



November 2016

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Toki metal workshop: We had a fabulous workshop given by John Toki on Saturday October 28th. John provided all the raw materials and the participants made two or more metal structures. The creativity was truly amazing. John's critique of each individual piece was most insightful, providing us with a different way of looking at the work. Our thanks to John and his staff for their help and encouragement. Also, thank you to Joan *Yusui* Suzuki, whose long association with the Toki family, enabled us to present this workshop. Pictures from the workshop have been uploaded to our website and Facebook.

Future Programs: .

December 3, 2016 – Our December program will be held at the Alameda Buddhist Church. Karen Zakaria will lead a Kokedama workshop. Kokedama is the art of creating “moss balls”, a new gardening trend from Japan that was recently featured in Sunset magazine. Her workshop begins at 10 and ends at noon. Workshop fee is \$30.00 and will include all materials and succulents. You will go home with 2 gift quality Kokedama, one of which will be a hanging style.

At 12 noon, we will have a potluck lunch. This will be a time to relax and be with your Sogetsu friends.

At 1 pm, we will have a “Container Exchange”. You may bring gently used containers that you are no longer using, offer them for sale and bid on another container that you just have to add to your collection. The Board asks that 20% of the sale price be donated back to the Branch by the original owner of the container. We will have several rounds so that everyone has a change to bid on containers. Also, if you have other Ikebana supplies you would like to “exchange”, please bring those, as well. **If you cannot attend the workshop, please feel free to join us only for lunch and the “exchange”.**

January 28, 2017 – New Year's Luncheon at Agenzen Japanese Restaurant in Millbrae. This is a very good restaurant with a private room. Price for the luncheon is \$45.00. More details to be announced.

March 25, 2017 – Annual General meeting and Text Book #5 workshop. Further details and location to be announced.

NOTICE OF UPCOMING EVENTS: Commencing in January, this new section of the Newsletter will be devoted to events that members of our branch are participating in; including exhibitions and demonstrations. I ask you let me know of upcoming events that you are involved in. The newsletter comes out every two months, so please give me a three-month lead time to include your event. I would encourage our Branch members, when possible, to attend these events and lend their support.

The Holiday Season is upon us. In this hectic time, don't forget that an Ikebana arrangement can offer a sense of calm and peace, not only for you but for the people you will be sharing the Holidays with.

Travel safely. I wish you all peace and joy.

Ron Brown - Director
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