

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

JULY 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)

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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' 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

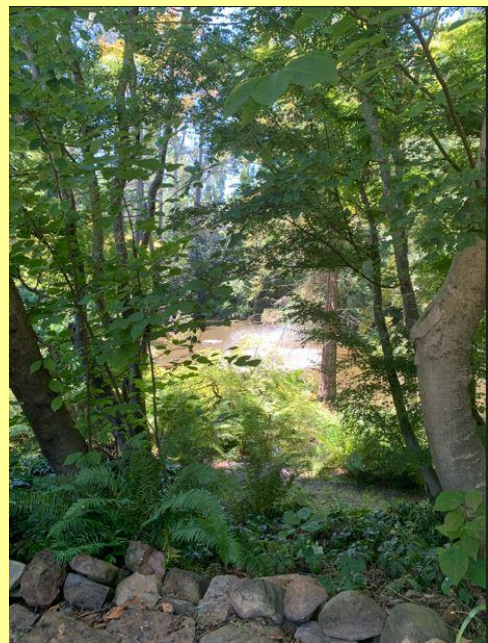
JULY FIELDTRIP BY CHARLES

This July, Bea arranged a fieldtrip in lieu of our regular meeting since Alden Lane was celebrating Art under the Oaks. To give a chance to our Sensei to participate, the field trip was push out to the following week. A small group of us made the long trek up to Sebastopol area and we visited 3 different nurseries. Momiji –which has nothing but maple trees of all types and sizes, then an amazing lunch at El Coronel (thank you Mike Butler for the suggestion), then we went onto Botanica, which all by itself was totally worth the trip – Thank you Bea for discovering it, and finally we went to Lone Pine.

Momiji



Botanica



El Coronel



Lone Pine



AUGUST MEETING BY CHARLES – NOTE DATE CHANGE

Our August meeting **is pushed out** by a week so we are meeting on the 22nd, and NOT on the 15th as normal. This meeting will be a short recap of the show to discuss what went right, and what (if any) changes we want to make for next years show. Also, we will have a general workshop, since there isn't a whole lot of major work that can or should be done in August.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Redwood Empire Bonsai Society (REBS) Bonsai Show

Aug 22, 2026, 10:00 AM – Aug 23, 2026, 4:00 PM

Rohnert Park Community Center, 5401 Snyder Ln, Rohnert Park, CA 94928, Explore the living art form of Bonsai with headliner Sam Tan, studied under the renowned Ryan Neil of Mirai. Formal Displays, BYOT Workshop, Vendor and Member Sales, Benefit Drawings, Silent Auctions and Trees in Training. Free Admission and Parking. Hours: Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-4.

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

We made it past another show, and now we are looking at the hot summer months. Check any wiring done earlier this year (or last year) and avoid any repotting, unless of course it is an emergency. Continue with high nitrogen fertilizer through the end of August, and then transition to a high Potassium and Phosphorus fertilizer – especially for those trees that bloom so the buds set for next spring. As I have said before, I never repeat myself, stay on top of your watering especially on the hot and breezy days. Try to water first thing in the morning, or in the evening so as not to have water droplets on your leaves during the mid-day sun, which will turn into miniature magnifying glasses and will burn the leaves. Of course, now is the time to start looking at the trees you might want to consider for next year's show and refining the branches and shape for next year.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS BY BEA

Though the attendance was low, we had a great field trip. It had been several years since we made it to Momiji, but it is always a pleasure to visit our friend and owner of the nursery, Mike Umehara. Botanica was a first and boy were we surprised. That place is huge and like walking thru a forest, something to see at every turn. This nursery was recently acquired by a new owner and lots of work is being done to bring it back to its glorious past when it was known as the Sonoma Horticultural Nursery and Azalea farm. From there we continued our trip to Lone Pine. So many plants, so much choice and don't forget their incredible Bonsai greeting the visitors at the entrance.

For more pictures of our incredible trip, visit the gallery on our website where they will be posted shortly.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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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	Michael Miller	mr.miller5500@gmail.com
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Treasurer	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Membership	Bea Bauerly	BelgianBea@yahoo.com
Fundraising	Open Position	
Newsletter	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
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If you need to contact any of the above, please make sure to reference "Valley Bonsai Society" in the subject line.