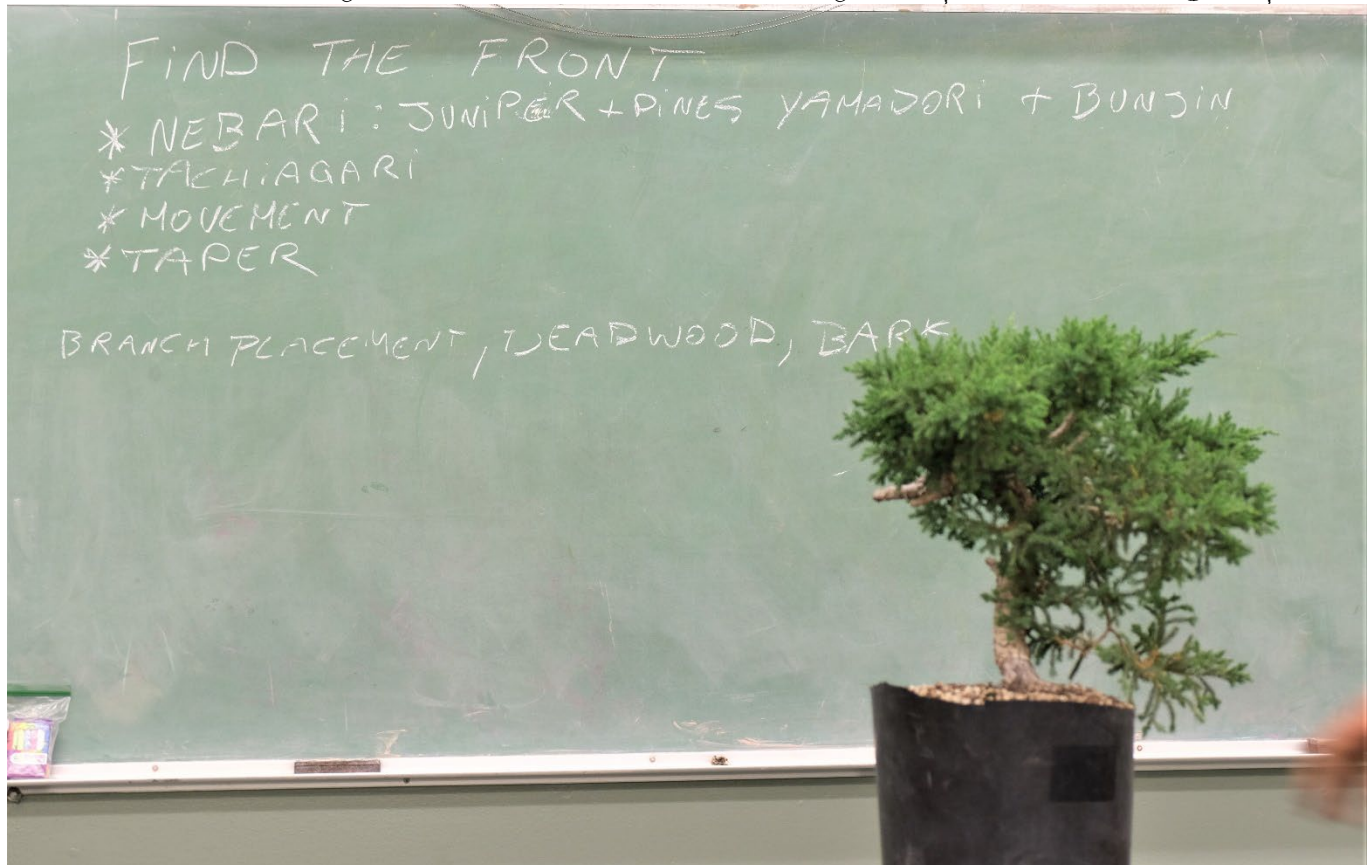
Yannick above, and Tom setting up the video on the right.

Robert Pressler, President of the California Bonsai Society, contributed the San Jose juniper for this demonstration. Bob also initiated the CBS visiting artist series, which Yannick is a part of, to expose new talent to our local bonsai clubs. A BIG thank you to Bob.



First Yannick talked about style. Lets start with 1) linear style like bunjin. It is height dominant (like the trunk), elegant with open space with clouds or pads of foliage. 2) volume school, the dominant line is the width, big, low and full with lots of density.

Combine both of these styles and it becomes a new classical style, composed of 1) tachiagari, space



from the base to first branch, the tree is divided into thirds and all branches are visible. 2) 2/3 of the tree can be hidden, is more attractive and apical dominant. Contemporary styling is lead by Masahiko Kimura. He is innovative and breaks rules. Combining all this leads to simplification of the tree design (cut branches off so less to wire!). How to start the design of a tree (see above): 1) find the



front. Look at the nebari especially in junipers and pines, 2) Tachiagari means the lowest part of the trunk without branches, pertaining to a section of the base of bonsai trees from which a plant grows up to become a trunk. This portion in bonsai trees is important from the standpoint of nebari



(visible roots of a tree) firstly and tachiagari secondly; 3) the movement, 4) and taper of the trunk. This is the order of importance, branch placement, deadwood, and bark.

Other considerations are to look and decide the angle and balance. The nebari and the apex should be in line with each other. The shape of the leaf pads are a matter of taste or what suits the tree.

Notes on tachiagari. 1) The first branch needs to be visible. The branch is always the lowest but not necessarily the most important. It always accentuates the trunk line.

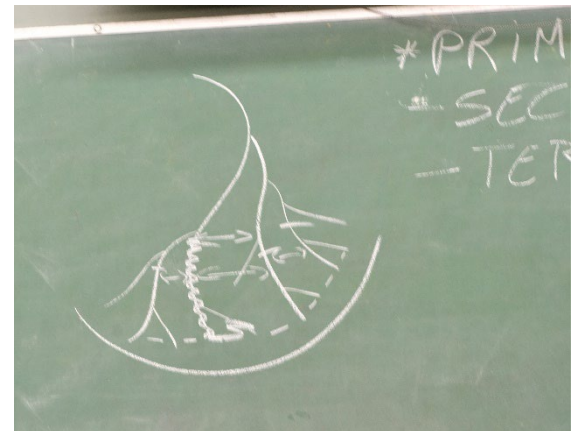
2) Put into position by wiring. The direction of the wire is most important because you need to move the branch in the direction of how the wire was put on the branch. Otherwise, when bending the branch, the wire cannot follow the contours of the branch (and come loose from the branch so it will not hold the position), and the branch may break.

There are four types of branches and possible a fifth type.

- 1) 1st branch
- 2) Counterbalance or the 2nd branch
- 3) 3rd branch, back to give dept
- 4) Apex
- 5) Bunjin style, no front branch, shorter and tighter branches.

It is important to create movement, by bending structure to create movement. Create beauty as much as possible.

Need to develop branch. In this order: Primary, secondary and tertiary branches. All the same general shape, following the same movement, then extend out. If branches get longer, they are still equi-distance from each other. When wiring, the branches can be arranged closer, or layered, to each other to create a foliage cloud. Remember that branches grow/divide into 2, then again into 2 and that you need to create taper. And try to simplify the silhouette. For the arrangement of the branches, there is no right or wrong way; it depends on the type of tree and style.





About soil: 1) akadama, holds nutrient and capillary water which is important for hair root growth, 2) **Pumice** promotes excellent nutrition distribution, strong root development and excellent **plant** growth. About his plants and thoughts: The bigger the tree, the number and size of roots should grow in proportion. For a tree to grow larger, you must have an increase in oxygen to support this growth. A tree in the refinement stage will grow in smaller sized soil particles. As the tree gets older and refined, ramification increases so the size of the soil components becomes smaller in size. His favorite plant? None, likes to learn everything, but he finds growing white pines a challenge because of fungus and winter weather where he lives in Belgium. You need fertilizer to increase growth so more nitrogen. His company, <https://www.yama-bonsai.be/> has ferti pads that are tea bags containing combination of organic fertilizer and sphagnum moss (to increase fermentation therefore absorption rate of the fertilizer to the tree). He developed and marketed the pads (out of stock now, I just checked) to save time (from having to fill the tea bags with fertilizer) for fellow bonsai growers. His email address is yannick.kiggen@yama-bonsai.be.

And the winner of the raffle was **Redford Hunt**, with Lily Kathol who helped to draw the winning ticket.



Baikoen t-shirts still available, \$20 for members. Please contact Shirley for size availability and I can bring to the meeting. We have more size medium and large.

Cookie / Snack sign-up for the June meeting.

Refreshments by Dustin Shang, Lindsay Shiba, Jackie Zindler, and Marren Padrones. Thank you for signing up.

Announcements

June 18 & 19 2022, Southern California Carnivorous Plant Enthusiasts show and sale, Sherman Library & Gardens, 2647 East Coast Highway Corona del Mar, CA 92625, 10:30am-4pm. Southern California Carnivorous Plant Enthusiasts will be presenting a judged show of unique carnivorous plants from around the world. There will also be members and vendors selling various plants and supplies with the hopes of providing

quality materials to those interested in carnivorous plants – experienced and novice alike. For more information, please check their web site, <https://sccpe.org>

July 2&3, 2022, 22nd The Vietnamese Bonsai Society presents their Annual Bonsai and Nonbo Exhibition 2022.

Vietnamese American Temple, 12292 Magnolia St., Garden Grove, CA 92841 (Magnolia/Lampson), 9am to 5pm. Demonstration at 1:00 PM on both days. Plants, Old pots Sale & auction, for more information, www.hoicavkiengvietnamusa.com or 949-331-4050.

July 9, 2022 Oakland, California, Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt (BGLM):

BGLM will conduct a special one day auction and sale of bonsai trees from the personal collection donated by Dennis and Joanne Makishima, on July 9, 2022, at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Lake Merritt, Oakland, California. Preview of auction will start at 11:00 a.m. and live auction at 12:00 p.m. Sale follows immediately after auction. This event is predicated on the largest single donation ever made to BGLM. Bonsai trees include legacy pines, cedars, maples, and more, dating back to the early 1950s and 1960s. All proceeds go to support the newly created Dennis and Joanne Makishima BGLM curator fund. For further information, contact George Haas at gwhaas@comcast.net or visit the BGLM website <http://bonsailakemerritt.com>.

Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17, 2022, Plant-O-Rama 2022, Sherman Library & Gardens, 2647 East Coast Highway Corona del Mar, CA 92625, 10:30-4. Plant Sale.

July 23, 2022, Christmas in July, Tom and Caroline's house. Gift exchange and potluck dinner. See separate flyer.

August 6–7 2022 Orange Empire Bonsai Society Annual Exhibition, Sherman Library & Gardens, 10am to 4pm. East Coast Highway, Corona Del Mar, Ca. 92625, admission tickets \$5.

Trees on display, Workshop on Saturday, and demonstration on Sunday. Sherman Library & Gardens is responsible for selling tickets to attend the Saturday workshop. The Sunday demonstration is free to attend. Please go to the Sherman Library & Gardens website for more information.

August 20-21, 2022, the second John Y. Naka Memorial Bonsai Exhibition (former known as Nampu Kai) during Nisei Week, George J. Doizaki Gallery, JACCC, 244 So. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012, 10am to 5pm.

September 9-11, 2022, Bristlepine Cone Forest trip, more details to follow. The Great Basin Bristlecone Pines are not just the oldest things in California or even North America, they are the oldest living non-clonal organisms on our planet! They are gnarled, weather-beaten, and resilient.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/inyo/specialplaces/?cid=stelprdb5129900>

October 8 & 9, 2022 Santa Nella, California, GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous 2022: Annual GSBF event held at Hotel Mission de Oro, 13070 S. Highway 33, Santa Nella, CA 95322. Free and open to the public. 30+ vendors from northern and southern California as well as several out of state vendors will be on hand both days. Admission is free, donations are appreciated. Free demonstrations throughout the days. Bring-your-own bonsai work area. Mel Ikeda and his tomodachi group will demonstrate the art of creating bonsai amongst friends. Silent auctions of bonsai trees and related material will be held both days. Consignment silent auction sells opportunities are available. Rendezvous hotel room rate \$155 two-night minimum. For more information contact Rich Guillen at richguillen@att.net or (831) [348-5015](tel:348-5015).

November 12-13, 2022. Pacific Bonsai Expo, The Bridge Yard, Oakland, California, The Pacific Bonsai Expo is a juried exhibition featuring 70 outstanding bonsai displays and a selection of the community's top vendors. Jurors Bjorn Bjorholm, Ryan Neil, and William N. Valavanis will select the trees. Tree submission period from February 1 to April 30, 2022. For more information, www.pacificbonsaiexpo.com.

Baikoen meetings will continue to be recorded live and zoomed by Tom. Here is the link to join the meeting

**<https://worldvision.zoom.us/j/6843230936>
Zoom meeting**

Tom's videos: If you have missed any of the weekly videos that Tom has produced, here is the link to view all of them.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7fXUS6h9DwoBFhagik-wA>

2022 Important Dates

June 16, 2022	Peter Macasieb
July 21, 2022	Jose Rodriguez, CBS Artist
August 18, 2022	No Meeting
September 15, 2022	Jack Reynolds
October 20, 2022	Lindsay Shiba
November 17, 2022	Caroline Scott, CBS Artist
December 2022	Happy Holidays