



Iris Gleanings

From the President

Join us!

GOIS meets on the second Monday of the month. (March, April, May, June, September, October, & November)

At
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

925 S 84th Street
Omaha, NE

Doors Open at 6:30 PM
Program begins at 7:00 PM

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I don't know about you but I just love the fall garden. Crisp air and bright sunshine make it a pleasure to get out and work in the garden beds. And it is that time of year when we do still need to be in our gardens. A little care now will prevent a lot of heartache next Spring.

If you haven't gotten your rhizomes planted, you need to get them in the ground now. They do need a chance to get established before a hard freeze.

This month we have an

exciting program planned for you. Kevin Smith will be demonstrating floral arranging with found objects. Kevin is an Instructor at MCC and a member of the American Institute of Floral Designers. Bring a container and cuttings from your yard and garden. Think outside the box, twigs, stems, grasses, any number of "found" objects are laying around your property all waiting to be combined into a lovely fall arrangement. If you found yourself a little envious of those who entered arrangements in the Spring



show now is the perfect opportunity to learn some tricks from a master.

Don't forget our garden clean-up at the park. Many hands make for light work.

Linda



Back to Basics

WINTER TRIMMING



Fall means garden clean-up in our part of the world. A little time on a cool fall afternoon is well spent and will yield a good return next Spring.

Remove any weeds and check to be certain your iris are not getting crowded by companion plants. Remove those now to improve air circulation. Crowding and poor air circulation contribute to Spring maladies like bacterial and mold rots.

As you work your way through your beds you'll notice that your bearded iris have broken dormancy and are actively growing again. Pull off the old shriveled leaves and trim

the foliage to keep the garden tidy.

This is when you'll see signs of developing stalks on your reblooming varieties as well. Be particularly careful when trimming fans that you don't snip off the developing stalks of your rebloomers.

Bearded iris, particularly the dwarf varieties, will tolerate some frost without damage to the plant. Protecting those emerging bloomstalks from frost will prevent the stunted, twisted and malformed bloomstalks that we often see on fall blooming varieties in our area.

Now is the time to check your markers for accuracy.

Use the AIS Encyclopedia (the WIKI, it's free!) to check any names of which you are unsure. Make certain that you have used a UV and weather resistance marking system. Many a club member has found out the hard way that 'permanent' marker doesn't mean it will last through our summers/winters. And always, always keep a list and a map of what you have planted.

We can help you identify cultivars if you know what you should have rather than presenting us with a white iris. (and yes, even I lose track of things from time to time.)

Enjoy your winter's rest!

MTB

Dividing Line
(Bunnell)
2014 Dykes Medal

Members watch...

Those of you who have had the pleasure of visiting with member Stan Sass and his lovely wife Twila might already know that he is a photographer of some prowess. Not only was Stan a winner in the American Iris Society's photography contest but one of his images was also chosen for the AIS calendar. You can see Stan's

winning photograph in the photos and puzzles section of the American Iris Society's website (www.irises.org). His image titled 'Silk Run in Duo' received an Honorable Mention in the Close-up Division. Congratulations Stan!

Congratulations also go to Eunice Cerhnohlavek of the Lincoln Iris Society for

her image 'Loreley' which received an honorable mention in the Landscape category.



Upcoming events

- **October 13, Monday 6:30 PM;** Program and General Business Meeting. "Fall Arrangements Using Found Items" presented by Kevin Smith, AIFD, Floral Design Instructor at Metropolitan Community College. Bring a container and found items to make an arrangement along with Kevin!
- **October 18, Saturday;** Garden clean-up at Sass Memorial Gardens. Gather at the gardens at 9:00 AM . Bring: Trash Bags, Gloves, and Scissors or Trimmers, we'll be putting the gardens to bed for the winter.
- **November 10, Monday 6:30 PM;** Thanksgiving potluck and end of year celebration. Bring a dish to share and a friend! Family members including children and grandchildren are welcome. No business meeting but officer elections will be held.



No Meetings until March 2015!

Enjoy those garden catalogs and a warm fire.



October Hospitality
Di Semper
Phyllis Randall

Oct 13th

In the Fall Garden

It's time to :

- Get those last plants in the ground. Add bulbous iris for early Spring color
- Trim and remove excess foliage from rhizomatous iris
- Weed one last time and remove seed heads from promiscuous self-sowers
- Check garden tags and make a map so that you know where your cultivars are in the beds
- Protect rebloomers from frost to encourage bloom into November. It might look funny but tube socks will do the trick

Greater Omaha Iris Society

Greater Omaha Iris Society
15115 Grant Circle
Omaha, NE 68116

We're on the web:

www.greateromahairissociety.org

Stay Current and informed

GOIS Dues

- Single AIS Member \$3.00
- Single non-AIS Member \$10.00
- Family AIS Member \$5.00
- Family non-AIS Member \$15.00

Dues for 2015 can be paid at the October and November meetings. Pay John Randall at a meeting or mail payment to John at:

22871 Kane Avenue
Glenwood, IA 51534



American Iris Society Dues

- Single Annual \$25.00
- Dual Annual \$30.00
- Triennial Single \$60.00
- Triennial Dual \$75.00
- Single e-Member \$15.00

Visit www.irises.org to learn more about the AIS and its affiliates.

And remember guests are always
welcome at GOIS events.
Bring a Friend!