



Holiday Party!



January 27th
Help set up at 5:30
Party begins at 6:00
Dinner at 6:30
Malachite sale and Raffle after that !!

Come on the 4th Wednesday, to celebrate the end of another amazing year and the beginning of a new one. Remember this is a **potluck** so bring a favorite dish to share and utensils with which to serve it. The club will provide all the soft drinks, plates, napkins, flatware, etc., but please bring your appetite and....

Party Raffle



Remember, this is our annual fundraiser. Please donate anything you think will be appreciated by your fellow club members and be ready to buy lots of raffle tickets.



The raffle is a great way to help support all of our club activities. It is also a lot of fun! (You must be a member to participate in the club raffle.) And speaking of supporting our club activities....It is that time of year again...



Dues are Due

This is a request to you kind folks who get the hard copy of the newsletter who have a computer and could easily be *e-subscribers* to please rethink your membership needs. The more of you who are *e-subscribers*, the better for all. We hope you will decide to go green. Save a tree and our precious resources. (If you are saving the newsletter, you can always print it out yourself.) No matter what, we really appreciate your continued support. Thank you.

Please send \$10 payable to California Aiseki Kai
c/o Nina Ragle
P.O. Box 4975
Laguna Beach, CA 92652-4975

Our 26th Exhibition

Our exhibit was a huge success. In addition to the beautiful arrangement of viewing stones, all the positive feedback and excellent participation, we gained 28 new members!

Marge Blasingame and her crew made quick work at set up, **Jim Greaves** and **Don Kruger** worked their wonders curating the exhibit, **Linda Gill** and her many volunteers supplied the needed docents and security, **Marty Hagbery** worked the entrance making sure that all The Huntington visitors knew just how to find us and **Kit Blaemire**, who supplied all the labels, worked the reception table everyday, welcoming guests and selling pamphlets and recording the proceeds precisely. The club provided a variety of lunches and beverages everyday. **Marge** and her helpers managed to get everything back in storage before the rains hit on Monday. Yes, by any standard, 2016 is getting off to great start!

Throughout the run of our exhibit, **Jim** was wearing two hats, again. He put together another sensational exhibit on thematic displays in the Ikebana House. It was well received and the perfect complement to our exhibit.

We have just one hiccup. Your editor, **Nina**, was totally uninspired (and maybe tired, too) this month, the first time in 10 years; we have decided to cut her some slack. She promises a proper newsletter next month (which will include photos of our exhibit). Accept this "meeting notice" with her apologies.

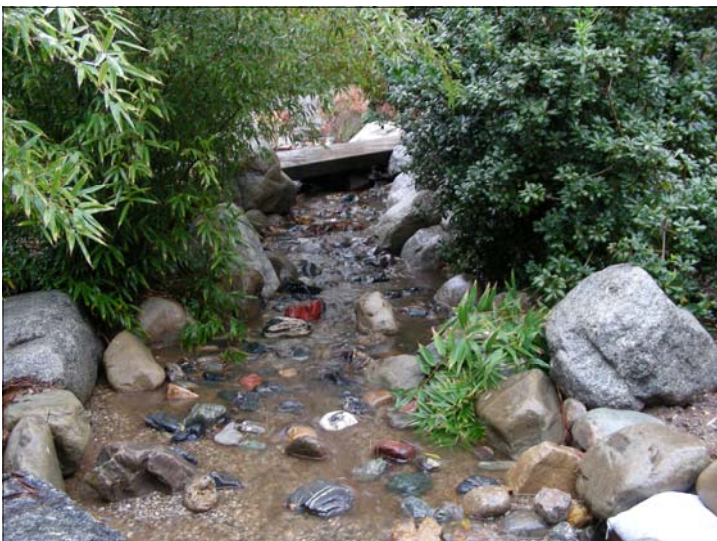
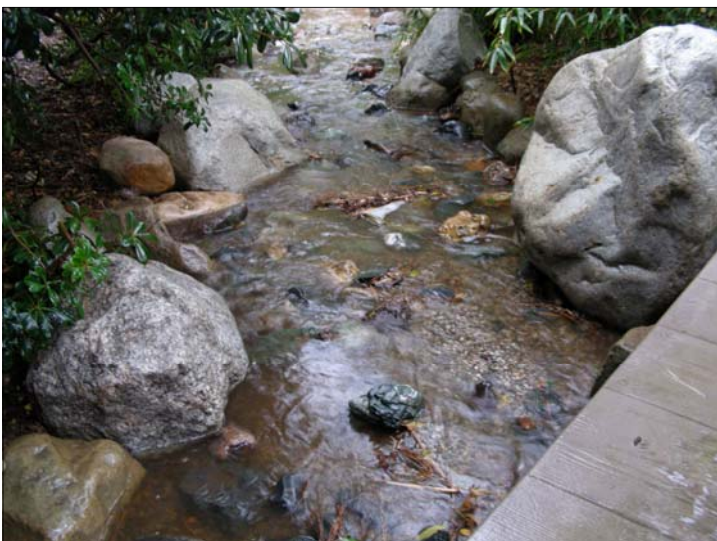
Bring your check books to the holiday party!!!

We will have fabulous examples from the Ralph Johnson Malachite Collection available for sale.

Make no mistake, this is a special opportunity you will not want to miss ... lest you turn malachite green with envy at what others were able to purchase.

~Larry Ragle

El Nino slams The Huntington



Reporting from the Front ...err, Back lot:

The first deluge from El Nino provided an awesome, inspiring moment on January 6th as it transformed the developing children’s collecting stream at The Huntington from a dry wash to an authentic raging river. The site had been chosen to capture the run-off from the access road behind the Ikebana House and divert it along the streambed to an underground catch basin. It did its job and, as hoped, wet the stones in the process, but with an unexpected bonus: the amount of water had sufficient force to shift the stones and actually transport some downstream to begin the formation of natural bars.

The photos reveal some of our unique geological assemblage that currently consists of stones from at least nine California Rivers. Note that much of the brilliant color came from **Don Dupras** and **Robert McKenzie** of Sacramento – **Bob** has set aside another truckload for delivery later this year and **Ken McLeod** has promised a minor hill’s worth. Another recent infusion of stones from northern rivers has just arrived by way of **Harry Hirao**’s backyard ... We may be reaching the point where we will have to erect some true-to-life barbed wire fences to keep local poachers out! In the meantime, be warned that we have embedded microchips in the red and yellow stones.

However we still have the three main projected sections of the stream to fill so the next time the rains hit, we hope you will don your slickers and make use of the opportunity to scan your yard and set aside the ‘leaverite’, and ‘I’ll-never-get-around-to-making-that-*daiza*’ stones. Perhaps we will be able to seed another section of the streambed prior to the coming Bonsai-a-thon at the end of February ... and if it is still raining, see it in living color!

Before we officially incorporate the ‘River/stream’ into The Huntington – AVSRC programs, we would like to consider your suggestions and/or opinions with regard to a final identifying name. To date, ‘River of Awakening’, ‘River of Discovery’, ‘River of Dreams’, ‘Stream of Dreams’, ‘*Aiseki-gawa*’ and ‘*Tanseki-gawa*’ have been suggested. Maybe something more pedestrian such as ‘The Creek’ might be preferable? Give us your thoughts! But we must decide relatively soon because interest in the stream’s potential is stirring in the Front Office.

Singin’ in the rain,

Guy Jim

The 1 inch wide inner margins are designed for use with a 3 hole punch.



Bonsai-a-thon XX

February 27-28, 2016

Don't miss this chance to help support the Southern California Bonsai and Viewing Stone Collection



The Huntington Library,
Art Collections and
Botanical Gardens

Brody Botanical Center,
1151 Oxford Road, San
Marino, California

8:00–9:30 Early Bird Registration for Bonsai / Suiseki-Club Members Only: Pancake breakfast available.

8:00–5:00 Extensive Bazaar Area: Select vendors selling top-quality tools, viewing stones, pots and trees (raw material to display-ready); masterpiece trees on display.

8:00–5:00 Bonsai Exhibit: By the Orange County Bonsai Society and Orange Empire Bonsai Society.

10:00-11:30 Guided Tours: Led by Jim Folsom, Director of The Huntington Botanical Gardens.

10:00–2:45 Demonstrations: Initial training and advanced styling techniques by experts. Tak Shamizu - Jason Chan - Tom Vuong - Michael Sykes - Peter Macasieb - Ken Fuentes - Charles Mashburn-OCBS - Paul Minerich-OEBS

11:30-1:30 Lunch: Hotdogs and hamburgers available.

2:00-2:45 Dr. Earth: Organic Fertilizer Seminar. **Saturday only.**

3:00-4:30 Daily Benefit Drawing & Live Auction: Demonstrations and donated viewing stones, trees, pots, tools and more.

9:30 Behind the Scenes Tour of The Huntington Bonsai Nursery – Led by Ted Matson, Curator of the GSBF Collection at The Huntington, **Sunday only.**

For updates, check their website:
www.gsbfhuntington.com

NEWS FLASH: We anticipate a sale/auction of stones from the **Harry Hirao** Collection. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity!

Details are still being worked out for the sale of important pieces from the Ralph Johnson Collection. Stay tuned...

Please help support the Southern California Bonsai and Viewing Stone Collection at The Huntington.
They have always been there for us.... We need to be there for them!

California Aiseki Kai meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Nakaoka Community Center located at 1670 W. 162nd St, Gardena, CA. Second floor. We do not meet in Nov-Dec.

Contact People

Programs: Larry Ragle	949.497.5626	crimescene@cox.net
Treasury/Membership: Nina Ragle	949.497.5626	ragle@cox.net
Annual Exhibit: Jim Greaves	310.452.3680	jimgreaves@roadrunner.com
Exhibit Set Up: Marge Blasingame	626.579.0420	margeblasingame@att.net
Refreshments: Janet Shimizu	310-822-6012	janet.shimizu46@gmail.com
Beverages: Phil Hogan	626-256-4609	pkhinkalif@gmail.com
Historian: Ray Yeager	760.365.7897	ryeager890@aol.com
Webmail: Chris Cochran	804-918-4636	sashaichris@gmail.com



Newsletter Committee

January Contributors: Jim Greaves, Larry Ragle.
Mailing: Flash Partch
Editor: Nina Ragle

We hope you will participate. Please send any submissions to ragle@cox.net no more than 10 days following our monthly meeting. Thank you!

Ragle
P.O. Box 4975
Laguna Beach CA 92652

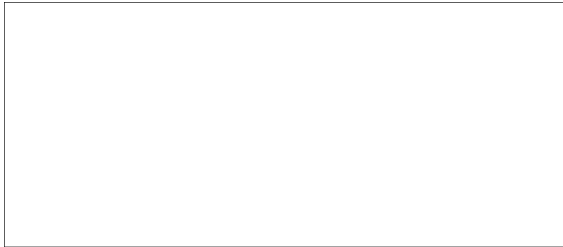
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Leaves no stone unturned

See our website:

aisekikai.com



Coming Events

BAIKOEN BONSAI KENKYUKAI

Winter Silhouettes, January 16-17 at the LA Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. 10-4:30. Demos both days. Beautiful deciduous trees. Sales. CA Aiseki Kai display. Reception January 16th, 6:00. Food, fun and raffle.

BONSAI-A-THON XX

GSBF Collection at the Huntington Fundraiser, Feb 27-28, Huntington Botanical Center, 1151 Oxford Road., San Marino, 8:00-4:30. This is a fundraiser so bring donations! Please continue to support the Southern California Bonsai and Viewing Stone Collection. For more information: **Bill Wawrychuk**, B_wawrychuk@yahoo.com, 818-790-9415
Details: see page 3. Updates: gsbfhuntington.com

Freeman Wang 626-524-5021

Suiseki-Viewing Stone Sale
stores.ebay.com/thestoneking

Always check Golden Statements Magazine
Calendar section for additional coming events

Dues are Due. Become an e~subscriber and save a tree: Send \$10 to CA Aiseki Kai c/o Nina Ragle, P.O. Box 4975, Laguna Beach, CA 92652-4975.

Stone Sales Ken McLeod

209-605-9386 or 209 586-2882
suisekiken@sbcglobal.net ~ californiasuiseki.com

Refreshments

We are looking forward to all the lovely, waist expanding goodies you will bring to our Annual Holiday Party. In addition to your favorite dish, please bring a serving utensil and your appetite. Please sign up with our refreshment chair, **Janet Shimizu**, for the 2016 snack buffets. What would a meeting be without a major calorie break?

