

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2026

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)

IN THIS ISSUE:

- WHAT IS THE VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY
- MEETINGS
- NEWSLETTER, EMAIL LIST AND WEBSITE
- MEMBERSHIP
- FEBRUARY MEETING
- MARCH MEETING
- UPCOMING EVENTS
- SENPAI CORNER
- ELECTIONS
- TIDBITS
- THANK YOU ALDEN LANE
- VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY OFFICERS & CONTACTS

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

FEBRUARY MEETING BY MIKE

Sorry, I was ill for the February meeting, but I was told everyone was in good hands with Mike's demonstration on wiring - Thank you Mike!



MARCH MEETING BY CHARLES

At the March meeting, we will begin the ongoing discussion about our June show. Please start thinking about which tree(s) you want to consider showing and bring it/them to the meeting for advice and tips on how to continue refining it/them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

American Bonsai Association Sacramento Bonsai Show and Sale

Please join us for a weekend celebrating beautiful bonsai and suiseki! Enjoy-beginner workshops -sign up soon, they fill quickly, member and vendor sales and daily demonstrations by our headliner, Jennifer Price. Jennifer will present demonstrations each day from 1:30–3:30 PM, followed by a raffle.

Time & Location

Apr 11, 2026, 7:00 PM – Apr 12, 2026, 11:00 PM

Sacramento Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95816, USA

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

The season is changing. I keep saying that, every spring, I am amazed and thrilled to see that nature is doing what nature does. I am filled with joy every time I walk out to my garden and see new buds swelling or leaves popping out on my trees. Now is the time, if you have not yet started, to begin fertilizing your trees, I would start with a higher Nitrogen fertilizer (the first number on the package) but would still keep the 3 numbers fairly low. I would also start really paying attention to the moisture levels of your soil, and do not let the recent warm weather fool you as we may still get an evening of below freezing temperatures. Enjoy this time.

ELM BUDS

Elm Buds are out.

Yesterday morning, last night, they crept out.

They are the mice of early spring air.

To the north is the gray sky.

Winter hung its gray for the gray elm to stand dark against.
Now the branches all end with the yellow and gold mice of early spring air.
They are moving mice creeping out with leaf and leaf.

Carl Sandberg – 1963
(Honey and Salt)

ELECTIONS

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

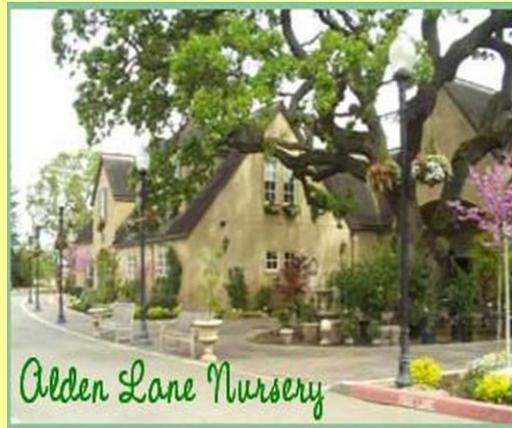
TIDBITS BY BEA

We had a great turnout at the meeting and enjoyed reconnecting with some members who had been absent for a while.

A few of us attended the Celebration of Life for Dick Stas in Brentwood. It was well attended and we learned so much about the person he was. I pray that he continues working with trees in the Lord's gardens.

If you have not settled your dues yet, please do it soon. You can send me a check or use my PayPal or Venmo acct.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane
Livermore, CA 94550
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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	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.