

Redwood
Empire

Bonsai Society



REBS December 2022 Newsletter

President Message

What, End of Year?

I look back and am so amazed at how much our club has done this year, thanks to all the hard work of the board, appointees and members.

We have started having general meetings first in Santa Rosa, and now in Rohnert Park. Several demonstrators have “Wowed” us with their expertise and trees. We’ve started having our intermediate and advanced workshops, and we showed our stuff at the Home/Garden Show. Our joint sale with Marin in July was a success as was our July Picnic at the Bardella’s.

REBS had an excellent write up in the local paper leading to several new members and a beginner’s workshop. AND, if that weren’t enough, we now have a major headliner for our 2023 show!

Thanks to all for helping to get REBS back on it’s feet and moving forward.

Lastly....

Our club’s financials are doing very well, largely in part to the tremendous and generous donations from the sales of the Bardella bonsai collection. Thank you Barbara for your continued support to the club (and to Bob Shimon who has spent many hours making this happen.)

Sadly, I recently learned that REBS member, Kurt Kieckhefer has passed. Kurt (and his very dedicated and loving wife Sally) came regularly to our general meetings and intermediate workshops. Kurt's love of bonsai was so evident! We will miss you Kurt, and our deepest condolences to Sally.

Alan Murakami
REBS President

REBS Board Meeting

On November 17, 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 submitted by Paul Wycoff showed the club in the black with \$36,470 as of the end of October 2022.

Suzanne Waxman reported on the arrangements for REBS’ annual Xmas Holiday luncheon to be held at the China Chef Restaurant in Colati, on December 17, 2022.

Alan Murakami reported on efforts to develop an exciting and instructional program for REBS members in 2023. He solicited ideas from board members on various topics and guest demonstrators. Members can also submit their interests in future topics.

DRAFT 2023 REBS PROGRAMS

January	Samuel Tan	Demo & Raffle
February	Ivan Lukrich	Maple Grove Demo
March	Matthew Walker	Demo on Grafting
April	TBD	Demo on Accent Plants
May	TBD	Demo on Bonsai Pots
June	TBD	Demo
July	Annual REBS Picnic	
August	Annual REBS Show	
September	TBD	Demo
October	TBD	Demo
November	TBD	Demo
December	Annual REBS Dinner	

Michael Murtaugh proposed beginner workshops the board approved holding two beginner repotting workshops for February 11 Saturday, and March 11 Saturday. These will be aimed at new beginners who had earlier workshops with us. There will be room for additional first time repotters. Michael will provide further details in future REBS newsletters.

The continuing beginner series of classes is still open for discussion among the senior members. Michael proposed three or four classes throughout the year aimed at first year begin-

ners. The curriculum is still open and there are plans to caucus with senior members and put forward a workable program keeping in mind our current time and resources.

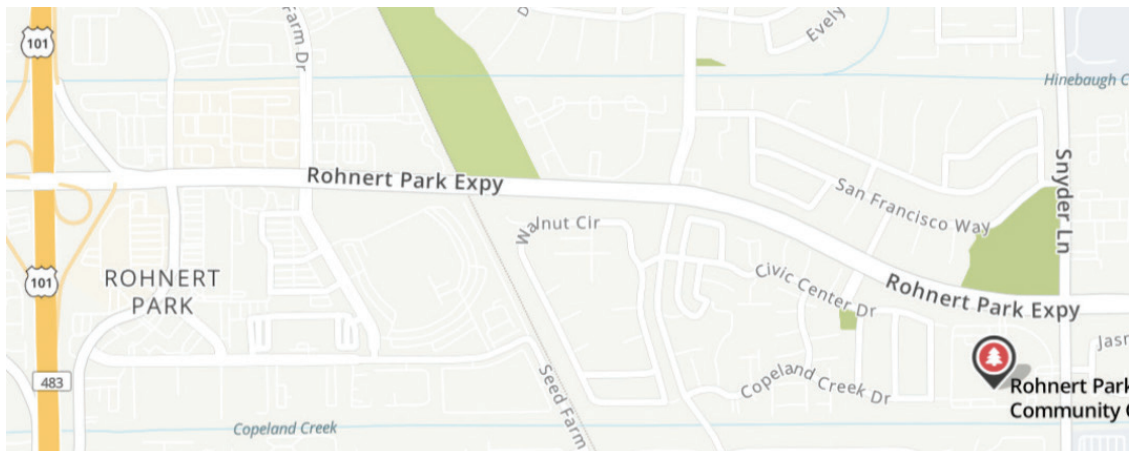
Alan proposed advanced bonsai workshops with professional artists/instructors to be held periodically. Board approved.

Art Kopecky proposed REBS' participation in the Sonoma County Home Show to be held at the Sonoma Fairgrounds on March 17, 18 and 19. Board approved.

Garth Hokanson proposed REBS' board meetings start at 6:15 p.m. and conclude at 7:15 p.m., prior to general meetings. Board approved.

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:

There are no board and general meetings scheduled for December 2022.

Annual Xmas Holiday Luncheon

The REBS annual Xmas Holiday luncheon will be on December 17, 2022, Saturday, starting at 2 p.m., at the China Chef, 7991 Old Redwood Hwy, located in Cotati, California.

Menu includes the following:

Appetizer - Crab Cake	Soup Hot & Sour or Won Ton
Shrimp & Walnuts with Sauce	Mongolian Beef
Sweet & Sour Port	Cashew Chicken
Chow Mein	Fried Rice

Wine table & glasses set up; may bring your own wine (no corkage fee)

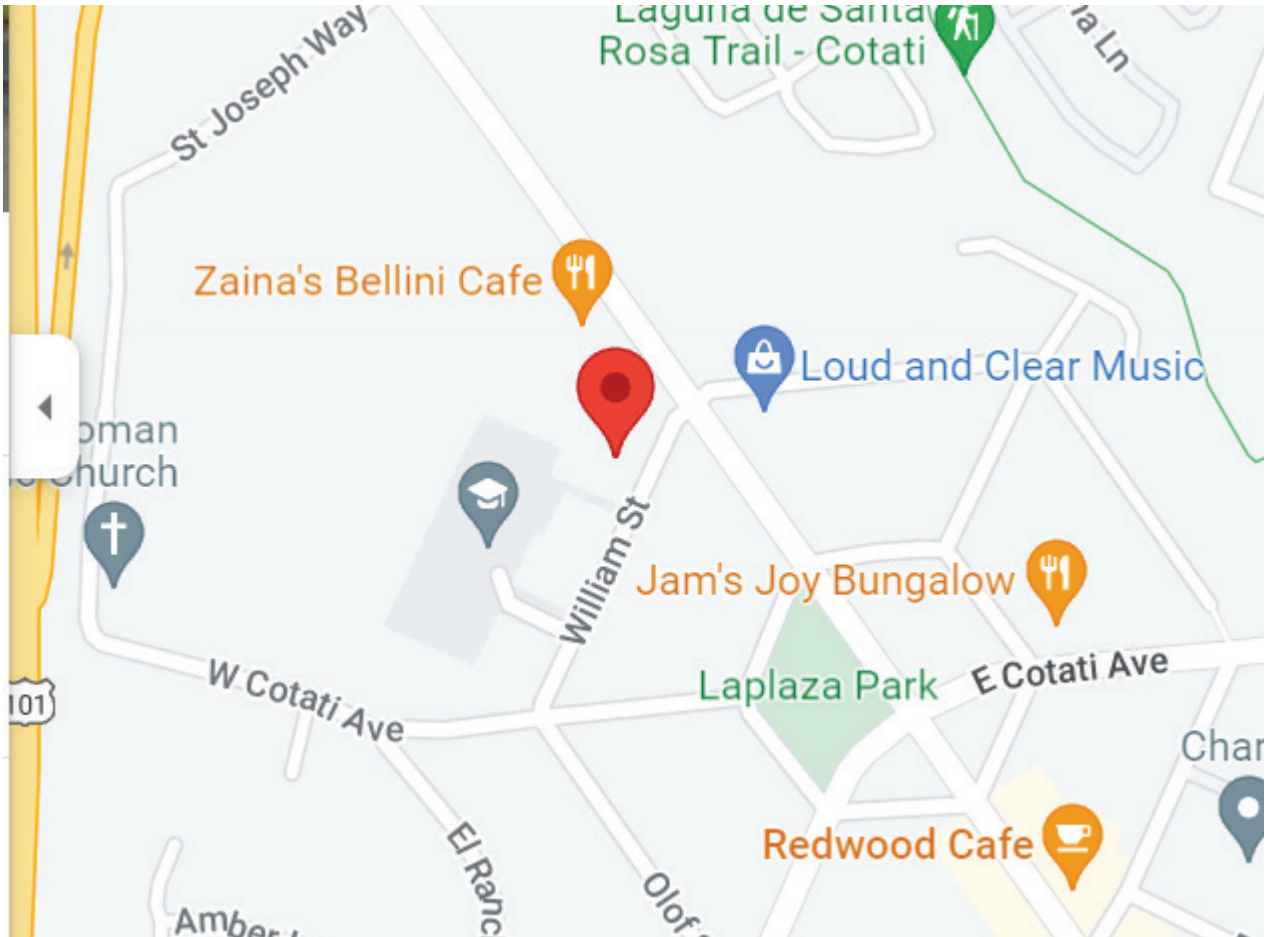
Cost: \$35 per person, includes tax and tip.

Please pay by check payable to Mike Treinen, 4910 Hayfield Ct., Santa Rosa, CA 95404. **RSVP 707-843-1119 or treinen@sonic.net**

Checks and RSVP must be received by Wednesday, December 14, to provide an accurate guest count to the China Chef before the event.



REBS December 2022 Newsletter



Monthly Members' Workshops:

The monthly members' workshop scheduled for December 1, 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:

January 21 & 22, 2023, Temple City, California

59th Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai Winter Silhouette Show and Sale
Jan 21, 2023, 10:00 AM – Jan 22, 2023, 4:30 PM
Temple City Live Oak Park Community , 10144 Bogue St, Temple
City, CA 91780, USA

January 23, 2023, Zoom Presentation by GSBF

Sergio Cuan - Golden Zoom Series for Members of GSBF Clubs
Only! Jan 23, 2023, 6:30 PM PST
Sergio Cuan - GSBF Golden Zoom Series

GSBF Clubs will get the Zoom link to share with their membership
for an evening with Sergio Cuan.

February 3 - 5, 2023, Santa Nella, California

18th Biennial Shohin Seminar
Feb 03, 2023, 10:00 AM – Feb 05, 2023, 12:00 PM
Santa Nella, 13070 CA-33, Santa Nella, CA 95322, USA
The Shohin Seminar is a popular event! You may register and sub-
mit your workshop requests now but getting in relies on lottery
system.

To pre-register visit <https://www.calshohin.org/>

February 18 & 19, 2023, Oakland, California

Annual Mammoth Auction & Sale 2023
Feb 18, 2023, 12:00 PM – Feb 19, 2023, 3:00 PM
Oakland, Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland,
CA 94610, USA

February 18 & 19, 2023, San Marino, California

Bonsai-a-Thon 2023

Feb 18, 2023, 11:00 AM – Feb 19, 2023, 4:00 PM

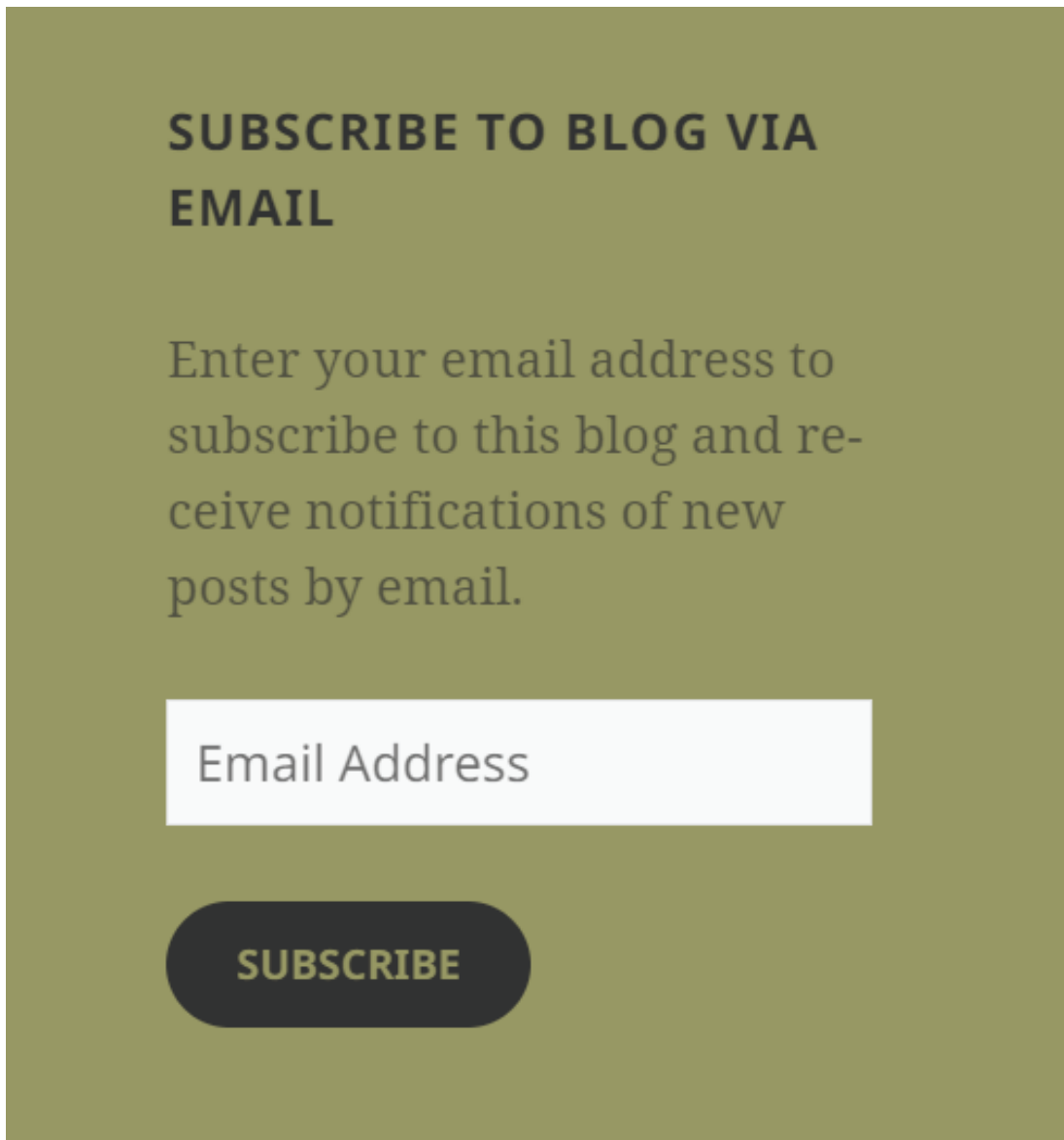
The Huntington, San Marino, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA 91108,
USA

Mark your calendar for Saturday & Sunday, February 18-19, 2023.
Bonsai-a-thon at the Huntington! A weekend of festivities!

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.



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**.

In order to continue to receive monthly newsletters through emails, 2023 membership dues must be paid.

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

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:

**Docent duty, Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt
August 26 & 27, 2023 REBS Annual Show**

Editor's Comment:

This is my last monthly newsletter for the REBS club. I took over the website and newsletter management sometime ago; can't recall the exact year. I wanted to submit the monthly newsletter on a timely basis. I also wanted to use the website primarily as a blog, reporting past club events and activities, whereas the newsletters would report on what's coming. I enjoyed the freedom to create and report on a variety of subjects related to bonsai. Beginning in January 2023, the website and newsletters will be turned over the Elizabeth Herbert. Please continue to submit your ideas and comments to Elizabeth. If you have not signed up to receive automatic emails on website postings, please following the instructions on page 9 of this newsletter.

Seasonal Advice for Bonsai Enthusiasts

December

The Big Freeze

For some of us, December is a time when temperatures can dip below freezing. It's not as common but not something we should ignore. Freezing temperatures can be dangerous to our trees especially if they are stressed (weak, or worked on recently). It is important to recognize trees that are stressed and protect them when we know it is going to freeze. Just like in the Summer when we protect trees from the hard sun, we do the same during the Winter months.

There are many different variety of trees that we work with in Bonsai. Some can take high temperatures and some can take very low temperatures. Become familiar with the temperature ranges of your trees and the type of climate they like to grow in. Once you understand your tree species, you can take the necessary steps in keeping them growing well.

Since we are growing trees for Bonsai in Bonsai pots, there are special considerations we have to take as well. Trees growing in a confined space don't grow as vigorous and may need more protection than trees growing in the ground. Also, because of the nature of how we grow our bonsai (slow, small refined branches), they will not be able to tolerate the elements as well as a full grown tree.

Example: In Nagoya, Japan, it can get very hot in the Summer. The weather can reach 100 degrees with 70-90 percent humidity. Vigorous Trident Maples are left out in the full sun and grow fine. Usually these trees are younger and not as refined. The refined Trident Maples need to be under 50 percent shade cloth or they will burn or loose branches.

So why is that?

Since refined Trident Maples are usually older and have smaller than normal branch thickness (twiggy branches), they can not handle the heat and direct sun. In Bonsai, we're not just shrinking the

tree, but all of its components to keep the tree looking proportionate and to scale.

Keeping an Eye on the Temperature

For the rest of the Winter, the temperatures will fluctuate up and down like always in California. There will be more freezing temperatures to come and for some of you, it's the case every night. Be sure to keep up with the weather report and to take the necessary steps to protect your trees if needed.

Bonsai pots can also break if the soil is compacted and root bound in the pot. Be sure to keep the soil on the dryer side to help in preventing the pot from breaking if you know the temperature is going to drop below 32 degrees. Try to water during the day at not too late at night.

What to Work on this Month

Any Tree that is:

1. Bushy
2. Runners
3. Foliage has hardened off

Since Deciduous trees don't have foliage at this time of year, look for Bushiness and Runners.

Things that will be done on the trees:

Wiring (copper for Conifers and aluminum for Leafy Evergreens)

Styling

Cutting

Cleaning

If you are planning on doing any of the above, please be sure to bring the proper tools and materials such as wire (copper), basic tools for cutting and repotting and a well rested brain.

Repotting

If you are in an area that doesn't experience freezing temperatures at night, December is a time that you can start repotting trees. Start with strong healthy deciduous trees first then move on to your conifers. If the tree is weak or stressed, don't take any chances and repot closer to Spring when the temperatures are higher.

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



Bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea*)
REBS Show & Tell taken on November 17, 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 eherb@cmspan.net prior to the end of the month.

Elizabeth Herbert
REBS Newsletter Editor
& Website Manager

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