

# VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

MARCH 2025

*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](mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net)).

We have a website! Visit us at [www.valleybonsaisociety.com](http://www.valleybonsaisociety.com). Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyBonsai> or Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/Valley\\_Bonsai\\_Society](https://www.instagram.com/Valley_Bonsai_Society)

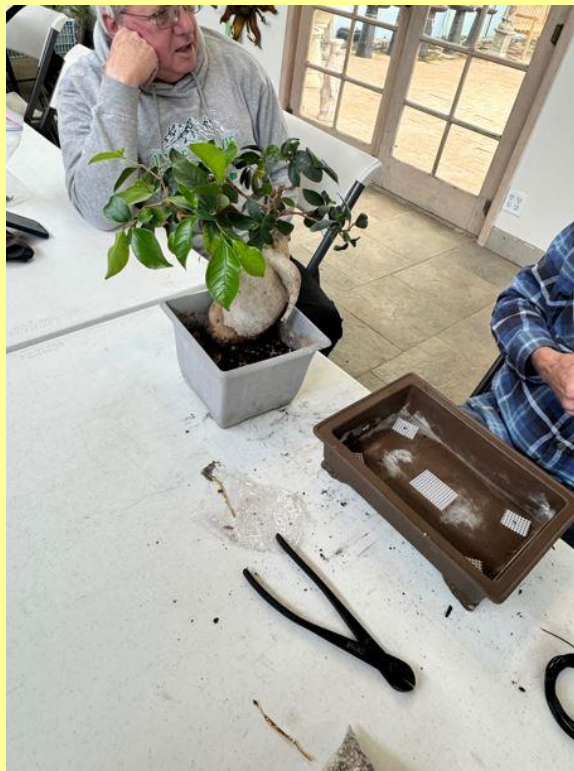
## MEMBERSHIP

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](mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com)

## MARCH MEETING BY CHIP

At our March meeting, we talked about the importance of clean and even wiring techniques, as well as the importance of cleaning our pots and having our trees presentable – especially for our upcoming show.





## APRIL MEETING BY CHIP

At the April meeting, we will be continuing the conversation for show preparation. Please bring at least one of the trees you are planning to show this year for some last minute advice or suggestions – or just to continue working on it to get it ready.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **American Bonsai Association Sacramento 65th Annual Bonsai Show and Sale**

Sat, Apr 12, 13 Shepard Garden and Art Center

Daily demos at 1:30 pm by headliner Carmen Leskoviansky. Daily raffles including the demo tree. Large vendor and consignment sale areas. Reserve your space in the Beginners' Workshop on Sunday at 10AM by emailing abasbonsaiclub@gmail.com. Cost \$20 (tree, pot, soil and instruction). Free admission.

### **65th Annual Bonsai Show Kusamura Bonsai Club of Palo Alto**

Apr 26, 2025, 10:00 AM – Apr 27, 2025, 4:00 PM

Addison School, 1045 Webster St, Palo Alto, CA 94301, USA

Please join us for the 65th Annual Kusamura Bonsai Club Show and Sale featuring headliner Sam Tan. Daily demonstrations at 1.00 pm. View the 60+ bonsai on display. Sales include bonsai, pots and stands. Bonsai Doctor, Gordon Deeg will be available for consultation.

### **Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai and Orchid Show and Sale**

May 03, 2025, 10:00 AM – May 04, 2025, 4:00 PM

Capitola Mall, 1855 41st Ave, Capitola, CA 95010, USA

Join us for club shows and sales hosted by Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai and the Santa Cruz Orchid Society. Bonsai demonstrations from 1:30pm to 3pm both days. Robert Potts on Saturday and Gareth Shepherd on Sunday. Quality bonsai displays, raffles, vendor and member sales, free admission and parking.

## SENPai CORNER BY CHARLES

It is the time of year when I am anxiously awaiting my Zelkova to finally leaf out. I can see the little green buds have formed, but every day I wander over and peer hopefully at the branches to see them swell a little bit more, and I have to remind myself that each of our plants grows at its own pace. I saw an article that the cherry blossoms in DC are in full bloom, but in Japan, they are running a little behind. So, each of our trees tend to progress at the pace they wish. We need to remember not to push our trees into a shape, pattern or growth they are not ready or willing to conform to. Like I have said, if the tree naturally grows in an upright shape, then trying to bend it into a twisted or contorted shape, albeit may look interesting, there will always be a tension when viewing your tree. So, let your tree grow to its form and allow its leaves to swell and grow at the pace it wants, it is an amazing individual, just like us.

## ELECTIONS

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

interested.

## TIDBITS BY BEA

Those who attended the February meeting probably remember the tree that Shauna brought. It belonged to her grandfather and was in need of much TLC. Well, Shauna sent me an update on how the tree is doing. As you can see from the pictures, her tree is doing very well indeed.







## THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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[www.aldenlane.com](http://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**  
**Vice President**  
**Social Media**  
**Secretary**

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

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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.