



# Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

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

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

## From The Editor

Susan Daufeldt

It's September and the Reiman Garden Exhibition is coming up fast! Ron Heinen and Jared Wall are working hard on this event and we are looking forward to a great weekend!



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.

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.

Susan Daufeldt  
IBA/EIBA Newsletter Editor  
([scdaufeldt@icloud.com](mailto:scdaufeldt@icloud.com))  
(319) 430-3822

## Inside This Issue

From the Editor	Susan Daufeldt	p 1
IBA Pres Report	Scott Allen	p 2
EIBA Report	Bill Englert	p 3
Calendar of Events		p 4-5
Timely Tips	Susan Daufeldt	p 5
<b>Reiman Garden Exhibition Details</b>		<b>p 6</b>
The Iowa State Fair Show		p 7-9
Julian Tsai Workshop	Susan Daufeldt	p 10
Julian Tsai Demos		p 11
IBA Meeting Report - June	Jared Wall	p 12-14
Avant Garden Catalogue		p 15
ABS Learning Seminars 2024		p 15
Bonsai Classifieds		p 16

## Corporate Sponsor



[www.bonsaitrees.com](http://www.bonsaitrees.com)

## Newsletter Staff

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 ready for fall bonsai.

The Reiman Garden Show is coming up at the end of the month. Hope to see you all there.

**Our next club meeting is Saturday, September 16, 2023. IBA East will Saturday, September 23, 2023.** We still have some Akadama 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.

Hope to see you all soon!  
Sincerely,

Scott Allen, IBA President, ([scott@vividpix.com](mailto:scott@vividpix.com))

## Welcome New Members

**The IBA would like to welcome New Members**

**Carrol Mueggenberg  
James Moulton  
Melissa Morgan**



## 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>.

# EIBA Report

Bill Englert

Greetings Bonsai Friends,

The Eastern Iowa Bonsai Association held its final display at NewBo City Market on Saturday, August 19th. The day started out a little cool with a light breeze, but by the afternoon, the heat had settled in. Nine members displayed their trees, for a total of 31 trees in all, with 28 different varieties. The members brought trees to work on during the day which drew a lot of attention and questions. The crowd was good, at times very busy.

**The next EIBA Board meeting will be held on September 14th, 2023.** and this meeting will be virtual. If you would like to attend please contact us and we will add you to the list. Our regular club meeting will be held on September 15, 2023. at Piersons Greenhouse on Ellis Blvd. in Cedar Rapids starting at 7:00. The topic will be determined at our board meeting, as we were unable to get secure a speaker on Tropicals.

**EIBA was invited to attend and display trees at the IBA Fall Bonsai Show at Reiman Gardens in Ames. on September 30th and October 1st.** Securing trees for this event is underway. At this time we will have trees from 4 members for the show.

I hope all is well with every one and their trees with this extreme heat. Need to keep those trees watered.

Bill Englert, EIBA Vice President ([bandrenglert@mchsi.com](mailto:bandrenglert@mchsi.com))



A portion of the display at EIBA's Newbo Exhibition on Saturday, August 19, 2023. See more pictures from EIBA Activities Next Page. Photo by Bill Englert.

# Calendar of Events

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



**September 9-10, 2023**

**8th US National Bonsai Exhibition, Rochester, NY**

*Sept 14, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs)*

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

**Sept 16, 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: **Tool Care - Cleaning and Sharpening.**

**Sept 21, 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.

**Sept 23, 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)

**Sept 29, 2023, noon-6pm(Friday)** **Set up for Reiman Gardens Show.**

**Sept 30 - Oct 1 (Sat/Sun)**

**Reiman Gardens Show.** For more information contact Ron Heinen ([ronheinen47@gmail.com](mailto:ronheinen47@gmail.com)) or Jared Wall ([wallsrunner1@yahoo.com](mailto:wallsrunner1@yahoo.com)).

*Oct 12, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs)*

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

[Continued on Page 5]

Oct 19, 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.

Oct 21, 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: **Watering/Winter Watering. Round table discussion.**

Oct 28, 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)

Nov 9, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs)

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

Nov 16, 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.

Nov 18, 2023,  
9 am to 1pm (Sat)

**IBA End of the Year Auction** at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, **With Luncheon to Follow.**

---

## Timely Tips - September

---

Susan Daufeldt

There's not a lot to do this time of year in the bonsai garden - which is a good thing! Deciduous trees are recovering from their last pruning of the season, decandled pines are filling in and tropical bonsai are getting their final cutback of the season. That said, the next six weeks are pivotal for improving and maintaining tree health. It is the last opportunity for fertilizing trees before they go dormant or applying systemic pesticides and fungicides. Wire can still cut in and insects can still do a lot of damage. Keep up your regular care. I'm fertilizing with Jack's Tomato, which has higher P and K than the fertilizers I use during the spring and early summer, to promote root growth and prepare for better spring bloom on cherries.

This is a good month to check your soil supplies and inventory pots for the late winter/early spring repotting season. And we have a show coming up - the big one! So we can be preparing for that. This is also a good month for *deadwood* carving, though you should *avoid creating deadwood*, as the tree will not have time to recover prior to winter.

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!

---

## *Reiman Gardens Bonsai Exhibition*

***Saturday: September 30<sup>th</sup> 10:00am - 6:00pm***

***Sunday: October 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00am - 4:00pm***

Reiman Gardens and the Iowa Bonsai Association welcome you to their annual Bonsai Exhibition. The theme of the 2023 Iowa Bonsai Association Exhibition is **Bonsai, Create, Develop, and Refine.**

What to expect at the show:

On formal display will be some of Midwest's finest Bonsai trees, stands, Suiseki, and accents. You will also find Bonsai related items for sale from Vendors and the Iowa Bonsai Associations bazar tables. IBA members will be on hand for tours and to answer any questions. Saturday there will be demonstrations in the court yard, and then from 1:00pm thru 3:00pm there will be a moderated theater style educational demonstration, on creative styling, development, and refinement in the Auditorium. Sunday from 10:00am thru noon we will have demonstrations under the tent in the court yard, weather permitting.

### *Set up/Tear down*

Reiman Show Friday 9/29/23: We will start setting up the show at noon they close at 6pm that Friday. Saturday we can gain access at 8am for those that aren't able to make it for setup on Friday the garden opens at 10am closes at 6pm and they ask that we are there til 6pm. Sunday the show is 10am til 4:00 we will tear down at 4pm the doors close at 4:30.

***Please get me your information for the tags for trees you will be showing so we can get them printed in time for the show***

Ron Heinen  
[ronheinen47@gmail.com](mailto:ronheinen47@gmail.com)

---

# The Iowa State Fair Bonsai Show

---

Susan Daufeldt



*Open Division, Best in Show and the First Branch Bonsai Award - Zoe Nady. European Olive (Olea europaea). Age 70+; In training with Zoe Nady 34 years. The First Branch Bonsai Award is sponsored by Todd Schlafer's First Branch Bonsai and carries with it a cash prize of \$100.00. Photo by Max J. Miller.*

The Iowa State Fair Bonsai Show was August 13, 2023. Julian Tsai, a professional from California, judged the show and did demonstrations at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens on August 12, 2023. After judging, Julian did a show critique, explaining the point system he uses to judge trees. The Fair Show is an important bonsai event in Iowa because tens of thousands of people attend the Fair on



*Open Division, Helen Fagan Award - Ron Heinen. Yew (Taxus cuspidata). Collected by Ron Heinen in 2002 from a century home in Carroll, IA. Age: 100+. The Helen Fagan Award is sponsored by Ted Lare Garden Center and carries with it a cash prize of \$75.00. Helen Fagan was an Iowa bonsai enthusiast who worked to rescue trees that had to be abandoned by Japanese Americans when they were interred during World War II. Photo by Max J. Miller.*

any given day. The Iowa Bonsai Association facilitates this Show and maintains a presence throughout in order to answer questions and promote the art of bonsai. This year, Iowa Bonsai Association officers and board members were interviewed by PBS reporters. The Show, including portions of these interviews, aired on public television.





Open Division, George Rupe Award - Scott Allen. Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*). Pot: Tom Benda. George Rupe was an early Iowa Bonsai enthusiast who was instrumental in promoting the art of bonsai in Iowa. The George Rupe Award is sponsored by the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden and carries with it a cash prize of \$50.00. Scott won this award last year with a different tree. Photo by Max J. Miller.

Zoe Nady won the Open Division Best in Show. For those who are interested in this sort of thing, this is the third year in a row that a woman has won Best in Show at the Iowa State Fair. (Last year, Cat Nelson won Best in Show with her *Portulacaria*, and Zoe Nady won it the year before, different judge).

---

## Julian Tsai Workshop - August 11, 2023

---

Susan Daufeldt

Dan Morton, Jared Wall, Brian Thacker, Ron Heinen and Kevin Owens participated in the Julian Tsai workshop on Friday, August 11, 2023, at Scott Allen's home. Jared brought a ponderosa pine and a Korean hornbeam to the workshop, but didn't end up work on them - Julian felt the pine needed to be healthier before it was worked on and mid-August is too late for a lot of deciduous work. Julian felt it would be better to wait for dormancy before working on the hornbeam. Jared spend to day watching and listening and received instruction on how to proceed with his trees when the timing is right. He said that he really learned a lot! This is a great lesson - you can learn a lot at a workshop just auditing. Also, the work we do is seasonal and we need to be patient. It's important to work on the tree when the time is right for the tree. Is it the right time of year? Is the tree strong enough to support the work?



Left, (from left to right) Scott Allen, Dan Morton and Ron Heinen watch as Julian demonstrates technique on Ron's Ponderosa Pine at the workshop, August 11, 2023. The workshop was held at Scott Allen's home. Photo by Jared Wall.

---

## *Julian Tsai Demonstrations - August 13, 2023 at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden*

---



*Top Left, Julian chose Ron Heinen's ponderosa pine for the first demonstration; bottom left, Julian adjusts the angle of the tree before styling; top right, Julian chose Bob West's Eastern Red Cedar for the second demonstration; bottom right, Julian explains pruning techniques, as he works on Jared Wall's Boxwood. Photos by Jared Wall.*

---

## IBA Meeting - August 19, 2023

---

Jared Wall

The Iowa Bonsai Association held its August meeting Saturday August 19th at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, with 22 in attendance. Carrol Mueggenberg, who will be taking the upcoming Beginners Bonsai class at the garden next month was present, as was Shannon Hawkins, who worked with Ron to clean up her juniper. Alex Bartholomew worked on his Variegated Dwarf Jade and shared his cuttings. Jessica Styron worked with Scott to repot her Green Island Ficus. Matt Scharf worked with Dan to repot his Green Island Ficus. Tracy Smith worked with Ron to repot her Green Island ficus. Kirk Garwood and Melissa Morgan worked with Angie to repot their Green Island Ficus. Tim and Jared had to mix up some soil for some of the repots, as we were running out. We had a round table discussion about insects and disease and the various products used for prevention and how to recognize the signs of mites, ants, and borers. The discussion was very well balanced to provide appropriate information for the beginner and the advanced Bonsai practitioner. ***September's IBA meeting, open study will be held September sixteenth at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, in the Kemin Lab 9am, the topic of discussion will be tools and tool sharpening. hope to see you all there and don't forget to check out the clubs Facebook page.***



IBA Members gather for the meeting on August 19, 2023, at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden.

Right, Angie Smith works on a Green Island Ficus while Kirk Garwood looks on. Photo by Jared Wall.



Left, Angie Smith (center) assists in the repotting of Melissa Morgan's (left) Green Island Ficus, while Jessica Styron (right) looks on. Photo by Jared Wall.



*Dan Morton discusses repotting with Matt Scharf. Photo by Jared Wall.*



*Scott Allen assists Jessica Styron in the repotting of her Green Island Ficus. Photo by Jared Wall.*



Living art evolves  
See horticulture pushed to its limits  
to achieve radical designs



Pacific Bonsai Museum  
Federal Way, Washington  
www.pacificbonsaimuseum.org



**EXHIBITION CATALOG**  
28 page, full color collectible  
booklet available for \$12 at  
pacificbonsaimuseum.org.



***Save the Date***  
***May 9-11, 2024***  
***ABS Learning Seminars***  
*In Coordination with*  
***Meijer Gardens Michigan All-State Bonsai Show***

***Guest Artists -***  
**Hugo Zamora, Jack Sustic, Suthin Sukosolvisit**



***Demonstrations, New Talent Contest, Cash Awards, Vendors, Banquet, Welcome Reception. Additional Guests: Steve Jetzer, Mark Fields, Kurtis Smith, Matt Spinniken, Tim Priest.***

# 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



**Wanted to Buy:** Round or Hexagonal Unglazed Pot; inside width 11-12"; inside depth 5-6" (4.5" might work, but deeper is better). Contact Noah Butler at (319) 480-5923.

**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.



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

**FOR SALE:** DaSu Studio, [lowman@netins.net](mailto:lowman@netins.net)

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

Articles in this newsletter are the intellectual property of the authors. If information or ideas are excerpted, paraphrased or duplicated in any way, proper credit must be given to the originator. Authors of articles published here also are expected to respect intellectual property rights and to give credit to sources they use. Neither the Iowa Bonsai Association nor the Eastern Iowa Bonsai Association are responsible or liable for opinions expressed or advice given by contributors in this newsletter. The Publication Staff welcomes letters to the Editor, but reserves the right to determine whether or not publication of any and all content is appropriate and timely.