

Redwood
Empire

Bonsai Society



REBS August 2022 Newsletter

President Message

What a wonderful time we had at the REBS July 30th picnic!

It was so nice to see everyone! It has been over two years, so much to catch up on. And being at this event felt so refreshing and rejuvenating, at least for me. Our club is not only about enjoying our hobby, but being with good people and sharing a laugh or two.

A big thanks to Barbara Bardella for letting us use her home.

Please see the rest of the newsletter for:

New REBS general meeting location
August 6th REBS/Marin Bonsai Club member's joint sale
Beginner's Classes
Santa Nella Bonsai Rendezvous October 8 & 9, 2022

Lastly, we still have several areas of our club that need addressing. George Haas, who has done a fantastic job keeping our communications going (via our newsletter, website, etc.) will be stepping down after December. Without a newsletter, communications will diminish. If you can help with this, please email me.

Take care,

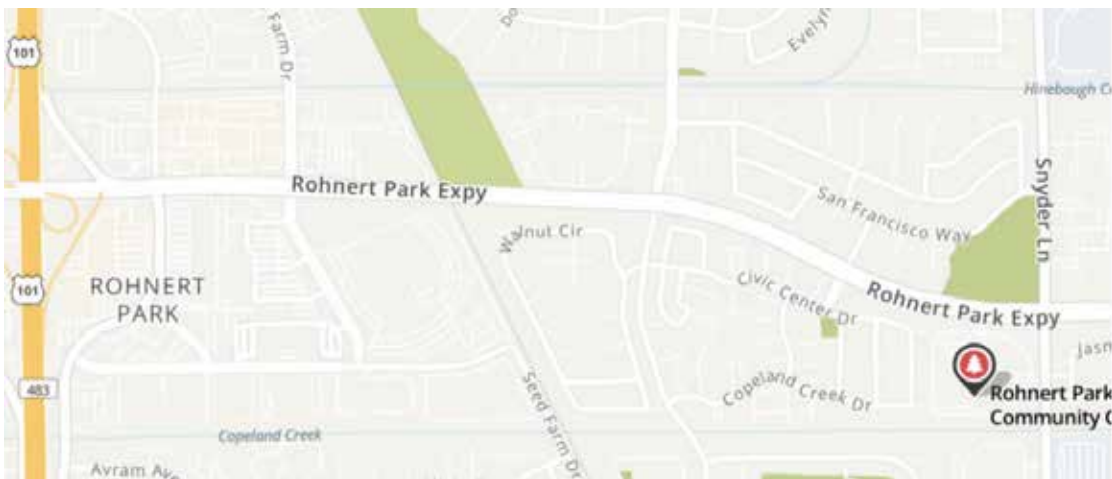
Alan Murakami
REBS President

REBS Board Meeting

No board meeting in July. The next board meeting is scheduled for August 25 from 6:30 to 7:20 p.m. Members are welcome.

Club Scheduled Events

Great News! For the remaining months of 2022, REBS general meetings will be located at the Garden Room, Rohnert Park (Sonoma County) Community Center, 5401 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park, CA .



Rohnert Park (Sonoma County) Community Center
5401 Snyder Lane
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 588-3456

REBS monthly members' workshop will be conducted at the Franklin Park Clubhouse, 2095 Franklin Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA, until further notice. Stay tuned!



Franklin Park Clubhouse
2095 Franklin Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
707-543-3733

<https://www.srcity.org/2501/Franklin-Park-Clubhouse>

Monthly General Meeting/Demonstration:

August 25, 2022, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., located at the **Garden Room, Rohnert Park (Sonoma County) Community Center**, 5401 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park, CA.

Our guest demonstrator is Randall Lee of Alameda, CA. Randall is a professional aesthetic pruner, long-time bonsai enthusiast, and avid bonsai experimenter. He started bonsai in 1984 by reading books and attending a few demonstrations. He is a member of East Bay Bonsai Club and the Merritt Aesthetic Pruners Association. Randall will be working on a cedar for the REBS demonstration. His favorite species are Hinoki Cypress and Cedar.

A board meeting will be conducted prior to the general meeting from 6:30 to 7:20 p.m. Members are welcome.

Monthly Members' Workshops:

The monthly members' workshop on August 4, 2022, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., is located at the Franklin Park Clubhouse, 2095 Franklin Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA.

REBS is pleased to announce it will be having members' workshops scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

All levels of skill are invited. Ivan Lukrich, Michael Murtaugh and Garth Hokanson have graciously offered to lend advice and input. Bring your own tree and materials. Cost: \$15.00 per workshop. Thanks Michael Murtaugh for being our workshop chair. Please email Michael at mrmurtaugh@sbcglobal.net to RSVP and reserve a spot.

COVID Health Safety Statement

COVID protocols are necessary for everyone to be safe and feel comfortable. Please be sure you are fully vaccinated and wearing of face covering is required. If you feel ill or have COVID symptoms, please stay home. Take necessary precautions to protect yourself and others.

Calendar Local Bonsai Events

August 6, 2022 San Rafael, CA

**Marin Bonsai Club (MBC) and
Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS):**

Joint Bonsai Sale, hosted by MBC and REBS, on Saturday, August 6, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Terra Linda Community Center basketball court, 670 Del Ganado Rd, San Rafael.

The sale will include established and starter bonsai trees, pots, tools, stands, etc. Checks and cash accepted. Free admission. Parking available.

Note: Seller forms and price tags must be completed prior to your arrival at the sale. The seller forms and price tags are available through George Haas.

For details, contact Diane Matzen at dcmatzen@gmail.com or George Haas at gwhaas@comcast.net.

October 8 and 9, 2022 Santa Nella, CA

Golden State Bonsai Federation (GSBF):

GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous 2022, on Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9, at the Hotel Mission De Oro, Santa Nella, CA. Free and open to the public. Point of Contact Rich Guillen, richguillen@att.net or 831-348-5015.



GSBF BONSAI **RENDEZVOUS 2022**

SATURDAY: OCTOBER 8TH THRU

SUNDAY: OCTOBER 9TH, 2022

HOTEL MISSION DE ORO • SANTA NELLA, CA

GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous 2022

is a special GSBF event dedicated to the renewal and celebration of the art and people of bonsai.

It's Free and Open to the Public:

- Free daily bonsai demonstrations
- Do-It-Yourself Bonsai work area
- 30+ Northern / Southern California and out of state Vendors in one huge location with trees and supplies
- Silent auctions daily (silent auction consignment opportunities available)
- Mel Ikeda will be leading the Tomodachi group at the Rendezvous
- Donations of bonsai trees and related material for the silent auction are greatly appreciated.

For more information click

"RENDEZVOUS" tab on the GSBF website, [http:// www.gsbfbonsai.org/](http://www.gsbfbonsai.org/)

Or Contact Rich Guillen:

richguillen@att.net, cell: (831) 348-5015

See you there!



Jeff Steen - Red Sorbus

GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous will include a sales area that is open to the public, offering plants, tools, pots, etc.

There will be an opportunity to observe bonsai masters at work, participate in silent auctions and connect with fellow bonsai enthusiasts.

Call Hotel Mission De Oro for a reservation for the Bonsai Rendezvous special rate of \$155 / night (2 night minimum room rate) (202) 626-4444

October 15 & 16, 2022 Sacramento, California

The Capital City Bonsai Association Show will be held at The Shepard Garden and Arts Center (in McKinley Park), 3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816. Show hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., both days. The show is a benefit to raise funds for the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt and will feature trees from:

American Bonsai Association, Sacramento • Bonsai Sekiyu Kai Sacramento Bonsai Club • Satsuki Aikokai Association.

The sale will include established and starter bonsai, pots, tools etc. Admission is free. Contact Paul Holtzen for more information at pbholtzen@sbcglobal.net.

November 12 and 13, 2022 Oakland, CA

Pacific Bonsai Expo:

The Pacific Bonsai Expo is to be held November 12-13, 2022 in Oakland, CA, at the Bridge Yard. The Pacific Bonsai Expo is a juried exhibition featuring 75 outstanding bonsai displays and a selection of the community's top vendors. The Jurors, Bjorn Bjorholm, Ryan Neil, and William N. Valavanis have selected the trees.



Update:

There will be a trophy and \$10,000 in cash prizes, but also the bragging rights for best of show, large conifer, large deciduous, large broad leaf evergreen, medium display, and shohin display.

Tickets for day passes, weekend passes, commemorative book, and banquet will go on sale soon.

On June 23, members were asked to help raise \$500 towards supporting Pacific Bonsai Expo 2022.

On July 30, members surpassed the \$500 goal for a 106%, total of \$530.

Pacific Bonsai Expo
An Exhibition of Extraordinary Bonsai
The Bridge Yard
Oakland, California
November 12-13, 2022

The Pacific Bonsai Expo is the vision of Jonas Dupuich, Eric and Dory Schrader, consisting of the historic Oakland's Bridge Yard venue, 75 displays of juried bonsai and the community's top vendors. There will be a trophy for Best in show and \$10,000 in cash prizes for Large Conifer, Large Deciduous, Large Broadleaf Evergreen, Medium display, and Shohin display. A Saturday evening banquet and awards ceremony will highlight the event. Tickets for day passes, weekend passes, commemorative photo book and banquet will go on sale soon.

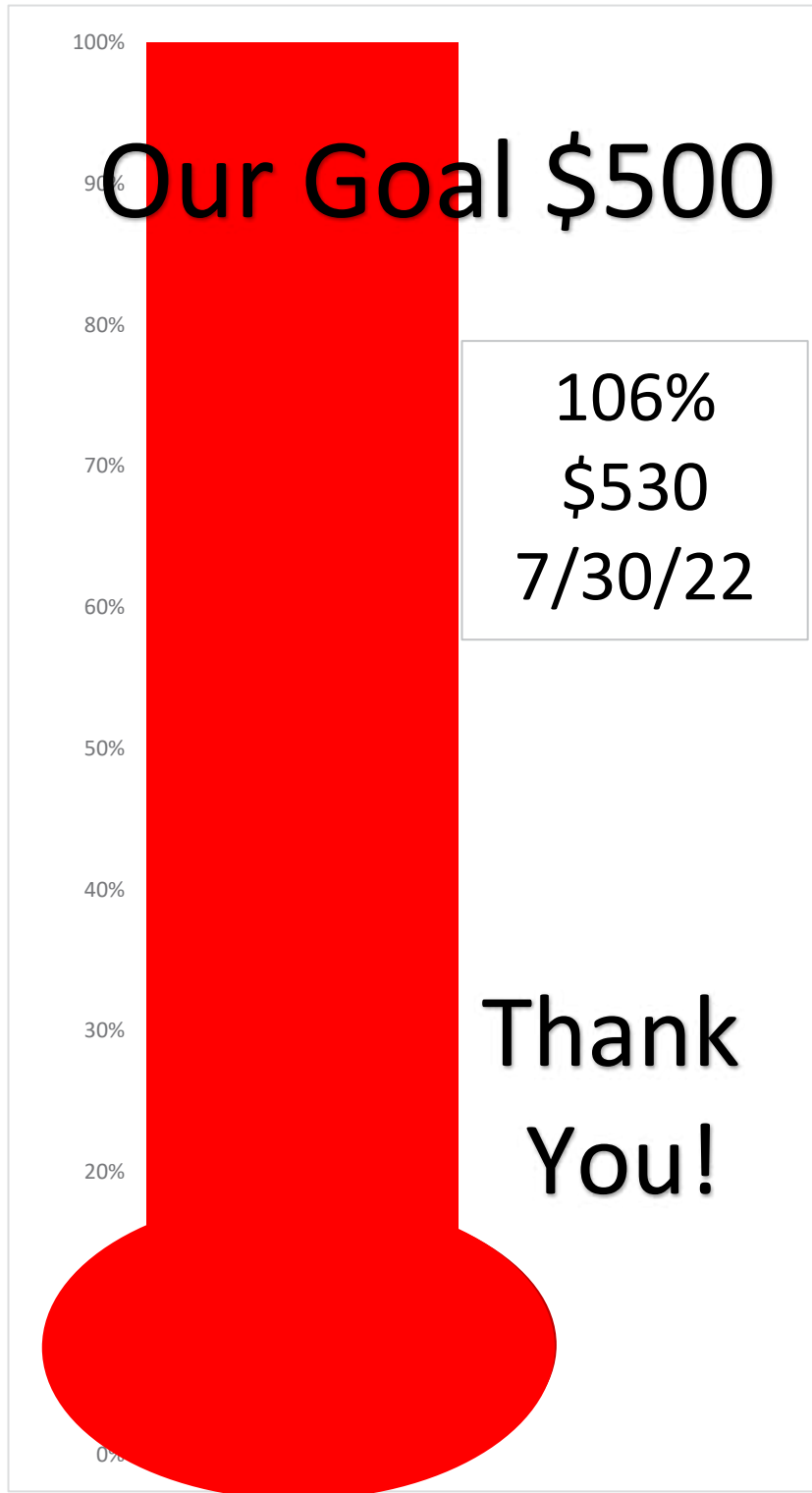
Jurors Bjorn Bjorholm, Ryan Neil, and William N. Valavanis selected the trees. The exhibitors are the judges.

Details can be found at <https://www.pacificbonsaiexpo.com/>

This is just the beginning! For the past 14 years, the east coast held the biannual US National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester, New York. Finally, Pacific Bonsai Expo will be located on the west coast in Oakland, California. There are discussions of making it biannually with the potential of rotating it between Oakland and Portland, Oregon.

It will take a community to build this show. Your support is needed by raising funds and volunteering in the actual event. REBS board has agreed to solicit funds from the membership in an effort to raise \$500 towards direct support of Pacific Bonsai Expo. The funds will provide donor recognition and four admission passes. The four admission passes will be raffled at some future REBS general meeting or event.

Any amount of funds is greatly appreciated. Mail your check payable to REBS with a memo "Pacific Bonsai Expo" to: Treasurer Paul Wycoff, 6550 Stone Bridge Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409-5833



Let's all support PBE 2022 by donating, volunteering and attending the November 12 and 13 event.

Noteworthy

Dennis and Joanne Makishima Auction and Sale:

The Makishima auction and sale held on July 9, 2022, at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, Oakland, CA, was a great success thanks to the support of the bonsai community. Total revenue was over \$141,000 from the auction and sale of bonsai trees. All proceeds go towards the creation of the Dennis and Joanne Makishima Curator Fund. If you want more information on the auction and sale, click on the link below:

<https://oaklandside.org/2022/07/13/couple-auctions-100-bonsai-trees-to-benefit-oaklands-lake-merritt-gardens/>

WANTED - REBS Website Manager & Newsletter Editor:

George Haas, who has done such an outstanding job in these roles announces he wishes to resign from this aspect of his REBS duties. Thus, REBS is seeking a replacement. If you, or you know of someone who is willing to keep this vital REBS role going, please contact Alan Murakami.

Volunteers Wanted:

Volunteering to help out on various REBS and local bonsai events is a sure way to lend support and ensure success. But also you gain first hand knowledge and insight into behind the scenes of bonsai business, whether it might be a show, fundraiser, club officer, board member or appointment.

Here are some upcoming bonsai events to consider being a volunteer:

August 6 joint REBS and Marin Bonsai Club Sale
October 8 & 9 GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous
November 12 & 13 Pacific Bonsai Expo
2023 REBS Annual Show

Something New Added to REBS Website:

Visit the REBS website and click on RESOURCES for the listing of Northern California Bonsai Resources, Bonsai Nurseries and Professional Bonsai Artists.

<https://www.rebsbonsai.org/resources/>

Make Your Own Bonsai Classes – Two dates

Redwood Empire Bonsai Society will offer a 'Make Your Own Bonsai Classes' to any interested student. The class will be held Saturday, September 10, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Each class will have a maximum of eight students and will be held at the bonsai shed in the Bardella Garden, Sebastopol.

Each student will receive a nursery grown tree to design and wire. The student will receive free membership in REBS for the rest of 2022, and the beginners book Bonsai Pocket Guide: a Beginner's Journey by Jason Chan. Aluminum wire will be provided. Senior members of the club will work with students to design and wire a bonsai tree.

The class will require a pre-payment of \$75 to ensure enrollment. Current REBS member pre-payment is \$50. Members will be allowed advance registration and registration will be on a first paid, first served basis.

The class will be repeated again on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., for a second group of eight students.

We will need about five senior club members to work with the students on a one or two student per member basis. The class must be advertised to get full participation, word of mouth and possibly through an article in the Press Democrat and other local papers or a possible radio spot!

If you can volunteer to help in this class or can help with spreading the word, contact me at mrmurtaugh@sbcglobal.net.

Michael Murtaugh

Seasonal Advice for Bonsai Enthusiasts

August

Generally, we can work on just about every type of tree this month. If you plan to cut back and wire the tree (which is stressful for the tree), make sure you look for three signs of health that tells you the tree is ready to be worked on.

- Tree is Bushy
- Tree is growing Runners
- Most of the Foliage has hardened off

Of course, you may not be planning on wiring your tree but you might decided to cut it back. If you do cut back during this month, especially if it's hard cutting, be sure to protect the tree from the heat for a week or so before putting it back on the bench.

The only times we tend to work on trees when they don't show us all three signs of health is when we decided to pinch the new growth. Pinching is just a type of cutting back and when you pinch a branch that is young, you're doing this mainly to weakening it and cause it to divide. Since you're weakening the branch by pinching, the branch doesn't get thick either. In some cases, you may be pinching the whole tree or only part of the tree. Most of the time, you will be pinching runners on the exterior silhouette of the tree and not the new shoots growing out deep inside the tree.

Conifers

For this month, you're mainly going to be cutting and wiring. For Conifers, we will continue to discuss future design, cut-back and thinning techniques. We will also focus on how to develop ideal branch structures to help maintain your Bonsai shape for longer periods of time.

Naturalistic vs Abstract and everything in-between:

There is a lot to know and explore when it comes to bonsai styling. Generally, we all tend to follow a set pattern of what is correct and what is not correct in bonsai. Fortunately, Bonsai is much more complex than that which requires us to spend a great deal of time studying their design and meaning.

Generally speaking, everyone is going to create bonsai slightly or greatly different than one another. The key is to study the Bonsai piece you're viewing and try to understand what the artist is trying to tell you. Sometimes the message is clear and in your face and sometimes it's so subtle that it requires your upmost attention.

Natural is what I tend to hear a lot about when I view bonsai and work with many of you. Naturalistic styles are great because they remind us of what trees look like in nature and Bonsai people tend to like trees in nature so it's very comforting when we see naturalistic styles and uncomfortable or awkward when we see more abstract stylings of Bonsai.

Abstract styles can be fun because generally the goal of Bonsai is to create an interpretation of nature and its age. Which means it's suppose to be "not 100% natural." Abstract stylings can free us from hardline rules and allows us to be more creative whereas natural styles can confine us to a certain shape or movement in the tree. The tricky part is that sometimes we can create a Bonsai so abstract that the viewer may start to wonder if the piece even is a tree at all or is it even required to be plant material in itself vs a piece of clay or marble, etc.

During our workshops, we will continue to explore different Bonsai styles for different types of tree species and find out what direction you'd like to take your Bonsai.

For additional information on monthly bonsai seasonal work, check out the Peter Tea website at [https:// https://www.ptbonsai.com](https://www.ptbonsai.com).

Member Sales

REBS members can use the monthly newsletters to sell their bonsai and related items. Just email the Newsletter Editor a photo of the item or items you want to sell prior to the end of the month. A 20% fee will be charged for any item sold, which goes to support REBS.



Membership Dues

Reminder that membership dues are overdue at this time. Please complete the renewal member application and mail a check to Paul Wycoff, Treasurer, 6550 Stone Bridge Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95409-5833.

<http://www.rebsbonsai.org/membership/>

Featured Bonsai of the Month



REBS annual August 2019 show display held at the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building.
Photo by George Haas

Want to feature your bonsai in the upcoming REBS newsletters? Just email an jpeg or png image, 300 ppi high resolution, to the Newsletter Editor prior to the end of the month.

How to Subscribe to Automatic Email Notifications

SUBSCRIBE TO BLOG VIA EMAIL

Log on to the REBS website www.rebsbonsai.org and scroll down on the left to find SUBSCRIBE TO BLOG VIA EMAIL. You will receive automatic notifications whenever a new blog posting is made.



Comments & Feedback

If you want to add comments and feedback to the REBS monthly newsletters, contact me at gwhaas@comcast.net prior to the end of the month.

George Haas
REBS Newsletter Editor

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