



OCTOBER, 2025

LONG ISLAND BONSAI SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

The LIBS is proud to announce that board member **Jason** has been recognized with the "Finest Individual Shohin Bonsai" award for his Black Pine at the 2025 US National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester, New York. Look to Page Six for more information.



IN THIS EDITION:

- **Our September Meeting**
- **US National Bonsai Exhibition**
- **Jason Wins National Award**

MEMBERSHIP/ANNUAL FINAL RENEWAL

\$45.00 – Single, \$65.00 – Spouse, \$60.00 + – Supporting Sponsor. Your membership will have you entertained and educated by world class bonsai Masters or Artists. You can participate in hands on workshops led by a bonsai Master or Artist and our expert members. You have access to Planting Fields on the nights of our meetings. Member pricing on imported soils. Free monthly loan of Bonsai reference materials!!! Please see Mary (Librarian) for more details and access to our library at our next meeting.

FUTURE SOCIETY ACTIVITIES:

**October 27th Monday
MAURO STEMBERGER
Italian Bonsai Artist
Demonstration**

Our Mission Statement

**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.

**CHECK FOR SCHEDULE UPDATES AT
LONGISLANDBONSAI.ORG/SCHEDULE**

For more information email
Jim Genesee at LIBONSAI@YAHOO.COM

EXECUTIVE BOARD

HAL JOHNSON, President
JIM GENESEE, Vice President
JOE LESNICK, Treasurer
JOHN GRASSER, Secretary
CHRIS HAYES, Chairperson of Programs
CRAIG POORE, Newsletter Chief

**MESSAGE FROM THE
L.I.B.S. PRESIDENT**

Congratulations to board member Jason for winning "Finest Individual Shohin" at the 2025 US National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester. I hope this inspires all members to consider displaying their bonsai whenever opportunities arise. This year LIBS has provided opportunities for display at Planting Fields Arbor Day Festival, Humes Japanese Stroll Garden and as a Tokonoma at our regular meetings. None of these opportunities were judged competitions, so that members would not feel intimidated.

One approach to improving your trees would be "Critique" by a knowledgeable bonsai person. "Critique" should not be feared, but rather considered as sincere positive advice. A tree may have several design options you may not have considered. Another set of eyes can provide another perspective. Which design chosen is ultimately your choice. Once a design goal is established, the process becomes a "development/training" process. Each growing season will get you closer to your vision for the tree. Bonsai may be appreciated at any stage of development and worthy of display. We all understand this is a dynamic process with no final end-point.
Hal Johnson, President, LIBS

At Our Last Meeting:

SEPTEMBER'S EASTERN WHITE CEDAR DEMONSTRATION

The September 8th meeting featured bonsai artist, Kris Springer. Known for his work on American Larches, which prefer colder zones. Kris cautioned us that Japanese Larches are more workable in our zone but may not be much longer given northern migration of zones. One of his other preferred species suitable for our zone is Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*). It is a resilient mountain species that is very forgiving. They can tolerate full sun, variable watering conditions, tolerate aggressive pruning (up to 70%) and bud back well. The challenge will be to aggressively prune to keep it compact until it is root bound in the pot. Always start at the top, shorten frods between the scales to allow bud back, increase ramification and remove cones immediately. Cut back "water sprouts" (froids that grow faster than the rest) leaving a minimum of two shoots and it will bud back. He discussed details on fertilizing, soil and use of insecticidal soap.

Wiring can allow 360 degree twists, but be aware that there is a top and bottom surface of the frods that should be maintained. Long branches may be shortened with serpentine bends in different axial directions. He disclosed his technique of how to radically bend Jins (Deadwood) in a new direction by a detailed steaming method. Kris allowed everyone to get close for the actual work on the tree. Kris brought some Black Pines and the large White Cedar.

A new member, Rei won the tree.



**KRIS SPRINGER
BONSAI ARTIST**



Written By: William Valavanis
Valavanis Bonsai Blog

Submitted By: Jim Genesse.
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2025 9TH US NATIONAL BONSAI EXPOSITION

Thousands of people have visited some of our past nine US National Bonsai Exhibitions since 2008. Every two years visitors from around the world gather in Rochester, New York, to see the state of the art as practiced in America. Organizer, William Valavanis is quite proud that the aesthetic level of the displayed bonsai is increasing. Not only is the beauty of each specimen improving, but also in the way artists are preparing and presenting to the world to showcase their precious living sculpture.



Finest Bonsai Masterpiece



Finest Evergreen Bonsai



Finest Medium Size Bonsai



Finest Literati Bonsai



Finest Deciduous Bonsai

Written By: William Valavanis
Valavanis Bonsai Blog

Submitted By: Jim Genesse.
Used with Permission

2025 9TH US BONSAI NATIONAL EXPOSITION



Finest Companion Combination



Finest Shohin Composition



Special Excellence Award



Finest Suiseki



Jason's Black Pine received:
Joshua Roth Award
Finest Individual Shohin

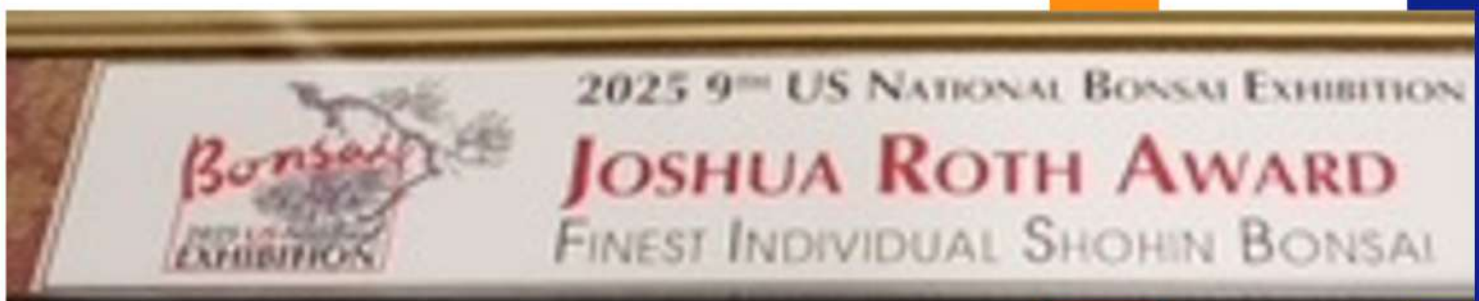


Finest American Species

At The US Nationals

JASON WINS NATIONAL AWARD

As announced, our own LIBS board member Jason won big at the prestigious 9th US National Bonsai Exhibition recently held in Rochester, New York on September 12th-14th 2025. Jason's superb Black Pine received the Joshua Roth Award for the "Finest Individual Shohin Bonsai" which included a check for \$500. Jason's Zuisho Japanese White Pine also had the honor of being featured at the entrance to the National Exhibition.



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, and interviews.

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

UnderTheTinyTree.com – Holistic Bonsai, Long Island based nursery



[Read More on our website](#)



LONG ISLAND RESOURCES

Long Island Bonsai Supply

539 Deer Park Avenue, Dix Hills, NY 11746.

Ph: (516) 521-6940

Chris Hayes, Proprietor. Chris@EasternEffects.com
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 Peconic near Southold on the North Fork. Ph: (631) 445-7683

Under the Tiny Tree Nursery - See website

Member Benefit:

PURCHASING BONSAI SOIL



Being a member of the LIBS gives you the opportunity to purchase genuine high-quality bonsai growing media at below market prices. The bags of soil can be paid for and picked up prior to the start of regular meetings.



SPECIAL LIBS EVENT!

Monday October 27th

MAURO STEMBERGER

Renowned Italian Bonsai Artist
will present an exclusive
demonstration for LIBS
members only.

Don't Miss This One!



NEXT MEETING:

Meeting Date Changed to
Monday October 27th,
Starts 7:25

Mauro Stemberger Demonstration

Meeting place changed from the
usual Classroom to the
Conference Center Building .
Signage will direct you to a parking lot
near the Conference Center. Parking is
prohibited on the access road behind
the building which is also access for
residents on the property.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 17th

Stony Brook Workshop

Beginner members may sign up to
participate on SB website if not
already full.

We still need volunteers to help
facilitate. Lunch will be provided and
voucher for parking

Monday, October 27th

Mauro Stemberger Demo

If you have questions, contact
LIBS Officers or email:
LIBONSAI@YAHOO.COM