

# Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society

## Journal de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa



April / Avril  
2006

[www.ottawabonsai.org](http://www.ottawabonsai.org)

Vol. 21, No. 8

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### Notes from your Steering Group Le mot de votre conseil directeur

There was a lot to announce at the March Meeting:

- The date for our next meeting will be **Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>** because our usual third Monday falls on Easter weekend this year. Mark your calendars.
- The May Meeting will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> (i.e. the third Monday) and will feature the popular **OBS swap shop** as well as a tree-advice clinic.
- The **beginner workshop** will be delayed until June (10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>) to avoid competition with the Victoria holiday weekend.
- Your Steering Group is looking into the possibility of retaining **Michael Persiano** for an OBS event. Michael is a well-known American bonsai expert and writer. This opportunity is feasible because Michael will be visiting Canada and the Embassy of Japan has generously offered their auditorium to the OBS for both the clinic and demo (see update on this event below).

Barney Shum led off the program with analysis of three potential bonsai.

1. The Pfitzer juniper left over from the 2004 intermediate workshop is now quite healthy and could be styled as a decent informal upright this year but Barney convinced many of us that the tree would benefit from a few more years 'in the ground' before styling.
2. A second Pfitzer, owned by Vianney Leduc was quickly confirmed to have exciting deadwood potential but not too much foliage potential. It looks like Vianney already has one project to keep him busy next winter.
3. Barney brought a J. procumbens 'Nana' that definitely was a design challenge. After considerable discussion an informal upright twin-trunk design prevailed over cascade. Styling will be done at the April Meeting.

Vianney followed with a demo on creating deadwood. After a brief review of guidelines for jin and shari, Vianney illustrated how deadwood would dramatically enhance styling of an otherwise unremarkable procumbens "Nana" and could even eliminate an unfortunate reverse taper Nature has given the upper trunk.

This tree was out of dormancy, Vianney removed excess foliage leaving good stubs at the trunk. He stripped away bark from most of the front of the trunk leaving bark at the back and sides to feed the live branches. Although the stubs were not dry Vianney was able easily to sculpt one stub with a Dremel tool into a realistic jin element. Then a deep slot was cut in the bare trunk from base to top in seconds, using a Lancelot wood-carving tool. Vianney estimates about 20 hours of fun with the Dremel to transform the slot into a hollow trunk. Lime-sulphur preservative will be applied to the deadwood next year, after it dries out.

A very educational evening, thanks to Barney and Vianney.

## NEXT MEETING

**7:00 p.m., Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

Barney will style the triple trunk juniper that he discussed at the last meeting. He has taken this juniper out of his cold storage early so that he could use it to do actual design work on it. It will be interesting to see the end result; a triple trunk, a double trunk or a single trunk!!

## Upcoming Events

**Atelier pour débutants sur la formation d'un bonsaï, le samedi 10 juin, édifice #72, Ferme expérimentale centrale, de 9h00 à 14h00.**

Cet atelier s'adresse directement à ceux et celles qui ont suivi le cours pour débutants au mois de novembre. Durant cette session, les participants recevront les conseils de membres chevronnés de la SBO et procéderont à la formation de leur propre bonsaï à partir d'un pant de genévrier San Osé. Ce plant, un pot approprié de même que le terreau et le fil pour ligaturage seront fournis. Les instructeurs mettront leurs propres outils de bonsaï à la disposition des participants qui n'auraient pas les leurs. Autant les participants que les instructeurs devraient apporter leur lunch – l'endroit dispose d'un frigo et d'un four à micro-ondes. Le coût de cet atelier est de 65 \$ par personne. Il y a une limites de 12 places !

Les membres intéressés devraient s'inscrire auprès de Yvon Bernier : (819) 684-0586 ; fax (819) 684-7365 ; [ycbernier@infonet.ca](mailto:ycbernier@infonet.ca)

**Bonsai Development Workshop, Saturday, June 10 in Building #72, Central Experimental Farm, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

This is a workshop aimed specifically at those who have taken the Beginners' Bonsai Courses given last November. Participants will receive assistance from experienced OBS members to begin developing their own bonsai using nursery grown San Jose junipers. The plant material, a suitable pot and the necessary supplies will be provided. The team of instructors will make their own bonsai tools available for sharing among those participants who may not have their own. Participants and instructors should bring their lunch; the room is equipped with a fridge and microwave oven. The cost of this workshop is \$65 per person. There are only 12 places available!

Interested members should register with Yvon Bernier : (819) 684-0586 ; fax (819) 684-7365 ; [ycbernier@infonet.ca](mailto:ycbernier@infonet.ca)

**Special event: Michael Persiano in Ottawa on August 14 at the Japanese embassy!!**

It is confirmed! Michael Persiano will be in Ottawa on Monday August 14. We will have a clinic with him in the afternoon from 1:00pm to 4:00pm for OBS members and he will do a styling demonstration in the evening for the public as well as members. Michael has written articles in Bonsai today (#79 and 93) and has a nice web site that show some of his work. The URL for his web site is [HTTP://members.aol.com/iasnob/](http://members.aol.com/iasnob/).

The exact format of the clinic has to be worked out and will be announced soon. Don't miss out on this special event!!

**NOUVEAU MEMBRE / NEW MEMBER**

Nous souhaitons la bienvenue à :  
A warm welcome is extended to :

**Leslie Moreau**

**Ottawa Bonsai Society**  
**2005 / 2006 Executive**  
**Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa**  
**Exécutif 2005 / 2006**

## Meeting Location / Lieu des rencontres

**Treasurer / Trésorier**

Yvon Bernier  
 208, avenue des  
 Explorateurs  
 Gatineau, QC J9J 1M9  
 (819) 684-0586

**Librarian / Libraire**

Mike O'Connor

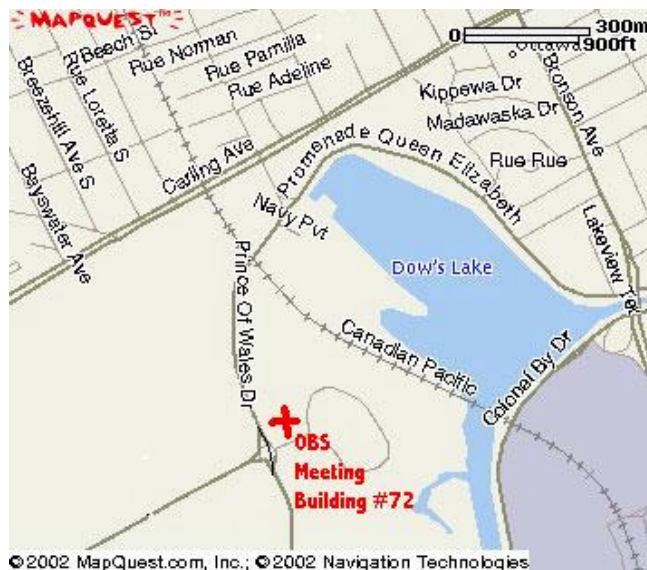
**Secretary and Director  
of Public Relations/  
Secrétaire et directeur  
des relations publiques**

Duart Crabtree

**Steering Group  
Conseil directeur**

Yvon Bernier  
 Duart Crabtree  
 Vianney Leduc  
 Barney Shum  
 Gordon Williams  
 Matt Yakabuski

Nos rencontres se tiennent à l'édifice #72 de la Ferme expérimentale centrale. Pour vous y rendre, prenez la direction sud sur la promenade Prince of Wales jusqu'au rond-point à l'intersection National Capital Driveway et Prince of Wales (qui est aussi l'entrée principale de la Ferme expérimentale et de l'Arboretum), où vous prendrez la direction Est menant à l'Arboretum. Une courte distance plus loin, à la première fourche, Prenez la route de gauche qui mène directement à l'édifice #72 (vous verrez une affiche juste en face de l'édifice, de l'autre côté du chemin, qui dit «Friends of the Farm» . Le stationnement est situé de part et d'autre de l'édifice.



Our meetings are held at Building #72 at the Central Experimental Farm. Heading south on Prince of Wales, at the traffic circle at the intersection of the N.C.C. Scenic Drive and Prince of Wales, the major entrance to the Experimental Farm and the Arboretum, exit east into the Arboretum. After a very short distance, where the road divides, turn left to Building #72 which will be down a short distance on your left. There is parking just before or just after the building. The entrance is on the street side (east side) and there is a sign reading "Friends of the Farm".