



### DON'T MISS KATHY BENSON MAY 11TH AT 7: 30 SSK



Check out Kathy Benson above May 11  
Below members cutting wiring and being  
good natured bonsai critics *Photo EYHO*



#### WORKSHOP WAS A GAS

I am usually a little reluctant to have workshops as opposed to educational demonstrations. However, and this workshop was no exception, I always go home feeling good after having spent the evening talking to our members and working on the trees. Bonsai types are usually quite happy working on their trees and letting others give “suggestions”

Jack, Emma and Sonya were on the offensive especially strong arming Steve into cutting back deadwood. Lots of people signed up for the show May 21 and 22 at the Japanese Gardens here in the valley. Showing takes preparation and this was a good occasion to correct defects and examine the health of the tree . It was fun.

**BONSAI SHOW  
SANSUI KAI OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
SHOW AND SALE**



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**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY MAY 21-22 2016**

**JAPANESE GARDENS AT TILLMAN RECLAMATION CENTER**

**6100 WOODLEY AVE.**

**VAN NUYS CA**

**818-756-8166 (JAPANESE GARDENS)**

**780-379-8292 (CLUB PRESIDENT)**

**10AM - 4PM DAILY**

**BONSAI DEMONSTRATIONS BOTH DAYS**



## Water and food

Venturing into summer, it is important to be vigilant with watering. Check pots daily and water when the first quarter inch of soil is dry. Plant soil should be damp but not wet and never dry. Check drainage holes for root plugging. Mature trees need less water. Just repotted bonsai may need less watering. Fertilize with small amounts of fertilizer with each watering or use time release less often. Use high nitrogen for most plants except flowering, which require less nitrogen to bloom.

## Turn Turn Turn

Trees should be turned every two weeks to keep growth even. Broad leaf trees may burn in afternoon sun and need some shade.

## The Pines

Cut candles on your pines at the end of April. Some experts however wait until June. One method is to start at the bottom branches and remove the smallest candles. Two weeks later remove the candles at the top and the longest candles last. Cut the candles perpendicular to the base. This process should hopefully keep needles short and pine foliage compact. Pine needles may be cut to 1- 1/2 inch for further compactness.

## Transplanting Deciduous Trees

Deciduous trees such as elm and Japanese and trident maples will have slowed down by now. Trim all new twigs to one or two sets of leaves. Pay attention to the way new buds point, and trim for direction (JB). Deciduous trees need constant attention to keep upper growth in balance with the middle growth and the lower areas. Prune

for shape and remove large leaves that block sunlight to the interior of the tree. From now on our task should be to encourage ramification, shape and health.

## BUGS Cutting the Junipers

This is time to pinch (or cut) and wire junipers. It is necessary to pinch off the first new needle buds that appear on junipers in order to encourage compact interior growth. If pinching is not done the branches will get leggy and lose the appearance of being a miniature tree.

## Bugs

The signs mite infestation is weak growth and a sort of gray- green color to the foliage. Spider mites spin little webs among the needles. If you suspect spider mites hold a piece of white paper under a branch and run your hand across the branch. Look for very tiny reddish-brown specks smaller than the period at the end of this sentence. If the specks smear red they are probably spider mites.

The cure is to spray with an oil spray such as Volk Oil, Ultra Fine or Neem Oil. Mix it according to the directions on the bottle. You should spray weekly for about three weeks to make sure you get them. all. Don't spray in direct sunlight or you may burn the foliage. Malathion may be added for particularly persistent problems.

## Repotting

Repotting bonsai pot to bonsai pot is safe until the first two weeks of May especially pomegranate, most ficus, elms, wisteria, junipers, azaleas (after they bloom) and olives.



Sansui-Kai is dedicated to the learning, use and teaching of the horticulture techniques and artistic principles needed to grow, design and care for bonsai. Regular membership is \$22 & \$27 for Families.

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**S'UP**

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May 11th SSK features Kathy Benson. Don't miss her demo

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May 21st and 22nd is the Sansui-kai Annual Show at the Japanese Garden

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May 14th and 15th Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai show and demonstration featuring Frank Goya

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Descanso annual Show Dates The DBS 2016 Show will be the weekend of June 11 and 12 this year

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Saturday May 21st at 9am at Kimura Bonsai Nursery in Northridge CA the "foremost bonsai pot expert in the US", Michael Ryan Bell, will give a show and tell on quality bonsai pots. He will also appraise pots brought in by attendees. There will also be a sale of quality Japanese pots.

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Workshop  
Sonja wonders what takes the guys so long to make up their mind on design. "Just cut!!"  
photo EYHO