



Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society

Mai/May
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The President's message

By Art Phelan

Spring, wonderful spring! I moved my trees from their winter storage place beside my house in mid April and was surprised to find how far along they were. The unseasonably warm weather and the warm soil beside the house had moved them up to the stage I would normally see in early May. One Mugho pine in a one gallon nursery pot had started to candle and at least two of the candles were opening needles. A native hornbeam (*Carpinus Carolina*) that I was planning on thread grafting had progressed too far, the buds had started to open into leaflets. Since then the cold water and even colder weather have slowed the progress and given me a chance to catch my breath before repotting and styling begin in earnest.

We learned with great sadness that Ron Charlebois, one of our tireless workers in the Bonsai Society has accepted a promotion to a new job in Montreal. Congratulations Ron. We will miss your enthusiasm, energy and effort.

David Easterbrook has confirmed that we will be working on some great material at our workshop in May. David has secured some very nice Austrian Pine, Hornbrook (*Pinus Nigra Hornbrookiana*) in 5 gallon pots. This is a cultivar of a Austrian Pine a European species of two needle pines that back buds easily and best of all is winter hardy in our climate. Hornbrook is a dwarf cultivar with twisted branching structure. David will style one tree during his demonstration on Friday evening May 10 and the participants will each work on their own tree

during the workshop on Saturday May 11. (At this time all of the trees are spoken for, subject to any last minute cancellations.) The demo and workshop will take place in the Party Room of an apartment building at 400 Stewart Street in Sandy Hill. Please see the map in the bulletin.

Please remember that the Meeting time and place has been changed for the Month of May due to the long weekend and our demo/workshop with David Easterbrook.

The OBS show is scheduled for June 15 & 16 at the Sandy Hill Community Centre. We will have demonstrations by local artists of the creation of a major Blauw Forest, 11 or more trees, and the styling of a significant older evergreen. The demonstrations are scheduled from 2 til 5 on Saturday and Sunday.

Once again we are asking for volunteers to staff the Society executive. You don't need to be a Bonsai Master, you do need to be willing to get together once a month to plan and organize the program and have some fun. We need help for the upcoming show and for next year. If you are interested, call me or anyone on the executive.

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The Ottawa Bonsai Society Meeting

Next meeting/ Prochaine rencontre: **FRIDAY May 10th, 2002**

Time/ Heure: **7:00 pm**

**** Location Change / Changement d'endroit ****

(See below map for location)

Location/ Endroit: 400 Stewart Street, Ottawa
N.B. The Meeting is at the *Party room* of the building. Look for signs on the door of the building. Parking will be on the street.

At this month meeting/ À la rencontre de ce mois-ci:

Workshop lead by David Easterbrook
(Lecture on May 10th & Workshop on May 11th)

Directions:

From downtown follow Laurier East all the way past the left turn at the Rideau River, turn right at the second street, (Stewart Street), go to the end. Or take Charlotte south from Rideau and turn Left at Stewart, go to the end

400 Stewart Street



Upcoming events

June 15th - 16th - Annual Show and Annual General Meeting.

- People who would be interested to receive the Journal through e-mail instead of mail are welcome to ask and send a note to me at Aylmer58@videotron.ca
- Les personnes intéressées à recevoir le bulletin sous forme de e-mail sont bienvenues de le demander et de m'envoyer votre demande à Aylmer58@videotron.ca
- Suggestions on topics and subjects that you would like to see appearing and discussed in the Journal will also be welcome and well appreciated.
- Les suggestions sur des points précis et sujets que vous aimeriez voir traités et discutés à l'intérieur du journal sont encore une fois bienvenues et seront bien appréciés.

**** Announcements ****

May meeting & Intermediate workshop by David Easterbrook

The May meeting shall be very interesting with David Easterbrook coming to give a lecture that will relate to the workshop scheduled on the Saturday. It will be a good opportunity to exchange and discuss ideas. Everybody is welcome to the meeting as well as to the workshop, however the persons not working on trees are to attend as silent observers. Remember the location change (See page 2 for details)

The Ottawa Bonsai Society 2002 Show & General Meeting

Once again, note that the ***OBS 2002 will take place June 15th & 16th at the Sandy Hill Community Centre.***

It is now time and until then to tell your friends about the show and have them discover and enjoy the fruits of your creative work.

As we need help, every member is asked to sign up to for the upcoming show. We will need volunteers to help set up the tables, for guided tours and at the door.

We will have demonstrations by local artists of the creation of a major Blauw Forest, 11 or more trees, and the styling of a significant older evergreen. The demonstrations are scheduled from 14:00 until 17:00 on Saturday and Sunday.

Here is the timetable for the show weekend:

Friday June 14th in evening:	Set up the display tables
Saturday June 15th:	All plants and materials shall be delivered as early in the morning as possible. We would like to be set up when the doors open. The doors for the show will open for visitors from 10:00 TO 17:00
Sunday June 16th:	Doors will open for visitors from 10:00 TO 17:00. Bonsai can be removed as soon as possible after the close. Dismounting of the displays and tables.

After the show closes to the public on Saturday, we will have the Annual General Meeting on Sunday June 16th 2002 at 17:15. Once again, people interested in joining the Society executive are welcome. You don't need to be a Bonsai Master, you do need to be willing to get together once a month to plan and organize the program and have some fun. If you are interested to help maintain the continuity of the OBS, call anyone on the executive.

Here are some suggestions for preparing your trees for the show:

- Groom the bonsai carefully - from the top of the tree down – remove extraneous deadwood, damaged leaves
- and poor growth in the fork of the trunk or on branches.
- Check the wiring. Remove any that is too near to girdling the tree. Do fine wiring that will enhance the appearance of the branch.
- Make sure the tree is pest free. Check for scale (remove with a Q-tip and alcohol). Make sure there is not a nest of ants that will become active as the tree warms up indoors.
- Remove any debris from the soil and cut off any thread-like exposed roots which may be above soil level.
- To enhance moss, spray one or two weeks before the show with ½ tbs of fish emulsion to each 2 litres of water.
- On the day before the show wipe your pots with a wet cloth then a dry one. A small amount of baby oil can bring back the lustre on the pot.
- Take a last look – and you're ready!...

A Parable

By Bob Laws

(printed with permission of the Portland Bonsai Society and Vancouver Island Bonsai Club)

Bob Laws, President of the Portland Bonsai Society took time off from his work organizing the September Convention XIV of PNBCA to present an amusing story from Mexico as his message in their March newsletter. Here is an adaptation:

A boat docked at a tiny Mexican village. A tourist from the north complimented a Mexican fisherman on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took for him to catch them. "Not very long", answered the fisherman. "Why, then, don't you stay out longer and catch more", asked the visitor. The fisherman explained that his small catch was sufficient to meet his needs and those of his family.

When the visitor asked what the fisherman did with the rest of his day, the reply was, "I sleep late, play with my children, take a siesta with my wife and spend the rest of my time working on my bonsai. See how beautiful they are; I have a full life."

The visitor interrupted, "I have an MBA from Harvard and I can help you. You should start by fishing longer every day. You can then sell the extra fish you catch so that you can buy a bigger boat. With the extra money the larger boat will bring, you can buy a second one, a third one and so on until you have an entire fleet of trawlers. Instead of selling your fish to a middle man you can negotiate directly with the processing plants and maybe even open your own plant. You can then leave this little village and move to Mexico City, Los Angeles or even New York! From there you can direct your huge enterprise. You can make millions"

"Millions? Really? How long would it take?" asked the Mexican.

"Twenty, perhaps twenty- five years", replied the visitor.

"And after that?"

"Afterwards? That's when it really gets interesting," answered the visitor smiling. "After that you'll be able to retire, move to a tiny Mexican village near the coast, sleep late, play with your children, catch a few fish, take a siesta with your wife and spend the rest of your time working on your bonsai."...

***** Varia *****

The *Toronto Bonsai Society* meets the second Tuesday of every Month at the Civic Garden Centre, 777 Lawrence Avenue E. at Finch in the Floral Hall. The meeting starts at 8:00 pm. For more info:

<http://www.torontobonsai.org>

The *Society de Bonsai and Penjing of Montreal*: <http://www.bonsaimontreal.com>

Misseto (the Bonsai Club of Mississauga and Etobicoke) meets the 3rd Wednesday of the Month at 7:30 pm at the Islington United Church, 25 Burnamthorpe Road, Etobicoke ON

