

# Marin Bonsai Club

June 2017



## President's Message

I recently returned from attending the 8<sup>th</sup> World Bonsai Convention in Saitama City, Japan, April 27 -30, 2017. Needless to say, I had a great time. The convention boasted 40,000 to 45,000 people in attendance for the three and half day event. The exhibits of bonsai and suiseki were grand. For those who have Facebook pages, I posted many tour days and photos. I am preparing a photo story for our website to share the best. The convention takes place every four years, and the next one will be hosted by the City of Perth, Australia in 2021. It will take 28 years for Japan to host another convention. Many of today's masters will not see it in Japan again. That is one reason this year's convention was really over the top in the host City of Saitama.

Now, something really important is just one month from now. It's the annual bonsai show at the Marin County Fair, June 30 through July 4. This is the time of the year the club members really pull together to promote our club in the best possible way through the display of our bonsai. Please prepare your trees

to show their best. Sign up for multiple docent shifts if possible. We need as many volunteers as we can muster. The Fair is always so much fun; we get to promote the Marin Bonsai Club, sign up individuals for the beginners' bonsai class and auction following the Fair, all of which attracts new members. Our bonsai exhibit is a big draw among Fair-goers and we need to make this one another standout. I hope everyone will lend their support.

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Please continue to commit to attending the club workshops early and be sure to RSVP by the Friday before so that the club knows we'll have a minimum of five members in attendance, otherwise we will have to cancel. The next workshop on June 20 will be ideal for readying your bonsai for the Marin County Fair.

I hope to see all of you at our next gathering,

***George***

## **It's Fair Time!!**

This really is the highlight of our bonsai year, and if you've ever been a docent before then you know that it is a lot of fun. You will get to answer really basic questions about bonsai and meet nice people who are interested in your hobby. It's also a fun time to hang out with fellow members and share bonsai experiences.

The Fair runs from **June 30 - July 4** and there are 3 shifts each day. We need for all of them to be fully staffed so we can make sure our trees are safe from curious fingers, well watered, and the public well informed about the glorious art of bonsai. There will be sign up lists at the June workshop and meeting, so check your calendars, confer with significant others, look at the Fair schedule for other events you might want to explore on the same day, and sign up for multiple

shifts, if you can possibly manage it. We need all hands on deck at the Fair, and for set up and take down as well. The Fair exhibit is a fund raiser for the Club and one of our best opportunities to reach out to the public and recruit new members. It's easy. It's fun. Your Club really needs you to help out.

We will have admission tickets for docents and parking passes for those who pull multiple shifts at the June 20 workshop. Signup sheets will be at the June 6 meeting and can be viewed online at our [website](#).

Set up is **June 28** and we need people from 9:30 AM for a couple of hours. Trees need to arrive no later than 1:30 PM to insure inclusion in the exhibit. If you have trouble getting your trees there in that window please discuss options with Jay.

## More Show Details

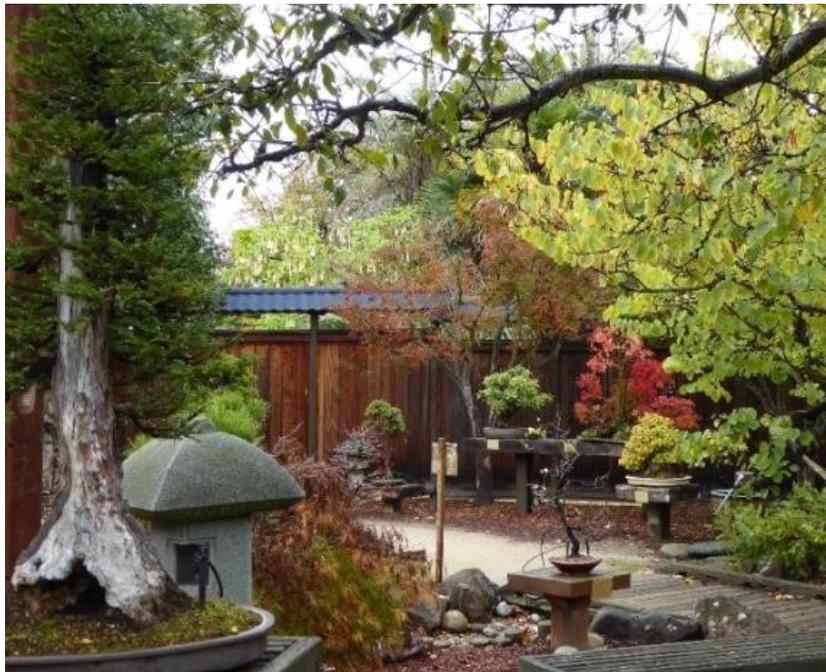
Please bring the trees you want to show to the June workshop and meeting so Jay knows what he has to work with in setting up the show. At the June workshop we will also help you get the trees in tip top shape. You can be doing weeding now and cleaning pots and polishing stands. We can always use accent plants if you are so inclined.

## Tree Name Tags

If you are showing a tree for the FIRST time, we need some information on it, i.e., common name, botanical name and age. Please email this data to [info@marinbonsai.org](mailto:info@marinbonsai.org) as soon as possible so name tag(s) can be prepared. This information can also be passed along to Jay at the June meeting and workshop. Tags are prepared on labels printed by computer so we need this information by SATURDAY, JUNE 24. This will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

### **May meeting recap: Peter Tea shows progress on deciduous tree development**

It was another great meeting by Peter Tea in which he reviewed work done previously on two trident maples and introduced a couple of Seiju elms, one he proceeded to almost completely denude in illustration of development of deciduous trees. It was fun and enlightening, but if your notes are incomplete, or you missed the meeting you can see photos and read David Eichhorn's excellent review on our [website](#).



### **Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt**

Many thanks to Peter Miller and George Haas for their time and energy on our May docent day at the Bonsai Gardens. **We hope more members will step up and support the bonsai community by taking a docent shift or two at the Gardens.** It is time well and pleasantly spent and your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Please contact Roger Lion or Candace Key if you are new to the Gardens and would like to learn the ropes, or visit our club [website](#) to see which months need docents. Thank you!!



### **Schweet!! June 6 Program**

Wouldn't you like to win this beautiful saikei bonsai? Our June program will feature Jay McDonald styling and perfecting this grouping for raffle. He planted the trees earlier in the year to assure their health and will talk about his process, following up with judicious pruning and styling, and finishing with tips for care of rock plantings and creating our own masterpieces. It is a program you don't want to miss.

Meeting starts at 7:00PM

We will also have Fair signup sheets at the meeting and Jay will discuss details for the Marin County Fair Show - all the more reason to BE THERE!

## **MBC Welcomes New Members**

During the last couple of months the club has added several new members. We are pleased to welcome Chuck Ayers, Jack and Jane Deignan, Joy Jarrell, Bill Katis, and Odelli and Virginia Ozer to the club.

We also saw past members renewing their memberships: Tho and Diep Do and Robby Cameron have been missed and we are delighted to have them back in the fold.

Please look for these new and returning members at the meetings, workshops and the Fair and welcome them to our bonsai family.

## **Does anyone need a name tag for the Fair?**

If you have lost yours or are a new member and need one, please email us at [info@marinbonsai.org](mailto:info@marinbonsai.org) by June 8.