

Club meeting and repotting workshop Tuesday, February 6 at 7:00 pm
Workshop Tuesday, February 20 at 7:00 pm - by reservation -
RSVP at info@marinbonsai.org



President's Message

A special thanks to Randall Lee for a terrific demonstration at our January meeting. The material was top quality and Randall shared his knowledge and techniques in an entertaining program you can read more about on our [website](#). His efforts resulted in a very attractive grove planting that was won by the very lucky Michael Jaffe.

Our repotting workshop on January 16 was fun and rewarding to those members who got the opportunity to repot their own bonsai. I apologize for the lack of table space. It seems we had a few members go home early because of no table to work on. We have requested additional tables for the next repotting workshop on February 6. The club will provide soil mix for a nominal fee and free aluminum wire. We'll also have bonsai pots, some larger than previous pots, placed on bargain sale. Come early and see if there is a pot you can't live without. Pots will be ready by 6:45 p.m. for sale. Any pots left after February repotting will be set aside for Beginning Bonsai classes or donated to the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt Mammoth Auction and Sale.

I want to thank our senior members for helping out in the repotting workshops. The workshops could not have been a success without their guidance and support. You know how important repotting season is to the health of our bonsai.

There is so much bonsai activity going on this time of the year. Last weekend, the **Bay Island Bonsai** opened the bonsai show season with a stunning exhibition of fine bonsai at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, Lake Merritt in Oakland. This weekend February 2-4, is the biennial **California Shohin Seminar** in Santa Nella. There will be over 300 shohin bonsai enthusiasts take part in many workshops, demonstrations, vendors from around the country, and more. Day passes are available. Car pool is a great way to travel. Then, it's annual Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt **Mammoth Auction & Sale**, scheduled for February 17 and 18, at Lakeside Park Garden Center, Lake Merritt, in Oakland. Over 100 items are ready for the auction on Saturday. You can see them on the GSBF website [here](#). Consignment plant sales and hundreds of pots for sale, plus, many vendors will be available Sunday. The museum store items and commemorative bricks will be on sale. Lunches can be purchased at the event. This is the biggest bonsai auction & sale of the year. And looking ahead toward March, please see the notice below about the BABA show which is another great exhibition of fine bonsai.

I hope you will visit our club's website <http://marinbonsai.org/events/> for the 2018 schedule of programs. The board assembled a great line up of guest demonstrators and other activities. If you have not signed up for automatic post notifications via email, it is never too late to do so.

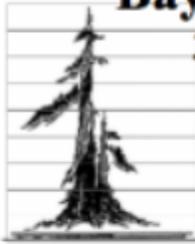
George

Update on Fundraising for the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt - (BGLM)

BGLM has reach over 50% of its goal of raising \$100,000 for replacement and improvements. BGLM appreciates your generous support in its efforts to made 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 Garden Revitalization Opportunity (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](#). Scroll down until you see the GRO Project and Commemorative Brick Drive.

Bay Area Bonsai Associates

37th Annual Bonsai Exhibit



March 24 & 25, 2018

Lakeside Park Garden Center at Lake Merritt
666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, CA

Exhibit Displays, Light Dinner, Demonstrations, Benefit Drawing, Plant Sales, and Doctor Bonsai

Demonstration by Bill Castellon, Gordon Deeg, and Jim Gremel

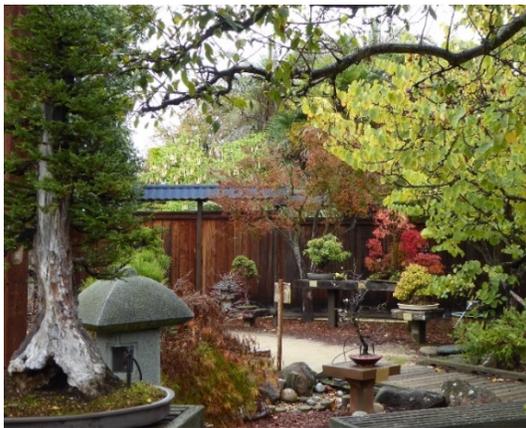
Saturday, March 24, 5:00PM – 9:00PM

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm: Exhibit and Plant Sale area open, followed by light dinner.

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm: Demonstration by club members, followed by a raffle of the demo trees (Winning ticket must be present).

Sunday, March 25, 12noon – 4:00PM

12:00 noon – 4:00 pm: Exhibit and Plant Sale



Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt

Our thanks to Morris Dailey who kindly handled the docent duties at the Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt on January 27. It was another beautiful day at the Gardens with lots of visitors delighted and impressed with the bonsai collection there.

We need docents – hopefully two – for our next date of February 24. 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, and it is a great place to learn about the trees and their care. Please contact Candace or Roger if you can help us out this month.



Tips for Repotting

For our next two workshops it will be repotting–palooka with everyone trying to get their trees repotted before Spring growth begins – which looks like it could be any minute now. Here are a few tips to make your work easier and prevent damage to your trees:

- Make sure the soil is well hydrated before repotting–possibly watering well the day before
- The soil the club provides is in

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!!

small and medium sizes and mixed with pumice for a 50% Akadama blend– be sure to use the right size for your trees

- Bring a bag or bucket to take your old potting soil home with you. Art Wasserman has kindly brought bags in the past, but we can't always count on him being there
- Thanks to all who have made a good effort to clean up after their work—it is a messy process and we need everyone to help out

Save the Date!

February 17 is the Mammoth Auction and the 18th is the Mammoth Sale, both fundraisers for the Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt. This is a fabulous opportunity to acquire trees, pots, tools, books – everything bonsai, and do some good for the local bonsai community. Be sure you don't miss it.