



THE KAI WIRE



SANSUI-KAI OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

As I See It

From Russell Benson



If you were not able to attend the Our **Annual Sansui-Kai BBQ & Auction**, you missed a wonderful evening. Great weather, good food, plant purchasing opportunities and a perfect way to catch up with your fellow club members. Several new members and perspective future members came to participate in the friendly bidding for the quality pots, material and trees. Everyone who attended brought a dish, an auction item and plenty of enthusiasm. Besides our generous hosts, **Don & Ileene Berkus**, I want to specially thank **Michael Jonas and Summer Wilson** and **Frank Cuva** for volunteering to maintain, care for and provide transport for many of the clubs plants at the auction.

The upcoming September 1st meeting will be having Roy Nagatoshi tree critiques. This is a great opportunity to have your tree studied and evaluated. I strongly recommend to each member bring 1 or 2 trees for critique. No charges. The order will be on a first come first served basis.

On Sunday September 12th, there is **Fall in the Garden**.

The Japanese Gardens will be hosting the **Annual Garden Tour and Show**.

August Dinner and Auction

By Frank Cuva

This was the best-attended auction and BBQ the club has experienced in a great number of years. The food was great, but it always is. The surroundings were excellent because Don and Ileene Berkus are such marvelous hosts. The star of the evening though was the incredible selection of outstanding plants.

This was the largest crowd we have had for a few years, probably because of the rumors about the stock that was to be had. It was nice to see so many new faces as well as the familiar ones that have been with us for so many years.

It was a wonderful opportunity for all the newcomers that were present as well as the old timers to select some really outstanding plants. Our worthy president Russell Benson walked off with the top plant of the night, Ted Matson's demo Juniper. Many newcomers bought plants, so we should have lots of good stuff for our show next year.

Michael Jonas did an out standing job as auctioneer. Michael and Russell poured a lot of hard work into making this event such a great show. Their purchases of some choice material from a sale in Torrence made much good stock available for the club.

We have to add a special thanks to Paula Beltran for donated trees in Dick's name to our club as well as Morris Dondick's wife Carol for her generous contribution.

It was a great night for Sansui-Kai and all it's members. Thanks Don and Ileene for the generous use of your beautiful home.

Sansui-Kai will have bonsai demonstrations and a mini- bonsai display. If you are interested in attending to help or work on your tree for 1 or several hours sign up at the **September 1st meeting**. The event is from **10:30 am - 3:30 pm, Sunday 9/12** and if you wish to display a bonsai you will need to be present to deliver your tree at the start of the day and remove before the end of the event..

Frank Cuva organized a bonsai outreach in Reseda Park in July to attract new members. Frank is a past president of Sansui-Kai. His interests besides bonsai include photography and he is now judging a photo contest in Lancaster. Frank is a personal trainer as well as a former actor (a gangster). His other plant kingdom pursuits are succulent plants.



Above Photo by Dan Kashinsky

Below Russell gets Ted's Juniper at the auction

Photo Russell Benson





Naka Notes by Jack G Reynolds

NAKA NOTES – SEPTEMBER

September is pretty much like August as far as bonsai care is concerned. It is generally hot, particularly in the first part of the month so care must be taken in watering but since most trees have finished their branch growth they will not require as much water as in the spring. Strike a balance between the amount of water given and the needs of the tree in the heat. One way to do this is to check the top quarter or half inch of soil, if it is damp a quarter to half an inch down then you don't need to water if it is dry then water until water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Small trees may need to be checked twice a day.

Trees that may become sunburned should be placed in the shade. This will start the tree into dormancy and inhibit sprouting of new growth too late in the year; such late growth usually freezes off or burns off in the fall and winter winds. Trimming should be reduced at this time of year. Don't remove growth until it has matured. If in doubt leave it for spring pruning.

Light feeding, particularly for trees that are still showing new growth is permitted at this season. Deciduous flowering and fruiting species may benefit from a low nitrogen high phosphorous high potassium f (0-10-10 such as Liquinox Bloom) to promote fruit development and strong roots.

Some trees may be transplanted this month, particularly toward the end of the month. These would be pines and junipers. No severe root pruning should be done and you should only be moving trees from one pot to another of about equal or larger size. If the weather remains hot, wait until October to repot. Willows, tamarix, olive and bougainvillea can be repotted or even started as cuttings at this season.

Russell from page 1

By the way if you are thinking about making a display table for your garden, the LA Times listed a web site with free DIY plans for building your own Planting Tables. The web site is <http://scoutregalia.blogspot.com/>

CLUB MEMBER EMMA JANZA'S BEAUTY



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What's Ahead

SEPTEMBER 1ST

**Japanese Gardens
-Fall in the Garden
Sunday 9/12**

**REFRESHMENTS:
BEST NOT
FORGET**

**ON THE SCENE
CONEJO SHOW
OCTOBER 2,3
THOUSAND OAKS**

Web site: www.sansui-kai.com

MEMBERSHIP

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. Family membership is \$27.

LIBRARIAN

Alan Loman (661) 245-2216

CLUB MEETING 7:30

**ROY NAGATOSHI
WILL CRITIQUE YOUR
BONSAI**

**ELLIOTT FARKAS
JAMIE BATES
SONJA KOBLER
KARE N CAVANAGH**

**GOLDEN STATE
SANTA CLARA
OCT 28-31**