

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

JULY 2022

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
- JUNE SHOW
- JULY 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'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).

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'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 BelgianBea@yahoo.com

JULY MEETING B CHARLES

The July meeting was a review of our show. We talked about ideas for next year, from more raffle items to better signs to “what are your thoughts?” More details in Bea’s tidbits below.

The second part of the meeting was a general workshop.



Charles also brought pots from the donation he received before the show and a new member (Glory) donated a bunch more. All pots were gone before the end of the meeting. It was nice to see everyone after the show.

AUGUST MEETING BY CHARLES

Our August meeting will be another workshop. Your trees should be settling into their summer pattern, so the rigorous growth from spring will be slowing down. Unless it is an emergency, you should probably not repot anything until later in the year, but general pruning and wiring is still acceptable.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 6, 2022 San Rafael, California

Marin Bonsai Club (MBC) and Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS):

Joint Bonsai Sale, hosted by MBC and REBS, on Saturday, August 6, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Terra Linda Community Center, 670 Del Ganado Rd, San Rafael. The sale will include established and starter bonsai trees, pots, tools, etc. Checks and cash accepted. Free admission. Parking available. For details, contact Diane Matzen at dcmatzen@gmail.com or George Haas at gwhaas@comcast.net.

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

What's' bugging you? As many of you may be aware, right before the show, I ended up with a Scale infestation: These nasty little devils will attach them-



selves to the undersides of leaves, or even onto branches. They have a tan to dark brown armored shell that will literally glue themselves to your plant and will feed on the plants sap. The younger scale will have a softer shell but they excrete large amounts of honeydew, which encourages the growth of sooty mold, a black colored fungus that will interfere with your plant's

photosynthesis. Because of their shells, most insecticides will not penetrate, so besides physically removing them (which is a laborious option, is to use a Neem oil or similar product to force them to detach (to breathe) to allow the toxin of choice to get under their shell. Scale is very invasive, and can infest your other plants – including the trees and shrubs in your yard, and because I was not sure that I had eliminated all of the evil little things, I decided to be cautious and not bring any trees to the show - remember that part I mentioned about Very Invasive?

For those who want a less chemical option, I read that 2 tablespoons cooking oil, 2 tablespoons baking soda, 2 tablespoons baby shampoo, 1 cup of rubbing alcohol and 1 gallon of water might work... but test it out on a small portion of your plant first – and avoid any bleach-based products. Happy hunting!

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS BY BEA

First off, the show pictures are now available on the website for you to enjoy.

<http://www.valleybonsaisociety.com/Images/BonsaiShow2022/index.html>

As Charles mentioned above, we reviewed the June Show at the meeting.

Here are some of the points we discussed:

What did not work?

- Bringing tree the day of the event definitely does not work, especially after the show has started. So, for future shows, all the trees will need to be in on Friday.
- We need to put a sign on the doors "Shows opens at 10:00" and keep the doors locked or blocked. It is hard to have people coming in when we are still trying to set up.
- We need to only use one-color raffle tickets. Because we use leftover tickets, we had two colors running for the raffle and people were immediately disappointed when the ticket pulled was not the color of their ticket. So to keep the suspense going a little longer, we need to just have one color.

Suggestions for next show:

- It would be nice to be able to accept an electronic form of payment such as PayPal or Venmo instead of only cash or check. Gerardo has offered to look into Venmo, which apparently does not charge a fee per transaction unlike PayPal.
- Advertising: we need more advertising. Flyers were made and Dave Caeton put them up at a couple nurseries in Fremont. Bea advertised on Next Door and on our website, Alden Lane had it on their website and it was also publicized on the Golden State Bonsai Federation Website. Gerardo had it on Facebook and Instagram. Members suggested other publications, but we need it to be "Free" advertising. The Independent is also another source that does free advertising for non-profit. We welcome anyone who would like to volunteer to research free advertising for next show and take care of the campaign.
- Another member suggested that we need more trees to sell. Gerardo came up with a member challenge idea where each member is given a tree and two hours to style. Each finished tree is then given a number and the public has the option to use their raffle tickets for either the "demo" tree or any of the members challenge trees. Obviously, the best tree will be the one with the most tickets. There is a little bit of logistics involved as to should we pick the winners of the trees at the same time as the demo tree or wait until the end of the day so more people have the opportunity to buy tickets? The issue here is that since you would not have to be present to win (unlike the demo tree), we would need to have contact info to contact the winner and it may also involve delivering the trees. So more discussion is needed on this particular subject.
- It was also suggested to add a couple memberships to the raffle. That may encourage some people to join our club.
- Finally, we discussed signage. In prior years, we had put A-frame signage in several locations directing people to the show and we also had a large banner on the Alden Lane fence. It requires someone to put the signs out in the morning and pick them up in the evening so they are not stolen. Neither Bea or Charles has the bandwidth to also take care of the signage with everything else happening the days of the show. So we would need a volunteer to take care of the signs.

We have the signs and we can borrow the A-Frame, we just need a warm body to put them up.

For those not present at the meeting, let me know if you have anything to contribute to the list.

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

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

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.