

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

November 2015



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2014 VIBS Officers

President: Mark Paterson
Vice President: Vacant
Past President: Bob Taylor
Treasurer: Larry Phillips
Secretary: Jim Haskins
Door & Raffle: Susan Vidal
Librarian: Kathi Morrison
Newsletter & Website: John Mitchell
Board member "without portfolio" Jim Morrison

Next Society meeting: Monday, November 16th, 2015

7:00 pm at Couvelier Pavilion, HCP

Scheduled: Annual 50/50 auction of bonsai and related items. If you are thinking of consigning a bonsai, or anything related to the art, please bring your auction items to the Couvelier Pavilion around 6:15 pm so that we can issue a number(s).

Expert advice: There is a standing invitation to all members to bring in any tree that you would like an opinion or advice on – tap into several hundred years of collective bonsai experience.

Club activities: Please share your thoughts on activities that you would like to see. See the Activities Calendar:

<http://www.victoriabonsai.bc.ca/bonsaiCalendar.htm>

Raffle table: There will be no "lucky draw" this month.

A Request for scent-free meetings: People sensitive to scents can come down with severe headaches and feel quite unwell after exposure. Out of consideration for our fellow members, we would ask that our meetings be scent-free.



Flowers and fruit on *Arbutus unedo*

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Greetings Everyone - This past month has been a very quiet one as far as local bonsai events go, so this edition of the newsletter will be very brief. This mild fall weather has extended the fall colour season - most areas on the south island haven't experienced a "killing" frost yet. Hoping for a mild winter?

On the dry days we could be considering application of **Bordeaux mixture spray** (available in garden centres as "Bordo mix") as a preventative strategy against fungal disease. There are also recipes online utilizing copper sulphate and lime, the prime ingredients in the mixture. Use Bordeaux mix with caution - it can stain tables, benches and such a greenish colour.

Lime sulphur and dormant oil spray can also be utilized for the same purpose on deciduous bonsai after leaf-fall - the lime sulphur is anti-fungal and the dormant oil acts to "smother" insect eggs. Several applications on dry, non-freezing days over the course of the winter are recommended.

In the case of any anti-fungal treatments, **be sure to apply only to the trunk and branches of your bonsai**. Keep it off the soil as it will harm the beneficial mycorrhizal fungi that enhance the health of your trees. I often use aluminum foil to cover the soil surface.

Next month's meeting is our "Seasonal Celebration". This event is always fun and this year we can look forward to the warm and inviting Couvelier Pavilion's cozy ambience as a venue for our get-together. As usual, there will be a contest for the best decorated bonsai tree - the prize will be the usual widespread acclaim and hearty applause from the assembled celebrants!

This is a pot-luck event – club members are encouraged to bring favourite snacks and "finger-food" to share.

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Last Meeting: Here are a few photo reminders of the vivid Fall colours on display:



Liquidambar styraciflua



Euonymus



Trident maple



... and, of course, a Pine!

Lovely, and some unusual, bonsai from Maurice. The Strawberry Arbutus (right), a Mediterranean species, is related to our native *Arbutus menziesii* (pictured in flower, and fruit).



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November meeting: Annual 50/50 Bonsai Auction

Once again, we are holding our annual, and eagerly anticipated, auction of bonsai and related items - Bonsai, pre-Bonsai, pots, books and tools usually show up. There are always surprises!

This sale is a great opportunity to add to your collection. Those wishing to consign things should be at the hort Centre at about 6:15 pm in order to facilitate the numbering process. Your half of the purchase price will be paid out to you at a subsequent meeting (to allow for the time-intensive complexities of the accounting process).

Those wishing to purchase should be prepared to pay by cash or cheque. This is an important fund raiser for our club. We hope to see you there – bring lots and lots of money!!!

2016 PNBCA Convention Registration

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE TREES

What a great theme for a Bonsai convention!

We have attached a registration form and program event listing for the 2016 PNBCA convention (Oct 13-16-2016) hosted by the Puget Sound Bonsai Association and held in Olympia, WA, you can also register online at <http://www.psba.us/pnbca-2016-files/> .

Questions, concerns please contact:

Margie Kinoshita, Registrar youngkinoshita@msn.com

206-400-7341 or 503-860-6830

Hosted by Puget Sound Bonsai Association



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Membership Renewal / Application Form 2015

I wish to renew my membership _____ or I wish to apply for membership _____ (new member)

Attached is \$30.00 for single membership _____ or attached is \$35.00 for family membership _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

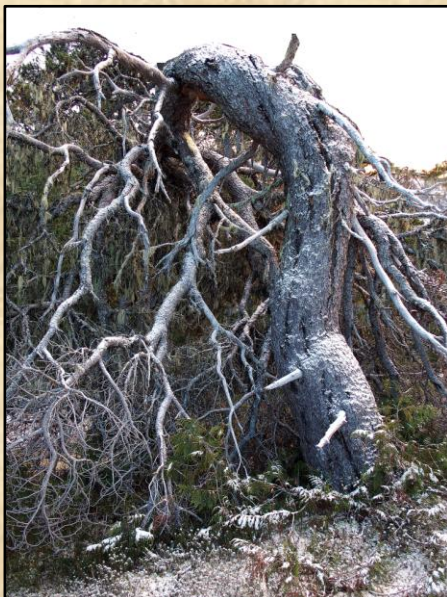
City, Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone (Home) _____ Phone (Other) _____

Please provide your e-mail address for information about various activities and notification of the posting of the Newsletter to the website: _____

If you are mailing this form, please mail to:

Vancouver Island Bonsai Society
Membership Coordinator
PO Box 8674
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 3S2



A gnarly, ancient dead Shore Pine, Vancouver Island