



# Southeastern U.S. Ohara Chapter

Newsletter Autumn 2017

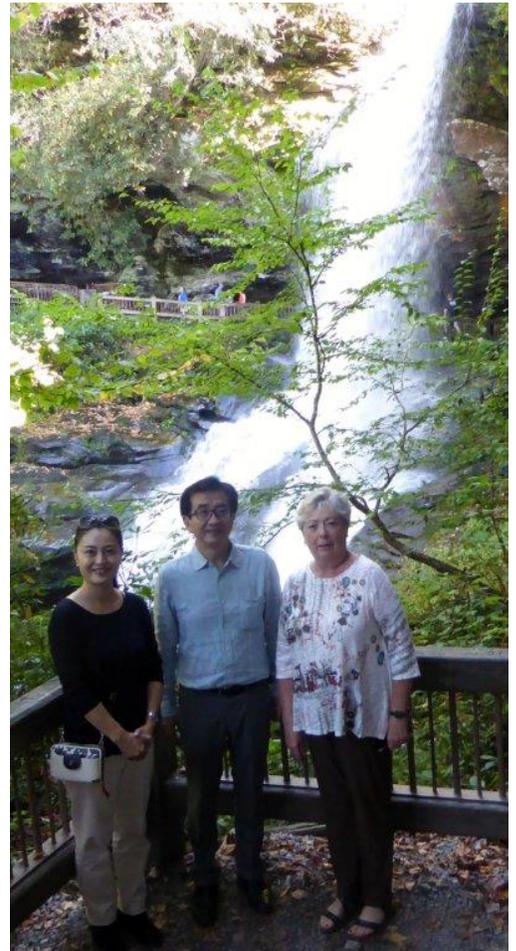
Dear Fellow  
Chapter Members,

First, I want to say “thank you” to all members past and present for our wonderful Chapter. Many years and many members have come and gone but the Southeastern U.S. Ohara Chapter is thriving! This year has been phenomenal. In July we enjoyed having Grand Master Betty Fuller Taylor as our sensei and in September we had the pleasure of instruction from Associate Professor Akihiro Nishi of the Council of Ohara Professors.

Nishi sensei was very complimentary of our members in that we “arrange in the Ohara way.” I know you’ve heard Grand Master Taylor refer to this. We all learned so much from him including changes in the Hana – kanade arrangement. We also learned what is “no good.” During his time in Highlands he visited Dry Falls and viewed Whiteside Mountain. He was reminded of Japan. He felt very comfortable during his time with us and particularly enjoyed the food, especially hush puppies and grits. I am thrilled to tell you he is returning in July 2018 for the summer seminar.

Grand Master Taylor was our special guest at the autumn seminar. It is always wonderful to spend time with her. Too bad we can’t learn through osmosis.

Our seminar co-chairs, Julia VanHuss and Marcia Wright did an outstanding job. This was their first seminar and they handled everything



**Toshie Hall, Associate Professor Nishi,  
Susan Thorpe at Dry Falls**

beautifully. It is a tremendous amount of work to host our seminars. Like a travelling circus, we build it and take it down in four days all the while learning, laughing and always eating. Thank you Julia and Marcia for a job well done.

Our new member Toshie Hall was so helpful to me and Nishi sensei. We also welcomed our other new member, Fay Charlesworth. Yes, that's two new members this year. Welcome Fay and Toshie.

I will be appointing a nominating chair soon as we will be electing new officers in July 2018. The slate of officers goes to Japan in February 2018.

The current board is writing a Handbook which is mentioned in our Constitution and Bylaws. It will describe the duties of board and committee members. We are planning to have this done and sent to members in the spring of 2018.

It takes pride, dedication and determination to have such a fabulous chapter. I am honored to be a part of it.

Sincerely yours,  
Susan  
Susan H. Thorpe, President

P.S. I borrowed 'travelling circus' from  
Beth Bowers-Klaine



## Members in the News



**Karen LaFleur-Stewart**  
photo courtesy of Patti Quinn Hill

Ikebana International Asheville Chapter #74

**The Joy of Baskets- Three Schools of Thought: Ohara, Ichiyo and Sogetsu**

[www.ikebanaasheville.org](http://www.ikebanaasheville.org)



**Diane Harker**  
photo courtesy of Patti Quinn Hill

## Seminar News

The Autumn 2017 Seminar was a delightful but challenging experience. More than a few of our plant materials came with substitutes that were not suitable for the lessons we planned. Our esteemed Nishi Sensei recognized the difficulties we faced at once, and proved to be expertly adept at improvising solutions.

Sensei looked around for plant materials in the neighborhood seeking suitable substitutions. After spotting red and green maple growing out front, he relaxed at once. Then, at the back of the building we showed him a majestic oriental bittersweet loaded with fall berries growing alongside the garbage bins. Seemingly, our troubles instantly turned into triumph, for bittersweet turned out to be the star of Sensei's extraordinary exhibition style Rimpa arrangement that he made on the final day of the seminar.

Having found materials to his liking, Sensei then set about the task of correctly combining our useable plant materials to satisfy lesson specifications and still be gloriously pleasing. At times our choice of materials seemed abundant, but in the next go-round they would feel somewhat limited, particularly if Sensei declared some "no good" as opposed to "good".

Despite the many adjustments, the Helping Hand teams took Sensei's changes in stride and we participants remained unflappable and proudly rose to the occasion. By willingly substituting some materials and reusing others twice or even three times, we put together gorgeous arrangements.

Marcia and Julia were truly grateful to all involved, knowing that had it not been for the behind the scenes work and tremendously "can do" attitude of the SEO and Associate Professor Nishi Sensei, things might have turned out very differently indeed.

Below is a description of our six lessons and notes and comments on the substitutions that were made.

Summer 2018 Seminar dates are July 26, 27, and 28. We are thrilled that Associate Professor Nishi has already accepted our Chapter's invitation to return for the July 2018 Seminar. See you then!

Marcia and Julia





**Hana-isho, Advanced, Radial Form, Multi-Sided - Low Bowl**

**Lesson #1  
Hana-isho, Advanced, Radial Form,  
Multi-Sided – Low Bowl**

Materials ordered:

Calathea Leaves “Insignis”,  
Dendrobium Orchid Sprays,  
Anthurium – Tulip “Lady Beth”,  
Chamelaucium Waxflower,  
Leatherleaf Fern

The Calathea Leaves we received

were short and wide – not the “Insignis” we ordered, and Sensei’s verdict was “no good”. He settled on Sword Fern instead as the secondary, and chose to use the 3 Calathea Leaves as filler. Sensei highly approved of the burgundy Dendrobium orchid sprays and referred to them affectionately by their hybrid name, Sharry Baby.

The third picture in the workbook illustrating the multi-sided radial form was done by Nishi Sensei and published in Soka.

**Lesson #2  
Hana-kanade**

Materials ordered:

Mitusmata – Dried- Bleached White, Pink Oriental Lily,  
Phormium Blade, Alstroemeria – Pink and White, Red tipped Photinia

Our floral order specified in bold letters NOT STARGAZERS (two of us have allergies) and unbelievably we got Stargazers anyway. Rather than being a strong pink they were much too similar to the light pink and white Alstroemeria we received. Sensei omitted the Alstroemeria entirely, and used the Stargazers at the base instead. He also chose to use two branches of Mitusmata as both subject and object and the lily as the secondary. Members supplied Photinia branches but as the tips were not red, Leatherleaf Fern was substituted as it was lighter in feeling and thus more suitable at the base.



**Hana-Kanade**

Sensei made two Hana-Kanade arrangements for us to see how the object branch in one can be placed low. In the other arrangement the subject branch was placed higher than we have previously seen. He explained that this is the way they are done now in Japan.

### Lesson #3

#### Moribana, Color Scheme – Color Method, Water Reflecting Style

Materials ordered:

Azalea Branches, Yellow Fuji Mums, Asparagus “Tree Fern”

Sensei preferred two materials and used only the Azalea and Mums. The Asparagus Fern was not the type we ordered. We were asked to save the Fuji Mums for later use.



**Moribana, Color Scheme - Color Method, Water Reflecting Style**

### Lesson #4

#### Moribana, Landscape, Realistic Method, Near View – Five Variety and Three Variety

Materials ordered:

Blueberry Branches, Cynara Scolymus (Thistle),  
Lycopodium “Turkey Toes”

Sensei preferred that we complete a near rather than middle view landscape, and suggested we reuse Azalea instead of Blueberry. Alice Bullock had again provided tons of Blueberry for us, but most of her stand has begun to grow straight up after being ravaged the past few years by deer. For his demonstration of using three materials, Sensei chose Azalea, Astrolemaria (instead of thistle which came in looking like artichokes), and Tree Fern. Finding a few free-



**Landscape - Near View - Five Variety**



Landscape - Near View - Three Variety

flowering branches of Blueberry he arranged a landscape using 5 materials that included, Bittersweet, Solidago, Leatherleaf Fern and Lycopodium. Rather than tying Lycopodium (Turkey Toes) in bundles, he used it singly to replicate the water's edge.

**Lesson #5**  
**Rimpa**

Materials ordered:

Celosia, Pheasant Feathers, Miscanthus Plumes, Chrysanthemum x morifolium, Leatherleaf Fern.

The Celosia we received was fasciated but still gorgeous when it came in. But, by Saturday the leaves had lost their glory, leaving us determined to reinstate the one-time use of sterno cups for conditioning even though they are flammable and cannot be safely stored. The Chrysanthemum x morifolium was glorious, was exactly what we ordered, and Sensei pronounced it as "good".

Sensei set aside the Pheasant Feathers as more appropriate for Morimono and reused the yellow Fuji Mums instead. He happily used the local Miscanthus Plumes and 5 stems of the Celosia but substituted green maple leaves for the Leatherleaf Fern, saying that green maple as a filler was good when doing Rimpa.

Nishi Sensei chose a sodeshi container for his Rimpa. He noted that when using 3 fan containers black is the best choice for a Rimpa, while white containers are best for Hana-isho and color scheme-color method arrangements.



Rimpa

While we worked, Sensei put together a spectacular exhibition Rimpa in a second sodeshi using soaring stems of oriental bittersweet, Chrysanthemum x morifolium, yellow Fuji Mums, Miscanthus Plumes and green maple leaves.

**Lesson #6**  
**Morimono**

Materials ordered: “Safari Sunrise” Asiatic Lily, Yellow Solidago, Sword Fern

Sensei preferred our not using lilies or Sword Fern in autumn, and suggested using whatever we had left over with Solidago unless the “Safari Sunrise” lily was all that was to be had. Sensei himself reused the Sharry Baby orchids and Calathea Leaves as well as a spectacular local lichen branch and huge fungi, both supplied by SEO members.

Using a dressy wooden board with a cup kenzan, Sensei arranged the dendrobium Sharry Baby high with Calathea Leaf as the filler and Pheasant Feathers flowing to the right, then placed the tip of the lichen branch against the board and let it extend backwards from the left side. Next, he “piled up” his remaining materials of fungi, fruit and gourds. When finished, Sensei identified rough subject, secondary and object areas, noting them as organizing guidelines but not rules.

Sensei’s finished Morimono was breathtaking and made for a splendidly impressive ending for the Autumn 2017 Seminar. Along with his marvelous teaching, Sensei demonstrated for us that resourcefulness and ingenuity are a huge component of successful Ikebana techniques. Thank you, Nishi Sensei, for your instruction and cordiality. We look forward to seeing you again in Highlands this coming summer!



**Bunjin - Morimono**

## Upcoming Events & Programs

**Summer Seminar  
July 26, 27, 28, 2018**

***Akihiro Nishi***

**Associate Professor of the Council of  
Ohara Professors**

**Autumn Seminar  
September 27, 28, 29, 2018**

***Jose Salcedo***

**First Degree Master**

## Directory of Ohara Teachers

Louise Bennett  
Dayton, Ohio  
937-439-9123  
[ronloubnt@gmail.com](mailto:ronloubnt@gmail.com)  
Teaching, Demonstrations &  
Seminars

Beth Bowers-Klaine  
Batavia, Ohio (Cincinnati)  
513-377-2413  
[Beth.klaine@gmail.com](mailto:Beth.klaine@gmail.com)  
Teaching

Alice Buch  
Arlington, Virginia  
703-524-4055  
[alicesbuch@verizon.net](mailto:alicesbuch@verizon.net)  
Contract directly for information

Karen Chevrotee  
Leland, North Carolina  
901-383-3456  
[Karen@wilmingtonsouthrealty.com](mailto:Karen@wilmingtonsouthrealty.com)  
Teaching

Diane Harker  
Travelers Rest, South Carolina  
864-836-6525  
[diharker@aol.com](mailto:diharker@aol.com)  
Demonstrations & Teaching

Beverly Maurer  
Wilmington, North Carolina  
910-256-4046  
[bevwillm@bellsouth.net](mailto:bevwillm@bellsouth.net)  
Teaches in home selected Fridays  
at 10:00 am

Judy Melton  
Tryon, North Carolina  
864-654-0657  
[jmlton@clemsun.edu](mailto:jmlton@clemsun.edu)  
Teaching

Linda Taylor  
Sperryville, VA  
504-987-3100  
[lintay@verizon.net](mailto:lintay@verizon.net)  
Teaching and Demonstrating

Susan Thorpe  
St Petersburg, Florida  
727-515-1497  
[shthorpe@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:shthorpe@tampabay.rr.com)  
Teaching and Demonstrations

Julia VanHuss  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
704-366-2504  
[70tude@gmail.com](mailto:70tude@gmail.com)  
Teaches in home selected  
Wednesdays

Sibbie Wilson  
Franklin, North Carolina  
828-524-1281  
[sibbiwilson@frontier.com](mailto:sibbiwilson@frontier.com)  
Teaching, Workshops,  
Demonstrations, Exhibition  
Contact directly

# Ohara Reference Page

## Corrections, Additions and Notifications of Events

Please submit to Elizabeth Clark  
Newsletter Chair  
[jeclark80@me.com](mailto:jeclark80@me.com)

Or mail to:

19415 South Lakeway Ave  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810

## Our WEBSITE:

<http://seohara.org>

## Ohara School of Ikebana

Website:  
<http://www.ohararyu.or.jp/english>

Email: [international@ohararyu.or.jp](mailto:international@ohararyu.or.jp)

International Division  
Ohara Center of Tokyo  
7-17, Minami-Aoyama  
5-chome  
Minako-ku, Tokyo  
107-8607 Japan  
Phone: 03-5774-5097

Ohara Chapters in Our Area  
North Carolina:  
*Southeastern U.S. Ohara Chapter*  
Susan Thorpe  
[shthorpe@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:shthorpe@tampabay.rr.com)  
<http://seohara.org>

Ohio:  
*Miami Valley Chapter, USA*  
Louise Bennett  
[ronloubnt@gmail.com](mailto:ronloubnt@gmail.com)  
Facebook: Miami Valley Chapter  
Ohara Ikebana

*Northern Ohio Chapter, USA*  
Mikiko Fujita  
[mikko3110@gmail.com](mailto:mikko3110@gmail.com)

Pennsylvania  
*Delaware Valley Chapter, USA*  
Kyungja Kim  
[kyungokim7@gmail.com](mailto:kyungokim7@gmail.com)

*Pittsburgh Chapter, USA*  
Marilyn Berry  
[mjberry36@yahoo.com](mailto:mjberry36@yahoo.com)  
Facebook: Ohara School of  
Ikebana Pittsburg Chapter

Texas  
*Houston Chapter, USA*  
Susan Flanagan  
[flana@sbcglobal.net](mailto:flana@sbcglobal.net)

Washington D.C.  
*Ohara School of Ikebana*  
*Washington DC Area Chapter*  
Betty Fuller Taylor  
[taylorbettyf@gmail.com](mailto:taylorbettyf@gmail.com)

# Lagniappe: A little something EXTRA



***Behind the scene photos taken at the Southeastern U. S. Ohara Chapter, Autumn Seminar 2017***

