

# VALLEY BONSAI SOCIETY

JANUARY 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)

## JANUARY MEETING BY CHIP

The January meeting was our annual soil day. All the necessary components were available and the rest of the meeting was dedicated to tree pruning and styling suggestions.









## FEBRUARY MEETING BY CHIP

The February meeting we will be focusing on re-potting. Now is the beginning of our busy season with continued pruning and styling, plus moving our trees into different or even the same pots. Bring your trees to work on, and if you need, I will be bringing soil for those that either did not attend in January, or just need more.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Local dig of urban Yamadori

Glory's son in law has some large junipers that he wants removed. The dig will occur on February 22nd beginning around 8:00 AM. 6533 King Way, Dublin. Please let me know if you want to attend so we can let the owner know how many people to expect. Plan to bring: gloves, shovels, pry bars, loppers and pruners, and of course, something to put the tree into once removed.

### GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt Mammoth Auction & Sale Sat, Mar 01 Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt

Join us on Saturday for our live auction and vendor sales. On Sunday morning, consignment sales will occur along with our vendor sales. Saturday's events begin at 11:00 am and Sunday's events begin at 9:00 am For more information call. 707-762-9154. Mar 01, 2025, 11:00 AM – Mar 02, 2025, 3:00 PM Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA 94610, USA

## **San Jose Betsuin Bonsai Club 50th Annual Bonsai Exhibition**

Demonstration at 1 pm both days with David Nguy on Saturday and club member on Sunday. Benefit Drawings, Plant Sales, Vendors: West America from Chino and Legacy Cork Oak from Hacienda Heights. Saturday 11am to 5 pm, Sunday 12 noon to 4 pm. San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 640 N 5th St, San Jose, CA 95112, USA

## **SENPAI CORNER BY CHARLES**

And so, we begin a new year. I am excited for this coming year, and I am looking forward to seeing the progress of everyone's trees in the coming months. As I mentioned above, we are about to enter a very busy season with pruning, wiring and re-potting. While working on your trees, start thinking about whether this tree should be considered for our annual show that will be here before we know it. Talking about the show; start thinking about the tree, the pot and possibly how you want to display your tree. I have mentioned that wire is acceptable in the show, providing that it is subtle and evenly spaced. The pot should be clean and free of mineral buildup and the soil tidy and all weeds and debris removed – actually, you should strive to always keep the soil free of weeds and debris.... Probably beginning later this month, you should also start your fertilizing regimen and any wiring done last year should be checked and monitored in the coming weeks as your trees start to wake up from their winter nap. Each year, our trees improve and grow, and it is always exciting to be a part of that journey.

## **ELECTIONS**

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

## **TIDBITS BY BEA**

A friend of mine owns a large wooded property in Point Arena. Point Arena is midway between here and Ft Bragg on the coast. He has offered to bring back as many volunteer trees as we want but you must provide a 5-gallon planting bucket for each tree. Why a 5-gallon bucket you may ask? Well he has machinery that will dig the whole root ball thus the need for a big container. The size of those volunteers is perfect for Bonsai.

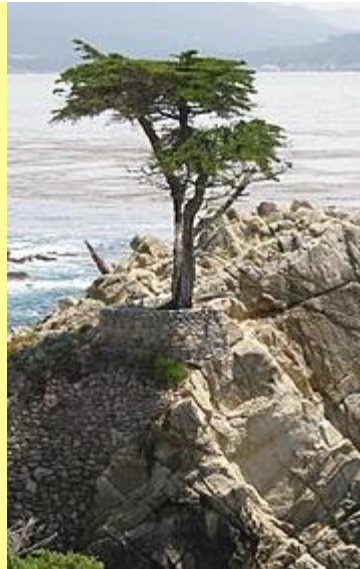
In addition, he has a lot of little baby maples in his yard here in Livermore if anyone is interested. Those are just little starters.

So please e-mail me with what you would like from the list below and bring me the buckets. He visits his property on a regular basis for extended period of time, so there is no urgency.

Here is a list of what is available:

**Douglas Fir**

**Monterey Cypress**



**Manzanita** (flowering kind) – Famous for its red bark.



**Huckleberry**

**Madrone** –striking bark like the Manzanita





**Oak** - I am not sure of the species, so will need to get back to you on that.

## THANK YOU ALDEN LANE



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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>
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<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.