

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

June 2016



Inside!

A few photos &
Remembering Roger Low

2014 VIBS Officers

President: Mark Paterson
Vice President: Vacant
Past President: Bob Taylor
Treasurer: Larry Phillips
Secretary: Jim Haskins
Door & Raffle &
Library: Jim & Kathi Morrison
Newsletter & Website: John
Mitchell
Also: Maurice Bombezin,
Randy Kowalchuk

Next Society meeting: Monday, June 20th, 2016

7:00 pm at Couvelier Pavilion, HCP

Scheduled: Theme: summer care and late repotting

Show & Tell: Native trees as bonsai

Activity: final steps in preparation on "contribution trees"

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. The Activities Calendar on the VIBS webpage has been updated for 2016

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

Raffle table: Please consider bringing an item for the raffle table - it is a good fund-raiser for club events and this year promises to be a very good year for special events.



Last month: Colour theory as it pertains to bonsai pot selection!

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

Greetings Everyone!

I haven't a lot of bonsai news to feature in this newsletter. I would love to have popped into Maurice's "Basics" course for some photos but I was somewhat busy getting acquainted with a flu bug. I'm sure it was enjoyable and information-packed, as Maurice's seminars always are.

Last Month:



Fran S with a lovely bonsai



Mark showing a Dwarf Schefflera



Tibby with her Kusamono

This month:

Mark will be at the Hort center at 6:30 before the meeting to start repotting with anyone who wants to show up early and work on repotting your "Contribution Tree". Any unfinished will be worked on after Show and Tell. Avoid the rush and a late night and come early!

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

Art & Music in the Gardens (coming August 6th & 7th) at the Hort Centre

Volunteers are needed! Sign-up sheets will be at the June meeting.

People selling bonsai and related products at this event will be expected to help with clean-up (Many hands make light work!)

Raffle note! If you plan on buying tickets for the Draw, in order to avoid disappointment, please bring change or small bills. We have a very limited ability to make change for \$20 bills.

June – July Bonsai Care Continue feeding with a balance fertilizer (10-10-10, 15-15-15, 20-20-20) diluted to half strength every two weeks. Watch out on those hot days – if you are watering by hand be sure you're not missing anyone! Water twice a day – morning & evening. It's time to move hornbeams, azaleas and other heatsensitive trees to open shade or other cooler locations. Pines will love the heat but keep them moist. Check online if you have species that you are unsure of the care of – and check several sources that pertain to our climatic zone. Advice from the San Diego, New Orleans or Manila sites likely doesn't apply here in Canada's Pacific Southwest!

This is usually the time of year that we work intensively, pruning pine candles to redistribute energy in these apically dominant trees to effect the shortening of needles, stimulate backbudding and set the stage for next year's bud formation. This is one of the "deeper" subjects in bonsai – look for advice at the monthly meetings if you are unsure what it's about.

Watch for spider mites – aphids are everywhere – many caterpillars are feeding voraciously! Read about your bonsai species – research online – ask someone with bonsai experience particular to your tree.



Kusamono

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

Remembering – Roger Low

Just letting everyone know that Roger Low passed away this morning, June 7, 2016, from a long battle with cancer.

I think he is known by just about every club on the west coast from British Columbia to California .

He attended most conventions in our province and the USA western states where he always offered his help to others and encouraged young people to get involved.

I know he will be missed. If you know others along the west coast that knew him please let them know.

Thanks

Ray Norris, President

West Coast Bonsai Society



Roger working on a Shimpaku juniper bonsai



Roger with John Romano, George Heffelfinger
(seated Left) & Roger Case (Right) – Victoria
2014

Photos: Tibby Solloway



One of Roger's Satsuki azaleas

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

Roger Low (cont'd):

Roger had a long association with our Vancouver Island club and was made a life member two years ago for his active support over many years.

He was an energetic and enthusiastic supporter of the bonsai hobby and many of our longer-term members will recall Roger as the driving force behind many a convention raffle — festooned with ribbons of tickets he would dance through the dining room, blessing tickets with a 'lucky kiss' and driving sales with his lively routine. Who could resist?

Roger belonged to and was contact person for the West Coast Bonsai Society in Vancouver and to many in the the Vancouver Rhododendron Society he was known as "Bonsai man".

This was copied to me from Tibby:

A ***Celebration of Life*** for Roger is planned for Sunday, July 17, 2016.

After discussions with former co-workers and Bonsai club members, the event will be held at our home in our Rose Garden, including our Roger created bonsai.

When: Sunday, July 17, 2016

Time: 1:30 to 4:00 PM

Where: Richmond, BC (Steveston area)

Celebration: To start at 2:30. There will an opportunity for you to say a few words about Roger. We have already had such requests. If you wish more than a couple of minutes please contact me to be put into the schedule. We hope to keep this celebration between 30 to 45 minutes.

Bring: 1) If you wish to be assured of a seat, bring a chair.
2) A hat. The yard can become very warm on a sunny day.
3) A good Roger story to tell.

Refreshments: Light refreshments will be served after the Celebration. These will be Roger's favorites: butter tarts, rhubarb pie, etc

At this "Celebration" we will do something Roger never did -- bring together all his friends, co-workers and family. Let's make it a real CELEBRATION! — Bob and Sheila Price

Anyone wishing to attend can contact me at webmaster@victoriabonsai.bc.ca for the Price's address and phone number. It's not a good idea to publish that sort of info in the newsletter ... John

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

PNBCA 2016 Convention **If you haven't already registered for this Convention being hosted by one of our member clubs, perhaps a description of some of the artists who will be presenting workshops will nudge you into registration mode!**



Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association (PNBCA) Convention Fall 2016 - **It's all about the trees!**

PSBA will be hosting the PNBCA Bonsai Convention October 13-16, 2016 at the beautiful Red Lion Olympia Hotel located at 2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW in Olympia, WA 98502. Call (360) 943-4000 for reservations.

Event co-chairs Linda Breeden and Doug Bradley have been busy collecting workshop trees and plan to offer a number of workshops for beginners and advanced students. Special emphasis will be on shohin and collected material. There will also be special programs on viewing stones and antique pots.

The Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association (PNBCA) includes clubs from British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Its purpose is to share information among member organizations.

PNBCA annual conventions draw attendees from the Pacific Northwest as well as international registrants. Bonsai enthusiasts benefit from exceptional workshops and critiques by local and international guest artists and cameo artists. Conventions are a great way to share skills, stories and friendship with many accomplished and aspiring bonsai artists.

Convention Guest Artists will be:

Daisaku Nomoto

Daisaku Nomoto is from Miyazaki City, on the Southern island of Kushu. He comes from a bonsai family and his father owns his own bonsai garden. Mr. Nomoto was apprenticed to the bonsai master Kihachiro Kamiya and entered into the famous bonsai garden, Kihatchi En in 1995. Four years later he worked on, and entered a client's white pine into the Koku-Fu Bonsai Show selection process. His bonsai was accepted into Koku-Fu, which is considered the most important bonsai show in the world. Two years after he had entered his apprenticeship, Boon Manakitivipart entered the same garden for training. Having entered first, Mr. Nomoto

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

automatically became Boon's sempai, (or senior colleague). Through their intense training and immersion into the same bonsai-clan, they became close friends. Mr. Nomoto has visited Boon and the United States many times, however, this will be Mr. Nomoto's first trip to the Pacific Northwest. In the year 2001, he displayed an "Important Bonsai Masterpiece", a designation given to certain well known bonsai by Nippon Bonsai Association. Then in 2004, he won the prestigious Koku-Fu Prize with a Japanese Black Pine. After 5 years of training at KihachiEn, he worked in his father's nursery until he opened his own bonsai garden Nomoto Chinshoen in 2005. Today he works with private clients and bonsai customers, and exhibits bonsai in premier bonsai shows throughout Japan. Jonas Dupries has several excellent posts on his Bonsai Tonight blog highlighting Daisaku's work (<http://bonsaitonight.com/2015/01/16/ask-daisaku-nomoto-anything/>).

Suthin Sukosolvisit

Born in Thailand, Suthin has extensive experience with tropical bonsai. His expertise also includes Japanese maples, black pines, juniper, shohin size and root over rock styles. He is proficient with many other species. Suthin has been involved in Bonsai since 1970. He has won several International Bonsai Awards. He teaches his bonsai techniques throughout the New England area and throughout the United States. Suthin shares new information and techniques whenever he teaches. His bonsai are known for their proportion, refinement and detail. Suthin and his wife operate the Royal Bonsai Garden in Stoughton, Massachusetts (<http://www.suthinbonsaistudio.com/>).

Boon Manakitivipart

Although it was only a small juniper that started Boon on his journey, that tree would soon have a huge impact on his life and his future. He became fascinated with bonsai. Before long, he joined the Bonsai Society of San Francisco, the club through which he took his first beginner class in the spring of 1989. Anxious to learn as much as possible about bonsai, Boon studied with as many teachers as he could find in California. Boon's bonsai skills advanced when he hosted bonsai master Akio Kondo, who was Kihachiro Kamiya's first apprentice. Later, Boon worked and studied at Kihachi-En (a famous bonsai nursery in Japan) and was an apprentice to Kihachiro Kamiya, a great bonsai master with multiple national awards. In April 2000, Boon won the Grand Prize in the Kindai Bonsai Styling Contest in Japan. He was the only non-Japanese entrant in the contest. He has since won numerous other awards and recognition for his work, both nationally and internationally. Boon returned repeatedly to Japan for prolonged periods of bonsai study until master Kamiya's passing in January, 2004. Boon founded and

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

became the Sensei (primary teacher) of BAY ISLAND BONSAI, and started his business, Bonsai Boon (<http://www.bonsaiboon.com/>), in 1998.

Matt Reel

Matt returned from Japan in 2014 after an eight years apprenticeship with Shinji Suzuki. He is now located in Portland and is a member of the Portland Bonsai Village. Matt is known for his broad expertise in working with a wide range of conifer and deciduous, as well as his knowledge of bonsai pots and bonsai display aesthetics. Matt's highly refined styling of trees is making him in demand as a presenter and as a caretaker of bonsai for serious aficionados, which makes his light and playful manner all the more appealing. Matt's work on a large juniper was featured in the January 2015 issue of the Japanese bonsai magazine, Kinbon (<http://crataegus.com/tag/matt-reel/>).

Workshop Openings:

As of May 24th, 2016, this the status of the workshops:

- 1 Daisaku Nomoto, Japanese Black Pine - Open
- 2 Matt Reel, Tsukomo Cypress - Open
- 3 Boon Manakitivipart, Hicks Yew - Open
- 4 Suthin Sukosolvisit, Bring Your Own Tree - Open
- 5A Matt Reel, Collected Rocky Mountain Douglas Fir - Open
- 5B Matt Reel, Collected Cascade Subalpine Fir - Full
- X Daisaku Nomoto, Bring Your Own Tree For Critique - Open
- 6 Suthin Sukosolvisit, Shohin Azalea - Full
- 7 Boon Manakitivipart, Cotoneaster - Open
- 8 Matt Reel, Collected Rocky Mountain Engleman Spruce - Open
- 9 Daisaku Namoto, Bring Your Own Tree - Open
- 10 Boon Manakitivipart, Chamaecyparis Obtuse "Hage" - Open
- 11 Suthin Sukosolvisit, Shohin Viburnum - Full
- 12 Boon Manakitivipart, Japanese Maple - Open
- 13 John Muth, Shimpaku Juniper - Open
- 14 Daisaku Namoto, Bring Your Own Tree - Open

Here are links: <http://www.psba.us/pnbca-2016-files/>

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

Show & Tell for June: Native Trees As Bonsai

Tree Species Native to Vancouver Island...

Western White Pine *Pinus monticola*

Shore Pine *Pinus contorta contorta*

Mountain Hemlock *Tsuga mertensiana*

Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*

Amabilis Fir *Abies amabilis*

Western Redcedar *Thuja plicata*

Western Yew, or Pacific Yew *Taxus brevifolia*

Western Juniper *Juniperus occidentalis*

Gary Oak *Quercus garryana*

Vine maple *Acer circinatum*

Lodgepole Pine *Pinus contorta latifolia*

Sitka Spruce *Picea sitchensis*

Western Hemlock *Tsuga heterophylla*

Subalpine Fir *Abies lasiocarpa*

Grand Fir *Abies grandis*

Yellow-Cedar *Callitropsis nootkatensis*

Rocky Mountain Juniper *J. scopulorum*

Oregon Ash *Fraxinus latifolia*

Douglas Maple *Acer glabrum*

Pacific crabapple *Malus fusca*

(a.k.a. *Malus diversifolia*)

and others ...

Some of the species will be on display at the June meeting. If you have a BC native tree bonsai you are welcome to bring it to Show & Tell.

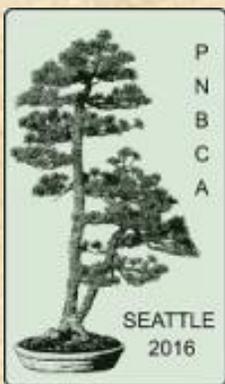
Coming Events:

August 6th & 7th Arts & Music in the Gardens at HCP

Volunteers needed!

September 25th David DeGroot Shaping & Advanced Styling 2 Sessions 8AM and 1PM Each session limited to 6 participants & 12 "silent observers". Bring Your Own Tree Participant fee: \$150 Observer fee: \$20

October 13 – 16 Puget Sound Bonsai Association will be hosting the **PNBCA Bonsai Convention**



October 13-16, 2016 (**It's All About The Trees**) at the beautiful Red Lion Olympia Hotel located at 2300 Evergreen Park Drive SW in Olympia, WA 98502. Call (360) 943-4000 for reservations. Event co-chairs Linda Breeden and Doug Bradley have been busy collecting workshop trees and plan to offer a number of workshops for beginners and advanced students. Special emphasis will be on shohin and collected material. There will also be special programs on viewing stones and antique pots. **The Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association (PNBCA) includes clubs from British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Its purpose is to share information**

For a complete list of events please see the Activities Calendar on our website: <http://www.victoriabonsai.bc.ca/bonsaiCalendar.htm>

The Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

NEWSLETTER

Vancouver Island Bonsai Society

Membership Renewal / Application Form 2016

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



... so long Roger

Photo: John M