

The Lincoln Iris Society's

Rainbow Messenger

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

Edited by David & Marjorie Lionberger

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President's Message

David Lionberger

Our annual rhizome sale and auction is fast approaching and we look forward to another successful event. I find the sale an interesting function that provides the opportunity for fellowship, contact with the public, and of course our main effort - to provide funds for the upcoming year. As with our other endeavors throughout the year, the sale requires considerable work and dedication from our members. I am confident that everyone will contribute valuable time, skills, and knowledge to reach our goal of a profitable sale. There is also the job of digging, cleaning, and marking of rhizomes during hot summer days that require a special thank you. Spread the word by inviting family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. A personal invitation or reminder always lends a special touch that people appreciate. Most of the decisions for the sale/auction process were made at the June meeting; however, there are a few details to be ironed out at this month's meeting. Please try to attend and help finalize our plans.

President's Quote

“Some people worry that artificial intelligence will make us feel inferior, but then, anybody in his right mind should have an inferiority complex every time he looks at a flower.”

Alan C. Kay

Meeting

Date: Monday, July 25, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m. – Pot Luck Supper

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

Program: LIS Sale Preparation
Presented by David Lionberger and others

Hosts: Judy Dovenbarger,
Brett & Becky Barney

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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Hello Gorgeous Gardens

David Lionberger

To visit the Cich's and their beautiful gardens is always a pleasant experience and well worth the drive. The striking beauty of their home and gardens greet you as you turn into their lane. Mark and Jenny are very busy at iris bloom time, but they always find time to warmly receive their visitors and make them feel welcome. Visitors to their gardens will see a wide variety of color in large iris beds as they approach, and also a unique and colorful "Iris Barn Quilt". Their gardens host a large variety of iris in very well-maintained, raised beds. All irises are identified with clearly printed information at each plant. A leisurely stroll through the gardens is rewarding to the stroller in the observation of iris beauty and admiration of Mark and Jenny's artistic talents in creating such a well-planned garden arrangement. As Mark and Jenny both work full time jobs in Lincoln, it is evident the work of garden maintenance as well as many other chores involved with living on an acreage require dedication and sweat. The Cich's are also interested in day lilies and have a large number of those growing on their acreage. Their involvement with the Lincoln Iris Society has been a valuable asset to our organization. Both have served as officers; Mark as President and Jenny is our current Secretary, and they are both serving on several committees at present. They have always been reliable in the responsibilities they have agreed to accept. Make plans to visit Hello Gorgeous Gardens and you will be glad you did!

The gardens of Mark and Jenny Cich are located at 22801 N 176th St. Greenwood, NE 68366



AIS Region 21 Fall Meeting **August 12-13, 2016**

Hosted by Siouxland Iris Society, Sioux City, IA

Lodging and all meetings will be at the Holiday Inn at 701 Garden Drive, Sioux City, IA 51101, phone number 712-277-9400. Twenty rooms have been blocked off at \$89.95/room which includes a hot breakfast. All meals will be provided by the hotel at a cost of \$40.00 per person. Registration forms should be received by the registrar by August 5th. Late forms will cost extra.

Convention Registrar:

James Bailey

421 Forest View

Sioux City, IA 51103

281-300-1940

If you haven't received an information letter containing all details and wish to attend, contact the registrar.

HIPS RHIZOME SALE LIST NOW ONLINE

The annual HIPS Rhizome Sale opens on July 20th for HIPS members and July 23rd for non-members. Over 630 cultivars of bearded iris are available; the majority are historic, but some are modern. We invite you to come browse our thumbnail photos and shop for some new irises for your garden. Not a HIPS member? There is still time to join and we would love to welcome you! Full details and links to the lists are at www.historiciris.org

Happy browsing!

The HIPS Rhizome Sale Committee

Youth News

by Rebekah Brase

As we merge into the hot summer months, the iris blooms have shriveled, but news from the LIS Youth Group still flourishes. We have received results from the Ackerman Essay Contest, and Katharina Brase is a winner! Her essay was selected as one of three entries to tie for first place in the Junior Division. The AIS Foundation generously awarded \$100 to all the first place winners. Alexander's essay placed third in the Junior Division, and Rebekah also placed third in the Senior Division. The topic for the essays this year was to write about your most interesting iris experience. You may read Katharina's essay following this article.

The Region 21 Spring Tour took place in Des Moines, Iowa on May 21st. Thankfully, the blooms put on a magnificent show, particularly at Chris Janke's garden, where an amazing collection of peonies and hostas competed with the irises for attention. Rebekah, Alexander and Katharina were the only youth members from the region to attend this tour, which was a preview of the National Convention to be held in these same gardens next year. It was fun to coincidentally run into Jack Worel on the tour. His name was familiar to us because we have two of his irises in our garden. He is a hybridizer from Minnesota. Unfortunately, he didn't get to see his irises blooming on the tour because not many of the guest irises at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden were blooming yet, and the caretakers of the Iowa Arboretum had been instructed to cut off all the bloom stalks this year, in the hopes that they would be even bigger next year for the national tour.

While the tour presented irises in gorgeous gardens, we were able to observe many beautifully groomed irises at the LIS Spring Show. In spite of a heavy hail storm and strong winds, many 1st place irises graced the tables. Usually we have few seedlings at the show, but this year David Toth and his daughter Ava surprised us by bringing many incredible seedlings to the event. Ava won Best Youth Iris. At 11 years old, this is already her third year hybridizing her own seedlings, and she has achieved some amazing results. Her younger sister Evelyn (age 6) has started hybridizing as well.

Soon we will be digging irises for the LIS Sale. The recent rains should have helped to soften up the soil, and make that job easier. Now is a great time to weed and thin out large clumps and to rearrange your iris gardens as needed. Don't forget to make room for some new ones from the sale on July 31st!

The Mysterious Scent of a Chocolate Cupcake

My most interesting experience with irises occurred on my first Regional Tour at the age of four. I traveled all day to Scottsbluff, Nebraska, with my mom and brother and sister. Although they had experienced a late spring blizzard and damaging hail just the week before the tour, there were surprisingly quite a few hearty irises bravely blooming in the beautifully designed gardens on the tour. One of them was a cute little reddish brown SDB called “Chocolate Cupcake.” A gardener from the Scottsbluff club cut off the bloom, and presented it to us, for inspection. “What scent do you notice?” he asked. Dutifully we bent close and smelled it. There was barely any fragrance at all. We could not answer him. He smiled with satisfaction at having stumped us, and informed the entire crowd that it smelled like chocolate. Had we missed something? We smelled it again. Whatever fragrance it had was not chocolate! But we smiled back at him, not wanting to spoil his story. As the older people on the tour bent low to smell it also, they had puzzled looks on their faces. However, the power of suggestion prevailed. Each one believed that he was the only one who couldn’t smell chocolate. It was like the story of “The Emperor’s New Clothes.” We all pretended to smell what wasn’t there! The tour was a lot of fun, and we saw some creative and unusual gardens. I really liked one where the irises were all tucked in a big rock garden. We also got to see irises (and animals) at the zoo. The people on the tour were so friendly and nice to us, that it became one of our favorite vacations. But, we always remember “Chocolate Cupcake”!

Katharina Brase

Age: 10 years

A committee of three was assigned to establish guidelines for becoming a sponsored LIS youth member. A draft of these guidelines has been developed and is included in this newsletter. Please take time to review the committee's draft in preparation for discussion at the July meeting. Any and all points included in the draft are subject to revision.

DRAFT-Sponsored Youth of the Lincoln Iris Society

It is stated in the by-laws that "membership in the LIS shall be open to all persons interested in the culture and growth of iris, and provided that current dues have been paid."

To encourage interest and involvement by young people, the Lincoln Iris Society will sponsor membership for youth ages 8 to 18 by waiving LIS dues and paying AIS dues providing the sponsored youth meets the requirements listed under the title of "Sponsored Youth Requirements."

SPONSORSHIP

A sponsor is an active member of the Lincoln Iris Society who is willing to mentor the youth member and keep track of his/her involvement.

At the October meeting, the prospective sponsor may make a request on behalf of the youth that the youth be considered as a "sponsored youth." At that time the LIS membership votes to accept or reject the request. Membership of the sponsored youth will begin in January of the following year.

This request for sponsored youth status will only need to be done once, provided the youth meets the necessary membership requirements.

The sponsor will be given a checklist at the January meeting for recording youth involvement. This will be turned in to the Youth Chairman once requirements are met.

SPONSORED YOUTH REQUIREMENTS

To be a sponsored youth in good standing, the young person is required to:

- Participate in 5 meetings/activities. Activity choices include:
 - Work at the Husker Lawn and Leisure Show
 - Work at the Spring Affair
 - Participation in the LIS Iris Show
 - Attend or host a local iris garden tour
 - Help at the LIS Sale/Auction
 - Help at the Magdeline Pfister Garden
 - Attend a Region 21 Meeting/Event
 - Attend a National AIS Event
- Participate in 2 AIS contests. Choices include:
 - Coloring Contest
 - Photography Contest
 - AIS Foundation Essay Contest

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LIS MEMBERSHIP

AIS membership will be paid by the Lincoln Iris Society in January of each year. (If there is more than one sponsored youth in one family, LIS will pay for one bulletin/family).

If a sponsored youth wins an award that is to be presented at a regional or national meeting, the LIS will pay the youth's registration fee.

DRAFT--Checklist for Sponsored Youth Member of LIS

Youth Name _____

Sponsor Name _____

Please check off and initial items as youth completes them (5 required)

<u>Check Off</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sponsor Initial</u>
_____	January Meeting	_____
_____	February Meeting	_____
_____	Work at the Husker Lawn and Leisure Show	_____
_____	March Meeting	_____
_____	Work at the Spring Affair	_____
_____	April Meeting	_____
_____	Participate in May Iris Show	_____
_____	Attend or Host a garden tour	_____
_____	June Meeting	_____
_____	July Meeting	_____
_____	Help at the Iris Sale	_____
_____	August Meeting	_____
_____	September Meeting	_____
_____	October Meeting	_____
_____	November Meeting	_____
_____	Appreciation Dinner	_____
_____	Help at the Magdeline Pfister Garden	_____
_____	Attend a Region 21 Meeting/Event	_____
_____	Attend a Nation AIS Event	_____

Participate in 2 of the following AIS contests.

_____	Coloring Contest	_____
_____	Photography Contest	_____
_____	AIS Foundation Essay Contest	_____

Once you have met the requirements, turn this sheet in to the Youth Chairman by the October meeting. Congratulations, you have earned the privilege of being a sponsored youth for the coming year. (Recognize youth with a certificate.)

LINCOLN IRIS SOCIETY 2016 SALE AND AUCTION

The annual sale and auction is the only LIS fund raiser for the entire year. It is so important that we all participate in making this a successful event. We need lots of plants, good plants, properly cleaned and labeled. If not sure of the iris name put in Bargain Bags.

We also need lots of folks to help get things done on sale day. If you do not have plants to donate, you can still help out on sale day and also be a buyer. Please save paper bags.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date-----Saturday, July 30, 2016

Location---St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 1015 Lancaster Lane, Lincoln

Setup starts 7 PM Friday July 29th, ---- Bring iris 8 AM Sat July 30th

Iris deadline---9:00 AM (all plants must be on the tables by 10AM)

Sale starts-----10:00 AM --sharp Auction starts ----11:00 AM

Sale ends-----4:00 PM --Cleanup to follow

PLANT PREPARATION—You must know the correct name of the plant you are preparing. If you are not certain of the name, use these plants in the bargain bags.

1. After digging, label the plant with waterproof marker
2. Trim the tops back to about 6” – 8”
3. The roots should be trimmed some as well, leaving 3”-4” of root
4. Wash the plants very thoroughly. A 10% Clorox dip is a good idea
5. Make sure the plant is clean & healthy, without leaf or insect damage.

LABELING--- Each plant is to be labeled, at home, with waterproof marker

1. The proper name,
2. The type of iris (TB, BB, SDB, etc),
3. Color of the iris,
4. Year of introduction, if known.
5. Price
6. Any other descriptive information is helpful.

(MAKE SURE YOUR LABEL IS LEGIBLE AND WITH WATERPROOF INK)

PRICING—Each plant must be priced before the sale. These prices were approved at the June meeting.

All Bearded Iris —2007-2011-\$5.00 each (2012-2016- go to the Auction)

All Bearded Iris --- 2006 & older-\$3.00 each

Bargain Bags--- \$ 8.00 --each (Normally are unlabeled iris, All iris 13/bag.)

TB & BB can be packaged together—All medians can be packaged together.

Do not mix medians and tall in the same bargain bag. Label bag contents

Example-- Bargain Bag \$8.00 —TB & BB or Bargain Bag \$8.00 --SDB

PHOTOGRAPHS-A picture is worth a thousand words. If you have photos of your plants, put your name on the back and bring them along. Put in plastic sandwich bags.

Questions – Call- David Lionberger, 402-466-2838, lionswiss@windstream.net

Below is a summary of the results of the 2016 Lincoln Iris Society Show

25 Exhibitors: 18 adults – 223 entries, 7 youth – 20 entries.

Total entries (243) 213 stalks, 15 seedlings, 0 collections, and 15 arrangements

Breakdown by Categories - 0 SDB's, 9 IB's, 14 BB's, 5 MTB's, 112 TB's, 0 AB, 41 Siberian- and & Species, 32 Historics, (13 pre-1950 and 19 1950-1986), 0 Other Irises, 0 Collections, 0 English Boxes, 15 seedling, 15 arrangements and 0 educational exhibits.

Judges for the show were Carolyn Lingenfelter of Norfolk and Lee Charlton of Elkhorn, NE.

Following are the awards chosen by the America Iris Society accredited judges:

TOP AWARDS

Best Specimen of the Show Tickle Me Pink (TB) Exhibited by Stan Sass	Best Historic Iris Maranatha Exhibited by Gary White
Best Specimen 1 st Runner-up Petit Louvois (MTB) Exhibited by Eunice Cernohlavek	<u>Best of Section Awards</u>
Best Specimen 2 nd Runner-up Barbara My Love (TB) Exhibited by Brett Barney	Best Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB): none
Best Artistic Arrangement For Amber Waves of Grain Arrangement by BJ Ohme	Best Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB) none
Best Un-introduced Seedling 12-09 Exhibited by David Toth	Best Intermediate Bearded Iris (IB) In a Flash Exhibited by Jenny Cich
Best White Iris Skating Party (TB) Exhibited by Stan Sass	Best Border Bearded (BB) Very Varied Exhibited by David Toth
Best Bicolor Iris Beverly Ann (BB) Exhibited by Eunice Cernohlavek	Best Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB) Petit Louvois Exhibited by Eunice Cernohlavek
Best Miniature Tall Bearded Iris Petit Louvis Exhibited by Eunice Cernohlavek	Best Tall Bearded (TB): Tickle Me Pink Exhibited by Stan Sass
Best Plicata Iris Barbara My Love (TB) Exhibited by Brett Barney	Best Aril or Arilbred (AB): none
Best Beardless Iris Golden Edge Exhibited by Gary White	Best Species or Siberian Iris Golden Edge Exhibited by Gary White
Best Ensminger Hyridized Iris Very Varied (BB) Exhibited by David Toth	Best Seedling Iris 12-09 Exhibited by David Toth
	Best Other Type of Iris: none Best Collection: none Best English Box: none

<p>Best Educational Exhibit: none</p> <p><u>Youth Awards</u></p> <p>Best Specimen-Youth California Dreamin (TB) Exhibited by Ava Toth</p>	<p>Best Tall Bearded-Youth California Dreamin (TB) Exhibited by Ava Toth</p>
<hr/> <p>Ribbons – 100 blue, 62 red, 44 white, 15 honorable mention, 9 no ribbon 15 seedlings</p> <p>Medal winners for the most BLUE ribbons: Adult: Silver Medal – Gary White (13 blue) Bronze Medal –Jenny Cich (10 blue) Youth: Silver Medal- Evelyn Toth (8 blue) Bronze Medal- Ava Toth (4 blue)</p> <p>Popularity Vote (or People’s Choice Award): First Place-Batik (BB), Second Place-Hollywood Nights (TB), Third Place-Tie between Beverly Ann (BB) and Voltage (TB).</p> <p>A big thank you to our Popularity Vote tabulators, Eunice Cernohlavek & Sally Schrader, for their expertise in handling this portion of the show! They tallied 291 votes!</p>	