



MARIN BONSAI CLUB

2023 January Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

REPOTTING DEMO

BGLM CLUB TOUR

HOUSE TOUR RECAP



REPOTTING SEASON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY TUNG X. DAO

The Marin Bonsai Club meets every First and Third Tuesday of each month at the Terra Linda Community Center Room 4 from 7-9:30 PM.

The next board meeting will be on Monday, January 9 at 7pm on Zoom.

COVER PHOTO

A potential tree for the repotting demonstration by Diane Matzen.

COVID HEALTH STATEMENT

Masks are no longer required for fully vaccinated attendees. They are welcome for those who wish to wear them.

MARIN BONSAI CLUB BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Tung X. Dao

SECRETARY
Brendan Crotty

TREASURER
Marcia Summers

BOARD MEMBERS
Gwynessa Aetherwyn
Daniel Keller
Diane Matzen

BGLM DOCENT COORDINATOR
Art Wasserman

MEMBERSHIP
Daniel Keller

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Tung X. Dao

PROGRAM CHAIR
Candace Key

WEBMASTER
Sharon Bone

Reach us at
info@marinbonsai.org

Join our Discord
<https://discord.gg/us25mAsn5A>

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Happy new years, everyone! The rains of the last couple of weeks have been wonderful for our local vegetation.

Our gardens have been enjoying the water as well, but make sure you're checking the soil in the pot to make sure water is getting to the soil and not dripping beyond the foliage pads.

Please remember to send in your membership dues and updated application (at the end of this newsletter). Your dues keep the spirit of bonsai going!

REPOTTING SEASON

To kick off the 2023 year, we have our very own Diane Matzen leading our repotting workshop on the first Tuesday of January. Come learn the ins and outs of repotting, as well as do an exercise on pot selection. She will be repotting a conifer.

After this, for January and February (and perhaps March), the third Tuesday will be club repotting sessions. Bring those trees in need of repotting in and we'll help you out with it. If you want to use club soil, it will be \$10 per night.

BGLM CLUB TOUR

The fourth Saturday of January will be our club tour of the Bonsai Gardens at Lake Merritt. We will be meeting there early in the morning for a few hours. It will be led by our new Docent Coordinator, Art Wasserman.

It is in our club's mission to support the Gardens, so it is imperative that we all learn how to do this and continue preserving the rich traditions of bonsai firmly here in the Bay Area.

DECEMBER TOUR RECAP

It was a misty day, but around 15 of us met for the member house tour in December. We started with warm tea and doughnuts at John Doig and Janice Dilbert's amazing garden. The sounds of water splashing on the leaves, trees, and puddles filled us with the

bonsai spirit.

Then continued to Sharon Bone's, whose collection included many unusual species. Her chickens greeted us when we checked out their coop. The drizzle continued lightly as the soft light from the sun

Finally, we went to Art and Jessica Wasermans' garden. They take care of a beautiful garden, even in the winter, with some deciduous trees just past their peak colors. I was glad to have enjoyed a particularly cozy home and garden with some warm home-made cider and delicious cookies.

Thank you to all the hosts. If you're interested in hosting for a Spring/Summer house tour, please reach out and let us know! Also, check out Candace's beautiful write up with photos by Sharon and me later the newsletter.

SHOHIN SEMINAR

If you want to learn about shohin bonsai—trees less than 8 inches tall and usually small enough that you can hold in the palm of your hand—the Shohin Seminar is coming up in February. There are lots of trees, pots, materials, and some free lectures for those who don't sign up for classes. It is a one of a kind event led by some of the best in the world.

(Thanks for the tip, Candace!)

PROGRAMS CHAIR

I would like to take a quick moment to introduce our new programs chair, Candace Key. She will be helping with organizing our programs this year along with two other club members who will be helping out.

THIS YEAR AND BEYOND

On that note, we have a question for all of us as we enter the New Year:

What are your goals with bonsai and how can our club help you with that?

Let us know. We'd love to tailor the club's programming to help you achieve your goals! 🌱

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

Diane Matzen (below) will be leading a repotting demonstration on the first Tuesday. Two potential trees for the demonstration are below as well.

Special for January is our club tour of the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt. We will tour the gardens and learn about what is involved in being a docent.

The open workshop on the 3rd Tuesday in January will be repotting focused. \$10 dollars will be the fee for using club repotting materials for the night for as many trees as you can repot.

FEBRUARY

Matt Walker returns to demonstrate how to graft. The open workshop on the 3rd Tuesday in January will be repotting focused. \$10 dollars will be the fee for using club repotting materials for the night for as many trees as you can repot.

MARCH

Tung Dao will be leading a Build-Your-Own Wire Caddy workshop. If you don't have your wire handy, this caddy will be a companion! Come learn about why it's important to have your wire supply handy and some wiring basics. Materials fee to be announced and proceeds will benefit the club. 🍵



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Got something you'd like to include in the newsletter? The deadline for submission is the 15th of each month. Please send any materials to Tung at tung@marinbonsai.org.

Member Tour

MEMBER TOUR RECAP

BY CANDACE KEY

PHOTOS BY SHARON BONE AND TUNG X. DAO

The Marin Bonsai inaugural Garden Tour on December 3 was pronounced a rousing success by all who participated. The three gardens, representing the trees of 5 members, presented a broad cross section of environments for growing, maintaining and displaying bonsai with ample opportunities for participants to be amazed, intrigued and edified.



The tour started at the home of John Doig and Janice Dilbeck, both of whom have been doing bonsai seriously for well over 20 years, studying with local and international teachers. John has turned his spacious yard into a bonsai wonderland, creating benches and stands for the hundreds, yes that's right, of trees he and Janice own between them.

Many trees were well developed and have been shown in major bonsai exhibits throughout the Bay area, even the recent Pacific Bonsai Expo. Others illustrated Janice and John's development process in their wiring and potting choices. In addition to developed bonsai, John showed off his growing grounds where countless elms and olives were happily thriving in the dappled sun, waiting for their proper time to be



used in workshops or sold to eager customers. John and Janice even have an enclosed, heated, well lit area for working on their trees through all seasons, very helpful in these rainy and cold months.



From there the tour moved to the home of Sharon Bone and John Bliss. Sharon has been studying bonsai for a while too and in a previous life worked at a nursery, so she has quite a collection of trees.

Sharon loves the challenge of working with unusual plant varieties and we saw many that were unfamiliar, but held great promise. She has also finely honed the art of acquisition, adding fine old trees and pots to





her collection, delighting members with discoveries at every turn.

On her large property Sharon has her bonsai positioned for their individual needs for sun, and still has room for an impressive vegetable garden and fruit trees. In addition to the bonsai we were introduced to her pet chickens, and the local turkeys put in a guest appearance. A very peaceful and beautiful place to practice the art of bonsai.



In contrast to the first two stops, our visit to the home of Art and Jessica Wasserman illustrated how much can be done in very little space with imagination and determination. Living in a beautifully renovated former bungalow in San Anselmo on a multi-level property, Art and Jess had to be very creative to



give their bonsai the exposure they need to thrive. With bonsai expert and carpenter Jay McDonald living across the street for many years the Wassermans got plenty of expert advice not only on the development of their trees, but also display options.

Art got inventive on some of the displays using old equipment and new table tops to showcase some exceptional trees that he has worked on over the years. Master Gardener Jessica has filled the yard with plants that compliment the bonsai and as one makes their way down the steps to the creek there are bonsai wonders to admire along the way.

We all live in the wonderfully unique landscape of Marin which can present challenges as well as opportunities for growing, displaying and admiring our bonsai. The three gardens we visited opened doors to possibilities and offered opportunities to learn from members who have valuable experience to share with the next generation of bonsai enthusiasts. The garden tour was such a success that another is already anticipated for the spring to enjoy another season of bonsai wonder. You won't want to miss it. 🌳

Show and Tell



A Japanese black pine before (left) and after (above). *Tree and photo by Jay McDonald.*

Submit your trees for show and tell! Please send your materials to tung@marinbonsai.org by the 15th of each month to be featured.

JANUARY
14-15
2023



BAY AREA BONSAI ASSOCIATES SHOW

Free Admission! to 40+ high quality Bonsai for your viewing pleasure!
Light snack and beverage provided Saturday night.

@Lake Merritt Oakland

666 Bellevue Ave
Oakland CA, 94610

Saturday: 4pm-9pm

Sunday: 11am-4pm



Special Presentation Saturday night at 6:30pm:

Daisaku Nomoto (Japan)

&

Jonas Dupuich (USA)

Mammoth Auction

BGLM MAMMOTH 2023 PROCEDURES

PROCEDURES FOR BONSAI GARDEN AT LAKE MERRITT MAMMOTH FUNDRAISER

FEBRUARY 18-19, 2023

The Annual Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt Mammoth Auction & Sale will be held on Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19, 2023, at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., in Oakland, California.

This is the official appeal for materials for the auction of quality bonsai on Saturday, and the sale of bonsai, pre-bonsai and related items on Sunday. Items may be donated or submitted on consignment.

Bonsai for the Auction will need to be submitted by January 7, 2023. Material for the Sunday Sale will be accepted at the Garden Center on Saturday, February 18, from 9am – 4pm and Sunday, February 19, between 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. Bonsai materials, trees, pots, etc., will be accepted as sale material.

Consignment items for the Saturday Auction will have a 30% charge and for the Sunday Sale will have a 25% charge. Full donations are appreciated and tax-deductible.

If you wish to place a reserve price on your item in the Auction, you will be charged a restocking fee of 15% of that reserve if the item does not sell.

POINTS OF CONTACT

Contact Bob Gould at 925-935-1914 or rgould1003@aol.com for more auction information.

Contact Mike Mello, 510-886-1568 or Dennis Hawkins, 510-657-8229, idhawk@comcast.net for more sale information.

Contact George Haas at 707-762-9154 or gwhaas@comcast.net for all other information.

AUCTION PROCEDURES

Participation in the auction will require that upon arrival on Saturday, you register and purchase a catalog for \$5, which includes your bidders Card that you will need to make bids and record your purchases. The catalog illustrates all of the items that will be auctioned, including a description of the

physical characteristics of all material.

A successful bidder will receive an auction item number sticker on his/her bidder's Card by an auction official for each item purchased. Each bidder is encouraged to record on their Bidder's Card the purchase amount and item number.

Each auction item has its own Auction Item Card displayed. The Auction Item Card will have the catalog number of the item, description, and indicate whether or not it has a reserve price (the reserve price amount will not be shown).

The auctioneer will determine the opening bid. Raises above the opening bid will be in approximately 10% increments. For instance, an item with a minimum bid of \$250 will be raised in increments of \$25. If the reserve price for the item is not reached the item will be removed from the auction.

An auction official will record the bidder number and purchase price on the Auction Item Card, which will be brought by an auction official directly to the cashiers. After checking out and payment the Auction Item Cards will be retained by Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt for its records.

A bidder may exit the auction at any time when his/her bidding is complete. Bring your bidders Card to the cashier handling your bidder number. You may pay by credit card, check or cash. The cashier will have the Auction Item Card(s) for each item you have purchased. This can be cross-checked with your record of purchased items on your bidder's Card. If any dispute arises during the auction, it shall be reviewed by the auction chairs and their resolution will be final. Item(s) may be removed from the display tables when the purchaser is ready to leave the auction room and has his/her receipt stamped PAID. For purposes of security, this stamped paid receipt will be checked at the exit door.

PROCEDURES FOR PRE- REGISTERING ITEMS FOR AUCTION

Contact the Bob Gould to offer an item for Auction. You are encouraged to submit your bonsai for consideration to be included in the Mammoth Auction as soon as possible.

The deadline is January 7, 2023. Items will be considered on a first-come-first-considered basis. Auction items are limited to approximately 115 items.

Please deliver all materials for the auction to the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt no later than 10:00 a.m., January 7. This will allow photography of item and printing of the Auction Catalog. In addition, your item will be published and advertised online for potential bidders to view. Any item received after this date may be accepted, but will not receive the advertisement in the catalog and on the internet.

Due to limited volunteer time, PLEASE GROOM YOUR BONSAI AS YOU WOULD FOR A SHOW.

Complete the Auction Seller Form and submit it with your auction items.

[An Auction Seller Form](#) can be obtained online. **Print the form and complete it in advance of bringing the item to Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt.**

You can also pick up the Auction Seller Form at the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt.

For each item on the Auction Seller Form, complete the Description, Reserve Price (if applicable) and check either the 100% DONATION column or the 30% DONATION column. Each item will be given an ID Number upon receipt of the material. This form will serve as the record of your submissions and final sales amount. Please provide a self-addressed envelope with this form. A copy of the final Auction Seller Form will be furnished upon request. Your check received will be your receipt.

SUNDAY CONSIGNMENT OR DONATION SALE PROCEDURES

Delivery of items, completing the Sale Donation or Consignment Form and tagging of consignment or donation material is: Saturday, February 18, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, February 19, 2023, between 8 and 9 a.m. Items will not be accepted beyond these times.

Please bring material to the Ebell Room of the Lakeside Park Garden Center. The

Chair reserves the right to reject any item that may be infested or not healthy. Please bring items on Saturday rather than Sunday.

Fill out a Sale Donation or Consignment Form and bring it to the sale. We will give you tags to put on your sale items when you deliver them. You are responsible for pricing your items. Please set prices only in dollar amounts (no cents). You may change prices during the sale but remember to update your change in price on the form and tag. Please complete the form and tagging by using a ballpoint pen.

Anyone wishing to pre-register bonsai material earlier than Saturday will need to make arrangements as to storage ability by contacting Chairpersons: Mike Mello 510-886-1568 or Dennis Hawkins jdhawk@comcast.net.

If consigning your item(s), 25% charge is the required donation to the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt. However, your donation of the entire amount of the sale would be greatly appreciated and your registration will be your record for tax purposes. Your form will be updated at the conclusion of the sale to show your total sales, net proceeds and donation amount.

Provide a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Checks will be mailed as soon as possible after the sale.

IMPORTANT: If you have unsold items, you may wish to donate them to the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt. If you don't wish to donate them, they must be removed by 3:00 p.m., Sunday. Material that is not picked up by 3:00 p.m. will be considered a donation.

[A Sales Form](#) can be obtained online.

Print the form and complete it in advance of bringing the item(s) to the Garden Center or Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt.

Every Mammoth fundraiser event requires the support of many volunteers to cover the above scheduled activities. This year BGLM is using Sign Up Genius to register and assign volunteers to the various dates and tasks to be performed.

Sign Up Genius is easy to use! Please read this document for details on [the Sign Up Genius](#).

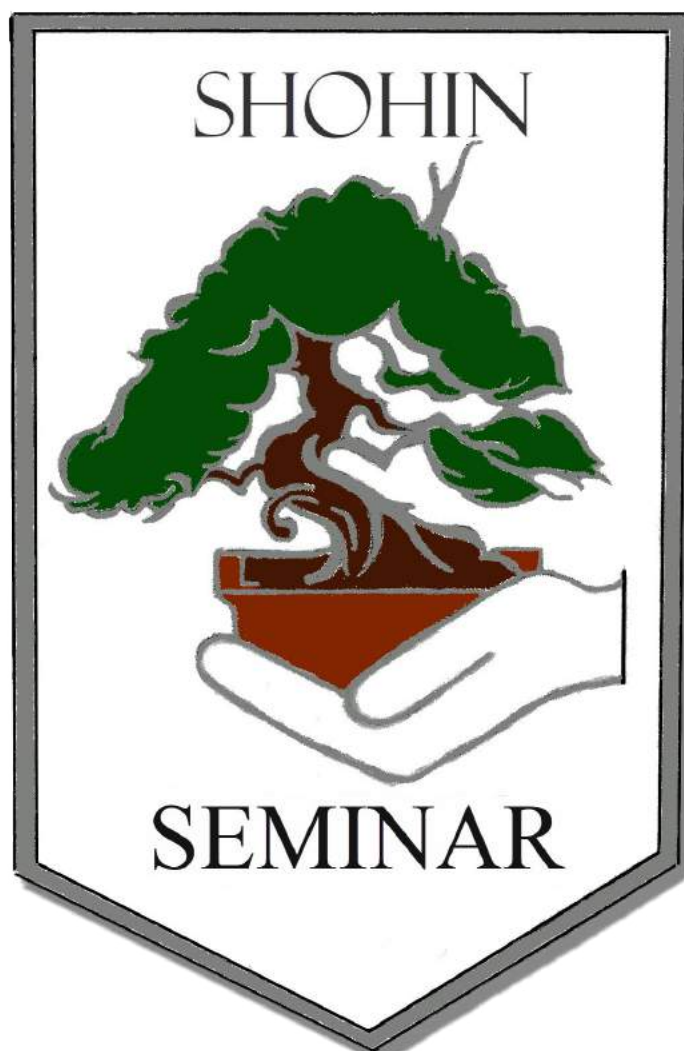
Shohin Seminar

BIENNIAL SHOHIN SEMINAR

BY TUNG DAO AND CANDACE KEY

The 2023 Shohin Seminar is coming up. You do not want to miss this opportunity. It is a terrific show and opportunity to learn, socialize, purchase, acquire great extra small bonsai.

This seminar is hosted by the California Shohin Society and is held at the Hotel Mission De Oro in Santa Nella. The Seminar runs from February 3-5. Visit <https://www.calshohin.org/> for more information and to register. 🌳



Bonsai Events

BAY AREA BONSAI ASSOCIATES SHOW

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
JANUARY 14-15, 2023**

**LAKESIDE PARK GARDEN CENTER
666 BELLEVUE AVE
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**

Free Admission! To 40+ high quality Bonsai for your viewing pleasure! Light snack and beverage provided Saturday night.

Special Presentation Saturday night at 6:30pm: Daisaku Nomoto (Japan) & Jonas Dupuich (USA).

59TH BAIKOEN BONSAI KENKYUKAI WINTER SILHOUETTE SHOW AND SALE

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
JANUARY 21-22, 2023**

**TEMPLE CITY LIVE OAK PARK
COMMUNITY CENTER
LIVE OAK ROOM
10144 BOGUE ST.
TEMPLE CITY, CA 91780**

59th Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai Winter Silhouette Show and Sale, Temple City Live Oak Park Community Center, Live Oak Room, 10144 Bogue St. Temple City, CA 91780, 10am to 4:30pm. Sales and demonstration at 1pm on both days. Deciduous bonsai are featured from club members and invited guests. The Nagata-Komai award will be presented, and there will be a demonstrator at 1pm on both days. There will be a sales area with club and vendor plants, pots, tools and more. For more information, please visit baikoenbonsai.com or email Joe Galgoul, joegalgoul@yahoo.com.

SERGIO CUAN – GOLDEN ZOOM SERIES

**MONDAY
JANUARY 23, 2023
6:30PM**

ZOOM

GSBF Clubs will get the Zoom link to share with their membership for an evening with Sergio Cuan, an accomplished visual artist who graduated with a BFA in Art and Design from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. His passion for painting and horticulture synthesize in his creation of bonsai as an art form.

18TH BIENNIAL SHOHIN SEMINAR

FRIDAY-SUNDAY FEB 03-05, 2023

**HOTEL MISSION DE ORO
SANTA NELLA, CA 95322**

Every two years the California Shohin Society organizes a Shohin Seminar in Santa Nella, California, where bonsai masters, teachers, students and general enthusiasts from all over the country gather to learn and share their love of Shohin bonsai.

The only event of its kind in the U.S. Every two years the California Shohin Society organizes a Shohin Seminar in Santa Nella, California, where bonsai masters, teachers, students and general enthusiasts from all over the country gather to learn and share their love of Shohin bonsai. The goal of the Seminar is two-fold

To provide a low-cost, learning-rich environment for those who want to learn more about Shohin bonsai, and to raise money for the Golden State Bonsai Federation's Bonsai Collection. The Shohin Seminar is a major source of funding for the care and evolution of these collections.

2023 KOKUFU-TEN JAPANESE NATIONAL BONSAI EXHIBITION

FEB 09-12, 2023

TOKYO, JAPAN

Kokufu-ten, is the largest and most prestigious bonsai event held in Japan.

ANNUAL MAMMOTH AUCTION & SALE 2023

SATURDAY FEB 18, 2023

**LAKESIDE PARK GARDEN CENTER
666 BELLEVUE AVE.
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**

All proceeds support the GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt.

Saturday Bonsai live auction.

Sunday Large vendor sales and bargain sale of bonsai, pots and related items.

Download our flier for distribution at club events or local venues.

BONSAI-A-THON 2023

SATURDAY FEB 25-26, 2023

**THE HUNTINGTON
1151 OXFORD RD
SAN MARINO, CA 91108**

Mark your calendar for Saturday & Sunday, February 25th & 26th, 2023.

Bonsai-a-thon at the Huntington! A weekend of festivities! We are working out the detail and will share information in the coming weeks. The hours indicated are estimates.

Thanks for your support. We look forward to seeing you.

AMERICAN BONSAI ASSOCIATION, SACRAMENTO (ABAS)

SATURDAY APRIL 08, 2023
APR 08, 10:00 AM – APR 09, 4:00 PM

3330 MCKINLEY BLVD
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

The American Bonsai Association, Sacramento's (ABAS) 63rd Annual Spring Bonsai & Suiseki Show and Sale will feature headliner, Todd Schlafer of First Branch Bonsai. Demonstrations will take place both Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 PM.

In addition to a our quality exhibition, there will be a large vendor area and consignment sales area! A daily benefit raffle will include each day's demonstration trees and many more bonsai and bonsai related items. A beginners workshop will be offered Saturday morning. For more information, check out abasbonsai.org or call Dodie Newman at 916-799-9575 or 916-801-4424

REBS 37TH ANNUAL BONSAI SHOW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM (4PM SUNDAY)

5401 SNYDER LN
ROHNERT PARK, CA 94928

The return of the Redwood Empire Bonsai Society hosting its 37th Annual Bonsai Show. New modern facilities with AC. Featuring the international renowned bonsai artist Ryan Neil as guest demonstrator.

GSBF RENDEZVOUS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023

HOTEL MISSION DE ORO
13070 CA-33
SANTA NELLA, CA 95322

Bonsai Sales ▪ Auction ▪ Workshops ▪ Lectures ▪ Community.

CAPITAL CITY BONSAI SHOW

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023

3330 MCKINLEY BLVD
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

This group show features tree and suiseki displays from participating area clubs.

Trees ▪ Stones ▪ Kusamono ▪ Demos ▪ Vendor and member sales area. Watch for more details as the date nears. For more information contact Paul Holzen, Pres. Capital City Bonsai Assoc. at: pbholtzen@sbcglobal.net 📧

Membership Application and Renewals

NAME**DATE****I AM A**

- ☐ NEW MEMBER
☐ RETURNING MEMBER

PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ SINGLE (\$45) ☐ HOUSEHOLD (\$65) ☐ STUDENT (\$25)

ADDRESS**CITY****STATE****ZIP****EMAIL**

Please keep your email up to date to receive important updates from the club such as newsletters, shows, and events. We will not share your email outside of our club.

PHONE

- ☐ CELL ☐ HOME

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CLUB?**HOW I CAN HELP THE CLUB****MONTHLY MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS**

- ☐ RAFFLE EVENTS
☐ WORKSHOPS
☐ PROGRAMS
☐ PUBLICITY
☐ BOARD MEMBER
☐ OTHER: _____

ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

- ☐ DOCENT AND OTHER SUPPORT AT BGLM
☐ SETUP/DOCENT MARIN COUNTY FAIR SHOW
☐ AUCTION COMMITTEE
☐ HOLIDAY PARTY

Each member of the club is encouraged to volunteer at monthly and yearly club activities. Please check at least two areas where you can contribute to the club. Thank you!

Make checks payable to **MARIN BONSAI CLUB**
Please send your check and application to
MARIN BONSAI CLUB
PO BOX 1461
ROSS, CA 94957-1461