



Message from the Chairman - Reg Bolton

I would like to remind you all of the forthcoming General Meeting to be held at the Noelanders Trophy event in Genk, Belgium during the period 23 - 24 January 2016. For those not at the meetings in Vilnius – it was decided there to ask the Working Group to reconsider certain proposals for presentation in Genk.

The group 2 have completed the task set and their report and recommendations will be circulated prior to the meeting. Although the meeting is designated as a General Meeting it was decided in Vilnius it should take the form of a Round Table Meeting to prepare proposals for decision at the next EBA Convention in May 2015.

The Board commissioned a permanent type of Award for presentation to New Talent Competition participants and also for use as a Merit Award for exhibited bonsai. Further discussion on how the Award will be administered and who will be authorised to make a presentation is to be decided.

On a personal note, I apologise to all that I am unable to attend the next Convention as it co-incides with my long standing annual contractual engagement with an event in the UK. Also as my term as President ends in May 2016, the meeting in Genk will be the last time I chair a meeting for EBA.

And – finally, I wish you all the compliments of the Season and look forward to a prosperous and rewarding New Year.

Reg

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2015 was a very successful year for the Austrian Bonsai Association (ABA). We had two excellent international shows, one in June in Hallein near Salzburg and one in St. Veit (Carinthia), in September. Both shows, organised by the local clubs, took place in two very different buildings. In Hallein the exhibition took place in a big ancient salt storehouse and the exhibition in St. Veit was located in an old Renaissance Town Hall. The exhibits and the demonstrations were of excellent quality therefore both shows were well attended. Beside these international events our clubs organised different smaller regional exhibitions and local workshops.

The club of Carinthia participated as official Austrian delegation for the 30th International-Arco-Trophy-Contest. The exhibition in Arco was a top event for Bonsai enthusiasts coming from the neighbouring regions around Northern Italy.

At the end of June the "Bonsaimuseum in Seeboden" held its traditional Kusamono-Workshop, led by Ute and Fritz Baier. It was very interesting to see the participants putting together very diligently the offered plants and pots for kusamono. All created arrangements were exhibited in the museum after the end of the workshop. Some of the creations are published on the websites.

ABA participated in the EBA Convention in Vilnius (Lithuania) with some exhibits. Unfortunately there was no Austrian participant in the NTC.

In November the ABA-Board meeting was held in Salzburg. The Members discussed the activities planned for the year 2016. In the coming year there will be no big international bonsai exhibition in Austria. The Bonsai Club of Graz (Styria) will organize a small event in May.

The election of the Board of the Austrian Bonsai Association (ABA) will take place in April 2016. At the same time the national contest for the participation of a candidate in the NTC in Szekesfehervar will be held.

With great sadness we have to announce that Karl Thier died on 12 November 2015. Karl was one of our distinctive bonsai artists and an acknowledged bonsai instructor. The Austrian Bonsai community is mourning him. We lost a good friend; he will remain in our memory.

Detlef Mostler
December 2015



Hallein Bonsai Exhibition 2015; Ancient Salt Storehouse



Bonsai Museum Seeboden; Exhibition of Kusamono



St.Veit Bonsai Exhibition; Renaissance Town Hall



St.Veit Bonsai Exhibition; Presentation of Awards

This year started as usual with a major event, the Noelanders Trophy XVI. The new location in Genk offered space for more trees on the show and over 50 traders from all over Europe. The greatest bonsai marked in Europe, a high quality show and international renowned artists on stage, make this event the place to be, the event for networking.

Beside the 'trophy', that's what we call it in Belgium; several events with a national exposure took place. The Bonsai show in Enghien, near the French border, organised by Bonsai Atelier Enghien, attracted a lot of visitors from the north of France and Wallonia. The main demonstrator was Salvatore Liporaci.

The two general meetings of the Vlaamse Bonaivereniging brought, beside the members, a few hundred visitors. These meetings focused on the work of the members. Visitors could admire the bonsai of the very beginners and high quality trees. These occasions are always good for gaining several new members.

Club Asahi organised a show with a Japanese guest. It is a tradition in this club to focus on Satsuki and Japanese five needle pine.

Beside this main event our clubs organised altogether over 250 meetings, workshops, demos and trips this year.

Most of our clubs are growing again and, good news, a majority of the new members are aged 40 years or younger. This is promising for the future. Another encouraging trend is the success of the 'in depth' courses. Three complete weekends a year during five years. Both theory and practical training, with a lot of tasks between two weekends. Not cheap at all, but nevertheless the 20 places available were sold out in one week. More candidates are on a waiting list.







CBA 2015 event in Plzeň (Pilsen) town June 2015.

CBA New Talent Contest 2015 was held there and winner will represent CBA in Hungary next year.

CBA has registered about 300 members at the end of 2015 and a couple of local clubs are CBA members too.

In 2015 the CBA supported activities of local clubs who are members of the CBA, and we organised annual CBA exhibition in Plzen including workshops for members which were led by distinguished European and world bonsai masters like Marc Noelanders and Masashi Hirao.

We are now working on the CBA 2016 event - Kromeriz, Czech Rep. in October 2016.





The year 2015 has been a great year for Danish bonsai but has also made up new ideas about how we could do things different.



Best Bonsai 2015 Denmark (Martin Nielsen)

Spring in Denmark and summer was very cold and looked like a Spanish winter this year. This made it hard for the bonsai enthusiast to prepare the trees for our year meeting which took place on the 30-31 May in Aalborg. An exhibition with a lot of great trees and main demonstrator Antony Payeras from Spain. The prize for the best bonsai went to Martin Nielsen for his cascade yamadori larch



Best Creative Composition bonsai Europa 1

For the first time this year we gave prizes for best Kifu and this prize went to Yvonne Graubæk for her composition with Euonymus and Lonicera nitida.

Again this year DBS gave prize for the best shohin composition and this time the winner of the best shohin composition was Morten Albek for his composition with Stephanandra and Weigela



Best Kifu Composition 2015 Denmark ((Yvonne Graubaek)

As every year, we again gave the EBA prize to a bonsai which was somewhat extraordinary. The EBA prize was this year given to John Ryel for his Fagus.



EBA Award 2015 Denmark (John Ryel) 1

Antony Payeras who is maybe a bit overlooked on the bonsai scene did great demonstration and workshop during the weekend and made an excellent bonsai out of a yamadori juniper in his demo.

Picture of Antony at the workshop Denmark





Styling a Juniper.

Denmark 2015

Antony Payeres



Result of Styling a Juniper

Denmark 2015

Antony Payeres

During our annual meeting we also had our AGM and the board stayed as it was. We discussed new ways of thinking and new ideas and so we will be turning everything upside down in 2016.

Instead of an exhibition and an AGM together as we have been doing for the last 10 years, we decided that next year we will have the AGM in May with a demonstrator and some workshops. Our festival with exhibition will then take place 28-31 October at Fredericia in Messe together with an arrangement called Creative Days. This exhibition will this year only be for members of DBS; and we hope to be able to host a bigger exhibition with participation from other countries in 2017 maybe.

Beside all this, Danish bonsai enthusiasts have had success at some international events in Europe. In Vilnius, Torben Brenfeldt won the first separate prize given to a shohin composition at the EBA. This was a great thing not only for Torben, but also for the community because people now know that they can learn from another great enthusiast who has had international success...

In Manchester England at the Bonsai Europa, which was a new show hosted by Tony Tickle, Martin Nielsen was given a prize for the most creative display with the larch he won for best bonsai in Denmark. This was also great news for Denmark and the Danish board, because we can use these things to promote the bonsai hobby in Denmark and tell people that they can learn from Danish bonsai enthusiast who has international success.

A year is ending and a new one is soon coming.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year to all of our bonsai friends in all of Europe.

On behalf of the Danish board and organization

Tommy Nielsen

EBA Delegate - Danish Bonsai Society



Saturday and Sunday 7/8 November 2015 by Pierre Bedes

Over this weekend we attended a free workshop paid by the French Bonsai Association because the Cantal Bonsai Club organised a country show in May 2015. We worked both days starting at 8 am and ending at 6 pm!



We had a meal at Julien Bec's house who is the President of the club where the workshop took place.

I started by giving information about bonsai soil, fertilization and diseases that can affect pines.

| | pH | CEC capacité échange cationique | C/N rapport carbone azote | % rétention en eau | durabilité | action chimique | % porosité | indice des vides | phytotoxique | % air | densité |
|---------------------------|-----------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|---------|-------------|
| Argile Expandée (Argex) | 8,5 | 0 | 0 | 10 | très bonne | 0 | 95 | 24 | bonne | 81,5 | 0,96 |
| Argile Expandée (Saramis) | 7,2 | 0 | 0 | 37 | très bonne | ++ | 95 | 0,9 | bonne | 70 | 0,96 |
| Akadama | 6,5 à 6,9 | 31,4 | 0 | 45 | intermédiaire | ++ | | | bonne | 77 | |
| Charbon de Bois | 5,7 à 6,7 | 7-200 | 0 | 5 à 10 | très bonne | ++ | 95 | 0,8 | bonne | 77 | 0,2 à 0,3 |
| copieux épave | 5,5 à 6,5 | 5 à 200 | 200 | 35 à 40 | bonne | ++ | 90 à 95 | 25 | bonne | 50 à 60 | 0,30 |
| écorce composite | 5,6 à 6,5 | 1-50 | 200 à 300 | 30 | bonne | + | 90 à 95 | 5,5 | bonne | 50 à 70 | 0,2 à 0,3 |
| écorce de pin | 5,5 à 6,1 | 90 | 300 | 15 | intermédiaire | + | 95 | 5,7 | bonne | 50 à 55 | 0,15 à 0,2 |
| fibres de coco | 5,4 à 6,7 | 200 | 110 à 220 | 25 à 40 | bonne | + | 90 à 95 | 10 | bonne | 45 | 0,11 à 0,15 |
| Gravier | 6,6 à 7 | 0 | 0 | < 5 | très bonne | 0 | 42 | 0,75 | bonne | 30,8 | 1,5 |
| Laine de Roche | 7,3 | 0 | 0 | 85 | bonne | + | 90 à 97 | 10 à 12 | intermédiaire | 14 à 15 | 0,07 à 0,08 |
| Karuma | 5,8 à 6,4 | 32,7 | 0 | 40 | intermédiaire | | | | bonne | 10,7 | |
| Keto | | | | | | | | | | 30 | |
| Koryu | 6,2 | 11,7 | | | | | | | | | |
| Lutite | 6,5 | 14,3 | | 95 | intermédiaire | | | | | | |
| Perlite | 6,9 à 7,5 | 5 à 10 | 0 | 25 à 30 | bonne | 0 | 90 à 97 | 24 | bonne | 81,5 | 0,08 à 0,12 |
| Pumice | 7,5 | 0 | 0 | 35 | très bonne | ++ | 75 | 5,25 à 5,81 | bonne | 40 | 0,3 à 0,35 |
| Pouzolane | 6,5 à 7 | 0 | 0 | 5 à 10 | très bonne | 0 | 90 à 95 | 1,5 à 2,5 | bonne | 40 | 0,5 à 0,75 |
| Sable | 6 à 8 | 0 | 0 | < 15 | très bonne | 0 | 95 | 0,5 | bonne | < 50 | 0,5 à 0,75 |
| Sphagnum | 3,5 à 4,5 | 150 à 250 | 120 à 130 | 1200 à 1500 | très bonne | ++ | 90 à 97 | 0,5 | bonne | < 10 | 0,5 à 0,75 |
| Tourbe Blonde | 4,5 | 115 | 40 à 54 | 45 à 50 | intermédiaire | ++ | 90 à 95 | 11,5 à 16 | bonne | 12,5 | 0,05 à 0,16 |
| Tourbe Brune | 5 | 200 à 400 | 20 à 25 | 45 à 50 | intermédiaire | ++ | 85 | 5,7 à 7,3 | bonne | 4,5 | 0,2 à 0,25 |
| Vermiculite | 7,5 | 27 | 50 à 55 | 45 à 50 | bonne | ++ | 95,4 | 21 | bonne | 40 | 0,05 à 0,12 |
| Zéolite | 7,4 | 220 | 0 | 65 | bonne | +++ | 65 | 1,5 | bonne | < 30 | 0,1 |

All members came to the workshop with pine trees; some were already prepared pre-bonsai and some raw material.



Each member worked, with my help, on their trees. In some cases I showed to some of them specific actions and techniques to make very big modifications or bends.

On one tree I placed raffia and copper wire onto it and reduced the height from 110 cm to 35 cm





Annual General Meeting Bonsai and Suiseki Exhibition 2015 in Fulda, Künzell

Last weekend in October the members of the German Bonsai Club and the German Suiseki Association comes together for 2 days for their Annual General Meeting and Exhibition. This year the convention was located in Fulda/Künzell. A city located not far away from Frankfurt in the middle of the area Rhön.

The convention has taken place in the “Gemeindezentrum Künzell”. A building owned by the city of Künzell which was built for such kind of convention and also music events. That means there was enough place for the exhibition, demonstrations, NTC, meetings and also for 25 sales stands.

Around 100 trees and stones are shown by the members of both organizations. In consequence of the late date a lot of the broadleaf trees are exhibited without leaves or in their autumn colour that gives the visitors a new look at these trees.

The annual general meeting was hold also during these 2 days in Fulda. Because the president of the BCD, Klaus Willberg, has left the board in summer it was necessary to vote a new president and also the period of our business manager has ended this year.

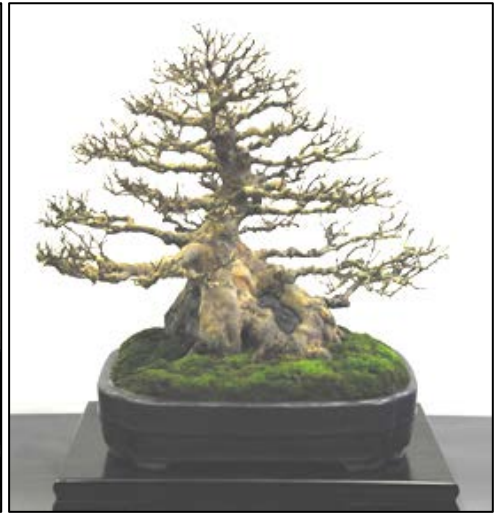
The new president voted by the BCD members is Elmar Heil and the old and new business manager will remain as Axel Paduch. This makes sure that the work into the board will go on continuously.

The NTC (New Talent Contest) was also held during the convention. Four new talents from Germany worked for four hours on *Juniperus chinensis*. A really good material, nearly equal for each participant. After the time the judging team comes together to look at the results. It was a head to head race between two trees and the difference between them was less than 2 points. At the end the winner was Andrea Junger who will represent Germany during the next EBA convention in Hungary 2016.

On Sunday evening all participants and visitors of the convention went home with the feeling that they have had two eventful days with a lot of speeches and coming together between with new and old Bonsai and Suiseki friends.

Next convention 2016 will take place in Leipzig in the beginning of June.







Mrs Dehmel got the prize as the representative for organization team of this event from Jürgen Carocci. We always give the EBA Certificate to the Orga Team for their work before and during such a convention

The Hungarian University Bonsai Club held its yearly exhibition in the Zoo of Budapest in October.

Because of the good weather on that weekend we had more visitors than we expected. However there was no pre-selection this year, the quality was still high.

The impact of the mild autumn could be detected on the displayed trees. Most of the deciduous trees still had their leaves, but some of the exhibitors decided to cut them off to show the full branch structure.

The exhibition was set up with about 70 trees, and some Suiseki.









EBA Convention 2015 - Vilnius, Lithuania

The convention, organised by Lithuanian Bonsai enthusiasts proved to be one of the most successful and enjoyable attended. Congratulations to Kestutis and his volunteers.

The Bonsai and Suiseki were well displayed and spaced allowing good viewing positions for those wishing to study the exhibits. Accompanying the trees and stones were very interesting exhibits of Japanese culture and musical entertainment to enjoy.

The New Talent Competition was well organised for the competitors together with a good viewing area for visitors that did not impede on the work in progress. The Winner was Bartosz Koblaski of Poland and second place went to Carmello Bonnano from Monaco.

This year the EBA commissioned and introduced a new style trophy for both the New Talent Competitors and Merit Awards which were presented for first time in Vilnius. Similar trophies will be used for future Conventions and major national bonsai events.

Well done Lithuania, you demonstrated that, with diligence and hard work what a small and dedicated group of bonsai enthusiasts can do to promote our hobby to its best advantage.

Reg Bolton

European Bonsai Association Merit Award./ NTC Award.

For those of you not at Vilnius when the Award was first presented This is an image of it.

For the NTC the insert was worded.

“New Talent Competition Finalist” and for the winners (1st,2nd & 3rd)

Winner, Second, Third.

The Award was used as a “Merit Award” for Bonsai Exhibits at the Convention and at the Bonsai Europa Event in the UK.





This year we have participated in several contests:

In April to the "Trophée des Clubs 2015" at Veyrier (Geneva Switzerland)

Arco Bonsai (Italy) in May

We are very happy of the second place of our representative, Carmelo Bonanno at the EBA NTC 2015 in Vilnius

And all year we have our workshops especially with shohin.



