

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2015

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?



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's 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 50 weeks.

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! It's just getting going but it's looking good. Thank you Bea Bauerly for keeping it going and up to date. Visit us at www.valleybonsaisociety.com

MEMBERSHIP

DUES WERE DUE JANUARY 1ST. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RENEWED, PLEASE DO SO AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. IF YOU ARE NOT PLANNING ON RENEWING, PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO BB1727@ATT.COM AND YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE DISTRIBUTION.

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. 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 (bb1727@att.com)

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February meeting saw a lot of progress on everyone's trees. This has been an exciting project as I am seeing people beginning to work outside their comfort level and trying new techniques and willing to be more adventurous with their styling. These trees will be a wonderful addition to our show this year and I look forward to seeing the trees develop further.



So where do I start?

MARCH MEETING

Our March meeting will be at Alden Lane at 2:00 as usual. For this meeting, we will continue with styling and developing our trees. Photos will be taken to document everyone's progress and to add to the collage to be displayed at our annual show in June. This month, we will have a discussion on bonsai soil, what are the various components that make up the soil and what is the function of each particle used. We will have the materials for you to purchase at a reasonable cost. This will be a good opportunity to repot your trees if you have not already done so.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 18th – 22nd the Bonsai Society of San Francisco will have a bonsai exhibit at the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. Wed-Sat 10A.M. – 7P.M. and Sun 10A.M. – 6P.M. plant sales and demonstrations all five days

SENPai CORNER

Hello everyone. March is an exciting time. This is when your trees wake up and the buds swell and the first couple of leaves appear. We will need to keep on top of our pruning and keeping our trees shape maintained. And keep a close eye on any branches that you have wired, because with the dramatics growth your trees are going through, there is the risk that the branch will swell past the wire and cause that dreaded spiral scar. Continue to monitor your moisture levels and watch for sneaky overnight frosts and if you have not already started, begin fertilizing your trees.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS

Looking for tools, wire, books – Stone Lantern is a good place to start.

<http://www.stonelantern.com>

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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

981 Alden Lane
Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 447-0280
www.aldenlane.com

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	bb1727@att.com
Treasurer	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
Membership	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
Fund Raising & Plant Tager	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.=