



Sesde uitgawe
2015

Koeda

Pretoria Bonsai Kai

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The word Koeda is Japanese and means: 'Graceful branch'. It is pronounced Ko-eda.

Van die redakteur.

Beste Bonsai Vriende

Gedurende ons afsluiting op 5 Desember het ons heerlik gekuier, aan bome gewerk, gebraai en aan die slaai en poeding weggelê wat in oorfloed geneem is. Org maak toe die opmerking dat ons darem 'n lekker kai is met klomp vriendelike mense. Ons is regtig eintlik vriende en nie net kennisse nie.

wêreld plant elk 'n boom in die "forest", sien berig op bl 18. 'n Ware toonbeeld dat vriendskap en vrede deur bonsai in die wêreld uitgedra kan word.

Dankie vir elkeen se vriendskap. Geniet die feestyd en dra vriendskap na elkeen waarmee jy in aanraking kom.

By die ABC4 konvensie het ek dieselfde ding waargeneem. Vriendskap onder die mense wat dit bygewoon het en nie net onder die Pretoria lede nie maar onder lede van oor die hele land.

Jaco

Enige idees, artikels of terugvoering rakende die nuusbrieff kan gegee word aan Jaco Kriek by:

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In hierdie uitgawe

Van die redakteur	1
Briewe bus / Vra is vry	2
BRAT vergadering	3
ABC4	11
Bome uit Provence	21
Terugvoering demonstrasie	24
Vergadering 7 November	25
Vergadering 5 Desember	29
Lao Tzu	31
Kalender	36
Snippets	37

En dan gebeur daar vir my iets baie mooi. Onder leiding van Jonathan Cain, Voorsitter van ABA (African Bonsai Association) plant afgevaardigtes van WBFF (World Bonsai Friendship Federation) 'n "Friendship forest". Drie en twintig persone van oor die



When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new.

Dalai Lama

Briewe Bus / Vra is Vry

Below, exactly copied, was received regarding the Pretoria Bonsai Kai website:

I've been browsing online more than 3 hours today, yet I never found any interesting article like yours Pictures really do tell a lot of words. It is pretty worth enough for me. In my opinion, if all web owners and bloggers made good content as you did, the web will be a lot more useful than ever before.



Rawan

Red: We do not know who Rawan is or where he/she is from. The e-mail address was yahoo.

Dear Org,

Just to say thank you for inviting me to speak to your group. As I mentioned, I wish we had half the turnout of members as you did.

Very impressive.

With regards
Gill

Jaco

Die hael het die vruggies aan hierdie Kei appel bygekom. Ek het dit vandag afgepluk en 'n foto geneem. Ek kon nie almal op die grond uitstal nie, daar is eintlik nog meer. Het gedink dit is dalk 'n bietjie nuuswaardig.



Groete

Louis

BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

Hiermee 'n opvolg verslag oor die BRAT vergadering wat by Pretoria Kai aangebied is. Die eerste verslag was in Koeda uitgawe vyf 2015.

Erika Kohler het 'n praatjie gelewer oor inheemse blommende bome geskik vir bonsai. Die bome wat Erika bespreek het, met een of twee dinge oor elke boom, word onder genoem. Erika het genoem dat ons meer moet eksperimenteer met ons inheemse bome. Voed met die regte kunsmis om blomme aan te moedig.

Alle bome blom eintlik. Sommige mooier as ander en meer opvallend. Onthou, meeste bome hou van vol son om mooi te blom.

Wilde Jasmyn (*Schrebera alata*)—hierdie is 'n ranker of 'n struik. Hy blom op nuwe takkies, snoei dus nadat hy geblom het.



Cross Berry (*Grewia occidentalis*) - It is a scrambling scrub or small tree up to 3m in height. It has purple star-shaped flowers, followed by four lobed fruits. Fruits turn shiny reddish-brown to light purple when ripe. Erika says that the wood is very hard and branches should be shaped before pencil thickness. Enjoy full sun.

Wild umbrella tree (*Karomea*) - flower on tip of branches.

Transvaal red balloon (*Erythrophysa transvaalensis*) —Maak 'n rooi blom wat verander in 'n opgeblase 'kapsule'. Vlesige wortels. Hou bietjie aan droë kant na oorplant.

Septee tree (*Cordia caffra*) - small flowers and lovely berries. Flowers for short time then makes berries.

Wild pomegranate (*Burchellia bubalina*) —tiny flowers and small leaves.

Mickey Mouse tree (*Ochna serrulata*) —makes two black seeds which resembles the ears of Micky mouse. Doesn't transplant well from garden to pot. Transplant in late winter, before growth starts.

Vanwykshout (*Bolusanthus*) - flowers profusely as big tree. Must be large as a bonsai due to the large drooping flowers. Worth experimenting with.

Blouertjie (*Polugala myrtifolia*) - Widespread shrub. Flowers all year.

Mallow (*Anisodonteia*) - Flowers for a long time. Also long lived. Trunk stiffens quickly, at about pencil thickness. Don't style to much. Keep for flowers. Flowers all summer. Different hybrids available.

Vervolg op bl 4

BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

Huilboerboon (Schotia brachypetala) - Medium to large tree. Deep red flowers.

Rooi-ivoor (Berchemia zeyheri) - Klein stervormige blommetjies met eetbare vruggies. Goeie boom vir bonsai. Blare klein. Bedraad in winter, wees versigtig met bedrading, takkies breek maklik. Het mooi bas.

Kleinbeenappel (Coddia Rudis) - Klein klokkie vormige wit blommetjies wat later geel word.

Koraal (Caffra erythrina) - Blom eers wanner boom redelik volwasse asook groot bonsai is. As daar 'n steggie of 'truncheon' gebruik word om 'n boom te groei wat verkry is van 'n boom wat reeds geblom het sal die nuwe boom gouer blom.

Klokkies Katjepiering (Gardenia) ook genoem "September bells" - Mooi wit blomme met 'n aangename reuk. Groei stadig in houer. Blare sal verklein maar gebruik as redelike groot boom.

Num Num "Natal pum" (Carissa macrocarpa) - Wit blommetjies wat pers eetbare vruggies maak. Baie maklik en mooi as bonsai. Groot dorings wat afgesny kan word.

Honey-bell bush (Freylinia) - A lot of different forms of flowers with a variety of colors. Flowers have nice fragrance. Bark looks old and rough. Wire early as branches gets very stiff. Lots of hybrids. Also fast growing. Widely available. Makes a thick crown.

Erica—660 species endemic to South Africa. Transplanting must be done with care and roots should not be cut a lot. Likes acid soil. Lovely for small bonsai. Lots of different colours. Use deeper pots. Flowers for a long time.



BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

Christa Vermaak talked about her passion in bonsai, the Azalea.

When you look for a tree at a nursery, try to find one with a single stem. There is a Azalea festival in Magoebaskloof every year during September/October where very good material for bonsai can be obtained.

Christa het die volgende gesê:



Oorplanting van Azalea

1. Verwyder alle ou grond. Azaleas steek nie graag hul wortels uit na nuwe grond.
2. Spoel die res van die ou grond versigtig af met 'n straal water. Die wit op die wortels moet nie verwyder word nie. Die is die nitrogen fixing mycorrhiza wat belangrik is vir gesonde plante. Dit is die eerste stap as jy 'n nuwe plant in swart sak huis toe bring.
3. Ek gebruik 40% rivier sand en 60% Suur (Acid) Kompos of iets soortgelyks. Ek haal groot stukke bas uit vir my orgidee.
4. Sphagnum mos, wat ek sommer by meng help om die humiditeit te verhoog maar sal ook wortels aan die boonste deel van die pot aanmoedig as dit net boop gepak word.
5. Hou wortels koel. Ek laat hulle in drup bakke met water staan as dit baie droog is. Ek hou ook daarvan om hulle so nat te hou as hulle blom. Haal plante egter van tyd tot tyd uit sodat die grond kan droog word. As jy die plante van bo water en die blomme word nat, vrot hulle maklik.
6. The second repotting is easier and 1/3 of the root ball can be cut back. Use the same mix. (every 2-3 years)
7. Do not give any Fertilizer for one month after repotting

Trunk

Trunk shapes are important, bending trunks are almost impossible as they are too brittle.

They have a shrubby growth which means single trunks are not very common because Azaleas grow stronger from the root clump.

Most Azaleas are multi stemmed.

Field grown azaleas however, are found with well-formed single stems.

Multi stems can be reduced to one stem and when planted they will fatten up quickly. Azaleas only have flowers on for 90% of the time and care should be taken to position the branches well so that the plant will give you ample pleasure as a bonsai.

The leaves

Azaleas have two type of leaves.

The spring leaves which also have the buds that will flower later in the year and the resting leaves which are produced during summer.

These leaves which are lager than the others, turn nice copper and yellow until they drop of for the flower display. Any yellow leaves left should be taken off carefully before the flowers open.

BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

Wiring

Wire when young. I stress again that older branches are very brittle and snap easily.

Thus one should take care when removing the wire.

I have drilled holes into my growing pots and use cable ties to bend branches down.

Especially the thick ones.

The cable ties can be pulled tighter after 4 weeks or so.

Again go slowly as I have snapped of branches by being impatient.

Since wiring is not my strong point, this is my lazy way out, but wiring should still be done.



Pruning

1. This is an important aspect of Azaleas. All the leaves can be stripped of the branches after flowering. The plant will start shooting within 2 weeks. Within 2 months your Azalea should be in full leaves again. Using this treatment each year, the length of the shoots diminishes and the bonsai retains its compact shape, even when covered in flowers. I found that this will help maintain the shape of the Azalea and the flowers in the next season will all flower at the same time. This can be done especially to bonsai that are already in shape and do not need major changes in their structure.
2. Prune in spring after flowering. The plants are dormant and new growth forms at the bottom rather than the top.
3. In early Spring Azaleas will sprout behind the flowers making up to 4 or 5 new shoots. You can control quantity and direction of the shoots by braking off the ovaries. Only leave 1 or 2. Next year's budding begin on this year's growth.
4. Some Azaleas lose all their leaves before flowering. I have found some beautiful autumn leaves on some of my Azaleas. After flowering cut to the previous year's design. The energy that was going into the ovules now goes into the branches.
5. You can cut back as needed, since Azaleas sprout easily back on bare wood. If more than one shoot arises from the same point simply pull one off.
6. One month before flowering, I thin out he branches and reduce flowers. This prevents that the plant gets weak.
7. Azalea have two types of growth: Firstly the short twiggy growth which produces flowers in spring and secondly what is called "sprout" growth. These shoots grow fast and are often used as sacrifice branches. I sometimes cut them back and leave them if I need a branch at that specific spot. It is better to pull them of, it leaves little scaring and does not sprout from that spot again.
8. Omdat blomme in die middel van die somer gevorm word moet mens nie weer snoei nie. Jy kry wel lote wat vinnig groei en nie eintlik blom nie, wat die bonsai se vorm benadeel, afsny.

BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

Soil

1. Azaleas needs lots of organic matter. 40% organic and 60% draining. They are heavy feeders and need lots of nutrients to produce healthy blooms.
2. Use decomposed granite grit or pumice spill absorbent or cat litter (if made of fired clay pellets) and are all good for drainage. I mainly use the washed crusher stone I get from the mine. I found washed river sand has become very expensive. No chemical additions should be used.
3. Azaleas like acidic conditions. Try teabags in the pots OR orange peel to make the water acidic. It seems to work well but be careful and try it slowly. I have not tried the orange peel since it is a lot of work, but it makes sense. You can also buy drops to make the soil condition acid (Acid based copper complex). Hydrangea food also works. 1 Tablespoon of white vinegar to 3.8 litres of water once a month or other remedies also work well.
4. Use slightly bigger pots as it gives the plants room to grow. I have planted most of my Azaleas in growing pots last season and I am amazed at the growth. This will also help buffer fertilizing errors.
5. If too pot bound the roots make a dense ball. Root rot or drying can easily occur. Check often once potted. I have also over watered some of my pots and could not save the plant. If the roots make a dense ball it is very difficult to get soil in or out.



Pots

Glazed pots in emerald green, peacock blue and even white or cream will bring out the flowers beautifully. Korea has beautiful coloured pots.

Blomme

1. Blomme is net 10% van die tyd sigbaar. Azaleas moet ook volgens Bonsai standaarde reg gestyleer word nadat dit geblom het.
2. Die blomme hou nie van water, te veel son en droeë wind nie. Dit laat hulle vinniger verlep. Verwyder die blomme gereeld asook die ovaries OF los net een per tak om groei te bevorder. As daar baie blom knoppe is los net 1 of 2 om mooi blomme te bevorder. Te veel blomme put die plant uit. Net 1 of twee blomme laat hulle ook baie beter vertoon.
3. Bestudeer die blompatroon en die manier waarop blomme gevorm word.
4. Kurum maak in twee blomkelke oop. Die wit indica alba het een of twee blomkelke binne dieselfde klei. Pink Azalea kan tot 4 blomkelke aan dieselfde stam hê.
5. Satzkie azaleas are very popular as bonsai in Japan. They even have a satzkie festival.
6. Hier kan jy na hartelus kies en keur.
7. There are an enormous variation of flowers. Some have double flowers, some have stripes and if you are lucky you have different colours on the same plant.
8. Large flowering azaleas are of the Indica type and the Kurume have very small flowers.
9. In general slightly pot bound plants produce better flowers. The stress forces the reproductive capacity of the tree as an attempt to survive.
10. Different varieties flower at different times. The pink, white and krume Azaleas flower earlier than the magenta and red Azaleas.

BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

11. Different varieties flower at different times. The pink, white and krume Azaleas flower earlier than the magenta and red Azaleas.
12. Try and get different types and you will have flowers for long periods of time.
13. Different varieties flower at different times. The pink, white and krume Azaleas flower earlier than the magenta and red Azaleas.
14. Try and get different types and you will have flowers for long periods of time.
15. A word of warning. They do not flower in time of meetings or shows.



BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

Feeding

1. Azaleas are part of the Ericaceae family and hate lime.
2. Bone meal and blood meal.
 - i. Blood meal provides Nitrogen for leaf grow.
 - ii. Bone meal provides phosphorous for bud forming.
3. Vigor Rosa used for Roses is also a good fertilizer. The fertilizer with bio Carbon in it is excellent. Careful not to use too much as this will kill your plant. Organic is always better. I also have a wormery and use worm tee on all my bonsai.
4. There is also Maximarien and other fish based fertiliser, or you may even use grostix.
5. Satzuki Azaleas flower in May & June and they should receive a fertiliser high in phosphor before flowering. Fertilise by spring and fertilise with high nitrogen later in the year. I always have some of the Azaleas that are in flower.
6. Rhodendrons & American hybrids: You can start feeding fertiliser high in phosphor or any related fertilizer late in winter if the winter is mild. Flowering can begin early March.
7. Keep Azaleas outdoors as they are happier there. Bring them in for short periods of time and shelter from direct sun and wind.
8. I keep all my Azaleas together. They form a micro climate which keeps them happy growers.
9. Feed at least once a month. Even foliar feeding works.
10. No fertilizing when plants are in flower.



Styles

Styles from semi upright to cascade can all be achieved.

Full cascades are not advisable since the flower will turn upward and this will look odd. Windswept is also not appropriate.

Multistem or clump styles are very popular, more stems more flowers!

Pests

Pests are uncommon in Azaleas.

Mealie bugs and aphids can be controlled with Malathion spray if necessary.

Sometimes a caterpillar will eat holes into leaves.

Azaleas kept indoors, can get fungal infection and small brown spots will appear on the leaves.

This can be treated with a fungicide spray.

Good ventilation indoors or outdoors should keep your plants healthy.

Azalea from Cuttings

1. Take a 5 – 6 cm cutting and remove the leaves. Only keep to 3 – 5 leaves at the top.
2. Soak in water for 30 minutes.
3. Put it into river sand.
4. Keep out of the sun for 1 week.
5. Transplant after 6 weeks.
6. Cut off side branches to grow a single trunk.

BRAT vergadering—29 Augustus 2015.

7. Plant into a large container for rapid growth.
8. Flatten the roots and plant it slightly higher to expose some of the root surface.
9. Some Azaleas may at this stage have white cotton like growth on the roots. This is nitrogen fixing mycorrhiza which is important for the health of the plant and should not be disturbed or washed off.



Watering

Water you're Azaleas regularly, misting is very important.

They like cool roots with lots of humidity.

In Magoebaskloof and Hilton they can grow in full sun due to the humidity.

Too much shade makes their growth spindly.

They can also take light frost.

Pruning

1. It is an important aspect of Azaleas
2. Prune in spring after flowering. Basically dominant / new growth from the bottom rather than the top.
3. In early Spring Azaleas will sprout behind the flowers making up to 4 or 5 new shoots. You can control quantity and direction of the shoots by braking off the buds. Only leave 1 or 2. Next years budding begin on this years growth.
4. Some Azaleas lose all their leaves before flowering. After flowering cut to the previous year design. The energy that was going into the ovules now goes into the branches.
5. You can cut back as needed since Azaleas easily sprout back on bare wood. If more than one shoot arises from the same point simply pull one off.
6. Within 2 months your Azalea should be in full leaves again. Keeping to this treatment each year the length of the shoots diminishes and the bonsai retains its compact shape even when covered in flowers.
7. Omdat blomme in die middle van die somer gevorm word moet mens nie weer snoei nie. Jy kry wel lote wat vinnig groei en nie eintlik blom nie wat die bonsai se vorm benadeel. Vir die eerste jaar of so sal hierdie lote lank en uit plek lyk maar elke jaar word dit net mooier. Ek trek baie keer somer sulke lote af as hulle op plekke groei waar ek hul nie wil hê nie.

An Azalea bonsai is an elegant colourful addition to your collection and everybody should have a few at least.

'n Azalea is nie so pieperig soos die meeste mense dink nie.

Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)



The fourth African Bonsai Convention was hosted in the Stellenbosch city hall from 22 to 25 October. The Stellenbosch city hall was a great venue. The exhibition setup and trees were outstanding. The overseas headliners did not disappoint. The atmosphere and comradery amongst delegates enjoyable.

And like Org said in the newsletter *“I think that everybody that attended the convention will agree that it was outstanding. Those that didn’t go missed out”*.

It was also a historic event in that the directors of the World Bonsai Friendship federation met for the first time in Africa. Delegates from Japan, India, South Africa, United States, Mauritius, Zambia and Colombia were present. The delegates planted a Friendship Forest, see report on next pages.

It is impossible to give a comprehensive report of a four day event. To just see a before and after photo of a demonstration tree does not do justice to all the other ‘things’ that happen around the demonstration. During a two or three hour demonstration a microphone (or two) is carried around and delegates asks questions and the demonstrator answers. A huge amount of information is shared, such as information on species, care of species, growing medium, styling, pots, pruning, feeding, watering, etc etc. It is really so informative and every delegate learns a lot. Only some photos of some of the demonstrations will therefore be shown. Remember also that the demonstrators, in some cases, cut so many branches off but then show a photo or make a sketch of what the future plan is. The after photo can therefore be a bit disappointing.

The headliners were:

Ryan Neil, from America



Tony Tickle, England



Francois Jeker, France



Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

Tony Tickle demonstrated on a Pyracantha. Below before styling.



Below: The Pyracantha after styling.



Below: Francois Jeker styled an Olive. Below the before and after photos and the sketch Francois made of the future of the tree.



Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

Ryan Neil demonstrated on a Pine which belonged to the mother of bonsai in South Africa, Becky Lucas. This tree date from the early 1940's. Below before, during and after styling.



Below: Tony Tickle styled an Olive. Below the before and after photo. Tony showed a photo of a tree which he said this tree could develop into. That photo is unfortunately not available. The apex of the tree must be a jin. The owner of the demonstration tree wanted to air layer the top before making it into a jin. The final picture was manipulated to attempt to show the future jin.



Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

Francois Jeker demonstrated on a Elm which were partly styled by the owner and left to grow wild for this demonstration. Below before and after styling.



Francois Jeker demonstrated on a Juniper. Below before and after styling.



Ryan Neil demonstrated on another Pine which belonged to the mother of bonsai in South Africa, Becky Lucas. This tree date from the early 1940's. Below before, during and after styling.



Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

Mr Hiroshi Takeyama, Director of WBFF for Japan demonstrated on a Schotia. Mr Takeyama is known as one of the best bonsai artists in Japan and is especially famous for his deciduous bonsai. Below before and after styling.



Hannes Fritz demonstrated on an Jamadori Olive and planted it into one of his handmade 'rock' pots.



Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

Tobie Kleynhans gave a lecture on African styles or forms. He then worked on a Buddleja and planted it as he see a typical African landscape. Below before and after styling.



Above: At the SABA AGM a new Exco was chosen. So for the next two years the team will consist of Willem Pretorius (president); Earl Jeffreys (vice president); Terence O Flaherty (treasurer); Antony Smit (website); Robbie De Witt and Hennie Reyneke who will be allocated positions after the second meeting (first was held at the conference). It is a good representation of regions and it is hoped that everyone in the regions will support the new exco.



Left: Some of the Pretoria kai members who attended the convention.

Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

The Japanese delegation advertised and invited all to the 8th World Bonsai Convention which will be hosted in Saitama City on 27 to 30 April 2017.



The 8th World Bonsai Convention , SAITAMA CITY



2017年4月27日(木)～4月30日(日) April 27(Thur) - 30(Sun), 2017

Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

CREATION OF THE WORLD BONSAI FRIENDSHIP FOREST – STELLENBOSCH 22-23 OCTOBER 2015.

The concept of this forest was started in July / August 2014 with the 4th African Bonsai Association Steering Committee. The vision was that the World Bonsai Friendship Federation (WBFF), directors would be requested to build a Friendship forest at the 4th African Bonsai Convention, which would be an icon of the future, a lasting representation of WBFF visiting Africa and a symbol of Peace through Bonsai. A lot of discussion was put into as to how this would be practically done, who would build the forest, who should lead the forest, what pot to use and what species to use. There would be many bonsai experts available.

Initially, the usual species were obvious, maples, elms, celtis, but something indigenous was sought and thought to be more appropriate and symbolic. We settled on the African Olive – *Olea europea sub. africana*. The reasons were.

1. It is African.
2. It is indigenous and endemic to most of Southern Africa. The curatorship of it would not be difficult.
3. It is a symbol of Victory and Peace.
4. It lives beyond 1000 years and even up to 6000 years and beyond.
5. It makes a good bonsai.

A large 1.2m clay pot was sourced and over 30 individual trees of differing size, height and age. The leaf often varies, so emphasis was made on sourcing the same leaf in colour, shape and size. Eventually 23 trees were selected from the Magaliesberg area near Pretoria and transported to Stellenbosch.

On Friday 23 October 2015, the Mayor of Stellenbosch, Conrad Sidego, placed the first tree in the Forest. This honour was bestowed on the Mayor, as an acknowledgement and thank you to the citizens of Stellenbosch for hosting ABC4 and the Mayor being the 1st Citizen of Stellenbosch. We know he would also have a vested interest in the future and health of the Forest.

On Saturday 24 October 2015, the rest of the trees were placed and planted. The following persons placed and planted trees.

1. Jiro Fukuda, Chairman World Bonsai Friendship Federation.
2. On behalf of the European region, Chairman World Bonsai Friendship Federation.
3. On behalf of the Asia Pacific region, Chairman World Bonsai Friendship Federation.



Jonathan Cain, president of African Bonsai Association, Conrad Sidego Mayor of Stellenbosch and Willem Pretorius president of South African Bonsai Association.

Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)

4. On behalf of the Australian New Zealand region, Chairman World Bonsai Friendship Federation.
5. On behalf of the Chinese region, Chairman World Bonsai Friendship Federation.
6. Naemi Iwasaki, vice Chairman World Bonsai Friendship Federation
7. Solita Rosade, Chairman Emeritus and director of North American and Canadian region.
8. On behalf of the South American region, Solita Rosade, Chairman Emeritus and director of North American and Canadian region.
9. Willem Pretorius, Chairman of South African Bonsai Association and current responsible person for looking after the forest.
10. Nikunj Parekh, director of the Indian Region and 2nd vice President of Bonsai Clubs International.
11. Jyoti Parekh, international consultant World Bonsai Friendship Federation.
12. Tony Tickle, Headliner from the United Kingdom.
13. Francois Jeker, Headliner from France
14. Hiroshi Takeyama, director Japanese region and guest demonstrator.
15. Ryan Niel, headliner from the United States of America.
16. Rudi Adams, author and the Father of bonsai in South Africa from the Western Cape.
17. Charles Ceronio author and the Father of bonsai in South Africa from Gauteng.
18. Shaundre Croukamp, winner of the National New Talent award at only 15 years old.
19. Xavier De Lapeyre, African Bonsai Association Consultant from Mauritius and World Bonsai Friendship Federation International Consultant
20. Neli Stoyanova African Bonsai Association Consultant from Zambia and World Bonsai Friendship Federation International Consultant
21. Gayle Theron, Mother of bonsai in South Africa from the Western Cape.
22. Yukihiko Konishi, international consultant World Bonsai Friendship Federation.
23. Jonathan Cain President African Bonsai Association, director African region World Bonsai Friendship Federation.

And the start of a Forest was created and will continue, under curatorship of the Stellenbosch Botanical Gardens. The top was covered with the diamond gravel from the South African mines.

Report by Jonathan Cain



Fourth African Bonsai Convention (ABC4)



Mr Nikunj Parekh, director of the Indian Region and the other delegates from India advertised and invited everybody to the International Convention and Exhibition which will be hosted in Mysore India on 15 to 18 December 2016.



Bonsai, Rocki, Holi-hatra, Sappanhi, Nemagruki & Herbal Gardens

Beyond The Spirit of Bonsai - 2016

15TH TO 18TH DECEMBER 2016

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & EXHIBITION

at MYSORE, INDIA

AVADHootA DATTA PEETHAM
 Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram
 Datta Nagar, Mysore-570025, India
 Tel: 0821 2486486 Email: bonsai@dattapeetham.com
 URL: www.dattapeetham.org

Co coordinators: Nikunj Parekh and Jyoti Parekh
 E mail: nikunjyo@gmail.com



Left: The winner of the new talent competition was 15 year old Shaundre Craucamp of Eastern Bonsai Society who received R1000 from SABA. Well done Shaundre !! You are South African champion of all new talents.

Bome uit Provence, Frankryk, en Vincent van Gogh—deur dr Francois van As

Ek en my wederhelfte het die voorreg gehad om in April 2015 die suide van Frankryk te toer en ook op die voetspore van die skilder Vincent van Gogh te loop. Ons het tuisgegaan aan huis van 'n Franse dame in Saint-Remy vanwaar ons vir 'n week lank elke dag 'n ander rigting ingeslaan het. Van Gogh het in 1888 vanaf Parys uitgewyk na die platteland en hom in Arle, Provence, naby die Middellandsesee gevestig. Hierdie was sy mees produktiewe periode. Hy het so op sy kuns gekonsentreer dat hy min geëet het maar baie gedrink het en sodoende het sy geestes toestand 'n groot knou gekry. Sy geestelike toestand het so agteruitgegaan dat hy in Mei 1889 ingestem het om opgeneem te word in die Saint-Paul-de Mausole, 'n gestig vir sielsiekes in Saint-Remy sowat 25km Noord-oos van Arle. Hier het Vincent redelik vryheid gehad om aan te gaan met sy kuns.

Nou wat het dit enigsins met bonsai uit te waai, sou jy kon vra. Wel bonsai het te doen met bome, en dit is 'n vorm van kuns, en Van Gogh het die bome van Provence wat hy in Arle en Saint-Remy gesien het, geskilder. Ons besoek daar het my diep geraak en ek voel ek moet van dit met julle deel.

Hier is 'n straattoneel in Saint-Remy en daarnaas 'n skildery wat Vincent gemaak het. Let op die plataanbome.



Bome uit Provence, Frankryk, en Vincent van Gogh—deur dr Francois van As

Rondom Saint-Paul vind 'n mens heelwat olyfboorde. Hier is 'n paar fotos van die olyfbome daar en skilderye wat Vincent van die einste bome gemaak het.



Die bergreeks in die agtergrond is die Alpilles of te wel die klein alpe.

Hier is 'n tipiese landskap van daardie wêreld en 'n soortgelyke skildery wat Vincent daar geskilder het.



Bome uit Provence, Frankryk, en Vincent van Gogh—deur dr Francois van As

‘n Mens sien baie dennebome in hulle natuurlike omgewing en sover ek kon vasstel is hierdie die Aleppo den of *Pinus halepensis* wat veral op kalksteen formasies groei. Die fotos regs is naby Les Baux-de-Provence geneem.



Hierdie boom staan langs die Rhone rivier waar dit deur Avignon vloei. Die brug in die agtergrond dateer uit die Romeinse tydperk.

Francois van As



TERUGVOERING OOR DEMONSTRASIE / WERKSWINKELBOME

Gedurende die vergadering van 2 November 2012 het Org aan 'n Olienhout gewerk wat hy uitgegrawe het. Die onderste foto's van die dag is geplaas in Koeda se sesde uitgawe 2012. Die foto links voor stilering en die foto regs nadat Org die boom na 'n basiese raamwerk gesnoei het.



Die foto onder is van dieselfde boom geneem op 28 Junie 2015, dus twee jaar en agt maande later.



Vergadering van 7 November 2015



“Tip of the month” - deur Rolf Wuest

Rolf sê dat hy dikwels rotse het wat hy wil gebruik maar dat die rots, omdat hy langwerpig is, nie op sy eie regop kan staan nie. Rolf se raad was om vir die rots sy eie voetstukkie te maak. Hy maak meeste van die tyd ’n voetstuk met beton. Rolf gebruik ’n blikkie waarin die rots pas en gooi die beton onder in die blikkie, hy plaas dan die rots in die beton. Wanneer die beton hard is haal Rolf die rots met die voetstuk uit en siedaar, die rots kan lekker onder op die bak se bodem staan.

Rolf koop voorafgemengde beton by hardeware winkels waarby jy net water voeg of maak sy eie mengsel aan wat bestaan uit ’n 4:1 sand sement mengsel. Rolf het ook al die blikkie se deksel met epoksie aan die rots geplak, wat net so goed werk as ’n voetstuk.



Vergadering van 7 November 2015

Die tema van die vergadering was “In search of Baobab’s in Madagascar”. Gillian Condy het die praatjie aangebied en alhoewel dit niks met bonsai te doen gehad het nie was dit baie interessant en insiggewend. Gillian is ’n botaniese kunstenaar. In Junie 2013 was sy saam met ’n dame wat navorsing doen oor die Madagaskar Kremetarte na Madagaskar om sketse te maak van die blomme, sade ens van die Kremetarte wat bestudeer word.

Van die 9 spesies Kremetarte in die wêreld kom 6 in Madagaskar voor.

Gillian het ’n klomp prag foto’s van Kremetarte gewys, waarvan sommige hier gewys word, en soos Org gesê het “I always found it funny to see drawings of Baobab trees with those funny trunks, and wondered where did the artist see them. Now I know.



Vergadering van 7 November 2015



Vergadering van 7 November 2015



Na Gillian se praatjie het Org 'n paar Kremetarte bespreek en wat die toekomstige planne daarmee kan wees. In die toekoms kan ons hopelik sien wat van hierdie bome geword het.



Links: Hierdie is een van die lede se bome en die voorstel was om die boom af te sny waar Org hom vashou.

Vergadering van 5 Desember 2015

Die persoon wat 'n praatjie sou aanbied oor erdwurms het nie opgedaag nie en dit het ons toe meer kans gegee om aan bome te werk en net heerlijk te kuier, braai en weglê aan al die heerlike slaai en poeding!!



Ching-chong-cha !! Ek wen.....



Links: Org het aan die boom gewerk, en regs die eerste stap na 'n pragboom in die toekoms.....



Vergadering van 5 Desember 2015

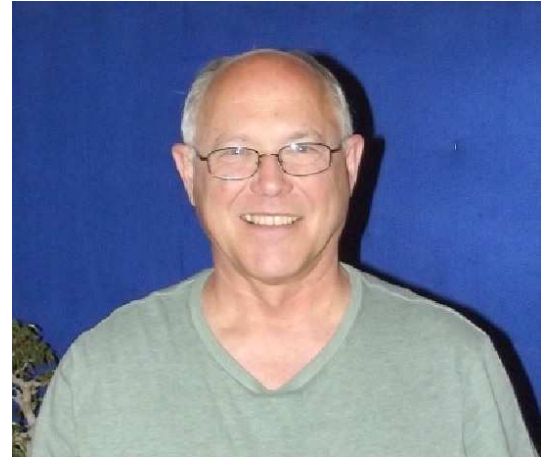


LAO TZU – deur Dr Pieter Loubser.

Lao Tzu 老子

Hiermee die opvolg van Pieter se artikel oor Lao Tzu wat in die vorige uitgawe geplaas was.

Karin Albert vertel ons aangaande die verskil tussen Japanese en Chinese benaderings: *”Dikwels vertoon ontwerpe meer onbeskroomd, lewendiger en meer speels, soms selfs bisar. Teenstellend lyk ‘n Japanese bonsai meer netjies en geformaliseer. Aangaande laasgenoemde is daar in ‘n in meerdere mate beheer, die waarnemer kry die idee dat selfs die kleinste besonderheid nie aan toeval gelaat is nie. Die minimalisering van menige Japanese ontwerpe kan ‘n gevoel van gemak meewerk en veiligheid veronderstel, maar dit gee ook ‘n hoë graad van voorspelbaarheid te kenne”*. Kyk gerus na die vreemde kiertsregop bonsai hieronder wat in my opinie meer Chinees van aard is.



Lao Tzu herinner ons aan ware weelde met *“wanneer jy agterkom dat jy genoeg het, is jy waarlik ryk”*. En dan aangaande skatte: *“Ek het net drie dinge om aan iemand te leer: Eenvoud, geduld en empatie. Hierdie drie het die grootste waarde”*. Maar dan verduidelik hy:

*”Eenvoudig in optrede en gedagtes keer jy terug na die oorsprong van wees;
Geduldig met beide vriende en vyande, vereenselwig jy jouself met hoe die lewe is;
Deernis teenoor jouself en jy versoen alle wesens in die wêreld”*.

En wat dink jy aangaande eenvoud? Kan dit kompleks wees? Het ek meer nodig om minder te wys? Of andersom? Minder om meer te sin-speel?

En moet ek ontwerpreëls volg? Reëls? Wie s’n? Met watter doel. Wie se reëls is reg? Is daar enige goue draad van reëls wat oral gevolg word in elke dissipline? Religie? Politiek? Kuns? En ons geniet die kuns, nie net bonsai nie, desondanks. Nie so maklik nie. Lees hoe beaam John Burrow in BonsaiBark (2011) bogenoemde bewering: *“Ek verstaan nie die ‘my manier is die enigste manier’ bespreking nie. Die kies van een styl van bonsai is soos die kies van één styl van kuns. Sekerlik het realisme ‘n langer geskiedenis as abstrakte kuns, maar dit maak nie die een of die ander meer legitiem nie. En ondanks bly die vraag of ons met meer moderne uitkyk die ou meesters minder respekteer?”* Ek het veral die laaste deel van sy kommentaar ingekort en u kan raai waarom. Hoe pas oeroue rotstekeninge in die prentjie? Meer met minder? Sokrates het gewaarsku met: *“Elkeen wil jou vertel wat om te doen en wat goed is vir jou. Hulle wil nie hê dat jy jou eie antwoorde vind nie. Hulle wil hê dat jy hulle antwoorde moet glo”*. Sogenaamde meesters? ‘n Interessante bespekingspunt terdeë!
Einstein sê: *“liefde vir iets is ‘n beter leermeester as pligsbesef”*.

Vervolg op bl 32

LAO TZU – deur Dr Pieter Loubser.



Beide voorbeelde hierbo het min materiaal. Op een of ander manier wys die regterkantse een meer swaarkry. Is dit bloot die een tak wat af ondertoe hang - 'n kruk? Is dit meer Chinees?

En dan terug na 'n wydgespekuleerde vraag: “*Naturalisties versus hoogsgestileerde bonsai*”.

Weer Lao Tzu met:

“Maak toe jou mond,

blokkeer jou sinne,

maak stomp jou bitsigheid,

maak los jou knope,

versag jou gluur,

laat jou stof gaan lê.

Dit is die oer-identiteit.”

Sommige bonsai vertoon meer menslike invloed en ander minder. Die natuur is onvoorspelbaar. Is dit ook so in die geval van mense? Watter is jou smaak? Georganiseerd (relatief) of nie?

Net as tussenstuk: Wil jy ouer of jonger bome naboots, want nabootsing is tog die wese van bonsai? Bome in gematigde klimate of diegene blootgestel aan uiterstes? Of blootgestel aan diere (kameelperde, beeste, olifante)? Ek lees in BonsaiBark se *kommentare* (<http://bonsaibark.com/2011/04/26/nature-picasso-the-hand-of-man/>) ”*maar bonsai is 'n kuns waar dit gewoonlik ten doel het om baie ou bome met moeilike verlede uit te beeld, maar ou bome het erggekondenseerde blaargroei, toe groeipunt, intense takverdeling ensovoorts. En dit is die doel van meeste Japanse bonsaikunstenaars*”. Waarlik?

Vervolg op bl 33

LAO TZU – deur Dr Pieter Loubser.

En kan jy dit beter doen met Tropiese materiaal of spesies uit die koue Noorde? Eersgenoemde word veronderstel want dis dalk makliker om vinniggroeiende bome te laat groei as die stadiggroeiende kouer klimaat (Noordelike halfrond) se natuurlike spesies. Die resultaat? In laasgenoemde geval grawe jy ouer materiaal uit en verwerk dit, omskep dit met nuwe groei, maar die ouderdom kleef aan die bene.

Dit is 'n ander kuns om vinniggroeiende soos vye, karakter te gee wyl hulle ontwikkel word. Hoe laat jy 'n vinnige groeier oud lyk? Vinnig meer materiaal om mee te werk, of reaksie uit afknipplekke, maar ouderdom? Bedrading? Groei en knip? Twee wêrelde ineen.

Weens die moderne blootstelling (elektroniese kommunikasie) sien ons al meer verstommende bonsai uit Vietnam en Korea. Het hierdie laasgenoemde mense minder passie aangaande die kunsvorm (ook 'n opinie in BonsaiBark)? Ek dink nie so nie. En gaan soek maar in byvoorbeeld Indië. Reëls varieer na aanleiding van omstandighede en oriëntasie.

“Die waarheid is nie altyd mooi nie en ook is mooi woorde nie altyd waar nie” volgens Lao Tzu.

Alles is 'n saak van smaak in die verband van bonsai se regte of verkeerde ontwerp!



Lao Tzu gee raad met :”*omte hou moet jy eers jou hand oopmaak. Laat los.*”



Vervolg op bl 34

LAO TZU – deur Dr Pieter Loubser.

Vreemd, maar net indien jy vasgevang is in 'n opset! Los denke?

En hiermee verdere opinie van Lao:” *wanneer jy tevrede is om net eenvoudig jouself te wees en nie vergelyk of kompeteer nie, sal jy oral respekteer word.*” Kompeteer Chinese, Japanese en Westerse ontwerpe van bonsai?

Op internet gekry:”*Wat is die verskil tussen Japanese en Chinese bonsai? Eerstens net die naam Penjing? Japanese bonsai is meer formeel. Selfs die bakke vir bonsai wat minder opvallend in beide kleur en ontwerp is*”.

Lees <http://www.bonsaimary.com/Chinese-Bonsai.html> dalk Karin Albert:”*Gesprekke met Penjingkunstenaars, onthul dat hulle minder belangstel in vertonings van tegniese vermoëns en ideale vorms. Insteede daarvan streef hulle na sentiment en stemming in hul werk en om dit oor te dra aan ander.*”



Die Internet is 'n snaakse plek. Onder die soeke na Chinese bonsai het ek Charles Ceronio se vy hierbo opgespoor. Dit wys jou wat verwysings kan doen. Is dit Chinees van aard? Of Afrika-ontwerp?

Karin Albert skets die volgende:”*So, dalk is dit toepaslik om ontwerpe met slegs bonsai en samestellings wat net klippe betrek, Penjing te noem. Ek dink nie so nie. Uiteindelik is Penjing 'n veel ouer kunsvorm waarnaaf bonsai ontstaan het. En selfs waar slegs bome betrokke is, lyk Chinese skeppings opmerklik anders.*”

Hoe anders? Ander reëls? Ander norme vir beoordeling?

Alberts sê:”*In die algemeen, so lyk dit, het Japanese kunstenaars 'n sterk neiging om orde op hul skeppings af te dwing, terwyl Chinese kunstenaars lyk asof hulle 'n mate van chaos wil omarm*”.

Vervolg op bl 35

LAO TZU – deur Dr Pieter Loubser.



“Duidelik is hulle minder besorg oor reëls en ‘n najaag van perfeksie. Beteken dit dan dat daar geen reëls in Penjing is nie? Vir seker nie. Gesprekke met Penjing kunstenaars toon dat hulle minder geïnteresseerd is in vertonings van tegniese vermoëns en ideale vorm. Insteede streef hulle om sentiment en stemming vas te vang in hul werk. Hul doel is om binneste skoonheid te ontbloot, ‘n essensie gevind in die natuur”.

“Die heling van rotse, water, klip en bome”: Lao Tzu

Soek gerus op internet onder “The consolations of rocks, water, stone and trees: Lao Tzu” en hiermee is ek terug by wat my belangstelling vir die artikel ontlok het en



Hierbo is ‘n afbeelding van die Huang Gongwang rol, “Vertoef in die Fuchun berge” (14de eeu).

Ek leen: Wat is die beste boek aangaande filosofie wat jy kan lees? Vir Lao Tzu was dit die boek van die natuur. Nie ‘n boekvolume of rol nie, nee. Volgens hom was dit die wêreld van die natuur en in besonder die rotse, water, klippe, bome en wolke wat ons aanhoudende, veelseggende lesse in wysheid en kalmte gee indien ons net wil onthou om meer aandag te skenk en ook meer dikwels.

Volgens Lao is die meeste van wat met ons verkeerd is te wyte aan ons onvermoë om in ooreenstemming met die natuur te leef. Ons naywer, woede, maniese ambisies, ons frustrerende sin vir eiegeregtigheid stem alles uit ons mislukking om te leef soos die natuur voorstel om te doen. Die natuur het wel verskillende luime en ons kan bykans enigiets uit die natuur veronderstel, maar Lao fokus op sekere natuurgesteldhede. In die Daoïstiese filosofie, wat glo uit sy denke ontstaan het, sê hy (vermoedelik) dat ons gerus na bome kan kyk as gevalstudie vir grasiëuse lydsamheid. Hulle word voortdurend geteister deur die natuur se wispelturigheid en tog weens hul ideale mengsel van soepelheid en veerkragtigheid, reageer hulle sonder ons gewoonlike rigiditeit en verdedigende houding en hulle oorleef en gedy op maniere wat ons gewoon nie doen nie. Bome is ook ‘n voorbeeld van geduld want hulle verdra lang dae en nagte sonder klagte en pas aan by die stadige verandering in seisoene sonder kortdraderigheid tydens ‘n storm, geen behoefte om rond te dwaal op voortvarende reise nie. Hulle is tevrede om hul menige skraal vingers diep in klam grond te hou, afstande van hul hoofstam en ver van die hoogste blare wat reënwater in hul palms vang.

Soos vroeër na verwys is water nog ‘n gunsteling in Daoïstiese wysheidsdenke want dit is sag en teer en tog met genoeg tyd is dit sterk genoeg om rotse te vervorm. Ons mag sommige van water se geduld, stille vasbeslotenheid aanneem wanneer ons te make het met sekere familieledede of frustrerende politieke en sosiale situasies, of in die werksmilieu. Water!

Hierdie was ‘n wye draai.

Groete tot ‘n volgende keer,

Pieter Loubser

Bonsai Kalender – Deur Dr Francois van As



Wat doen ons in Januarie en Februarie?

Ons beleef vanjaar 'n baie warm somer wat met droogte en hittegolf-toestande gepaardgaan. Watertoediening, voeding en voortdurende snoei is aan die orde van die dag. Knyp die endlote van bladwisselende bome terug tot een paar blare, die terugknyp van kerse (groeipunte) by naald-blaarsoorte behoort nou te begin afneem. Hou 'n oog op peste wat gedurende hierdie tyd aktief is en moet nie die toediening van chemikalië oordoen nie. Volg altyd die vervaardigers se instruksies en wees bedag daarop dat plante in klein houers makliker spanning ervaar as plante wat nie in potte groei nie. Indien boompies met insekdoders of swamdoders bespuit word sal dit raadsaam wees om hulle vir die res van die dag in skadu te sit. Vanaf Februarie gaan die boompies minder stikstof (N) nodig hê en meer potas (K) en fosfaat (P) om botsel- en houtvorming aan te help. Takke begin verdik en waar bedrading begin insny moet dit ontspan of verwyder word.

“The rational that underlies the art of bonsai is to create objects of lasting beauty, so it makes perfect sense to spend time in the calm contemplation of your works of art. Cultivate the habit of looking at your trees – it will keep you attuned to their needs.” (David Prescott)



Hoe lyk Pretoria se klimaat hierdie tyd van die jaar?

Pretoria het 'n gematigde savanne (grasvlakte) klimaat met warm, nat somers en droë winters.

Van Mei tot September reën dit selde en wanneer wel is dit maar min.

Maand	Gem maks temp (°C)	Gem min temp (°C)	Gem ure sonskyn per dag	Gem aantal dae neerslag per maand	Gem mm neerslag per maand
Januarie	29	18	8	14	101-200mm
Februarie	28	17	8	11	61-100mm

Bron: <http://www.whatstheweatherlike.org/southafrica/pretoria.htm>

Francois van As

Snippets

Our Environment.

Statistics in Asia showed massive forest devastation caused by disposable chopstick production. The Chinese government estimated that China cuts down 25 million trees a year to make 45 billion chopsticks, all of which are eventually thrown away. They started the B.Y.O.S. (Bring Your Own Sticks) movement.

Maybe we can start to take our own cutlery to functions where we know plastic cutlery will be provided, as these plastic cutlery are discarded and causes pollution, much of which ends up in our oceans.



Inspiration from nature

Sometimes bonsai with multiple 'clouds' looks 'unnatural'. Like a clipped Poodle dog. This photo below, taken by **Esther Van Aarde** and possibly a Wild Fig, shows how 'clouds' in nature looks like. You see a silhouette as well as individual 'clouds'.

A good example to copy in bonsai??

