

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2025

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

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).

We have a website! Visit us at www.valleybonsaisociety.com. Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyBonsai> or Instagram: 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

DECEMBER LUNCH BY BEA

The December holiday lunch was a wonderful gathering at Lemongrass. A big "Thank you" to Bea for organizing everything and for the wonderful little ornaments.



JANUARY MEETING BY CHARLES

The January meeting is our annual soil event. The basic components: Akadama, Pumice and Lava will be available for purchase; please bring your own 1-gallon bags to fill. Premixed soil in 1-gallon bag will also be available. I will take this opportunity to review the different components and their use. You can also refer to your membership binder. The rest of the meeting will be spent answering questions and/or providing advice as needed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Bay Area Bonsai Associates 42nd Annual Show January 17 and 18](#)

Jan 17, 2026, 5:30 PM – Jan 18, 2026, 4:00 PM

Garden Center at Lake Merritt, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA 94610, USA

Exhibit of fine bonsai, plant sales, raffle, food, and beverages. Free admission. Light dinner Saturday followed by 7pm presentation by Japanese-trained bonsai artist Adam Toth. \$5 parking until 6 pm. Hours: Sat 5:30 - 9:00 pm. Sun 10-4. Questions Ron at 925-997-4446 or ronreid221@gmail.com.

BGLM 2026 Mammoth Live Auction

Mar 07, 2026, 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM

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

Please refer to our website at <https://bonsailakemerritt.com/mammoth-auction-sale-fundraiser/> for more information

The Mammoth Fundraiser is the Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt's largest fundraiser of the year! The Live Auction will be held on Saturday, March 7 and Vendor and Consignments Sales are on Sunday, March 8

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

As we enter this new year, I am reflecting on how we grow and learn from our bonsai community, and how each one of us provides inspiration and ideas that we lend to each other, in the development and growth of our trees. As we interact with each other, we take away a little from the other and we apply it or learn from it. Our own journey and development in this art is always influenced by the people and trees we observe, from the shows we attend (or host), or even the ones we see in nature. Each of these interactions sometimes subtly or sometimes with an "ah hah!" moment provides us the skills and techniques that we will use going forward. Always learning, always growing, just like our trees.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS BY BEA

Happy New Year to all!
With the New Year come the new dues. Just a reminder that your membership fee is now due. We accept cash, check, PayPal or Venmo.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane
Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 447-0280
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
Vice President	Open Position	
Social Media	Gerardo Gutierrez	gquti18@yahoo.com
Secretary	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Membership	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Fundraising	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.