

Hal Johnson President
Jim Genesee Vice President
Joe Lesnick Treasurer
Tony Calabrese Secretary
Chris Hayes Chairperson of
Programs

Meeting Schedule

Monday, Aug 12th 7:25 PM
Mark Arpag Demo
on Hinoki Cypress

Monday, Sept 9th 7:25 PM
Sean Smith Suiseki
Stone Lecture

Event Schedule

for updates:

www.longislandbonsai.org

Sat/Sun, Aug 3rd & 4th
LIBS Exhibit at Humes
Japanese Stroll Garden

Sunday August 11th
Mark Arpag Workshop
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Sign up required

**Reminder to Pay
your 2024 Dues and
be eligible to buy
SOIL for SPRING!**

If you are interested in attending a
workshop, please email Chris at
libonsai@yahoo.com

If you are a member and not
receiving our emails, please email
Hal at libonsai@yahoo.com

July 2024 Newsletter

The Long Island Bonsai Society

There are no borders in Bonsai. It brings peace to a palace as it does to the most humble of homes, to the young as to the old, to the rich as to the poor.

It invites us to live within the world it is onto itself, and we are drawn, as no words can express, to live within its shade.

The Long Island Bonsai Society invites all to enjoy this living art that can last for generations.

Generally we meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:25 PM at Planting Fields Arboretum, Oyster Bay, NY. **Doors open at 7PM** for refreshments and general membership discussions. Feel free to bring one of your trees for advice from other members. Most meetings have a tree styling demonstration by a Bonsai artist which is usually raffled off at the end of the meeting. Volunteers are needed to present Tokonoma at each meeting. Please email Jim Genesee at libonsai@yahoo.com if interested. There are two auctions annually with member donated trees, pots, and tools.

Please see meeting schedule in the side bar.

Planting Fields currently has no Covid restrictions. However masks are available.

LIBS recommends wearing a mask in the building to protect your fellow members and family back home.

Members please see our website to place an order on soils. Do not pay on website.

Please pay when you pick up the soil at the beginning of a regular meeting.

2024 Long Island Bonsai Society Annual Membership Dues are NOW PAST DUE please see Joe Lesnick or send an email

to libonsai@yahoo.com

Cash, check, Pay pal.

\$45.00 – single \$65.00 – family \$20.00 – student \$60.00 – support

Your membership will have you entertained and educated by world class bonsai artists (15 in over 21 months pre pandemic). You can participate in hand on workshops led by bonsai artists and our expert members (6 workshops in two years pre pandemic). You have access to Planting Fields on the nights of our meetings. Free monthly loan of Bonsai reference materials!!! Please see Mary for more details and access to our library at our next meeting.

For more information, pictures and updates, please visit Long Island Bonsai Society on Facebook.

SAVE THE DATES!!!!!!!

Sat/Sun, Aug 3rd & 4th

LIBS Exhibit at Humes Japanese Stroll Garden

Saturday, August 24

BBQ/Auction & garden visit to Jason and Diane's home!!

There is a \$20 suggested entry donation to LIBS.

July Meeting with Robert Mahler





Robert Mahler worked on a **California Kishu Juniper** at our July 8th meeting. It has good movement in the trunk hidden by all the growth. Bob took many of the branches off to open it up and get air and light into the middle. He exfoliated the bark and cut back the thicker branches to help the smaller ones get thicker. The original tree is in the top left box. The finished tree is the top right box and in the middle box with Sam and Bob. Sam won the tree in the raffle at the end of the meeting.



JULY TOKONOMA

A Juniper by Jason
It is 35 years old.
Scroll from Jim's collection.
Notice the puppies!!!!



Focusing growth on the lowest primary branches By Jonas Dupuich submitted by J Genesee
After growing a trunk to the desired size, the next step is creating primary branches. And the bigger the trunk, the bigger we can expect these branches to be.

The main challenge is that most trees want to invest resources in the upper branches as they receive the most light. If we let upper branches grow freely, we reduce the odds that the lower branches will thicken at an appropriate pace – if at all.

Getting better growth on the lower branches requires frequent pruning of the upper branches. I've neglected this step on my cork oaks this year as I only brought them in for their first pruning this past week. The upper branches had grown strong and the lower branches were weak. The solution is to prune the upper branches and leave the lower ones alone.



Cork oak with strong shoots on the upper half of the tree



After pruning all but the lowest branches - 16"

The plan for the rest of the growing season is to maintain the silhouette on the upper branches while letting the lower branches run until they reach the desired thickness.

The imbalance was worse on one of my larger cork oaks. I'd let a sacrifice branch grow freely for a couple of years to thicken part of the apex, but I could have reduced it a while ago and kept the remaining apical growth in check.

This hasn't caused problems for the tree but it did slow down progress.

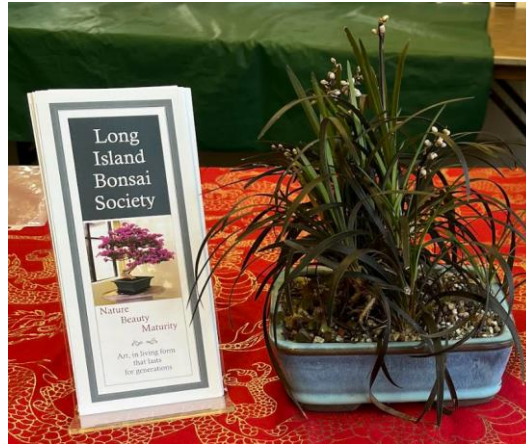


Cork oak before pruning



After pruning the upper branches - 27"

When the lower branches reach the desired thickness I'll shorten them and repeat the process to create taper. Once this basic structure is in place, I can focus on branch development on all of the branches to create the silhouette I have in mind for the tree.



BONSAI ONLINE RESOURCES

Eastern Leaf – short and easy to understand how to teachings

Herons Bonsai – Peter Chan, easy and concise instructions

Eisei -en Bonsai, Bjorn Bjornholm - many videos, vlogs and on-line courses. His early videos “Bonsai – The Art of Japan” is one of the ‘best for instruction.’

Mirai- Ryan Neil – lengthy videos, be prepared to spend at least an hour. Also has interactive instructions with membership

<https://bonsaimirai.com/blog/mirai-wild-crater-lake>

Bonsai Empire – instructional videos, demos, interviews and shows

Crataegus.com – Michael Hagedon, educational blog

Suggested Suppliers and Educational SITES

America Bonsai Tool & Supply Co. – www.americanbonsai.com , LIBS club members receive a 10% discount with the code LIBS10

Stone Lantern - stonelantern.com – big blog - anything and everything, always specials going on,

reasonable wire prices

Easternleaf.com - wire, tools, etc

Bonsaitonight.com – Educational site with bonsai products

suthinbonsaistudio.com - Expertise in Tropicals, Maples, Junipers and Shohin Bonsai Style

LONG ISLAND RESOURCES

Long Island Bonsai Supply, 539 Deer Park Avenue, Dix Hills, NY 11746. Ph: (516) 521-6940

Besides Bonsai the business is paired with the Koi Market Aquatic Nursery. Entrance for both is on the north service road of the LIE (I495) just West of exit 51.

Dan Skabeikis has Bonsai plants and pots for sale by appointment only. He is located in Paconic near Southhold on the North Fork. Ph: (631) 445-7683

Upcoming Events. (Please check with individual websites for updates)

MABA convention 2024

Columbus, Ohio USA

8.30-9.1 2024

Sat/Sun, Aug 3 & 4: LIBS Exhibit at Humes Japanese Stroll Garden
Please consider displaying your best tree(s) and/or volunteering. **FREE**
parking and admission!!

Sunday August 11th Mark Arpag Workshop,
Morning::10 to 12N, Afternoon 1PM to 3PM. \$35 per person. Bring your
own tree, tools and other materials.

Saturday, August 24 BBQ/Auction & Garden visit to Jason and Diane's
home!! There is suggested \$20 entry donation to LIBS. Please RSVP Chris
at libonsai@yahoo.com for headcount for food.

**** THE NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY August 12th !!!****
MARK ARPAG DEMONSTRATION

NEW PROMOTION FOR FREE RAFFLE TICKETS

If you bring a pot(s) or some bonsai related item(s) to a meeting you will receive a raffle ticket(s) for that nights' tree. We need to build up our stock for the next auction. Please no tree donations until the auction. Thank you!!! (See Tom before demo)