

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

MARCH 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)

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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. 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

MARCH MEETING BY CHARLES

At our March meeting, we did a major trunk bend on Larry's spruce. The trunk was too straight, but had an amazing nebari (Root spread) that needed to be shown off. So, with raffia and wire, we repositioned the trunk to a more appealing shape. The remainder of the meeting was a general workshop and repotting of some small olive trees in preparation for our June show.



APRIL MEETING BY CHARLES

At the April meeting, I will demonstrate major branch bending technique followed by a general workshop. I encourage everyone to bring in the tree(s) you are planning on showing in June, so we can start getting them refined and ready... we're only a couple of months away (can you believe it?).

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 9th & 10th, 2022 Sacramento, CA

American Bonsai Association, Sacramento: Annual Spring Show at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento. Show hours are Saturday, 10am - 4pm, and Sunday, 10am - 4pm, with **demonstrations each day by headliner Andrew Robson at 1:30pm.**

There is a large vendor and member sales area, free admission and parking, and a beginner workshop Sunday morning from 10am —Noon (to register contact Renee Seely). The benefit drawings on both Saturday and Sunday will include each day's demonstration tree and many bonsai/bonsai related items. For additional information visit our website: [American Bonsai Association of Sacramento](http://AmericanBonsaiAssociation.org), or contact Renee Seely, 916-929-2106, email breadcrust@comcast.net.

April 30th & May 1st, 2022 Palo Alto, CA

Kusamura Bonsai Club 62nd Annual Show: Annual Show at Addison School, 650 Addison Street, Palo Alto. Show hours are Saturday, Noon - 4pm, and Sunday, 11am - 4pm, with **headliner Bob Shimon of Mendocino Coast Bonsai presenting at 1:30pm Saturday.**

Join us and see over 50 Bonsai Trees on display. There will be a Sale and Benefit drawing with over 100 bonsai and pots. Club members will put on a demonstration on Sunday at 1:30pm. For more information contact show co-chairs: Lynne O'Dell at lynnemo@gmail.com or Idris Anderson at [Kusamura Bonsai Club](http://KusamuraBonsaiClub) website.

May 21 & 22, 2022 Oakland, California

Bay Area Satsuki Aikokai (BASA) 25th Annual Satsuki Azalea Bonsai Show, featuring azalea bonsai in full bloom. Join us on May 21 & 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, at 666 Bellevue Ave., Lakeside Park Garden Center, Lake Merritt, for the display of beautiful flowering bonsai. Featuring large member sale and imported Satsuki azalea from Japan. Demonstration from 1 – 3 p.m., Saturday with raffle of the demo tree. Vendor area. Free admission. Public parking available. For information, contact Darren Wong at sohjuen@aol.com or visit our website at <http://satsukiazaleabonsai.org>.

June 18 & 19, 2022 Livermore, California

Valley Bonsai Society's 13th annual show at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane. Show hours are 10 AM to 4 PM with a demonstration at 1PM on both days. The finished tree will be raffled off at the end of the demonstrations. Bonsai pots, soil, etc. available for purchase. Admission is free.

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

With Spring comes new growth, flowers and a lot of excitement with our trees – but it also brings weeds and pests. Keep an eye out for those little buggers. They can take the form of spider mites, who love to snack on your junipers, aphids, scales or lord only knows what. All with the same purpose, munching on your trees!

Please take the precaution of spraying with either an organic pesticide, or the nuclear option of chemicals – but do try to prevent them from taking over. Also, if you remember, in a previous newsletter I discussed oxalis, and other invasive weeds, the best solution for those, is just to physically remove them - and attempt to get all the roots. Only by staying ahead of these interlopers, will you keep you plants healthy. Additionally, with diligent fertilizing, you will also provide your tree with the strength it needs to fend off most diseases that it might come in contact with. See you soon and let's plan for a great come back show in June.

Oxalis



ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS BY BEA

To piggyback on Charles warning about pests on your trees, I always lean towards natural ways instead of using chemicals and things that you may have around the house such as “Listerine Mouthwash”. Yes, you read it right. You can spray the undiluted mouthwash directly on the infected parts of orchids suffering from bacterial infections and crown rot. Mouthwash has strong anti-fungal properties. It can be used to get rid of powdery mildew and other fungal infections. For this, mix 75% of water and 25% of mouthwash and spray on the infected parts.

For aphids’ control, use water and mouthwash in equal proportion and spray on the plant. You can also add a similar amount of mild liquid dish soap to make this recipe even stronger.

Let’s not forget to disinfect tools as you can easily spread a disease from one tree to another thru the use of your tools. Here again, Listerine to the rescue – simply soak your tools for one minute or spray full strength Listerine on your tools.

Finally, I would like to share a picture that one of our members, Alan Mode, sent me. Alan is our Bougainvillea Bonsai expert as this picture clearly illustrate.



THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane
Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 447-0280

www.aldenlane.com

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!

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.

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND CONTACTS

President
Vice President
Social Media
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership
Fundraising
Newsletter
Website

Charles Harder
Open Position
Gerardo Gutierrez
Bea Bauerly
Bea Bauerly
Bea Bauerly
Open Position
Charles Harder
Bill Bauerly

bonsainut@comcast.net
gguti18@yahoo.com
BelgianBea@yahoo.com
BelgianBea@yahoo.com
BelgianBea@yahoo.com
bonsainut@comcast.net
Bill46@pacbell.net

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