

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

JANUARY 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)

JANUARY MEETING

Our January meeting was well attended, and most everyone ended up with a tree to begin styling. This is shaping (pun intended) up to be a fun project and I look forward to seeing the trees throughout their development



So should I cut this branch?

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February 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. Looking ahead to March, we will have a discussion on bonsai soil and we will have materials for you to purchase at a reasonable cost.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21st-22nd; GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: the annual Mammoth fundraiser: at Lakeside Park Garden Center. 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland. Saturday Auction starting at 1:00 P.M. with preview at noon. Sunday Vendor sales begin at 9:00 A.M. and plant sales begin at 10:00 A.M.

SENPAI CORNER

Hello everyone; January/February is a great time to study your trees; plan out what branches are weak or are not relevant to the overall design and determine what will need to be eliminated or re-positioned. Since your trees are still in a somewhat dormant state we are still a little early to begin fertilizing, however, it is a good time to stock up on your supplies or mix up and create fertilizer cake if that is the route you want to go. Store all dry ingredients in a sealed container so they do not get wet and begin to ferment. Do not ignore your normal bonsai care, as this is a time when insects and fungus will start to thrive on your trees. (Especially with this warm weather we are having) continue to monitor your moisture levels and watch for sneaky overnight frosts.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS

Birch Family – A group of trees and shrubs comprising over 40 species, the members of this family carry male and female catkins on the same tree, the females being small, initially erect when flowering, and held above the males. In *Betula* and *Corylus*, the males develop in autumn and are carried over winter, opening to release their pollen before, or when, the leaves appear in spring. Those of *Carpinus*, although preformed, are hidden in the winter buds.

Beech Family – The members of this large, mainly temperate family have simple and alternate leaves and fruit in the form of nuts. These are either fully enclosed by an involucre (or cupule) of fused bracts as in *Fagus*, *Nothofagus* and *Castanea*, or merely supported by it as in *Quercus*. Male and female flowers are carried in separate catkins on the same tree.

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



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

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	
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.=