

Redwood
Empire

Bonsai Society



REBS November 2022 Newsletter

President Message

Hello!

Firstly, I am excited to attend the Pacific Bonsai Expo on November 12 down in Oakland. It should be a fantastic event and give the viewer the chance to see some top notch trees, as well as hobnob with fellow enthusiasts. Hope to see fellow REBS members there.

We had a good board and general meeting last Thursday. Once again, Bob Shimon delivered giving an enlightening demo. And there were some new (to me) faces in the crowd. Great to see new members – people who share our bonsai passion.

I encourage our “seasoned” members to go and introduce yourselves to these new folks. Strike up a conversation. I am sure they would appreciate such a warm welcome. (I remember when I first joined REBS and was so touched when I was so positively greeted.) Having new members rejuvenates our group.

The club is planning on a Christmas holiday dinner. So exciting given we have not had this event in two years. More to follow.

Lastly, the board heard that I am beginning to organize demonstrators and programs for our monthly meetings in 2023. This is a chance to let the board know of your interests.

Alan Murakami
REBS President

REBS Board Meeting

On October 27, 2022, a REBS board meeting was held prior to the scheduled general meeting and demonstration. Here are some highlights of that board meeting:

Treasurer's report by Paul Wycoff showed the club in the black with \$33,990.65 as of the end of September 2022.

Joyce Smith led a discussion of having monthly silent auctions at meetings where members can sell bonsai related items. A 20% fee would go to the club where 80% of the proceeds would be retained by the member. The activity would require a member to manage the silent auctions.

Sonoma County Japanese Matsuri Festival 2023, Santa Rosa, California, will be chaired by Michael Murtaugh. Details forthcoming!

Alan Murakami opened discussion for scheduled monthly meeting demonstrations and topics in 2023. A number of topics and artists were identified. George Haas suggested that topics be included which would focus on the 2023 REBS annual show. For example: demo on accents plants in early spring needed for the show in August.

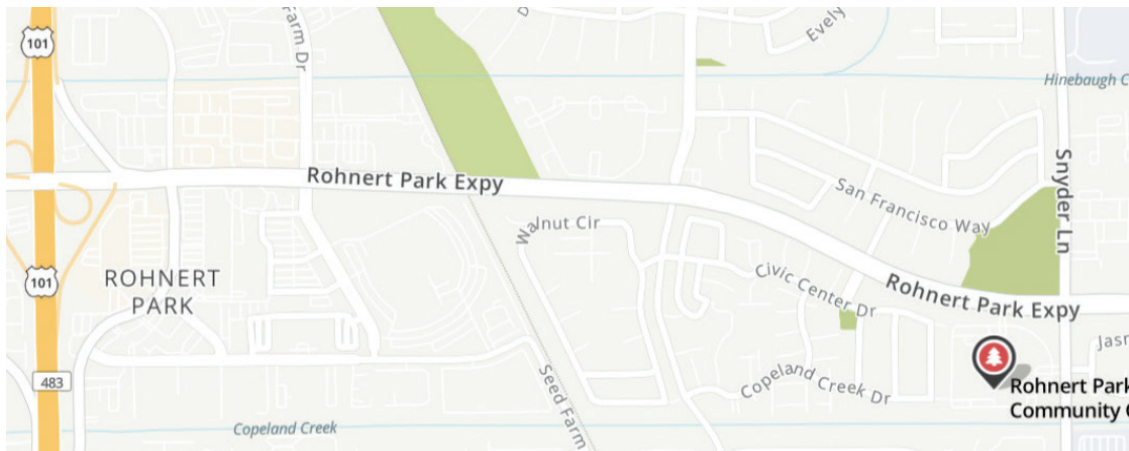
2023 REBS Annual Show report by Bob Shimon. Bob discussed the interests shown already for the workshops and critique by Ryan Neil. Spaces are still available. Pre-payment required. George Haas reported that the club's application for the digital billboard ads was approved and that scheduling will take place in June 2023.

Michael Murtaugh led a discussion of offering beginners additional workshops for follow-on subjects, such as repotting, spring pruning, etc.

Christmas dinner discussion was postponed due to lack of time.

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 .



Directions:

From 101, Exit 483, head for Rohnert Park Expressway toward Sonoma State University

1.5 mi

Turn right onto Snyder Ln

387 ft

Arrive at 5401 Snyder Ln Rohnert Park Community Center

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

Monthly General Meeting/Demonstration:

The next general meeting/demonstration will be on November 17, 2022, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Garden Room, Rohnert Park Community Center, 5401 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park.

Mike Pistello will be the guest demonstrator.

Mike Pistello started in bonsai when he was 13 years old. When 14 years old, he joined the Fuji Bonsai Club in Berkeley, California. There he met bonsai artist and instructor Jimmy Inadomi, who was his first instructor and instilled in him the basics.

A year later, Mike joined the Yamato Bonsai Kai and met Johnny Uchida, the owner and operator of Grove Way Bonsai Nursery in Hayward, California. Mike and Johnny became life-long friends.

In the 2000's, Mike met Boon Manakitivipart and Boon's friend and senpai (senior apprentice, mentor) Akio Kondo of Japan. Mike was inspired by their work and joined the Bay Island Bonsai Club, participating in Boon's bonsai intensive sessions. Mike also worked with internationally recognized artists Ryan Neil and Matt Reel.

Mike is a member of the Bay Area Bonsai Associates and East Bay Bonsai Club. He has conducted workshops for the Golden State Bonsai Federation in Sacramento. He also volunteers at the GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt. There, he has been entrusted as the custodian of a special juniper styled by the legendary Masahiko Kimura in 1987. Mike has performed demonstrations for many clubs throughout California and enjoys teaching bonsai.

Some of Mike's favorite species and collection include: Japanese black pine, Japanese red pine, Sierra juniper, California juniper, and the Itoigawa and Kishu shimpaku juniper cultivars.

Mike's demo tree for November 17, a mature, Shimpaku juniper 'Kishu'

Who will be the lucky winner for the raffle of this wonderful bonsai?



Monthly Members' Workshops:

The monthly members' workshop scheduled for November 3, 2022, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., is located at the **Rohnert Park Community Center**, 5401 Synder Lane, Rohnert Park, CA.

REBS is pleased to announce it will be having all levels, 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 Update

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 optional at all REBS functions. If you feel ill or have COVID symptoms, please stay home. Take necessary precautions to protect yourself and others.

Upcoming Events:

November 5, 2022, Clovis, California

14th Annual Fresno Bonsai Society Yard Sale

Huge Silent Auction with trees from the Clark Bonsai Collection and from private collections. November 05, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 945 Clovis Ave, Clovis, CA 93611. Bonsai, Pre-Bonsai, Pots, Books, Bonsai Supplies all at Central Valley prices. Vendors are welcome...Contact Fresnobonsaisociety.com to get a table.

November 12 and 13, 2022 Oakland, CA

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 27 top vendors.



Community tips on attending the Pacific Bonsai Expo:

- * Weekend and Day passes sold out
- * Don't drive alone, but instead carpool to the venue
- * Consider alternative transportation
- * Check Google Maps for directions to venue
- * Volunteer sign up available to earn day pass
- * Pack lunch for Saturday and Sunday
- * Consider visiting the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt
- * Commemorative album available for pre-order

<https://www.pacificbonsaiexpo.com/collections/all>

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.

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

Noteworthy

Are you subscribed to automatic email notifications whenever a posting to the REBS website blog occurs?

Visit the REBS website and scroll down the left column until you see the SUBSCRIBE TO BLOG VIA EMAIL, see insert below. Enter your email address where it says Email Address and click the button SUBSCRIBE. That's it! You will receive an email notification of any new posting to the REBS website blog. Blog postings occur for post demonstration write ups and special announcements, such as recent club activities and events. Stay informed of club business and activities.

SUBSCRIBE TO BLOG VIA EMAIL

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

SUBSCRIBE

Membership Dues 2023

REBS membership dues become due in January 2023. 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/>

REBS member **Elizabeth Herbert** will be the club's new website manager and newsletter editor, effective January 2023.

The club needs someone to chair the annual Christmas holiday dinner in December. If you are interested, contact Alan Murakami ASAP.

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:

November 12 & 13, 2022 Pacific Bonsai Expo
August 26 & 27, 2023 REBS Annual Show

Seasonal Advice for Bonsai Enthusiasts

November

November is a great month in Bonsai because we can work on just about every Bonsai in our collection. Of course, that means healthy bushy trees that have grown well since the last time you worked on them.

Conifers and Broad Leaf Evergreens can be cut and wired if needed. Be sure to bring both copper and aluminum wire. If you plan on doing heavy bending on conifers, be sure to bring rubber tubing, raffia and different lengths of rebar (12,18,24,32, 36 inch lengths tend to be common sizes of rebar used).

Deciduous can be cut and defoliated. We can wire them this time of year but be sure to watch to wire biting into the branch when the new growth starts to push in the Spring.

Concepts Covered This Month:

Depending on the group, we may focus on some or all of the following topics.

- Heavy/light bending and styling techniques on conifers
- Black/Red Pine needle pulling, cutting and styling concepts
- Deciduous cutting, styling, observations and care cycle
- Insect and Fungus care for Winter
- Observations and rate of Bonsai growth
- Repotting plan for next year
- Care Adjustments for Fall and Winter

Key Concepts to adjust to grow our Bonsai at different rates:

- Sun
- Water
- Soil and Container Size
- Repotting Interval
- Fertilizer
- Cutting

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

Featured Bonsai of the Month



Japanese White Pine (*Pinus parviflora*)
REBS Show & Tell taken on October 27, 2022,
Garden Room, Rohnert Park Community Center.
Displayed by Diane Matzen
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.

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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