

# Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society

## Journal de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa



March/Mars 2007

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

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### Notes from your Steering Group

### Le mot de votre conseil directeur

The February meeting of the OBS began with announcements of the upcoming Ikebana Workshops scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and two OBS workshops; the Beginners, on April 21<sup>st</sup> and the Intermediate, on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Space in the bonsai workshops is limited so Members were advised to sign up early to avoid disappointment.

Most OBS Members know little about a new approach to styling led by bonsai Masters and artists, including Michele Andolfo and François Jeker that features "dynamic-balance" or "dynamic-equilibrium". The evening program was a presentation by Vianney Leduc on dynamic-balance, as it applies to styling a bonsai composition.

Vianney illustrated by comparing a tree designed in the classical Japanese style with another using dynamic-balance. Members agreed that both designs were very pleasing compositions; the classically-designed with characteristic visual stability; the dynamically balanced design with dramatic appeal.

Although rules are not laid down for dynamically-stable styling, Vianney presented four design elements that can add a dynamic aspect to any tree. Some of these elements were to give a direction to a tree and give movement to the shape of the foliage pads.

The presentation led to a discussion regarding the use of such dynamic elements by Japanese artists. Although many of the classical Japanese bonsai seen in books tend to be static and visually very stable, we have seen a few artists like Masahiko Kimura that has produced designs that are very dynamic.

Vianney brought an azalea to the meeting that he plans to restyle using dynamic-balance features and he invited suggestions from Members. It was a good exercise and afterwards he showed us a Paintshop rendition by Eric Langlois of Vianney's preferred design.

Vianney stressed that dynamic-balance will not replace but will add to the existing body of design knowledge and it lends itself to some styles such as cascade and windswept conifers more readily than to formal upright deciduous styles.

## Next meeting

**Monday, February 19 at 7:00pm**

In the first part, we will explore sketching techniques as it can apply to bonsai. This will help participants who like to sketch design alternatives before starting their work. Spring is around the corner and it is now time to do actual work on some trees! Barney Shum will give a demonstration of design work on one of his trees in the second part of the meeting.

The Ottawa Botanical Garden Society (OBGC) is sponsoring a talk by Patrick Lima at 8:00 p.m. on April 25, at the Alumni Theatre, University Centre, University of Ottawa. A member of the OBGC, Mrs. Anneke Schwarz, will speak to us about this important event at the start of our March 19 meeting. She will also brief us on the OBGC's dream of building a national botanical garden in Ottawa that would showcase Canadian native species and the horticultural discoveries that enabled the settlement of vast tracts of Canadian land.

### CULTURAL EVENT / ÉVÉNEMENT CULTUREL

Ohara Ikebana Exhibition "Dimensions"

Auditorium, Embassy of Japan

255 Sussex Drive, Ottawa

Saturday, March 31 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 1 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Admission: FREE

### **Bonsai Development Workshop, Saturday, April 21, 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.

**Ten places are available for this workshop. To register or for additional information, please contact Yvon Bernier: 819-684-0586 [ycbernier@videotron.ca](mailto:ycbernier@videotron.ca)**

### **Atelier pour débutants sur la formation d'un bonsaï, le samedi 21 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 pant 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.

**Dix places sont disponibles pour cet atelier. Pour vous inscrire ou pour tout complément d'information, veuillez contacter Yvon Bernier : 819-684-0586 [ycbernier@videotron.ca](mailto:ycbernier@videotron.ca)**

**Intermediate Workshop with David Easterbrook****Saturday, May 5, 2007****From 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.****Building #72, Central Experimental Farm**

Ten experienced OBS members will have the opportunity of designing their own medium to large size coniferous bonsai under the expert guidance of renowned bonsai artist David Easterbrook. Cost of this workshop is \$125 per person, which includes the conifer stock (chosen by Mr. Easterbrook), the bonsai soil and wire. Members just wishing to look on are welcome to attend at no cost.

**To register or for information, contact:****Yvon Bernier: (819) 684-0586****[ycbernier@videotron.ca](mailto:ycbernier@videotron.ca)****Atelier de niveau intermédiaire en compagnie de David Easterbrook****Le samedi, 5 mai 2007****De 9h30 à 15h00****Édifice # 72, Ferme expérimentale centrale**

Au cours de cet atelier, dix membres expérimentés de la SBO auront la chance de recevoir l'aide de David Easterbrook, artiste du bonsaï de grande renommée, pour créer leur propre bonsaï à partir d'un conifère rustique de bonne taille. Le coût de cet atelier est fixé à 125\$ par personne, ce qui comprend le conifère (choisi par M. Easterbrook), le terreau et le fil pour ligaturage. Les membres qui souhaitent assister en spectateur à cet atelier pourront le faire sans frais.

**Pour vous inscrire ou pour tout complément d'information, veuillez contacter Yvon Bernier****(819) 684-0586 [ycbernier@videotron.ca](mailto:ycbernier@videotron.ca)****NOUVEAUX MEMBRES / NEW MEMBERS**

Nous souhaitons la bienvenue à :

A warm welcome is extended to :

**Derrick and Trudene Du Toit**



### **Canada's Internet Bonsai Supplies Store**

[www.bonsaiconcepts.ca](http://www.bonsaiconcepts.ca)

We have a large selection of pots, tools and wires. Call for an appointment to come to the greenhouse and purchase bonsai Pots for \$1 per inch. A great deal! And if you don't see what you're looking for on our web-store, just email us at [info@bonsaiconcepts.ca](mailto:info@bonsaiconcepts.ca)!

**Loretta MacDonald**

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### **BONSAI GROS-BEC**

**40 Imbeault**

**St-Alphonse-Rodriguez PQ**

**J0K 1W0**

**(450) 883-1196 [info@bonsaigrosbec.com](mailto:info@bonsaigrosbec.com) / [www.bonsaigrosbec.com](http://www.bonsaigrosbec.com)**

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 just received magnificent juniperus chinensis 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**  
**2006 / 2007 Executive**  
**Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa**  
**Exécutif 2006 / 2007**

### **Treasurer / Trésorier**

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### **Librarian / Bibliothécaire**

Mike O'Connor

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

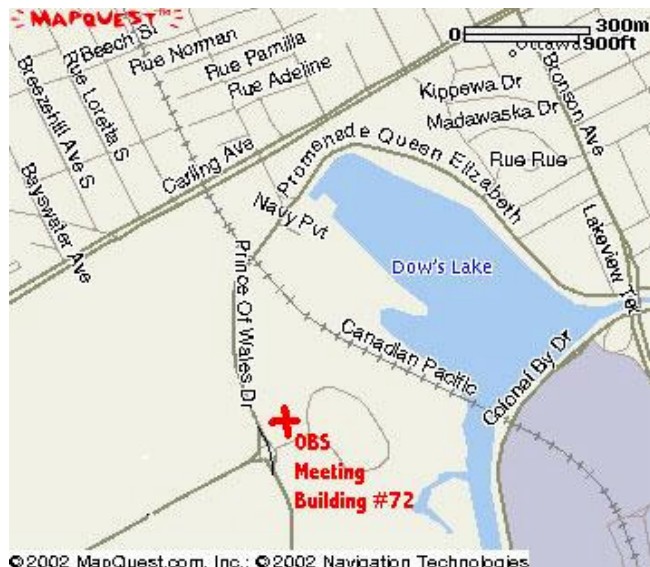
Duart Crabtree

### **Steering Group Conseil directeur**

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

## **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 «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".