

# VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2016

*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'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

## 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](mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net)). We have a website! Visit us at [www.valleybonsaisociety.com](http://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. 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](mailto:bb1727@att.com))

## FEBRUARY MEETING

At the February meeting, we discussed soil and its properties. For a nominal

fee, members were able to purchase the various components to mix up their own soil. Some members took this opportunity to transplant their trees.



## MARCH MEETING

Our March meeting will be at the normal meeting time of 2:00 P.M on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at Alden Lane. This month, we will discuss deciduous tree styling as well as pruning, wiring and jinning/carving. I hope to see you all there and make sure to bring in a tree or two to work on.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2-3: Santa Cruz Ca

Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai 28<sup>th</sup> annual show at the museum of art and history, 705 Front st. 10:00A.M. - 5:00P.M. Both days with demonstrations at 2:00. Raffles and sales area

April 2-3: Sacramento, Ca.

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside blvd. 11:00 – 5:00 Saturday and 10:00 – 4:00 Sunday

Raffle, silent auction and sales area

## SENPAI CORNER

Fertilizing is an important part of maintaining healthy and beautiful bonsai, and most bonsai soils do not have very much (if any) nutritive elements. Your bonsai depend on you for feeding. Feed regularly and often, especially for your younger trees when rapid growth is desired. Maintain frequent applications of fertilizer during the growing season, especially if you are using the traditional bonsai soil and liquid fertilizer. With pellets and cakes it will depend on how quickly they break down which will determine how often you will need to replace them. If you are using pellets over cake type fertilizer, you can add a few pellets every week this will assure that at least some pellets are at their nutrition releasing peak at all times.

## ELECTIONS

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

## TIDBITS

Charles and I had the opportunity to attend the GSBF Annual Mammoth Fundraiser in Oakland on February 28<sup>th</sup>. We both came back with a few trees to add to our collection. If you have the chance, next year, this is a great place to get some trees and also some great starters from Lone Pine Nursery.



## THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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[www.aldenlane.com](http://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

<b>President</b>	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
<b>Vice President</b>	Open Position	
<b>Secretary</b>	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
<b>Membership</b>	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
<b>Fund Raising &amp; Plant Tager</b>	Open Position	
<b>Newsletter</b>	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
<b>Website</b>	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.