

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

AUGUST 2019

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)

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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

An email list is maintained to release announcements and send out an electronic newsletter. Please send a request to be added to (or removed from) this list via e-mail to Charles Harder (bonsainut@comcast.net). We have a website! Visit us at www.valleybonsaisociety.com

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'd 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

AUGUST MEETING

August meeting was a discussion about our show, what worked, what didn't and what we wanted to do next year. So we are planning on having 2'x3' posters showing the various Bonsai styles as well as the bullet points of the demonstration. Also possibly having an assistant doing the talking while the tree is getting styled, so the demo can be completed in a reasonable time. The other items discussed were (1) to have styled trees with care instructions at our sales table, as people attending the show seem to want to buy a completed tree. (More to follow on that subject) and (2) Raffle a membership.

Finally, Dave Caeton volunteered to advertise our show in the Golden State and Dave Wright will advertise in all the local publications.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting will be a workshop, so bring a tree to work on, or just show off. We are back in a time where it is reasonable to re-pot, as your trees are going through a short burst of energy and growing period in preparation for winter. Repotting now, allows for the tree to settle in, the roots to begin to re-establish and then new branches begin to harden off. Then next spring, the tree is ready to spend all of its energy growing and developing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 12 - 13, 2019 Oakland, California

East Bay Bonsai Society: Annual Show at the Lakeside Park Garden Center at Lake Merritt, located at 666 Bellevue Avenue. Show hours are Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM and Sunday 10 AM - 4 PM with a demonstration at 1PM on Sunday by Sergio Cuan, notable bonsai artist awarded the "finest deciduous bonsai" at the US National Bonsai Exhibition. There will also be a benefit drawing and sale of bonsai and related materials. For additional information, visit www.eastbaybonsai.org.

October 19, 2019 Cupertino, California

Midori Bonsai Club: 58th Annual Show at the Quinlan Community Center, 10185 N. Stelling Rd. Show hours are 10 AM – 5 PM with demonstration by John Thompson at 1:30 PM and demonstration tree raffled off afterwards. Enjoy our new location and show room with over 60 trees on display. Show will include many vendors selling bonsai related items. Included a large club tree sale, and Doctor Bonsai will be their for guest who bring in a outside bonsai trees. Formal in class bonsai school for outsiders at 10 AM who want to purchase a bonsai starter tree for a nominal charge. Free admission, and plenty of free parking outside the building facility. For further information contact: Jack Christiansen (408) 280-7539, or Jackchristiansen@sbcglobal.net.

SENPAI CORNER

With Fall starting September 23rd, your trees are getting ready for winter. This year's growth is beginning to harden, your trees are going to put a last

little growth period, and remember, leaves will start to wither and go yellow on your deciduous trees. It is inevitable, that I will get contacted by a concerned bonsai owner, worried about their maple tree's leaves getting yellow and falling off. Another thing you should be considering is changing your fertilizer to low or zero nitrogen; so when looking at your package of fertilizer, the first number should be zero or at most five.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS

We talk often about fertilizer and everyone has a specific product that they prefer. We have mentioned Osmocote, Miracle grow, Grape Seed cakes, Apex, Fish Emulsion....all these are products that you must buy. But, there are things that you probably use on a regular basis that won't cost a thing and can benefit your plants.

Tea bags

- I keep an empty orange juice bottle filled with water on my kitchen counter and every morning after I have had my tea I simply put my tea bag in that bottle for a cold brew. I then use that water to water my plants. Potted plants benefit from the many minerals in this everyday beverage. I also use the wet tea bags around the base of my orchids. It provides the humidity that it requires.
- You can also use the dry tealeaves when you plant root crops, such as carrots or onions. Tear open an individual-size tea bag, and dump the leaves in the planting hole. This should keep the root maggots away.
- If you start your plants from seeds, you may be familiar with damping off. Damping off (or damping-off) is a horticultural disease or condition, caused by several different pathogens that kill or weaken seeds or seedlings before or after they germinate. It is most prevalent in wet and cool conditions. A simple ingredient can stop this fungal. After drinking some chamomile tea, drop the used bag into 3 ¾ cup of water. After the tea bag as soaked a while, remove it, and pour the water over your seedlings.
- Beat iron deficiency with tea. Acid-loving shrubs grown in alkaline soil can end up low in iron. Watch for yellowing leaves on rhododendrons, azaleas and blueberries. At the first sign, give them a sip of tea. Steep used tea bags and pour the cooled liquid around the base of these plants for an instant boost.
- Keep slugs away by surrounding a plant with a circle of tea eaves and coffee grounds.

Pickle Juice

Don't dump out the juice left in the jar after you eat the last of the pickles. Mix it with water, and pour it around your flowering gardenia and azalea bushes. These acid-loving plants will appreciate a slightly lower pH from the vinegar in pickle juice. But keep the solution weak to avoid doing any damage to your prize bloomers. Ratio is 1/20.

In addition to gardenia and azalea bushes, camellias, beech, willow, oak, dogwood are also acid loving.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane
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www.aldenlane.com

Thanks to Alden Lane for allowing us to meet for free at the nursery as we start up. Alden Lane Nursery has evergreen and 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 where ever you look along with the friendly, knowledgeable staff of Alden Lane. Don't forget to say THANK YOU for the incredible support!

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND CONTACTS

President	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
Vice President	Open Position	
Secretary	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Membership	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Fund Raising	Open Position	
Newsletter	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
Website	Bill Bauerly	Bill46@pacbell.net

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