

# Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

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

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

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## IBA September Activities

### Open Study Group 9:00 am to Noon

**Topics:** *Come when you want and bring a tree to work on to work on.*

**Roundtable Discussion, 10:30 am:** *Topic is winterisation.*

**IBA Meetings at The Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden.  
909 Robert D. Ray Drive**

*Everybody is welcome.*

## EIBA September Activities

**September 13, 6:30 pm. Board Meeting at Panera Restaurant on Edgewood Road**

**Topics:** *Club Soil Prep, New Officers.*

**September 20, 6:30 pm. Club Bonsai and Supply Sale, 7:00 pm. Mtg at Bill Engert's home in Swisher.** *Topics: Come early and participate in the big sale of bonsai, seedlings, pots, supplies.*

**October 11, 6:30 pm. Board Meeting at Panera Restaurant on Edgewood Road**

**Topics:** *Election of Officers.*

**Corporate Sponsor  
DaSu Bonsai Studios**



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## 2018 Iowa State Fair Bonsai Show and Awards Ron Heinen

The mission statement for all clubs should be to invite new membership, disseminate relevant information, and reward superior effort. All components should work together to improve the goals of the club. The IBA has once again successfully addressed these objectives at the Iowa State Fair this year.

Thanks to the planning of David Richmond and the helpful hands of IBA members, a display was put together that represents some of the best in Iowa bonsai.

Evidenced by the thousands of visitors and as many questions, I have no doubt that our efforts will be rewarded by increased attendance at our next IBA meeting at the Botanical Gardens.

David Richmond, Larry Totton, and David Lowman

conducted one of the most informative lectures and demonstrations that we have had to date. While the moderator, David R., directed questions and comments, David L. demonstrated wiring and Larry addressed the most complex concepts in a manner that the public could understand. Ivan Hanthorn and Zoe Nady added outstanding clarification from the crowd. I know, because I overheard many in the audience talk about the relevance of the talk.

Todd Schlafer, who did an all day demonstration on three club member trees on Saturday at the Botanical Gardens, judged the show. Following a presentation of ribbons, Todd did a walk around critique on every bonsai. His critiques were educational and thought-provoking.

Besides the usual ribbons of best of show, first, second, third, and so on. We also had 3 monetary awards of excellence, sponsored by DaSu Studios, Ted Lare Garden Center, and the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens.

A special thanks goes out to all IBA members who showed trees, and helped with set up and take down.

The following were award recipients:

- Living Art Award (Da Su Studios)-Ron Heinen
- Award of Preeminence (Ted Lare Garden Center)  
Zoe Nady
- Award of Excellence (Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens)-Zoe Nady
- Best of Show – Ron Heinen
- Blue 1st Place – Scott Allen, Ron Heinen (2)  
Zoe Nady (2)
- Red 2nd Place – Zoe Nady, Ron Heinen
- White 3rd Place – Scott Allen (2)
- Pink 4th Place – Ivan Hanthorn
- Yellow 5th Place – Larry Totten (2)



*Best of show and Da Su award for Living Art Form  
Ron Heinen, Ilex*



*Greater DesMoines  
Award of Excellence  
Zoe Nady  
Austrian Pine*



*Ted Lare Award of Preeminence, Zoe Nady, Olive*

## EIBA NewBo Show 2018

John Denny

Eastern Iowa Bonsai Association held its second show this year at NewBo Market. The show was excellent. The venue has worked very well with good crowds helped by the Farmer's Market overflow. The logistics of this event location were excellent. Set up was easy, Excellent food and drink are available.

A car show and dog show in close proximity all brought in more people, including a delightful couple from France who have several bonsai trees of their own.



are making progress. If you missed this year's show, make sure you catch the one next year! Enjoy the photos!

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The club's trees and displays were the best anyone can remember, which shows the club and members



### IBA Workshops Coming in 2019

For your planning purposes, here are multiple opportunities for workshops next year. Contact Scott Allen if interested.

#### **Todd Schlafer Workshop**

Saturday Oct 13th, 2018 at the Magruders. It's \$75 for a full day workshop and there are still a few spots open.

#### **Bjorn Bjornholm Workshop**

May 6-8 2019. May 6-7 will be individual study and May 8 will be a bring your own tree workshop. Workshop is \$100 and a deal at that. The Bring your own tree workshop Bjorn did at ABS in ST Louis was \$295. At this point the workshop still has a few slots available. Contact Scott Allen if you want to register.

## **Bjorn Bjornholm Demo**

Aug 10-11 2019. Saturday August 10 Bjorn will be doing 3 demo's at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden and Sunday August 11 Bjorn will be judging the Iowa State Fair Bonsai Show.

Also as an FYI. The IBA has sources for a couple pallets of Hard Akadama in Small and Medium sizes so if you need any Akadama let me know. Right now where planning to have it available at fall show. It's \$29.50 a bag.



## **Andy Smith Workshop in Cedar Rapids** *John Denny*

In August, Andy Smith of South Dakota, gave a workshop on collected trees to several Eastern Iowa club members at the Pavillion in Jones Park.

Andy brought trees he had collected, mostly Ponderosa, for members to style with his generous help. He also showed us several trees he had brought to the Chicago Show the prior weekend, some of which were quite impressive.



Everyone enjoyed Andy's laid back personality and easy working style. He told a few stories, discussed everyone's trees they were about to engage with, then got down to work prepping and styling. It was great fun for both the more experienced and those who were in their first workshop. In the end, each member took home a fine tree they were proud of.

## **Timely Tips** *John Denny*

It is the first week in September as I write this and we have had a week of solid rain with four more days predicted. My trees are wishing to trade their shade screen for an umbrella.

As temperatures cool in September, evaporation and transpiration of moisture slow. This means less water is needed for our trees than what they required over summer. Stick your finger in the soil of each tree to get an idea of dampness. No need to water an already wet soil, especially in larger, deeper pots.

With all the rain, be on the lookout for fungus. If you see issues, use a fungicide like Daconil or equivalent.

If you have pine bonsai, fall is the time to fertilize them hard. A light fertilizer works for most other trees. Later in fall you may wish to end fertilization altogether and allow your trees to harden off for winter.

If you have tropical bonsai, they should have been outside doing very well all summer. Keep them outside as long as the night time temps remain above 50-55F. Bring them inside if the temps drop. Put them back out again if the temps allow. This means keeping an eye on the weather, but it will help your tropicals stay strong if you can keep them outside longer into early fall. When you finally bring them in for good, give them a good spray for pests and disease.