



Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

www.iabonsai.org

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

From The Editor

Susan Daufeldt

Really Sorry this is so late, Folks! Computer issues, spring repotting, moving trees continuously (and so forth) have put me behind. This is a great



issue. Don't miss the recap from the March meeting. We hope to see you at the Spring Show this month. Blessings!

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

TREES AVAILABLE: Pre-bonsai from a bonsai practitioner who is scaling down. These trees will go out of state in short order unless folks in Iowa want them. 5 Dawn Redwood - various sizes - might make a good grove planting (\$50 for all 5); 4 Catawba Crape Myrtle - various sizes (\$30 for all 4); 3 small trident maples (\$20.00 for all 3); Larch (\$15.00); 6 Spruce (Colorado & Norway)(\$30.00 for all 6); 2 Zlekova (fairly good-sized)(\$30 for the 2); Chinese quince (\$10); Japanese Black Pines, Scots Pines, and more. All very inexpensive. All out of dormancy. I have fertilized them twice and sprayed them.

In addition, I have some Bonsai that need homes to make room for others coming on: Engleman Spruce (\$150.00); Crabapple (\$100.00); Crabapple (\$50.00); Japanese maple (\$50.00); 2 Chinese elm (\$20 each); and more.

If interested, contact Susan Daufeldt

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
Notice of Upcoming Events		p 5, 19
Timely Tips	Susan Daufeldt	p 6
IBA Meeting Report	Jared Wall & C. Martin	p 7-13
Winter Silhouette Exhibit	S. Daufeldt	p 14-16
EIBA Meeting		p 17
Bonsai Classifieds		p 20

Corporate Sponsor



DaSu Bonsai Studios
Iowa's Finest Bonsai Trees

www.bonsaitrees.com

Newsletter Staff

Susan Daufeldt - Editor
Jared Wall - Reporter

IBA President's Report

Scott Allen

Dear IBA members and friends,

After a month of doing the Bonsai shuffle I think my trees are finally out to stay. I hope anyway. Our March meeting was action packed and Dan Morton did a great job presenting work with a Japanese Maple. Our April meeting falls on Saturday April 20 which is during the Spring show. There's one spot left for the Julian Tsai bring your own tree/trees workshop on Saturday April 27. Cost is \$100. If interested contact me at 515-480-4437. Hope to see you all soon.

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.

The 2nd Annual Winter Silhouette and Flowering Tree Exhibition was a big success with some exceptional trees on display. A big Thank you to Susan Daufeldt for organizing the show and to all that brought Rees and participated in the day's events.

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. If you're looking for lava, contact Dave Lowman at Dasu Bonsai.

Hope to see you all soon!Sincerely,

Scott Allen, IBA President,

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

IBA/EIBA Newsletter Editor

scdaufeldt@icloud.com

(319) 430-3822

EIBA Report

Bill Englert

Greetings Everyone,

Eastern Iowa Bonsai Association held its March meeting on the 21st at Pierson's Greenhouse in Cedar Rapids. We had good attendance, with 19 members present. Topic for the evening was repotting. During the meeting, John Clemens demonstrated the proper techniques for repotting. John repotted a Chinese Elm along with an Acacia tree. These two trees were some of the ones donated to our club from a member that passed away last year. Once John had the trees out of their pots, we saw that the soil was basically mud-like, and the pot was lined with landscape fabric. John cleaned up the roots, sifted soil and wired the rejuvenated trees back into their pots using bonsai soil. John showed the proper way to get soil down into all the open spaces in the pots and to make sure there were no air spaces. The trees were then watered and given back to the owners.

The next item for the night was making the final plans for our Azalea workshop with David Kreutz on April 13th, 2024, at the Carriage house at Bruce more in Cedar Rapids. Our workshop will start at 9:00 that morning and continue until around 1:30. We will have 10 participants working on trees, under David's direction, and we will have 10 observers during the class listening and watching the others. Everyone will be able to purchase a tree but only the participants will be working on trees.

The next board meeting will be held on April 11th, 2024, at Leonardo's starting at 6:30. If interested in attending contact the board members.

The club meeting will be on April 18th, 2024, at 7:00PM. Topic for the evening will be branch pruning and shaping. Location is Pierson's Greenhouse on Ellis Blvd.

I hope this finds everyone well and working on trees as weather permits. Happy growing!

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.

- 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).
Spring Show Set up Starts at 8 am, Saturday, April 20. Tear down begins at 4 pm on Sunday. Please help if you can.
- 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: **Identifying insects, disease & fertilizer.**
- June 13, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)** *EIBA Board Meeting at Leonardo's. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- June 15, 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: **Pruning for Health & Styling.**
- June 20, 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.**

Notice of Upcoming Events

Susan Daufeldt

Iowa Bonsai Association Spring Show & Sale

April 20-21, 2024

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden



Iowa Bonsai Association Fall Show at Reiman Gardens, Ames, IA

November 8-10, 2024



American Bonsai Society Learning Seminars 2024

Register Now!

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

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



Continued Next Page

Timely Tips - April

Susan Daufeldt

Well. This is a little different sort of spring. Timely tips for April 2024 includes things we ordinarily do in May - many trees are 3-4 weeks ahead of schedule because of the mild weather. With such drastic temperature extremes, it's very windy. Keep those recently repotted 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. Even if your trees have not been repotted, spring is a windy season and trees that did not require water for weeks indoors may dry out in a matter of hours once they get outside. The same is true when trees come out of dormancy - all of a sudden the tree that was always moist will start to draw water, sometimes drastically. Watch your trees' water needs. If you can't check on them during the day, you may want to water in the morning before you leave home.

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.

Keep an eye on your wire as trees begin to grow. Wire bite can happen quickly on deciduous trees and conifers may be badly affected, also, resulting in undesirable reverse taper. Conifers: If the wire bite is more than a quarter of the width of the wire, remove it. Wire should not be allowed to bite on deciduous trees.

When to repot or collect a tree: Generally, when the tree begins to show signs of coming out of dormancy. Watch for green buds on deciduous trees, growing tips on junipers. If deciduous trees have leafed, it is probably too late, though there are some species that can tolerate a late repotting or transplanting.

A few thoughts on fertilizing:

- It is traditional and recommended that we do NOT fertilize trees that have been repotted or collected for the first month after repotting or collecting.
- It is generally recommended that initial fertilizing in the Spring should be mild. Most people begin with a fish emulsion fertilizer, but Bjorn Bjornholm recommends a high nitrogen synthetic fertilizer out of the box for deciduous trees in early development (to thicken the trunk).
- Consider your purpose when determining when to start fertilizing. If you are growing or developing a younger tree, you may want to get right at it once the tree begins to break. But if the tree is an older and more refined, then you will want to wait until it is just hardening off its spring growth (Hagedorn). Fertilizing older, refined bonsai too early and/or too much will result in long internodes on deciduous trees and undesirable juvenile growth on aged conifers.

As always, if you're relatively new to the Art, seek out more experienced club members for advice whenever you need it. Have a terrific month!

IBA Meeting - March 16, 2024

Jared Wall/Photos by Chris Martin

IBA welcomed 17 attendees to the March 16, 2024, open work study/monthly meeting. This month's topic was repotting and root pruning. IBA Member Dan Morton and President Scott Allen presented. Meeting attendance has been up this year. We appreciate all who attend and everyone's support of the Iowa Bonsai Association's continued mission of advancing the art of Bonsai

There will NOT be a monthly meeting/open study in April as the date conflicts with the Iowa Bonsai Association spring show. Please join us at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden for our annual spring show 2024, Saturday, April 20th (9 am - 5 pm), and Sunday, April 21st (9 am- 4 pm). If you are able to help setup, we start at 8 am on Saturday. All help is welcome. Tear down begins Sunday at 4 pm. Volunteers are needed for tear down. Please help if you can. Spring show is a great opportunity to see Bonsai as it awakens from its winter dormancy, flowering trees, new leaves, thickening needles - it's a beautiful time of year.



Above, IBA Members listen while Scott Allen explains repotting practices and Dan Morton prepares to demonstrate separation of a cutting-grown Japanese Maple and repotting in the root-over-rock style. Right, Bob West repots a tree during the meeting.

Continued Next Page

Monthly meeting topics listed are listed below. These were taken from the Meeting Topics Survey results, The most popular made the list. On behalf of Scott Allen, Ron Heinen, and myself, thank you to all who took a moment to let us know what topics you were most interested in discussing.

March: repotting/ root pruning

April: no meeting - Spring Show

May: identifying insects, disease and fertilizer

June: pruning/ styling for health

July: think seasons, plan, create a vision

August: Hot weather watering

September: carving, Jin/Shari Ron will lead the discussion and demo tools

October: wintering, indoor lighting, Ron will have a slide show of members setups for indoor and outdoor storage

November: benefit auction



Above, Dan Morton begins the process of removing a cutting-grown Japanese maple from among its fellows (all grown together in the same starting container). Right, Dan examines the roots and discusses the rock planting.



Continued Next Page



Top left, the roots of the cutting-grown Japanese maple are well-developed and healthy. Above, the roots after the tap-root is removed. At left, the maple positioned on the rock.

Continued Next Page



Above left, the roots of the maple are fixed around the rock with grafting tape, a flexible (NOT sticky), soft, rubbery, material. Above right, Dan adds sifted soil to the pot, covering the rock and roots entirely. Over time, the soil level will be reduced, with more and more of the rock and roots exposed.



Left, Dan Morton's ingenious sifting bucket. Dan cut the bottom out of the bucket, leaving a rim, which holds a stiff plastic screen in place. Sifted soil is put in the bucket and washed. This means that the soil is REALLY clean when it goes into the bonsai pot.

Continued Next Page



Dan brought a few other things to the meeting besides his Japanese maples. **Stay with me - see next page!**

Continued Next Page



Whoever thought that all those pieces could turn into this amazing stand! It can be completely assembled and disassembled for travel. A great advantage for those of us who struggle to get everything safely packed into the vehicle when we head for an exhibition! **Next Page:** Another of Dan's stands that can be completely disassembled.

Continued Next Page



IBA Winter Silhouette & Flowering Tree Exhibition

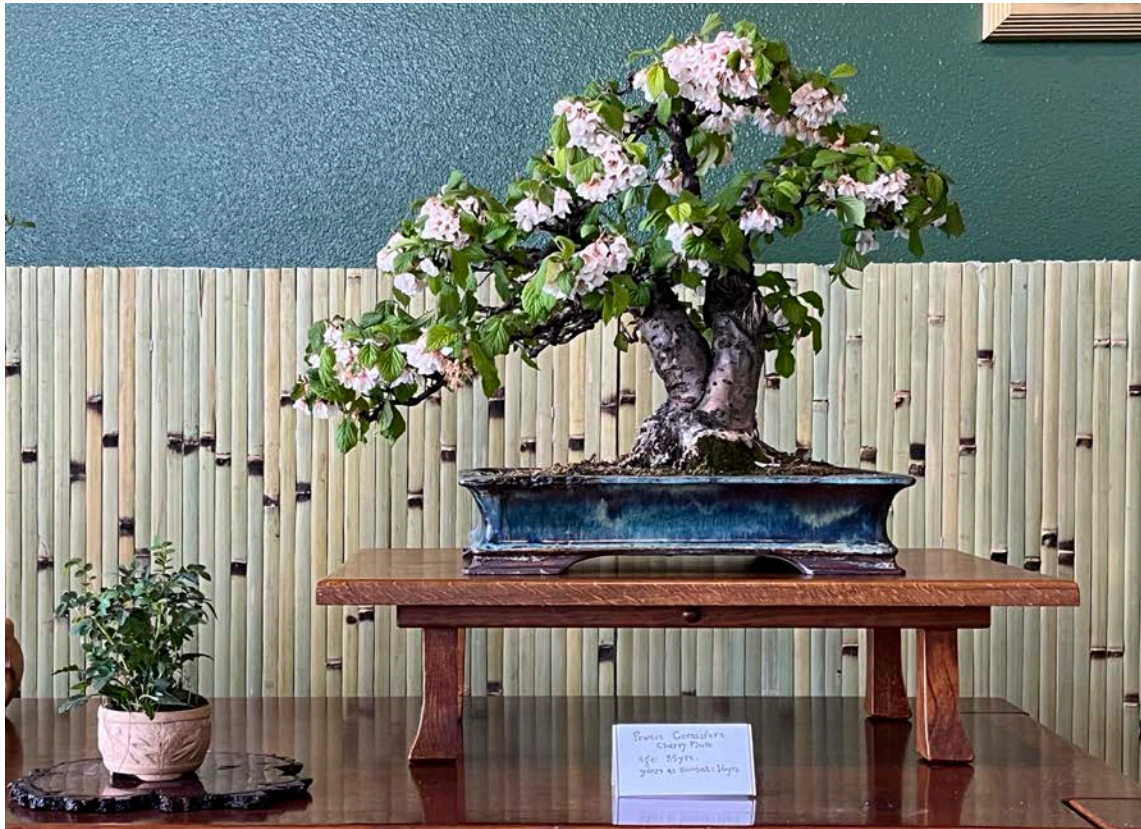
Susan Daufeldt

The IBA's second annual Winter Silhouette & Flowering Tree Exhibition was a bit of a challenge this year - so many trees were so far forward in flowering and break because of the unusually mild winter. But the Greenhouse is a great venue and we enjoyed the day. In spite of basketball, we had a pretty steady flow of visitors, a number of which were keenly interested in the Art. Thank you to everyone who came, brought trees and helped to answer visitors' questions. The venue likes having us and we'll do it again next year the 4th Saturday of March. EIBA members are welcome to show trees or just stop in for a bit.



Dan Morton's 90+ year-old elm was a show-stopper. Stand by Dan Morton. Accent and Accent Pot by Ron Heinen. Photo by Susan Daufeldt.

Continued Next Page



Above, Ron Heinen's beautiful 35 year-old cherry in flower. Pot by Ron Heinen. Accent by Susan Daufeldt. Left, Ron Heinen (left) and Jared Wall (right) hanging out after set up. A couple of trees provided by Susan Daufeldt are visible on the right side of the photo. Photos by Susan Daufeldt.

Continued Next Page



Jared Wall's Korean Hornbeam already in leaf. Pot by Ron Heinen. Accent: Plains violet and Mayapple by Susan Daufeldt. Photo by Susan Daufeldt.

EIBA Meeting - March 21, 2024



EIBA President John Clemens demonstrates the intricacies of repotting at the EIBA meeting March 21, 2024. Photos by Bill Englert.



Bill Englert's 28 years old crabapple pulls out all the stops and puts on a great spring show! Photo courtesy of Bill Englert.



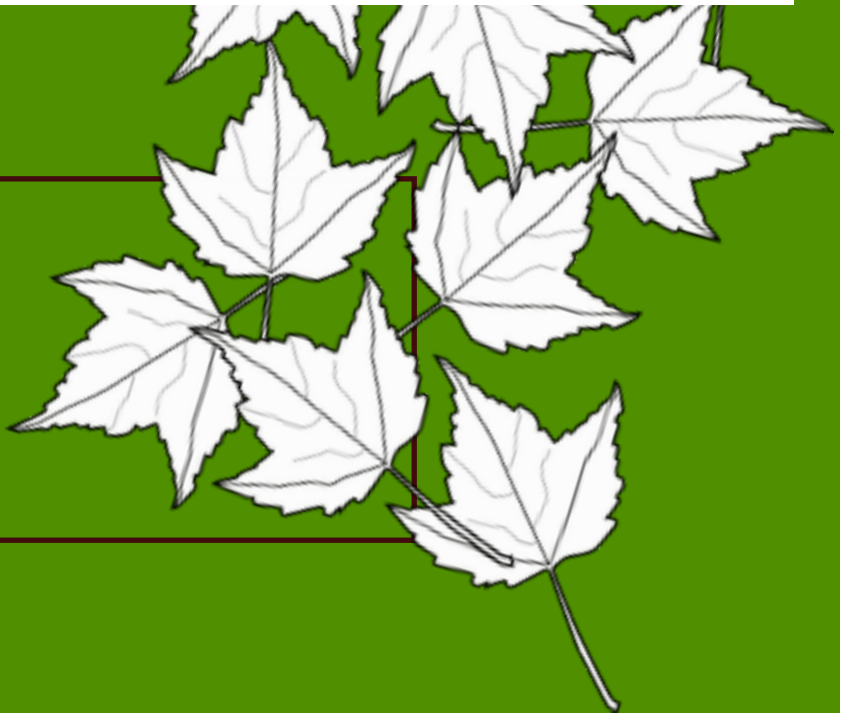
AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETY

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>.

Iowa

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



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 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).

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.
