

Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai

It's Showtime!

Saturday, May 16 10 am - 4 pm
 Sunday, May 17 10 am - 4 pm
 Lake Merritt Garden Center, Oakland

*Demonstrations by Darren Wong
 throughout the day Saturday
 Johnny Uchida demonstration and raffle
 Sunday at 1 pm*

Please Note the Date Change for the Demonstration by Johnny Uchida



We need your trees for the show !

Yes, your trees! Hopefully you have been working on them, diligently primping them for the show. Even if they don't have many flowers at this point Show Chairman Ron Reid would love to have the trees in the show if they have a nice shape and have been cleaned up for display. We will have an extensive trees in training area as well, so your beginner and 'Not Quite Ready for Prime Time' trees will be welcome too. Be sure to bring stands if you have them and if you have the perfect companion plant or suiseki for your tree by all means bring it along.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The azalea society will now come to order. The time of year has come to show 'em what we got. The big show is just around the corner and it's time for all good members to come to the aid of their club. At our last meeting, which somewhat unbelievably was very poorly attended, decisions were made as to how the show will be set up, what will be needed for help and support, and how we can get everything done.

Now all we need is for all of us to communicate beforehand, show up for the work that has to be done on Friday, May 15th for the setup, Saturday the 16th to help see that the show goes well and provide security, hospitality and docenting efforts, and especially on Sunday the 17th for the same jobs plus takedown and cleanup. Because of unanticipated conflicts several key people will not be able to help with the show on

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED . . .

Sunday, which means all those who can be there, we are counting on you big time!

Please, folks, give any board member a call or email to let them know that you are available and can be counted on. We need help with security, sales, raffle sales and front desk. This is our big public event for the year and we want to make sure it all goes smoothly. Besides, if you are there on Sunday you get to watch Johnny Uchida's demonstration and possibly win the tree - only if you buy enough raffle tickets though.

See you in Oakland for a great show!!

The Prez

p.s. Please bring any trees, flowering or not, to the setups. They may be perfect as show trees, beginner's trees, trees in training, or can be used in any way for the show. Bring trees you wish to sell, for our club and member's sales areas. Bring stands that might help enhance the displays. Make some phone calls and send some emails to find out what you can do to make this show a really good one.

NOTE FROM THE SHOW CHAIR

Please contact Ron Reid to let him know what trees you will bring to show. Bring all you have - we may edit some, but we need all your best!

SALE TREES

We need trees! Lots of trees! Azaleas specifically, to SELL in our member sale area. Our annual show is a great place to sell your satsuki azaleas if you have too many, are ready to pass them on, or just need the cash.

We can use books and tools and pots as well. The club will take 20% commission and the rest is pure profit for you and a treasure for the lucky buyer. Guests get excited by our beautiful trees and do come to buy. We'd love to take advantage of their enthusiasm, so please check around and help us stock the Sales Area.

Thank you!!

IT'S SHOWTIME !**Show Set-Up**

Please bring all trees to the Garden Center on Friday evening May 15, between 6-7:30. Please be prompt. There will be tables in the lobby set up for staging. Please find a place for your trees there and DO NOT place your trees in the exhibition area. Show Chairman Ron Reid will evaluate all the trees coming in and direct placement for the show. It is a difficult and hectic task and Ron needs the cooperation of all members to make the process run smoothly. He and his helpers thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation. Pizza and non-alcoholic drinks provided for worker bees. BYO beer and wine.

Suiseki Particularly Welcome

Once again we have had a warm Spring the blooms on satsuki have been particularly early. In anticipation of perhaps not having as many flowering trees in the show this year we are especially open to using suiseki and viewing stones in our displays. Bring 'em if you got 'em and they may get some show time.



Program Changes !

In order to give honored member Johnny Uchida time to celebrate his 80th birthday on Saturday, we have moved the demonstration to Sunday. Please alert anyone you know who is planning to attend the show to this change.

On Saturday, Darren Wong will be giving demonstrations throughout the day. He will be showing off his wonderful imported trees, and it is a terrific opportunity for members and guests to learn more about satsuki azaleas.

Tree Identification

Please send your tree identification information to Ron and Linda Reid at the email address on the back of the newsletter RIGHT NOW! Linda has graciously agreed to type them up for us, but we don't want her to be burning the midnight oil Friday night doing this. Please **Call** or **Email** this information to Linda just as soon as you can.

Ron would also find it very helpful to know in advance who is bringing trees and what they will show. Especially if we haven't seen you at meetings recently please email or call Ron ASAP

THANK YOU!

APRIL PROGRAM NOTES

For our program in April Polly Gould talked about display techniques for satsuki azaleas. The first point she made is that the conventions for satsuki display are not as rigid or as numerous as those for a typical bonsai exhibition display. This is because the flowers of the azaleas are the focal part of our show, not necessarily the structure and ramification of the trees, or not nearly as much as in most bonsai exhibitions. This is not to say our trees shouldn't be as expertly trained as possible, and in fact, there is more focus on well rounded styling since in our exhibition the backs and sides of our trees are seen more because we don't use backdrops.

Another difference from a typical bonsai display is that there is less concern about the ground cover of the trees. In most bonsai exhibits a lush green layer of velvet moss is highly desirable, but with satsuki this might distract from the floral display which is the main point. Polly suggested a fine, dark colored lava would be appropriate, and Darren mentioned that he finds an even layer of yamagoki moss perfectly acceptable. There should be no kanuma soil showing on your trees for display.

As with other bonsai, weeds and debris should be removed and pots should be clean and without cracks and chips. Polly uses Canola oil to clean and oil her pots. It is effective, less expensive, less toxic and more convenient than other options. Pots should be neutral in color, or complementary to the flower color so that the floral display takes center stage.

Polly also brought accent plants to illustrate the best companion plants for our satsuki. Her suggestions were bamboo, grasses, black mondo grass, hostas, a lovely chartreuse sedum and ferns. Keeping the accent plants simple, one plant per pot, was recommended, again to quietly complement the flowering azaleas, but not compete with them in any way. Most of us have smaller trees and the accent plants should be similarly small in scale. When choosing among the options Polly advised to always keep in mind the season and use something appropriate, for our area. Suiseki stones are also wonderful companions to our flowering trees. Again, keep scale in mind when selecting stones to exhibit and make sure the daiza and stands are clean and appropriate. Thank you Polly for a very informative presentation. We look forward to seeing how well members follow your good advice at our show this month.

Show Hospitality

We will have tea and crackers for our guests. The club decided it would be BYO lunch this year, so be sure to bring sustenance for the day(s). Of course if you would like to bring food to share with others we won't stop you.

Calendar Upcoming Club Events:

May 16-17 - Annual Show - No meeting this month. Invite all your friends and neighbors. They will thank you!

June 25 - Post bloom care and revisiting our 'club' tree that Darren is styling and caring for until one of us wins it from him

July and August - No meetings.

September 24 - Pot luck dinner and slide show of the spring exhibition.

October 24 - TBA

November 19 - Mesuki! Election of officers and auctioning the 'club' tree.

December - No meeting - Happy Holidays!

Officers for 2013

President - Chris Ross - cmrbonsai@yahoo.com
 Vice President - vacant
 Secretary - vacant
 Treasurer - Darren Wong - 707.746.6260
 Past President - Rick Garcia - 925.743.9450
 Show Chairman - Ron Reid - 925-831-2500
reid46@sbcglobal.net
 Newsletter - Candace Key mckassoc@yahoo.com
 Directors:
 Lucky Fung - luckyfung88@yahoo.com
 Dennis Hawkins - idhawk@comcast.net
 Mike Mello - bonsai1947@att.net

Would you like to be a BASA club officer? It is fun, easy and you will have excellent company. Please let us know if you can help.

Sorry, No room for the satsuki care column this newsletter. Please refer to last year's May newsletter for care and feeding advice. The column will be back next month.

BONSAI EVENTS AROUND THE BAY AREA

May 16 – 17, 2015, Sacramento, California

Satsuki Aikokai of Sacramento: Annual Bonsai Show will be held at the Shepard Garden Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Hours are Saturday 10 AM – 5PM, and 10 AM – 4PM, with demonstrations at 1 PM on both days by Yuzo Maruyama. Satsuki information booth, vendors, raffles, etc. For more information contact satsukiaikokaisac@sbcglobal.net or Ronn Pigram (916) 428-8505.

June 6 – 7, 2015, San Mateo, California

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai: 32nd Annual Show at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, next to Beresford Park. Admission is free. Hours are 10 AM to 4 PM; with Bonsai Master, David Nguy, conducting a demonstration Saturday and open viewing workshop Sunday from Noon – 3 PM, both days. Raffle and door prizes will be drawn both days at 3pm. Vendor sales, and member plant sales will be featured. Dr. Bonsai will be available to answer questions regarding bonsai care. For additional information contact Marsha Mekisich at (650) 477-4761.

June 13 – 14, 2015 Oakland, California

California Suiseki Society: 20th Annual Show at the Lakeside Garden Center on Lake Merritt, 666 Belleview Ave. Free admission. Hours: 10 AM to 4 PM. Featuring our best stones collected from California sites over the last two decades under our late beloved sensei, Felix Rivera. The sales area will feature Suiseki books and magazines (many out of print) as well as Suiseki and Viewing Stones from members' collections. For information, contact Henry van der Voort at oldboar3@gmail.com or Bob Gould at rgould@aol.com.

June 14, 2015 Seaside, California

Monterey Bonsai Club: 52nd Annual Exhibition at the Monterey-Peninsula Buddhist Temple, 1150 Noche Buena Street. Show hours are from 11 AM – 4 PM with a demonstration at 1:30 PM by Katsumi Kinoshita. There will be a benefit drawing for bonsai trees. Silent auction area will include bonsai trees, pots and pre-bonsai material. For more information contact Rich Guillen at richguillen@sbcglobal.net or Dianne Woods at vinca27@comcast.net.

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