

VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

AUGUST 2024

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).

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'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 BelgianBea@yahoo.com

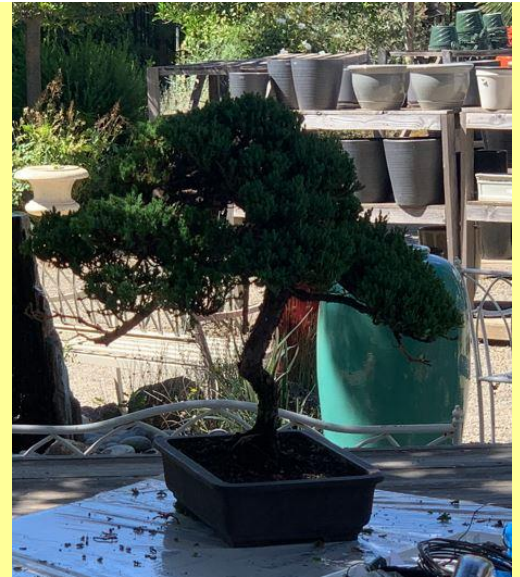
AUGUST MEETING BY CHIP

August was all about tool sharpening. It is important to keep your scissors and cutters as sharp as possible so the cuts are clean and even. We do not want to tear the branch or stems as that could provide an opportunity for disease to take hold. Plus, it will not look as tidy as it should.

Several people have asked where I got the sharpening stones I was using during the demonstration, and I do not remember, but here is a link to a set I found online, that is reasonably priced.

https://www.amazon.com/CBRIGHT-Assorted-Whetstone-Sharpener-Polishing/dp/B091761XV1/ref=sr_1_50_sspa?dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.79pOMnEpVibTalBOM0xn9rzi_1LrbhDmqG_TIARHnurUhCYRmLWUwfnVrC0Ezw7niALqzg6rJrG8DbcMpQQfpiVn6s0R0tHP5kIRWKVt7c.90P5URsHI9TibJf8AF9cpKJ6Y6lhrO6naSbjcLNKgHY&dib_tag=se&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9hdGZfbmV4dA&psc=1





SEPTEMBER MEETING BY CHIP

At our September meeting, we will talk about pests and weeds – and moss. We are heading into the next period where we can consider re-potting, and wiring. I would hold off on minor pruning, as there is likely not enough time for new buds to form before fall, but if you have been eyeing a branch that needs to be removed, this can be considered. Note: be careful of flowering trees that have set next year's buds, so do not disturb them (knock them off).

UPCOMING EVENTS

East Bay Bonsai Society Annual Show

The show features an impressive exhibit of quality bonsai as well as a demonstration/presentation by bonsai master, Dan Robinson. The show includes a sale of bonsai trees, pots, tools and related materials and raffle. Credit cards, checks, and cash accepted. Sales tax will be added to purchases. Oct 05, 2024, 10:00 AM – Oct 06, 2024, 4:00 PM
Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA 94610

Midori Bonsai Club 61st Annual Bonsai Show

Join us for a demonstration by John “JT” Thompson, beginner’s workshop, Dr. Bonsai and a fine ikebana display in collaboration with a local club. Free admission. Oct 19, 2024, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Quinlan Community Center, 10185 N Stelling Rd, Cupertino, CA 95014, USA

The Pacific Bonsai Expo

The Pacific Bonsai Expo is a juried exhibit featuring beautiful bonsai and top vendors from across the US. Saturday, October 26 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Sunday, October 27 9:00 - 4:00 pm. For more information, visit <https://pacificbonsaiexpo.org/> Oct 26, 2024, 9:00 AM – Oct 27, 2024, 4:00 PM
Oakland, 10 10th St, Oakland, CA 94607, USA

SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES

Loss is part of growth. Whether it is a branch that we hoped to develop further, or sadly the entire tree. It is still part of our learning and journey of our bonsai development. Take these “setbacks” as a learning experience, and as disheartening or frustrating as it may be, take some time to understand what was done (or not done) that caused this unfortunate situation. Did we cut the branch back too hard, or bend it a bit too much? Or did we re-pot during the wrong time? Did we over-prune the roots? Or not get the soil fully worked into the roots? Not enough water or fertilizer? Or perhaps the tree had a pest or disease? All these questions must be asked of ourselves, and we need to reflect what we can do differently or pay attention to for the rest of our trees. Loss is always sad, but through this regrettable event, perhaps we will acquire a better understanding of our little trees and what they need to survive.

ELECTIONS

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

TIDBITS BY BEA

August meeting was well attended as you can see by the pictures above. We even welcomed a couple new members.

End of the year is quickly approaching, so time to think about the venue for

our Christmas lunch. Last year, we did Lemon Grass, a Thai restaurant, that I think everyone enjoyed. I am opened to suggestions.



Okatsune Curved Edge Sharpening Stone

SALE \$17.50
\$35.00

This versatile stone is designed for sharpening fine quality Okatsune tools, as well as other bonsai and garden tools. It fits easily in your hand and has one curved edge for sharpening concave cutters and other curved blade tools, and a flat surface for sharpening tools with flat blades. Works...

For sharpening tools you can also try "Stone Lantern", they have a sale going on now (See picture). So this is an opportunity to get really quality tools at a very good price.

THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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hobbyist.

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

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
Vice President
Social Media
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership
Fundraising
Newsletter
Website

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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.

