

# Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society

## Journal de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa



June / Juin 2008

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

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

Because of the Victoria Day holiday in Ontario the May Membership Meeting was moved to May 12 and there was a good turnout. Vianney Leduc opened the Meeting with helpful suggestions on what participants should bring to the intermediate workshop on deadwood scheduled for May 24th.

Vianney announced that the June Membership Meeting would also be the OBS's Annual General Meeting and reassured Members that the AGM is usually brief. Members were encouraged to nominate persons or volunteer to stand for office themselves. There is lots of talent out there and many hands make light work!

Members in attendance were advised that two trees styled at 2007/2008 winter/spring OBS meetings were to be raffled.

Vianney started the evening program with a timely presentation on fertilizing bonsai. The discussion was quite lively and wide ranging but fortunately Vianney had a handy tip sheet for Members to take home for future reference.

The second part of the program consisted of three activities in parallel. The swap shop was better than some years partly because of many nice pots courtesy of Irene Franklin, interesting plants courtesy of Ian McRea and some Members brought trees just for discussion.

While shoppers were negotiating, advice was dispensed at a clinic by senior Members for those needing help.

And the raffle: first choice of two nice junipers was won by John Gummesson and the second, by Jennifer Jackson Fevens.

This Meeting seemed to have something for everyone.

## **Next meeting**

**Monday June 16 at 7:00pm**

In the first part of the program, we will have our Annual General Meeting:

### **AGENDA**

- Item 1: Approval of last years' AGM minutes;
- Item 2: Approval of Treasurer's Report for 2007/2008;
- Item 3: Election of Officers;
- Item 4: Other business

### **ORDRE DU JOUR**

- 1er sujet : Approbation du procès-verbal le l'AGA de l'an dernier
- 2e sujet : Approbation du bilan financier pour 2007-2008
- 3e sujet : Élection du Conseil
- 4e sujet : Autres questions

**In the second part of the program, we will look at different trees to come up with alternative designs. If you have challenging trees that seems hard to design, bring them for a constructive discussion!**

## **Japan on the Hill**

Yvon Bernier received a call from Parliament of Canada International and Inter-parliamentary Affairs requesting assistance from OBS. The Canada-Japan Inter-parliamentary Group was preparing for Japan on the Hill celebrations to be held at the Centre Block on Parliament Hill, on May 14, 2008. They asked if we could provide bonsai to decorate the venue. Because of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year of diplomatic relations between Canada and Japan, Japan on the Hill celebrations were more elaborate.

Yvon, Vianney Leduc and I managed to locate fifteen attractive bonsai compositions which was not an easy task, as many trees were still dormant. The bigger challenge was the logistics of getting the bonsai to a room in the Centre block and back home without incident and this was managed with the very competent assistance of government staff.

The Ohara School of Ikebana provided floral arrangements for the dinner tables and the Embassy of Japan provided miniature kimono displays. His Excellency Tsuneo Nishida, ambassador of Japan to Canada was the keynote speaker.

The overall effect was splendid and OBS's contribution was well appreciated. From a public relations point of view, I am pleased to report that the OBS made a good impression on both the Canadian government and the Embassy of Japan personnel.

(See picture on page 4).

Duart Crabtree

## NOUVEAU MEMBRE / NEW MEMBER

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

**Diana C. Drysch**

### Pictures from the April workshop!



### Deadwood workshop and pictures!

Seven Members and three observers participated in the 'hands on' afternoon workshop on May 24. The emphasis of the workshop was intended to be on creation of deadwood rather than styling and although most Members brought their own trees, sometimes the original styling plan had not made adequate provision for deadwood – a very valuable lesson.

The workshop was small enough that Brian Donnelly was able to give individual attention to the deadwood treatment for each composition at the start of the workshop, so we all got off on the right foot.

Brian made sure there was enough time for all participants to get the feel of bursting and stripping bark on new growth, enhancing the appearance of age with heat, sculpting manually and with mechanical tools and in some cases heavy-duty carving with his 'Makita'.

Several of us remarked that the series of articles by Francois Jeker now had more relevance. Brian left us with our trees a big step closer to show quality and with a new enthusiasm for deadwood in our bonsai compositions.



## Picture from “Japan on the Hill” event!



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## 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.

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**

## Meeting Location / Lieu des rencontres

### Treasurer / Trésorier

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### Librarian / Bibliothécaire

Mike O'Connor

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

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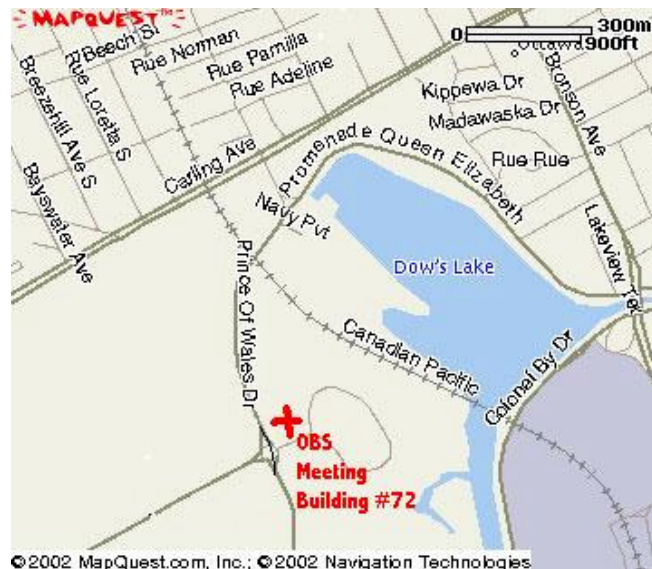
### Editor/Editeur

Vianney Leduc

### Steering Group Conseil directeur

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

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".