

Journal of The Ottawa Bonsai Society

Journal de la Société de bonsaï d'Ottawa



May/Mai 2009

www.ottawabonsai.org

Vol. 24, No.8

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Notes from your Steering Group Le mot de votre conseil directeur

Yvon Bernier announced that he had brought bonsai soil and wire to the April Meeting for sale to Members and reminded us to renew annual Memberships that had lapsed.

Mike O'Connor opened the evening program with a brief outline of his personal preference for collecting Canadian trees from nature. Mike gave tips on why, where, and when to collect, and which native species are preferred for bonsai. Mike already had permission to collect Larch seedlings locally on April 26th that would be suitable for group and forest compositions and he invited Members to join him.

Duart Crabtree brought examples made from Ficus cuttings to illustrate that it is possible to have finished bonsai compositions in just a few years. Gord Williams then made a comprehensive presentation on why cuttings are such a popular starting material with bonsai enthusiasts, and are especially suitable for beginners. In preparation for the 'hands-on' portion of his presentation Gord detailed the approach and techniques he has found most successful to root both tropical and hardy species and their aftercare, focusing on stem cuttings.

Members responded to Gord's request to bring a good variety of suitable plant materials for cuttings to this Meeting. After the tables were setup during the break, there really was a smorgasbord of opportunities for cuttings. An unplanned benefit perhaps; the informal atmosphere as people circulated gave newer and senior Members an opportunity to chat and get better acquainted as cuttings were harvested.

In addition to all the preparations and materials for cuttings, Gord gave out a number of Small-leaf Jade plants that he had rooted from cuttings himself. What a nice touch to an informative, productive, and delightfully social evening program!

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Next meeting

Monday May 25 at 7:00pm

In the first portion of the program, Mike O'Connor will present a recipe to make fertilizer cake! He has made a batch and will also be selling some!

The second half of the meeting will be divided in two activities in parallel:

- The annual swap sale where Members can sell bonsai related items, from finished trees to pre-bonsai, tools, pots, accent plants and books! Please note that the Society keeps 10% of the proceeds of the sale.
- Members can bring their own trees to get help in working on them, whether it is styling advice, repotting (bring your soil) or wiring. Experienced members will provide assistance as required!

Vianney will be selling bonsai soil, tools and wire.

Shopping trip to Grosbec!!

Arrangements have been made to visit Bonsai Grosbec, a specialized bonsai nursery, on **Saturday May 23rd**! The plan is to all meet at the Tim Horton on Montée Paiement (beside the Highway 50) in Gatineau and at leave at 8:30 a.m. We will stop for lunch along the way, arrive there around 1:00 p.m. We would stay until 3:30 p.m. and then return to Ottawa. You can visit their website at www.bonsaigrosbec.com Please email Vianney Leduc at vianney.leduc@lac-bac.qc.ca for additional details, to register for the trip and to make arrangements for car-pooling

Trip to the McRae Land

Join other members for a stimulating trip to Ian McRae's land next Saturday, **May 30th**. Ian is a founding member of the Ottawa Bonsai Society. Seven years ago, anticipating his retirement, Ian bought land for growing trees in Alexandria, Ontario. He now invites OBS members to stroll and inspect his land. This is an excellent chance to see the start up of a bonsai nursery. Some plants will be for sale.

Here is what Ian said about the farm: "The farm is a 33 acre pasture where I grow Japanese-style garden trees, pre-bonsai and landscape plants. The natural areas are simple, relaxing and private. There are thorny patches. Visitors should wear long pants, sleeves and gloves".

On the morning of **May 30th**, travellers will meet at Building 72 of the Arboretum at 10:00 a.m. We will carpool from there. Alexandria is about one hour directly towards Montréal from Ottawa. We will return at 1:30 or 2:00. Please bring water, food and appropriate clothing. If you wish to collect trees, please bring equipment and supplies.

This should be an interesting day for all OBS members.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE

At next month's meeting on **June 15**, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting during which a Financial Statement will be presented and Members will be called upon to elect the Officers of the Society for 2009/2010.

Lors de la prochaine rencontre le **15 juin**, nous tiendrons notre Assemblée générale annuelle au cours de laquelle le bilan financier de l'année écoulée sera déposé et l'élection des membres de l'exécutif pour 2009/2010 sera tenue.

Pictures from our last workshop!

Analyzing the tree...!



After the styling!



NOUVEAUX MEMBRES / NEW MEMBERS

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

Paul Pietsch
Jim Weller

BONSAÏ GROS-BEC

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St-Alphonse-Rodriguez PQ

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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

Yvon Bernier
 208, avenue des
 Explorateurs
 Gatineau, QC J9J 1M9
 (819) 684-0586
ycbernier@videotron.ca

Librarian / Bibliothécaire

Mike O'Connor

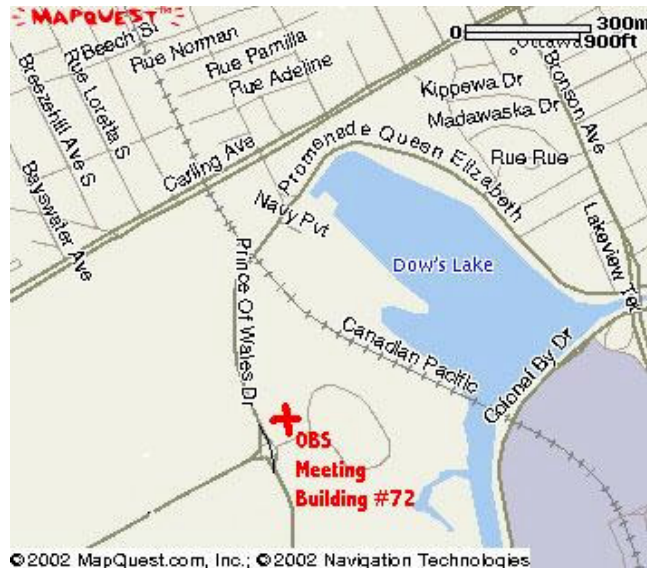
Secretary and Director of Public Relations / Secrétaire et directeur des relations publiques

Duart Crabtree

Steering Group / Conseil directeur

Yvon Bernier
 Duart Crabtree
 Vianney Leduc
 Barney Shum
 Gordon Williams
 Matt Yakabuski
 Mike O'Connor
 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".