



Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

www.iabonsai.org

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

From The Editor

Susan Daufeldt

Whew! It's May. And boy is it ever lovely. Except for the wind. This is a wonderful, exhausting, stressful time in the bonsai year. So much to do! So little time!



Thanks so much to **Jared Wall**, who has agreed to help me with the reporting duties necessary to make this Newsletter representative of all that's happening in Iowa.

I'm still looking for additional Newsletter Staff. If you would be interested in joining the staff, please contact me. Help us report on local events and provide interesting content for the membership. There is so much going on in Iowa these days that one person can't get to every event! That's a good thing.

The June issue will be about spring collecting experiences. So send your pictures and your stories to me. Or, if you have interesting repotting stories, send those along. We're looking forward to hearing about your adventures!

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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Susan Daufeldt - Editor
Dave Richmond - Art Director
Jared Wall - Reporter

IBA President's Report

Scott Allen

Dear IBA members and friends,

I hope you are all well and your spring Bonsai work is well under way.

Our next club meeting is Saturday, May 20th. IBA East meets May 27th. We still have a few gallon bags of premixed soil to sell at \$10 a bag. The long-awaited shipment of Akadama has arrived so if you need some of that let me know. It ended up at \$50 a bag for club members and \$55 a bag for non-club members. Not sure how long we'll have it, so I recommend getting some while we do have it.

Our next show is the Iowa State Fair Show, August 13, 2023.

Hopefully a lot of you are planning to show trees. Please contact Dave Richmond if you're planning to show trees, so I have an idea of what we'll have for a show.

The IBA BOD has scheduled one workshop for 2023.

Friday August 11, 2023, with Julian Tsai, at my place. 9-5 \$100 – Slots available. The IBA will provide lunch for all participants in the above workshop.

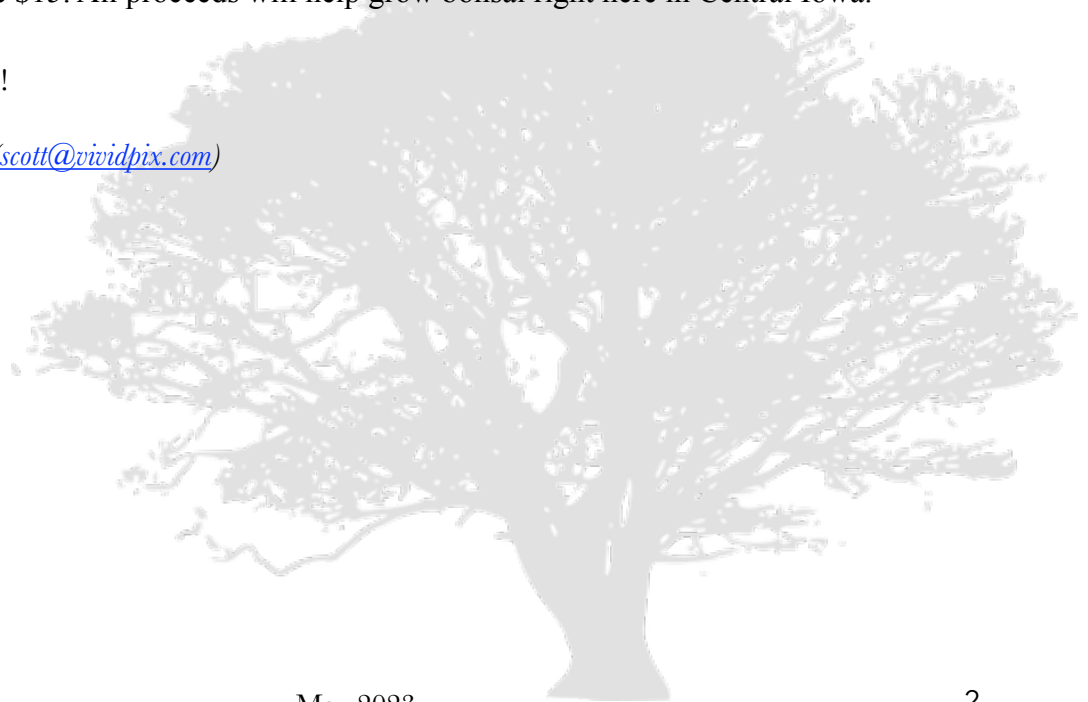
There is also silent observer options at \$20 per individual but lunch isn't provided for silent observers.

If you want to register for the above contact me and I'll get you registered.

We still have some of the new T-Shirts as well as some of the old ones so if you're looking for IBA swag let me know. See attached pictures. 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.

Hope to see you all soon!

Scott Allen, IBA President, (scott@vividpix.com)



EIBA Report

Bill Englert

Greetings Bonsai Friends,

The monthly meeting of the EIBA was held on Thursday April 20th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Pierson's Greenhouse in Cedar Rapids. There were 19 members in attendance and the topic for the evening was repotting. John Clemens discussed the basics of repotting, while giving a hands on demo on one of his trees. There were several questions during the demo, especially the difference between the pine he brought and the deciduous tree. With all the questions fielded, I am sure the members went home with a good understanding of what repotting is, the purpose, and what it means for future growth of the tree.

John next talked about the upcoming workshop with David Kreutz. The members discussed possible dates and came up with 6/24 or 7/8 or 7/9. This is all dependent on David's schedule, so John will let him know the dates we selected and see if they align with his schedule. More information will follow.



EIBA President John Clemens demonstrates repotting of both coniferous and deciduous trees at the April EIBA Meeting. Photos by Bill Englert.

The next EIBA Board meeting will be held on May 11th, 2023. The meeting is virtual and will start at 7:00pm. If you're a member and would like to attend, please contact us so we can add you to the list. The next EIBA club meeting will be on May 18th, 2023. This meeting will be held at the home of Bill Englert in Swisher. The meeting will start at 6:00pm, NOTE: This is one hour earlier than normal. The topic will be Shohin Bonsai. Denny Molumby and Bill Englert will be presenting information on Shohin along with several examples of their trees.

Bill Englert, EIBA Vice President (bandrenglert@mchsi.com)

Notice of Upcoming Events

Susan Daufeldt

THE IOWA STATE FAIR BONSAI SHOW AUGUST 13, 2023

Judge - Julian Tsai



2023 ABS Learning Seminars At the
Denver Botanic Gardens
June 8-11, 2023

Registration for the 2023 Learning Seminars opened on December 5. Make sure you register early to reserve your place in the workshops, many featuring collected material. More information and registration is available at <https://www.rmbonsai.org/copy-of-exhibition-gala>.

Calendar of Events

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

May 11, 2022, 7:00 pm (Thurs)

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

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- May 18, 2023, 7pm (Thurs) **EIBA Club Meeting:** Program: **Shohin Bonsai** - Denny Molumby & Bill Englert. Bill Englert's Home, 116 Summit Ave SE, Swisher, IA 52338. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.
- May 20, 2023,
9 am to 1pm (Sat) **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: **Collecting Trees - Roundtable discussion.**
- May 27, 2023,
10am-2pm (Sat) **IBA Satellite Meeting and Open Study Group.** Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, Hills, IA (Address for navigation purposes: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327)
- June 8- 11, 2023 ABS Learning Seminars, Denver, CO.
- June 8, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs) *EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- June 15, 2023, 7pm (Thurs) **EIBA Club Meeting:** Program TBD. Pierson's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, 1800 Ellis Blvd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.
- June 17, 2023,
9 am to 1pm (Sat) **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: **Fertilizing and Leaf/Needle Reduction.**
- June 24, 2023
10am-2pm (Saturday) **IBA Satellite Meeting and Open Study Group.** Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, Hills, IA (Address for navigation purposes: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327)
- July 13, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs) *EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- July 15, 2023,
9 am to 1pm (Sat) **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: **Preparation and presentation of Show trees (We will use some of the trees at the Botanical Garden and stands and accent plants provided by members).**
- July 20, 2023, 7pm (Thurs) **EIBA Club Meeting:** Program TBD. Pierson's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, 1800 Ellis Blvd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.

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July 22, 2023

10am-2pm (Saturday)

IBA Satellite Meeting and Open Study Group. Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, Hills, IA (Address for navigation purposes: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327)

August 2023

ALL Members strongly encouraged to participate in and/or attend the State Fair Show, take the opportunity to work with Julian Tsai, and to Attend the Midwest (Chicago) Bonsai Society's August Exhibition.

August 11, 2023 (Friday)

Julian Tsai Workshop at Scott Allen's home. Slots available. See IBA President's Report for details.

August 10, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs)

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

August 13, 2023 (Sunday)

Iowa State Fair Bonsai Show.

August 17, 2023, 7pm (Thurs)

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

**August 19, 2023,
9 am to 1pm (Sat)**

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: **Pest control and disease identification and treatment.**

August 18-20, 2023

Midwest Bonsai Society August Exhibition, Chicago Botanic Garden, Regenstein Center, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenco, IL 60022 Guest Artist: Bjorn Bjorholm.



AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETY

EST. 1967

Please consider joining our national bonsai organization: The American Bonsai Society. Membership is not expensive and the benefits are many. Check out the ABS website for details at <https://www.absbonsai.org>.

Timely Tips - May

Susan Daufeldt

Wow. We have some wind! And it is Dry. Remember that trees will dry out a lot faster in windy conditions. Keep those recently repotted and collected trees out of the wind. Mist foliage of recently repotted or collected trees with water in dry conditions as often as possible. Trees lose moisture through the leaves or needles. Until the tree has recovered from the root work, you can help your tree by wetting down the foliage. I have a lot of wind here and may do this several times in a day, as necessary.

If you have developing trees and you haven't done so already, it's time you started fertilizing. By now, you should have made your first application of any systemic fungicide or pesticide you are planning to use this year. Insects are already a problem and I have sprayed susceptible species with both Bioadvanced 3 in 1 and Pyrethrin, a couple of weeks apart.

As you start your fertilization schedule, wait to fertilize developed bonsai until new growth has hardened off. Fertilizing too early can result in large internodes and leaves on deciduous and undesirable youthful vigor in old conifers. Don't fertilize newly repotted or collected material for the first month after repotting or collecting. Most people start with mild applications of fish emulsion, but see Bjorn recommends a high nitrogen synthetic fertilizer out of the box for deciduous trees in early development (to thicken the trunk).

Pruning: Resist the urge to prune your deciduous trees until new growth has hardened off. They may look like little kids with bed-head, but they need to do that early growing unimpeded if they are to remain healthy. With respect to conifers, particularly spruce and fir, Todd Schlafer has a really good article in the ABA Journal on pre-flush pruning. If you didn't get your November work done, or you have been letting a tree rest for a year or two, you can prune back to interior buds in early spring if the tree is strong.

If you have wire on deciduous trees, mark those pots with something really bright and keep a close eye on them. Get that wire off when the branches begin to thicken. Wire scars on deciduous trees don't fade away with alacrity!

Check wire on your conifers. If the wire bite is more than a quarter of the width of the wire, get it off. It's time to rewire.

If you are collecting trees, be very careful of poison ivy. Poison ivy hasn't broken yet, but dormant roots in the soil can cause the rash. Wear impermeable gloves, wash your hands and arms well and clean tools carefully after collecting. If you have questions about tree care, the club has a lot of resources to help you. Contact your club president or a board member and have them direct you to a club member who has experience with your particular problem. Have a great spring!



Bill Englert's 22 year-old Crabapple, repotted in early March. Photo by Bill Englert.

The IBA Spring Exhibition - Iowa Botanical Garden

**Over 2,000 visitors on Saturday alone,
And a good time was had by all!**

Susan Daufeldt & Jared Wall

Photos by Susan Daufeldt



Left, Dan Morton's spectacular Elmer, a Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) he's owned for a very, very, long time.

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Left to Right, Sarah, Jared and Angie man the bizarre table, where member's offer bonsai-related items for sale, with 10 % of sales to the Iowa Bonsai Association.

Below, Wild Plum (*Prunus Americana*) by Ron Heinen. Pot by Ron Heinen.



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Top, Ron Heinen's Shohin juniper display included a charming arrangement of antique Japanese lead figures. Note the cranes, which are especially delicate and beautifully rendered. Bottom, Dave Lowman, right, takes a break from working on his demo tree, a White Engleman Spruce, to chat with Ron Heinen, left.

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Dave Lowman's striking display featured a Japanese Black Pine and an Eagle scroll. To accent this mountain tree, he chose a stone and a flowering Ajuga kusamono by Susan Daufeldt in a Dave Lowman pot. Dave brushed the stone with a soft bristled brush, which brought out a metallic sheen.

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Top, Exhibition visitors view bonsai displays. IBA members were on hand to answer numerous questions. Middle, viewers were fascinated by Zoe Nady's persimmon, still holding last year's fruit. Bottom, visitors view items for sale at the bizarre table.

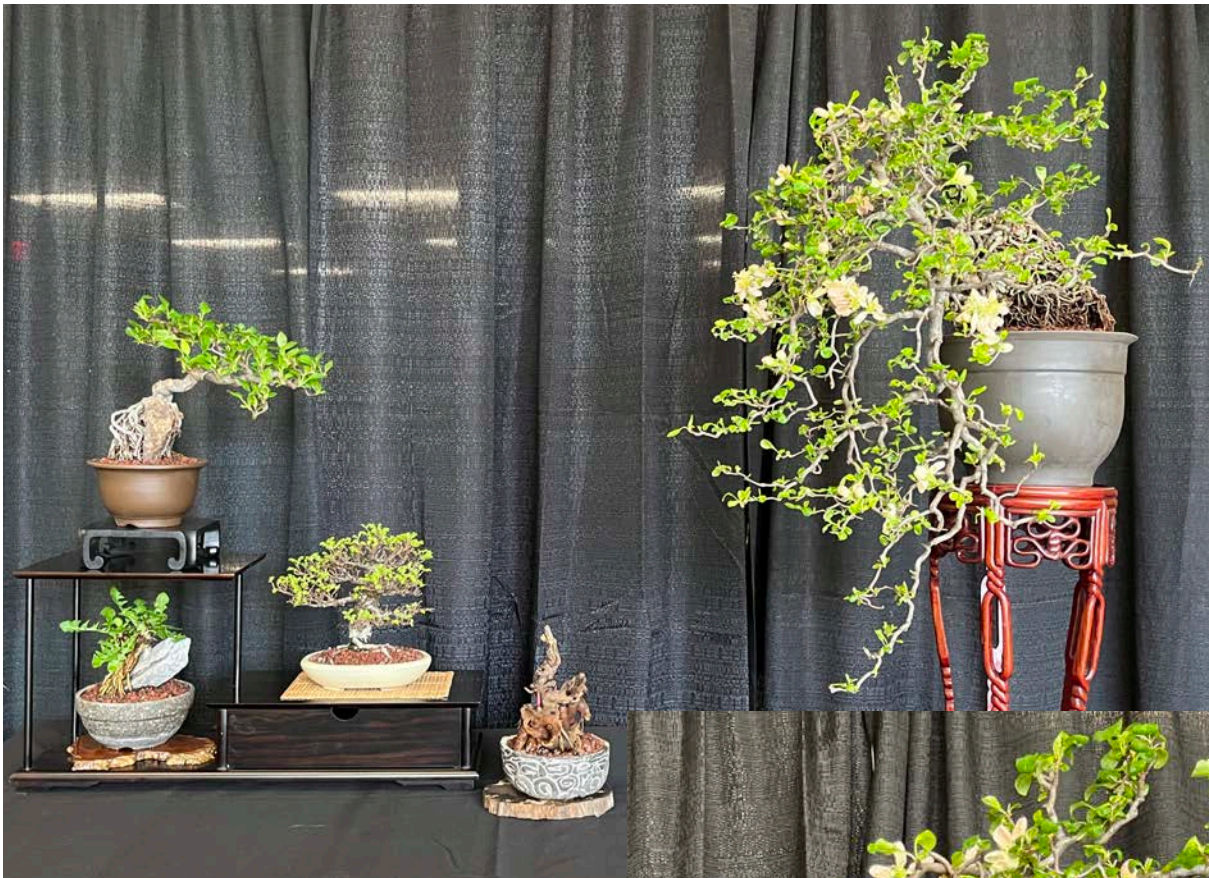


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Above, Jared Wall made his showing debut with his Ponderosa Pine; Pot by Sara Rayner; Below, in the foreground, visitors view exhibition displays, while others talk with IBA members at the bizarre table in the background.





Zoe Nady's wonderful contorted Japanese quince (Chaenomeles species 'Contorta') decided to flower for the Spring Exhibition. Zoe showed this same display at the Winter Silhouette Show in Iowa City and it was really lovely to see it again a month later. Zoe said that the root-over-rock dandelion in the Shohin display has been blooming profusely. But, while the dandelion had a few buds ready to open, it was feeling shy.

On Sunday, Zoe brought two established cuttings of her contorted Japanese quince for sale at the bizarre table. This was an opportunity not to be missed, and I was very grateful to be there to purchase one!

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Left, on Sunday, Zoe moved her root-over-rock dandelion from her Shohin display into the sun and put a little pressure on it in the hopes that she could induce it to flower! Below, the recalcitrant dandelion in bud.



Left, a kusamono by Susan Daufeldt, featuring Virginia waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum virginianum*), woodland phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) and a rabbit skull; pot by Byron Myrick.

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Top, an elegant display by Dave Lowman - a white-flowering contorted Japanese quince (*Chaenomeles* species 'Contorta') with flowering Ajuga. Above, on Sunday, Brian Thacker and Donna demonstrate the art of bonsai throughout the day, as they work on these prostrate junipers. Below, a number of small junipers by Brian Thacker for sale at the bizarre table.



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Top, Juniper by Brian Thacker shown in a wooden pot designed and made by Fort Maple Artistry, a business owned and operated by Brian Thacker and his brother, Jim. Juniper stand by Fort Maple Artistry.



Bottom, Japanese Maple (*Acer palmate* 'Sharp's Pygmy') shown in a pot designed and made by Fort Maple Artistry. The wood is ancient silver maple that came from Brian's grandfather's farm. Brian and his brother milled the wood, dried it and carved it. Wood hardener was applied, followed by marine grade epoxy. The rim of the pot is made with epoxy. Brian loves the idea of a maple in a maple pot and a juniper in a juniper pot. Stand by Fort Maple Artistry.



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Spring Exhibition - Cont.

Sunday was a slower day at the Exhibition, because admission was free on Saturday as part of the Garden's Earth Day celebration. This meant that we had a little more leisure and Sara Niemand and I had a good and educational time experimenting by altering displays to see how different stands and accents complimented the trees.



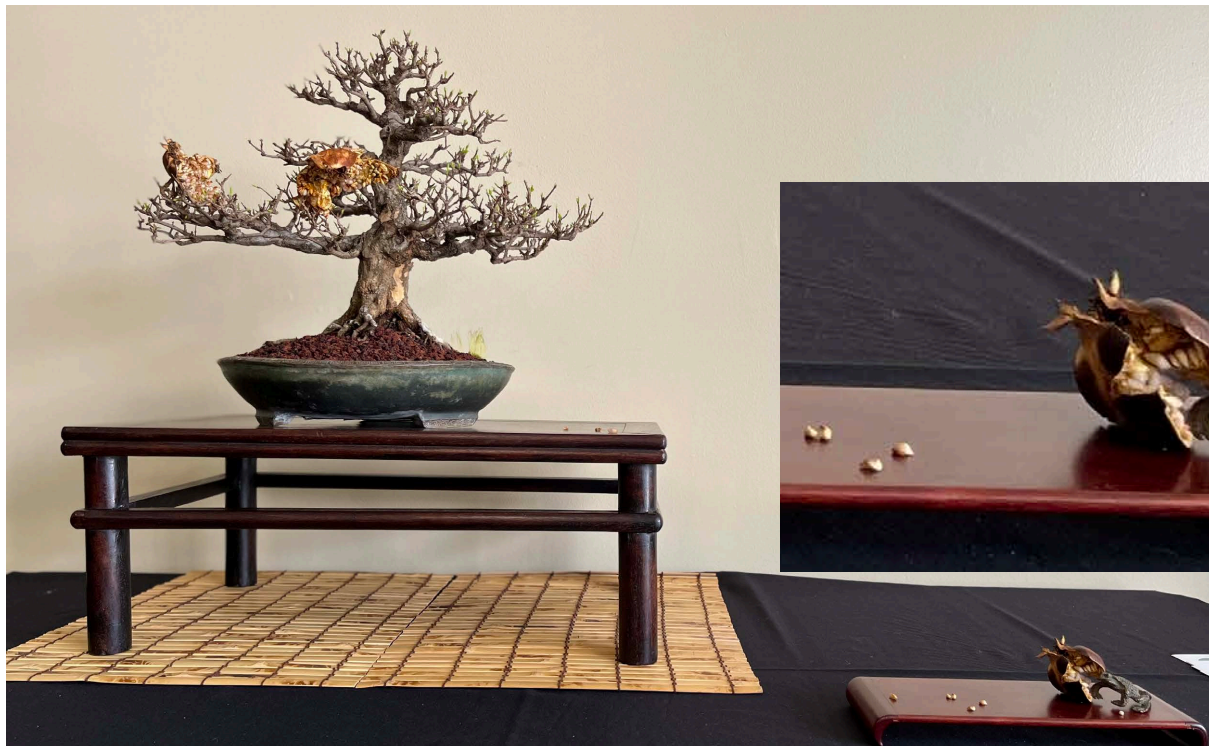
Ron Heinen's fabulous and very old Ginkgo, grown from seed from a tree on the Iowa State campus. Left, the tree displayed as Ron had originally displayed it. Below, the tree on a different stand. The black rock tended to disappear against the black table covering and, together with the dark pot, created a floating effect.

Note the interesting Lily of the Valley accent plant.





Above, Ron Heinen's elegant Trident Maple (*Acer buergerianum*). Below, Zoe Nady's Persimmon, still holding last year's fruit. Note the charming bronze frog accent with the dried persimmon and seeds.





Box Elder (Acer negundo) by Susan Daufeldt. Pot by Ron Heinen. Stand by April Grigsby. Originally collected by Noah Buttler in Johnson County, Iowa.

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 5 gallon bucket \$15 - bring your own buckets. Small and medium Double Red Line Akadama. The last pallet went fast, so let me or Tim know if you need any. Cost is \$50 for IBA Club Members and \$55 for nonmembers. 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



Left, Seedlings available to EIBA Members for purchase. Contact Bill Englert for more information. Photo by Bill Englert.

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