

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

If you did not attend our August meeting, you missed an interesting, informative program presented by Gary White. Obviously Gary had spent a good deal of time and research on the Sass family history. Lots of pictures accompanied by Gary's knowledgeable comments provided an evening of entertainment enjoyed by all. Thank you Gary for such a skillful and educational program and for all you do on behalf of LIS and AIS. Fall is upon us all of a sudden; with the recent rains our iris gardens are looking good. Our recently transplanted rhizomes are showing new growth and it seems there is sufficient reason to hope for a bountiful spring. This time of year can be very pleasant in Nebraska and makes outdoor recreation and work very enjoyable. I hope everyone has opportunity to take advantage of lovely fall days spent in accord with their wishes!

David Lionberger

President' Quote

Gardening simply does not allow one to be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realized.

Allen Amitage

Meeting

Date: Monday, September 28, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m. Potluck Supper

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

Program: Gladiolas and Dahlias
presented by B.J. Ohme

Hosts: Melinda Holcombe and Carla Green

Potluck Supper Reminder – Bring a dish to share and your own service. Drinks will be provided.

Questions about Iris or LIS

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AIS Youth Coloring Contest

The 2015 Coloring Contest deadline is October 1, 2015. There are five age groups in the contest, 6 years and under, 7-9 years 10-12 years, 13-15 years and 16-19 years. All contestants must be AIS Members. Be sure and complete the form on the back of the entry. If you need copies of the entry form, contact: LIS Youth Chairman, George Green Jr. 402-304-3520 (cell) or David Lionberger, 402-466-2838. Send your entry to: Cheryl Deaton 27218 Walnut Spring Ave. Canyon Country, CA. 91351-3314

LIS Bylaws, Article IV- Dues

“Membership dues to the LIS shall be reviewed and set at the September business meeting by the LIS members.”

This matter will be on the agenda in accord with the bylaws. All members are encouraged to give it prior thought.

Region 21 Member Directory

Thanks to our Region 21 Officers, Directors and everyone else involved in the creation and distribution of the American Iris Society Region 21 Member Directory. Also included was a memo to members containing lots of information of interest. A current list of Region 21 judges was also provided. This directory will be a “turn-to” item of value to our members in the future. The labor and forethought that it required is very much appreciated.

New Member

We are pleased to welcome our newest member Judy Dovenbarger
5419 Cloudburst Lane
Lincoln, NE. 68521
402- 314-8809
dovesinger@gmail.com



Gladys My Love TB – Ensminger 1998
Wintry Sky TB – Keppel 2002
Lionberger Garden 2015



Florentine Silk – TB
Keppel 2005
Dykes Medal 2012
Douglas Garden 2015

A Hound Named Iris

David Lionberger

My wife is the real Iris lover in our family and through over sixty years of marriage, she has tolerated my addiction to hunting dogs and the pursuit of game. It has been very beneficial to our marriage that hunting season and Iris season do not conflict. I have several Beagle Hounds that I hunt rabbits with all fall and winter each year. I also have some hunting buddies that own four or five beagles and my grandson has a pair of them. We usually put all these hounds together and they hunt well as a pack. About four years ago, I was down to only two hounds and one of them was getting old. I wanted a pup to take "Ole Scooters" place, when she was too old to hunt or died. My buddy Jack had a dandy three year old female he called Daisy. Jack had decided to take Daisy to a well-known male in Kentucky. The next spring when Daisy got to feeling sort of romantic, Jack took her to Kentucky to meet this hound of renown. Well, Jack said it appeared to be love at first sight and after a short honeymoon Daisy was on her way back to Nebraska. Jack and I prefer female beagles and he told me I could have second pick of the litter, if Daisy had pups. In a month or so it was obvious Daisy was in the family way and anticipation was exceeded only by speculation. "How many pups you reckon she will have?" "Wonder how many males and females?" "You reckon they'll be spotted like Daisy or more solid black like their daddy?". Several guys wanted pups from this litter, poor Daisy would need to have a dozen pups it seemed. The big day finally arrived and she delivered seven healthy pups, five males and two females. Eight weeks passed and the pups were weaned and ready to go to their various homes. Jack picked his female, a spotted long eared beauty. Of course I didn't have to make a choice, mine was a solid black blanket, tan and white trim, she had a white blaze on her face, four white feet and of course the usual white tipped tail. Males will usually have a nicer shaped head and longer ears, than a female, but this pup had a well-shaped houndy head equipped with extra-long ears. I was bringing this new pup home and "The Iris Lady" was not thrilled about having three hounds around the place. But she had always caved in at the sight of a new puppy and I was counting on this "Ace in the Hole" when I pulled into the driveway. "The Iris Lady" reacted as I hoped, and gushed all over this wiggly, tail waggin' pup. She declared, "This is the most beautiful pup you ever brought home and her name should be, 'Iris'". I was never in a hurry to name a dog, but agreed she was an exceptional beauty. Now when a hound man is considering a name for a dog, he usually prefers a short name that is easy to holler and one his hunting buddies won't ridicule and laugh at. The name Iris filled the bill for being short but I was uneasy about the latter qualification. As the discussion or debate of the name for the pup progressed "The Iris Lady" became more certain that Iris was without a doubt the best choice and all other suggested name were poor in comparison.

Over the years I have named lots of dogs and they all seemed to like their name and responded well to whatever I called them. But I never had one that wanted to be called "Late for Supper"! Experience has taught me the importance of "The Iris Lady's" acceptance of a new pup. When considering the complaints a new pup can generate, whining, feeding, vet bills, and little puppy landmines all around the yard, it was my decision to name the pup Iris!