

Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

www.iabonsai.org

<https://sites.google.com/site/cedarrapidsbonsai/>



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From the Editor

Hey, IBA and EIBA Members! I hope you are all well and enjoying your trees. This month we have pictures of ALL of the Iowa State Fair trees – a number of you who couldn't make it have been asking, so here they are. There's also an article about the Julian Tsai Demos at the Garden (Fair weekend). Timely Tips is from yours

truly this month. Look for pictures and a write up on the Reiman Garden Show in the November issue. Enjoy!

Please consider writing an article for the Newsletter.

Remember that this is your club! If you have ideas, thoughts or comments, we'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

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From the IBA President

Dear IBA members and friends,

Wow.... what a month. Our fall show was better than ever and a huge success. We had more people showing and the trees looked amazing. The IBA has been taking steps the last few years to make our shows better. Last year we had identification cards printed and Tony Rose put his artist touch on them with his beautiful calligraphy. This year we raised some of the tables for better viewing of shorter trees after seeing them at the Chicago Show in August. All this has taken our fall show to greater heights and we're already planning more improvements for next year. Thanks to Ron Heinen for all his work in organizing this show and thanks to all the IBA members who helped setup, greet visitors, and tear down the show. Without all of you the show couldn't be done.

The next IBA meeting will be Saturday October 15th from 9-1 at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. Bring a tree/trees to work on or just come to observe and ask questions. That's why we're here. The meeting locations this month will be in the head house just inside the garage doors on the southside of the building, as there is a Wedding in the conservatory and we can't be wandering around during that.

At our November 19th meeting, we'll be getting back to our annual Auction - so if you have something to donate to the IBA please bring it to that meeting and we'll auction it off. We already have some nice pots that were donated by a new member that are sure to get the bidding frenzy going. All monies raised will be used to continue growing the art of bonsai in Iowa.

I want to also mention a new club sanctioned meeting for the IBA Members to the East. Susan Daufeldt is organizing this satellite meeting to be held the 4th Saturday of most months from 10-2. See Susan's entry in the newsletter for further details

Hope to see you all soon!

Scott Allen
IBA President



EIBA Vice President's Report

The EIBA held its monthly meeting on September 15, 2022, at 7:00 pm, at Pierson's Greenhouse in Cedar Rapids. The program topic that evening was care of Tropical bonsai. Member Craig Bean brought several of his tropical trees for the discussion. Craig talked about the care each variety requires, soil, fertilizer and repotting. Craig explained how he cares for his trees in the summer by placing them on his deck, then when the temp drops below 50 degrees, he begins the bonsai shuffle, inside when its cold then back out when it warms up. His trees were beautiful and had many years of age on them. Craig answered many questions from members during the presentation and after the meeting had ended.

The next item the EIBA discussed was the leadership for next year. At this meeting, all of the current officers said that they would remain in the same position for 2023. The entire membership will be informed of this, which allows anyone else who would like to hold an office to step forward. A vote will be held at the October meeting. Members were also told about the IBA Reiman Bonsai Show on October 1st and 2nd, and encouraged to attend.

On September 24, 2022, the EIBA held its annual soil making day at the club storage unit in Shueyville. We had a nice turnout and the weather was great. It took just over an hour and we had all of our soil made and used up all of our current inventory of material. This gives us room to start purchasing materials for next year.



The next EIBA board meeting will be virtual and will be held on October 13, 2022, at 7:00 pm. The club meeting will be held on October 20, 2022, at 7:00 pm, at Pierson's Greenhouse on Ellis Blvd. The topic will be overwintering your trees. There will be a round table discussion, using members experiences. There will also be a review of soil day and the board will explain plans for next year's soil blend. The members will then elect their Officers for 2023.

Bill Englert

EIBA Vice President

bandrenglert@mchsi.com

Calendar of Events

Note: IBA Activities are also on the IBA website. Click on the "Calendar" Link.

October 13, 2022, 7pm

EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.

October 20, 2022, 7pm (Thursday)

EIBA Club Meeting: Over-wintering, recap of Soil Day and ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Pierson's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, 1800 Ellis Blvd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.

October 22, 2022, 9 am to 1pm (Saturday)

IBA Meeting and Open Study Group & Program at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (Check with the front desk for location within the Garden). Program: Wiring, Advanced Wiring Techniques and Round Table Discussion.

November 17, 2022 (Thursday evening)

EIBA Holiday Party at Leonardo's in Cedar Rapids.

November 19, 2022, 9 am to 1pm (Saturday)

IBA Meeting and Open Study Group & Program at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (Check with the front desk for location within the Garden). Program: Wintering (Roundtable Discussion); Auction followed by Lunch at Trellis (Members responsible for their own lunch).

ANNOUNCEMENT

IBA Satellite Meeting of Members to be Held in the Iowa City Area

Because there are enough people in the Iowa City/Coralville Area who would like to see a satellite meeting of the IBA in the Iowa City/Coralville Area, the IBA Board has approved that addition to our schedule!

Accordingly, there will be a regular meeting of IBA members at Monarch Nursery & Garden Center in Hills, IA, just south of Harvey Ireland's home - about a 15 minute drive for most Iowa City/Coralville residents. Meetings will be the 4th Saturday of MOST months from 10 am until 2 pm. Bring your own lunch. There will not be a program of any sort, but we are planning some exhibitions! Bring your tree(s) and come do bonsai together. Any and all IBA members are welcome. These meetings will NOT conflict with IBA's regular meetings or shows. The tentative schedule for 2023 is as follows:

February 25, 2023 (Saturday)

Regular Meeting 10am-2pm

March 25, 2023 (Saturday)

Regular Meeting & Winter Silhouette & Flowering Tree Show 10am-4pm (Set up at 9 am)

April 22, 2023 (Saturday)

NO MEETING – All members are encouraged to attend and participate in the IBA Spring Show at the Des Moines Botanical Garden.

May 27, 2023 (Saturday)

Regular Meeting 10am-2pm

June 24, 2023 (Saturday)

Regular Meeting 10am-2pm

July 22, 2023 (Saturday) Regular Meeting 10am-2pm

August 26, 2023 (Saturday)

NO MEETING – All members are encouraged to attend and participate in the Iowa State Fair Show and the Chicago Show. While the dates are not conflicting, that will probably require all of our time and energy!

September 23, 2023 (Saturday)

Regular Meeting 10am-2pm

October 28, 2023 (Saturday)

Regular Meeting 10am-2pm

Possible Fall Color Exhibition – TBD (10-4)

November/December

NO MEETINGS because of inevitable holiday conflicts.

November 18, 2023 (Saturday)

All members are encouraged to attend and participate in the IBA annual Auction at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens – 9 am – 1 pm

MORE INFORMATION:

Address: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327. Do NOT be deceived: The Nursery is NOT in Riverside – rural post offices have strange rules resulting in some misleading addresses. The Nursery is very close to the Hills exit of Hwy 218 South.

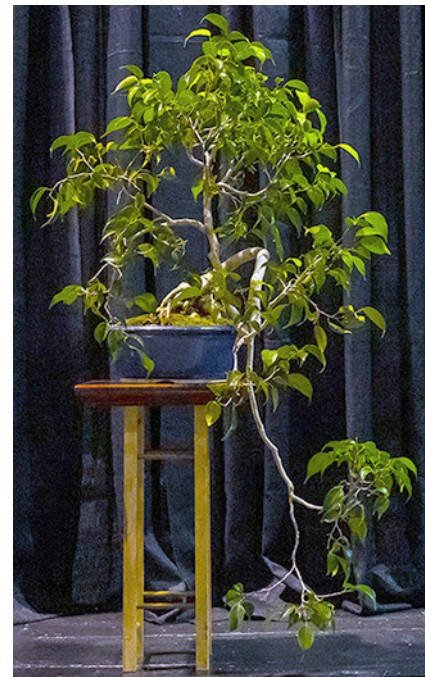
The Nursery manager is Paul Ross. He is very pleased to welcome us to this wonderful venue. There is plenty of space. The Nursery has chairs and tables that we can use.

I look forward to getting together with you at Monarch Nursery and Garden Center!

IOWA STATE FAIR 2022











Julian Tsai Demonstrations
Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, August 13, 2022
Susan Daufeldt

On August 13, 2022, IBA Members brought trees to the Des Moines Botanical Garden. From these offerings, Julian chose three for demonstrations to be done throughout the course of the day. The IBA Members whose trees were chosen paid a \$100.00 styling fee and supplied the wire for the styling. The demonstrations were open to the public and were very well attended.

The first demonstration tree was a Common Juniper owned by Ron Heinen. Julian styled the tree as a cascade, securing the pot at an angle for the work. Throughout the demonstrations, he answered questions and explained his styling choices.



Two deeply interested and enthusiastic members of the public watch while Julian Tsai styles Ron Heinen's Common Juniper.



Ron Heinen's Common Juniper – Styling Complete.

For the second demonstration, Julian chose a Kishu Juniper owned by Brian Thacker.



Julian Tsai considers and explains styling possibilities for Brian Thacker's Kishu Juniper.



Julian tilted and angled the tree for styling and created a raft style clump.



Julian explains styling choices during the work on Brian's Kishu Juniper.



Styling of the Kishu Juniper nears completion.

For the third demonstration, Julian chose a Yew owned by Dan Morton.



Julian considers Dan Morton's Yew prior to styling.



VIBA Members watch while Julian works on Dan Morton's Yew.



Julian guy wires a branch on Dan Morton's Yew.



Styling of the Yew nears completion and Julian explains the work to the audience.

There was a lot of good discussion throughout the day, as Julian answered questions from the audience. The second demonstration was heavily attended by Garden visitors and IBA Members posed questions to Julian to provide opportunities to inform the public. Thanks to all who participated. This was a great event.

Timely Tips

Susan Daufeldt

WOW is it DRY! Even though water uptake has slowed for many trees, watch your trees' water needs and be sure that they are met. There has been enough breeze and bright sun at my place this week to bring accent plants and some trees to a point of critical dryness by mid-afternoon. However, the sun is lower in the sky and some parts of the bonsai yard are not getting the sun they were. I find myself juggling trees around, chasing the sun, watching closely to be sure that I haven't moved trees from a shaded spot into too much sun.

Dormancy is just around the corner and I've been fertilizing hard and very specifically to prepare the trees so

that they are in the best possible condition to come out strong in the spring. But it's nearly time to stop. Once trees reach dormancy, fall work begins. The pruning and wiring that we haven't been able to do in August and September will commence this month. But as we come into October, deciduous trees are only just beginning to show fall color – a leaf here and a leaf there. Be patient.

Tropical trees should come in when the nights drop below 50 degrees. We've already had those temps, so many of you may have done that already. Resist the urge to bring your temperate deciduous and conifers in. They need these cold nights to make the transition into dormancy. I leave most of my trees out until the weather drops below 25 degrees at night. Shohin, Mame and accent plants come in when the temperature drops to 32 degrees at night.

The beginning of October is the time to prepare for winter. The last three years, we have had extremely bitter temperatures in the last week of October. It's important to be ready. Check over your winter storage situation. If you are storing trees outside, be sure they will be in a location where the sun will not hit them, causing freezing and thawing cycles through the winter. The north side of a building is best. Be sure you have good rabbit fencing and the mulch that you need on hand. This photographic image was captured on the morning of September 22nd, at 7:30 AM. Imagine this scene as a Penjing Landscape.

If you are storing trees in a heated or unheated building, be sure that your storage area is clean and that your ventilation and electrical systems are working well. Be sure you have enough room. A crowded, dirty, poorly ventilated storage area is likely to result in disease problems. It's a good idea to have a light source in case you need to check your trees during evening hours or at night. I like to have a thermometer with a humidistat at every level and on every wall of my winter storage area. That way I know my temperatures and humidity levels throughout the storage area. In general, because hot air rises, my storage spaces tend to get warmer as you go up. Accordingly, accent plants, shohin and mame are placed at higher levels than large trees in big pots with plenty of soil.

My indoor winter storage is heated. I use a low temperature garage thermostat hard wired to a space heater. The thermostat is on a different wall than the heater. I try to keep the temperature at the highest level below 40 degrees. This often means that the floor is well below freezing, which is fine for bigger trees.

Again, be sure to clean your indoor winter storage is clean before you bring your trees in. I use Zeritol to disinfect everything – shelving, walls, floors. Clean the dirt from the bottoms of your pots and debris from the soil surfaces. It is also an extremely good idea to spray one last time for pests and disease before you bring your trees in.

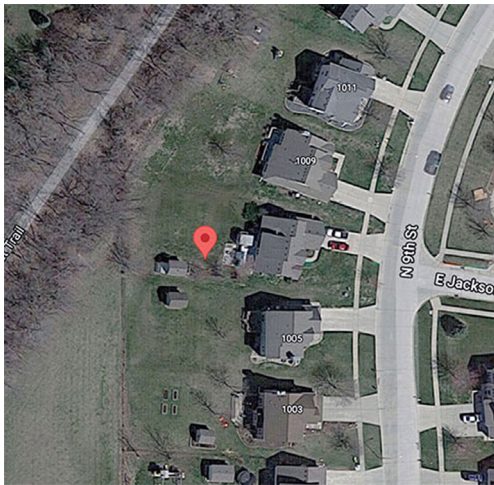
Consider how you will get water to your trees during the winter months. This is important. I check trees in indoor winter storage every week to ten days to see if they need water. I water accent plants about once a week pretty routinely. I don't let my trees dry out completely during the winter (I don't have pine, however).

Another great thing you can do in October (once your winter storage situation is in order) is to prepare for spring – consider which trees will be repotted and review your pot options. Mix soil. If you are using a mixture of akadama, pumice and lava, Todd Schlafer recommends mixing your soil in a 1:1:1 ratio for pines; 2:1:1 for junipers; and 3:1:1 for spruces and most deciduous trees. For some water-loving species, you may choose to use straight akadama. Whatever soil ingredients and mixtures you chose to use, be sure to sift out the fines thoroughly. This is a good time to get all that done so that you aren't spending time doing it during the hectic repotting and collecting season. If you're collecting in the spring, this is a good time to make wooden boxes.

And, of course, once dormancy arrives, pruning and styling begins!

Have a great month and be sure to contact someone in the club for help if you need it. That's why we have a club!

This photographic image was captured on the morning of September 22, 2022, at 7:30 AM. Imagine this scene as a Penjing Landscape.



You can find this imaginary landscape here,
 $41^{\circ}22'11.3''\text{N}-93^{\circ}32'53.0''\text{W}$
(See location indicated on the satellite photograph).

The word “equinox” comes from the Latin “aequus,” translates to “equal,” and “nox,” translates to “night.” On this day, the Romans held a festival dedicated to Pomona, goddess of fruits and growing things.

You can learn more about the fall equinox at this URL (See URL Below)
<https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/september-equinox-customs.html>

On this day in Japan, a celebration called “Six Days of Higan” begins. Higan, or Higan-e, is a six-day Buddhist celebration in Japan. Higan means the “other shore” and refers to the spirits of the dead reaching Nirvana. During an ancient Japanese celebration pre-dating Buddhism, people worshiped the sun setting in the west.

Closer to home in Chichen Itza, Mexico, the ancient Mayan culture celebrated the equinox as they witnessed the Snake of Sunlight. This is a phenomena that happens at sunset during the equinox, when the Sun shines directly from the equator. The sun shining on the stairs of the pyramid at Chichen Itza creates the visual illusion of a snake. You could see this Snake of Sunlight today if you were in Chichen Itza at sundown facing the pyramid.

During this day, I am thinking of the days becoming shorter as I begin the process of preparing my Bonsai trees for winter.

Bonsai Classifieds

FOR SALE: IBA T-Shirts – \$25.00 each. Unisex sizes m l xl xxl xxxl. We still have some of the new T-Shirts as well as some of the old ones. New shirts are \$25, the second generation shirts are \$20 and first generation shirts are \$15. All proceeds will help grow bonsai right here in Central Iowa. Contact Scott Allen



FOR SALE: Pumice 50lb bag \$30 , 5 gallon bucket \$15 Need to bring buckets. Contact Scott Allen or Tim Peterson. Lava - Contact DaSu.

FOR SALE: DaSu Studio, lowman@netins.net

Has LOTS of Tropicals, new dwarf conifers and 128 new companion plants - many varieties at good prices.

FOR SALE:

Susan Daufeldt, sdaufeldt@icloud.com, sdaufeldt@daufeldtlawfirm.com, (319) 430-3822.

Collected by Andy Smith in spring of 2019 and repotted into this Sara Rayner pot in the Spring of 2021. This is a very old and lovely collected tree. It measures approximately 2' 4" tall from the bottom of the pot to the apex of the tree – a very manageable size for any practitioner. Currently, new growth along the trunk obscures good movement in the trunk and fabulous old bark. New growth has been left to allow choices for a new owner. The tree is for sale only because I am unable to work on Junipers anymore. It is for sale for the combined original cost of the pot and the tree - \$450.00.



Utah Juniper



Utah base of trunk, showing old bark.

Bonsai Classifieds

FOR SALE:

Susan Daufeldt, scdaufeldt@icloud.com, sdaufeldt@daufeldtlawfirm.com

(319) 430-3822.



Dawn Redwood \$500.00



Dawn Redwood, Nebari

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