

# VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

APRIL 2026

*Livermore, California*

**MISSION:** To encourage and equip each other as we share a common interest and enjoyment of Bonsai and to encourage others to explore this art form.

[HTTP://WWW.VALLEYBONSAISOCIETY.COM](http://www.valleybonsaisociety.com)

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- WHAT IS THE VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY
- MEETINGS
- NEWSLETTER, EMAIL LIST AND WEBSITE
- MEMBERSHIP
- APRIL MEETING
- MAY MEETING
- UPCOMING EVENTS
- SENPAI CORNER
- ELECTIONS
- TIDBITS
- THANK YOU ALDEN LANE
- VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY OFFICERS & CONTACTS

## WHAT IS THE VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY?



50 weeks.

Founded in February 2008 by Charles Harder, this organization was established to create a group of local Bonsai enthusiasts with all level of expertise. Many of us started by taking one or more of Charles' classes, some received a plant as a gift and some had been struggling on their own. We currently have some people with extensive collections; some have trained trees as long as 50 years and some are still trying to get a tree to survive

## MEETINGS

The club meets at Alden Lane every third Saturday of the month at 2:00PM. Everyone is welcome!

## NEWSLETTER, EMAIL LIST AND WEBSITE

We maintain an e-mail distribution list of our members to release announcements and send out the monthly newsletter. Please send a request to be added to (or removed from) this list via e-mail to Charles Harder ([bonsainut@comcast.net](mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net)).

We have a website! Visit us at [www.valleybonsaisociety.com](http://www.valleybonsaisociety.com). Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyBonsai> or Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/Valley\\_Bonsai\\_Society](https://www.instagram.com/Valley_Bonsai_Society)

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone who shares an interest in the ancient oriental horticultural art of Bonsai. The annual dues are \$30 a year for an individual or \$40 for couples or families. If you would rather not pay for a membership, you have the option of paying \$5.00 per visit. If you have questions regarding membership or would like to join, please contact Bea Bauerly [BelgianBea@yahoo.com](mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com)

## APRIL MEETING BY CHARLES

At our well attended April meeting, we continued to discuss preparations for our upcoming show. Members brought in lots of great trees to get advice and to work on. The excitement (at least for me) for what will be displayed continues to build!

## MAY MEETING BY CHARLES

At our May meeting, we will finalize our discussion on show preparation plus a short demonstration on shoot pruning for black pines, since June is the ideal time to perform this activity.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **San Mateo Bonsai Club Show**

Sun, May 17, 2026, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

San Mateo JACC Gardener's Hall, 503 E 5th Ave, San Mateo, CA 94402, USA

Please attend our annual bonsai show. In addition to beautiful bonsai trees to view, our member sales area will offer items for purchase. Bring your bonsai trees to our clinic to obtain guidance and suggestions.

### **Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai and Yamato Bonsai Show**

Sat, May 30 May 30, 2026, 7:00 PM – May 31, 2026, 11:00 PM

Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA 94610, USA

Come join us for a combined show featuring the beautiful colors of Satsuki azalea bonsai, Pines, Junipers, and other living bonsai art forms. Round-robin demonstration on Saturday from 1pm-3pm. Vendor and member sales. Hours: Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4

### **Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Annual Show and Sale**

Sat, Jun 13, 2026, 10:00 AM – Jun 14, 2026, 4:00 PM

San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA 94403, USA

Saturday: Demo by Steve Jang from 1 to 3 pm & Sunday watch bonsai workshop by club sensei, Valerie Monroe from 11 to 3 pm. Demo trees raffled at 3:00 each day. Exhibition of over 30 trees, Door Prizes, Raffle Prizes, Tree Clinic, Vendor & Club Sales daily. More info at [seibokubonsaikai.org](http://seibokubonsaikai.org)

### **Valley Bonsai Society Show**

Jun 20, 2026, 10:00 AM – Jun 21, 2026, 4:00 PM

Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Ln, Livermore, CA 94550, USA

There will be a demonstration at 1pm on both days. The finished tree will be raffled off at the end of the demonstration. Bonsai pots, soil, trees, etc. will be available for purchase. Admission is free.

## SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

I don't know about you, but I always am excited by this time of year. With the

flowers and trees blooming, the new buds emerging, although it seems that they did that much earlier than normal this year...and the turtles fighting for control of the log in my pond. But there are so many things happening, that it seems like every day I encounter something new to enjoy and take care of. Add to all this, there is our show that is quickly coming up and I feel like there may not be enough time to take care of all that is needed. But I always reflect that I do actually enjoy this time and embrace the chaos of nature as it unfolds. I look forward to seeing all the magnificent trees in about a month and am looking forward to the show and the excitement and enjoyment that the members will have as well as the people who attend.

## ELECTIONS

Positions on the Board are still available. Please contact Bea if you are interested.

## TIDBITS BY BEA

May will be our last meeting before the Bonsai exhibition and all members are encouraged to show at least one tree...it does not matter if your tree is not a showstopper. Trees in all stages will encourage any potential new member to give this art a try. By lowering expectations to an attainable goal, it puts less pressure on the newcomer. We want to share that anyone can do Bonsai, will a little patience and some guidance.

## THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane  
Livermore, CA 94550  
(925) 447-0280  
[www.aldenlane.com](http://www.aldenlane.com)

Thanks to Alden Lane for sponsoring our meetings at the nursery. The nursery has evergreen, blooming trained Bonsai specimens in many sizes for indoors, and outdoor gardens. Stop in and let one of the Bonsai experts help you design your own Bonsai masterpiece from the selection of Bonsai pots and starter plants. They also carry Bonsai tools and enough useful Bonsai accessories to satisfy even the most dedicated bonsai tree hobbyist.

The nice thing about meeting at Alden Lane is that you have the opportunity to not only pick up bonsai stock and supplies but to shop under the oaks amongst one of the most extensive offerings for your home and garden. Inspiration and beauty abounds wherever you look along with the friendly, knowledgeable staff of Alden Lane. Do not forget to say THANK YOU for the incredible support!

## SOCIETY OFFICERS AND CONTACTS

**President**

Charles Harder

[bonsainut@comcast.net](mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net)

<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Open Position</b>	
<b>Social Media</b>	Gerardo Gutierrez	<a href="mailto:gguti18@yahoo.com">gguti18@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Bea Bauerly	<a href="mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com">BelgianBea@yahoo.com</a>
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<b>Membership</b>	Bea Bauerly	<a href="mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com">BelgianBea@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>Open Position</b>	
<b>Newsletter</b>	Charles Harder	<a href="mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net">bonsainut@comcast.net</a>
<b>Website</b>	Bill Bauerly	<a href="mailto:Bill46@pacbell.net">Bill46@pacbell.net</a>

If you need to contact any of the above, please make sure to reference "Valley Bonsai Society" in the subject line.