

The Lincoln Iris Society's

Rainbow Messenger

A More or Less Monthly Publication for Anyone who Loves Irises!

Edited by David & Marjorie Lionberger

Lincoln, Nebraska

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President's Message

David Lionberger

Our August meeting was a little longer than usual but everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. Thanks to Gary White for his interesting presentation about historic irises. Also, thanks to Mark and Jenny Cich for arranging the awards presentation. This year is rapidly passing and we can enjoy our success in our major events. However, we do have some important decisions to make in the remaining months of 2017 that will impact our future in 2018 and beyond. The election of officers, setting dates for our show and sale, and selection of programs for our monthly meetings are some of the items that require our attention. LIS is a vibrant and growing organization and I encourage our members to give thought to the future in planning interesting meeting programs which is so important to the building of a society such as ours.

President's Quote

"Don't worry about avoiding temptation...as you grow older, it will avoid you."

Winston Churchill

MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGE

Ellen Still
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Lincoln, NE 68522
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Meeting

Date: Monday, September 25, 2017

Time: 6:00 p.m. Pot Luck Supper

**Location: St. Andrews Lutheran Church
1015 Lancaster Lane Lincoln, NE**

**Program: Fall Gardens & Integrating Iris in
Container Gardens**

**Presented by Bertine Loop, Lancaster
County Master Gardener**

Hosts: Melinda Holcombe & Carla Green

**Pot Luck Supper Reminder: bring a dish to
share and your own service. Drinks will be
provided.**

Questions about Iris or LIS

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LINCOLN IRIS SOCIETY YOUTH SPONSORSHIP

To become a sponsored LIS Youth Member, application is required at the annual business meeting each October. Youth ages 8-18 years are eligible, providing they are sponsored by a LIS member in good standing. Successful candidates will have their LIS dues waived and American Iris Society dues paid for the upcoming year provided they meet the annual requirements. The official Youth Sponsorship Form and annual checklist is available at each regular meeting of LIS. The forms may be obtained from the LIS President or Youth Committee Chairman.

OUR DRY FALL WEATHER

From an unusually wet and cool summer, particularly in August, we have had very little moisture in September with hot temperatures. Iris growers know their favorite flower does not like wet feet and overwatering can lead to problems. However, as we approach the dormant season it is beneficial to keep an eye on conditions of little or no rain. Your iris will benefit from a thorough deep watering occasionally rather than a frequent light watering. As the plants prepare for dormancy, it is important for them to be well nourished and watered. A light application of fertilizer in the fall will give them a boost through the winter and provide energy for spring growth. A fertilizer of 5-10-10 is ideal but not always available. Remember the first number – such as 5 – represents the nitrogen content and high nitrogen is not recommended for iris as it promotes soft rot. “Lightly” is the rule of thumb with fertilizer or “none” is better than too much.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S SALE TRIVIA

1. a., 2. b., 3. a., 4. b., 5. b., 6. c., 7. c., 8. a., 9. b., 10. b., 11. a., 12. c., 13. c., 14. c., 15. c.

REMEMBRANCE OF BONNIE KALKWARF

Gary White & Linda Rader



Bonnie Lou Kalkwarf passed away on Thursday, August 31, 2017. She was a very active member of the Lincoln Iris Society during the 1990s and the first few years of the 2000s, serving as secretary for a time, and as registrar for the 2004 Region 21/TBIS Convention, held in Lincoln. During the years she was an active member, Bonnie also worked at the LIS Iris Shows as the person who counted the ribbons and award tallies after judging. And, for several years, Bonnie copied the LIS newsletter for us, and helped stuff envelopes, etc. when we were editing the *Rainbow Messenger*. So, we spent many evenings at the Kalkwarf home, preparing the newsletter for mailing. Bonnie was married to Gene Kalkwarf and together they owned and managed Emerald Valley Iris Garden. Bonnie maintained the records and sales for the Kalkwarf's iris business, and she was also a great help to Gene during his terms as President of LIS and as RVP of Region 21. Bonnie and Gene's Emerald Valley Iris Garden was always on tour for regional and local events. They also usually hosted the kickoff breakfast for the LIS day-after-the-show garden tours that we used to hold each spring. Everyone would arrive at the Kalkwarf home, enjoy a continental breakfast and their irises, and then we would all proceed to the rest of the gardens on the tour. Bonnie Kalkwarf was a very sweet and gracious person, a good friend, and a valued member of the Lincoln Iris Society. We miss her upbeat personality, her smile, and her friendship.

PAINTED LADY BUTTERFLY MIGRATION

Have you noticed all the butterflies in your garden? Eunice Cernohlavek did and submitted these pictures for your enjoyment. Eunice is a talented photographer and we appreciate her contribution to the newsletter!



Heidi Brase, Best Specimen 2017 Show, Star Woman IB



Madeline Obrecht, Best Specimen Youth, Broadband TB

What Reblooms for YOU?

By Jenny Cich

The Reblooming Iris Society (RIS), a Section of the American Iris Society, has comprehensive lists of all types of iris and the zones they are reported to rebloom in. The RIS relies heavily on the information provided to them by the folks who grow these iris in their respective zone. In going through their list of Tall Bearded iris that rebloom in Zone 5 and in Northern Zones, I saw a few that we grow, but I know there are others we grow which either were not on their list or were reported to rebloom in Zones more southern than us (6+). I NEED YOUR HELP! What varieties reliably rebloom in your gardens? I would like to make a submission to them on behalf of the Lincoln Iris Society on iris that rebloom in our Zone (5) by the end of 2017. I encourage and welcome your participation. For the sake of interest, here is the Tall Bearded list that reblooms in Zone 5 or lower from the RIS website. If they rebloom in a lower numbered zone, further north of us, that is designated in parenthesis behind the variety name. You can check out their other lists by types, Standard Dwarf Bearded, Intermediate Bearded etc at rebloomingiris.com. Thanks for sending your reblooming variety information to JennyCich@gmail.com or via call/text 402-525-5047.

Aunt Mary	Glacier King	Pinkness
Autumn Bugler	Hallowed Thought (4)	Polar King (4)
Autumn Mists	Happy New Year	Queen Dorothy (4)
Belvi Queen	Harvest of Memories (4)	Ravenwood
Best Bet (3)	Heart of Ice	Remember Spring (4)
Blue Moonlight (4)	Hemstitched	Sea Fluff
Blue Review	High Ho Silver	September Replay
Bolder Boulder (4)	Illini Repeater	Sign of Leo
Brown Duet	In Retrospect	Sign of Virgo (4)
Cherokee Tears	Invitation	Silver Screen
Clarence	Istanbul	Spirit of Memphis (4)
Cloudless Sunrise	Jean Gyumer	Soap Opera
Colorwatch	July Sunshine	St Petersburg
Coral Charmer (4)	Las Vegas	Summer Holidays
Corn Harvest (4)	Late Lilac	Sumer Olympics (4)
Cruise to Autumn	Lemon Duet (4)	Sunny Shoulders (4)
Dawn of Fall (4)	Lemon Reflection	Tea Leaves
Double Scoop	Light Rebuff	Touch of Spring (4)
Duke of Earl	Magic Memories	Violet Returns (4)
Earl of Essex (4)	Matrix (4)	Winesap
English Cottage (4)	Misty Twilight (4)	Winterland
Eternal Bliss	Mother Earth (4)	Witch of Endor
Fall Promise (4)	Northward Ho (4)	Wright Flyer
Feed Back (4)	Perfume Counter (4)	
Frequent Flier	Pink Attraction (4)	