

# VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 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)

## SEPTEMBER MEETING BY CHARLES

The September meeting was well attended. We covered various subjects including fall preparation, black pine maintenance, needle plucking and candle pruning. We also spent some time working on our trees and getting advice on basic pruning and styling.

## OCTOBER MEETING BY CHARLES

The October meeting will be a continuation of our discussion on fall preparation, wrapping up fertilizing, final clean up, wire clean up and general tree maintenance before they start to go dormant for winter. This is also another good time to consider a re-pot for those that need it..

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Midori Bonsai Club presents our 62nd annual bonsai show: Bonsai Style | Trees That Captivate The Eye**

Oct 04, 2025, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Quinlan Community Center, 10185 N Stelling Rd, Cupertino, CA 95014, USA

### **GSBF Bonsai Rendezvous 2025**

**Fri, Oct 24 Santa Nella**

Biennial GSBF event. Headliners, Suthin Sukosolvisit & Mauro Stemberger will host BYOT workshops on Friday. Workshops will be held Friday & Saturday. 23 Vendors, free educational seminars, live & silent auctions. Register: <https://gsbfrendezvous.regfox.com/gsbfbonsai-rendezvous-2025>

Oct 24, 2025, 9:00 AM – Oct 26, 2025, 1:00 PM

Santa Nella, 13070 CA-33, Santa Nella, CA 95322, USA

## SENPAL CORNER BY CHARLES

The Autumnal equinox occurred this week, where daytime and nighttime are equal. Now we will start to have longer nights, so our trees are getting ready for winter dormancy.

Try to resist the temptation of pulling the drying leaves off your deciduous trees, as the latent leaf buds for next year are forming at the bases, and pulling the leaves may damage next year's leaves. Let the buds push the old leaves off naturally. You can however remove the browning needles off your conifers.

By the end of October, early November, you should consider stopping fertilizing, not that it will harm the tree if you do not, but more because the tree does not use the fertilizer during the winter months.

Even though today is supposed to get to 80 degrees, we do need to start paying attention to the weather, for that warning of frost or freezing. When that day comes, be ready to protect your vulnerable trees, and as counterintuitive as it may be, be sure to water well prior so the tree is well hydrated.

Once the rain begins, you can slow down on your watering, but do remember, that just because it is raining, does not mean that your trees and soil are getting the moisture they need. Enjoy this coming season, and once the leaves fall from your deciduous trees, it will give you an opportunity to evaluate the structure and what changes or improvements to make in the spring.

## ELECTIONS

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

## TIDBITS BY BEA

As Charles mentioned above, our meeting was well attended, several new faces joined us this month. I will not be around for the October meeting, as I will be spending my yearly vacation in Tahiti. I will see you in November.

Just a reminder that the December meeting will be replaced with our Annual Christmas lunch. Unless you have a different suggestion, I will set it up at Lemon Grass in Livermore. Members and significant others have enjoyed the food at that restaurant the last couple of years.

## THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



981 Alden Lane  
Livermore, CA 94550  
(925) 447-0280  
[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

<b>President</b>	Charles Harder	<a href="mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net">bonsainut@comcast.net</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Open Position</b>	
<b>Social Media</b>	Gerardo Gutierrez	<a href="mailto:gguti18@yahoo.com">gguti18@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Bea Bauerly	<a href="mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com">BelgianBea@yahoo.com</a>
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<b>Membership</b>	Bea Bauerly	<a href="mailto:BelgianBea@yahoo.com">BelgianBea@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>Open Position</b>	
<b>Newsletter</b>	Charles Harder	<a href="mailto:bonsainut@comcast.net">bonsainut@comcast.net</a>
<b>Website</b>	Bill Bauerly	<a href="mailto:Bill46@pacbell.net">Bill46@pacbell.net</a>

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