

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

Spring arrival seems to be in the far distance on this bitterly cold January day. Wind chill below zero with gusts to 40 miles per hour. We are spending the day by the fireplace...retirement is wonderful! Looking out the window at the iris beds makes me wonder how iris can survive such conditions. Many a winter I have wondered, and many a spring have I been amazed at the beautiful bloom season nature somehow provides. When I was a kid, the arrival of the seed and nursery catalogs were greatly appreciated. Long winter evenings were spent thumbing through the catalogs, planning the garden, selecting flowers, trees and shrubs. Memories of hot chocolate, fresh buttered popcorn, and the security of a pot belly stove keeping the house warm always come to me on a cold night. I hope all of you are keeping warm and healthy. Hope to see you at the January meeting!

President's Quote

"There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogs."

Hal Borland

Meeting

Date: Monday, January 29, 2018

Time: 6:30 p.m.

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

**Program: AIS National Tour in
Des Moines, Iowa**

Presented By: Gary White

Hosts: Laura Schram and Jean Pedersen

Questions about Iris or LIS

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LIS KIDS WIN BIG IN COLORING CONTEST

The AIS Coloring Contest design was quite intricate this year and called upon the participants' creative talents. With an artistic eye for color combinations, use of colored pencils, chalk, pastels, colored paper, crayons, and several days of dedication to their individual entries, our youth were awarded top places.

Katharina Brase was the Overall Winner of the contest and won 1st Place in the 10-12 year age group. Alexander Brase won 1st Place in the 13-15 year age group. In the 6 year and under age group, Dietrich Brase won 1st Place, and Ethan Brase won 3rd Place. All of these Youth Members received creativity awards as well. Evelyn Toth won a creativity award and Madeline and Eli Obrecht both received certificates of participation. I extend my personal congratulations to each of these LIS Youth Members and take great pride in their achievements. I know our adult members are proud of our youth members and everyone is thrilled to have our youth involved and so active in LIS and AIS projects.

A reminder to adult LIS members: the Clark Cosgrove nominations for AIS Youth Members deadline is January 31, 2018.

A reminder to LIS youth members: the Ackerman Essay Contest deadline is February 15, 2018.

Details for both events are available on the AIS website.

LIS BYLAW AMENDMENT SUGGESTED

By email and telephone communications, the LIS Board of Directors recommends the following amendment to Bylaws, Article V, Meetings:

Strike the word 'November' from the second sentence of paragraph two and insert the word 'October'. This basically moves the required business of the November meeting to the October meeting which is listed as our annual business meeting. The October meeting would be dedicated to required business with no formal program. November meetings would have a formal program. This suggestion will be discussed at the January meeting in detail, so please the subject some thought. Thank you!

PLAN AHEAD

Two 2018 events that the Lincoln Iris Society will participate in will soon be upon us. The Husker Lawn and Leisure Show is scheduled for March 16-18, and the Spring Affair for April 27 6-9 p.m., and April 28 9 a.m.-2 p.m. LIS member volunteers will be needed to support and staff both functions, so please plan to sign up for one or both. At the Husker Lawn and Leisure Show, LIS will have an educational booth similar to our past endeavors. The booth is usually staffed by two or three volunteers in two or three hour shifts. Volunteers will enjoy the opportunity to greet and meet the public and share their knowledge of iris culture. The Spring Affair will be somewhat different from our past involvement. LIS members have decided to stage an exhibition show of early blooming iris. This will be a non-judged display show from which we hope to generate interest from event attendees. The Spring Affair is a sale of plants and flowers and attracts gardeners with a wide variety of interests in horticulture. The opportunity to "Preach to the Choir" is provided in this environment and usually results in some new members. LIS volunteers for both of these events have enjoyed the experience of sharing their love of iris with the public and the opportunity to spend a couple of pleasant hours with fellow LIS members. Sign up to help and you will find these projects a good tonic for spring fever and shaking off the winter blahs.



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AIS/SLI CONVENTION INFORMATION

Jody Nolin

Tic Toc, Tic Toc, the clock is moving fast to the 1st deadline for making your 2018 Registrations for the AIS/SLI Convention in New Orleans. **The deadline is January 31, 2018.** Please go to the 2018 convention website for more information

<http://www.2018irisconvention.org>.

The next deadline will be on March 17, 2018.

You are invited to join us in New Orleans, Louisiana April 8 through April 14, 2018.

Also, you may make your hotel reservations.

CONVENTION HOTEL RESERVATION

Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel

901 Airline Drive

Kenner, LA 70062

Phone: 504-469-5000

Reservations can be made online: <http://group.hilton.com/American-Iris-Society>

or by calling 1-800-872-5914 Extension 1.

Use the group code **AIS**.

Hotel cut-off date is Saturday, March 17, 2018.

Hotel room reservations are separate from Convention Registrations!

Thank you,

The 2018 Convention Committee

19th ANNUAL GEEK DINNER and AUCTION April 11, 2018

What a great way to have dinner for anyone! Have you heard how much fun the Geek Dinner and Auction are? Eat with geeks and non-geeks that have learned what a fun time everyone has. You don't have to be a computer person to attend ...just join a bunch of great iris folks for dinner. First, a reception style dinner and good conversation among iris friends and then, door prizes and an auction for more entertainment. After having spent your day getting off the tour bus ...rushing around the garden trying not to miss anything ...then back on the bus to the next garden to repeat the same thing again ...there is no better way to wind down your day than a relaxed evening with friends at the Geek Dinner reviewing all those iris that are now on your "wish list." First there is the dinner with all your friends and making new ones. If you happen to be a subscriber to one of the iris lists or electronic robins, you can meet other members and put faces to all those funny email names. **Of course there is a great meal.** Then the real fun for the night... Sit down for the Geek Dinner Auction where you get to bid on new iris introductions, gift certificates from commercial iris growers, and iris themed items. The proceeds from the auction go directly into the American Iris Society Electronics Services fund that sponsors such things as the digital projector for slide shows, online AIS Bulletin archives, and other electronic services. **Oh and of course some great doorprizes.** Now is the time to make plans for the, 19th annual Geek Dinner being held during the AIS 2018 Spring Convention. Meet new friends and catch up with old ones.

YOU MUST REGISTER BEFORE APRIL 5, 2018.

Reservations always fill up fast and unfortunately pre-registration is necessary. **PLEASE RSVP with your check and email address to Joanne Prass-Jones as soon as possible (address below).**

COST: \$36.00 per person (**not included in convention registration fee**)

DATE: Wednesday, April 11

TIME: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

LOCATION: Barataria room (Subject to change)

MENU:

Chicken Breast Poydras:

Double Breast of White Meat Chicken,

Topped with a Brandied Cream Mushroom & Artichoke Sauce

Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Haricot Verts

Warm Rolls & Butter

Dessert~ Lemon Ice Box Pie

Coffee, Decaffeinated and Iced Tea Service

To ensure your place you must RSVP to Joanne Prass-Jones and send her your check

Email: joanne@usjoneses.com Phone: (510) 795-9723

Make check payable to: Joanne Prass-Jones

Mailing address: 35572 Linda Dr, Fremont, CA 94536

(Please include your email address on your check so that Joanne can acknowledge your reservation)

Also, if you have items to donate to the auction, please let John Jones know at: jjones@usjoneses.com as soon as possible so we can prepare the auction.