



Descanso Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

June 2004

President's Message by Kathy Coffman



Hope everyone had a nice Memorial Day. Any of you that missed our last program, missed a masterful demonstration by Cesario Perez. He made a shohin from a bush that started out about 3 feet high! That little tree looked like an olive tree from one of VanGogh's

paintings (though it was not actually an olive tree). Our next demonstration will feature Paul DeRose, who will show wood carving techniques and help teach us how to prepare a tree for the show. He has some great tips, so don't miss it. We will have the chance to do some hands on stuff with power tools; always a fun time. He has some beautiful trees, remember last year he won the Naka award.

In July, Ted Matson will do a workshop for our newcomers. Also, House of Bonsai will be present so that novices can buy a tree and some nippers to start their first project. Marcus has arranged for some great hands on activities for the next two meetings. We thank him for his efforts this year to keep the programs lively.

We still need more volunteers for the show for all jobs, from set up to take down, and particularly to sell raffle tickets. No experience needed, just a willingness to help out. We also need more donations for the Saturday night reception benefit drawing. Anyone that would like to help solicit items for the raffle for the show, or volunteer to guard the trees, or other jobs-- can sign up at the next meeting on the sign-up sheets. Again, everyone check out your trees for the show. We need trees for both the novice room and the advanced room. Register early once you decide what variety you are showing, see the sheet in the newsletter. See you all soon!



John Y. Naka 1914 - 2004

Every so often someone comes along who makes a difference. Someone who, through their personality, enthusiasm, and dedication to spreading the art of bonsai, becomes a star.

John Naka was just such a person. It wasn't just his ability as an artist or his knowledge of bonsai culture that made John loved by all who knew him. It was his desire, almost a mission, to teach all who came to him seeking his help and to learn from him.

The stone that John threw into the pool we call bonsai is making ripples and these ripples will create more ripples. They will never stop as long as bonsai enthusiasts exist.

Good bye, John ñ we'll miss you.

Submitted by Jim Barrett

June Refreshments: June Niche:

**No signup
(Please bring a
snack to share)**

**Kathy Coffman
Mort Lowy**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday
June 15, 2004
@ 7:00 pm**

Workshop @ 6:00 pm

Paul DeRose

(Next meeting: July 20)

***May Demonstration
by: Cesario Perez***



Cesario did a masterful job of cutting down this tall bush into a nicely styled shohin.



Cesario proceeded by removing most of the top and cutting the tree down to about 12 inches. Everyone also learned the correct pronunciation for Cotoneaster (ko-TOH-nee-as-ter).



Some wiring and a bonsai training pot... and Voila!



***Thanks to everyone who
donated to the May
benefit drawing***

Jerry Benuelo

Joe James

Mort Lowy

Marge & Ray Blasingame

Bruce & Yaeko Hisayasu

Cesario Perez

Kay Komai

Milton Huckaby

Welcome

New Members

Gary Reece

Russell & Sandi Williamson

June Tips

by Jim Barrett



Satsuki azaleas should be nearly through blooming this month. If your azaleas have an established shape, now is a good time to clean out extra and unwanted growth. Trim for form and style.

Make sure all seed pods are removed as soon as possible. Leaving the seed pods to mature tends to weaken the tree and new growth is likely to be weak.

Repotting of azaleas can be done now. It might be wise to wait to move your azaleas from nursery containers to bonsai pots until next spring.

Pomegranates and olives may be potted from nursery containers to bonsai pots during June and early July. Protect any newly potted plants from direct sun for a week or so.

Black pines should have had their candles pruned by the end of this month - certainly by the middle of July.

Deciduous trees such as elm, Japanese and trident maples, liquid ambers, etc. should 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. Established bonsai should be developing the ramification needed to create the illusion of a mature tree. Remember, the most deciduous trees in nature develop soft outlines and soft rounded apexes. Trim accordingly.

Fertilize trees that develop flower buds in early summer, such as crab apple, quince, ume, and wisteria with a low nitrogen, high phosphate fertilizer. Repeat throughout the summer at least two more times.

Powdery mildew is already showing up on maples, crepe myrtle and quince. Spray with Benomyl or a good fungicide that is recommended for mildew.

Pine tip moth has been active again. I noticed it last year. The grub eats the center of new pine candles. If your black pine candles turn brown at the very tip, chances are that pine tip moth grubs are active. Pick off the brown end and inspect the inside. You should find the grub, a pupae, or the

pupae case. Destroy the critter and dispose of the candle tip. Since this grub lives inside the candle, only a systemic poison would be effective. Cygon-2, Borer Control, or a systemic rose insecticide in granular form might work.

Let me know if you are having this problem and what you have done to solve it.

Pay special attention to water schedules. Gloomy June days can be deceiving when it comes to the watering needs of our plants.

May Niche Display



Officers

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DBS Newsletter
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DBS Board Meeting

Open to all club members interested in getting involved in club operations & management.

Meeting on June 28, 2004 @ 7:00pm

At Elizabeth Likesí Home
9916 Rancho Caballo, Sunland 91040

Descanso Gardens Calendar

Fuchsia Show & Sale

June 12-13, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Van de Kamp Hall

Gift Shop Blow-Out Inventory Sale

June 12-27



To DBS member
Fran Neuman
for becoming a member of
the Descanso Gardens Guild
Board of Trustees

Bonsai Calendar

Descanso Bonsai Society

34th Annual Bonsai Exhibition
June 18-20, 2004, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Reception: Sat. June 19 @ 6:30 p.m.
Van de Kamp Hall, Descanso Gardens
1418 Descanso Drive, Las Canada
(see flier inside for details)

Marin Bonsai Club

Annual Bonsai Show
July 2-6, 11 am to 10pm
Marin Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
San Rafael, California

Golden State Bonsai Federation

Convenson XXVII
November 3-7
Vineyard Creek Hotel & Conference Center
Santa Rosa, California
<http://www.gsbf-bonsai.org/>