



CHINA TRADE BONSAI SOCIETY

<http://www.chinatradebonsaisociety.org/>

Monthly Meetings: 1st Wednesday of each month, March-November 6-8pm at the Connecticut College Arboretum, New London Hall. Visitors Welcome! For further information contact Tom Lee (President) at twcl@comcast.net

November 2005

China Trade Bonsai Society

Officers:

President – Tom Lee
 Vice-President – Steve Tomicheck
 Secretary – Joe Purtil
 Treasurer – Alice Kuo

Points of Contact:

Programs – Tom Lee
 Publicity – Susan Carucci
 Operations – Steve Tomicheck
 Webmaster – Robert Sant / Evan Kent
 Photography and Newsletter – Robert Sant / Joe McGinnis
 Hospitality – Carol Gazso
 Connecticut College Liaison – Jeff Smith

Extreme Bonsai Makeover – Kenji Style



Kenji Miyata - October 2005

Almost a year to the day since his last visit, Master Kenji Miyata again graced the China Trade Bonsai Society with an exhibition of his unique style. This year's demonstration included the restyling of an old garden juniper followed by critique and makeover for some of our member's trees.

The garden juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* var. *procumbens* 'Nana') was somewhere between fifteen and twenty years of age, and he selected this tree because of its taper and movement potential.

At first glance these characteristics were extremely difficult to see. It was styled with an extreme slant, the trunk almost parallel to the ground. Foliage hid much of the serpentine movement starting a few inches above the roots. In general, a forgettable specimen.



Garden Juniper - Before



Changing the angle and choosing the front

Kenji set out to change this impression by first, choosing a front based on the best view of the trunk's movement, and then raising its angle roughly 30 degrees. Next, he removed much of the heavy foliage, to show what was previously hidden.

In just about an hour, Kenji transformed the above bush to the bonsai shown beneath it. The key, explains Kenji, is to find and show the beautiful pieces. To do this, use the minimum required branches to express the feeling of the tree. He estimates about three years and this tree will be ready for exhibition.



Garden Juniper - After



After completing his primary demonstration, he turned to a few of the member's trees to offer critique and restyling. One of the trees was David's Shimpaku Juniper. By changing the angle of a few branches, he created a much more dramatic tree.

This Month

Tom Lee will be providing his experience with the use and care of bonsai hand tools. Anyone who has an unusual tool used for bonsai, please bring it in to discuss with the group. **(Meeting location move to upstairs laboratory)**

Club Elections

During October's meeting, it was proposed and seconded to maintain the current President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary for the upcoming year.

Anyone else interested in one of the elected positions please contact the Secretary, Joe Purtill, or in his absence, Rob Sant.

Elections will be conducted during November's meeting. All members are strongly encouraged to attend and vote.

From the Editor

I am pleased to announce that David Bridges has volunteered to accept the duties as your newsletter editor!

I would like to express my thanks to the members of the China Trade Bonsai Society for their support in making this club what it is. I have received numerous kudo's from folks all over (both inside and out of our organization), but none of it would be possible if not for the excellent programs and member participation.

As we transition over the next couple of months, please give David the same support you have given me.

It has been an honor,
Rob

Club Calendar

- **November 2, 2005** - Bonsai Tools: Care and Use with Tom Lee, Club Elections and Member's Auction (Meeting location moved to upstairs laboratory)
- **December 7, 2005** - Christmas Party (Members and family please bring a treat and an item (approx. \$10. value) for Yankee swap.)

Member's Auction!

After this month's meeting, we will have a member's auction (80/20 rule applies). Members, please bring in any bonsai related items for the auction. This benefits both members purchasing and selling as well as a benefit to the club.

Tree Care for the Month of November

November brings the last vestiges of fall as the final leaves on our deciduous bonsai fall. The beginning of the month averages highs in the upper 50's, dropping into the 30's at night. By the end of the month, daytime highs will occasionally hit 50, but nighttime freezing temperatures will not be uncommon.

- As trees finish going dormant, prepare them for winter storage by removing dead leaves, fruit, seeds etc. Guard against cold winds, frost and snowstorms.
- Water less; however do not allow trees to dry out. Do not water bonsai if frozen!
- This is a good month to start needle plucking on two-needle pines.
- Wiring is not encouraged since as trees go dormant they become more brittle. Continue to remove wires from deciduous trees if they are starting to cut into the bark.
- No fertilizing or transplanting this month (exception being moving trees into winter storage boxes).
- Remove any remaining fruits and seedpods. Clean up leaves from around the base of Bonsai to prevent unwanted fungus from occurring.