



Vancouver Island Bonsai Club

Wednesday, February 2, 2005 . . .

This is Election night! Please remember to bring ID otherwise you will not be allowed in the secret ballot booth!

Our Next Two Meetings:

Wednesday, February 2, 7:30 pm

Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 pm

*Garth Homer Society Auditorium
813 Darwin Avenue, Victoria*

Show and Tell... "Bonsai by Committee" - Please bring one of those trees that may need some major or drastic surgery, one of those trees with an undefined front, one of those trees with an unknown style, or just one of those trees that you may have a bonsai potential but you just cannot seem to find it. We will present your tree to the membership and we will vote on the different options or possibilities. Please bring your tools because if time permitting we would like to see you working on your trees.

Pine grafting... If David is up to it. we are looking forward to his presentation. If David cannot make it to the meeting, we will discuss wiring procedures as a follow up to Marco Invernizzi's "Rules of Wiring"

David's Maple Forest Workshop has been scheduled for March. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

Olive Bonsai - George will bring his olive tree(s) and show us the pictures of the different stages in the development of "flat bottom rooting techniques".

"Fertilizer Cakes" A recipe for making these balls was in the January Newsletter. We have been asked, particularly by those members, who have only a few trees and do not want to have to buy a large mix; and also by those members living in apartments or townhouses, who do not want to raise a stink with the neighbors, if they could purchase the "fertilizer cakes" from the Club. If you are interested please let Bob know at the meeting.

Membership Renewal - Don't forget it! It is now pass due...Please see last month's Newsletter for the Renewal Form.

Employment Offered - The Weyerhaeuser Company is seeking to employ a Bonsai Gardener Assistant to work at their Pacific Rim Collection at Federal Way, WA just south of Seattle. This is described as a "part time position dedicated to maintaining 7 day/week care of a bonsai collection and facility". The successful candidate will have a degree or trade school certificate in horticulture or a related field or equivalent paid work experience. A knowledge of or an interest in the basics of bonsai design and cultivation would be a plus.

Detailed information can be had by requesting Job Requisition No. 003600 from the recruiting office at <resume@weyerhaeuser.com> or by fax 206/374 2210.

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

Bob Taylor	(President)	Tom Burley	(Treasurer)
Jim Morrison	(Library)		
Luis Martin	(Newsletter)		



WINTER PROTECTION

At the January meeting we had a panel with six of our Club senior members (not in age but in bonsai experience) to discuss and answer questions regarding the protection of the trees in the Victoria weather conditions. Here is a brief summary of the major points:

1. Most evergreen trees need no protection, most other trees will be well protected by placing them under a bench where they can get some rain water. We only have to worry about those few nights below -5 deg.
2. The main killer is the cold wind. If you live in a windy area, keep the trees under a bench and cover the bench with poly film. Do not forget to water them weekly.
3. Roots must be protected, particularly in small pots, by burying the pot in the ground, or covering with bark mulch or leaves. If you bury the pot in the ground ensure that there is good drainage because excess water may cause root rot.
4. Those with trees on balconies can make a box with styrofoam or rigid insulation, place the tree inside and cover with poly film.
5. Protect small trees or delicate branches from the weight of wet snow. Too much snow, or snow melting off trees or eves may snap branches.

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
GARDEN ART

TAK YAMAURA
Owner/Consultant

16164 - 24th Ave.
S. Surrey, B.C.
V4P 2S3 Canada

Phone: (604) 536-9220
Fax: (604) 536-8799
www.japanbonsai.com



I will
treat your
Real Estate
like I treat
my bonsai,
...
*with care and
attention!*

Kent MacLeod
Newport Realty
385-2033
100% Referral Business



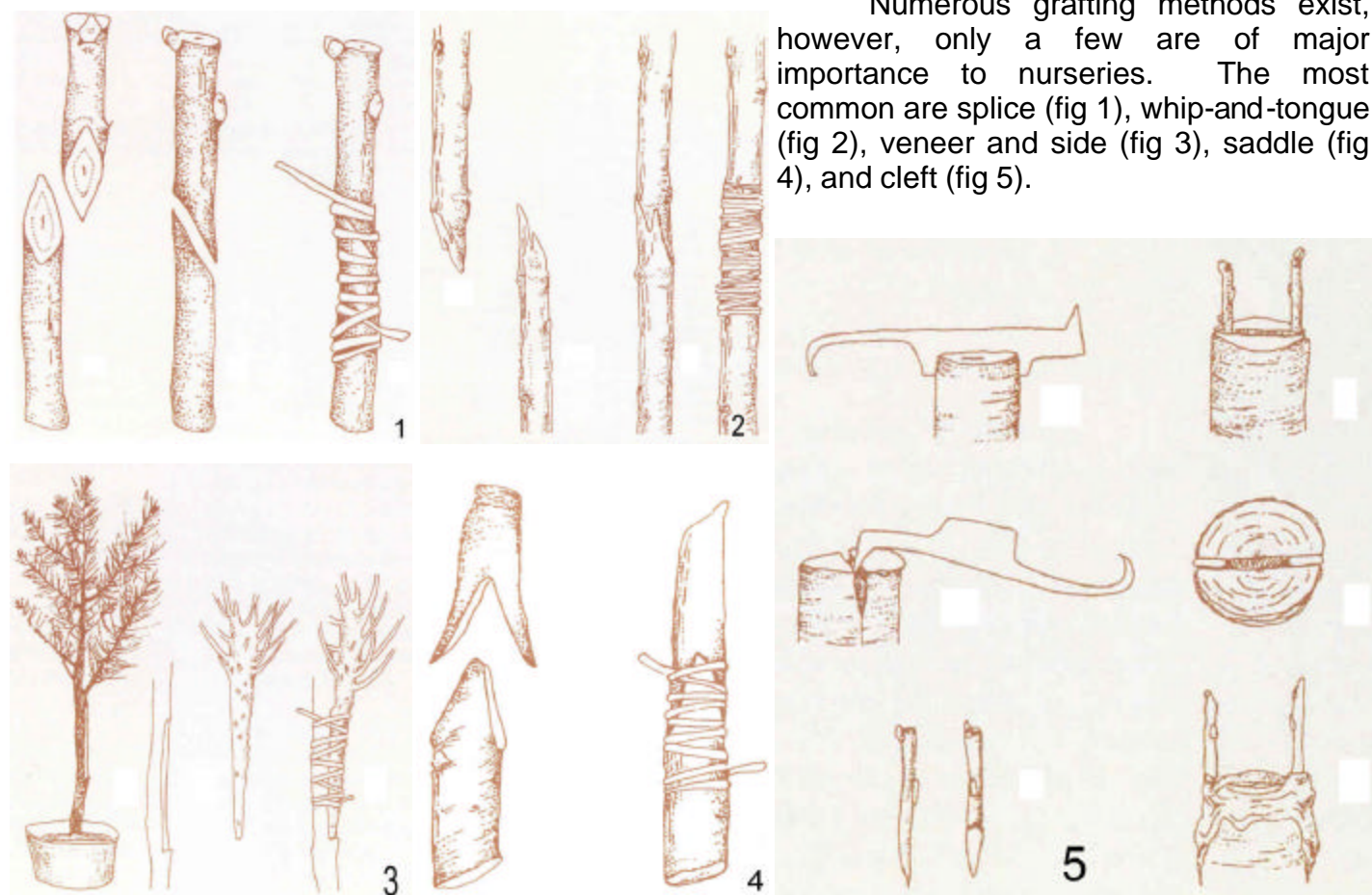
GRAFTING

Grafting is one of the oldest known methods of plant propagation and dates back 2000 years or more. It is defined as the process of joining two plants or plant parts together in such a manner that they will unite and continue their growth as one. The main reason for grafting is to propagate plants that are difficult or impossible by other methods and to grow plants on roots other than their own for such purposes as size or disease control. Another important reason for the bonsai growers, is to modify the branch structure to suit tree design characteristics.

A graft consists of two parts, the scion and under-stock. The scion is of a short stem piece with two or more buds and is the part of the graft combination which develops into the top (shoot) of the plant. If the scion is reduced to a single bud with a thin slice of wood, the technique is called bud grafting or budding. The under-stock, also referred to as root-stock or stock, is the lower part that is integral with the root system.

Aeration, temperature, humidity, inherent capacity to form callus et-al, affect the success of the graft. Temperature, aeration and moisture, are primarily responsible for success or failure in most grafted plants. Temperature has the strongest effect. Warm temperatures promote callus formation, cool temperatures inhibit or reduce it, while extremely high temperatures are detrimental. High humidity is essential for callus formation and that is the reason grafts are waxed and/or tied, and often placed in high humidity chambers.

Numerous grafting methods exist, however, only a few are of major importance to nurseries. The most common are splice (fig 1), whip-and-tongue (fig 2), veneer and side (fig 3), saddle (fig 4), and cleft (fig 5).





WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION

Bonsai and Viewing Stone enthusiasts worldwide are planning to attend the 5th World Bonsai Convention in Washington, DC, **May 28-31**.

Held every fourth year (the last World Convention was 2001 and held in Munich) the one in which we take a special interest is to be hosted by the North American Bonsai Federation and sponsored by the American Bonsai Society, Bonsai Clubs International, the National Bonsai Foundation, the Potomac Bonsai Association and the U. S. National Arboretum. The four day event will take place at the Washington Hilton.

The convention will feature a prestigious assembly of international bonsai artists, among them some artist that we already know: Brook Zhao, Marco Invernezzi, Roy Nagatoshi and, representing Canada, Arthur Skolnik. There are, in addition, another 20 or more leading presenters from all corners of the world. Also one can expect a half a hundred or more vendors offering plenty of supplies and accessories for sale.

Full information can be found at <www.bonsai-wbff.org/wbc5/main.htm>. For those who may be interested, hard copies of the program and registration form will be available at the February meeting.

The American Bonsai Society is again organizing for the fourth time, the Joshua Roth New Talent Competition open to people who have been doing bonsai for not more than 10 years. The ten finalists do their stuff at the convention with the winner getting a trip to Japan and the second place a fine set of Joshua Roth tools. As in the past, application is made together with a photographs of a trees or two.

Both Chuck Hickman and Peter Wilson from our club entered two years ago. Peter, a resident of Port Alice, can tell you all about the bonsai wonders of Japan thanks to his win at the Seattle convention.....If you are interested, information and application forms will be available at the next club meeting. See George.

PNBC XVI CONVENTION "BACK TO OUR ROOTS"

To be held 16-18 September, 2005, in Bremerton, Washington, sponsored by Evergreen Bonsai Club (www.EvergreenBonsaiClub.com). This is the event that our Club sponsored last year.

Registration is \$170 each / \$325 family, before 30 April; prices go up after this date.

There are 6 workshops scheduled: 1. Dan Robinson - Large specimen; 2. Stan Serbousek - Crabapple; 3. Jerry Meislik - Brazilian Leopard Tree; 4. Tak Yamaura - Shimpaku Juniper; 5. Yasuo Mitsuya - Trident Maple (SOLD OUT); and 6. Kathy Shaner - Trident Maple.

If you are planning to attend, please do not leave it to the last minute as registrations go up in May and the workshops are filling up.