



# Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

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

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

## From The Editor

Susan Daufeldt

### ***It's been a mild winter.***

In spite of ten frightening days in January and the now forgotten three or four days at the end of October that created bonsai pandemonium. Trees in indoor winter storage are breaking and coming into bloom 3-4 weeks ahead of schedule and we still have some seriously bitter weather in the offing. Busy time! See Timely tips for bonsai care. Don't miss the Spring Shows! See the Calendar of Events.



Susan Daufeldt  
IBA/EIBA Newsletter Editor  
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(319) 430-3822

## **IBA Winter Silhouette Show**

**March 23, 2024**

***If you are planning to show trees in Iowa City this month, please contact me. EIBA Members welcome. Thanks so much!!  
Hope to see you there!!***

**Susan Daufeldt  
(319) 430-3822  
[scdaufeldt@icloud.com](mailto:scdaufeldt@icloud.com)**

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## Newsletter Staff

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

# IBA President's Report

Scott Allen

Dear IBA members and friends,

With the weather warming and things starting to grow it won't be long and we'll be dragging our tress out and starting to do Bonsai. Our first IBA meeting was Saturday Feb 17th and we had a great turnout. We mixed soil and talked bonsai and now we have some for sale. As a reminder membership dues are due so please get those paid.

**Tentatively, Save the Date: Memorial Day Weekend 2025, the IBA is planning to host the next Mid America Bonsai Alliance (MABA) convention. More on this soon. We are still working with the MABA board and the possible venues and will confirm the date as soon as we can. This is a great opportunity to get involved and promote the art of bonsai. We are planning a great event, with major artists, good material and variety of vendors.**



We will still hold our 2nd Annual Winter Silhouette and Flowering Tree Show the 4th Saturday of March (March 23, 2024).

We still have some Akadama at \$50 a bag for club members and \$55 a bag for non-club members and Pumice at \$15 a bucket for club members and \$20 for non members.

Hope to see you all soon!Sincerely,

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

## IBA East Satellite Meetings

Susan Daufeldt

**IBA East Meetings are discontinued until further notice. If you would like to have regular Saturday bring-your-own-tree work days in the Iowa City area, please contact me for discussion.**

Susan Daufeldt  
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# EIBA Report

Bill Englert

Greetings Bonsai Enthusiasts,

The EIBA started this year by participating in the Linn County Master Gardeners Gardening Fair. This event is put on each year by the Iowa State Extension service and the Master Gardeners. It was held in Cedar Rapids at the Kirkwood Regional Center. The day started at 8:00 and lasted the entire day with more than 350 in attendance. John Clemens gave a class on Bonsai, which was very well attended. During the class, John talked about getting started in bonsai and what is needed to make sure the trees thrive. There were several questions and the attendees left with a much better understanding of bonsai. Many of them visited our display tables and continued their discussion there. One good thing for our club, is that we have 3 (possibly 4) speaking engagements for this year - a real positive in growing the art of bonsai.

On the 24th of February we held our yearly membership dues and soil distribution event. This was held at Pierson's Greenhouse in Cedar Rapids. We had a great turnout - we have 27 members so far, with 5 that responded that they could not make it and will pay next meeting. The 2024 club program was handed out with the events for this year. We continue to grow the club which is exciting. Plans are being finalized for the April 13th Azalea workshop with David Kreutz which will be held at Bruce more in the Carriage House.



The March board meeting will be held on March 14, 2024, at Leonardo's in Cedar Rapids starting at 6:30 pm. The club meeting will be held on March 21, 2024, at Piersons Greenhouse starting at 7:00 pm. The topic for this meeting will be bringing trees out of hibernation, repotting and planning for the growing season.

I hope this finds everyone doing well and looking forward to the start of another year of Bonsai.

Happy Growing!

Bill Englert

*EIBA Vice President*

[bandrenglert@mchsi.com](mailto:bandrenglert@mchsi.com)

# Calendar of Events

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

- March 14, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)** *EIBA Board Meeting at Leonardo's. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- March 16, 2024,  
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: **TBD.**
- March 21, 2024, 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.
- March 23, 2024, 10am-3pm (Sat)** **IBA Winter Silhouette & Flowering Tree Show.** The Green House, 505 E. Washington St., Iowa City, IA 52240. **Set up: 9 am**
- April 11, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)** *EIBA Board Meeting at Leonardo's. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- April 13, 2024 (Saturday)** **EIBA David Kreutz Workshop.** For more information, contact Bill Englert.
- April 18, 2024, 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.
- April 20-21, 2023, 9am-5pm (Sat)  
9am-4pm (Sun)** **IBA Spring Show and Sale** at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (Check with the front desk for location within the Garden).
- April 27, 2024** **IBA Julian Tsai Workshop, 400 Pioneer Rd, Des Moines, IA.**
- May 9, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)** *EIBA Board Meeting at Leonardo's. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- May 16, 2024, 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.
- May 18, 2024,  
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: **TBD.**

# Notice of Upcoming Events

Susan Daufeldt

## Iowa Bonsai Association Spring Show & Sale

April 20-21, 2024

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

An illustration of a tree with dark branches and numerous small pink blossoms, set against a light green, hazy background. The tree is positioned in the upper-right corner of the frame.

**Iowa Bonsai Association  
Winter Silhouette and Flowering Tree  
Exhibition**

**Saturday, March 23, 2024, 10 am - 3 pm  
The Green House, 505 E Washington St,  
Iowa City, IA 52240**

## Iowa Bonsai Association Fall Show at Reiman Gardens, Ames, IA November 8-10, 2024



The Green House, 505 E Washington St., Iowa City, IA 52240. The venue for the Winter Silhouette Exhibition.

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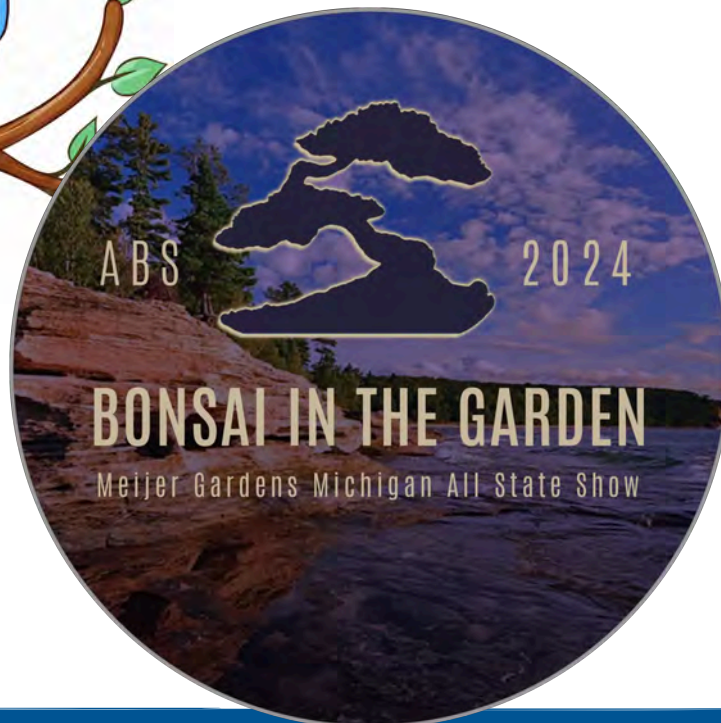
American Bonsai Society  
Learning Seminars  
2024

Early Bird Registration  
through March 15, 2024



**Register Now!**

([https://  
www.americanbonsaisociety.o  
rg/abs-learning-seminars/](https://www.americanbonsaisociety.org/abs-learning-seminars/))



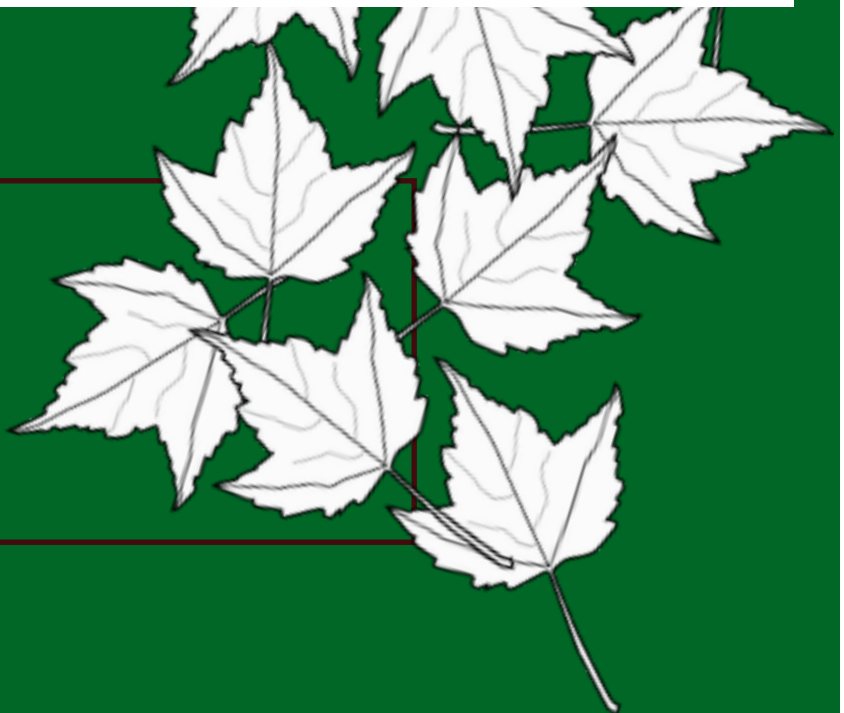
**AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETY**  
EST. 1967

Please join 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.americanbonsaisociety.org>.

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*Iowa*

Save The Date  
MABA Des Moines 2025  
Mid America Bonsai Alliance  
Convention  
May 23-25, 2025  
Memorial Day Weekend  
Des Moines, IA



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## Timely Tips - March

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Susan Daufeldt

It's repotting season. It's also styling season. But not, if you please, at the same time! If you have trees in indoor winter storage, you should be watching for the buds on deciduous trees to start turning green. When the buds are green, it is time to repot. We've had an incredibly mild winter (with the exception of about 10 days in January and 4 in October, now a distant memory). Many trees in indoor winter storage are way ahead of schedule. Crab apples are breaking and Fuji cherries are in bloom. That's 3-4 weeks ahead of schedule. When trees begin to push in the spring and before bud-break, you can also do some light pruning if you didn't get to it in November. You may want to have some rooting hormone on hand so that you can take some cuttings. Andy Smith says that this is the best time for styling conifers.

As temperatures warm up, the trees are not the only ones waking up. Early spray for insects should be done before buds break. I sprayed the entirety of my indoor storage areas yesterday because I saw a small, black flying insect. It was the first thing I've seen moving this year. Clearly time to spray.



As trees come out of dormancy and begin to grow, water uptake increases. Be sure to pay attention to the changes and increase your watering accordingly. I have trees and accent plants that did not go dormant in indoor winter storage this year and they are looking a little pale. I have light, but it was clear to me that those plants needed fertilizing. We don't usually do that this time of year, but it may be advisable and/or necessary under the circumstances.

Remember, once trees leaf out, they need as much light as possible, otherwise they will develop long internodes and large leaves. Trees that have leafed should not be exposed to freezing temperatures and, if you have repotted, they need to be kept out of the wind and should not be let to freeze even if they have not yet broken.

Pines and junipers can benefit from getting outside in the sun as soon as temperatures are above freezing, but should come back in if night time temperatures drop below freezing. My spruce and pine have been in and out all winter and crab apples and apples have had to go in and out these last couple of weeks. If you are new to the Art, don't hesitate to seek help from experienced club members. That's what we are here for!



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## IBA Meeting - February 17, 2024

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Jared Wall

Nineteen attendees joined the Iowa Bonsai Association for our first monthly work study of 2024. This month's meeting was held in the Kemin Lab of the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. February meetings we sift and mix Bonsai soil for sale for club members needs. Scott Allen discussed the different mixes and specific species soil needs. We began to discuss topics for the year's monthly meetings. We have a few ironed out. Watch for a complete list coming soon. Join us March 16, 2024, 9am-1pm, at the Botanical Garden for our next monthly meeting. The discussion topic will be repotting and root pruning. Think about attending our first show of 2024 - March 23rd is the annual Winter Silhouette and Flowering Tree Exhibition in Iowa City. Susan Daufeldt is the organizer for this event. Hope to see you all there.

Thank you all for supporting the IBA.



Above, Scott Allen explains soil mixes and their relevance to various species. Below, Ron Heinen leads a discussion on perspective meeting topics. Photo by Jared Wall.



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## The Winter Gardening Fair in Cedar Rapids

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The annual Winter Gardening Fair in Cedar Rapids, IA, is the EIBA's first event of the year. The Fair took place early in February. Above, EIBA members man the table. Below, EIBA president John Clemmens teaches a class on "How to Get Started in Bonsai." Photos by Bill Englert.



UNITY IN DIVERSITY

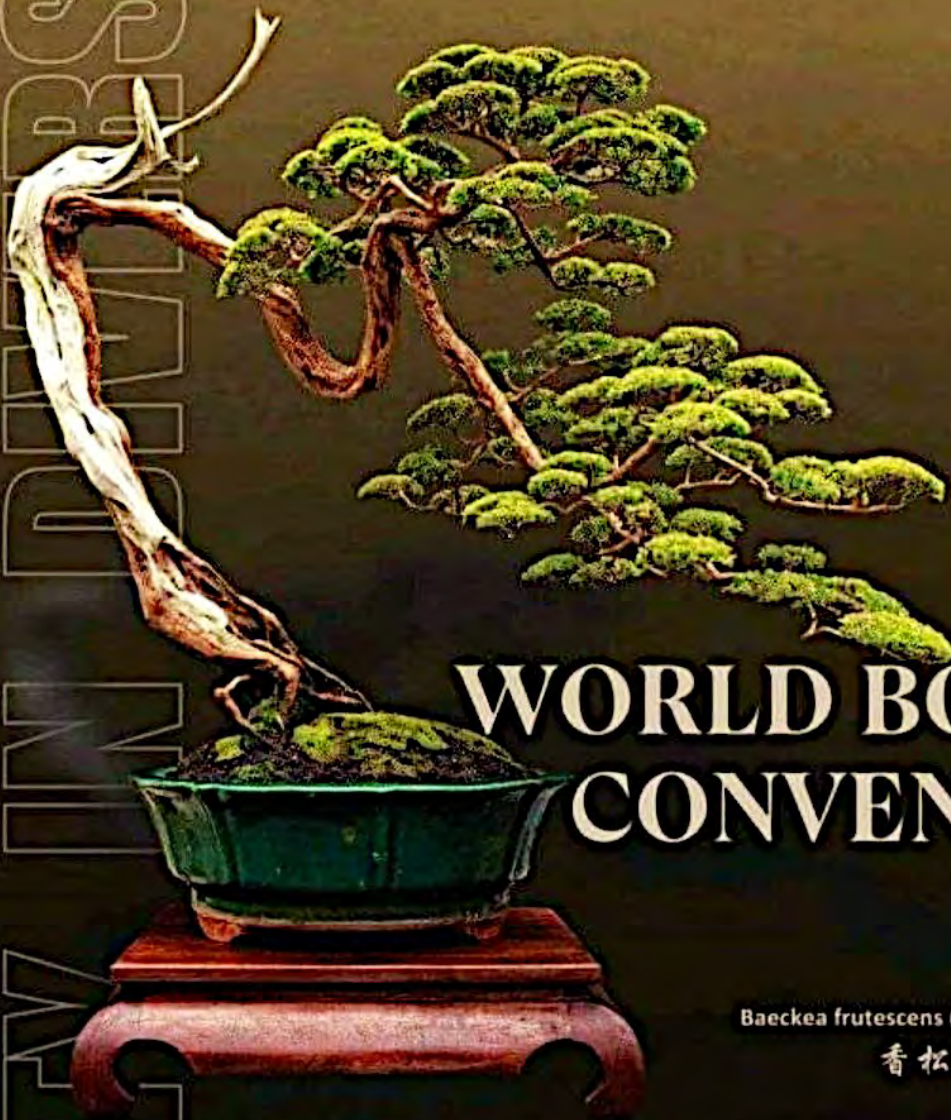


10<sup>th</sup> WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION  
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is the next selected host city

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**10<sup>th</sup>**  
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**2026**

Baeckea frutescens (Cucur Atap)

香松



PAVILION  
BUKIT JALIL



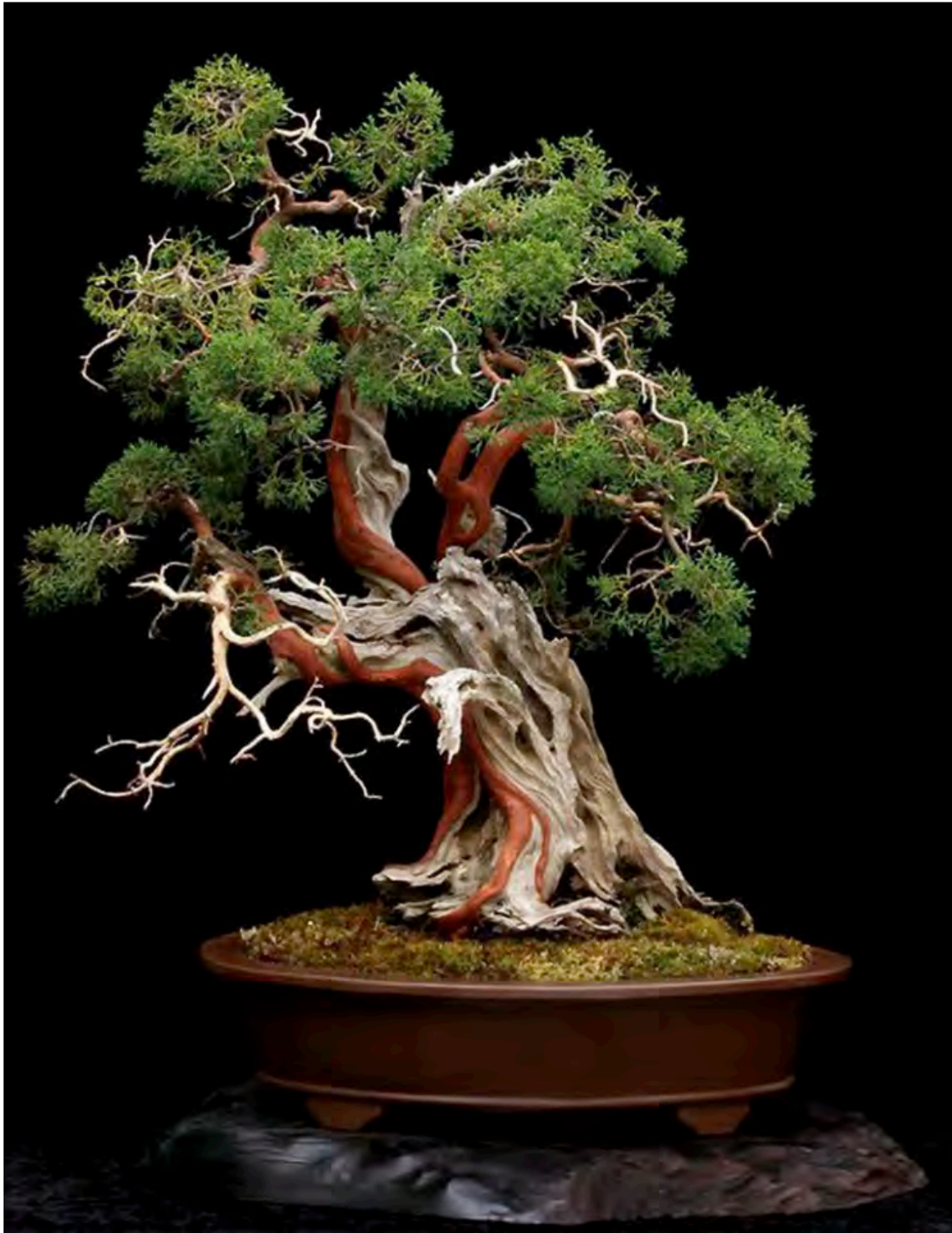
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## *Gnarly Branches, Ancient Trees by Will Hiltz*

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This 700 year old yamadori California juniper (with Shimpaku juniper foliage grafted by Roy Nagatoshi) belongs to Dan Robinson, who collected and continues to grow and develop it. You can find a lot more about this and dozens of other bonsai masterpieces in *Gnarly Branches, Ancient Trees*, Will Hiltz excellent book about Dan (the Picasso of bonsai) and his ongoing love affair with bonsai and nature. *Courtesy of the Puget Sound Bonsai Association.*

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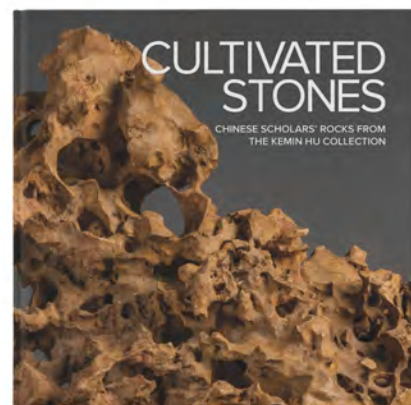
*News from the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum  
Cultivated Stones - Chinese Scholar Rocks Collection*

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As you may know, the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum has seen a remarkable expansion in its [Chinese Scholar Rocks collection](#), thanks to a generous gift from long-time patron and internationally recognized scholars' rock expert, Kemin Hu. The collection features more than 100 mesmerizing viewing stones.

To celebrate this monumental gift, The National Bonsai Foundation has released a beautiful collectors item: A 152-page, one-of-a-kind volume detailing Hu's gift to the Museum, titled [Cultivated Stones: Chinese Scholars' Rocks from the Kemin Hu Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum](#). Thomas S. Elias, Chairman of the Viewing Stone Association of North America has called the book "a *tour de*



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force in the global world of stone appreciation,” and “a must-have volume for all students of Chinese stone appreciation.”

The [book is available from Artbook Publishing](#), making it a perfect gift for fellow stone enthusiasts or art lovers this holiday season, or simply an impressive addition to your bookshelf or coffee table. Your purchase will support the National Bonsai Foundation and the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum. We are also thrilled to invite you to a [special exhibition](#) of these incredible stones. Beginning this [Wednesday, November 4](#) and running until March 17, 2024, the entire gifted collection will take center stage on display throughout the Museum, marking a historic moment in the world of Chinese Scholar Rocks.

We appreciate your ongoing support for this ancient and magnificent artform. We look forward to [welcoming you to the expanded viewing stones exhibit](#) at the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum soon!

Warm Regards,



Bobbie Alexander, Executive Director

The National Bonsai Foundation

P.S. You can [read Thomas S. Elias' full book review](#) on VSANA's English Book Reviews. And check out this [article about the gift from Kemin Hu](#) on VSANA's blog. Don't forget to [get a copy the book](#) for yourself and a loved one!



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Pacific Bonsai Museum  
Federal Way, Washington  
[www.pacificbonsaimuseum.org](http://www.pacificbonsaimuseum.org)

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<https://www.usnationalbonsai.com/register/commemorative-items/>



**8th U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition  
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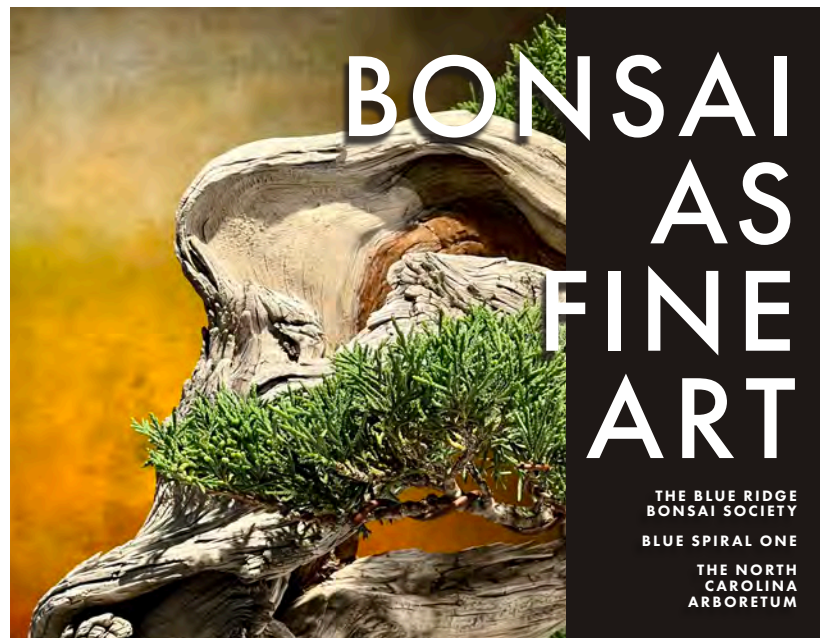
*\$7, Postage CANADA \$28*

*Will be released in the summer 2024*

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***Bonsai as Fine Arts Commemorative Album***

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The commemorative album of the Bonsai as Fine Art Exhibition, June 2-11, 2023, is in production and may be pre-ordered at <https://www.blueridgebonsaisociety.com/copy-of-work-space>. Photo by Oby Morgan.

# 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

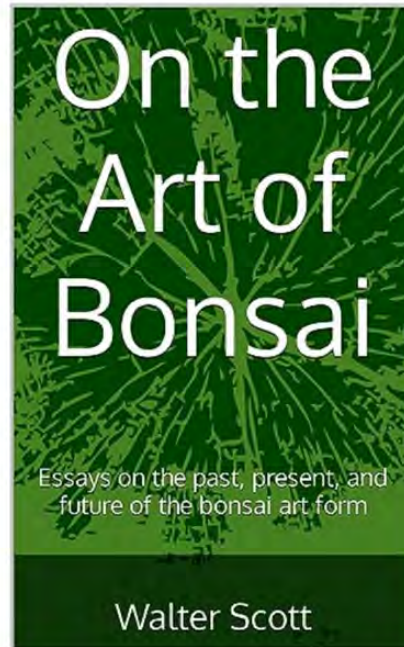


**FOR SALE:** Pumice 5 gallon bucket \$15 - bring your own buckets. Small and medium Double Red Line Akadama. The last pallet went fast, so let me or Tim know if you need any. Cost is \$50 for IBA Club Members and \$55 for nonmembers. Contact Scott Allen or Tim Peterson. Lava - Contact DaSu.

**FOR SALE:** DaSu Studio, [lowman@netins.net](mailto:lowman@netins.net)  
Has LOTS of Tropicals, new dwarf conifers and 128 new companion plants - many varieties at good prices.

**For Sale:** Bruce Pendland has Pre-Bonsai Trees, Pots (Chinese, Walsall and Tokoname), Metal and large Wooden Benches for sale. Email Bruce at ([brucependland@gmail.com](mailto:brucependland@gmail.com)).

*New Book!*  
**Available Now on Amazon !**



*Walter Scott, MD is a member of the PA bonsai society. He is a regional editor for the ABS and contributes articles to the Newsletter and ABS Journal. He writes the popular Artistreebonsai blog.*

*"An Exploration of Bonsai Art and Practice"*

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