

October Bonsai Activities

As the weather finally begins to cool down and our trees prepare themselves for winter there is lots for us to think about and do for them to make sure health and growth are strong for the next year. Be sure to take advantage of the many opportunities our club and the Bay Area offer to learn best practices and new techniques.

Peter Tea joins us for the October program on the 4th at 7:00 to talk about development of junipers. He will bring examples of trees in different stages and refresh our memories on their development. Peter will also talk about some basic design concepts and developing the mindset to be creative in styling our trees.

Chris Ross and John Doig will anchor our October workshop where members can bring in trees for review, advice and work among like minded souls on the third Tuesday, October 18.

Beyond our Marin club there will be a great bonsai show and demonstration at the East Bay Bonsai Club in Oakland October 8-9. You can check out details [here](#). And at the end of the month is the annual convention in Sacramento hosted by the Golden State Bonsai Federation on October 27-30. Even if you just go up for the day you will see amazing bonsai, great suiseki and lots of vendors from Southern California who rarely come north, so it would be a day entertainingly and productively spent. Organize a carpool and make a day of it. You won't be sorry.



Peter Tea

Peter Tea will continue his popular series of lectures and demonstrations at our meeting October 4, 7:00 at the Marin Art and Garden Center. The program is on the development of junipers and Peter has lots to talk about. He will bring in examples of trees in various stages, giving us opportunities to compare, contrast and evaluate progress on our own trees. Peter is a club favorite and attendees are guaranteed to learn a lot.

Suggested donation for the program is \$5.



President's Message

Our president is very busy these days with a new addition to his family. I'm sure if he had a moment he would be sending out an inspiring message, encouraging members to have fun with their trees and keep learning. It's what keeps us young. Rumor has it that he has negotiated another discount for club members at the Columbia outlet in Richmond. More on that if the rumors prove accurate.



Last month's Demo

Randall Lee presented an informative program on Hinoki Cypress in September. George Haas has written a terrific review which you can read on our [website](#). Here are a few excerpts . . .

Randall described the trees as relatively free of pests and diseases. Sometimes leaf eating caterpillars and thrips will attack when the tree is stressed. Root rot can occur under certain conditions: inconsistent watering, overwatering, if pot overheats and roots die and then gets overwatered. Hinoki like full sun, but benefit from shade cloth to prevent sun burn on the foliage. This also keeps the pot from getting too hot and prevents root death. After pruning, . . . it's a good practice to place the tree in part shade for a few days. Mist or spray foliage, since they come from an area with summer rain.

A big challenge with Hinoki Cypress is keeping the foliage alive on the inner branches next to the trunk. This is especially difficult for shohin size trees. If you manage to grow a large trunk with taper, the small branches get shaded out and die.

Dan Keller was the lucky winner of the demo tree.