

Club meeting and demonstration Tuesday, August 7 at 7:00 pm  
Club Auction Tuesday, August 21,  
Preview at 7:00 pm - Auction begins at 7:30



Welcome to all our new members, first time readers of this newsletter and new friends we met at the Marin County Fair. We hope you will join us for the August events you will read about below and check out our [website](#) for opportunities to learn more about bonsai later in the year.

## President's Message

We enjoyed a successful Marin County Fair June 30 – July 4, 2018! Our showing of bonsai displays along with accents plants and stands was greatly appreciated by the tons of visitors to the County Fair. Thanks to the many member volunteers serving as docents and representatives of the club. As a group we passed along information about club bonsai activities in the months of July and August through October – Beginners Bonsai Workshops, our Auction and Sale, REBS big August annual show and the GSBF Convention 41. We had many fair goers interested in the Beginners Bonsai Workshops and club activities. By the time this newsletter is sent out, the club will have completed the Beginners Bonsai Workshops where 12 students received hands-on training in creating two bonsai trees – Cotoneaster and Juniper.

I hope everyone had a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July 😊😊😊

We have on August 7 the return of bonsai artist Peter Tea who will go over styling tips and instructions covering junipers. Since junipers are the most

common bonsai around the world, you don't want to miss Peter's informative discussion on them.

On August 21 the club will hold its annual fundraiser – Auction and Sale. Donate or consign quality bonsai and bonsai related items and help make this year's auction and sale successful. We have invited some special vendors to add to the evening's bargains with wares I think everyone will be pleased with. We need a staff of volunteers to help Sharon Bone in various roles for setting up, during and tearing down. But also, we need the membership to participate in the auction and sale. There will be wine served and plenty of bargains to be had.

Special note: Chris Ross won "Best in Show" for his Zen Garden submitted for judging before the 2018 Marin County Fair.

*George*

### **It's August – It's Auction Time!**

Our annual Marin Bonsai Club Auction will be held on Tuesday, August 21 at the Terra Linda Community Center (same place as last year). In addition to the live auction, there will be a sales area. Preview and sales start at 7pm and the auction starts at 7:30pm. Sales are cash and check with local ID. No credit cards.

A successful auction needs lots of trees and bonsai materials. Please take a look at your own bonsai-related inventory – bring trees, pots, tools, stands, etc. to either put up for auction or put on the sales table. Items should have a minimum bid value of at least \$10. If you have something really special to auction send us a picture and we will give it notice on our website and Facebook page to entice bidders. If you have friends in other clubs who would like to auction their items we welcome those contributions as well.

Spread the word! Tell everyone you know, invite others to attend, mention the auction at other clubs you may be members of, and post on social media if you are so inclined. There are sure to be great deals on bonsai, pre-bonsai, pots, stands, tools, books and other bonsai related items and we need lots of people to make the event fun and profitable.

We need everyone's participation in one way or the other (buying, selling and/or volunteering) to make our auction a successful fund-raising event. The club takes a 20% commission on all sales, or donations of 100% of the sale. These funds help pay for next year's operations and calendar of events, such as professional bonsai speakers, demonstrators, raffle material, etc.

It is one of the most fun and busiest nights we have all year, and we can use all the help we can get. All volunteers get to bid and watch the auction. No tasks are all consuming to take you away from the action. We still need a few more helpers to fill all the positions. Feel free to recruit a relative or friend to assist.

If you have any questions about the auction or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Sharon Bone at [info@marinbonsai.org](mailto:info@marinbonsai.org).

## Update on fundraising for the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt (BGLM)

BGLM is within **38% of making its \$100,000 goal**. BGLM started over one year ago raising funds to help pay for the Garden Revitalization Opportunity (GRO) projects. To date, there has been a lot of replacements and improvements made at BGLM. New display benches and stands are almost complete. A new overhead watering system was installed and cement pavers replaced the dirt pathways. BGLM appreciates your generous support in its efforts to make these improvements. If you have not had the chance to donate, there is no better time than now. There are two ways for members to contribute to the fundraising in support of the GRO Project. You can donate any amount or purchase a personalized engraved commemorative brick for \$150, \$250 or \$500. Help by making a donation today. For complete information visit the BGLM website by clicking [Here](#). You can also contact me for more information and help with your donations.

November 1<sup>st</sup> has been selected for submitted our initial order for production of commemorative bricks with installation at the bonsai garden to take place soon afterwards. Now is the time to order your personalized engraved commemorative brick and support the BGLM.

Come on, we only need 38 bricks to be sold between now and November 1<sup>st</sup>.



### Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt

Our thanks to Dan Keller and James Phelan who kindly handled the docent duties the Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt on July 28. The summer brings many more visitors to the Gardens and there was never a dull moment introducing people to the wonders they find in this very special place we are blessed to have so close.

We get a month off on our docent



### Peter Tea – August 7, 7:00 pm

On August 7 at 7:00 pm we welcome bonsai artist Peter Tea who will be talking about juniper development. He will bring examples of trees that have been refined and those that are in development to discuss. He will also show trees that have been recently worked on to illustrate the process. Topics to

duties so we can all have plenty of time to visit the REBS show in Santa Rosa which happens on the same weekend as our usual shift, but *it is not too early to think about when you can volunteer in the fall.* We need docents – hopefully two – for our next date of September 22. The shift is from 10:00 – 1:00 and even if you haven't been doing bonsai for long you are sure to know more about bonsai than 99% of the visitors, plus it is a great place to learn about the trees and their care. Please let Candace or Roger know if you can help us out this month.

We would like to bring some of our newer members into the docent program for an orientation on both the bonsai and docenting. Please step up and let us know when you can help out. Thank you!!

### REBS Bonsai Show August 25 & 26

Be sure you have your calendars marked for the annual REBS Bonsai Show at the end of the summer. The exhibit is one of the best in the country, there will be a stone exhibition as well by the San Francisco Suiseki Kai. Check out the large vendor area, silent auctions and raffles. Bonsai Artist Kathy Shaner will present demonstrations both days. More information on their [website](#).



be discussed include choosing the front of the tree, initial styling of collected material, and what's important today vs tomorrow concepts in development. Peter will then move on to discuss wiring and developing initial pads.

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The opportunity to see in detail the caliber of work Peter does on his own trees and learn from his instruction is priceless, but we request only a **\$5 voluntary donation** for this program. Don't miss it!!

### Beginning Bonsai Workshop a Big Success

The classes were packed for our yearly Beginning Bonsai Workshop and the participants really got their money's worth, with excellent instruction from Chris Ross, John Doig, Roger Lion and their merry band of helpers. The trees were beautiful and full and branches were flying all night long. Lots of wonderful potential bonsai came out of this year's class and we hope to see these fledgling bonsai artists join the club to learn more over the years. Thanks to everyone for their participation and support.

**For those who weren't able to take the class because our enrollment was quickly sold out we are working on offering a second session in September. We will notify you as soon as we have dates confirmed.**