

Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society
Journal de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa



**January/Janvier
2009**

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**In this issue:
Dans ce numéro:**

Notes from your
Steering Group /
Le mot de votre
conseil directeur 1

OBS Events
Calendar.....2

Courses-
Workshops.....2

Publicity/ Publicité 3

Meeting Location /
Lieu des rencontres 4

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

The November meeting was our last meeting of 2008 and a busy month it was for the OBS with our participation in Japan Day on November 2nd and the Introductory Bonsai Course presented by Vianney Leduc on November 8th.

A word about OBS's excellent introductory course is in order. The course material was originally designed by Barney Shum and Lyne Edmonds. Vianney has built on the original material and it is now even better. November's introductory course was oversubscribed and your Steering group is considering whether to offer a second course.

It sure was nice to see those new faces at our November meeting and the new Members were not disappointed with the evening program. Myron Mech, one of our founding Members, gave a presentation on Japanese red maples. Mike O'Connor had prepared a slide show of about 50 images of Japanese red maple bonsai which Myron used as his introduction by making a few comments about each composition.

Myron suggested that most bonsai enthusiasts should include a Japanese maple as a 'must have' species. In the time available Myron covered the "do's and don'ts" from the best Japanese maple species for the Ottawa area, to propagation, light exposure, watering, feeding, balancing growth, defoliation, soil, wiring, fungus and moulds in enough depth that beginners would easily understand and more advanced Members would note and benefit. It was obvious that a lot of thought and care went into this presentation and it was widely appreciated. Myron mentioned J.D. Vertrees as being particularly useful reference (latest edition is available from Stone Lantern).

At the break, a jade tree donated by Claire Cloutier was raffled and the lucky winner was Gord Williams.

After the break Myron made constructive suggestions on Japanese maples that Members brought to the Meeting. A tree with very exciting potential that Nathalie Carter has been cultivating in her garden for just a few years got us into a discussion on styling options.

Myron graciously acknowledged the assistance of Mike and Gord with the visuals that complemented his presentation and we would like to thank them all. We were pleased that we did not miss this meeting.

Next meeting
Monday, January 19 at 7:00pm

We will divide the evening in two activities. In the first part, Vianney Leduc will present the Cedar as a bonsai and show the design consideration as well as the technical steps done so far on a collected specimen. In the second part of the meeting, we will discuss design alternatives on two junipers that offer multiples possibilities.

Schedule of upcoming meetings in 2009

February 16

March 16

April 20

May 25

June 15

No meeting in July

No meeting in August

Courses / Workshops

The date of the beginner's workshop will be announced in the next newsletter. This event will occur on a Saturday between mid April and mid May.

A new intermediate course will be available this spring for members looking to expand their knowledge. The course will cover esthetic elements such as shape of foliage pads, quality of empty space, volume of foliage pads and the focal point of a tree. It will cover the different elements required to create a dynamic design and apply these elements in the analysis of available trees. It will also cover more advanced wiring techniques required to shape foliage pads. The date of that course will be announced in the next newsletter.



Acer palmatum - Japanese Maple



Acer palmatum - Japanese Maple

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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
2008 / 2009 Executive
Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa
Exécutif 2008 / 2009

Meeting Location / Lieu des rencontres

Treasurer / Trésorier

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208, avenue des
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Mike O'Connor

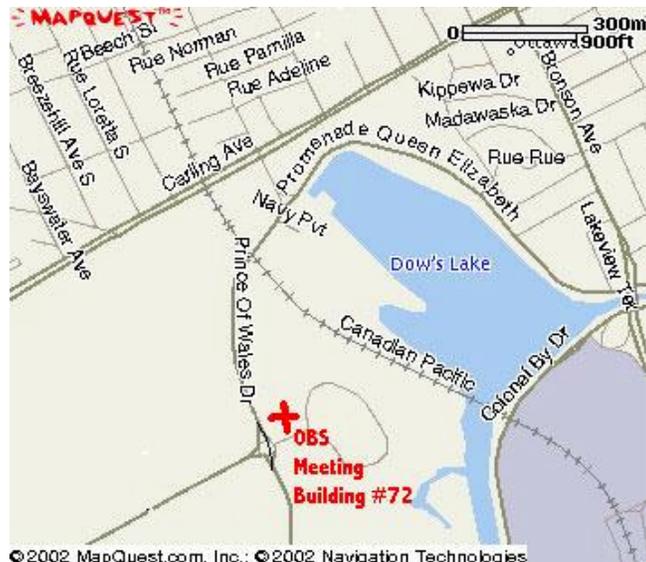
Secretary and Director of Public Relations /Secrétaire et directeur des relations publiques

Duart Crabtree

Steering Group Conseil directeur

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