

Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society

Journal de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa



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Notes from your Steering Group Le mot de votre conseil directeur

Vianney Leduc announced that Members that have taken the Bonsai Fundamentals course should register soon for the Bonsai Development Workshop to be held Saturday April 19 as we are limited to 12 participants. Cost of \$75 includes a tree (*J. procumbens* 'Nana'), wire, soil, and pot. Each participant will take home a finished bonsai. A non-refundable deposit of \$25 will be required to hold each registration to cover OBS' sunk costs.

Duart Crabtree announced that the Ikebana International Exhibition will be held in the Museum of Nature from January 31 to February 3 at the Museum of Nature.

Most of our Members are familiar with the term Phoenix Graft (if not the Japanese term *Tanuki*) and realize that the 'graft' is not a horticultural graft, but a mechanical joining of a living tree to a separate piece of deadwood. Thus, a spectacular piece of deadwood properly joined to an inexpensive live tree can become a delightful bonsai composition. Vianney opened the evening program with a presentation based on his experience at *Tanuki*, using a very interesting piece of driftwood and two Shimpaku whips as raw materials. After outlining requirements of the starting materials, he illustrated techniques to anchor the driftwood and made clear that a major challenge lies in integrating the living and dead parts of the composition artistically.

After 8 years the live whips are now securely lodged in the grooves that Vianney carved in the driftwood and the branches are now ready for pruning and styling. It has been a slow process because Shimpaku are relatively slow growing and our growing season is short; however, we can now see that Vainney's efforts and patience will be well rewarded.

It probably can be said that most OBS Members were unfamiliar with *Zokei* bonsai and that the rest of us were, at best, skeptical of its merit. Vianney addressed our unfamiliarity and skepticism in the second part of the program.

Although a *Zokei* bonsai is a totally artificial composition, realism may be greatly enhanced by starting with a dead bonsai or tree. Many of us have evidence of misfortunes inexplicably sequestered in our homes and the prospect of actually making use of these cadavres struck a responsive chord. Vianney explained that design of foliage pads is similar for *Zokei* bonsai except that structural deficiencies and flaws are more easily corrected or eliminated. He demonstrated how realistic foliage pads are assembled and the applicability of the design experience to design of live trees. In the end, Vianney presented a strong argument that *Zokei* has a place in future OBS activities.

Thank you Vianney, for an interesting and thought-provoking evening.

Next meeting

Monday, February 18 at 7:00pm

In the first portion of the program, Duart Crabtree will make a presentation on Chinese Penjing, based on his recent visit to China. In 1990, a former OBS Member, Maureen Mark wrote a series of four articles on Penjing for the OBS Journal. Knowledge about Penjing and interest has grown a lot since 1990. Duart's presentation will pick up where Maureen left off.

In the second half of the evening, Members will be divided into 4 or 5 groups. Each group will analyze the potential of a dormant pre-bonsai juniper. These trees will be brought out of dormancy early so that they can be made into bonsai during the second part of the program of the March Meeting. At the February Meeting, each group will develop the design plan to be implemented in March.

Bonsai Development Workshop, Saturday, April 19, 2007 in Building #72, Central Experimental Farm, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This is a workshop aimed specifically at those who have taken the Beginners' Bonsai Courses given last November 26 or who have taken a beginners' course in the past. Participants will receive assistance from experienced OBS members to begin developing their own bonsai using nursery grown Japanese garden 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 \$75 per person.

Twelve places are available for this workshop. To register you need to provide a non-refundable deposit of \$25. For additional information, please contact Yvon Bernier: 819-684-0586 ycbernier@videotron.ca

Atelier pour débutants sur la formation d'un bonsaï, le samedi 19 avril 2007, édifice #72, Ferme expérimentale centrale, de 9h30 à 15h00.

Cet atelier s'adresse principalement à ceux et celles qui ont suivi le cours pour débutants du 26 novembre dernier ou un autre cours pour débutants dans le passé. Durant cette session, les participants, avec l'aide de membres chevronnés de la SBO, procéderont à la formation de leur propre bonsaï à partir d'un plant de genévrier nain du Japon. 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 75 \$ par personne.

Douze places sont disponibles pour cet atelier. Pour vous inscrire, vous devez fournir un dépôt non remboursable de \$25. Pour tout complément d'information, veuillez contacter Yvon Bernier : 819-684-0586 ycbernier@videotron.ca

NOUVEAUX MEMBRES / NEW MEMBERS

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

Alain Truax

WELCOME BACK / BIENVENUE

We are pleased to welcome back **Myron Mech** and **John Gummesson**, two long-time members who have become active again in the Society. We will all benefit from their vast experience and knowledge.

C'est avec plaisir que nous accueillons deux vieux routiers de la Société, **Myron Mech** et **John Gummesson** qui ont repris une part active dans nos activités récemment. Nous bénéficierons tous de leur vaste expérience et de leurs connaissances.

BONSAÏ GROS-BEC

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In the beautiful Lanaudière region, north of Montreal, we invite you to visit our greenhouses and our collection of bonsai and penjing from China, Korea, Japan and Canada.

We have a large choice of pre-bonsai as well as bonsai, pots, tools, wires and soil. We have available magnificent *Juniperus chinensis* 'sargentii' (Shimpaku), *Ulmus parvifolia*, *Serissa foetida* and *Ficus microcarpa* (of all sizes).

A 10% discount will be given to members of the Ottawa Bonsai Society on pots, tools, wires and soil. We are open Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Please call for an appointment to visit us. We regret that we are unable to accept payment by credit or debit cards. Guided visits are available at \$5 per person.

We look forward to share our passion with you all!

Suzanne Piché and Robert Smith

Ottawa Bonsai Society
2007 / 2008 Executive
Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa
Exécutif 2007 / 2008

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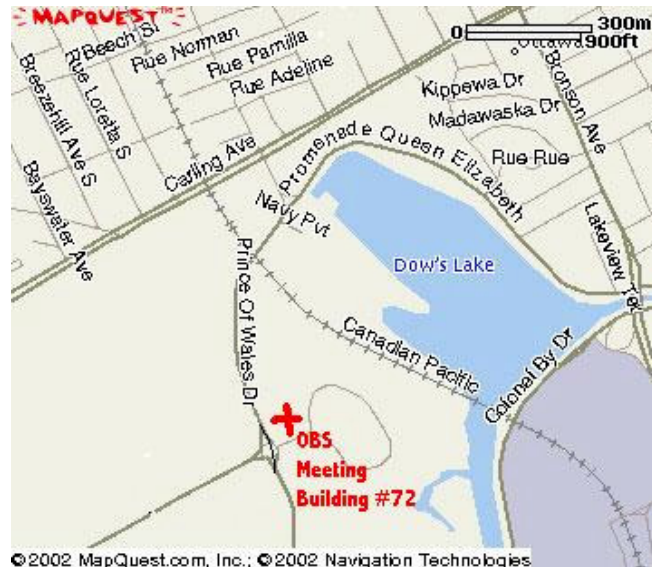
Vianney Leduc

**Steering Group
 Conseil directeur**

Yvon Bernier
 Duart Crabtree
 Vianney Leduc
 Barney Shum
 Gordon Williams
 Matt Yakabuski
 Mike O'Connor
 Eric Langlois
 Paul Lauzon

Meeting Location / Lieu des rencontres

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 «Les Amis de la Ferme» . 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".