

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

This year's show brought some challenges that were cause for concern. A new location was required and our decision to rent the cafeteria area of Meadow Lane Elementary School proved to be very satisfactory. The weather and early bloom season were of course beyond our control, but both factors provided some anxiety. Heavy rains and hail storms did damage to blooms and foliage to many of our member's prospective show entries. However as show day drew near, it became apparent that several of our member's gardens had not suffered hail damage. Those that had, reported their gardens were recovering with new blooms. With several newer members showing iris, and a surprising and abundant amount of beautiful entries by many LIS members, our 2016 show was a very successful event.

Thanks to the show committee for an excellent job under adverse conditions, they held the course and never wavered in their determination to succeed. All of our members provided their support, dedication and various skills that are required to attain the goal of a beautiful show. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge Jenny Cich, who served as co-chair of the Show Committee with Gary White. Gary's responsibilities as President of the American Iris Society required that his duties as LIS Show Chairman be shared by someone. Obviously Jenny stepped up to the plate and did an outstanding job in providing guidance and doing the many tasks that are often unseen and unnoticed that lead to success.

The show was well attended by the public and the usual admiration was amply demonstrated throughout the day.

President's Quote

It is the month of June, the month of leaves and roses when pleasant sights salute the eyes, and pleasant scents the noses.

N.P. Willis

Meeting

Date: Monday, June 27, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m. – Pot Luck Supper

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

Program: Growing Irises – Tips & Techniques – Panel & Group Discussion

Hosts: Dottie Ladman, George Green,
Sarah 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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Welcome New Members

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2016 AIS PHOTO CONTEST

On page ten of the AIS Spring 2016 Bulletin, you will find the entry form to enter this year's photo contest. You may also find the information on the AIS website. As in the past, there is an adult category, as well as a category for youth. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in photography, or perhaps someone just lucky with an exceptional picture, to have some fun. Most of us take numerous photos in bloom season, so look through yours and send in your entry. Deadline July 31st at midnight- California time!

Raffle Reminder

David Toth will handle the raffle at the June meeting for the two Median Iris Rhizomes from Paul Black's 2016 introductions. David is also donating some additional rhizomes from his garden. The funds from the raffle will go to LIS to help recover the \$100.00 donation we made to the Median Iris Society.

Indian Creek Iris Garden

David Lionberger

On a pleasant Sunday, May 22th, 2016, Marjorie and I drove to David Toth's iris garden near Pickrell, NE. David joined LIS in February this year and in a couple of casual conversations, he mentioned his garden and his interest in hybridizing.

At our spring show, I was impressed with several seedlings he had entered. They featured variegated colors, with various types of spoons, horns and flounces. I had seen a few iris with horns before, but had never seen spoons and flounces of such size and variety. As we drove into the driveway, we observed a few irises blooming around a grain bin, but saw no others from where we parked. As David was expecting us, he came to greet us and asked us to follow him. Going around a barn, we suddenly beheld a huge, beautiful, and well-kept iris garden. We were further surprised to learn that most of the iris were products of his hybridizing program or potential parent stock. David explained that he is about ten years into his breeding program and is attaining the goals he established. His accomplishments represent the required skills of dedication, knowledge, perseverance, firm goals, and a clear vision of reaching those goals.

Several other LIS members visited David's garden and they too were impressed with his garden and hybridizing program. We were all surprised that his garden was in our vicinity and none of us had knowledge of its existence. I highly recommend that LIS members take advantage of David's invitation to visit his garden in bloom season next spring.

June Program—How Do YOU Do It?

Lois Linke

It is highly likely that all the iris-growing members of LIS have consulted a book, magazine, or website in search of advice or direction. Such generic information is helpful, but have you ever wished you had the opportunity to ask some of our members, “How do YOU do it?”. The June program may be just what you need. Four of our experienced members have agreed to be on a panel to answer questions. Practices vary among growers, yet yield positive results. We will learn what these members have tried, what works, and what doesn't. Who are the “fab four” panel members? Come to the meeting to find out and plan to have your questions answered.

DEAN DOUGLAS

David Lionberger

As most of us know, Dean Douglas had heart surgery a few weeks ago and is now at home recovering. I spoke to Dean by phone today, June 17th, and he said he is making progress each day and feeling better. As most of us also know, Dean has been the Chair of the Sale/Auction Committee for years and has been instrumental in the success of our annual sale and auction. His health will prevent him from serving as Chair for this year's event so we must compensate for his past service and all pull together in order to have a prosperous sale. Several items will be on this month's meeting agenda pertaining to our sale on July 30th. Our July meeting will be five days before the sale which does not allow sufficient time to determine prices, etc. Best wishes to Dean for a healthy future and many thanks for his service in LIS functions and in particular the sale and auction. You will be missed, that is for sure!

*David,
I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Lincoln Iris Society for nominating and sponsoring me to receive the Clarke Cosgrove Award for Youth Achievement at the AIS National Convention in Newark New Jersey!
As you will see it is a beautiful award that I will always treasure! The Convention was beautiful and very exciting to see the Gardens and meet new friends and see some old ones as well! Was really nice to get to see Cheryl Deaton again! I have enclosed some pictures taken at AIS Convention in Newark New Jersey. Wish every one from our region could have been there! We are SO looking forward to next blooming season and attending AIS Convention in Des Moines!
Thank you to everyone and all that you have done to inspire me to receive this beautiful award!*

Sincerely,

Sarah M Green

LIS Spring Show Winners

Stan Sass took the Queen of the Show trophy with his Tall Bearded entry, “Tickle Me Pink”. He also was the winner of the Best White Iris with an old favorite “Skating Party”.

Best of Show in the Youth Division was awarded to Ava Toth with her Tall Bearded entry, “California Dreamin”.

Congratulations to both Stan and Ava.



*Ava Toth – Best of Youth Section 2016
TB – California Dreamin’*



*Stan Sass – Queen of the Show 2016
TB Tickle Me Pink*



*David Toth and Marjorie Lionberger at the Indian Creek
Iris Garden*



*AIS President Gary White presenting Clarke Cosgrove
award to Sarah Green*