

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

MAY 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?



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

50 weeks.

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

MAY MEETING BY CHARLES

Our May meeting was well attended. The topic of the day was “Black Pine shoot pruning” or otherwise known as “de-candling”. The focus for the remainder of the meeting was once again preparations for our upcoming show with a lot of advice given on the trees brought in for consult. Lots of great trees showed up and excitement is building (at least for me) for what will be displayed.





JUNE SHOW BY EVERYONE!

Friday: start setting up at 2:00 for those who volunteered to help that day. (please refer to volunteer schedule sent separately)

Bring trees between: 3:00 and 5:00 unless you're helping set up, then bring them with you.

Saturday: show starts at 10:00 and ends at 4:00.

Sunday: show starts at 10:00 and ends at 4:00 – **please wait until 4:00 before removing your trees.**

Reminder: If you want to put items on the club sales table, remember to price them accordingly as the club will take 30% of the sale (more on that in Bea's Tidbits below).

This is going to be a great show!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sei Boku Bonsai Kai Annual Show and Sale

Sat, Jun 13, 2026, 10:00 AM – Jun 14, 2026, 4:00 PM

San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA 94403, USA

Saturday: Demo by Steve Jang from 1 to 3 pm & Sunday watch bonsai workshop by club sensei, Valerie Monroe from 11 to 3 pm. Demo trees raffled at 3:00 each day. Exhibition of over 30 trees, Door Prizes, Raffle Prizes, Tree Clinic, Vendor & Club Sales daily. More info at seibokubonsaikai.org

Valley Bonsai Society Show

Jun 20, 2026, 10:00 AM – Jun 21, 2026, 4:00 PM

Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Ln, Livermore, CA 94550, USA

There will be a demonstration at 1pm on both days. The finished tree will be raffled off at the end of the demonstration. Bonsai pots, soil, trees, etc. will be available for purchase. Admission is free.

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

It's **SHOW TIME!** Remember to spray or make sure that your trees are "pest free" – we will be performing a pest check at the door. Clean the soil and add top dressing. If needed, clean your pots and if so inclined, a light rub of mineral oil on your unglazed pots will do wonders. If you have a dedicated stand for your tree, please bring it, and let me know that it goes with your tree. Clear any debris and weeds from the pot and remove or make sure your wiring is clean and tidy (as minimal wiring as possible). I cannot wait to see how it will all come together in a couple of weeks. See you soon.

ELECTIONS

Please welcome Michael Miller as our Vice President, a position that had been vacant for years. Michael has been a faithful member for a very long time. I know Michael will continue to be a great addition to the "Officers" team and I am looking forward to his many contributions.

TIDBITS BY BEA

By now, you should have received all the information concerning the show. If you still have questions, please e-mail me sooner than later.

To recap – I think everyone has provided me with his or her show tree(s). I will send the final list next week. Make sure to check it and verify that I have the correct tree(s) next to your name or that you are on the list.

Sale :

- If you are selling pots, please clean them before the show. We do not want to sell dirty pots and for unglazed, give them an extra shine with mineral oil.
- All for sale items should have a label with the asking price and some type of identification of the seller (initials, scribble, etc.) so that I know who to pay at the end of the show.
- If selling Bonsai trees or Bonsai stock, please include a label with the name of the tree so that people know what they are buying. Some trees are obvious, but others are not.

I would encourage everyone to try to attend one of the demos.

If you have any questions, please e-mail me.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane
Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 447-0280
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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**Fundraising
Newsletter
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Open Position

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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.