

# VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

JUNE 2021 – THINGS MAY BE IMPROVING...

*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'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.

## 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](mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net)). We have a website! Visit us at [www.valleybonsaisociety.com](http://www.valleybonsaisociety.com)

## 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](mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com)

## JUNE MEETING BY CHARLES

Our June meeting, besides being a Zoom meeting, also had several people

show up at my house.

This month was a basic workshop, and since no one attended on Zoom, I was able to spend extra time with the members present. Several trees being worked on had great potential. We did spend some time talking about Junipers and trimming – remember to leave a branch and remove a branch. For those needing a little refresher, let me know and we will work on your juniper together. Thank you to all who attended.

## JULY MEETING BY CHARLES

Finally! At long last, I spoke with Alden Lane and they are ready to welcome us back! So, I am happy to announce that our July meeting will be held at our normal location and time. They did request that those not vaccinated please continue to wear a mask. We will likely be located on the deck next to the front store – so ask where we're set up when you arrive. I think that we will continue with our workshop program, so bring a tree that you would like to work on or get some advice with.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>: Santa Nella California

Golden State Bonsai Federation will host the 2021 GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous. A two-day event for renewal and celebration Vendors from Northern and Southern California in one huge location. A list of activities will be posted on the GSBF website.

## SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

The days are heating (have heated) up, so now you need to be extra vigilant about the moisture levels in your soil.

A good rule of thumb (or pinky) is to stick a finger into the soil, and it should be cool and damp. However, when in doubt, water...if you have our standard bonsai soil mix, it is difficult to over water.

Be aware that a combination of heat and wind is especially harmful to our trees. I am reluctant to suggest; that with certain trees, you should allow the soil to go slightly dry... pines and junipers; but that is not to say allow it to go "bone dry" which is an odd comment since bones, by nature, are quite "moist". It is only when they are outside of a body and sitting around for a while that they end up dry and brittle. However, I digress...so pines and junipers will benefit with allowing the soil to become less hydrated between watering, whereas your maples and hornbeams will need some extra watering on a hot or windy day. Also, besides your trees, **you** need to stay hydrated when you're outside working on your trees on those warm days – drink plenty of water.

## ELECTIONS

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

## TIDBITS BY BEA

I thought I would share a picture that Nancy, one of our members, sent me a while back. This composition is breathtaking. I wonder what those who commented about my mud men in my Bonsai would have to say about this one.



## THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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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 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

<b>President</b>	Charles Harder	<a href="mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net">bonsainut@comcast.net</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Open Position</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	Bea Bauerly	<a href="mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com">BelgianBea@yahoo.com</a>
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<b>Fund Raising</b>	<b>Open Position</b>	
<b>Newsletter</b>	Charles Harder	<a href="mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net">bonsainut@comcast.net</a>
<b>Website</b>	Bill Bauerly	<a href="mailto:Bill46@pacbell.net">Bill46@pacbell.net</a>

If you need to contact any of the above, please make sure to reference "Valley Bonsai Society" in the subject line.