

# Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai

**This Month's Meeting:**  
Thursday November 17 6:30 - 9:30,  
Lake Merritt Garden Center, Oakland



What a gorgeous display! Photo DH

---

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Club Members, This month's meeting is one everyone should enjoy. We will have the slideshow of our May Satsuki Exhibition and a potluck dinner to celebrate another year of good azalea bonsai fun. Many people have worked hard to pull together hundreds of photos to make the slideshow and it is always fun to relive the memories.

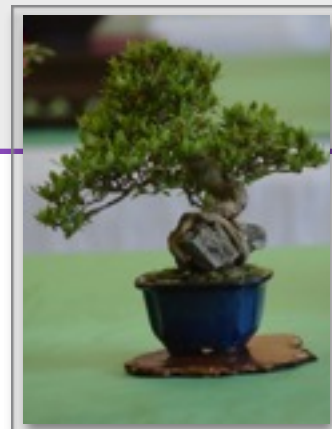
Important to note: We are starting the meeting early, both on the day, which is a week early so as not to interfere with Thanksgiving, and the time, 6:30 to give us plenty of time to chat, eat and be entertained. Don't be late or you might miss out of some good food. (the potluck food assignments are on page 3)  
continued . . .

### November Meeting, one week early!

We decided to make our last meeting of the year a holiday celebration with our annual potluck dinner. We'll start early to give ourselves plenty of time for the festivities which include a slideshow of our May Exhibit.

We'll also be talking about programs and activities for 2017 and there may be a preview of our flyer for next year's Show. George Haas has been very busy lately!!

It should be a grand time and we look forward to seeing you all and meeting some new members who have joined this Fall.



Also, we had a terrific board meeting last month and have rounded up some very good programs for 2017. We will be repotting with Darren Wong again in March, and Jonas Dupuich will share bonsai display tips with us this Spring. We will tap some of our members as well for pointers on propagation along with other tips. It's going to be a great year and we encourage you to get your dues to Darren soon.

And don't forget the 'Ward's Ruby Challenge' next year. More on that below.

Hope to see you all at our November meeting.  
Mike



Mike among the Satsuki.

Please give club Treasurer Darren Wong an early Christmas gift and get your \$25 renewal (\$35 for families) in at our next meeting. OR send in the handy form at the end of the newsletter. Thank you!

Be sure to check out our website  
[satsukiazaleabonsai.org](http://satsukiazaleabonsai.org)  
for the latest information on club activities,  
and lots more!

### Ward's Ruby Challenge - Update

Many of you will remember the striking foliage of the Ward's Ruby azalea Gordon had with him during his March presentation. We all wanted one. Industrious member Dennis Hawkins tracked them down and bought a couple dozen trees to sell at the show. Popular as they were with Show visitors and members, we had plenty left which we sent home with members to style for what we are calling the **Ward's Ruby Challenge**. The way this works is the trees are styled to your taste and whims, we give them a few months to grow into their new shapes, then vote for our favorites. Winner gets to keep his/her tree and wins free club membership for 2017. The rest of the trees will be kept to sell at the show next year or can be purchased at the meeting.

#### Update:

We will likely hold the voting this Spring for the Challenge, so don't get caught without wire on your trees - these need a lot! If anyone has extra trees that they are willing to pass along we have some new members who would like to play along. Please bring your extra trees to the November meeting. We know of one for sure and would like to have another couple to pass around if possible.



Gordon with a Ward's Ruby



Laura Wong enjoying the show. Photo DH

### Potluck Food Assignments

Our potluck dinner and slideshow of the May Exhibit is on for November! We will be meeting a week early, November 17, and an hour early, 6:30, to give us plenty of time for the festivities. Food assignments by last name are below, and as usual we encourage everyone to bring their favorite dish.

*This year the club will be providing a baked ham* to fortify the entrée range, so those of you who are on the entrée list please plan accordingly.

Please bring a hot or cold dish to feed 8 to 10 people in the category corresponding to your last name:

Appetizer - A - F

Side dish or salad - G - L

Entrée - M - R

Dessert - S - Z

The club will supply water and tea. If you would like beer, wine or other beverage please feel free to BYO.

### Calendar

#### Upcoming Club Events:

November 17 - Potluck dinner and slide show of May Satsuki Exhibition

Preview of Spring Show flyer for 2017

December - No meeting  
Happy Holidays

Our Annual Spring Show is already on the books. Mark your calendars and start getting your trees ready for the **May 20th and 21st** dates.

It is almost the end of the year, but don't despair. We'll be back next year with lots of great satsuki workshops and programs, including repotting in March, Jonas Dupuich and lots more. Renew your membership now so you don't miss anything.

### WINTER SATSUKI CARE

#### November

- Review exposure of trees as shadows lengthen northward; move trees into full sun
- Leaves produced during spring and early summer begin to show fall color
- Rotate all trees at least once a month
- First week, give last fertilizer of year
- Adjust automatic watering systems for winter
- Use Diazinon or Malathion for aphids, Sevin for ants, Ortho's Funginex for powdery mildew
- Do not apply lime-sulfur spray
- Mark for later removal or reduction any branches showing undesired dark pigments; remove any wire cutting into bark and all wire if branches have settled into desired positions
- Late in month begin *mesuki* to reduce summer's growth, thin buds, and wire and bend trunks and branches; let plants dry out to facilitate bending
- Accent plants: divide and repot clumps of bamboos, grasses, sedges, herbaceous perennials, etc.; dry bulbs of bulbous plants preparatory to replanting in February

**December**

- Review exposure of trees to sun at its lowest angle; move all trees into full sun
- Leaves produced during summer should show fall color
- Rotate all trees at least once a month
- Do not fertilize
- Adjust automatic watering system for winter
- Assure that plants receive sufficient water during dry spells; rains may not penetrate through profile of growing mix
- Check old wiring—wire may be biting in
- Continue to use either Diazinon or Malathion for aphids, Sevin for ants, and Ortho’s Funginex for powdery mildew
- *Mesuki*. Continue thinning of summer’s growth and reduction of floral buds; wire and bend smaller branches; wait until March to prune larger branches
- Accent plants: divide clumps of bamboos, grasses, sedges, herbaceous perennials, bulbs, etc.

**October’s Meeting**

Thanks to everyone who brought their trees to the October meeting for a lively and educational discussion led by Darren Wong and Bob Gould. We always learn so much from each other as growing these beautiful little trees is not always easy. Whether the tree was already starting to blossom, or was showing the ill effects of an overly hot summer, there were lots of lessons to be learned. We greatly appreciate our leaders for their wisdom and patience.

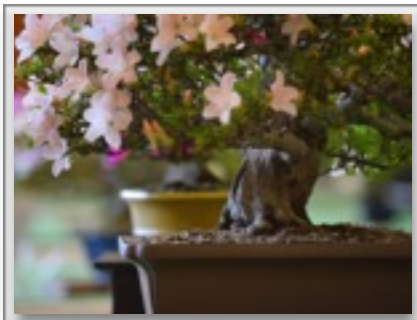
**BONSAI EVENTS AROUND THE BAY AREA**

**December 3, 2016 Fresno, CA**

**Fresno Bonsai Society:** 9th Annual Bonsai Yard Sale held at 736 West Browning Ave. from 8 AM till 3 PM. Bonsai, pre-bonsai, accent plants, new and used pots, stands, books, suiseki, and supplies. Everyone is welcome to buy, sell, or swap all things bonsai. For more information about the event visit us on our Facebook page or [www.fresnobonsaisociety.com](http://www.fresnobonsaisociety.com).

**December 26-30, 2016 San Marino, CA**

**27th Anniversary Exhibition of Viewing Stones Show at the Botanical Center of The Huntington Library & Botanical Gardens**, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino , CA Hours are 10:30-4:30 each day. Free parking. For more information see our website [aisekikai.com](http://aisekikai.com) and or contact



Ant’s eye view. Photo DH

**Officers for 2016**

- President - Mike Mello - [bonsai1947@att.net](mailto:bonsai1947@att.net)
- Vice President - vacant
- Secretary - vacant
- Treasurer - Darren Wong - 707.746.6260
- Past President - Chris Ross - [cmrbonsai@yahoo.com](mailto:cmrbonsai@yahoo.com)
- Show Chairman - Ron Reid
- Newsletter - Candace Key [mckassoc@yahoo.com](mailto:mckassoc@yahoo.com)
- Directors:
- Lucky Fung - [luckyfung88@yahoo.com](mailto:luckyfung88@yahoo.com)
- Dennis Hawkins - [idhawk@comcast.net](mailto:idhawk@comcast.net)
- George Haas - [gwhaas@comcast.net](mailto:gwhaas@comcast.net)

---

# Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai

## Membership Application

The club meets the 4th Thursday of each month\*  
at the Garden Center at Lake Merritt 7:30-9:30  
for programs and workshops

\* Excepting May, July, August and December: October and November meetings on the 3rd Thursday.

Make your check in the amount of \$25/year for an individual or \$35 for a household to BASA.

Mail with this form to:

Darren Wong, Treasurer, 2254 Tennessee Street, Vallejo, CA 94591

Please note: The roster to be mailed with the April newsletter will include names and telephone numbers, but NOT addresses. Your address will be in a separate roster given ONLY to officers and the publisher of the newsletter:

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Any suggestions you have for programs and activities for the club would be much appreciated:

---

BASA

578 Woodbine Drive

San Rafael, CA 94903