



Volume 2, Issue 2



长岛盆景协会

February 2016

We want to thank Vinny Russo for his wonderful and as always, very informative demonstration on dwarf pitch pine. I learned from Vinny that he draws what he possibly could do with material after seeing John Naka doing it at the age of 19 and deciding at that time he would always do that also. He also told me that someone has created a book of John Naka's drawings which I found to be very interesting. Vinny is an excellent artist in many ways and it is a pleasure to have him as a guest speaker.

Monday, February 8th, 7:30PM – Speaker - Tom Marinace – Topic - Making a resin base

There is no basic bonsai and the meeting will start early.

Tom will demonstrate how he creates his beautiful resin bases.

Liz Travers is bringing the milk and refreshments.

We need volunteers for the refreshments for the majority of the year yet. Please consider donating a small amount of your time to bringing the milk and refreshments. You are reimbursed for the costs the night of the meeting. Thank you for your consideration!

Please check the website as we will be updating information regarding speakers, trips and workshops as the information becomes available.

In March we have Pauline Muth speaking on Kusamano and Shitakusa.

If you have any questions, please email Ceil@jaglabs.com and I will get back to you as soon as I am able.

Remember to tell all your friends and neighbors about our fantastic club. Maybe we can inspire someone else to be a Bonsai enthusiast.

Hope to see you all on Feb 8th.

Ceil Gomez

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Of Special Interest:

- *New web site on line*
- *Vinny Russo January video now on line*
- *Know your pots (there WILL be a test!)*

Please donate a little of your time to the club by:

- 1. bring desserts and milk to one meeting**
- 2. bring a tokonoma to a meeting**
- 3. Tell a friend and bring them down!**

Bonsai Pot Basics

In the world of bonsai, the pot is just as important as the tree itself. Definitely, the word itself, *bonsai*, means *tree in a pot*, so it comes as no surprise that the pot itself comprises 50% of the aesthetic appeal.

The very process of dwarfing a tree relies on the constraint of its roots in its pot. This restrains the tree's growth, leaving the tree to retain a small, dwarfed size.

In Western civilization there has been a surge of popularity around Japanese bonsai in particular. Japanese pot makers at Tokoname, Yama aki and Bizen have never enjoyed so much business! Why? Because the Japanese bonsai pot is thought of as among the best in the business!

Before choosing a pot in which to house your bonsai, consider this a guide you towards making good, educated choices! The human eye is the best judge, but will always be your biggest critic!

First and foremost, choose your pot **carefully!** If your aesthetic senses are not fully developed, which is fine - this can take ages, try and locate an antique Chinese or Japanese bonsai pot. They are aesthetically pleasing and will suit many bonsai specimens. If this is impossible, or beneath your skill level, you can **make your own**, as you will see this month!

So, what makes a good bonsai pot, or in particular a good Chinese or Japanese bonsai pot?

Choosing Your Pot

- **Rectangular Pot:** mainly for powerful, thick and heavier trees with thick trunks and branches
- **Round Pot:** fragile and thinner looking trees - literati
- **Oval Pot:** for forest plantings
- **Square Pot:** for Literati styles
- **Hexagonal & Octagonal:** for Literati styles with symmetry
- **Irregular:** For windswept and driftwood styles

Texture & Glaze

As a rough guide you should plant evergreens in an **unglazed** brown or dark-colored Chinese bonsai pot, or the same Japanese bonsai pot. You will mostly find deciduous trees in glazed pots. Also, the texture of the pot will come into play, and again, as a rough guide, rough textured and older, antique pots are great for older trees, whilst smooth and more modern pots are great for younger, colorful trees.

Lip Shape & Feet

The lips of bonsai pots are fairly important for your tree's aesthetic appeal. Lips vary from wide, narrow, outward and inward pointing, hard or soft in appearance, curved to straight. All lip shapes will impact the *vibe* of your tree so choose carefully! We like to use outward pointing lips for powerful looking trees, and straight for smaller more intricate trees like the Juniper.

Now, let's have a look at style matching!

Pot & Style Matching Guide!

- **Formal Upright** - Medium/deep rectangular or oval. Varies in accordance with trunk thickness
- **Informal Upright & Coiled** - Medium/deep rectangular, oval or round. Varies in accordance with trunk size
- **Slanting** - Medium depth rectangular or oval
- **Windswept** - Medium depth rectangular, rough-textured and unglazed
- **Cascade/Semi-Cascade** - Deep square, hexagonal or octagonal
- **Literati** - Medium depth circular, inward pointing lip, square, hexagonal, unglazed
- **Broom** - Medium/shallow oval or round
- **Weeping** - Medium-depth square, hexagonal, round or octagonal
- **Root Over Rock** - Medium/deep rectangular, oval or round
- **Split-trunk & Driftwood** - Medium/deep rectangular or modern, unglazed
- **Multiple Trunks** - See Medium/deep rectangular, round or oval. Varies in accordance with trunk size
- **Forest** - Shallow oval or stone slab
- **Landscape** - Shallow oval,

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- rectangular or stone slab, unglazed

A few examples:



Deep, round, outward pointing, glazed



Shallow, round, outward pointing, unglazed with feet



Small, oval, inward pointing, glazed



Shallow, round, outward pointing, unglazed

Please help !

**Got a great article, tip or picture
of your prized bonsai?**

**Send it to us so we can put it on
the web site!**

More content = better web site

Better web site = more members

More members = more fun!

**Come on! You can make all the
difference!**

**Missed last months
meeting?**

**Watch Vinny Russo and
the dwarf pine demo at
www.longislandbonsai.org**

Next meeting:

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7:30PM – Speaker -
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Topic - Making a resin
base**

The Long Island Bonsai Society

Info@LongIslandBonsai.org

Visit us at:

www.longislandbonsai.org

**Never, ever,
put your bonsai
in the dryer!!**



The Long Island Bonsai Society is open to all. We hold our meetings at the Planting Field Arboretum in Oyster Bay Long Island New York every second Monday of the month at 7:30PM

Discover the beauty joy and peace only a Bonsai can bring into your life.

For more information please call Fran at 516 593-1855.

A word from our Sponsor

**www.suburbanbonsai.com
infor@suburbanbonsai.com
Open Mon-Sat 8:30-4:30
Sun & Holidays 10:30-2:30**



We have indoor greenhouse facilities for winter storage for both tropical and hardy plants. We also carry hard to find specimen plants for your garden. All Club Members are entitled to a **10% Discount** of All Bonsai Related Purchases.

We are always interested in purchasing Interesting and finished bonsai plants. We are located on several acres and carry a complete line of **Bonsai Containers, Tools – Wire, Soil Mixes**, etc. including finished and pre-finished tropical and hardy bonsai plants.

A word TO the Refreshment Committee



= We need these !

A word from our treasurer—Joe Lesnick

Please take a moment to bring your dues up to date! It's what makes all these great speakers possible!

Please keep your membership current and keep getting these great newsletters!

Annual Dues start at \$40 for a single member, \$45 for a couple and \$50 or above for a Patron Member.

Please make payment at any meeting to our Treasurer, Joe Lesnick, or send a check, made out to Long Island Bonsai Society, to Joe at 129 S Plaisted Avenue, Hauppauge, NY 11788.

Should you have any questions, feel free to call Joe at (631) 339 2626. Thank you