

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

### Meeting Schedule

Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>

Mike Andrew  
Humphery Demo

Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>

Robert Mahler Demo

Monday, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>

Mark Arpaq Demo

### Event Schedule

for updates:

[www.longislandbonsai.org](http://www.longislandbonsai.org)

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

Sunday August 11th  
Mark Arpaq Workshop  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**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](mailto:libonsai@yahoo.com)

If you are a member and not  
receiving our emails, please email  
Hal at [libonsai@yahoo.com](mailto:libonsai@yahoo.com)

## May 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

# Our Annual Spring Auction

Twenty-nine members attended our Annual Spring Auction on Saturday, May 11, 2024.

If you haven't attended, please make sure to attend the next one. It's a great way to get new to you pots and trees. Donated pots and trees go for a fraction of their true worth. And it's a big fund raiser for the club!!! Chris never fails to entertain and give a TON of information.

Thank you to all whom donated auctioned materials and contributed by bidding.

Everyone whom helped fellow members carry things out.

**Thanks to Tony, Mary and Joe for taking care of all the paperwork that is involved  
Special thank you to our auctioneer team, Chris and Collin.**



Notice the diverse selection of pots. You can get any size, shape, or color pot you are looking for at discount prices!!! Make sure to check the website regularly for the next auction!!!



**SAVE THE DATES!!!!!!!**

**Sat/Sun, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**LIBS Exhibit at Humes Japanese Stroll Garden**

**Need Member participation- Opportunity to Display your trees.**

## A Simple Guide to Directional Pruning

by Michael Hagedorn

submitted by J Genesee

While conifers are often wired for minute adjustment of twigs, the approach for deciduous trees is often with scissors.

In directional pruning, we cut to a shoot going in a direction we want. A way to pre-empt this is to cut to a bud, assuming we can see it.

If your deciduous tree has a very small bud, look for the leaf. At the base of the petiole-the leaf stem that attaches to the shoot- there is a bud.

We've just created movement with two cuts. (please see picture number 3) Actually we've just set up this branch for an S-curve (which if you've read [Bonsai Heresy](#), you know how delighted I am by those). This back and forth movement is predictable and, when possible, avoiding it can create more natural branch movement.

Some good species for this simple technique are Maple, Styra, Chojubai and Elm. Your tree will develop slower than if you wire parts of it, but it will have the advantage of natural movement and no wire scars.

If you grow your tree too hard it may limit the elegance of this technique, for a chopsticky look may result from long, stiff-looking internodes. Many directional pruning advocates wire the trunk and initial branches, and only then take up their scissors once the tree is growing at a moderate pace. When to cut? A good time is when the growth hardens off in late spring, and then once more in the fall. Two cuts a year.

The takeaway here is that with a strong tree and scissors, you can create movement without wire. It takes a little looking and thinking -what direction you want the branch to grow, and how long you want the segment you're working on.



first suggested cut for this Stewartia



second suggest cut



picture #3 (result from the last two cuts)



another example of two cuts



Chojubai branch, representing several years of directional pruning. No wire has been used. In fact, it would be hard to create these micro-movements with wire.



result of above two cuts

## **BONSAI ONLINE RESOURCES**

**Eastern Leaf** – short and easy to understand how to teachings

**Hérons 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](http://www.americanbonsai.com) , LIBS club members receive a 10% discount with the code LIBS10

**Stone Lantern** - [stonelantern.com](http://stonelantern.com) – big blog - anything and everything, always specials going on, reasonable wire prices

**Easternleaf.com** - wire, tools, etc

**DallasBonsai.com** – general supplies

**Bonsaitonight.com** – Educational site with bonsai products

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

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## **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 Southold 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
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**Sat/Sun, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>** [LIBS Exhibit at Humes Japanese Stroll Garden](#)

**Please consider displaying your best tree(s) and/or volunteering.**

**FREE parking and admission!!**

**Sunday Aug 11th “Workshop with Mark Arpaq”**

**Limited participation. Greenhouse Classroom 11 AM to 3 PM.**

**Details to follow.**

**\*\* SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY JUNE 10, 2024!!!\*\***

**MIKE ANDREW HUMPHERY DEMONSTRATION**