

Club meeting and demonstration Tuesday, May 1 at 7:00 pm  
Workshop Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm - by reservation -  
RSVP at [info@marinbonsai.org](mailto:info@marinbonsai.org)



*John Doig and Chris Ross examine the victim, er subject, for their demonstration at our April meeting. It looked far different when they were done. See photos and read David Eichhorn's excellent recap of the presentation on our [website](#).*

## President's Message

Spring and day light saving time! I like this time of the year very much. We are through with repotting most of our bonsai by this time. I am still looking forward to the repotting of my Ficus and Hawaiian Umbrella Tree in early June. It's the right time for repotting the tropicals and I most want to replace the current pot for my Ficus.

Thanks to John Doig and Chris Ross for an excellent program at our April meeting. I was sorry to miss it, but heard members were well informed and entertained by this talented duo.

At this past April 17 workshop it was exciting to see so many members working on styling and wiring their bonsai. Remember that we have two gatherings almost every month of the year – one for general meeting and demonstration and the other for workshop when you bring your own bonsai for hands-on practice of what is learned through the demonstrations. The club provides free aluminum wire. You provide what is needed to work on your bonsai. A reminder here might be helpful – *when you buy new tools one of the first things you should do is mark or tape them so that they can be readily identified as yours*. If you have to borrow someone's tools be sure he or she gets them back when you finish. One more word on workshops, *clean up after you have finished working on your bonsai* and put cut foliage and discarded soil into a black plastic trash bag to be hauled away.

This is bonsai club show season and with that there is a local bonsai club show almost every weekend. You don't have to travel far to see great bonsai on display. If you don't subscribe to Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF) *Golden Statements Magazine*, you can look up the schedule of events on the GSBF website <http://gsbf.org> for up-coming bonsai shows and other events. (ed. – there is a good recommendation for this month at the end of the newsletter)

I made a special effort to see the Bay Area Bonsai Associates (BABA) annual show last month. The story and about 35 photos of the exhibit bonsai will be featured in *Golden Statements Magazine* spring issue due out in late April.

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Our next meeting on May 1, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. at Marin Arts and Garden Center, will feature Peter Tea discussing development of deciduous trees and grafting techniques. As always, we are sure to learn much from his talk.

Please visit our club's website <http://marinbonsai.org/events/> for the 2018 schedule of programs. If you have not signed up for automatic post notifications via email, it is never too late to do so.

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A board meeting will be held on May 8 which will cover the July 4<sup>th</sup> Marin County Fair bonsai exhibition and our August auction and sale fundraiser. Contact me or any board member to provide your input and/or suggestions.

I recently read an interesting and very long thread on Facebook by various bonsai club members replying to the question "What makes a successful bonsai club?" The overwhelming answer was "making every member feel welcome". I believe I met one goal of putting in place a lively and informative schedule of programs for 2018. I want to make everyone feel as welcome as possible will be my goal for the remaining part of the year.

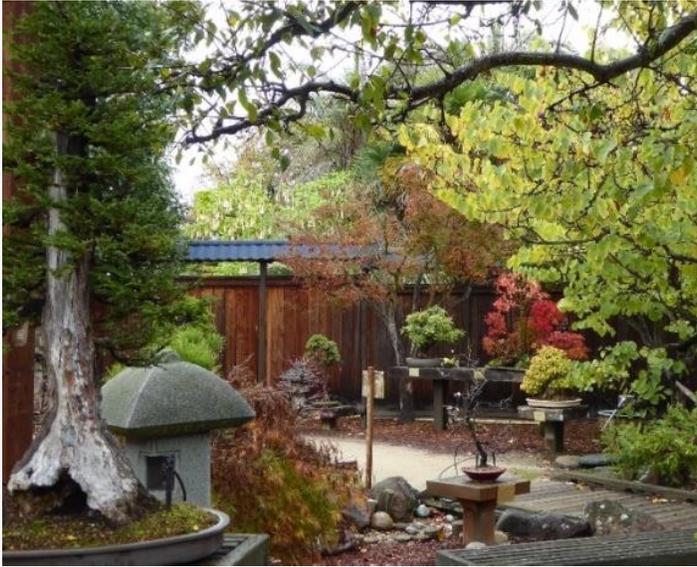
*George*

### **Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt - GRO Initiative Update**

Fundraising for the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt (BGLM). BGLM is within 40% 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 have 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](#). Scroll down until you see the GRO Project and click on Commemorative Brick or You Caring.



## Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt

Our thanks to Michaele Jaffe who kindly handled the docent duties the Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt for April. It was another beautiful day at the Gardens with lots of visitors delighted and impressed with the bonsai collection there.

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We need docents - hopefully two - for our next date of May 26. 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 let Candace or Roger know if you can help us out this month.

**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!!

Featured Bay Area Bonsai Activity



**BAY AREA SATSUKI AIKOKAI**

*proudly presents a*

**CELEBRATION OF BONSAI COLOR**

**MAY 19 & 20, 2018**

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## **WELCOME**

A big bonsai welcome to new member Ryan Paulger who attended his first meeting in April. Jumping right in, Ryan organized an urban collecting expedition to rescue about 40 boxwoods from a hedge which was being replaced. Some members rolled up their sleeves and were rolling in boxwood heaven. More about these trees later in the year, and a big thank you to Ryan for his generosity and enthusiasm.

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## May 1 Program

Peter Tea will continue his lecture series at our May 1 meeting, Tuesday at 7 – 9:30 PM. If you are serious in wanting to advance your knowledge and skills in developing healthy and creative bonsai, you will plan to attend Peter's program.

The focus of Peter's talk will be deciduous trees. He will revisit trees we have been following in this series to evaluate their progress, and there will be work to do on the trees illustrating his techniques. As a bonus Peter will also discuss grafting techniques, when to use them and how.

Peter's time is very much in demand and the Marin Bonsai Club is extremely fortunate to have him visit the club on a regular basis. A voluntary \$5 donation collected for this presentation helps to offset the lecture series cost.

Meeting starts at 7:00PM

## Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai (BASA)

### 23rd Annual Satsuki Azalea Bonsai Show

Saturday, May 19, 2018 10 – 5

Sunday, May 20, 2018 10 – 4

Featuring Bonsai Satsuki Azaleas in full color!

Large member tree sales and imported Japanese material

Demonstration Saturday by Johnny Uchida – 1:00–3:00

Beginning Bonsai workshop Sunday from 1:00 – 3:00

–Limited space available

–\$20 fee & sign up required

Participating Vendors:

–North American Satsuki Bonsai Center/Rick Garcia

–Sho–Ju–En/Darren & Laura Wong

Free admission

Public parking available

**Lakeside Park Garden Center**, Lake Merritt 666 Bellevue Avenue  
Oakland, California

For more information, contact George Haas at [gwhaas@comcast.net](mailto:gwhaas@comcast.net)

Visit [website](#)