

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

The June Meeting was the last meeting of the fiscal year and also the Annual General Meeting of the OBS. The AGM did not scare Members away this year.

Treasurer Yvon Bernier reported that our financial position continues to improve thanks mostly to healthy revenues from membership, cost reduction in printing the Journal and reduced expenses for the annual show. Details are to be posted to the web site but it is a "good news" report for us that shows funds available for exciting bonsai activities in the coming year.

All Members will benefit from participation in the afternoon clinic directed by Michael Persiano, followed by the evening demonstration for the public on August 14th, at the Embassy of Japan. Plans are moving ahead nicely. It looks like we will have at least eight suitable trees provided by Members for the clinic.

Vianney Leduc brought in the collected eastern white cedar that will be styled in the evening demonstration (see pictures below) and reviewed preliminary discussions and sketches that Michael and he have exchanged. Members had a chance to discuss and view the tree "up close" in light of their two preferred design options. Either way there will be lots of exciting deadwood. Let the chips fly; we will bring tarps!

More good news - three Members joined the Steering Group, replacing Members lost to attrition in recent years. More hands really do make for a lighter load. Thanks Paul, Angel, and Doug for stepping forward!

Yvon announced that an opportunity to collect larch in the wild is being organized for October. It will be a six-day trip as the trees are at a site two days by car east of Ottawa on the Gulf of St. Lawrence north shore.

A meeting of the reconstituted Group was scheduled to finalize plans in progress for August 14th, kick off planning for the OBS annual show in September, and discuss ideas for programs in the coming fiscal year.

OBS Events Calendar

Next regular meeting will be Monday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m.

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

As announced in the last newsletter, Michael Persiano will be in Ottawa on Monday August 14. Mark this date in your calendar! 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 on an old collected eastern white cedar in the evening for the public as well as members.

We have 8 trees ready to be analyzed with Michael. Members wanting to be observers need to register ahead of time with Yvon Bernier, (ycbernier@videotron.ca) or 819-684-0586.

Don't miss out on this special event, buy your ticket soon!

Annual show on September 9 and 10 at the Japanese embassy

Get your trees ready for the upcoming annual show that will be held on Saturday September 9 and Sunday September 10 at the Japanese embassy. The coordinator of the show is Matt Yakabuski (613-448-9108). The members of the steering committee will be calling you to find out how many trees you will be showing this year.

PROPOSED FIELD TRIP IN OCTOBER 2006

For some time now, the Steering Group has been working on a field trip to the Quebec North Shore next October for the purpose of collecting larches suitable as bonsai material. One of our members is in contact with a resident of Havre-Saint-Pierre, a small community two hours beyond Sept-Îles surrounded by bogs, where large numbers of larches grow under difficult conditions. This person will serve as our guide during the trip. The terrain where these stunted trees can be collected is flat, there are practically no rocks, and suitable material can be found at walking distance from the road. Bogs are relatively humid, however, and one needs boots to get around. Strong winds also prevail most of the time. Collecting and carrying trees in this environment is arduous work.

Another difficulty in this field trip lies in the distance to be covered and the ensuing cost to participants. Six days must be allowed for the expedition: four for travel to and from Havre-Saint-Pierre and two for collecting. In two days, each participant could expect to collect between 5 and 8 trees. Expenses will naturally be very significant: motel for five night, restaurants, gas, etc. The survival rate of trees collected in nature is around 50%. Such trees take 3 to 5 years or more of tender loving care before being ready for shaping into bonsais. The trip will take place in late October, the best time of the year to collect larches in that region (dates currently considered are from October 18 to 23). This is a very exciting but challenging project. If you're interested in participating, please contact our treasurer, Yvon Bernier, (ycbernier@videotron.ca or 819-684-0586) for additional information.

PROPOSITION DE CUEILLETTE EN OCTOBRE 2006

Le conseil directeur s'active depuis un bon moment à élaborer les plans d'un voyage vers la Côte Nord du Québec en octobre prochain afin de faire la cueillette de mélèzes aptes à devenir de bons sujets de bonsaïs. Un de nos membres est en contact avec un résident de Havre-Saint-Pierre, un petit village de la Côte Nord entouré de tourbières où croissent un nombre impressionnant de mélèzes sous des conditions climatiques difficiles. Cette personne nous servira de guide durant la cueillette. Le terrain est plat et peu rocheux dans ces tourbières et les arbustes propres à la cueillette sont à des distances raisonnables de la route. Toutefois, ce sont des endroits humides où il faut se chausser de bottes pour circuler. De plus, il y a vente habituellement très fort. Dans un tel environnement, la cueillette et le transport d'arbustes devient un travail laborieux.

La très grande distance à parcourir pour s'y rendre entraînera des déboursés importants, ce qui est une difficulté additionnelle. Il faut prévoir six jours pour une telle expédition : quatre pour l'aller et le retour et deux pour la cueillette. En deux jours, chacun des participants pourrait s'attendre à cueillir entre 5 et 8 arbustes. Il faut prévoir cinq nuits de motel, des frais de restaurants et d'essence, etc. Le taux de survie d'arbustes cueillis dans la nature est d'environ 50%. De tels sujets doivent être traités aux petits soins pendant 3 à 5 ans ou plus avant d'être transformés en bonsaïs. Le voyage s'effectuera à la fin octobre, le meilleur temps pour la cueillette de mélèzes dans ce coin de pays (vraisemblablement du 18 au 23 octobre). Ce projet est emballant mais également très exigeant. Si vous souhaitez y participer, veuillez prendre contact avec notre trésorier, Yvon Bernier, (ycbernier@videotron.ca ou au 819-684-0586) pour des renseignements complémentaires.

Pictures of the Cedar for the Michael Persiano demonstration.



NOUVEAU MEMBRE / NEW MEMBER

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

Elisabeth de Burger

Ottawa Bonsai Society
2006 / 2007 Executive
Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa
Exécutif 2006 / 2007

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

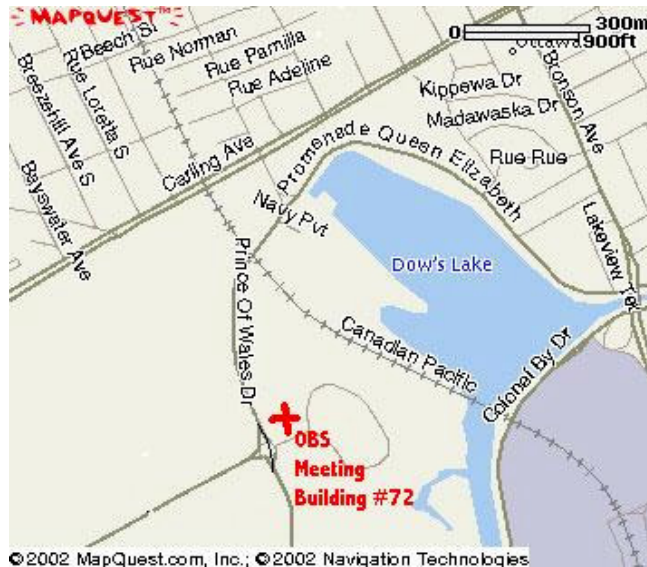
Secretary and Director of Public Relations /Secrétaire et directeur des relations publiques

Duart Crabtree

Steering Group Conseil directeur

Yvon Bernier
 Duart Crabtree
 Vianney Leduc
 Barney Shum
 Gordon Williams
 Matt Yakabuski
 Mike O'Connor
 Angel Che
 Paul Lauzon
 Doug Tompkins

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".