



# Vancouver Island Bonsai Club

**Wednesday, September 1, 2004 . . .**

“What to do with a dead bonsai” - What do members do with the unfortunate demise of their trees? What can we learn from the experience?

**Our Next Two Meetings:**

*Wednesday, September 1, 7:30 pm*  
*Wednesday, October 6, 7:30 pm*

*Garth Homer Society Auditorium*  
*813 Darwin Avenue, Victoria*

As usual: Please bring established bonsai trees that need work and you need some “pointers” to get you going. Some of the senior members will be available for consultation.

**Show and Tell...** This month's topic is Phoenix Grafting. Let's follow-up on the phoenix graft session held awhile back. Demo on how this method is done using dead trees. Please bring your grafted tree, dead or alive.

Also, for those Members who went to Japan Bonsai in Surrey, on Saturday 21 August, please bring your workshop trees.

**Sequim 3rd Annual Bonsai Tree Auction** - We received the following message from South of the border:

“The Dungeness Bonsai Society will hold its 3rd Annual Bonsai Tree Auction on Tuesday, September 7, 2004.

Trees from collections of the various members of the Society will be on display at 9:30 am and the auction will start at 10:00 am. Our auctioneer this year, as in the past two years, is Peter D..Adams, well-known bonsai artist, internationally known author and painter, and a joy to observe as he extols the virtues of each little tree. Join us for coffee and treats after the auction—this will be our best auction yet!

Location: Pioneer Park Conference Room  
 387 E. Washington Street  
 Sequim, WA. 98382

Time: 09:30 am preview  
 10:00 am auction begins

Open to the public, no admission fee. For further information please contact K. Coryell at (360) 681-3088 or banshee@olympen.com. More info at the September meeting.

The club address is:  
**The Vancouver Island Bonsai Club**  
 P.O. Box 8674  
 Victoria, B.C. V8W 3S2  
<http://www.victoriabonsai.bc.ca>

<b>Bob Taylor</b>	(President)	<b>Tom Burley</b>	(Treasurer)
<b>Jim Morrison</b>	(Library)		
<b>Luis Martin</b>	(Newsletter)		



## 2004 Pacific Northwest Bonsai Convention XV

**"Talk to the Trees"**  
September 17 - 19, 2004  
Laurel Point Inn  
Victoria, BC



The registration form for this convention is available from the club website and from the Club Board members and there will be registration forms at the Club meetings.

The workshops are being filled very fast. If you are planning to register, particularly if you wish to take one of the workshops, please decide very soon.

All the information regarding the Convention, is on the Club web site ([www.victoriabonsai.bc.ca](http://www.victoriabonsai.bc.ca)). If you are planning to participate and you do not have internet connection, we strongly suggest that you find a friend, neighbor or relative with internet access and visit the site. You will be able to see photos of the artists, their background as well as the workshop trees, and you will be able to print the Registration form from the site.

Please do not forget to send in the information on exhibit trees for the Convention

### TO COLLECTORS OF "UNUSUAL" SPECIES FOR BONSAI

On the Sept. 19, Sunday morning of the Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association Convention, we are featuring a special symposium with the title, "Coastal Bonsai Outside-the-Box". which will be devoted to unusual species of trees and shrubs available in this part of North America not now commonly used for bonsai.

This will be a voyage of discovery. Maurice Bombezin will be key witness bringing in for display some of the fine trees he has collected over the years that fit into this category. This event will not concern itself with the species we all know can make satisfactory bonsai such as Lodgepole pine, the hemlocks and the firs. What we are planning to discuss are, to mention a few, species such as the alders, Quaking aspen, Red Osier dogwood, Vine and Douglas maples, Indian plum, the hawthorns, Ninebark, Sitka spruce, Service Berry and Pacific Crab - . there may be many others.

We would like to hear from members of our club who may have collected and can show or discuss the culture of such outside-the-box species. Even though you may not be registered for the convention, as a resource person we will make arrangements for you to be present at the symposium on that Sunday morning.

Please get in touch with George to let him know of your interest in participating. Tel. 216-8595 (leave a message if he does not answer and he will call you back) or, by e-mail at [georgeheffel@shaw.ca](mailto:georgeheffel@shaw.ca).



### Some tips...

This is the time of the year to start using a fertilizer with little or no nitrogen.

Transplanting is permissible at this time of year, specifically for boxwood, conifers (pines), hornbeams, cotoneaster, privets, pyracantha, wisteria, willows, and most varieties of deciduous trees. The key to safe repotting is to minimize any root disturbance and to exclude any severe pruning of any kind. Trees can be transferred into larger or different containers. If in doubt wait until spring to repot.

Remove any tightening wire. This is a particularly good time to apply some new wire since the trees have shed the mantle of leaves which have hidden the branches. Now they are exposed for a proper redesign.

Do not do any severe pruning, however, since the slow down of winter growth will not permit the tree to recover from any trauma. Pines should be trimmed by removing old, dead needles and reducing candle sizes. Trim all deciduous trees to remove long internodes of summer growth.

It is also the time to keep trees free of accumulated debris which could be the home for winterizing insects and fungus. Keep all trees open, airy and exposed to the light.

### The Bonsai Directory...

The following local business are known to supply bonsai plants and/or other necessary materials. Frequently you will enjoy a discount if you identify yourself as a member of the Vancouver Island Bonsai Club:

Peninsula Flower Nursery, 8512 West Saanich Rd.,  
Proprietors: Fred and Jane Starke

A large selection of bonsai, pre-bonsai shrubs, as well as trees and conifers suitable for landscaping and oriental style gardens.

Better Gnomes and Gardens, 3200 Quadra St.,  
Proprietor: Laurie McKay

The very best selection of bonsai pots in Victoria. Mostly good quality Chinese pots; some in larger dimensions.

Marigold Nursery Ltd. 7874 Lochside Drive  
Large nursery with garden and landscape stock and some "good finds".

Peninsula Landscape Supplies, 2070 Keating Cross Rd. One trip will get you the components to make bonsai soil. From small bag size to truck load: lava rock, coarse sand and bark mulch.



**JAPAN BONSAI**  
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### Report on the August Field Trip (Thank you Bob and Victor for the article and photos)

We had 25 people from our club take part in our field trip over to Japan Bonsai and Tak did a first class job. We caught the 8 a.m. ferry and arrived at Japan Bonsai at around 10:30 (the ferry was late). Club members had about 1 1/2 hrs. to look around and find some trees before the rain started to come down in earnest.

The BBQ was started up and everyone enjoyed a lunch of chicken, hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, nachos, drinks, etc. After lunch Tak did a demo of planting 3 Shimpaku Junipers on a large rock, very impressive! After that it was time for the workshop, a total of 16 members had with considerable assistance from Tak, started their new trees on there way to becoming great bonsai.

Many thanks to Tak, Mrs Yamaura, Joe, David and all the people at Japan Bonsai for such a great Day.

