2007 June Edition



# Newsletter

**BCI- Ambassador's** 

# BCI Diplomatic Mailbag - The Ambassador's newsletter: Communicating with BCI members around the World

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# **Editors Message**

Hi to all Ambassadors.

This newsletter is out a bit earlier than normal to make sure everyone is aware that Puerto Rico BCI/FELAB conference is happening on July 11<sup>th</sup> – 15th and although the early bird is over bookings can still be made, details are contained further into the newsletter.

It is certainly scary that the 2007 is almost half over and all those Bonsai related tasks that I promised myself would be done this year are still awaiting some attention, still we have 6 months left and the realisation of this may prompt me to do something.

I had a real spurt of ambassadors sending articles and was much appreciated and please keep them rolling, the newsletter needs input to keep it fresh and alive.

I certainly will be at Puerto Rico and the next newsletter will be full of photographs of this fabulous event. – see you there and please make yourself known and watch out for the ambassadors meeting.

Ian Glew – BCI Ambassadors Newsletter Editor : <u>iglew@b022.aone.net.au</u>

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# See you in Puerto Rico July 11th - 15th



Above taken from the BCI/FELAB web site.

The count down is on to this exciting event and one not to be missed, it is not to late to register and attend this fabulous and not to be missed event.

Further details – take a look at the web suite at <a href="http://bcifelab2007.com/main.htm">http://bcifelab2007.com/main.htm</a>

# Profile of an Aussie Bonsai Artist - Lee Wilson

Australia is home to number of well know National demonstrators and some like Lindsay and Glenis Bebb are also respected internationally for their skill and artistic ability, Lee Wilson has also International and local claim to fame .

Lee is a well know and respected Bonsai Artist in Australia and New Zealand and has been interested in the Art of Bonsai for over 32 Years, currently holding the position of President of Association of Australian Bonsai Clubs Ltd, Lee has been on the committee for over 20 Years and also Life Member of Bonsai Society of Australia Inc, again holding many positions over many years of service to this Society.



Lee's Nursery



Lee Wilson

Originally trained by Deborah Koreshoff in 1980 publisher of the famous Bonsai book – Bonsai, Its Art, Science, History and Philosophy acclaimed Bonsai artist and teacher, soon after this induction Lee also commenced his journey and addiction to Bonsai.

Lee is now an acclaimed Bonsai artist in his own right frequently asked to demonstrate and guest speak at functions all over Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia.

He has conducted regular courses, workshops and lectures across Australia annually, with up to eight bookings a year and has also conducted training sessions and demonstrations in Singapore and New Zealand.

Lee operates a successful Bonsai nursery in a suburb of Sydney the biggest and most recognised capital city in Australia, his Nursery is situated approx 10 Km's from the central business area of Sydney and is a 1000sqm outlet featuring pots, trained Bonsai and stock trees and he also has a studio set up for training and workshops.





Some of Lees prized trees above.

Pines are a specialty of the Nursery stock for sale range from small starters up pines over 25 years old.





This fabulous specimen comes complete with pine cone.



Stunning - shots of the nursery.



The studio and workshop area, no shortage of stock to select from

Lee and his nursery are certainly worth a look if you are in Australia and Sydney and certainly do not forget to say G'Day.



In the last newsletter I did an Article on the Windswept style and just after this went out I received these unbelievable photos of the effects of wind and certainly cold and just had to share them. The incredible sight you are about to see is in Versoix, a town close to Geneva City, Switzerland









# Fig's - Figs - Figs.

You may well say that I am fascinated by figs but in the part of the World that I live in they are in abundance.

Queensland is in the North East of Australia and boast the saying "Queensland – "beautiful one day perfect the next" with a semi tropical climate but at the moment like many parts of Australia gripped in drought.

I have shown you many figs and the one that I asked you to take a guess was on a little island – Norfolk Island off the coast of Australia, this Island not only boasts some of the bigger figs that I have seen but was the original destination of the crew from Mutiny on the Bounty, here and Pitcan were the place these mutineers took refuge.

I did actually receive one correct answer and well done to Maurice Flaherty.

The fig I am about to show is in a park on the very fringe of Brisbane – New Farm Park, the local council have turned it into a playground for children and the ones in these photos are our grandchildren.

The root structure has almost engulfed this park bench and the aerial roots a truly amazing













Not a Fig but a fantastic tree



# National Arboretums and collections around the World

I have left this article in the newsletter from last edition, if you haven't had a look at these web sites please spend a few moments of your time to have a look, certainly if there is one in your country that I don't know about please let me know..

**Washington** - boast some outstanding John Naka creations. I have shown photographs some of these in the past but certainly no one would tire of seeing these masterpieces.

Birmingham – Has many trees from some of the countries renowned artist's.

**Australia** have just commenced preparation into the formation of our own national Bonsai and Penjing Collection, although in the early stages the committee has been formed and initial meetings held, the site has been picked and secured.

Let me know of other National collections and I will include articles and photographs supplied in future editions.

For a look at any of these magnificent Bonsai collections take a look at the three sites below..

Washington – Go for a Virtual Tour

http://www.usna.usda.gov/Gardens/collections/VirtualTours/index.html

**Birmingham** –For a look at these magnificent Bonsai take a look at the web site http://www.nationalbonsaicollection.org/

**Australia** – Although in its infancy watch the collection grow on the web site. http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/nonurban/projects/arboretum.shtml

# This has nothing to do with Bonsai but incredible

Don't disregard this just because it looks weird. Believe it or not, you can read it........

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### Web site's worth a look.

Below are a small sample of web sites from around the world, please let me know of any interesting sites that may be of interest to other ambassadors.

Penjing the art of Chinees Landscape Gardening -

http://www.venuscomm.com/index.html



# Closing and next Issue

Next issue will be packed with photos of the BCI/FELAB conference in Puerto Rico July  $11^{th}$  -  $15^{th}$  2007 – make it a date and see you there.

