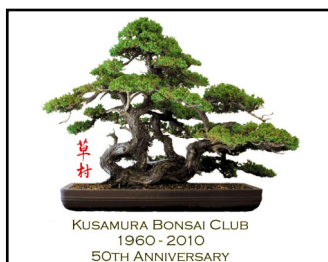


AUGUST 2010

Meeting Date:  
No regular meeting  
this month



St Mark's Episcopal Church  
600 Colorado Ave.  
Palo Alto, CA

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month  
7 pm Techniques Workshop  
8 pm General Meeting

## KUSAMURA BONSAI CLUB

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### President

Jerry Carpenter  
408.823.9525

### Vice president

Michael Greenstein

### Recording Secretary

Dave Curbow

### Treasurer

Helen Reist  
650.324.1445

### Cors. Secretary/

### Newsletter

Bang Vo

### Librarians

Ricardo Archilla, Rita Curbow

### Benefit Drawing

Mo Suresh

### Hospitality

Bang Vo

### Past President

Charlene Fischer

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jane Iki

Janet Refvem

John Planting

Stephanie North

Jim Thompson

Mark O'Brien

## The Bonsai Corner

### Refreshment

**August:** Pot Luck after the Garden Tour of August 8<sup>th</sup>. Members are encouraged to bring a dish to share at the meal located at the Planting's residence.

**September:** Dennis Abler and Richardo Archilla

### Hospitality

**August:** None

**September:** Michael Greenstein

## NO MEETING THIS MONTH!

The club is hosting a Summer Garden Tour on August 8 and a nursery visit on August 29. See below for more details.

### Summer Garden Tour and Nursery Visit

**Club Garden Tour – Sunday, August 8** – Our garden tour will be at the homes of Dave and Rita Curbow (615 Cheshire Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087), Jim Thompson (41 King Street, Redwood City, CA 94062), and John and Sandy Planting (898 Coleman Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025). The tour will begin at the Curbow residence at 1PM, move to the Thompson at 2:15PM, and end at the Planting residence by 3:30 or 4PM. Carpooling is encouraged where possible. Perishable foods should be kept on ice in coolers or if you like can be dropped off at the Curbow residence where they'll be refrigerated and brought to the Planting residence. This is a potluck event and you are encouraged to bring a dish that can be served to the group. Food will be served in the dining room and the back porch.

At the Planting's there will be an opportunity to purchase trees from Nancy Eaton's wonderful collection—recently donated to Kusamura. Please remember that is a member ONLY sale. All sales will benefit Kusamura. Helen will be taking cash and check only for purchases. The collection contains some wonderful examples of many species, excellent nebari, and trees that need some canopy work. All trees have been priced with the help of Mo, Jane, Dave, Stephanie, and Jerry.

### **Date Change: August 29, 2010 - Redwood Empire Bonsai Show and Sumigwa's Nursery Visit**

– Car pool drivers are needed, please contact Jerry Carpenter if you are willing to drive and have some room for others. We will leave from the Planting residence about 8AM to get to the nursery of Sumigawa's and then on to the show. Bring a bag lunch and plenty of liquid. No water will be available at the nursery ground. Although we have a pleasant summer this year, bring a hat and dress accordingly.

I have called Sumigwa's Nursery and since there was no water rationing the owner says her stock is up and should be in good condition. Let's give this a chance again this year and support her business.

**Why go on this trip?** This is a rare opportunity to shop for almost anything connected with bonsai. The Sumagawa Nursery has lots of interesting plants. The growing ground is a place to hunt for specimens of many common and unusual species. Some have been in cans for many years and so have girth, curves, and interesting features not available in the stock of most nurseries. Furthermore, you can only visit the growing grounds as a member of a group, not on your own.

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**GSBF Convention XXXIII** - Mark Your Calendar to attend the XXXIII Annual GSBF Convention: October 28-31, 2010 in the heart of Silicon Valley at Santa Clara, CA. Headliners include: Ryan Neil, Peter Warren, and Michael Hagedorn.

Convention Highlights:

- Demonstrations & Workshops by the headliners.
- Outstanding bazaar area with sales of great bonsai materials.
- A continuing seminar with Kathy Shaner.
- Auction and Benefit drawing of excellent bonsai materials

Workshops:

Workshops will be available throughout the convention, led by experts in their craft, with the best material possible.

- Harry Hirao
- Kats Kinoshita
- Kathy Shaner
- John Thompson
- Peter Tea
- Boon Manakitivipart
- Ted Matson
- Gordon Deeg
- Jim Gremel
- Valerie Monroe

**Club News**

**2011 Annual Show** – We have indentified a new site for our 2011 Annual show, Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94301. The show date is March 19-20, 2011. Yes it is March again! Many of our trees may still be dormant except Ume and quince. We had set the stage with the 2010 Annual Show; 2011 will be bigger and better. Jerry is asking for a show chair for next year show, we will have a team of three people. See Jerry or Michael Greenstein if you would like a particular role.

**Kusamura at GSBF Convention** – Kusamura is donating all centerpieces this year. Three members of Kusamura: Charlene Fischer, Jane Iki and Janet Refvem are working on this. They are looking for a small team of volunteer to assist. If you are interested contact Charlene or Jane. We have also been asked to provide a volunteer to act as door host. Contact Jerry if you are interested.

Kusamura will sponsor two full registrations to the 2010 Convention, a new member and a current member who has not attended an earlier convention. Names will be drawn and announced on the Club Garden Tour August 8; members need not present to win.

**Monthly Meetings** – Members are encouraged to wear their nametags at monthly meeting so visitors know who you are. If you lost your nametag, please ask Helen for a replacing one.

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**GSBF Convention 2010 XXXIII – NEW FACE OF BONSAI** (excerpt from GSBF Golden Statements)

This year theme expresses the renewal of bonsai art by the young professionals that have been trained at the feet of great Japanese bonsai masters; Michael Hagedorn, Ryan Neil, Peter Warren are the new faces of bonsai. They bring a unique blend of western perspective of bonsai with traditional Japanese teaching.

**Michael Hagedorn** – Michael Hagedorn earned his M.A. in Ceramic Art at the New York State of College of Ceramics at Alfred University. He is known for his bonsai pottery. He made bonsai containers for nine years before his apprentice to Shinji Suzuki of Nagano, Japan. Michael's bonsai work appeared in Kokufu in 2004, 2005, and 2006. While as an apprentice under Suzuki-san, he was honored to wire two trees and these trees won a Kofuku Prize and Prime Minister Award.

**Ryan Neil** – A native Colorado and fascinated with the wild and natural tortured tree on the Western slope of Rocky Mountain, Ryan Neil came to California to study at Cal Poly majoring in Horticulture Science. After reading an article on the styling of a cascading juniper by Masahiko Kimura on Bonsai Today, Ryan was hooked to the art. Through Ben Oki Ryan was able to attain a chance of apprenticeship with Kimura-san. There was a tearing-down before the building-up in his early time with Kimura. By persevering and accepting the humbling parts of his training he began to build up not only his knowledge and technique in bonsai but developed a mind set and disciplined approach to both life and bonsai.

**Peter Warren** – On a trip to Japan to see the World Cup, Peter went on a bonsai tour and fell in love with the art of bonsai. Peter was apprenticeship

## August Work Schedule

Water as many times as necessary; do not allow the soil to dry out. Pay extra attention to deciduous trees and tree that set fruit such as crab apple, persimmon, etc. Willow, wisteria and other water loving trees should be placed in a shallow tray filled with water.

Some cuttings can be made at this time of year. Materials suitable are quince, other members of the cotoneaster family.

Late August works includes cutting back this year's growth on Cork bark pine. New buds will form but will not grow until next year. Olive and Oak are OK to prune or repot as they like hot weather. Accent plants using assorted of grass materials can be made at this time. Select what's in the season. Consider combining two or more types for an interesting contrast.

## Sharp Tools, Better Results

Keeping our tools sharp is more important than it may seem at first glance: clean cuts promote fast healing of wounds, success with rooting cuttings and making grafts, and more.

under renowned bonsai master Kunio Kobayashi and earned the honored position of head apprentice. Peter conducted a number of workshops and lectures across United Kingdom and wrote a number of articles for Bonsai Focus. He served as one of the judge for the 1st National Bonsai Exhibition in New York in 2008.

The 2010 GSBF Convention activities include Vendor Evening and the District Styling Competition, Critiques, Listen and Learn, Panel Discussion, Bonsai and Suiseki Exhibit, and Seminars (see sidebar for more details).

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## July Tree Improvement Workshop

It is uncommon in Japan to have club meetings where members learn how to work on their bonsai. Instead, one typically learns by reading books and working by yourself.

At Kusamura Bonsai Club our primary goal is to teach and share how to create and improve your bonsai. We believe we learn more by working together than working alone. This is why we have created a first unique kind of workshop – Tree Improvement Workshop.

It was a successful program and thank to the expert panel of Dave Curbow, Stephanie North, Michael Greenstein, Lonnie McCormick and John Planting for sharing their knowledge and suggesting way to improve each member's collection.

One question is echoing over and over again during the workshop: What do you want to do with this tree? As we are often hasty charging in to wiring, shaping, pruning, and potting before we thought about the direction or the "road map" to the final bonsai.

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## Just In: Marco Invernizzi in November

We have asked Marco to do a workshop and a club demo on Nov 19! For many of us who started work with Marco on a tree this will be a great opportunity to catch or start something new. For new members, this is quiet a treat to spend some time with a young vibrant bonsai star. I will be taking names for the daytime workshop and we will start looking for material for the demo. Mark your calendars.

## September Meeting: Shohin

We are just beginning to put together an evening introducing **shohin** – trees under 8" tall that have many rules to follow. Beginners will be introduced to these little trees that they see at our shows. If you find these little trees" fascinating then you may be interested in a related group -- **The Shohin Society**. Many Kusamura members are also members of that club.

## Events

**Aug 28-29 Santa Rosa, California** Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS): 27th Annual Show at the Santa Rosa Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Avenue. (Opposite the Sonoma County Fairgrounds.) Hours are Saturday, 10AM-5PM and Sunday, 10AM-4PM. Over 200 trees on exhibit, large vendor area, members' sales area, raffles and a silent auction. Demonstration both days at 1:30PM by Kathy Shaner. Free admission and parking. Contact Bob Shimon at 707-884-4126 or [shimon@mcn.org](mailto:shimon@mcn.org) for further information.

**October 28-31 Santa Clara, California** Golden State Bonsai Federation Convention XXXIII: "New Face of Bonsai." The "New Faces" will shape the Art of Bonsai for years to come with the guidance and vision of these new teachers, and the GSBF 2010 will be the able to receive the new visions of bonsai and participate in the future of Bonsai. The July/Aug issue of Golden Statements will contain convention registration information. For more information visit <http://www.gsbfcconvention.com>