



VANCOUVER ISLAND BONSAI CLUB

Wednesday, May 04, 2005 . . .

Show and Tell... Bring your Mall show trees.

We will be going over how to prepare your tree for showing including a demo of pot cleaning, pruning, and preparing for our annual Mall show.

We will also be having a presentation by Steve from Wes-Tech Irrigation Supply who will show us various drip and mini-irrigation systems for our collections. Come with your questions!

Our Next Two Meetings:

Wednesday, May 4, 7:30 pm

Wednesday, June 1, 7:30 pm

*Garth Homer Society Auditorium
813 Darwin Avenue, Victoria*

Farm Field Day - Fun was had by all who braved the chilly weather and came out to the farm. We were able to cut some stones and work on bonsai. Thanks to all who volunteered their services and a special thanks to Chuck Hickman and Maurice Bombezin who gave almost all their time exclusively to working on other peoples' trees.

In Memory - Mr. Richard Lake, husband of 58 years to Betty, passed away on March 24, 2005. Dick and Betty have been a usual site at our club functions over the years and we will surely miss him. We would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Betty and her family in their time of mourning.

Bonsai Theft - This past week saw the theft of a mature large Trident Maple from the backyard of one of our club members. If anyone approaches you to sell a tree such as this please contact one of the board members and advise. We would certainly like to put a stop to this kind of activity.

Trip To Port Hardy-Port Alice

We have planned a trip to Port Hardy and Port Alice to visit Peter Wilson and Hal Seybold and have the opportunity to see some beautiful collected trees and some wonderful stones. A specimen can be seen on the right.

We will be leaving Victoria on Friday June 17th in the evening staying over in Campbell River and proceeding Saturday June 18th to Port Hardy. We will visit the home of Hal and Willis Seybold who will show us their extensive collection of Vancouver Island stones they have collected. We will be staying overnight in Port Hardy. On Sunday June 19, we will proceed to Port Alice to visit the home of Peter Wilson, who will be showing us his beautiful bonsai collection including many trees collected in the mountains of North Vancouver Island. We will then return to Victoria.

Signup and info will be at the next meeting.



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)
Randy Kowalchuk (Vice-president/Newsletter)
Luis Martin (Mallshow Co-ordinator)



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 (for Canadians) is \$167.00 each / \$322.00 for a family, in US funds , before 30 April; prices go up after this date. Printed copies of the information and registration forms will be available at our May meeting.

Workshops:

- Dan Robinson - an all day workshop on a large specimen tree,
- Stan Serbouski - Crabapple,
- Jerry Meislik - Brazilian Leopard Tree,
- Tak Yamaura - Shimpaku Juniper.
- Yasuo Misuya - Sold out
- Kathy Shaner - Sold out.
- Glenn Gardner - Literati Black Pine

Hotel:- Hampton Inn at Bremerton (just opened); convention special price of \$85.00 US per night. Tel. 360 - 405- 0200. When calling please ensure you designate your reservation at the above bonsai convention rate.

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

2005 Annual Show and Sale Hillside Mall May 27—29, 2005

It is that time of year again! Our annual show and sale is being held at Hillside Mall from Friday May 27th to Sunday May 29th.

There are a number of jobs required to carry on this show and all members are asked to volunteer some time to make this show a success. Sign up sheets will be at the next meeting. Even if you can only work one shift it will be greatly appreciated.

Setup for the show will be on Thursday evening May 26th after 8:00 pm.

All members who are wishing to bring a tree or trees in for display are asked to bring them in Thursday evening so we can have everything ready to go for Friday morning. Removal of trees can occur after store closing on Sunday.

For those wishing to bring trees, etc in for the sale portion, forms will be available for completion at the next club meeting.

See you there!!!!!!!!!!



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BONSAI WORKSHOP AND DEMO BY JIM DOYLE July 1st and 2nd

Well known across North America Jim Doyle will be coming to the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia as part of our Canada Day Celebration. Jim is proprietor of Nature's Way Nursery in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Our club will be hosting the visit to Victoria and the plans are as follows:

- Friday July 1, Canada Day, Jim will work under a private agreement, paid for by the members of our Study Group, in an all day session.
 - Morning of Saturday July 2 at 9 AM, Jim will conduct a workshop for 10 of our club members working with Hinoki cypress. All participants will be working with the same species and the charge for this workshop will be \$85.00 which includes the tree. No charge for silent observers.
 - Afternoon of Saturday July 2 at 1 PM, Jim will do a demo with one of the larger club owned trees.
- All Club members are welcome.

All these sessions will take place during our fine summer weather at Highcroft Farm. Members wishing to take in both sessions on Saturday are invited to bring their own picnic lunch.

Signup and payment for workshop will be taken at the next meeting.



JIM DOYLE MOUNTAIN HEMLOCK WORKSHOP IN 2000

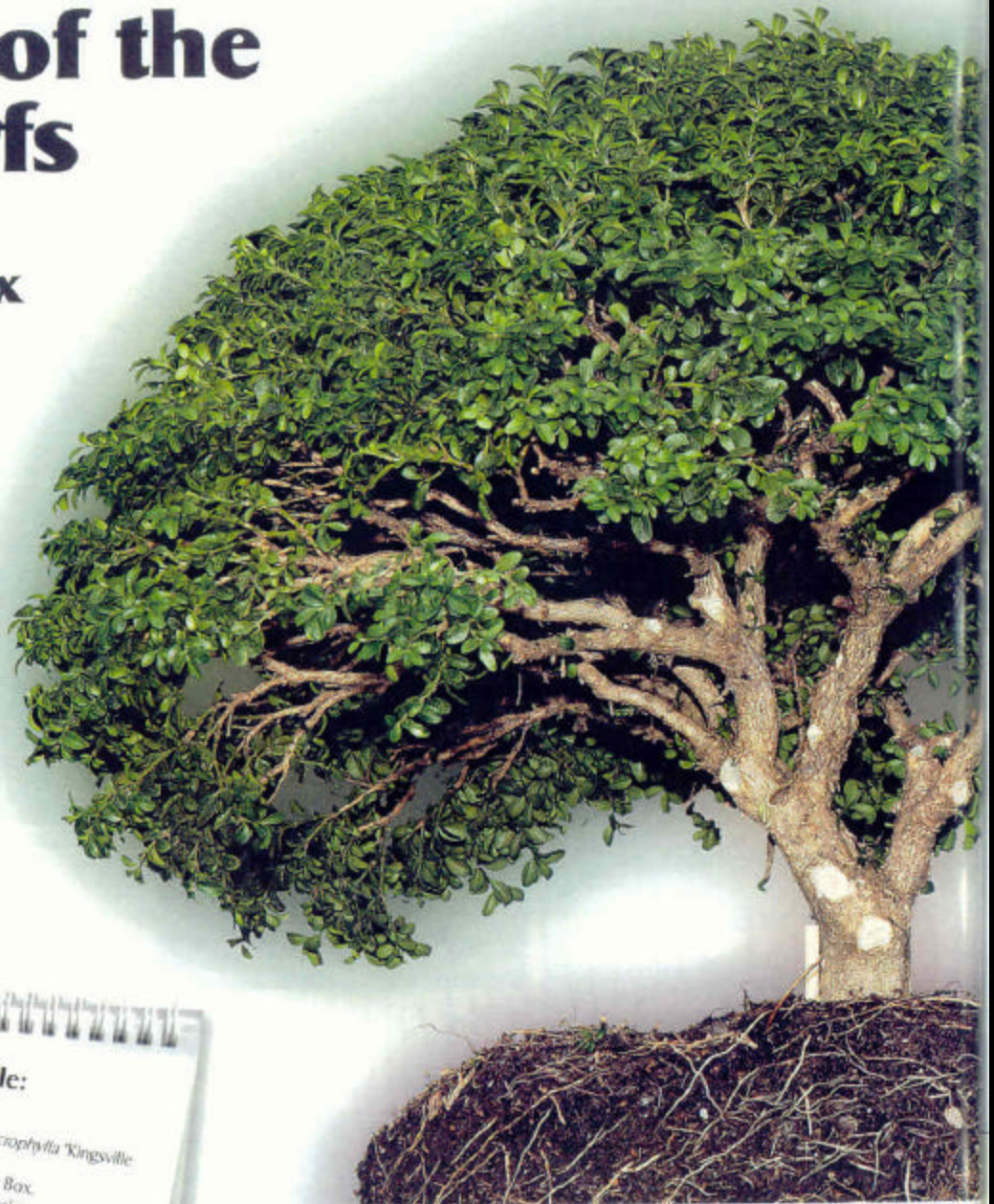




Text and photography by: Michael Persiano

King of the Dwarfs

Styling a Dwarf Box



Potensai* Profile:

Scientific Name: *Buxus microphylla* 'Kingsville Dwarf' (var. *japonica* form).

Common Name: Kingsville Box.

Origin/Field Location of Specimen: Stamford, Connecticut, USA; untouched field-grown material donated by Shranil Bihl Nursery.

Age: approximately 50 Years.

Dimensions before styling: width 60cm, height 48cm. Dimensions after styling: width 50cm, height 40cm.

Salient characteristics of specimen as presented: Compact foliage with superb colour; substantial and intricate branch development; impressive trunk with attractive bark; massive canopy and dense root ball.

*Potensai is a term devised by Dan Baden to describe a potential bonsai.

Working with the King of the Dwarfs
The *Buxus microphylla* 'Kingsville Dwarf' as shown in photograph 1 (hereafter referred to as Kingsville) has approximately 50 years of growth. This Kingsville might appear to be nothing more than an extremely overgrown specimen, but the experienced bonsai artist views this tree for what it truly is — a mature specimen with an abundance of desirable design elements.

branch structure to support the bonsai illusion. The challenge in working with a Kingsville of this magnitude is to distinguish the *imi-eda* (undesirable branches) from the *yaku-eda* (essential branches), and this can only be achieved by 'seeing' the completed tree before the pruning and wiring begins.

At first glance, photograph 2 reveals an extremely complicated and formidable entanglement of branches. After some study, one can see the potential of creating a distinctive canopy with an outstanding





*The Kingsville box
after digging*

*The tree was lifted from its field in 2002
after weathering decades of cold
Connecticut winters.*



Extensive internal branch structure

*This network of branches may appear to be a
problem, but to the trained eye of the experi-
enced artist, this wealth of healthy branches
presents a myriad of design possibilities.*

*Elimination of three major branches
from the proposed front*

*While Kingsville can be 'pushed' through intensive
chemical feeding to generate remarkable
growth during a single growing season, this
species lignifies new growth at an extremely slow
pace. For this reason, each branch was carefully
studied to determine its contribution to the antici-
pated design for the tree. As you will see by fol-
lowing the sequence of photographs that follows,
the pruning process was executed slowly, while
the completed bonsai illusion was kept in mind.*



The Styling

With the design of the old Kingsville engraved in my mind, I initiated the styling by selecting the optimal front for the composition. Selection of the front was based on the location of the *nebari* (surface roots), the potential for new surface root development, and the general orientation of the undisturbed tree. With the front now selected, three major branches were removed on the lower-trunk area to better reveal trunk movement. These branches have been removed and only the wounds are shown in Photograph 3. As the branch selection process continued, I considered how each branch element would or would not contribute to the total harmony of the tree. To resolve these design decisions, I imagined what key branches would look like if they were wired and positioned.

*Removing *Imi-eda* to expose the interior beauty
of the tree*

*While beauty is in the eye of the beholder, the bonsai
artist must also become detached from the tree and
study it with unrelenting objectivity. Branch selections
were based on constructing the movement of the tree
visually (the primary line running from the base of the
trunk to the apex of the tree), and evaluating the *tachi-gari*
(the section of the trunk from the base to the lowest
branch). Properly executed branch removals will create a
visual balance between positive and negative space.*

