



conejo valley

BONSAI society

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A member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation 

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President's Message

Inside: CVBS 18th Annual Exhibition

By Marj Branson

This is a special month for the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society: our deferred 18th Annual Bonsai Exhibition has arrived! Just check out pages 4 – 13 in this issue of our newsletter.

As you know, due to Covid-19, we were not able to hold our annual exhibition at our normal venue, the Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks. So, our newsletter editor, David Whiteside organized this virtual exhibition. Members took pictures of their best bonsai and sent the photos to him for display in this, the November 2021 newsletter. Enjoy this issue of the newsletter as it includes many of your trees.

David reports that 11 CVBS members participated in this year's exhibition, contributing a total of 28 bonsai. Please see page 4 for details.

Experience has taught me that it is hard to deceive the eye of the lens. After I took my pictures, I saw the details of my hackberry silhouette (page 5) that should have had more work. Don't let this discourage you if you spot some flaws in your displayed bonsai—just use the knowledge to improve. Meanwhile, thank you very much for your participation and please enjoy!

We are moving along in the process of getting permission to resume our meetings in the Westlake Village City Hall Community Room. The necessary application has been submitted and acknowledged. We now are awaiting their confirmation. As soon as they confirm, we will be able to get back to holding our monthly meetings at the Community Center, our normal venue in the past. This is all provided Los Angeles County does not come up with any further Covid restrictions. Hopefully, we will be able to firm up our plans in time for the December issue of this newsletter.

Turning to house keeping: we hold our annual election of officers in November. No club members have volunteered to serve as an officer or committee chair in 2022. So, I have prevailed upon the current officers and committee chairs to stay on for another year. See page 2 for the list of current officers and chairs—and note that this list remains the same for the coming year.


During the Covid closures, we have not been able to carry out all of the club activities and get together. We look forward to a new spirit in 2022. As the year progresses and we are able to get together for our monthly meetings, we suggest that club members consider assisting in the running of the club.

Meanwhile, please join me in thanking the current officers and committee chairs for their past service and for agreeing to continue for another year.

Live Events Returning

There are two big California bonsai events coming up early in 2022. First, on February 4 – 6, the 18th Biannual California Shohin Seminar will be held in Santa Nella, California. Second, The Golden State Bonsai Federation's annual event and fundraiser, the Bonsai-A-Thon, will be back live at the Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens February 26 – 27, 2022.

We will be looking for volunteers for the Bonsai-A-Thon, so please keep those dates open. Many Bonsai-A-Thon activities (vendor's hall, demonstrations, auction) are normally held inside. The GSBF is now working with the Huntington to move more activities outside with due consideration for Covid-19 restrictions. With this in mind, more volunteers will be needed than usual. I will keep you updated.

Meanwhile, be safe, stay healthy. 



Marj Branson

Conejo Valley Bonsai Society Meetings

(When Covid-19 restrictions are lifted)

**Westlake Village City Hall
Community Room**
31200 Oakcrest Drive
Westlake Village, CA 91361
3rd Thursday of the Month
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Visit Our Website
www.cvbs-bonsai.org

Follow Us on Facebook
[www.facebook.com/
conejovallebonsaisociety](http://www.facebook.com/conejovallebonsaisociety)

Contact Us

(Click on Email Address)

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CVBS Programs 2021

If you are interested in the CVBS Mentoring Program, please contact Marj Branson for more information & applications to participate.

January 21	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop—BRING YOUR TREES
February 18	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by DEMONSTRATION: TBA
March 18	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop—BRING YOUR TREES
April 15	NOTE SPECIAL TIME AND “PLACE”: ZOOM 7:00 PM: Online via Zoom (members in good standing will be emailed the Zoom link prior to the meeting) DEMONSTRATION: Sergio Cuan / Deciduous Trees
May 20	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop—BRING YOUR TREES
NOTE DATE June 8	NOTE SPECIAL TIME AND “PLACE”: ZOOM 7:30 PM: Joint Zoom event with Bonsai Club of Santa Barbara DEMONSTRATION: Jonas Dupuich / Japanese Black Pine Development and Refinement
NOTE DATE July 8	NOTE SPECIAL DATE AND “PLACE”: ZOOM 7:00 PM: Online via Zoom (members in good standing will be emailed the Zoom link prior to the meeting) DEMONSTRATION: Todd Schlafer / Styling and Detail Work of Collected Juniper
August 19	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop and Swap Meet— BRING YOUR TREES AND OTHER ITEMS
September 16	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting followed by PEER CRITIQUES—BRING YOUR EXHIBITION TREES
October 2–3	CANCELED DUE TO VENUE LIMITATIONS 18TH ANNUAL CVBS EXHIBITION
October 21	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30PM: Brief Meeting followed by Workshop—BRING YOUR TREES
November 18	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM: Brief Meeting with Club Elections followed by DEMONSTRATION: TBA
December 16	CANCELED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS 7:30 PM HOLIDAY POTLUCK, RAFFLE & AUCTION

It's November: What To Do with Your Bonsai?

By Jim Barrett

Editor's Note: While the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's monthly meetings remain suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic, our trees still need attention. We will continue to publish Barrett's Bonsai Tips for the duration.

November can be a frustrating month for hobbyists as well as for our trees. Most trees will continue to grow as long as the weather stays balmy with warm nights (above 45 degrees F).

So what to do? If the weather stays warm, we can still repot (pot-to-pot) black pines and most junipers. It would be better to wait until spring, but if you can't

If your maple leaves are still relatively fresh, they might give you some fall color. If the leaves are tired and worn out, think about removing them.

and have been waiting for cooler weather, it can be done now using common sense with regard to soil and root removal.

If your maple leaves are still relatively fresh, they might give you some fall color. If the leaves are tired and worn out, think about removing them. Make sure they are destroyed and not left on branches or soil surfaces of the bonsai. If you are planning to remove the leaves, then

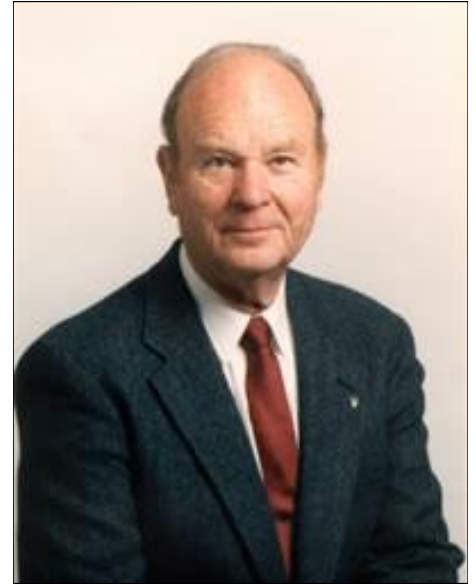
spend some time pruning your unwanted twigs, branches, and deadwood.

Check all wire on your trees this month and remove it if it was applied last spring or if it is beginning to scar the bark.

Black pines should have had their fall candle and branch pruning by now, but if it was not done last month go ahead and do it this month.

Watch for pests, especially red spider mites on junipers. If the weather stays warm, you may find aphids on your crabapples, quince, and other fruiting bonsai. Check for scale on elms.

This month is a good time to restyle junipers and black pines. They will develop their foliage mass quicker in the spring. 🌲



Jim Barrett

CVBS Niche Displays

Virtual Niche Display Program

In normal times, the Niche Program consists of club members setting up mini exhibition displays on a table in our meeting room. But with the Westlake Village City Hall Community Room shuttered until at least January 2022 due to the coronavirus pandemic, this is not possible.

So we are doing virtual niche displays. We are asking niche display volunteers to set up their displays at home, photograph them, and send the pictures plus some comments (a paragraph or two will do) to our newsletter editor, David Whiteside (cvbs.editor@earthlink.net).

Please note that we list the month of the newsletter issue for each Virtual Niche Volunteer (right). For this, the November 2021 issue, there is no niche display due to space needed for the 18th Annual Exhibition. Future volunteers, please note that we will be asking you to do the same as long as in-person meetings are not possible.

We encourage all members to sign up for the niche display! Please have a look at your 2022 calendar and let us know when you would like to present your display.

—Marj Branson

2021 - '22 Niche Displays

(Month of publication)

Nov.	N.A.
Dec.	Ken Fuentes
Jan 2022	Volunteer Needed
Feb.	Volunteer Needed

CVBS Membership

Interested in CVBS?

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society is open to anyone interested in the horticultural art of bonsai. If you are not a member, consider joining now. Once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, we will resume meeting at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of every month in the Westlake Village City Hall Community Room (31200 Oakcrest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361). Please Note: during the pandemic, CVBS has cosponsored several demonstrations via Zoom; DVDs of those are available in our library. Membership includes demonstrations by bonsai experts, workshops, critiques, member swap meets, and this award-winning newsletter.

It's inexpensive and easy to join. Annual dues are \$25 for one, or \$30 for couples. Simply write a check (made payable to the Conejo Valley Bonsai Society) and mail it to: CVBS Membership, c/o Marj Branson, 1169 Triunfo Canyon Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

—Nancy Smeets

18th Annual CVBS Exhibition (Virtual)

By David Whiteside

The Conejo Valley Bonsai Society's 18th Annual Exhibition is an unqualified success. Nearly a dozen club members are participating in this month's virtual event, showing a full 28 bonsai—a record high number of entries. And the show includes a good variety of species with no one dominating the event.

As you know, this year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we could not do a live, in-person annual exhibition at our usual venue, Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks. Instead, for the second year in a row, we are doing it as a virtual event in this newsletter (see pages 4 – 13).

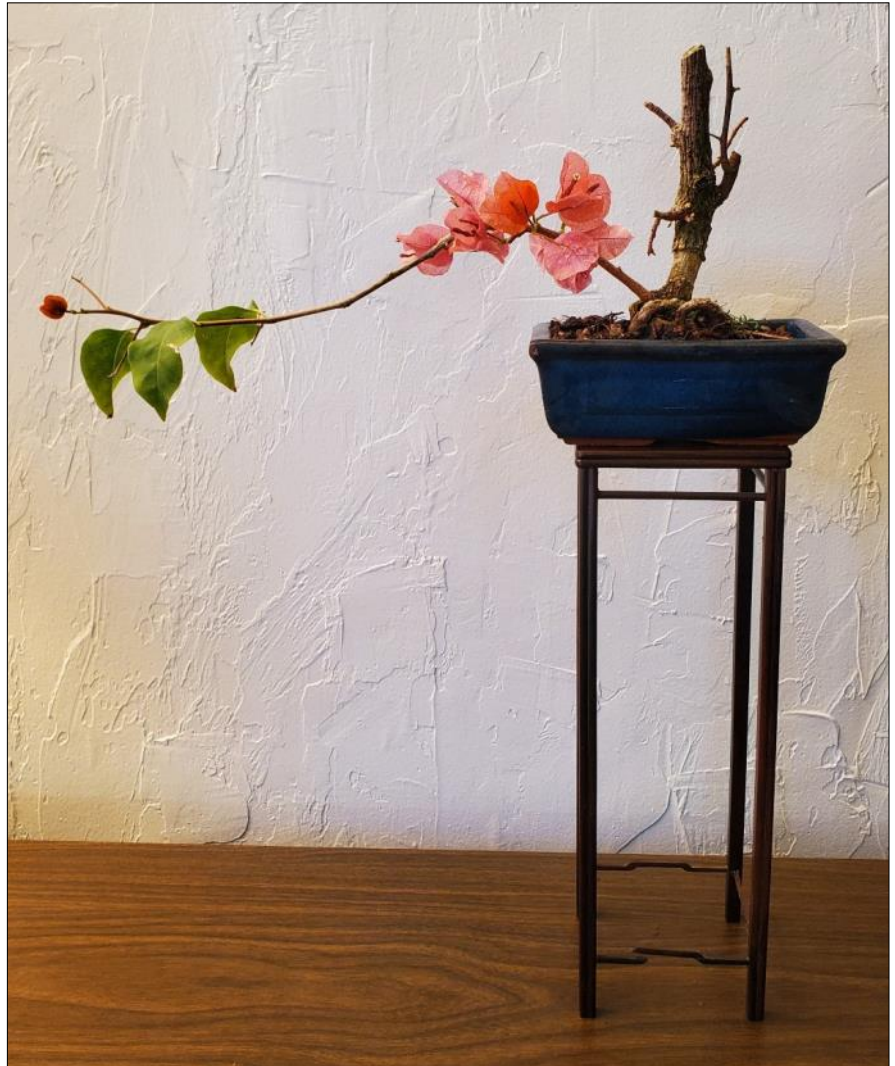
Participation is widespread with all four officers contributing along with other board members and club members. Most of our members live in the local area, so all but one of the exhibited bonsai are from Southern California, but former vice president and lifetime member Ann Lofquist sent a photo from her home in New England.

As has been the case in past CVBS exhibitions, junipers are the most popular with four in the show. But they represent at least three species or subspecies: shimpaku, foemina, and procumbens “nana” junipers.

In addition, there are three specimens of four other species of tree: pomegranate, olive, boxwood, and elm. There are two types of boxwood: Japanese and Kingsville. And two varieties of elm, including one Catlin elm.

There also are two willow leaf figs. And one each of 10 species: maple, silverberry, dwarf jade, Korean hornbeam, cork oak, rosemary, hackberry, gingko, Indian hawthorn, and bougainvillea. Most of the trees shown here and on the following pages are evergreen or still in their summer foliage, but there is one in full fall color—the maple on the next page. And there are three trees showing their winter silhouettes.

Please join me in thanking all of the 18th Annual Exhibition (Virtual) participants. And enjoy the show. 🌳



Bougainvillea
(*Bougainvillea*)
Nancy Smeets
(above)

Willow leaf fig
(*Ficus salicifolia*)
David Whiteside
(left)



All photos by their respective exhibitors

Trident maple
(*Acer buergerianum*)
Ann Lofquist
(right)



Japanese Twisted
Pomegranate
(*Punica granatum* 'Nana')
Damon & Wendy DuBois
(below, left)

Hackberry
(*Celtis occidentalis*)
Marj Branson
(below, right)

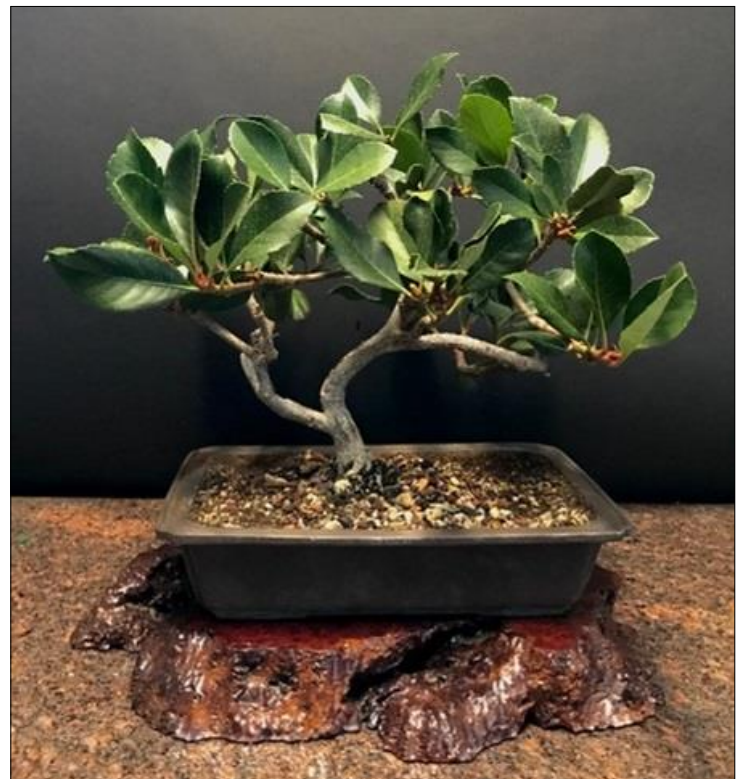


Korean hornbeam
(Carpinus eximia Nakai)
Mike Blumenberg
(originally styled by Jim
Barrett)
(right)



Dwarf jade
(Portulacaria Afra)
Ken Fuentes
(below, left)

Indian hawthorn
(Raphiolepis indica)
Larry Kimmelman
(below, right)

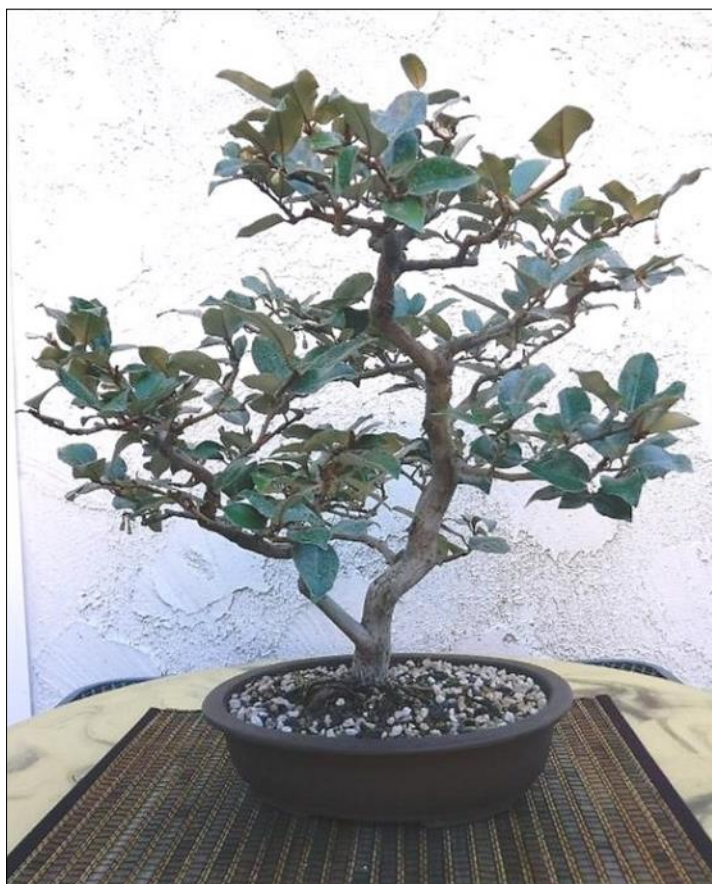


Japanese boxwood
(*Buxus microphylla*)
David Whiteside
(right)



Olive
(*Olea europaea*)
David Williams
(below, left)

Silverberry
(*Elaeagnus commutate*)
Richard Winston
(below, right)

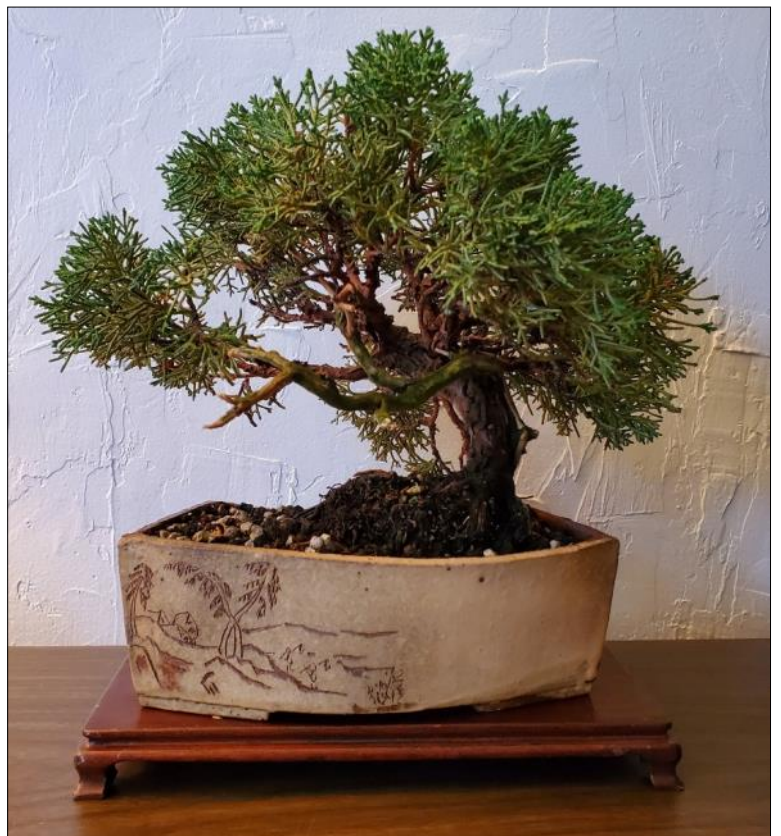


Twisted trunk pomegranate
(*Punica granatum*)
Larry Kimmelman
(right)



Boxwood
(*Buxus*)
Ken Martin
(below, left)

Shimpaku juniper
(*Juniperus chinensis* 'Shimpaku')
Nancy Smeets
(below, right)



Juniper
(Juniperus)
Nancy Smeets
(right)



Kingsville boxwood
(Buxus microphylla 'Kingsville Dwarf')
David Whiteside
(below, left)

Pomegranate
(Punica granatum)
Marj Branson
(below, right)



Rosemary
(*Salvia Rosmarinus*)
Mike Blumenberg
(right)



Elm saikei
(*Ulmus*)
Marj Branson
(below, left)

Olive
(*Olea europaea*)
Nancy Smeets
(below, right)





Procumbens juniper forest
(*Juniperus Chinesis procumbens* 'Nana')
Ken Martin
(above)

Cork oak
(*Quercus suber*)
Mike Blumenberg
(below)

Catlin elm
(*Ulmus parvifolium* 'Catlin')
Larry Kimmelman
(below)



Foemina juniper
(*Juniperus chinensis* 'Foemina')
David Whiteside
(right)



Elm
(*Ulmus*)
Nancy Smeets
(right)



Ginkgo
(Ginkgo biloba)
Marj Branson
(right)



Olive
(Olea europaea)
Ken Martin
(below, left)

Willow leaf fig
(Ficus salicifolia)
Larry Kimmelman
(below, right)



AT PRESS TIME, SOME IN-PERSON BONSAI EVENTS IN CALIFORNIA WERE SCHEDULED DURING 2022 (see below). MANY GARDENS ARE OPEN—NONETHELESS, YOU ARE ADVISED TO CONFIRM STATUS OF THE GARDEN AHEAD OF TIME. WE CONTINUE TO LIST VIRTUAL BONSAI EVENTS AS WELL.

2022

February

February 4 – 6, 2022 Santa Nella, California

18th Biannual California Shohin Seminar at Hotel Mission De Oro, 13070 S. Highway 33, Santa Nella, CA 95322. Call (800) 546-5697 or (209) 826-4444. Please be sure to mention you are making a reservation for the Shohin Seminar to receive our discount. The only event of its kind in the U.S., every two years the California Shohin Society organizes a Shohin Seminar where bonsai masters, teachers, students, and general enthusiasts from all over the country gather to learn and share their love of Shohin bonsai. The seminar includes demonstrations, vendors, exhibition, and workshops. All workshops are held on Saturday, February 5, 2022. Session A: 9:00– 11:45 AM. Session B: 2:00 – 4:45 PM. Please bring your own tools. Wire will be provided. For detailed information and registration forms, please visit the California Shohin Society's website at www.calshohin.org.



February 19 – 20, 2022 Oakland, California

Annual Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt Mammoth Auction & Sale will be held on Saturday, February 19 and Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 666 Bellevue Ave., Lakeside Park Garden Center in Oakland. You are invited to the biggest auction and sale of bonsai, pre-bonsai, pots, books, stands, and related material. A Mammoth fundraiser with all proceeds going to support the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt. Saturday auction preview starts at 12:00 PM with auction starting at 1:00 PM. Sunday sale from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Large showing of vendors, plant sales, and much more. Purchase your bonsai needs. For further information, contact George Haas at gwhaas@comcast.net or stay tuned to BGLM Website.



February 26 – 27, 2022 San Marino, California

Annual Golden State Bonsai Federation Bonsai-A-Thon at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108. Tour the expanded Chinese Garden! Walk through the Bonsai Nursery! Enjoy Vendors, Demonstrations, Auctions, Raffles, Huge Sales Area, Exhibits, Food, and Friends. Suiseki, the Japanese Art of Stone Appreciation talk by Suiseki Master Tom Elias. Foemina Grove creation by Huntington Bonsai Curator Ted Matson. Watch this space for more details and Covid protocols as the GSBF releases the event's details.



Fall Color

The Matthaei Botanical Gardens of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor have reopened to the public. My sister-in-law Mary F. Whiteside sent us photos of two bonsai that were recently on display there. What appears to be a trident maple (below) and a ginkgo (right) showing full fall colors.

—David Whiteside



Photos by Mary F. Whiteside

