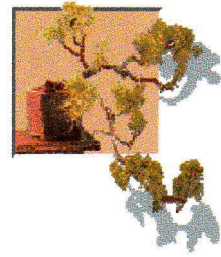




VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

www.valleybonsaisociety.com

Newsletter vol 9: July 13, 2010



What Is The Valley Bonsai Society?

We are a group of folks who share a common interest in this ancient oriental horticultural art form. It is our goal is to encourage and equip each other as we share our common interest and enjoyment of Bonsai and to encourage others to explore this art form. We have a diverse range of experience and interest. Many of us started exploring their interest level by taking one or more of the classes Charles teaches thru Alden Lane, some have had a plant they received as a gift and some had been struggling along on their own. We even have some people with extensive collections and trees they have trained for as long as 50 years. We also have people who are still trying to get a tree to survive 50 weeks. It doesn't matter. So join us and explore and grow your interest to the extent you desire. All are welcome. We are all learning together!

Meetings

We meet the third Saturday of each month at 2pm. Currently we meet at Alden Lane Nursery in Livermore. See the last page of the newsletter for Alden Lane Info. Our next meeting is on Saturday July 17th at 2:00pm at Alden Lane. This meeting will include a short review of the June Bonsai Show (what worked, what didn't), a short demonstration and an opportunity to work on our trees, ask questions and enjoy our time together.

Newsletter, Email List & Website

An email list is maintained to release announcements and send out an electronic newsletter. Please send an email request to be added (or removed) to this list to Bill Boehner per the contact information at the end of the newsletter. We have a website! It's just getting going but it's looking good. Thank you Neema Koppole for your hard work. Visit us at www.valleybonsaisociety.com

Membership

Membership is not required, but if you have been visiting with us for a while we do ask you to consider supporting the society by paying annual dues of \$30 a year (\$40 for couples) or \$5 a meeting. We are always happy to receive your dues. If you have any questions regarding membership please contact Bob Wyckoff. Their contact information is at the end of the newsletter. If you haven't paid your 2010 dues, please see Celeste, Bea or Bob.

2nd Annual Valley Bonsai Society Bonsai Show

Saturday and Sunday, June 12th and 13th we held our 2nd Bonsai Show at Alden Lane during their Black & Blues Festival. Last year our first show exceeded all our expectations. By all accounts we built on last year's success and we did it again. Though the crowds seemed smaller than last year, there was a lot more interest and time spent looking at the displays and asking questions. We were able to display more trees than last year which reflects the growth in the Bonsai club numbers and experience. A Bonsai show is no small undertaking. Thank you to everyone who found the time to get their tree's ready for display, cleaning up the pots, gathering display stands, mats, last minute styling of the donated trees and all the setup and breakdown work. As always Alden Lane's support continues to be amazing. Let's make sure we take time to thank them for all they do for us.



One of the changes we made this year was to have someone working on a tree out front so folks could see and interact with someone styling a tree outside the workshop format. Martin did a great job!



Once again we had plenty of door prize drawings to surprise our visitors. Thank you everyone for your donations and styling trees to give away to our lucky winners!



With more trees to display this year, we had people spending more time examining trees and asking questions. Charles did a great job interacting with our visitors and answering questions and encouraging folks to try Bonsai! Thanks Charles for all your hard work.



Once again we had workshops on both days. We asked Sam Adina to return and he did his usual job of making it all look so easy as he dazzled us with his skill. His wiring technique is always amazing as is his speed. He styled a Shimpaku Juniper.

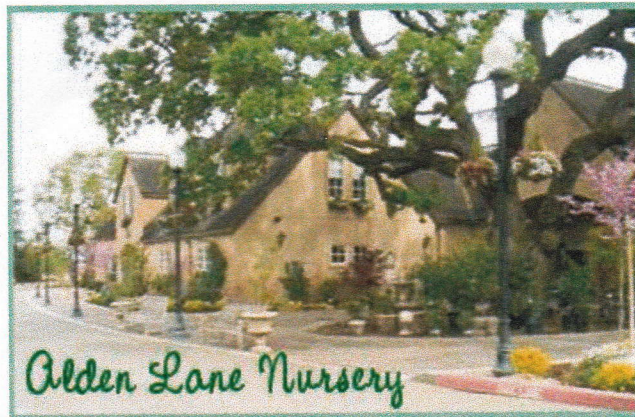
Charles did his usual excellent job of working a tree as he explained his thought process as he went along. Both trees were raffled off. Congrats to Larry who won Charles' False Cypress. A friend of Jan's one Sam's Juniper. Thank you Neema for letting someone else win this year!



This years trees were amazing as were the displays. The club outdid itself this year and it makes one wonder what we will look like next year. Thanks again to all the volunteers who donated time, trees and energy to make our 2nd show the best yet! As always thanks to Charles for his vision, encouragement and leadership over the last 3 years.

Thanks to Alden Lane for allowing us to meet at the nursery . Alden Lane Nursery has evergreen and blooming trained Bonsai specimens in many sizes for indoors and outdoor gardens. Stop in and let one of their Bons experts help you design your own Bonsai masterpiece from their 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 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. More importantly don't forget to say THANK YOU for their incredible support!



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