

Silent Auction Report Spring 2015

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I think Nick and I were spoiled by having the National Convention in Dallas for two years in a row. We could just load up our car with everything we needed and had collected for the Silent Auction and head out. This time I am realizing the logistics are not nearly as convenient. Flying limits us terribly. With more than 600 registered for Portland and only 220 people in Dallas 2014, I really don't know what to expect. Total money received from the silent auction was more than \$4800.00 and 14 Baskets from 12 Regions raised \$1058. So 22.4% of our total amount raised was from Raisin' Region Baskets.

Once again I mailed out letters to the hybridizers to ask for iris donations. I have not received as many as last year, as of May 10. I also sent emails as reminders and put articles in the Bulletin and in the "News & Notes" and on the Facebook "Hybridizer's page". Likewise I publicized the Region Basket donations first handing out flyers to all in attendance at the RVP meeting at the Dallas convention and then in the Bulletins and "News & Notes".

I must have a printer for doing all the work for the silent auction. I have been using my personal printer ever since I took on this task. I took it to Madison, California and Dallas for two years. I had to purchase a new one this last fall, and I cannot bring it with me on the plane, so I plan to purchase one when I arrive in Portland. The plan is to ship it to the next convention location every year, or send it with someone driving that way perhaps.

Again, I have flyers for the RVP meeting about the basket donations, and this year I have made them for the affiliates meeting also. I would like to ask the board members in charge of those meetings to please take the flyers with them and pass them out. I am also going to leave piles of them around on tables so everyone can pick them up.

Nick and I would like to thank the Ludi's for collecting the shipped donations come to their home.

I believe this group of people are the best there are. There are zillions of things that must be done for the silent auction. It would be a big help if Nick and I can get you all to help us in advertising the need for donations to the silent auction. These include iris collectibles, garden items, new or newer iris rhizomes from our hybridizers, and please help us get the word out about the Region Baskets. We are also very hopeful that the board members will remember the silent auction too when going through their treasures and cleaning house.