

Fall 2012 Board Meeting Report

AIS Director Debbie Strauss

Silent Auction

The silent auction had a few glitches in Ontario California at the AIS Spring National Convention. Nick and I handled them as they came along. A big thank you to everyone who donated items, everyone who helped us, everyone who bid and everyone who purchased items!!

Forty-six letters were sent to hybridizers in February to ask for iris donations for the silent auction. I received iris donations from Jim Hedgecock/Comanche Acres-5 iris, Nancy Price-Dave Silverburg/Abbey Gardens-2 iris, Dyna Hermann/Schreiner's-5 iris, Denise Steward-Anita Moran/Snowpeak Iris-9 iris, Joe Ghio/Bayview Gardens-2 iris, Marty Schafer-Jan Sacks/Joe Pye Weed's Garden-2 iris, Lesley-John Painter/Napa Country Iris-5 iris, and Hugh-Jennifer Stout/Stout Gardens at Dancingtree-7 iris and Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens/Terry & Barbara Aitken-7 iris. I am sending the letters out to our hybridizers right after Christmas. I hope to have more iris donations for the silent auction in 2013.

We had 105 people place winning bids on 317 items. Total money received from the silent auction was \$3,414.00.

This year we premiered a new feature--***AIS Region Raizin' Baskets***. Each Region in the AIS was asked to donate a basket that highlights their area of the country. For example, Region 15 donated two baskets had "Pink Fiddle" Rose' Wine, Metal Wine Basket, Lompoc "Green" Shopping Bag, Lompoc Pin Quito Beans, Small 2 x 12" Acrylic Painting Lompoc Flower Field, Extra Virgin Oliver Oil Santa Ynez Valley, Walnut Oil Lompoc, Pack of 4 "iris" Note Cards Compoc Artist, 1 Note Card LaDerissma Mission, Chardonnay Cocktail Napkins, 9 x 12 Inch Framed Iris Print, 2-\$30 Each Stanton Iris Garden Gift Certificates, 3 Pack Ladies Garden Gloves, 4 Holographic Helium Birthday Balloons, 2 Wooden Fruit Baskets, 18 Ounces Assorted Pecans, Box of 20 Notecards, 2 Book Marks, Stained Glass Iris Nightlight, 2 Jars Arizona Honey, 2 Jars California Honey, Iris Votive Candle Holder, Set of Assorted Notecards, 5 x 7 Inch Iris Journal, 3 x 5 Inch Hanging Iris Plaque, and a Katharina Notarianni Iris Book with Bookmark. Regions 13, 18 and 22 also had amazing baskets full of great items. Each Region was highlighted with a poster that shows the area of the country they cover and pictures of local gardens and iris lovers. This will help us all learn more about what area each region covers and what makes them unique. In 2013 we hope to have the contents of the baskets from each region early enough so we can share them and start the bidding by email from the AIS Facebook page and continue it by daily updates. The idea behind these ***AIS Region Raizin' Baskets*** is to get all the local AIS affiliates (clubs) to donate local items to the Region Vice President. Then they will make the basket and send a list of all the items the Silent Auction Chair in February. This will allow everyone to bid on the baskets via email after it is publicized on AIS Facebook. If the RVP or other members of that region are attending the national convention they can bring the basket all ready to be bid on or it can all be mailed ahead of time. I made flyers for the RVPs that were given out at their RVP meeting at the National Convention. I gave you a copy today and would ask you to promote the endeavor please. The Region 17 RVP, Gordon Carver, which is Texas where the 2013 National will be, has volunteered to receive the basket items from the different regions and make the baskets up for each Region. This will be a big help for the regions and for the silent auction co-chairs! Thank you Gordon!

Please remind everyone you know to save those items when they are cleaning out or downsizing and donate them either for your Region Basket or mail them to AIS Silent Auction, 2213 Hereford Blvd, Midland TX 79707. If you have any questions please contact Debbie at 432-697-6340 or dkstraus@swbell.net.