

Newsletter *from*



- January 2021 -

In This Edition...

- President's Special Message: dire need of new president, membership due
- ***Taskmaster says...***
- Sneak Preview of 2021 Events

Important Dates [Click for MBC Event page](#)

Please note that scheduled events are subject to change

March Zoom Meeting and Demo

Tue. 03/02/2020

Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt:

Alameda County's new Shelter in Place Order closes the garden to the public effective Monday December 7th until further notice. City of Oakland...

Message below is a note from George, who continuously expressed retirement from the BMC president's position.

President's Special Message



These are tough times for all. That's for certain. One has to take one day at a time, avoid getting stressed out by all means to stay healthy and safe. Hope is on my mind for 2021 and for the lifting of the pandemic restrictions that plagued us throughout the last year.

I hope for members of the board to take steps to regain club connections, like a Zoom meeting between now and the first Zoom presentation.

As past president I will take care of the GSBF membership and insurance in January. I want to limit my club involvement. I will renew my membership but remain rather passive and avoid any leadership role in the future.

I will remain active with REBS and BGLM, my primary interest for the time being.

For the final time, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of selecting a new president for MBC. In 2021, I will no longer be president of MBC. I believe it is time to allow some other member to take charge. If you would like to take a role as an officer, board member and/or appointee, please contact me by calling 707-762-9154 or email gwhaas@comcast.net.

Membership Dues

It is that time of the year when membership dues should be paid. The income from membership dues will help pay for club operations and monthly virtual presentations scheduled in the first half of 2021.

You can find the membership form on the MBC website <marinbonsai.org>

Individual \$45

Family \$65

Student \$25

Please make your check payable to Marin Bonsai Club and mail to Marcia Summers, Treasurer, 61 Woodland Ave., San Anselmo, CA 94960.

MBC 2021 PROGRAMS

(Striked through are historically scheduled events that are not on 2021

schedule).

- ~~Jan 5 Workshop Repotting; RSVP first eight members~~
- ~~Jan 19 Workshop Repotting; RSVP first eight members~~
- ~~Feb 2 Workshop Repotting; RSVP first eight members~~
- ~~Feb 16 Workshop Repotting; RSVP first eight members~~
- **Mar 2 Zoom Mtg/Demo by Gordon Deegon tool care & maintenance**
- ~~Mar 16 Workshop; RSVP first eight members~~
- **Apr 6 Zoom Mtg/Demo by John "JT" Thompson on oaks**
- ~~Apr 20 Workshop; RSVP first eight members~~
- **May 4 Zoom Mtg/Demo by Jonas Dupuichon TBD**
- ~~May 18 Workshop; RSVP first eight members~~
- **Jun 1 Zoom Mtg/Demo by Bill Castellon on black pines**
- ~~Jun 15 Workshop; RSVP first eight members~~

- Jul 1-5 MCF Show
- Jul 20 Beginners' Workshop #1
- Jul 27 Beginners' Workshop #2
- Aug 3 Mtg/Demo by _____ on _____
- Aug 17 Workshop
- Sep 7 Mtg/Demo by _____ on _____
- Sep 21 Workshop
- Oct 5 Mtg/Demo by _____ on _____
- Oct 19 Workshop
- Nov 2 Auction & Sale
- Dec 5 Holiday Potluck

Ask the Task Master

Question by Mark Powell:

What fertilizer do you use?

Answer by the Task Master:

Same low number fertilizer all year. But 50 % lower or weaker solutions through winter. Then mid to end of February, ramping up on strength. Regularity is the most important thing. Withhold nitrogen on some deciduous trees until spring growth is hardening off in the late April/May. Those trees get winter rations until then, Pines and junipers get bit of extra nitrogen march to May.

(send in your questions for Task Master to Lakeipad@mail.com)



What does the Task Master Say about January?

Take note of frost warnings and get pots under leafy canopies, or up under the eaves against the house, or under their own benches to prevent possible damage. They might all be okay, but why take the chance? Tropical plants and those with tender stems and leaves must all go to the garage or even inside for a while. If the temperature drops below freezing for more than a short few hours, make sure that all the above procedures get done, and invent some more protections as well. Soil in small pots freezes faster than in bigger ones, and frozen roots usually mean true disaster. Wet soil freezes and crushes roots, dry soil encourages roots to expand and rupture; so here we are back to the old necessity of being able to judge whether to water at all, and how much? Because the soil should always be moist, neither wet nor dry. This is a tough recurring problem, this water thing, one that we all have to master eventually, and for a surprisingly long and varied list of reasons.

.....

Other than getting ready for Spring, it's not a very busy time in the average bonsai garden. Just keep the garden safe from freeze and flood, stay calm and carry on.

[Read the whole post on our Website here](#)

[Ask the Task Master here](#)

REMINDER

[Membership Dues are due.](#)

Please make your check payable to

Marin Bonsai Club

and mail to

Marcia Summers, Treasurer,

61 Woodland Ave.,

San Anselmo, CA 94960.

[Some of what you will find on Marin Bonsai Club Website/Blog](#)

Link to [Marin Bonsai Club](#)

1) *Subscribe to the blog*: Go to the link above, and look for the **Subscribe** section, like the image below, on the right pane, enter your email address.

That's it, you will receive new posting on our website.

Subscribe to our Blog

Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog and receive notifications of new posts by email.

2) *Read recap of Lecture, Demos and Workshop*: Go to Link above. Newest post on home page, and list of past posting is on the right pane.

And more...Visit our [Website/Blog](#) today

Other links you may be interested

[Bay Area Satuski Aikokai](#)

[Golden Statements Magazine – Free digital access!](#)

[Redwood Empire Bonsai Society](#)



Dennis Plaut is the MBC Docent Coordinator for the Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF) Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt, in Oakland. MBC is committed to providing docent support every fourth Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt opened its gate to the public in November 1999. The Bonsai Garden was built entirely by volunteers of GSBF club members. Today, it continues to be cared for by all volunteers. MBC support role is a long-term commitment honored and enjoyed by many of us.

[click here to sign up future date](#) or [click here to email Dennis](#)

Keep in mind the Garden is currently closed.

Thank you in advance for your support of the Gardens and our Bonsai community.

Editor's Personal Note:

I am experiencing some stress like everybody. These stresses are - sometime inter-changeable with gratitude. I look at 2020 as a wild and strange dream. Time passed so quickly, yet so slowly. Much discovery along the way.

The rewards of having garden even feels like a burden sometimes. One of our accomplished members said, "I am giving my trees a break" What a concept, I thought. Trees that are pampered and cared for, for the performance we want, are allowed to just to be trees, even though still in the small pot. It's like letting your super star child to be just a child. I also felt a relief from a guilt of not doing whole a lot for my trees. Peter and I used to laugh about "Just keeping them healthy is like making a miracle"

Editing Newsletter gives me another feel of satisfaction and wellbeing, especially reading of the Task Master on website to insert in newsletter. I am very grateful to be a part of MBC circle. It is as if I am a particle in the soil exchanging nutrients with others. Well, I am mostly on receiving side for now.

Looking forward to connect with you all,
Lake

Board Members:

- President - Open
- Vice President - Open
- Secretary - Marcie Summers
- Treasurer - Open

Board Members:

George Haas

Marcia Summers

Diane Matzen

Gwynessa Aetherwyn

Lake Hanyu

Appointments

- BGLM Docent Coordinator - Dennis Plaut
- Librarian - Roger Lion
- Program Chair - David Eichhorn
- Show Chair - Jay McDonald
- Membership - Dan Keller
- Webmaster - Sharon Bone
- Newsletter - Lake Hanyu

email MBC

Special Thank You! to:

Docent volunteers at BGLM

Everyone who came to bonsai sale and volunteers who helped the event a success

Mark Powell for sending in a question

All the enthusiasm / knowledge of members!

