

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2024

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' 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

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

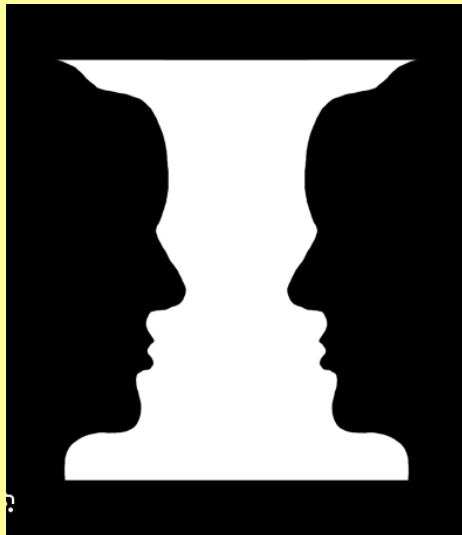
FEBRUARY MEETING BY CHARLES

The February meeting started with a discussion on negative space. What is negative space? It is kind of what it sounds like; using negative spaces to help add to the “shape” of your tree. For example, on a cascade where the trunk line loops up and over, forming the apex; or the use of a piece of jin to “point” to where the perceived apex should be. These are two examples of the use of negative space.

Here is the definition of negative space in Wikipedia:

Negative space in art, also referred to as "air space", is the space around and between objects. Instead of focusing on drawing the actual object, for a negative space drawing, the focus is on what is between the objects.

A well-known example would be:



The remainder of the meeting was a general repotting workshop.





MARCH MEETING BY CHARLES

Our March meeting will be a discussion on wiring techniques, and then a general workshop. Now is the time to start thinking about which tree(s) you might want to put into the show this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

San Jose Betsuin Bonsai Club 49th Bonsai Exhibit

Bonsai Demonstration Saturday at 1pm by David Nguy and Sunday at 1pm by a club member. Benefit Drawing immediately following the demonstrations. Sales scheduled: West America (David & June, Chino, CA), Legacy Cork Oaks (Barry, Hacienda Heights, CA) For more information, text 408-476-1488; Phone: 408-296-7660. Event hours: Saturday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

Mar 16, 2024, 11:00 AM – Mar 17, 2024, 4:00 PM
640 N 5th St, San Jose, CA 95112, USA

American Bonsai Association, Sacramento's Annual Show

Member CONCESSION Tables • BEGINNERS' WORKSHOP: Sunday, 10 AM-12 PM, includes tree, pot, and instruction (Call Dodie Newman at (916) 799-9575 to reserve a space.)

• Daily Benefit RAFFLE will include each day's demonstration trees and many bonsai and related items.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE www.abasbonsai.org for more information.
Phone: (+1) 916-799-9575

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

This last week I made time to get out to the Academy of Sciences to see the

Corpse Flower that had bloomed.

It got me thinking about how much we have to pay attention to all the various details we do for our trees, and the hope that they survive the winter months and emerge radiant in spring.

It is amazing to think that we water, fertilize and tend our trees and are excited come spring when flowers bloom and leaves emerge. Whereas with this particular plant, one waters and fertilizes and one hopes and prays that all is well – **for 7 to 10 years**, before you know that you were doing everything right.

It is a deciduous plant that will produce leaves, that can reach up to 15 to 20 feet tall, but they are short lived. Then one day, one sees a small sprout. This plant grows underground developing a corm (Think of something like a potato) for years before it finally decides to bloom and the bloom will only last for a day or two, and then the process starts all over again. That is dedication to a plant! So, I am always grateful every spring to see the blooms and new leaves on my trees, knowing that “I did everything right” for the past year!



By the way, it did not smell as bad as I thought it would.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS BY BEA

Just a friendly reminder to those who have not renewed their membership

that it is now past due.

As Charles mentioned above, the show will be here before you know it and we all should be preparing for it. Besides our upcoming meeting in March, there will be 2 more meetings where you will have the opportunity to bring your candidates for the show so that Charles may give you some advice or pointers.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane
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www.aldenlane.com

Thanks to Alden Lane for sponsoring our meetings at the nursery. The 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	
Social Media	Gerardo Gutierrez	gguti18@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.