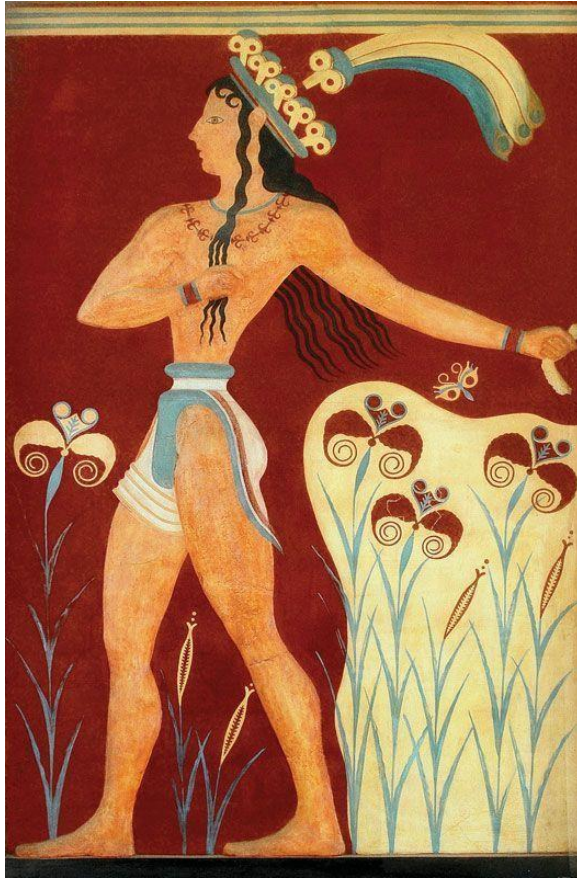


Region 21 Bulletin American Iris Society

Spring/Summer 2017



Fall Meeting Information & Registration Enclosed

Bulletin No. 148

EDITORIAL NOTE

The last Region 21 Bulletin was Issue 147 published in early 2010.

Region 21 Affiliates

Iowa

Heart of Iowa Iris Growers

Website: hoiig.wordpress.com

President: Sue Witt cswitt2065@gmail.com

Siouxland Iris Society

Website: topdog51031.wixsite.com/siouxland-iris

President: Mike Becker topdog51031@frontier.com

Nebraska

Greater Omaha Iris Society

Website: greateromahairissociety.org

President: Linda Wilkie lrwilkie@gmail.com

Lincoln Iris Society

Website:

President: David Lionberger lionswiss@windstream.net

Monument Valley Iris Society

Website:

President: Micki Vest 308-631-3816

North Dakota

No Affiliate

South Dakota

Sioux Empire Iris Society

Website:

President: Arnold Koekkoek koekkoek@mtcnet.net

Canada

Can-West Iris Society - includes: Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, & Nunavut

Website: cwis.webplus.net

President: B J Jackson jacksonb@mts.net

Cover Art: "Fresco of the Priest-King from a wall of the Palace of Minos at Knossos. The conventionalized irises (probably Xiphiums) in this relief, painted nearly 4,000 years ago, are the oldest pictured irises yet discovered." Source: The Irises Book by Molly Price, 1966(available from Region 21 Library)

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**RVP Message –
From the Desk of Kelly Norris**

Kelly’s message will be published on the
Region 21 website.

2016 Region 21 Youth Members Honors

Congratulations to:

Alexander Brase Overall winner of AIS Coloring Contest and best in his age group (10-12).

Rebekah Brase First place winner in age group (13-15).

Madison Kirchner 2015 Photo Contest Winner, Youth Division for ‘Tom Cat Irises.’

Sara Green Winner of 2015 Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement.

Alexander Brase & Rebekah Brase Ackerman Essay Senior Division, 3rd place tie.

Katharina Brase Ackerman Essay Junior Division, 1st Place (tie).

A TIP OF THE HAT TO PAST RVPS

- ▶ **Linda Wilkie** - currently serving as President of the Greater Omaha Iris Society.
- ▶ **Ron Costner** - currently serving as VP of the Tall Bearded Iris Society and as an AIS Director.
- ▶ **LeRoy Meininger** – currently an active hybridizer.
- ▶ **Gary White** - currently serving as AIS President.

IN MEMORIAM

We have lost several members over the past few years.

Among those we have lost are –

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Julia Feil | Vince Fox | Barbara Grimes |
| Linda Gutnik | Jim Hummel | Leland Nelson |
| Mary Peterson | Wilma Stricker | Opal Wulf |

Expanded tributes will be featured in this and coming issues.

Linda L. Gutnik

December 11, 1949 - November 25, 2016

Linda Gutnik, of Sioux Falls, SD, passed away Friday, Nov. 25, 2016.



Linda was born on December 11, 1949 in Oil City, PA, to Olin and Lucile Baum. She was a graduate of Oil City High School, attended Kent State University in Kent, OH, and completed her nursing degree at Cleveland County Hospital. She worked as a surgical RN in Ohio, where she met and married Dr. Steve Gutnik. The couple moved to Sioux Falls, SD in 1985, where Steve established his medical practice and they raised their family.

Linda, an avid gardener, had a passion for floral design and landscaping. She was an active member of the Sioux Empire Iris Society.

Linda loved traveling, domestically and internationally, and recently traveled to the Galapagos with her son, Arthur, as a lifetime destination trip. She was the ultimate Sioux Falls Skyforce basketball fan and rarely missed a game.

Linda is survived by her husband and three children.



Mary Peterson Memorial

by Marjorie Jansen

Mary Peterson, a former member of the Elkhorn Valley Iris Society, died July 16, 2014. Don and Mary Peterson were active members of EVIS during the '70s, '80s, and early '90s. They lived on a corner lot in Columbus, NE where they enjoyed growing a wide variety of iris, ranging from MDBs to TBs and Sibbs. The Petersons plant interests included daylilies, hostas, peonies, and many other plants, as well as iris.

Mary was born and raised in western Nebraska where she began her teaching career in a one-room school house in Keith County. After she completed her Masters degree in Education in Lincoln, she began teaching at the University. Later she worked as office manager in the Columbus Clinic. Following Don's death on October 21, 1994, Mary continued to live in the home they had shared.

She was a life member of the American Iris Society, a member of the Nebraska Daylily Society and involved in book clubs, the Columbus Art Gallery and Friends of Music.

Mary is survived by a son Eric (Liz) Peterson, a daughter Kirstin Peterson, granddaughter Charlotte Peterson, one sister and one brother.

Those of us who knew Mary will always remember her warm and friendly manner

IRISES ON THE PRAIRIE

More than a few irises were introduced to the prairie by homesteaders in the 1800's. Irises provided the same comfort and currency of frontier friendship on the plains that they did for the settlers of the Avalon Colony in Newfoundland in the 1600's.

Plants have long known how to convince humans to give them a lift to new territory - often, by rewarding with the fragrance and beauty of the familiar in unfamiliar territory but, also, by providing a way of exercising generosity under, sometimes, stark circumstances.

Some of the Irises available to 1800's Midwestern homesteaders were: 'Amas' (Foster 1885), 'Chenedolle' (Van Houtte 1872), 'Cordelia' (Parker 1873), 'Mexicana' (Salter 1859), and 'Perfection' (Barr & Sons 1880).

Of course, there were many more, some of which, you might have in your own garden.

HISTORIC IRISES IN THE G. W. FRANK MUSEUM LANDSCAPE

To put it simply – there are none. But there soon will be. We are helping the volunteer gardeners of the G. W. Frank Museum locate iris cultivars that would have been available at the time the private home was built in the 1880's.

The grounds are currently undergoing landscape restoration and renovation. While the work is in progress, an iris nursery bed is being prepared to house and nurture donated historic irises that will later be carefully placed in the gardens. We are working with the group to identify what irises would likely have been available to choose from at the time and which of these they would like to include. We are also asking Region 21 members to let us know if they have historic cultivars from that period, which they would be willing to donate for this project.

We will have more information when we meet in August.

FRONTIER ARCHITECTURE AND CULTURE

The G. W. Frank Museum of History and Culture, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and located on the University of Nebraska Kearney Campus, was built as a private, three story residence in the 1880's when big dreamers viewed the western vista as a fresh canvas. The Kearney Canal was being dug with the expectation of bringing hydroelectric power to the prairie, while freshly laid railways were opening up new opportunities for travel and commerce.

It was one of the first houses west of the Missouri River to be wired for electricity during its initial construction and it featured steam radiators as well as indoor plumbing. All were rare luxuries in the middle of the Nebraska prairie.

Built in the Richardsonian Romanesque Shingle style and constructed of Colorado Red Sandstone mined from Wyoming, the building still contains 7 of the original 10 fireplaces, complete with tiles imported from Holland. It also features ornately hand carved oak woodwork and an outstanding stained glass window.

“The Frank Museum of History and Culture serves as a living institution, interpreting the home and its cultural resources, and is dedicated to exploring our past as a way of better understanding our present and future.”

MORE IRISES EYE CANDY TO ENJOY

The beauty of irises is captivating. New Region 21 member, Mary Ann Shao, an iris lover and gifted artist, captures that beauty in her delightful pastels. The work of this central Iowa artist can be seen on her website (makainlauristudio.squarespace.com). You will get a chance to meet Mary Ann at the 2017 Convention in Des Moines, where she will be serving as a volunteer.

FALL MEETING PILOT PROGRAM

The topics of finding a permanent central location for Region 21 Fall Meetings, and shifting planning responsibility from Affiliates to the Region have been discussed for several years. The ideal location remains an elusive target while the burden on individual Affiliates has become a growing issue. At the 2016 Fall Meeting, a pilot program was approved to address these issues.

It was decided that a regular rotation between two sites might be a better solution than a single location. The two cities selected are Kearney, Nebraska (odd years) and Ames, Iowa (even years).

While, timing of the Fall Meeting has also been a topic of discussion in recent years, for the time being, the pilot will be using the traditional second weekend of August dates.

Pilot Program committee members are Wayne Messer, Pam Messer, and Kris Jurik, with Gary White and Linda Rader serving as advisors.

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Canada

Can-West Iris Society - includes: Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, & Nunavut

Website: cwis@webplus.net

Facebook: public group

Internet and email group only. No meetings.

We follow a different model.

Contact Person: B J Jackson jacksonb@mts.net

Organizing Committee:

BJ Jackson, jacksonb@mts.net

Jennifer Bishop, jbishop@dataways.com

Eleanor Hutchison, eleaneore@mymts.net

Deborah Petrie, martyaddict@gmail.com

Major Events for 2017:

Sunday, June 4 - **2017 Show (10th Annual)**

Bourkevale Community Centre
100 Ferry Road, Winnipeg MB

AFFILIATE REPORTS - continued

Iowa

Heart of Iowa Iris Growers

Website: hoiig.wordpress.com

President: Sue Witt cswitt2065@gmail.com

VP: Pam Messer

Secretary: Kris Jurik

Treasurer: Wayne Messer

Show & Sale Coaches: Libby and Kelly Jensen

The first meeting was held Sept 8, 2016. Those joining through 2017 will be charter members. Dues are \$12 a year per household

Meetings: 7:00 P.M., the last Thursday of the month, except May this year and Dec every year.

Location: Ankeny, IA

Check website for monthly location.

Major Events for 2017:

None, making plans for 2018.

Siouxland Iris Society

Website: topdog51031.wixsite.com/siouxland-iris

President: Mike Becker topdog51031@frontier.com

509 3rd Ave SE Le Mars, IA 51031

712-548-4568(H) 712-540-9169 (C)

VP: Arnie Koekkoek

Secretary: Susan Becker

Treasurer: James Bailey

Major Events for 2017:

June 18 - Local Garden Tours

July 15 - Club Iris Sale and Auction

Oct 21 - Fall Harvest Dinner Perkins near Menards

AFFILIATE REPORTS - continued

Nebraska

Greater Omaha Iris Society

Website: greateromahairisociety.org

President: Linda Wilkie lrwilkie@gmail.com

VP: Phyllis Randall

Secretary: Mary Schreiber

Treasurer: John Randall

Co-Curator of Collections: Gary White

Lincoln Iris Society

Website:

President: David Lionberger lionswiss@windstream.net

VP: Heidi Brase

Secretary: Jenny Cich

Treasurer: Lois Linke

Meetings: 6:30 P.M. the last Monday of the month,
except May and Dec

Location: For meetings and all events
St. Andrews Lutheran Church
1015 Lancaster Lane, Lincoln, NE

Major Events for 2017:

May 13 - Show

July 29 - Sale

Dec - Holiday Dinner

Monument Valley Iris Society

Website:

President: Micki Vest 308-631-3816

1325 14th Ave., Scottsbluff, NE 69361

VP: Vern Fegler

Secretary: Kathy Nielsen

Treasury: Stan Haas

Major Events for 2017:

2017 yearbook is currently being prepared.

AFFILIATE REPORTS - continued

South Dakota

Sioux Empire Iris Society

Website:

President: Arnold Koekkoek koekkoek@mtcnet.net

1132 First Ave SE, Sioux Center, IA 51250-1202

[712-722-0724](tel:712-722-0724)

VP: *Open*

Secretary: Carol Koekkoek

Treasurer: Dorothy Ver Hay

Meeting Schedule: Will start meeting in March for the year.

ALL AFFILIATES OPEN TO ALL!

Everyone is welcome to join and/or attend as many affiliates, as they like.

Feel free to indulge your iris interests by attending meetings and events of other affiliates, and other regions.

☞ The Untimely Disruption of The Bulletin ☛

The last Region 21 Bulletin was published in 2010. Suspension of publishing was unavoidable, unexpected, and unfortunate. In the interim, a number of volunteers have heroically attempted to get it up and running again.

Thank you to all those who stepped forward and were faced with insurmountable obstacles.

We are now in a different age of communication. While the internet and websites have made it possible to provide a wealth of immediate information, copies of governing documents, and links to resources, Region 21 still needs the Bulletin. This new partnership of information technology means, that going forward, the Bulletin can be a slimmer, still meaningful, publication.

Acting Editors – Wayne and Pam Messer

FRAGRANCE GARDENING

If you are looking for irises with a particular fragrance, your best first stop is the AIS Iris Encyclopedia.

Those interested in irises with a pronounced sweet fragrance, will find over 1,300 hits out of more than 63,000 listings.

Those interested in irises with a cinnamon fragrance will find only two: Lord of June (TB) and Matador (TB).

There are a large number of specific fragrances identified. Locust seems to have been particularly and uniquely popular in the 1920's, 30' and 40's. It's a fragrance I'm not certain we would know how to define today.

In recent years, unless the hybridizer includes a specific fragrance in the description, fragrances recorded reflect the choices available on the AIS Application for Registration:

Check two where applicable

- *Absent, Slight, or Pronounced*
- *Spicy, Sweet, or Musky*

This has led to listings for Sweet Spicy and Spicy Sweet.

On the next page is a list of fragrance descriptions found in the AIS Iris Encyclopedia. There might be more.

To track down your own favorite iris targets go to Irises.org and follow the instructions for searching the Iris Encyclopedia.

2017 Garden Tour Nose Challenge

'Angels In The Architecture' (Silvers, 2017), a guest iris found in four of the five 2017 host gardens, is described by Silvers as having a "strong grape fragrance."

Give it a sniff and let us know what you think.

Cultivar Fragrances

Acacia
Almond
Aniseed
Apple blossom
Baby Powder
Banana
Buckwheat
Chocolate
Cinnamon
Citrus
Clove
Dianthus
Frangipani
Fruity
Grape
Grape Soda
Honey
Honey Locust
Jasmine
Lemon
Licorice
Lilac
Lilac & Mint
Lime
Locust
Mint & Lilac
Nutmeg
Orange
Orange Blossom
Peach
Pineapple
Plum
Primrose

Root Beer
Rose
Strawberry
Talcum Powder
Tangerine
Tart
Vanilla
Violet
Waxy
Wine

Species Fragrances

Almond
Grape
Peach
Pineapple
Plum
Primrose
Vanilla
Violet

Nose of the Beholder

For an interesting take on the topic of fragrance, check out Katharina Brase's prize winning essay, "The Mysterious Scent of a Chocolate Cupcake," in the Summer 2016 issue of the AIS Bulletin, page 12.

LIBRARY HOLDINGS & NEWS

BOOKS

The oldest of the 102 book holdings in the Region 21 library, with known publication date, were all published in 1927:

- Iris in the Little Garden, by Ella Porter McKinney;
- The Iris, by John C. Wister; and,
- The Production of Hybrid Palestine Iris Corms, by David Griffiths

Another book of note from the same era is:

- Dykes On Irises: Works of William Rickatson Dykes
Compiled After His Death (1930)

AIS BULLETINS

297 issues dating back to October, 1931

REGION 21 BULLETINS

The first Region 21 Bulletin was published in 1950. We know this because it is referenced in the first issue of 1951.

There are several additional issues missing. If possible, we would like to obtain photocopies of these for inclusion in the collection. If you have any of the issues listed below, please let us know. We would be happy to receive a scan or a photocopy.

ISSUE	DATE
1	1950
100	Fall 1986
109	Spring 1991
111	Spring 1992
116	Fall 1994
125	Spring 1999

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Other regions bulletins, affiliate newsletters, slides and miscellaneous items.

The complete Region 21 Library catalog can be found on the Region 21 website. A printed copy is available upon request to Wayne Messer (P O Box 64, Huxley, IA 50124).

2017 Convention Needs You!

Volunteers are always needed to help make National Conventions successful. The same holds true for 2017 in Des Moines.

Yes, the whole production is a volunteer effort but of special importance are the volunteers who serve during the event to keep things running smoothly and to make everyone feel welcome.

The Volunteer Coordinator will be making assignments based on need and availability, which could vary considerably each day.

Some areas where volunteers are needed:

Registration Desk

AIS Silent Auction

Assistance with Laptops/Digital Projectors for Section Programs

Garden Tour Bus Captains

July Guest Iris Dig

This is not a complete list but gives you an idea of the variety of tasks.

Contact: Kelly Norris

1101 25th St, #9

Des Moines, IA 50311

kellydn@frontiernet.net

712-621-5399

Region 21 AIS Approved Judges

A = Apprentice M = Master G/E = Garden/Exhibition

Sue Becker, A

Lee Charlton, M

Ed Czarnecki, G/E

Eleanor Hutchinson, G/E

BJ Jackson, G/E

Marjorie Jansen, M

Rebecca Kadel, G/E

Arnold Koekkoek, G/E

Carolyn Lingenfelter, M

LeRoy Meininger, M

Kelly Norris, G/E

Tim Stanek, M

Dorothy Ver Hey, G/E

Gary White, M

Linda Wilkie, G/E

Acting Chair, Region 21 Judges Training: Kelly Norris

WEBSITE FYI

aisregion21.org

The governing documents for Region 21 can be found on the RESOURCES page of our website (see website address above). That's where you will also find the Region's library catalog, along with links to websites of interest to our members and Affiliate information.

Bylaws, standing rules, and library catalog PDF files can be downloaded. Printed copies of these documents are available upon request to Wayne Messer (P O Box 64, Huxley, IA 50124)

BULLETIN FYI

Two issues per year: Spring/Summer & Fall/Winter

The Region 21 Bulletin is where you will continue to find Bylaws mandated, printed information such as: meeting announcements, proposed bylaw changes, the Nomination's Committee slate of candidates, and the annual treasurer's report. Now that we have an active website, much of this information can also be found there.

The Bulletin issues, while trimmer, will still include special articles and meeting coverage. Garden tour photos will get richer space on the website but will still be a part of the Bulletin.

Bulletin Content Deadlines

Spring/Summer Issue: Feb 1
Fall/Winter Issue: Sept 1

BYLAWS & STANDING RULES NOTE

Suggested changes to Bylaws and Standing Rules should be submitted to Kelly Norris, RVP, and can be submitted for publication in the Region 21 Bulletin and on the website to Wayne Messer.

Directory

Officers & Directors 2016-2019

RVP Kelly Norris
1101 25th St, #9, Des Moines, IA 50311
kellydn@frontiernet.net
712-621-5399

ARVP -Open-

Immediate Past RVP Linda Wilkie
lrwilkie@gmail.com
402-493-3808

Secretary -Open-

Treasurer Sue Witt
cswitt2605@gmail.com
702-498-6413

Directors

3rd Year (2014-2017) Ron Charles,
Honors Committee Chair, &
Nominations Committee Chair

2nd Year (2015-2018) Kris Jurik,

1st Year (2016-2019) Mike Becker,
Iris Auction Purchase Committee Chair

Other

Bulletin Acting Editors Wayne and Pam Messer
P O Box 64, Huxley, IA 50124
wrmesser@gmail.com
515-597-4240

Website

www.AISRegion21.org
Wayne Messer, Webmaster

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Marjorie Jansen
Carolyn Lingenfelter
Kelly Norris
Gary White
Affiliate Presidents

CALENDAR

2017

- May 23-27 AIS Convention
Des Moines, IA
- Aug 11-12 Region 21 Fall Meeting
Kearney, NE
- Nov 3-4 AIS Board Meeting
Dallas, TX

2018

- April 9-14 AIS/SLI Convention
New Orleans
- May Region 21 Spring Meeting
TBA
- Aug 10-11 Region 21 Fall Meeting
Ames, IA
- Nov AIS Board Meeting

2019

- April 23-27 AIS Convention
Northern California
- May Region 21 Spring Meeting
TBA
- Aug 9-10 Region 21 Fall Meeting
Kearney, NE

2020

- May AIS National Convention
Newark, NJ
- Aug 7-8 Region 21 Fall Meeting
Ames, IA

Fall Convention Information and
Registration Form
Below



THE GREAT REGION 21
2017 CONVENTION AFTER PARTY

&
CELEBRATION

August 11-12
Kearney, Nebraska

*In the wake of what we expect to be a very successful
AIS Convention*

You are invited to join us for a

*Wallet friendly, Light-spirited, celebration of a job well
done!*

Friday, August 11

- 3:00 p.m. Optional Pre-Meeting Guided Tour:
G.W. Frank Museum of History and Cultural
- 6:00 p.m. Welcome Reception
Light Refreshment will be provided. Bring your beverage of choice.
- 7:00 p.m. Affiliate Panel and Roundtable Discussion
Reception to continue following program
- 8:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, August 12

- 9:00 a.m. Doors Open
- 9:15 a.m. Judges Training/Education Session – Jean Morris
Tall Bearded Irises – 2 hours
Ethics – 1 hour
- 12:15 p.m. Potluck Lunch and Awards Program
Bring a dish or a non-alcohol beverage to share
- 1:00 p.m. Membership Meeting, followed by Iris Auction
- 3:00 p.m. Adjournment

Swap Meet Table

An Iris Swap Meet Table will be open throughout the meeting on Saturday. Your rhizome donations are welcome. Proceeds will be used to make a donation to the Kearney Library for the use of their meeting space.

HOTEL ROOMS

Country Inn & Suites
105 Talmadge Street
Kearney, NE

Interstate 80, Exit 272, North on Second St. (Route 10)
Right at first light onto Talmadge Street

Room Rate: \$90 + tax for Standard Room with 2 Queen Beds
To receive special rate, reservations must be **by July 20.**

To reserve a room call the hotel (1-308-236-7500)
Specify **AIS Region 21 Block.**

MEETING LOCATIONS

Friday Afternoon: *Optional Guided Tour*

G.W. Frank Museum of History and Culture
2010 University Drive
Kearney, NE
Parking Lot #26

Interstate 80, Exit 272, North on Second Ave (Route 10)
Left on 25th Street (Route 30), Right into Lot # 26
Building is on the right at the north end of the lot.
We will gather on the front porch. (East side of house)

Friday Evening: Country Inn & Suites
105 Talmadge Street

Saturday: Kearney Public Library
2020 1st Avenue

Free parking: On street and in lot on the west side of building

Meeting room: Second floor Accessible by elevators or stairs.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ***JUDGES' TRAINING

Jean Morris - hybridizer, AIS Emeritus Judge, and design instructor - will be presenting a 2-hour program on Tall Bearded Irises and a 1-hour program on The Ethics of Judging. Both educational programs qualify as Judges Training.

REGION 21 FALL MEETING REGISTRATION

Registration Fees

___ Pre-Meeting Guided Tour \$5.00
(All tour registration fees will be donated to the museum.)

___ AIS Members \$10.00
___ Non-AIS Members \$15.00
___ Students attending only Education Sessions: FREE
Total _____

Name _____

Name _____
(List additional names, as needed, below.)

Address _____

Phone and/or email _____

Make checks payable to: AIS Region 21
Mail to: Pam Messer, P O Box 64, Huxley, IA 50124

- THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONAL FALL CONVENTION MAILING.
- Registration Form is also available on the Region 21 Website: www.aisregion21.org

THE GREAT REGION 21
2017 CONVENTION AFTER PARTY
&
CELEBRATION

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

I will be available to help with:

Friday Eve Welcome Reception

- ___ Set up
- ___ Refreshment Table
- ___ Anywhere needed
- ___ Clean up

Saturday

- ___ Registration
- ___ Set up
- ___ Swap Meet Table
- ___ Pot Luck Lunch Set up/Clean up
- ___ Auction
- ___ Clean up
- ___ Anywhere needed

JULY GUEST IRISES DIG – *Date(s) to be announced.*

___ I would like to help with the dig, if the dates match my availability.

Volunteers will be contacted after the convention for scheduling.