



VANCOUVER ISLAND BONSAI CLUB

January Newsletter

January 17, 2011

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Monday January 17, 2011 ...

Show & Tell - Stones and Stands

Topic - Discussion on stones, the differences between Chinese and Japanese stones and how to present them. A demonstration with the duplicarver in mounting stones onto a wooden stand.

Raffle Table: We will have our usual raffle please bring your donations.

2011 Membership Dues

2011 membership fees are now due. There is a application/renewal form on page 3 of the newsletters. Fees have not changed for this year, they remain at \$20.00 single or \$25.00 family.

A draw will be held at the January meeting for all renewals and applications taken in at the December meeting.

Our Next Two Meetings:

Monday Jan 17, 7:30 pm
Monday Feb 21, 7:30 pm

Garth Homer Society
Auditorium
813 Darwin Avenue
Victoria, BC

2010 VIBC Officers

President	Bob Taylor
Past-Pres	Randy Kowalchuk
Treasurer	Judy Horsland
MallShow Coordinator	Vacant

Be A Bonsai Buddy

We are looking for volunteers to be a **Bonsai Buddy**. What is a Bonsai Buddy you ask? When new members or guests show up for their first meeting we would like to partner them up with someone who will spend the evening with them showing them around, the raffle table, displays, introducing them to other members, and sitting with them through the meeting. We want to make these new people feel at home and comfortable. These duties would be rotated every meeting so you would not be required to do this every meeting unless you wanted to.

If you are interested in participating in this program please see Laurie or Randy.

Let's make our new members and guests welcome!!!!

Collectible Stones

“Man has always collected beautiful stones....As far back as Neolithic times, that is 7000 to 1700 BC., man already collected and treasured beautiful stones in China”. *Gonshi* is the Chinese name for an elegant stone, sometimes called in English, a Scholar’s Stone. As the art form spread across Asia to Japan , some years later the name *Suiseki* was given it.

Two of Europe’s most intrepid collectors Willi and Gudrun Benz wrote the quotation above which can be found in one of their two books on the subject. *Viewing Stones*, can take various forms and are apt to be displayed in a variety of ways. *Gonshi* is often simply free form stone mounted on a polished wooden base called a *diaza* while *Suiseki* is more apt to be a stone landscape, mountain ranges are favorites. The stone is often cut flat on the bottom so that it can fit in a shallow dish called a *suiban* sometimes also containing a bit of sand on which to float the stone.

The January meeting of our Club will feature some of the techniques for displaying stones - how they can be utilized in the design of your bonsai or simply as stones on their own. Vancouver Island is the home of fine limestone pieces and other types of natural stone. Keep your eyes open for interesting possibilities as you stroll our beaches and mountain pathways.



BONSAI PATIENCE

In the October 2010 newsletter, the Toronto Bonsai Society's Mike Roussel, gave an especially thoughtful President's Message. Starting his subject with the timeworn statement that "patience is a virtue", he observes that psychologists have proven that deferred gratification is not part of human nature. For bonsai people, he observes that the passage of time must take on special meaning. "Put simply" he says, "it takes a long time to create a bonsai and that may be longer than the time we have left on this earth"

Most visitors to the Glendale Gardens, noticing for the first time a display of bonsai, can be guaranteed to ask. "How old is that tree?" If the tree is a big local Lodgepole pine or a Vancouver Island collected Mountain hemlock, the chances are that the correct answer must be, "It is at least a couple of hundred years old." Properly looked after, such trees may well enjoy public admiration over many more human generations.

Of trees being styled in a workshop where an established professional instructor has been engaged, many workshop participants appear to expect that a finished bonsai will emerge after a day's work. Such creations seldom result in a finished bonsai. Coming up with an especially good bonsai in just several hours is seldom possible. To finish a bonsai, in Mike's words, "takes time and a game plan... Pushing that plan too quickly often results in serious setbacks".

Vancouver Island Bonsai Club

Membership Renewal /Application Form for 2011

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



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Please call us at 250-477-4143 for a consultation

- Robert J. Salmond
- Derek E. Ashurst
- Victoria Pitt
- Jill McCarthy