

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2016

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

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)

OCTOBER MEETING

During our October meeting, we spent time talking about pot selection, types

and colors, which work best for a specific style of tree. We also spent time discussing sources and what to look for in and on your pots.



Check the bottom of a bonsai pot (if not found at a mass market source like Pots -R-Us). If there is a stamp or signature on the bottom, that will generally tell you who the artist was and often times what province or kiln it was manufactured at, as well as a general idea of how old it is. This is called a “chop mark” a good resource for identifying these marks is:

<https://japanesebonsaipots.net/chop-and-signature-resource/>

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting was supposed to have been a scheduled trip to some of the local nurseries to purchase material and starters. However, I was unable to plan this in time, so instead we will spend time discussing next year’s calendar and plan the topics, demonstrations and activities you want our club to engage in. The second part of the meeting will be a workshop. This will be your last opportunity this year to bring a tree for help or ask for advice.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 3, 2016 Fresno, CA

Fresno Bonsai Society: 9th Annual Bonsai Yard Sale held at 736 West Browning Ave. from 8 AM till 3 PM. Bonsai, pre-bonsai, accent plants, new and used pots, stands, books, suiseki, and supplies. Everyone is welcome to buy, sell, or swap all things bonsai. For more information about the event visit us on our Facebook page or www.fresnobonsaisociety.com.

February 19 - 20, 2017 Oakland, California

GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: The annual Mammoth Auction and Sale Fund Raiser will be held at 666 Bellevue Ave. (Garden Center Building). Saturday: Auction preview at noon with Auction starting at 1 PM. Sunday: Vendor Sales start at 9 AM, Plant Sales start at 10 AM, and demonstrations at 1 PM. The date for this year’s event is a week earlier than in the past to let attendees and vendors participate in both the Mammoth and the Bonsai-a-Thon. You are encouraged to submit your bonsai for consideration to be included in the Mammoth Auction as soon as possible. Items will be considered on a first-come-first-considered basis. The Bonsai Garden will be open 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and Noon to 4 PM on Sunday, so you can check out the many changes that have been made this year. For more information or to sell trees, email bonsailakemerritt@gmail.com and visit www.gsbflakemerritt.org.

SENPAI CORNER

Winter is a great time to go out and search for that perfect pot, stocking up on supplies like wire and cut paste, and with the holidays coming up, one can always put that shiny new stainless steel concave cutter on the wish list.

Now is also a great time to look at the “bones” of your deciduous trees with all the leaves off. Note which branches need refining or removing, envisioning what refining the tree will need in the coming months. It is also the time to switch to a low or no-nitrogen fertilizer, helping the tree to put on more wood, encourage root growth and getting ready for winter.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS

Our December meeting has been replaced with our annual Christmas lunch. Change of venue for this year, we will meet at Armadillo Willy's. The invitation was sent earlier this week. Please do not forget to RSVP. Thank you to those who already have.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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www.aldenlane.com

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.

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!

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 & Plant Tager	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.