



VANCOUVER ISLAND BONSAI CLUB

Monday, July 21, 2008 . . .

Show & Tell: Is this tree salvageable? Please bring in your most problematic trees and design challenges. Our panel of local experts (Bob T., Luis, and Mark) will offer advice on what could be done to save your tree — or not.

There will be a toonie raffle for a large ficus bonsai.

We will also have our usual raffle - please bring in your donations.

Coming In ...

August - Show & Tell : Good trees: David Rowe will do a critique of the trees, pointing out refinements in style or presentation that could make a good tree even better.

September - Show & Tell: Native plants suitable for bonsai: also tips on collecting trees in the wild.

Our Next Two Meetings:

Monday, July 21, 7:30 pm

Monday, August 18, 7:30 pm

*Garth Homer Society Auditorium
813 Darwin Avenue, Victoria*



Toonie Raffle

This 33 inch tall ficus was donated to the club recently.

We will be holding a toonie raffle for this tree in July.

Penjing Raffle

At our June meeting we raffled off the penjing elm planting.

The winning ticket has yet to be claimed.

The winning ticket number is 0177966.

If this is your ticket please bring it to the July meeting to claim your prize.

If the ticket is not presented we will place the penjing on the raffle table.

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

Randy Kowalchuk (President) **Judy Horsland** (Treasurer)

Bob Taylor (Past President)

MallShow Coordinator -



The Vancouver Island Bonsai Club is pleased to be sponsoring an island-wide get together on Sunday August 3 for themselves and members of other regional clubs namely:

**The North Island Bonsai Club
The Mt. Arrowsmith Bonsai Club
The Cowichan Bonsai Club**

We will gather at 6081 Old west Saanich Rd. in Victoria. This is member George's "Sticks and Stones" studio.

1. From 10AM 'til noon - If you also collect viewing stones, please bring one or more stones in for us all to see. North Island member, Hal Seybold, a designer with special interest in collecting of Vancouver Island limestone, will be our special guest. He has generously offered to make individual comment on displaying the viewing stones which show up. Currently he is hoping to bring a few stones for sale.
2. In addition we will have a "swap and sale" of bonsai or bonsai suitable plants and stones. This will be as successful as the quantity of shrubs and rocks brought in by those who attend. There will be plenty of tables set up on the lawn to accommodate both animate and inanimate goods. Please make sure your sale items are marked with your name and the expected price. Each seller or trader will be responsible for his or her items.
3. Over the noon hour - there will be an informal complimentary lunch with coffee, tea, and soft drinks.
4. In the early afternoon those attending are invited to travel independently to the Sooke Potholes to visit the remarkable collection of Bob Derik., known to us all here as "Pothole Bob". You will marvel at his special skill in the creation of large tray landscapes make use of trees and native stone in penjing style. Those who have already seen Bob's collection, should feel free to hang around Old West Saanich Rd.

The annual Victoria "Symphony Splash" is on that Sunday afternoon and will make driving through the city difficult. In several days we will provide each club with copies of driving information that will make it easy to reach both Old west Saanich Rd. and the Sooke Potholes.

So as to assure sufficient supplies for our mid-day refreshments, we ask each club to try to let us know at georgeheffel@shaw.ca by Wednesday July 30th just how many of your group can be expected to be present. The lunch will probably be hot dogs from the barbeque with the fixin's. If some are vegetarian please give us the count.



Bonsai From Nursery Stock - Reduction Building

By Norman Haddrick (reprinted from the Toronto Bonsai Society April 2008 Journal)

Everyone is not able to make the sometimes arduous, but always satisfying, journeys into the wild country in search of naturally shaped, dwarfed tree specimens for their bonsai collection. The most practical alternative for most bonsai enthusiasts is a visit to the local nursery or garden centre, where a browse through the available stock will likely reveal a suitable tree from which the basic structure of a bonsai can be sculpted.

The biggest, single benefit of such a visit is the variety of stock from which to choose, and the selected tree provides the buyer with a few hours of design study and pruning practice, which can result in an attractive "bonsai-in-training"

The first consideration before choosing a subject tree:

- 1) Is it for outdoor culture with hardiness for the area in which you reside?
- 2) Do you seek a species suitable for indoor culture over the winter?

Whatever you decide, select a variety that has short inter-nodes, (the distance between one leaf node and the next), as well as small leaves or short needles, to be proportionate to the size of the bonsai.

Major considerations related to the desirable features of bonsai design are the base of the trunk and the radiating root system. From these, a thick trunk rises with good taper. These features are an immediate benefit, showing stability and age, and are not always easy to develop when growing in a bonsai pot.

Having decided upon a species, it is wise to seek a variety with an abundance of branches. Preference to those with a heavy branch about one-third of the way up the trunk, and with thinner branches as they reach the top of the tree. The more branches to begin with, the greater the chance of finding branches where you need them in the bonsai design.

Do not be over-ambitious in your first choice. Select a tree less than 18 inches tall. This should give you a beginning bonsai of about 12 inches or so after pruning and proportioning. From the mass of available branches and twigs the bonsai student sculpts the tree, removing the unnecessary limbs to leave the structure of the future bonsai. This initial hard pruning, subsequent re-growth and shaping, is often called "reduction-building".

The tree will help the bonsai student by suggesting ideas for the best structure. This, from a combination of knowledge of basic bonsai styling "rules", of trees in nature, plus the artist's imagination, will produce acceptable results.



The 19th annual PNBCA Convention will be held at the Red Lion 'Inn at the Park' in beautiful downtown Spokane.

We have an exceptional group of guest artists lined up for this year's Convention, which will emphasize education. We all want to improve our bonsai, and the artists we have lined up for the convention are ready to help you achieve that goal.

First a few words about our guest artists. We have Walter Pall in our lineup. Walter is in demand as a demonstrator and educator all over the world. This convention will be a great opportunity for you to learn from one of Europe's top artists. Next we present Kathy Shaner, one of the most respected artists and demonstrators in the U.S. We have Dennis Makishima on the program. Dennis is limiting his engagements these days, but has graciously consented to be part of our convention. Dennis is an excellent teacher, and his workshops and classes always fill up fast. Next we have David Rowe. Most of you know David from his time as editor of the ABS Journal, as well as from his appearances at various conventions; his workshops are always in demand. And last, but not least, we have Jerry Meislik on the program. Jerry is nationally known as an expert in keeping ficus and other tropical trees indoors; as well as his work with native temperate species.

See our website for more info and registration:
www.inlandbonsai.com/convention/



JAPAN BONSAI
GARDEN ART

TAK YAMAURA
Owner/Consultant

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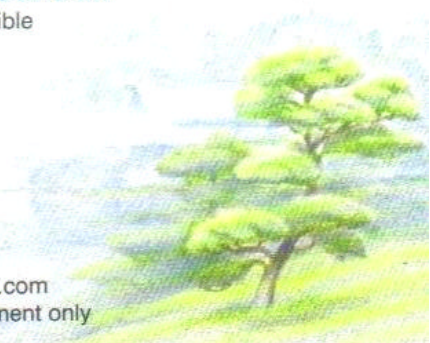
making bonsai accessible

Mark Paterson

owner

Bonsai and stock
Bonsai workshops
Bonsai maintenance

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Vancouver Island Bonsai Club

Membership Renewal /Application Form for 2008

I wish to renew my membership _____ or I wish to apply for membership _____ (New member)
Attached is \$20.00 for single membership ___ or Attached is \$25.00 for family membership ___

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone Home: _____ Phone Work: _____

Email : _____

Please indicate whether you would like to receive the Club Newsletter by Regular mail _____ or
by email notification of posting to the club website _____

If you are mailing this form, please mail to:

Vancouver Island Bonsai Club
PO Box 8674
Victoria, BC. V8W 3S2