



Newsletter/Bulletin

March / Mars 2010

Volume 25, no. 6

The
Ottawa Bonsai
Society /
Société de
bonsai d'Ottawa

25 years of the Ottawa Bonsai Society

Vingt-cinq années de Société de bonsai d'Ottawa

Steering Group Notes / Le Mot de votre Conseil Directeur

From the February program

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Oops! We forgot that February 15th was a holiday in Ontario this year. Nonetheless, we had a good turnout of close to 30 members.

Duart Crabtree opened the announcements with a summary of decisions made at the last Steering Group Meeting.

Firstly, we decided to help members prepare their trees for the Annual Show in September; four Monday evening workshop dates have been booked at Building 72 (April 26, May 3, 10, and 31). It will be *BYOT*, (*Bring Your Own Tree*), but all OBS members are welcome. Activities planned for each date will be announced later.

Secondly, a sub-group has been formed to publicize the Annual Show more effectively, to "raise the bar" for the quality of our displays, and to repair the ageing display equipment. So far, Brian Ure, Yvon Bernier, and Duart have volunteered but more help is needed.

Yvon mentioned that there were still a few openings left for the

OBS Development Workshop, scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., in Building 72.

He reminded us of the beautiful Ikebana Exhibition at the Museum of Nature, February 25 to 28—previously, he had sent an email announcement to all members.

Vianney Leduc opened the evening program with a presentation on the focal point of a tree as the primary consideration for bonsai design.

A tree's most attractive characteristic should become the focal point for design. All other aspects of its design should complement the focal point, yet not distract the viewer's attention from it.

Vianney used examples to illustrate how interest in a tree with an exceptional trunk was enhanced by reducing its overall height, and by bringing foliage closer to the trunk.

In a tree with outstanding deadwood, he created focus, and

beauty, by reducing distracting foliage. More creative enhancements may involve repotting, creating deadwood, splitting trunks; there are still more challenging techniques to bring the viewers' attention toward the focal point.

He also showed images of finished bonsai that anyone would find appealing and be pleased to own.

However, in some examples, some in the group felt the artist was successful in enhancing the focal point, while others did not. There was little dispute about the focal point, but there was a healthy difference of opinion on the results.

That was a clever way, Vianney, to show how beauty is subjective and very much in the eye (and personality) of the beholder.

(Continued on page 2)

Steering Group Notes

Hold onto your hats! For our March meeting, Vianney will awaken one of the dormant nursery junipers in his cold room. He plans to get a consensus on the focal point and then ask us to apply the knowledge gained at this meeting to optimize the final design.

Duart Crabtree

The First Year—1985

The archives lack information on the February and March meetings in 1985; however, it would be interesting to reconstruct those meetings. Perhaps some of the other Society members could fill in the details. Most reconstruction of the Club's history comes from the newsletter.

The first executive

President—Myron Mech

Vice President—Cameron McPherson

Secretary—Monical McElroy

Treasurer—Ian McRae

Director—Barney Shum

Director—Brian Marcoux

Newsletter editor—Michael Piva

Barney Shum designed the logo for the Society Newsletter.

Brian Marcoux provided the organization for shows, etc.

The first newsletter

In April 1985, the first newsletter appeared with the new logo: two trees with twin-trunks in silhouette before the sun. Why twin trunks? Some people interpreted this as uniting Hull with Ottawa, in a diplomatic way. Some said the idea came from an American club. Ask Barney Shum for the real story.

What happened at the April meeting, according to the newsletter?

Distribution of name tags, of constitution and bylaws, and membership lists.

Seventy-eight bonsai pots had arrived from Japan—initially, two pots allocated per member.

The largest pot was 18 ½" x 14 ½" x 3 ½" and the cost—\$20; the smallest pot was 9 ¾" x 6 7/8" x 1 1/6"—cost \$6—pretty good prices for pots coming all the way from Japan.

In the newsletter, an Upcoming Events section appeared:

Future collecting trips, Rochester Bonsai Exhibit, Toronto and Montreal Bonsai Shows.

A comprehensive and informative newsletter provided and encouraged members to expand their focus on Bonsai.

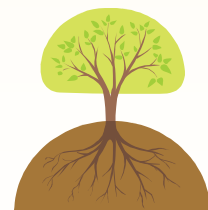
As of March 1, 1985 The Ottawa Bonsai Society had 63 members.

Archived material

Most of the early history archived comes from the newsletters and from a few documents from executive meetings.

If you have any material pertaining to our history that ought to be archived, please contact me at ichob@yahoo.ca. Everything would be appreciated.

Myron Mech





NEXT
MEETING
Join us on
Monday
March 15
at 7 p.m.

PROCHAINE
RENCONTRE
Le lundi
15 Mars
à 19 h 00

Bonsai Development Workshop
Saturday, April 17, 2010
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
In Building #72
Central Experimental Farm

This workshop is specifically for those who have taken the Beginners' Bonsai Course given last October 31st, or for those 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 garden junipers. The team of instructors will provide the plant material, suitable pots and supplies, and, for those who don't have their own, the necessary bonsai tools.

Participants and instructors should bring a lunch; the room is equipped with a fridge and a microwave oven.

Maximum enrolment is fifteen participants.
The cost of this workshop is \$80 per person.

To register you must provide a non-refundable deposit of \$25. For additional information, please contact Yvon Bernier at 819-684-0586 or ycbernier@videotron.ca

Atelier sur la formation d'un bonsai
le samedi 17 avril 2010
de 9h30 à 15h00
édifice #72
Ferme expérimentale centrale

Cet atelier s'adresse principalement à ceux et celles qui ont suivi le cours pour débutants du 31 octobre dernier ou un autre cours pour débutants dans le passé. Durant cette session, les participants recevront l'aide de membres chevronnés de la SBO pour procéder à la formation de leur propre bonsai à partir d'un plant de genévrier. Ce plant, un pot approprié de même que le terreau et le fil pour ligaturage seront fournis. Les instructeurs mettront leurs propres outils de bonsai 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 80 \$ par personne.

Quinze places sont disponibles pour cet atelier. Pour vous inscrire, vous devez fournir un dépôt non remboursable de 25 \$.

Pour tout complément d'information, veuillez contacter Yvon Bernier : 819-684-0586 où ycbernier@videotron.ca

Our Next Meeting

Styling Demonstration on a Nursery Tree

I will take a tree or two out of dormancy to ensure that they are ready to be worked on.

This will be a great activity for all of us, given that spring is around the corner!

We will discuss the design possibilities and then work on the trees.

Vianney



OBS meetings regularly include demonstrations and lots of hands-on opportunities for members to learn by doing.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

BONSAI PUBLICITY PAGE

PAGE PUBLICITAIRE

In the beautiful Lanaudière region, north of Montréal, we invite you to visit our green houses and our collection of bonsai and penjing from China, Korea, Japan and Canada.

We have a large selection of pre-bonsai, as well as pots, tools, wires and soil.

We have Bonsai of all sizes—
Juniperus sargentii
Ulmus parvifolia
Serissa foetida
and
Ficus microcarpa

We give a 10% discount to OBS members on pots, tools, wires and soil.

We are open Tuesday to Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please call for an appointment to visit us.

Guided visits are available for \$5 per person.

We now accept payment by debit cards as well as by Mastercard and Visa.

We look forward to sharing our passion with you all!

Dans la belle région de Lanaudière au nord de Montréal, nous vous invitons à venir visiter nos installations et nos collections de bonsaïs et de penjings importés de Chine, de Corée, du Japon et du Canada.

Aux membres de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa, nous offrons un rabais de 10% sur les pots, les outils, le fil à ligaturage ainsi que le substrat à bonsaï.

Nous sommes ouvert du mardi au dimanche de 10h à 17h.

Si vous comptez nous visiter, il est préférable de nous en prévenir par téléphone.

Nous acceptons maintenant les paiements par le service Interact ainsi que par Mastercard et Visa.

Des visites guidées sont disponibles à 5 \$ par personne sur réservation.

Au plaisir de partager notre passion avec vous!



Bonsaï Gros Bec
Et si un bonsaï touchait votre cœur?

Suzanne Piché & Robert Smith
(450) 883-1196
Télec. : (450) 883-1040
40 Imbeault, Saint-Alphonse-Rodriguez
Québec, J0K 1W0

info@bonsaigrosbec.com www.bonsaigrosbec.com



Ottawa Bonsai Society /
Société de bonsai d'Ottawa

2009 / 2010

Executive / Exécutif

Treasurer / Trésorier

Yvon Bernier

Librarian / Bibliothécaire

Mike O'Connor

Secretary and Director

of Public Relations /

**Secrétaire et directeur des
relations publiques**

Duart Crabtree

**Editor-Designer / Éditeur-
dessinateur**

Sasha Saint-Aubin

French Editor / Éditeur

français

Yvon Bernier

Steering Group /

Conseil directeur

Yvon Bernier

Duart Crabtree

Vianney Leduc

Barney Shum

Gordon Williams

Matt Yakabuski

Mike O'Connor

Paul Lauzon

John Gummeson

Brian Ure

Meeting Location

We meet at the Experimental Farm, (Central), in building #72. Enter at the traffic circle located at the intersection of the NCC scenic drive and Prince of Wales drive, the main entrance to the Arboretum.

Where the road divides, turn left, and follow to Building #72 (a short distance). Parking is available on the north and south sides of the building.

The building entrance is on the east side, i.e., the road side.

Lieu des rencontres

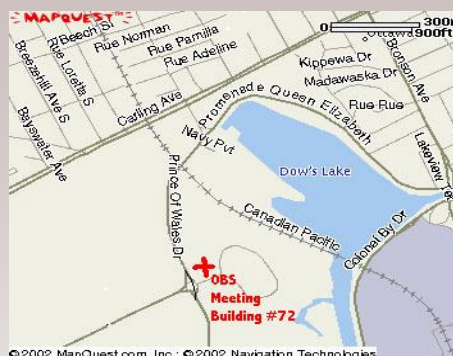
Edifice #72, Ferme expérimentale centrale—

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.

Map to OBS meeting in building #72



**Contact Us /
Pour nous joindre**
P.O. Box 4254, Station E
Ottawa, Ontario
K1S 5B3
www.ottawabonsai.org
ycbernier@videotron.ca