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Dear I.I. Friends,

We are nearing the end of another month and entering yet another chapter of coronavirus as Minnesota slowly begins to reopen. As the deconfinement process takes place, please continue to stay safe and be well. Remember to bring a little Ikebana into your life to enliven your spirits and to keep our motto of *Friendship Through Flowers* strong in spite of what's happening around us.

Happy Memorial Day!

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## Annual Meeting via Zoom

Please mark your calendars for our annual business meeting which will take place virtually on Sunday, June 28th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

For the meeting we will be using Zoom, the web conferencing platform. It's easy to join - all you need is a device (PC/Mac, tablet, or smart phone). Instructions and meeting details will be sent closer to the date.

### *Art in Zoom*

Art in Zoom is currently underway and the key to its success is your participation! This is a wonderful opportunity to share our love of Ikebana with everyone in a different capacity, by choosing an art work or artifact from our homes and interpreting it through an arrangement. Please send a photo of your art work/artifact and arrangement to Brenda Sussna (see submission details below). The deadline has been extended to June 6th. The photos will be posted in our chapter newsletter and to our website and Facebook page (and new Instagram page!). If enough suitable photos are available, a small blurb book will be created and possibly sold for fundraising purposes. Art in Zoom will then take place on June 28th immediately following our annual meeting. The program will include a slide show presentation of all the arrangements with commentary. Please consider participating in this activity, which is our chapter's own version of Art in Bloom. With floral shops reopening and our gardens blooming from recent rains, we should have access to more materials now, if not soon.

#### Photographing Tips and Submission Instructions

When photographing your arrangement and art piece, if possible, please do so against a solid color background. Balanced lighting will enhance your photo and help avoid harsh shadows. We may be able

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to adjust the brightness/contrast of images in some cases, so just do your best to create a good image of your art and arrangement. The most important thing is that images are in sharp focus. When you email your image, please select "Actual Size" for your image size. The drop down selector for image size should be at the right side of your email header. Your file size will be large, but you should not have trouble sending it. That way, we will have high resolution images to use in case we are able to print a booklet.

In addition to your image, please include a brief description of your chosen art, why you chose it, and the materials used in your arrangement. This is similar to the descriptions written for AIB.

Please email your image and description to Brenda Sussna at [bsd@jbsussna.com](mailto:bsd@jbsussna.com).

P.S. - Kudos to Jeff Sussna for coming up with the title *Art in Zoom!*



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For one of her spring arrangements, Sue Bagge used cored tulips, perennials that have lasted 30 years in her garden. The large apple branch increases the size of the arrangement.

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## We're on Instagram!

Our chapter has a new Instagram page, thanks to Amber Tritabaugh. Instagram is a photo and video-sharing social networking service. Our Instagram page will give our chapter more visibility in the broader community, including other I.I. groups. Amber will maintain the page with photos and chapter news. If you have an Instagram account, please "follow" us. Click on the Instagram icon at the end of the newsletter to check out our new page.

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Last week, a small group of us gathered for an intimate online social gathering hosted by Rebecca Chesin. It was quite nice to be able to check in with others on a personal level and to chat about life. It was also a great opportunity to bond and to share. If interested in more social events like this, please reach out to Myrna Little at the email address listed below.

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*"The most isolating thing most of us has ever done is, ironically, almost surely the most collective experience we've ever had in our lifetimes."* – The Atlantic

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Have something to share? Send an email to Myrna Little at: [myrna0118@gmail.com](mailto:myrna0118@gmail.com)

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