

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2017

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

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. 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 (bb1727@att.com)

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MEETINGS

Our November meeting was a general workshop getting our trees ready for

winter. There was a tree that needed an emergency repot with a quick adjustment to the styling as well as a few trees needing some cleanup. Our December meeting was our annual holiday lunch at Hanabishi this year. Bea outdid herself again with the organization and coordination of the lunch. The food was wonderful and there was plenty of it. Thank you again to Bea and the staff at Hanabishi. If you did not have the opportunity to attend and if you like sushi and have not yet discovered this restaurant, I would highly recommend it.

JANUARY MEETING

Our January meeting will be our annual discussion on soil. As usual, I will be bringing the raw material for you to make up your own soil to use for any repotting or potting of your trees. I am moving this up to our January meeting as there is not a whole lot of activity your trees need at this time and also a couple of members like to start their potting activities in early to mid-February. So, bring your buckets, or 1-gallon plastic bags and cash or your check book and stock up for the year. But don't worry, I always have extra if you don't have enough for later in the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 17 – 18, 2018 Oakland, California

GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: The Annual Mammoth Auction and Sale Fund Raiser will be held at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Lake Merritt. Saturday: Auction preview at Noon with Auction starting at 1 PM. Sunday: Vendor Sales start at 9 AM; Plant Sales start at 10 AM; Demonstrations start at 1 PM. Everyone is encouraged to submit their bonsai and bonsai related items for consideration to be included in the Mammoth Auction at the earliest date possible. The Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt will be open that weekend 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday, and Noon to 4 PM on Sunday. Please visit the Garden and observe the many installments under the Garden Revitalization Opportunity (GRO) project. For more information or to sell bonsai, email bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com and visit <http://gsbf-lakemerritt.org>.

March 24 – 25, 2018 Oakland, California

Bay Area Bonsai Associates: 37th Annual Bonsai Exhibition at the Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue. Show hours are 5 – 9 PM Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday. Light dinner at 5:30 PM Saturday followed by a bonsai demonstration by club members from 6:30 to 9 PM. Benefit drawing of demo tree(s). Winning ticket must be present to win. Sales of plants, bonsai, and other bonsai related items both days. Admission is free. Parking fee to the Lakeside Park entrance is required during the park hours. For more information, please contact Janice Dilbeck janicedilbeck@comcast.net

March 31 – April 1, 2018 Sacramento, California

Bonsai Sekiyu Kai: 41st Annual show at the Sacramento Buddhist Church, 2401 Riverside Blvd. Show hours are 10 AM – 4 PM daily with a demonstration at 2 PM. Amenities include refreshments, light snacks, door prizes, raffles and a silent auction. Member and vendor sales of plants and bonsai-related

items, as well as a food vendor. For more information contact Bonsai Sekiyu Kai at bonsaisekiyukai@gmail.com

SENPAI CORNER

At our holiday lunch, a conversation came up regarding someone in Japan that commented about why a westerner was involved in bonsai, and the remark this person made was: “bonsai is a Japanese thing” ... or something similar to that. Actually, historically it is believed that it started much earlier and in a completely different place. So, this Senpai corner is dedicated to a history lesson. Sorry in advance for the wall of words:

On the walls of some Egyptian tombs are carvings and paintings of potted plants over 4000 years ago – did the people of that time ever shape the plant for artistic purposes? Most likely. They also probably realized that by trimming and maintaining their plants, it would cause them to grow slower and remain small.

In India: Circa 1000 B.C. physicians relied on trees, bushes and herbs as sources for extracts and medicines. They kept them intentionally small so that they could be easily carried from door to door. These trees were also prominently displayed, it is thought, as a symbol of office – almost like a barber’s pole.

The Chinese name for the artistic potted plant is: P’en Tsai, meaning Pot and Plant respectively

There is evidence that P’en Tsai was already developed before 2000 B.C. By the year 200 B.C. however, most of the major provinces in China had established specific styles of dwarf trees – what we would associate as bonsai; ranging anywhere from the “Earthworm” style of Szechwan province to the “Three winding” style in the northern provinces.

References to the art of bonsai finally shows up in Japan around 1300 A.D. through paintings, poetry and other artwork.

Japan though, is where we get most of our current contributions, the established styles, tools, pots, horticultural knowledge and standards of excellence.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS

Just a reminder that the 2018 membership dues are now due. Timely payment would be greatly appreciated as this is the only income we generate. Please bring you check at the next meeting or mail to:

Bea Bauerly
873 Curlew Rd
Livermore, CA 94551

For dues info, refer to the membership section of this newsletter.

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	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
Vice President	Open Position	
Secretary	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
Treasurer	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
Membership	Bea Bauerly	bb1727@att.com
Fund Raising & show coordinator	Open Position	
Newsletter	Charles Harder	bonsainut@comcast.net
Website	Bill Bauerly	Bill46@pacbell.net

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