



# THE TREE SHRINKER

East Bay Bonsai Society Auction: **June 11, 2025**

## 2025 EBBS Schedule

### Regular Meetings

2nd Wednesday, every month  
(except June & Oct.) @ 7:30pm

**June 7** - Member Garden Tour & Artist Visit

**June 11** - EBBS Annual Auction

**July 9** - Steve Ilwaki, Carving & Styling Redwoods

**Aug 13** - Jonas Dupuich, Tree Display

**September 19** - Set-up for Annual Show

**September 20 & 21** - EBBS Annual Show

**NOTE: the show is being held in Sept instead of October this year.**

**Oct 8** - Bill Castellon, Pines

**Nov 12** - Eric Schrader

\* at the Bonsai Garden workshop

## Club Shirts!

Interested in an EBBS shirt? They are now available for purchase at <https://east-bay-bonsai-society.myspreadshop.com/>. Please email Freddie at [fjwinter@yahoo.com](mailto:fjwinter@yahoo.com) with questions.



## June Meeting: 2025 EBBS Auction!

It's that time again! The East Bay Bonsai Society's yearly auction will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. Set-up will start at 6:00 pm, auction items should arrive at 6:30 for checking in. Preview of auction items begins at 7:00 pm. Bidding will start at 7:30 pm.



**Get your sale items ready.** Clean up trees that you plan to sell, pull any weeds from the soil, remove dead leaves and needles, trim branches if needed, and clean the pot. For pots, clean off dirt, old screens and wire, perhaps apply a light film of oil to bring out the color or sheen. Tools should be clean of dirt and rust.

There is a limit of 10 items per Seller and items should maintain a value of at least \$10. Several items may be bundled together as a "Lot" to be auctioned as one item.

Grouped items should be packaged together with shrink-wrap, tape or boxed. You may set a reserve price if you wish the item to sell for at least a minimum value.

**Fill out sale forms.** Seller log sheets and tree tags are attached to this newsletter. A completed 3-part tag must be attached to each auction item, before it is placed on the preview tables. When filling out the tags and sheet, use 3-letter initials followed by sequential numerical identification of each item (i.e.:SMM01). Be sure to repeat the information on all 3 sections of the tags. Tags should be clipped between sections for easy release, but not cut all the way through.

Consignment sellers will receive 75% of the sale price, with 25% going to EBBS to help support its programs. Donation sellers authorize 100% of the sale price for EBBS.

**Volunteers**—expect to receive your assignments by email on June 1st. If you have not been contacted and still want to help, plan to be at the Garden Center by 6:00 pm on Wednesday June 11 to set up tables and chairs.

**Mark your calendar** and plan to bring your **checkbook, cash or credit card** to bid on any trees or bonsai items that may appear, and you could add to your collection.

We are excited to have our own **Addison Galambos and John Doig** serve as auctioneers again this year, and we look forward to an energetic evening of bidding activity. Questions may be directed to auction coordinators: Suzanne Muller at 925-787-1349 or [queueinteriors@comcast.net](mailto:queueinteriors@comcast.net), or Bev Martinez at 925-437-2347 or [Martinez\\_Bev@yahoo.com](mailto:Martinez_Bev@yahoo.com).

**AUCTION FORMS AND TREE TAGS ARE INCLUDED IN THE EMAIL THAT WENT OUT WITH THIS NEWSLETTER!**

— written by Bev Martinez



## May Meeting Recap - Andrew Robson on Fruiting and Flowering Trees

Earlier this month we were fortunate to have Andrew Robson back to teach us about fruiting and flowering bonsai tree development. Andrew is an award winning bonsai artist in the American bonsai community.



### **We also had our 1st club workshop!**

Members have been asking for more opportunities to roll up our sleeves and work on trees together. Kudos to the EBBS board for planning this opportunity to do that! Members brought in trees an hour in advance of our club meeting, bonsai vets shared their knowledge, and newbies got a chance to learn from our experts. We'll do it again in July – an awesome new tradition for our club!



# East Bay Bonsai Society 2025 Garden Tour Delights Members

On May 24, 2025, the East Bay Bonsai Society (EBBS) hosted an enchanting tour of two exceptional gardens for its members. The event showcased a diverse array of bonsai collections, landscaping styles, and horticultural expertise.





## Bonsai Calendar

### Water

Keep an eye on the heat! Water 2 or even 3 times on hot days if needed to keep trees moist in the heat.

### De-Candling

In the Bay area, June is the time to de-candle Japanese Black and Red Pines. In hotter climates, wait until July to de-candle!

Peter Tea has a great post on his blog about decandling. It's [worth a read](#).

### Fertilizing

Continue regular feeding of deciduous trees and conifers. Stop feeding pines after decandling and do not fertilize Satsuki Azaleas

### Styling/Pruning

Watch for wire biting and remove old wire at this time.

Defoliation your Japanese Maples except for lower branches that you are growing out to thicken.

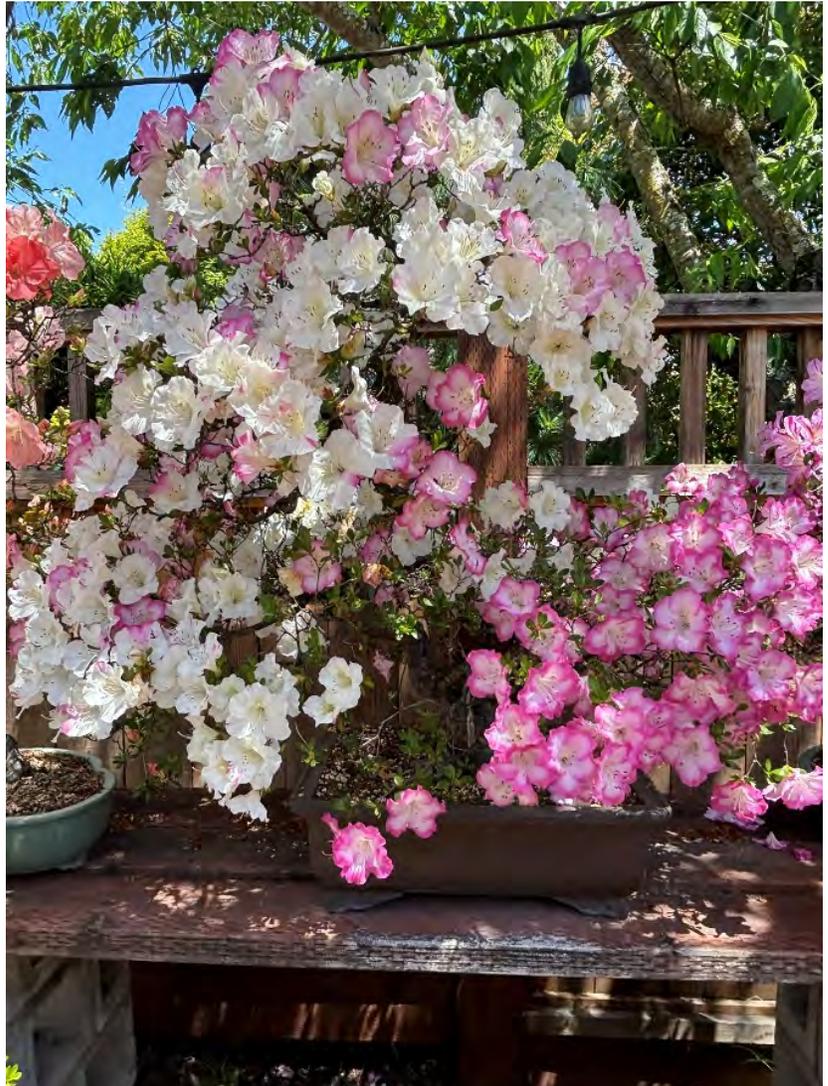
This is an important time for cutting back and thinning your trees. Cutting back is used to create a division to ramify the tree or to weaken the tree in an area like at the top. Thinning is used when you have too many branches in one area or branches that are too thick in an area—removing them makes the remaining branches stronger.

### Insect and disease control

Apply fungicide and pesticide once a month as a preventative. Immediately treat any fungus or pest problems you discover.

Safer Soap or liquid Sevin can be used to control aphids

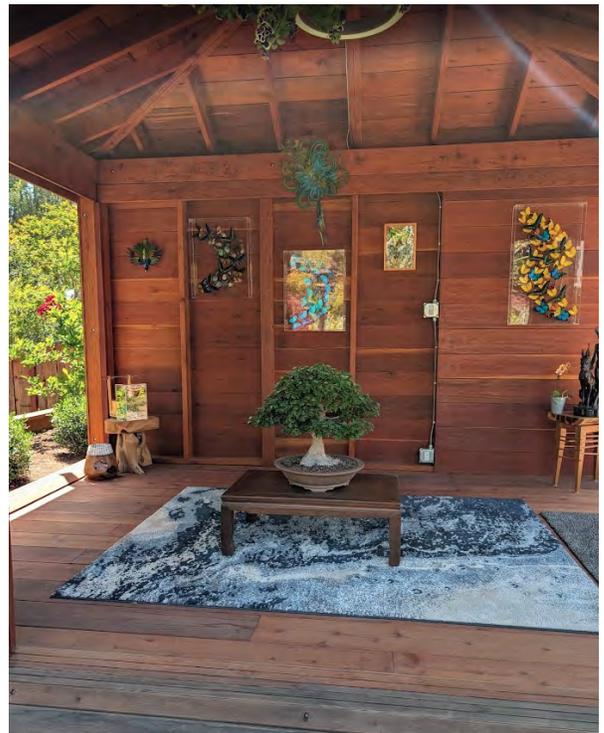
The tour began at Ron and Linda Reid's Japanese-style garden in Danville. Highlights included a tranquil koi pond with a waterfall, nestled beneath a towering Japanese Maple. Other notable features were various species of Japanese Maples, Black and Red Pines, and Hinoki Cypress planted in the ground. A standout of the garden was the Reids' impressive collection of Satsuki Azaleas, which were in full bloom, delighting attendees with their vibrant colors.



The next stop took members to David Gateno's garden in Livermore, where he has curated an extraordinary bonsai collection. David's inspiration, combined with the craftsmanship of Jay McDonald, has resulted in a breathtaking Japanese garden. It's not just a bonsai collection; the garden also features a tea house, a stream, and a pond with lily pads and hungry koi fish. What makes it



even more remarkable is that this stunning garden was created in under three years, starting with nothing but a bare backyard and a vision.





The tour will continue on June 7th with a visit to the garden of John Doig and Janice Dilbeck. John will have bonsai trees available for sale, so be sure to bring your checkbooks (no credit cards, please). Additionally, we will tour the workshop and garden of renowned bonsai artist

Jay McDonald. will also offer a demonstration on pruning various types of trees, making it a perfect opportunity for those looking to improve their pruning skills. This tour offered a unique opportunity for EBBS members to draw

inspiration, exchange knowledge, and strengthen community bonds. The success of these events highlights the vibrant and engaged nature of the East Bay Bonsai community, as well as the invaluable benefits of EBBS membership in providing access to such exceptional gardens.

– written by Bryan Morgan

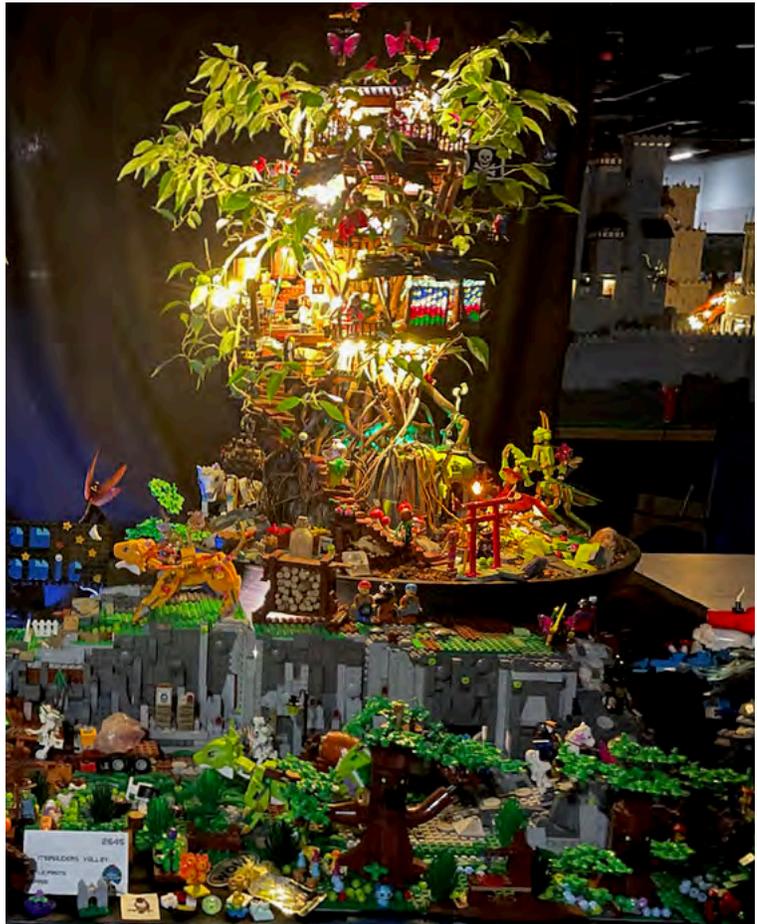
## LEGO Redux!

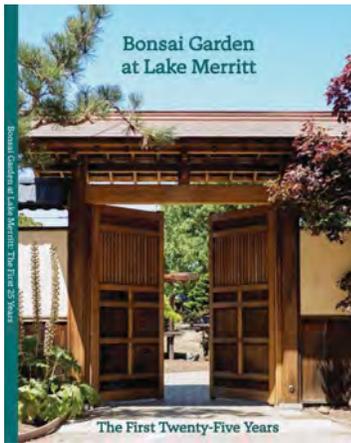
Last month, I did a story on Jeremy Stervemer's presentation at the LEGO convention in Portland in May, so I wanted to follow up and share these cool pictures from his presentation.

Jeremy's treehouse and greater display were wonderfully received and was a "Committee Favorite" by the convention organizers. It included 2 curated ficus benjamina, over 100 LEDs and 3 motors. Additionally his LEGO bonsai cascade was an honorable mention in the Art category. Tree folks praised his care and training of the tree while LEGO folks couldn't believe it was a real tree and were shocked when he watered them!

**If you enjoy these, check out more photos online at:**

**<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCeTME>**





## News from the Garden

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**Writers needed** - The BGLM is looking for volunteers who enjoy writing and would like to help with articles for their newsletter for the website.

Contact Suzanne Muller for more information at 925.787.1349 or [queueinteriors@comcast.net](mailto:queueinteriors@comcast.net).

## Join the conversation!

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[facebook.com/groups/ebbs](https://facebook.com/groups/ebbs)

[facebook.com/groups/ebbsmembers](https://facebook.com/groups/ebbsmembers)

[instagram.com/eastbaybonsai/](https://instagram.com/eastbaybonsai/)

[twitter.com/EastBayBonsai](https://twitter.com/EastBayBonsai)

[www.eastbaybonsai.org](http://www.eastbaybonsai.org)

## Member Ads

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Each member can run a free ad in the newsletter once a year. Email Adam at [adam@tractionco.com](mailto:adam@tractionco.com) to submit yours.

## Newsletter Contributors

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**Editor:** Adam Kleinberg

**Contributors:** Adam Kleinberg, Bryan Morgan, Bev Martinez

**Photography:** Adam Kleinberg, Addison Galambos, Jeremy Stevermer, Bryan Morgan

## Upcoming Bonsai Events

**Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Bonsai Show and Sale** Sat, Jun 7-8, 10am - 4pm, San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA . Featuring Chicago bonsai professional, Jennifer Price each day from 1-3pm with raffle to follow.

**East Bay Bonsai Society Live Auction**, Wed, Jun 11, 7:00-10:00pm, Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA. The East Bay Bonsai Society will be having an in-person bonsai auction on Wednesday, June 11th, at Lakeside Garden Center. The auction preview at 7:00 pm, live auction starts at 7:30pm. Auction is open to all buyers and sellers. Credit cards, checks and cash accepted.

**16th Annual Valley Bonsai Society Show**, Jun 21-22, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Ln, Livermore, CA, Daily demonstrations at 1PM . The finished demo tree will be raffled at the end of the demonstrations. Bonsai pots, soil, etc. available for purchase.

**Marin Bonsai Club 2025 Show: Tiny trees. Tiny Creatures.** June 2-6, 11:00am - 11:00pm, Marin County Fair, 10 Ave of the Flags, San Rafael, CA. A show of beautiful bonsai. Explore their important relationship with the insect world. Come see the Formal Tree display, Bonsai Techniques exhibit, ongoing demonstrations, bonsai experts to answer questions, and more! More information at [marinbonsai.org](http://marinbonsai.org).

**Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS) Bonsai Show** Aug 23- 24, 10am-4pm. Rohnert Park Community Center, 5401 Snyder Ln, Rohnert Park, CA. Featuring Mike Pistello, Bonsai artist and instructor, winner of the Joshua Roth Rising Stars Competition at GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous 2023

**Midori Bonsai Club 62nd Annual Bonsai Show: Bonsai Style | Trees That Captivate The Eye.** Sat, Oct 04, 2025, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Quinlan Community Center, 10185 N Stelling Rd, Cupertino, CA . Beginner's Workshop, Free Admission, Live Demonstration, Ikebana and Dr. Bonsai.

**GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous 2025** Oct 24-26, 9:00am - 1:00pm, Santa Nella, 13070 CA-33, Santa Nella, Biennial GSBF event. Headliners, Suthin Sukosolvisit and Mauro Stemberger will host BYT workshops on Friday. Multiple workshops will be held Friday and Saturday. Vendors all three days. Free educational seminars and BYB hospitality hours. Live and silent auctions.