



THE TREE SHRINKER

Next EBBS Meeting: **March 11, 2026**

2026 EBBS Schedule

Regular Meetings

2nd Wednesday, every month

March 11 - Randall Lee, Hinoki Cypress, 7:30pm

Mar 22 - Intro to Bonsai at the Garden, Janet Nelson

April 8 - Member Lightning Talks, 7:30pm

- Addison on Kokufu 100th Anniversary
- Michael S on Monterey Cypress from seed
- Lisa Harper on accent plants

Dues are Due!

It's that time again! If you joined after October 1, 2025, you're paid for 2026. Otherwise, you can pay dues in cash, check, or credit card. Drop off cash or check at the next meeting, or use the link on eastbaybonsai.org/membership to pay by credit card. You can also pay at any meeting via Square. Mail your dues to **East Bay Bonsai Society, c/o P. Cahill, 4933 Cochrane Ave, Oakland, CA 94618.**

Annual dues remain the same:

- Single membership: \$30
- Family membership: \$40

March Meeting

Randall Lee on Hinoki Cypress

EBBS club member, Randall Lee is our featured speaker for this month's meeting, and he'll be diving into one of the club's favorites: Hinoki cypress (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*). Hinoki is often called "Hinoki cedar" (even though it isn't a cedar), and it's prized for its fan-like foliage that builds gorgeous layered pads in bonsai.

Fun fact: hinoki wood has been used for centuries in Japanese temples thanks to its natural rot resistance—and if you've ever caught that fresh, citrusy-resin scent while pruning, you've met the tree's signature oils.

Come ready for practical tips on keeping interior growth alive, managing density, and refining silhouette without turning your hinoki into a green blob.

Thanks to Russ Meyer, Ashley Pouliot, Alise Offeman for bringing refreshments to our March meeting.



*Award-winning
Shinpaku Juniper from
Kokufu 2026*

(photo by Mike Hagedorn)

More pictures inside...

February Meeting with Leslie Buck

Leslie gave a talk that stitched together **Kyoto garden apprenticeship lessons** with **bonsai education and community outreach back home**. She deliberately kept the scope tight (because she has too many good stories) and centered on three arcs: **Dennis, Mas, and Kyoto**, using vivid photos (including shots featuring **Bill Costellon** and **Randall Lee**) to bring each chapter to life.

Wendy won the raffle prize, the *Cutting Back* book.
Janice Dilbeck won the gift certificate to *Bonsai Tonight* from the survey.





Mammoth Auction & Sale

March 7-8

The catalog for the Auction is now on the website!!! You can download it at:

[Mammoth-Auction-Catalog-2026-Online-Version-1.pdf](#)

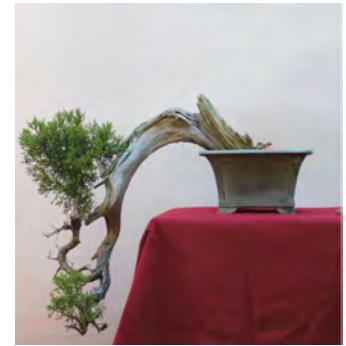
Bidders who buy paddles will receive a full printed catalog of available trees.

The Bonsai Garden is still looking for volunteers to sign up for help for the 2026 Mammoth Auction and Sale, March 7- 8.

Please use the link for SignUp Genius:"

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4DABA729A6FAC34-61255523-mammoth>

Here are some of the amazing trees that will be available for bid!

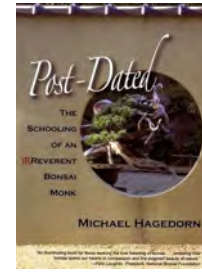
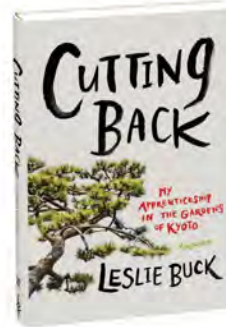




Bonsai Calendar

- We're very lucky in Northern California to see our trees start to show signs of waking up from the winter! Don't forget to rotate trees **2X** this month.
- This is the end of repotting season, so get any last repots you might have done.
- You can start to fertilize conifers in March! Too much fertilizer too early could produce long internodes on deciduous, Don't feed trees for at least 2-3 weeks after repotting!
- Deciduous trees may be air-layered if they have not yet pushed new growth. Otherwise, wait until the new growth hardens in late spring. It's also the ideal time for grafting
- Continue to reduce watering, but keep an eye on your trees because you'll need to water more often soon.
- Check old wiring for biting as trees start pushing growth.
- Trim branches on flowering trees before buds form so they have time to develop.
- Scout pests now: aphids love fresh tips; catch them before they throw a party.

Refer to the EBBS Bonsai Seasonal guide for more info on care.



Library Update

Many of you are aware that our club has a library that is carted out, with books placed on a table at the front of the room during our monthly meetings. The library has long been underutilized, and we are planning a major overhaul. We have well over 200 publications, but only a handful of these have been checked out. There are dozens of magazines, all with interesting articles, but none have been recently checked out. Many of the books are old, outdated, or unrelated to bonsai. We even have old VHS tapes!

Consequently, our first bold action is to get rid of the VHS tapes! We are putting the magazines 'on notice' such that we are encouraging members to peruse them but they will also no longer be on the cart after a three month trial run. Books that are duplicates, or unrelated to bonsai or Suiseki may end up in the raffle.

OTOH we are encouraging donations of appropriate books to our library. We know that good books are out there! Recent donations to our cart include *Cutting Back* by Leslie Buck (donated by Ashley), a great Suiseki book (donated by Alise), Michael Hagedorn's (*Post-Dated*, a narrative of his apprenticeship in Japan and *Bonsai Heresy*) and Jonas Dupuis (*The Little Book of Bonsai* and *The Essential Bonsai Book*) donated by me. Of course, as a courtesy to others, remember to sign out the books and return them on time.

It is also becoming clearer that some of the best new videos can surpass books in many ways. We hope to move into the 21 st century by making a periodic recommendation of good ones. For this month, a particularly good video is a Jonas Dupuis talk on deadwood for bonsai, given to the ABS. It is on You Tube (with the oblige brief ads...sigh)

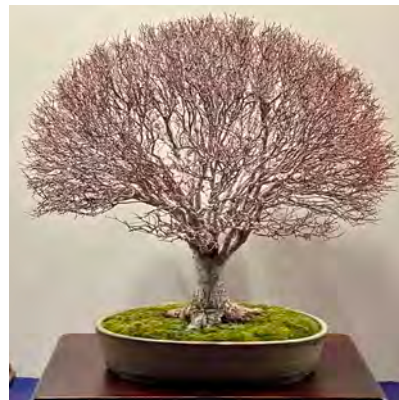
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PW6GJp15GLQ&t=23s>

If you have questions regarding the library, please contact the Library Committee, as we are handling the transition.

Michael Jensen-Akula, Ashley Pouliot, Laurien Fiddes, Pat Cahill

Kokufu 2026

Thanks to Michael Hagedorn for publishing these photos on his blog from the world's most prestigious bonsai show. AMAZING!!!!





Online Tour
April 4-5, 2026
10am-5pm

In-person Tour
Sat May 2, 2026
Bayside gardens
Sun May 3, 2026
Inland gardens
10am-5pm



Bringing Back
the
Natives
Garden Tour
& Green Home Features Showcase

A tour of 60 Alameda and Contra Costa county gardens and homes

Join the conversation!

facebook.com/groups/ebbs

facebook.com/groups/ebbsmembers

instagram.com/eastbaybonsai/

twitter.com/EastBayBonsai

www.eastbaybonsai.org

Member Ads

Each member can run a free ad in the newsletter once a year. Email Adam at adam@tractionco.com to submit yours.

Newsletter Contributors

Editor: Adam Kleinberg

Contributors: Adam Kleinberg,
Michael Jensen-Akula, ChatGPT,
Suzanne Muller

Photography: Leslie Buck, Michael Hagedorn, Redwood Empire Bonsai Society

Upcoming Bonsai Events

Fresno Bonsai Society Annual Bonsai Show

Mar 06, 2026, 10:00 AM - Mar 08, 2026, 5:00 PM, Fresno Fair Grounds, 1121 S Chance Ave, Fresno, CA. Annual show + sale at the Fresno Home and Garden Show with daily live demos and a free Bonsai Basics 101 class Sunday at 3:15 pm.

BGLM 2026 Mammoth Live Auction

Mar 07, 2026, 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM, Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA. Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt's biggest fundraiser: Live Auction Saturday.

BGLM 2026 Mammoth Vendor and Consignment Sale

Mar 08, 2026, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA. Fundraiser continues with vendor and consignment sales Sunday.

San Jose Betsuin Bonsai Club 51st Annual Bonsai Exhibition

Mar 28, 2026, 11:00 AM - Mar 29, 2026, 4:00 PM, San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 640 N 5th St, San Jose, CA. Demos both days at 1pm (David Nguy Saturday; Sam Adina Sunday), plus vendor/club plant sales and a benefit drawing.

American Bonsai Association Sacramento Bonsai Show and Sale

Apr 11, 2026, 7:00 PM - Apr 12, 2026, 11:00 PM, Sacramento Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento, CA. Beginner workshops, member/vendor sales, and daily demos by headliner Jennifer Price (1:30-3:30 PM), followed by a raffle.

Kusamura Bonsai Club 66th Annual Show

Apr 18, 2026, 12:00 PM - Apr 19, 2026, 4:00 PM, Addison School, 1045 Webster St, Palo Alto, CA. 60+ bonsai on display. Headliner Jennifer Price: demo Saturday 1-3; workshop Sunday 1-3

Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai and Yamato Bonsai Show

May 30, 2026, 7:00 PM - May 31, 2026, 11:00 PM, Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA. Combined show (Satsuki azaleas + more) with a round-robin demo Saturday 1-3 and vendor/member sales.

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Annual Show and Sale

Jun 13, 2026, 7:00 PM - Jun 14, 2026, 11:00 PM, San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA. Demo Saturday 1-3 (Steve Jang) and workshop Sunday 1-3 (Valerie Monroe), plus raffles, clinic, and sales.

Valley Bonsai Society 17th Annual Show

Jun 20, 2026, 10:00 AM - Jun 21, 2026, 4:00 PM, Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Ln, Livermore, CA. Demo at 1pm both days with the finished tree raffled after; bonsai supplies for sale.

Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS) Bonsai Show

Aug 22, 2026, 10:00 AM - Aug 23, 2026, 4:00 PM, Rohnert Park Community Center, 5401 Snyder Ln, Rohnert Park, CA. Headliner Sam Tan with formal displays, workshops, sales, and auctions.