

Marge Blasingame



Marge was a renaissance woman who participated and excelled in many endeavors including bonsai, suiseki, ceramics, leather tooling, and woodworking. Sadly, she passed away just before Christmas at age 87.

Marge began bonsai classes with Melba Tucker in 1987. One year later, she joined Ted Matson's first class. When Melba stopped teaching, Marge took lessons from Jim Barrett. She gravitated towards shohin trees and the material she preferred to work on were junipers and elms. The shohin juniper below is one of several she donated to The

Huntington. Marge also studied with Kathy Boehme to create her own pots for her trees.

Marge joined bonsai clubs including Santa Anita, California Bonsai Society, Kofu Kai, and Baikoen and actively contributed to them. She was the exhibit chair and club historian to CBS as well as a GSBF board member and Bonsai-A-Thon chair. She put her woodworking skills to good use when she made backdrop risers for Santa Anita, CBS, and Aiseki Kai (suiseki club).

Marge joined Aiseki Kai to hunt for stones as accents for her bonsai displays. She would drive four hours to the desert, spent the day looking for stones, and then drive home to feed her horses and other animals. Later, she'd go for a ride on one of her horses, using the Western-style saddle and bridle she'd made and intricately tooled. For many years, she was also the show chair of Aiseki Kai.

Marge will be remembered as a multi-talented artist by all who were fortunate enough to know her.

