

Club Information

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS: First Tuesday of every month, general meeting and demonstration; third Tuesday of every month, workshop. Members are encouraged to bring their bonsai for background display and commentary at general meetings and to work on at the workshops.

MEETING & WORKSHOP TIMES: 7:00 to 9:30 PM (Check website for updates).

MEETING LOCATION: Marin Art & Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross, California 94957.

ACTIVITIES: General business meetings to discuss related topics for cultivation, styling and displaying bonsai, workshops for instructions, care and maintenance of personal bonsai, programs presented by experts in the art form of bonsai care, maintenance and display, field trips to bonsai nurseries and shows in the greater San Francisco Bay Area, auction and sale, and exhibitions.

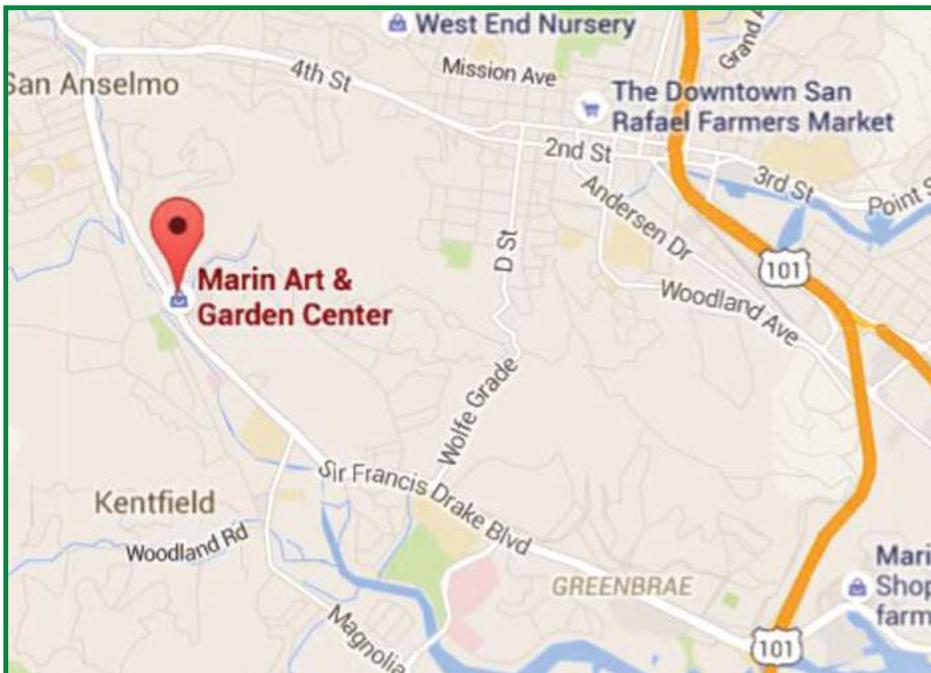
ANNUAL DUES: Membership dues are \$45 per single, \$65 per family, and \$25 per student.

NEWSLETTERS: Monthly official newsletters covering club activities and upcoming events.

LIBRARY: Members have access to an extensive library of bonsai books, magazines, and articles.

EMAIL ADDRESS: info@marinbonsai.org

MAILING ADDRESS: Marin Bonsai Club, PO Box 1461, Ross, CA 94957-1461



Directions to Marin Art & Garden Center

From San Francisco head north on Hwy 101. Take Exit 450B toward San Anselmo. Merge onto Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Travel 3.09 miles to 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, turn right into the MAGC parking lot at the Lagunitas Rd light.

From Santa Rosa head south on Hwy 101. Take Exit 450B toward San Anselmo. Merge onto Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Travel 3.09 miles to 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, turn right into the MAGC parking lot at the Lagunitas Rd light.

From central San Rafael head west on 5th Ave toward E St. Turn left on H St and turn right onto 4th St, which becomes Red Hill Ave. Turn left onto Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Travel short distance to 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, turn left at Laurel Grove Ave and then turn right into the MAGC parking lot.

Marin Bonsai Club

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Photo by Pete Hopkins

marinbonsai.org

Club Philosophy

The Marin Bonsai Club is dedicated to promoting, teaching, and enjoying the living ancient art of bonsai. The word is Japanese for "tree in a pot," but the art of bonsai, like all great art forms, has a complex history and array of techniques, with limitless possibilities to satisfy the beginner and expert alike.

Connecting to a broad spectrum of bonsai enthusiasts, from hobbyists to professionals, is one of the most immediate and lasting benefits of belonging to a club like Marin Bonsai. Our club strives to provide this and other resources to members and the community at large. With regular postings to our website, monthly meetings and workshops, and public exhibitions, the Marin Bonsai Club seeks to keep this vibrant art form alive and accessible for the Marin County community and beyond.



Photo by George Haas

Activities and Exhibitions

The Marin Bonsai Club holds two separate, primarily educational activities in a typical month: the general meeting and the informal workshop. The meetings often feature a prominent guest expert giving a demonstration, and the workshops provide an opportunity for the members to receive help developing their bonsai skills and trees.

Exhibitions include the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival in San Francisco's Japantown every spring, an event that wouldn't be complete without the stunning bonsai provided by local clubs like Marin Bonsai, and the Club's Annual Marin County Fair Show, featuring more than 50 member trees.

Another popular Marin Bonsai Club event is the Annual Auction and Plant Sale in August, which gives the members another incentive for improving their trees, furthers public bonsai education and access, and a percentage of all sales benefit future club activities.



Photo by Pete Hopkins

History of Marin Bonsai Club

Started nearly 60 years ago by a few garden enthusiasts enamored with "little trees", the Marin Bonsai Club has grown to be one of the largest and most respected bonsai clubs in the Bay Area. In the early days, there was little information about how to develop bonsai in the U.S. and, in particular, for the Bay Area microclimate. Over the years, mentors and teachers, including famous names like John Naka and Dennis Makashima, added to a growing wealth of knowledge that helped club members develop to be more expert bonsai practitioners.

This education continues with the recent influx of Japanese-trained American instructors sharing their best techniques and practices from Japan. Members participate in lectures and workshops to increase their skills and member trees reflect the sustained interest and commitment to the art and practice of bonsai in the Bay Area. "What makes the Marin Bonsai Club special is its members. The good attitude and depth of knowledge at meetings makes diving into this ancient art unintimidating and fun."