

The Gazette

Official Publication of

Dai Ichí Bonsai Kai



“Serenity Through Bonsai”

November 2010
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About Our Club

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai ("Number One" Bonsai Club) was established in January, 1986 and takes great pride in its family-oriented character. Our club is dedicated to promoting the art of bonsai. The club meets on the third Friday of each month at the Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162nd St., Gardena, at 7:00 P.M.. Each meeting features a bonsai demonstration, benefit drawing and is open to the public. Our annual bonsai show is held on the first weekend in May at the Nakaoka Community Center. Other club activities include: bonsai digs, annual auction, potting parties, and outings to nurseries and private gardens.

2010 Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai Board

President	Herb Eisenberg (310) 545-5954 heisenbergmb@verizon.net
1 st Vice President	Open
2 nd Vice President/Fundraising	Doyle Saito (310) 539-9265
Treasurer	Carl Crouse crlbrdly@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary/Historian	Rick Wagner
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Browne
Program Chair	John Van de Wouw
Co-Show Chairs	John Luhnnow/Kenny Lam
Membership	Carl Crouse crlbrdly@yahoo.com
Librarian	Judy Unrine judyyou@verizon.net
Website Chair	Peter Macasieb
Benefit Drawing Chair	John Luhnnow
Newsletter	Herb Eisenberg
Publicity	Open
Hospitality	Dorothy Ray

Co-Founder/Sensei

Leila Kusumi (310) 327 0216

November 2010 Meeting -

Friday November 19, 2010 7:00 P.M.

Uyen Truong



Uyen, working on a Tamarisk (right). A beautiful sketch can be seen on the easel and a potted bonsai on the left.

Our demonstrator this month will be Uyen Truong, an accomplished bonsai and penjing artist. Uyen is also a fine artist who paints and draws beautifully. Two examples of his work can be seen below. One, a masterful portrait of the late John Naka, and the other of a “named” bonsai, styled by Uyen as it will look after several years of training.



John Naka portrait at the
National Arboretum



The Dancing Crane

President's Message

by Herb Eisenberg

Patience —

I'm not really a very patient person. This is probably no great surprise to my family and other people who know me. When I start something, I like to see it through to a conclusion and then move on to something else. Unfortunately, this is not how bonsai works. I once heard sensei, Kathy Shaner say, "if you want a perfectly finished bonsai tree, then buy one. They are available but it will likely cost a lot of money."



5 gallon prostrata as it was purchased at the CBS sale.

As I have come to learn, bonsai takes time and patience to get the result you desire. A case in point is this Prostrata Juniper. I bought it in a five gallon container at the California Bonsai Sale at Yamaguchi's Nursery in 1998. For a few years, it remained as I had purchased it since I was not taking lessons at the time. Finally, I asked Patti Theaker, then the



A gangly pre-teen, The tree is almost twice as tall as the pot is wide and very skinny.

President of Dai Ichi, for some help. She invited me over to her father's house and together, we (mostly Patti), did an initial styling. Eventually, I worked up the courage to put it in a bonsai pot and there it stayed for a while.

Over the years, I started taking lessons and attending workshops. Many opinions were offered and many hands touched the tree. To my eye its fundamental problem was that it was too tall, but to maintain



Filling in but still too tall

reasonable taper I couldn't just cut the top off and bring up another branch. This resulted in successive efforts to bend the top to the front to reduce the height.

Other efforts to move the tree along more quickly were not very successful. The original backbranch, which provides a sense of depth to the tree, died and new one had to be developed. My initial efforts to develop a "fan-like" shape to the main branches left them naked in the center which took years for them to bud back.

One interesting thing is that in addition to bending the top over to shrink the height of the tree, I also cut the top off, twice. In both cases I kept the cuttings and now have two shohin trees that are developing nicely. Someday, I may show all three trees together.



At a recent show the tree is starting to look like a "finished tree"



About the right height but still too skinny

As my planning for the 2011 show season be-

gins, I am looking for an opportunity to bring this tree out again, perhaps in a new pot. One thing is for sure though, I finally realize that "finishing" this tree will take a while and I'll just have to be patient.

2010 Dai Ichi Auction

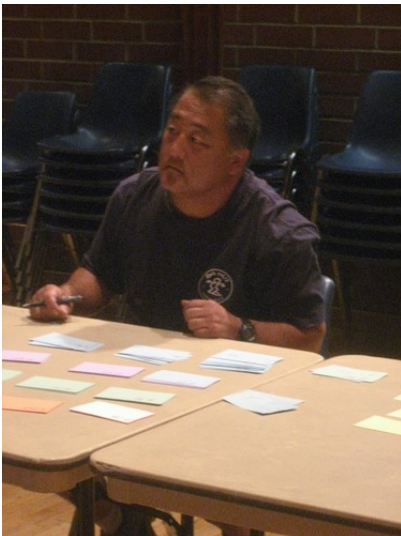
Under the expert direction of auctionaire extrardinaire Joe James this year's edition of the annual Dai Ichi event was the most successful ever thanks to Rick Wagner.



With an exceptionally large volume of material, Joe James worked late into the evening.



Tom Culton donated several trees and helped staff the auction.

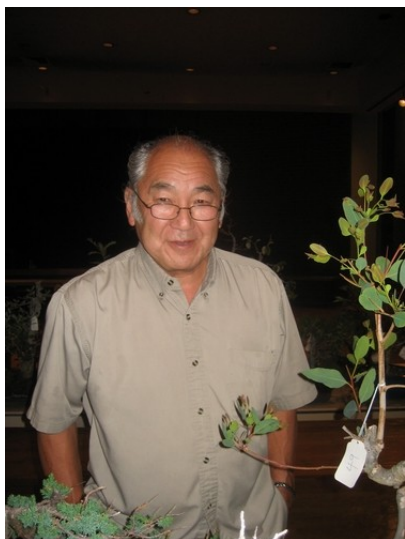


As usual Doyle Saito ran the show.



We had our most successful Auction ever thanks to Rick donations.

2010 Dai Ichi Auction



Mel Ikeda went home with several new bonsai to add to his collection.



Andrea Wagner helped keep track of all the bids and purchases.



Active bidders, Elliott Farkas and Michael Jonas



John Van de Wouw ran a marathon shuttling plants to the auction block

Gloria Stewart's 100th Birthday

Gloria Stewart was an accomplished artist in many fields. As an actress, she appeared in "The Invisible Man" and also in the Oscar winning "Titanic". Gloria was also a painter, a very talented bonsai artist and a long time member of the California Bonsai Society, Aiseki Kai and Bai-koen. Those clubs recently held a reception to recognize her 100th birthday. A who's who of bonsai was in attendance. Gloria passed away shortly after this gathering but will be warmly remembered by her many friends.



Gloria enjoying her 100 candle cake



Mrs. Komai greeting the guest of honor



Mrs. Yamaguchi & Maryanne



Frank & Margaret Goya



Yaeko & Bruce Hisayasu with Harry

Dai Ichi Thanks -

Donations to the Auction :

Rick & Andrea Wagner, Joe James, Ted Oka, Tom Culton, Leila Kusumi, Herb Eisenberg, Doyle Saito, Harry Hirao, Harley Newman and Gary Lai.

Contributors to the Auction Refreshment Table:

Yae Tanaka, Carol Browne, Doyle Saito, Leila Kusumi & others.

Staffing the Auction

Doyle Saito, Tom Culton, John Van de Wouw, Andrea Wagner, Ruben Espinosa, John Luhnnow, Harley Newman, Rick Wagner, Gayle Saito

and of course **Joe James.**

No escaping it-

I must step on fallen leaves

To take this path

Suzuki Masajo

For more information
and to see photos in color visit us on the web at:

<http://daiichi-bonsai.com>

Elections

Dai Ichi will be holding our annual elections during the November meeting. If you are a new member or have been part of the club for several years, volunteering to help out is a nice way to support our club. You get to know our members a little better and learn more about bonsai. Just contact any board member to express your interest in a board position.

Dai Ichi Refreshments

November: Doyle Saito
Herb Eisenberg

We will also start circulating the refreshment sign-up sheet for 2011 at November's meeting. Please volunteer to share your favorite snacks with other club members at one or two monthly meetings.

COMING EVENTS



California Bonsai Society



Annual Thanksgiving Member's Sale

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday, November 28th.

at

Yamaguchi Bonsai Nursery

1905 Sawtelle Blvd.,

West Los Angeles, CA 90025

(90)475-6444

(Just west of the 405, between Olympic and Santa Monica Blvd.)



- ❖ The sale will be in the parking lot on the south side of the Nursery.

Wear old shoes as the lot is unpaved.

- ❖ Individual Bonsai Sales Area for each participating CBS Member
- ❖ Knowledgeable, personnel available to help you with your bonsai needs



(This map is not to scale.)

Only Cash and Check(s) will be accepted - No Credit Cards



Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai *Gazette*

Club Meeting Friday November 19, 2010 **Uyen Truong**

Club Meeting Friday January 21, 2011
President's Demonstration