



# Newsletter/Bulletin May / Mai 2010

Volume 25, no. 8

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

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## From the April program

### Spring sprang early for us this year.

Vianney Leduc welcomed a keen bunch of members to the April Meeting; some were fresh out of the Development Workshop just two days prior.

Vianney reminded us of the four special Monday evening workshops being held this year to prepare trees for display at the 2010 Annual Show. These workshops will be held in Building 72, and doors will open at 6 p.m. All members are welcome at all workshops; however, the April 26 and May 10 workshops will focus on intermediate level activities, those of May 3 and May 31 will focus on beginner level activities.

Vianney mentioned that Sasha Saint-Aubin has to give up the responsibilities of newsletter editor due to the demands of a new job. Sasha's many contributions to a more professional newsletter this past year are much appreciated. Sasha's editing and writing skills

will be missed. We do not want to revert to the old OBS Journal format and we are looking for a volunteer to replace Sasha as editor. Please note the advertisement in this issue.

Myron Mech opened the evening program with a timely discussion on potting. For us, potting can involve transferring pre-bonsai material collected from nurseries, or the wild, into oversized training pots, or repotting mature bonsai in pots for display.

Myron demonstrated preparation of the plant material and a potting technique with two trees. We discussed the reasons for repotting, as well as methods and frequency.

The first tree was a Ficus retusa with nice air roots and lots of bonsai potential; it was still in a plastic nursery pot in fresh potting soil.

Myron carefully removed soil with a chopstick, first exposing surface roots, (nothing exciting there).

Then he removed soil from the bottom of the root ball, toward the trunk, to expose large, unwanted roots and the fine feeder roots. Roots were removed, or pruned, to allow repotting in approximately half the original depth of soil.

Myron then combined some of the nursery soil with gravel to create a rich soil with good drainage for the tropical ficus. He illustrated how an initial repotting can be a simple procedure with no need for special tools or materials by repotting the Ficus in a very ordinary clay pot and anchoring it with raffia.

The second tree, a two-needle pine in a bonsai pot, was a neglected, root-bound "orphan" that Myron had adopted.

Old soil was removed and discarded, two larger roots were removed, and the fine roots were teased out of the ball and

*(Continued on page 2)*

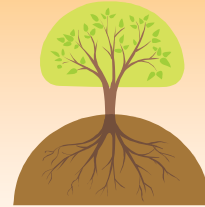
## April Program

pruned before repotting the pine in its original pot. Myron used OBS conifer soil, adding a fungus called mycorrhiza. He anchored it with wire, as he plans to wire it soon. This tree also has good potential.

As a follow up to this presentation, Myron gave recommendations for repotting a dwarf schefflera that a visitor had brought to the meeting. The schefflera will be styled, wired, and repotted with tropical bonsai soil at a Monday evening workshop.

In the remaining time, some newer members took the opportunity to repot their own trees, with assistance from more experienced members. This was a fine start to the 2010 growing season. Thanks, Myron.

Duart Crabtree



### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED**

Volunteering is an important contribution to the vitality of our group. OBS needs a volunteer to edit the monthly newsletter.

Familiarity with MS Word and MS Publisher 2007 would be helpful.

It is not necessary to be fluently bilingual. Please contact OBS: [ycbernier@videotron.ca](mailto:ycbernier@videotron.ca)

### **ÉDITEUR DU BULLETIN MENSUEL**

La SBO requiert les services d'un(e) volontaire qui accepterait de faire la mise en page de notre bulletin mensuel.

Il serait utile que cette personne sache se servir du logiciel MS Word (Publisher V.2007).

Une bonne connaissance de l'anglais est nécessaire.

Si vous êtes intéressé(e) par ce travail, veuillez contacter SBO : [ycbernier@videotron.ca](mailto:ycbernier@videotron.ca)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE

At next month's meeting, on June 21, 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 2010/2011.

Lors de la prochaine rencontre le 21 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 2010/2011 sera tenue.



NEXT  
MEETING  
Join us on  
Monday  
May 17  
at 7 p.m.

PROCHAINE  
RENCONTRE  
Le lundi  
17 Mai  
à 19 h 00

Our Next Meeting

Myron Mech will discuss wiring techniques and give a demonstration on one of his trees.

Wiring is a critical part of styling a tree and everybody can become comfortable in the wiring technique with some practice. Members will be able to bring their tree to participate in a wiring workshop following the lecture.

We will also sell bonsai material at our May meeting. Members can bring trees, tools, books, or any other bonsai-related material to sell to other members.

In June, we will have our OBS Annual General Meeting in the first part of the program. Afterwards, we will have a design discussion followed by a styling demonstration.

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*

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 bonsais et de penjings importés de Chine, de Corée, du Japon et du Canada.

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

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!



**Bonsai Gros Bec**  
Et si un bonsai touchait votre coeur?

**Suzanne Piché & Robert Smith**  
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Ottawa Bonsai Society /  
Société de bonsai d'Ottawa

**2009 / 2010**

**Executive / Exécutif**

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**Librarian / Bibliothécaire**

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Sasha Saint-Aubin

**French Editor / Éditeur**

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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**

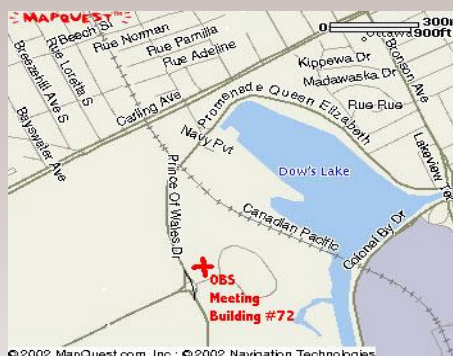
Edifice #72, Ferme expérimentale centrale—

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**



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