

Bulletin of the

American Iris Society

Number 238 □ July 1980

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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Editor-in-Chief: Ann Branch Dasch, 726 Diane Ave., Stockton, CA 95207
Tel. (209) 952-3845

Associate Editor: Philip Edinger, P.O. Box 637, Cloverdale, CA 95425

Advertising Editor: Kay Nelson, P.O. Box 37613, Omaha, NE 68137
Tel. (402) 895-9112

Managing Editor: Phillip Williams, P.O. Box 41, Eagleville, TN 37060

Editorial Committee: Ben R. Hager, Julius Wadekamper, W. George Waters,
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Departments & Editors: Domestic News - Fred Stephenson, 5608 Merriman
Rd., S.W., Roanoke, VA 24018
Foreign News - Bee Warburton, 2 Warburton Lane,
Westboro, MA 01581
Science - Sidney DuBose, 309 Best Rd. South, Stock-
ton, CA 95205

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Larry Harder, Ponca, NB 68770

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ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

The American Iris Society

July 1, 1980

Each year the terms of office expire for one-third of the twelve directors of the American Iris Society, and four are elected to fill those positions. As provided in the AIS bylaws, a five-member Personnel Committee recommends candidates for nomination as directors. The Personnel Committee consists of two directors chosen by the Board of Directors, two RVPs elected by the Board of Counsellors, and one Section member selected by the Board of Section Presidents.

As approved during the spring 1980 meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, one incumbent director eligible for another term was renominated, and in addition James Burch, Allan Ensminger and Dorothy Howard were nominated to complete the slate of four. Therefore, approved in accordance with the AIS bylaws, the nominees are:

For the regular three-year terms expiring in 1983

James Burch
Allan Ensminger
Dorothy Howard
James Rasmussen

The bylaws provide that additional nominations may be made by any forty members, of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before September 1, 1980. Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which will be listed all the nominees will be mailed on or before October 1, 1980 to all AIS members, and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) on or before November 1, 1980. If there are no nominations in addition to those listed above, issuance of a ballot may be omitted.

LEON WOLFORD, President

REMINDER: Members who desire early notification of 1980 official iris awards balloting results before they are published in the BULLETIN should send a #10 long envelope, stamped and self-addressed, to the Awards Chairman, Ken Waite, 6 Tow Path Lane, Westfield, MA 01085.

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M. Anning—p. 60 upper right; **W. E. Barr**—22 left, 26 upper left & two lower, 28 upper left, 35 right, 37 lower, 44 lower, 45 both left, 46 left, 67 right; **A. Dasch**—22 right, 26 upper right, 28 lower left, 30 right, 33, 34, 35 left, 36, 40, 43 upper, 43 lower left, 47, 48 upper left, lower right; **R. Figge**—28 lower right, 30 left, 37 top, 41 both, 42 lower, 45 top right, 46 right, 48 lower left, 67 left; **Gilliam**—62; **Mrs. R. Miller**—11 upper and center left; **R. Roytos**—44 upper pair; **J. Wadekamper**—39 both; **G. Waters**—21, 28 upper left, 42 top, 43 lower right, 45 lower, front cover; **L. Welsh**—28 top right, 60 left and below; **B. Wood**—10 three lower, 12.

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Cover: Median irises bloomed beautifully in the Maltsberger-Mullin Garden in Pawnee Oklahoma during the AIS National Convention. Photo—W. George Waters.

From The Desk of the President

As predicted by many of our "Convention experts", the Tulsa Convention was a huge success. Our sincere thanks to the Convention Committee and members of Region 22 for their great effort. You have demonstrated, by your ability to work together and with business and civic organizations, that no job is too big for a group who is dedicated and willing to work tirelessly. I know I speak for all those who attended when I say that you had attended to every detail and did so with a pleasantness and welcome smile that endured throughout our stay. You not only thought of everything, you accomplished it well!

The main events of the Convention will be discussed in detail by others in this Bulletin. Therefore, I will not attempt to cover these.

The financial status of the Society has remained essentially unchanged for the past several months. We are dependent on gifts of money from individuals, societies, regions and other iris related organizations to maintain our financial stability in these days of rising costs for every service and material that is required for our operation. Many of our Officers, Directors and Committee Chairman perform their duties for the Society entirely at their own personal expense. Many are paying all of their postage costs. Even so we remain pressed for revenues to operate. We are most grateful to you who continue to give financial support. We must also point out that continued and increased support is our only alternative to an increase in membership dues.

We are moving forward in many areas that are within the aims of the Society. Membership is perhaps the most obvious of these. Our membership continues to increase at a good steady rate but I firmly believe we are capable of accomplishing more in this area. Now is the time to seek new members while the beauty of the iris remains fresh in the memory of prospective members. Remember, when you share your iris hobby with others you are doing them a service. Reflect for a moment on the pleasures that you have derived from our organization!

The final AIS Board meeting for the present administration will be in Dallas on October 31—November 1980. We are looking forward to the installation of a number of highly qualified and dedicated new Officers and Directors. I have complete confidence that as a Society, we are not only getting older, we are also getting better!

Leon Wolford

The Secret Tactics of Borers in Beardless Irises

. . . or why spurias really bloom poorly in colder climates

Helen W. Tarr, IL

If you think borers are a bother (much too polite a word) in bearded irises, look closely and see what they are doing to beardless irises you grow. When established clumps fail to bloom, and often even when new divisions are bloomless, there is a good chance that iris borers secretly are eating the tiny developing bloomstalks hidden within the fans. Many beardless irises bloom later than bearded irises, giving the borer a chance to attack where it really hurts—the bloomstalks or buds.

It seems incredible that borers could have done this hidden beardless iris damage and remained undiscovered for so long, while all sorts of genetic and weather theories were expounded to explain little or no bloom.

My first four years growing beardless irises, beyond Siberians, I had great success, except that the spurias tended to be bloom-shy after their first year north. Either it was the early springs that let stalks escape the fans before the hordes of borers attacked, or my borers were still uncultured slobs who hadn't discovered the pleasures of a varied and international cuisine. In retrospect, I think that they probably dined on some irises whose lack of bloom I had blamed on genes or climate.

I was growing over 40 Siberians, about 20 spurias, 30 Louisianas, four kinds of *pseudacorus*, two *setosus*, three *tectoriums*, *lacustris*, four *cristatus*, five indoor *evansii*, 50 Japanese, ten *versicolors* plus *virginicas* and hybrids. I also had *laevigatas*, *prismatica*, *graminea*s, Dutch, Spanish and English bulbous a few Cal-Sibes and *californiae*, a few 40 chromosome Siberians and species in many categories.

Bloom was good on newly received or newly divided spurias, but not on clumped spurias, and my then-young *versicolors* bloomed lightly. Soon I doubled the major categories and added other species such as *gracilipes* and *verna*. And, I grew hundreds of bearded irises. I felt I had great success, with 85% bloom on Louisianas, equal on Japanese, 100% on Siberians and so forth—until the big borer attack!

This is what I found—a single yellowed central leaf tip emerged from an otherwise unblemished fan of leaves. Opening the fan, I found borers gobbling a tiny budstalk and the hidden baby leaves. I began opening all stalkless fans, and in almost every fan I found borer-eaten tiny leaves and

usually budstalks as well. Most fans had no yellowed center leaf as a clue, nor was there any apparent outer leaf damage. I killed at least a hundred borers in "healthy" Louisianas.

Checking my shy-blooming large spuria clumps, I found a worse story. Borers were in some bloom stalks and emerged from buds that never opened. And EVERY non-blooming spuria had a borer-eaten budstalk and leaves inside! Less than five percent showed a yellowed center leaf tip; there was no damage to luxurious outer leaves except instances where early borers had reached the rhizome and all the leaves were dying.

I also found newly hatched borer swarms inside some fans, seeming to indicate that eggs were laid inside new green foliage, not on dried leaves. Does anyone know if cutting off the new fall foliage at winter's onset will retard or prevent blooming in spurias or Louisianas?

Borer damage was found in other beardless irises, also. *Laevigatas* were heavily damaged, but the young leaves showed evidence—growing them submerged in water seems the best remedy. Some *pseudacorus* plants showed extensive damage on young leaves, and eaten bloomstalks were later found in some unblemished fans. Japanese irises had borers in a few tall stalks and buds . . . tiny, chewed-up bloomstalks were found deep inside some fans and borers were fished out of the small rhizomes . . . and a very few outer leaves were nibbled.

I also saw no damage to the spuria rhizomes when I divided large clumps in 1979; apparently I had killed all the borers inside the fans. I know borers will eat spuria rhizomes, as I have seen them hollowed-out. The only Louisiana rhizomes I've seen eaten or found borers inside were of the variety DOROTHEA K. WILLIAMSON, and that only twice after dividing dozens and dozens of fans. Other Louisianas were just grazed by borers.

Had I sprayed? Yes, with Orthene, at a later date instead of the earlier mid-April date we use here for Cygon. On a test patch in 1977, it was the only systemic that ever gave me dead borers of all sizes and not a single live one. I prefer the safer Orthene and have learned that just one drop of water can hydrolyze an entire bottle, rendering it inactive. This could have happened to the old bottle I used.

I resprayed heavily with Cygon 2E when I found the hidden borers, after killing all that I could find. Checking five and ten rainless days later, I found the borers frisky except for two that looked squashed, not poisoned. If systemics were absorbed through leaves, some borers should have been killed even at that later date.

Two things probably contributed to the huge volume of borers and the excessive damage. The late spring gave borers four extra weeks to catch

bloomstalks inside the fans of late-blooming types. The unfrozen ground beneath our deep snows probably let pupae survive for moths to emerge and lay eggs after the spring clean-up, accounting for the borers still hatching, on through August.

Conclusions? Personally, I believe that MOST, if not all, MATURE iris leaves do not absorb systemics applied foliarly. This is probably especially true of the water irises or those with tougher leaves. Are these leaves too tough or untasty—or do these absorb better—so that borers seek the just formed new leaves and stalks instead? Systemics may be absorbed somewhat by young leaves when applied at early dates, but I suspect that they function mostly as contact poisons on leaves.

Irisarians I know who are happiest with Cygon use sprinkling cans or large power sprayers that would also drench the soil, or they deliberately drench the soil. When Cygon was most effective for me, and for my earlier Orthene test, I used a sprinkling can before I switched to a three gallon sprayer. I rather doubt that borers have become resistant to Cygon. The answer to borer control, I believe, will be Systemics Applied To The Soil For Root Absorption.

I urge all borer-plaused members to test systemics applied to the soil. I plan to try both Cygon and Orthene as soil drenches, perhaps with foliar sprays and combination soil and foliar applications on control patches.

Orthene as a soil drench, in my opinion, should be used at one third the recommended strength, one gallon per nine square feet, to prevent phytotoxicity problems with greater uptake. I recommend only using this on days below 85 degrees F.

For combination drench and spray use, I suggest one half strength; I feel that one third strength is not enough for foliage. I suspect that Cygon should be similarly diluted, since some early tests indicated phytotoxicity problems with early sprays on blue irises. Tests are needed on best application dates; hopefully, tests this spring will shed some light on soil versus foliar applications.

I definitely plan to test Di-Syston (Agricultural Grade) in the soil, especially with beardless irises where mulch used will protect my cats from danger. I will repeat all applications after six weeks if borers continue to hatch. If I still suspect borers, I will use a Diazinon soil drench around specific plants to kill borers emerging into the soil before they pupate. Light traps and bug electrocuters are being found effective by some to get moths that still emerge or fly in; these are worth testing to break the iris borer cycle.

I also plan to replace my beardless iris mulches in the spring clean-up to eliminate possible eggs, and I wonder if removal of new fall growth on Louisianas and spurias at winter's onset will prevent or retard bloom. I have found recently hatched borer eggs on green fans, as mentioned earlier, and I suspect that the eggs were laid on new leaves that wintered over, not on the dead leaves we are told that borers choose.

With borers increasing in quantity in my area, seeming to have more than one brood per season, better controls are needed. This is especially true with the beardless irises that bloom so late that borers attack unemerged budstalks—preventing the bloom that we anticipate and work hard to achieve.

Editor's Note—

Helen Tarr first contacted us about the theories in this material last fall when the Editor (still living in Maryland borer country) discovered an apparent borer infestation in her own spuria irises. There seemed no doubt that the topic merited attention. We thank her!

The author's studies on the topic were extensive. She has been in touch with many leading irisarians. Some of the theories and experiences related seem in contrast with material previously published and are the opinions of the author. We do not recommend using any pesticide for use not included on the government registered label.

Orthene was dealt with in BULLETIN issues #216, pp. 44-47, and #218 pp. 67-68 during 1975 and last year, in #234, p. 51. The latter was a letter to the editor from Lois Grimes describing her disastrous results from using the chemical. Much needs to be learned. Manufacturers cannot be held responsible for products used for purposes other than those on their labels.

The first article mentioned above, a January 1975 article "What's New in Iris Borer Control" by Dennis M. Danbar, The Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station, New Haven, charts results with various insecticides and cites the literature of five others studying chemicals and borers.

The Danbar article does mention Japanese irises, but previous work seems to have been devoted primarily to borer problems in tall bearded irises. Helen Tarr's experiences bring in a range of other considerations.

The beginning of the Danbar article describes the borer and his lifestyle thusly—

*The destructive iris borer, *Macronoctua onusta* Grote, is the foremost insect pest of bearded and Japanese irises. This insect attacks all parts of the iris plant, including the foliage, developing flower buds and rhizomes. It can*

destroy a bed of iris in a single season if the infestation is heavy. This article briefly describes the life history of the iris borer and presents results of experiments undertaken during 1973 and 1974 to evaluate insecticides for its control.

The iris borer is native to North America and belongs to the family of night-flying moths called Noctuidae. It has one generation per year. The adult borer . . . is a light to dark brown moth with a wing spread of about 1½ to 2 inches. During late fall, mid-September through October, moths emerge, mate and lay eggs. They are rarely seen because they hide by day and fly only at night. Females deposit their eggs in groups or clusters of 100 to 150 eggs in crevices and folds of dead iris leaves (Ries 1929). A single female lays an average of 1000 eggs during her lifetime (Neiswander 1961).

Winter is spent in the egg stage. Eggs are deeply ridged, cylindrical and flattened . . . They are white when first deposited and later turn pink. They hatch the following spring usually during April and early May. Eggs began to hatch on April 30, 1973 and on April 23, 1974 at Mt. Carmel, Connecticut.

Young larvae wander over the foliage chewing holes in the leaves and feeding on the softer inner tissue. Wounds caused by this feeding bleed or weep and sap accumulates on the outside of the leaf at the point of injury. According to Schread (1970) larvae mine the leaves for awhile before working down into the lower areas of the unsheathing foliage. Marginal leaf injury and narrow, shredded, water-soaked slits frequently appear where the feeding has injured the leaves . . .

Larvae are about one-half grown before they move down to the rhizomes. They feed along the edges or on the undersides of a rhizome and then move on to and destroy another rhizome before pupating . . .

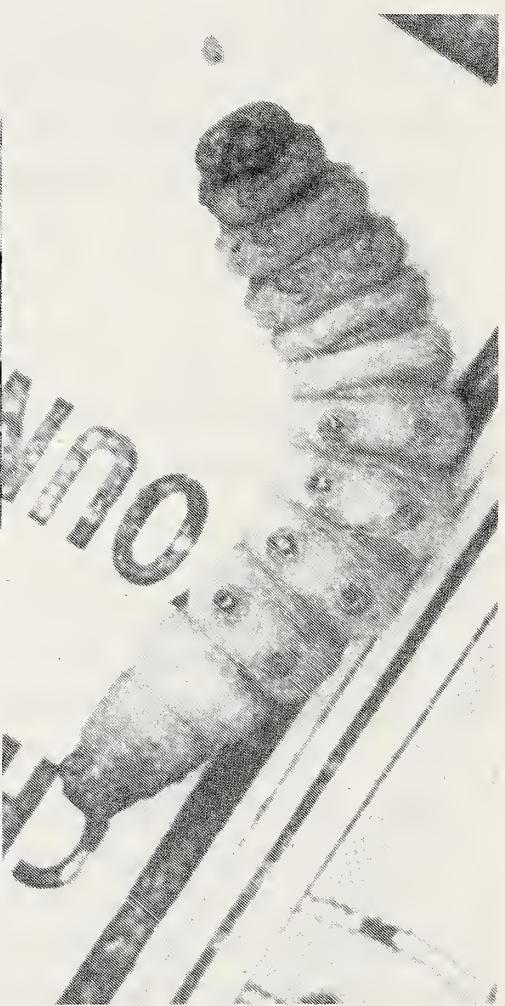
Full grown larvae . . . are about 1½ to 1¾ inches in length and deep pink in color. Pupae are dark brown to black and occur in the soil around the injured rhizomes.

Effective control of the iris borer may involve both the use of insecticides and the cultural practice of removing rubbish and old plant material from the iris beds before eggs hatch in the spring. The fact that young larvae feed on the leaves and are exposed for a short period before they migrate to the rhizomes is the basis for control using insecticide sprays.

Many considerations are required as we fight the iris borer war. Some parts of the nation do not have the pest. Why? Elizabeth Wood has initiated a study on this. It is hoped that material such as Helen Tarr's will stimulate additional studies and lead to control of the iris borer and its extensive devastation. We welcome comments and additional information.

BORER GALLERY

Stages of an iris
gardener's anathema



Pest plotting ...

Our Own Borer Survey

Betty Wood, NJ

What do we really know about the distribution of the iris borer in time and space? Perhaps, a first step toward its control would be the collection of data concerning it.

I hope that AIS members will cooperate with me in achieving this. If everyone reading these words will contribute information—from non-borer areas as well as from borer areas—we can map its distribution quite accurately.

Following is a simple questionnaire that can be answered quickly and compactly on what we used to call a penny postcard. Please invest a few moments and a few pennies and send your postcard to me—(E. A. Wood, 17 Alston Court, Red Bank, NJ 07701) **before** August 30, 1980. Answer the following questions and also add any reports or comments you wish to make about borers.

For example, a returned postcard might look like this:

1. c
2. Sevin b

3. a. Never, b. Late August, c. June 15-August 15, d. July, August

*Comment: I never had borers until last year, my 5th year of iris
gardening. Now they are a pest.*

*John Doe
Irisdale, Kansas*

You might wish to comment on some of these aspects; are they fact or fancy? Borer eggs are never found on green leaves. Borers never infest a new garden the first year. Borers are most numerous in plants near shrubbery. Only one borer is found in each rhizome so they must be cannibalistic.

Every postcard, every answer and every comment will help provide knowledge about the borer. Please take part in the survey that follows.

BORER SURVEY

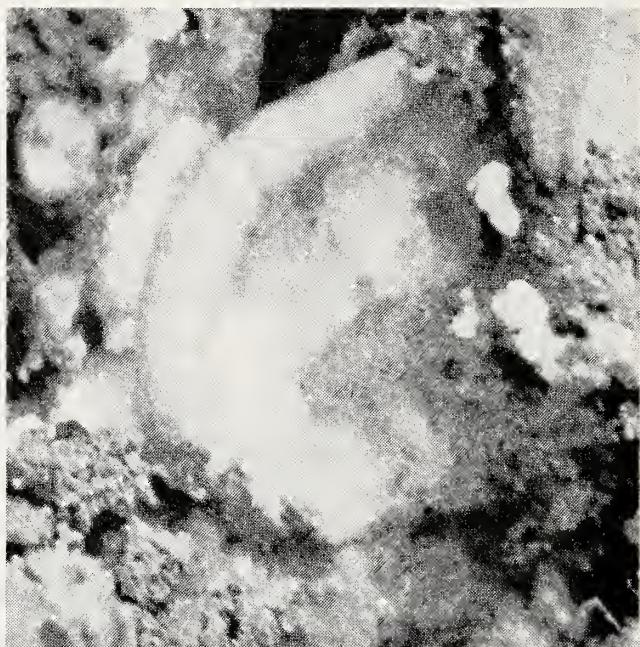
- 1. If you never used any preventive measures, which would you have?**
 - a. No borers
 - b. Quite a few borers
 - c. Many borers
- 2. What preventive measures have you found effective?**

(Name chemical or procedure)

 - a. Completely effective (no borers)
 - b. Moderately effective (a few borers)
- 3. When have you seen (give approximate dates)**
 - a. The moth?
 - b. The pupae?
 - c. The borer in the leaves?
 - d. The borer in the rhizome?

Comment:

Name and address



IRIS BORERS IN ACTION: Left is tall bearded iris leaf, borer-chewed. Above photo shows a pink larva stage borer dining in a rhizome.

The smallest class of bearded irises packs a punch . . .

MINIATURE DWARFS: Big Values in Small Packages

David B. Sindt, IL

Miniature Dwarf Bearded Irises (MDBs) are one of the real delights of the genus *Iris*, occupying a special place as the earliest blooming and smallest of all the bearded irises. Interest in dwarf bearded irises is traced by iris historians to the late 19th and early 20th century varieties of growers including Barr, Caparne, and Perry in England; Burchfield and Sass in the United States; and the firms of Millet and Fils in France and Goos and Koeneman in Germany. However, it was not until the importation and distribution in this country of the true species *Iris pumila* by Robert Schreiner in the early 1930s followed by its first use in hybridizing by Paul Cook in the 1940s that the diminutive, proportionate irises we now know as MDBs began to appear. The Caparne Award, one of the first voted in 1950, and the founding of the Dwarf Iris Society in the same year expanded and nurtured interest in the remarkable varieties introduced in the 1950s, particularly by Walter Welch, that involved *Iris pumila* as well as several other species.

MDBs are considered by those who live in cold-winter climates as among the hardiest and most reliable irises there are. In winters when tall bearded irises are wiped out, MDBs grown under similar circumstances survive, even thrive. But for those in areas with mild winters, MDBs are difficult, sometimes impossible to grow. This seems to be the result of the extensive use of *Iris pumila* in the development of modern MDBs and the resultant requirement of these irises for cold or freezing winters. I am convinced, however, that wherever the rampantly popular Standard Dwarfs (SDBs) will grow, at least some MDB varieties will also grow; after all, SDBs are typically half *Iris pumila*, and some MDBs have no more than that, a few have none at all.

MULCH ADO . . .

I have grown MDBs on several sites in the areas of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Chicago, and in both areas have used winter mulch—marsh hay or the like. The reason for this is not to keep plants from getting cold or freezing, but to moderate rapid temperature changes in late fall, mid winter, or early spring when there may not be snow cover to do this.

One cannot know in advance in which years winter mulching will be necessary and when it won't be. The winter of 1978-79, for instance, with its early, heavy, and continuous snow cover made the mulch unnecessary, but I couldn't know that in November (Thanksgiving weekend) when I put it on. Conversely, the winter of 1979-80, with little or no snow cover through mid January, has been one in which the mulch has been critically necessary. The plants go dormant, more or less, sometimes in late fall and stay that way through a fairly short (perhaps six week) cold period. After that, whenever they warm up, they will break dormancy and begin growing again, at which point they are far more susceptible to damage from cold than when they are dormant. Two or three warm days in January or February without cover, for instance, may be enough to break dormancy and cause damage.

The mulch selected should be a material that resists packing down as much as possible, because an overpacked mulch will encourage mildew and rot. For the same reasons, it is important to begin removing the mulch as soon as temperatures begin to moderate, sometime in March here in Chicago. I simply pull the mulch off the plants and pile it between the rows so that it is still handy if a severe cold snap is forecast and to provide protection from muddy shoes when working in the garden. The mulch gradually breaks down during the summer, but it does reduce the number of weeds between the rows as well as retaining moisture during dry periods, keeping the surface soil cooler in hot periods for the relatively shallow-rooted MDBs, and contributes to the soil's organic matter.

ROOT SQUARES . . .

MDBs will succeed in a wide variety of soil types, though like most other bearded irises they prefer the proverbial "good garden soil." I have grown MDBs well both on an acidic, very sandy soil and in a very heavy clay soil that bakes hard in summer, though some varieties performed better on one, others on the other. Good drainage is a high priority whatever the soil type, as well as moderate fertility. If the soil already has a high fertility level additional fertilization may not be immediately necessary, but MDBs will respond to fertilization on poorer soils. Remember, however, that the goal with MDBs is not to grow them as big and tall as possible, as it is for some growers of tall bearded irises, and an intensive fertilization program may prove counter-productive.

Weeding is important to reduce competition for nutrients and water for the tiny plants with their relatively smaller root systems. However, it is

best to avoid all but the shallowest hoeing to avoid damage to roots near the surface. Summer mulching, as discussed earlier, is a viable alternative.

Those who enjoy rock gardening have probably already discovered the superb qualities of MDBs as rock garden plants. The rocks in a rock garden serve the same purposes for the plants that a summer mulch does—keeping the soil cool, conserving moisture, and reducing weeds. MDBs are also excellent as an edging for perennial or iris borders, with their short leaves remaining attractive throughout the season after they have completed blooming and taller flowers have begun. No garden is too small for a few MDBs tucked in some corner.

BRED LINES . . .

While there was a dramatic development of many lovely varieties of MDBs in the 1950s and early 1960s through use of *Iris pumila* by such hybridizers as Walter Welch, Leona Mahood, Helen Doriot, Alta Brown, Bee Warburton, Bennet Jones, Earl Roberts, Donna Simonson, Paul Cook, and Wilma Greenlee, progress has continued in hybridizing MDBs since that "golden age," though less dramatically. Varieties of pure *Iris pumila* origin continue to be of interest, and recent developments include combining yellow beards (once thought impossible for pure *Iris pumila*s) with an increasing range of colors; browns and blends; and sharper, more contrasty spot patterns in an increasing range of color combinations. Spot patterns are probably the most distinctive genetic factor in terms of color contributed by *Iris pumila* to all of the smaller iris classes, permitting the imposition of a spot (large, small, feathered, sharp-edged, split, crescent-shaped, etc.) of virtually any color on the fall of a flower of—at least theoretically—any other color.

Probably the most important recent development in what I will call hybrid MDBs (those that are not pure *Iris pumila*) is the increasing of fertility by working toward MDBs at the 40 chromosome level that includes most of the SDBs. Earlier varieties have combined the 32 chromosomes *Iris pumila*s with chamaeiris and SDBs of 40 chromosomes, TBs and *Iris aphyllas* of 48 chromosomes, and all the possible combinations resulting in many MDBs of complex parentage, odd chromosome counts, and reduced or practically non-existent fertility, limiting further development. One route, utilized by a number of hybridizers either intentionally or otherwise, is in selecting the smallest segregates of SDB breeding and working with them. Another route, developed particularly by Ben Hager, is the crossing of 48 chromosome tetraploid MTBs (from TBs crossed with *Iris aphylla*) with *Iris pumila*. The 1979 Caparne Award win-

ner LIBATION is an outstanding example. As newer MDB varieties of increased fertility become available, advances in color, pattern, form, proportion, and growth can be carried on to further generations and improvements rather than being simply lovely genetic dead-ends.

Other developments in hybrid MDBs are improved plicatas, blue-bearded yellows and browns, flamingo pinks, and increased depth, purity, and intensity of a variety of colors, as well as improvements along the same lines as described for pure *Iris pumila*. Improved form and proportion, increased petal width, and added ruffles, both of the latter without compromising daintiness, are further areas where MDB hybridizers have made advances. It is a continuing challenge to develop varieties under the new strict seven inch maximum and to explore the potential of the numerous MDB species that have been little used in hybridizing efforts to date.

SMALL TALK . . .

In suggesting some of the MDB varieties, both newer and older, that have been outstanding for me, I prefer to separate those of pure *Iris pumila* breeding from the others. I do this because in those parts of the country where it grows well, *Iris pumila* has a blooming season all its own, before any (or almost any) of the other MDBs start, and has a special charm and character all its own. Also, these varieties are the most difficult of the MDBs in areas of even somewhat mild winters.

My selection of favorite pure *Iris pumila* MDBs would include WHITE MITE (Welch 1959) and SNOW SPARKLE (Sindt 1978), pure whites; COMMENCEMENT (Welch 1976), white with yellow spot; APRIL SKY (Roberts 1975), white with blue spot; GAY SUNSHINE (Sindt 1973), light yellow with white beard; SUN SPARKLE (Sindt 1968), bright yellow with yellow beard; BROWNNETT (Roberts 1957), bright yellow, brown spot, and white beard; ATOMIC BLUE (Welch 1961), sky blue with white beard; INCA TOY (Roberts 1975), medium blue, purple-maroon spot, and white beard; DARK NOTE (Brown 1970), deep violet with blue beard; GARNET GLEAM (Sindt 1968), violet red with pale blue beard; and KING'S ROBE (Roberts 1976), wine red, dark maroon spot, and blue beard.

Among the hybrid MDBs, I would select BRIGHT WHITE (Welch 1958), pure white; CHERRY SPOT (Welch 1956), white with red spot; EASTER GIFT (Rosenfels 1971), white with light blue rays; TWINKLING STAR (Welch 1965), white with green rays; JOANNA TAYLOR (Taylor 1973), white with bright violet spot; TIC TAC (Brown 1974), white with very dainty violet plicata markings; INCHALONG (Cook 1954), pale yellow;

DAINTY BELLE (Hamblen 1977), pale yellow with pale blue beard; BUTTER-CUP CHARM (Brown 1970), bright yellow; NUGGETS (Sindt 1976), brighter and deeper orange yellow; BOLD LAD (Brizendine 1971), yellow, brown spot, and blue-white beard; VARI BRIGHT (Mahood 1963), yellow, brown spot, and yellow beard; ZIPPER (Sindt 1979), yellow with blue beard; MEXICAN DOLL (Dyer 1976), brown, deeper falls, and blue beard; PENNY CANDY (Hamblen 1977), rich brown with brown beard; GREEN PIXIE (Brown 1966), pale green with bright green spot; BLUE FROST (Doriot 1957), pale blue; BLUE BERET (Roberts 1967), bright blue with purple spot; DREAM STUFF (Mahood 1964), pale orchid; ORCHID FLAIR (Mahood 1961), deeper orchid; PROMISE (Cook 1952), orchid pink with yellow beard; LIBATION (Hager 1975), wine red with yellow beard; RAZZ (Boushay 1976), maroon with violet beard; THREE CHERRIES (Hager 1971), rose, red spot, and yellow beard; JASPER GEM (Welch 1964), russet red with darker spot, yellow beard; CUP AND SAUCER (Welch 1953), mahogany purple with yellow beard; STINT (Cook 1956), purple with blue beard; JELLY BEAN (Dunbar 1971), blackish wine red; BLACK BABY (Sass 1955), blackish purple; TOM THUMB (Hamblen 1973), dark violet with violet beard; and VELVET TOY (Dunbar 1972), violet rebloomer.

Each of these varieties is worthy of a place in any garden, and this is only a suggestion of the diversity that modern MDBs have to offer. Four commercial gardens currently carry extensive lists of MDBs: Miller's Manor Iris Gardens of Markle, Indiana; David B. Sindt—Iris of Chicago, Illinois; Riverdale Iris Gardens of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Melrose Iris Gardens of Stockton, California. Other growers may carry a more limited selection of MDBs, and several hybridizers sell their own varieties exclusively.

MDBs are an indispensable and unique part of the iris family, a part that enables you to be enjoying a garden full of color more than a month before the tall bearded irises spread forth their glory, weeks before even the Standard Dwarfs make an appearance. But even if they didn't bloom early, the special charm, daintiness, and personality of modern MDBs would secure their permanent place in the iris repertoire.



Miscellany

During discussions regarding the AIS logo, the Board has been advised that both its appearance in copyrighted publication and its long use under common law gave adequate legal protection. Unauthorized personal use of the AIS logo is prohibited without the permission of the AIS.

Upper Midwest Beardless Iris Auction Set To Bloom

**Ainie Busse, MN
Auction Chairperson**

How it germinated . . .

In recent years, eastern and then midwestern groups of irisarians have held Siberian iris auctions to benefit The Society for Siberian Irises, an AIS section. The latter, in our area in 1977, was chaired by Pat McCallum and held at Julius Wadekamper's Borbeleta Gardens. It was a huge success, with proceeds of more than \$1,300.

Also at the 1977 midwestern auction, some Japanese irises donated by Dr. Currier McEwen brought almost a hundred dollars, which was sent to the Society for Japanese Irises. That was the first step toward expanding our offerings.

In 1979, a beardless iris auction at the Busse Garden Center included spuria, species, Siberian and Japanese irises, with proceeds received gratefully by each of the AIS sections involved. This prompted the Iris Society of Minnesota to plan another auction for 1980 to include all beardless forms.

Plans have budded . . .

The 1980 Upper Midwest Beardless Iris Auction will be held Sunday, September 7 at the Busse Garden Center beginning at 2 p.m. This auction is not underwritten by the Iris Society of Minnesota, although it draws on the ISM membership for help and uses the ISM treasury for checking and banking.

The auction will be given wide publicity, and we hope to generate interest in bidders and contributors from all over the United States. All proceeds from the auction will be divided according to sections, with monies sent to each respective group.

My personal experience is that purchasing and growing a few beardless irises lead to more. In 1977, when we left to attend the Siberian auction, my husband (drawing on previous auction experiences) said, "Now, don't get carried away again and buy anything!"

Needless to say, I did buy. Our family is now hooked on Siberians, growing over sixty varieties and looking for more. Our initial interest was born at that auction; we bought spurias and species in 1979 and plan to add Japanese this year.

I expect the same principle will be true for others who take part in the auction and have fun discovering beardless irises. We anticipate a good selection of irises to sell, with a range of vintages, prices and hybridizers involved.

How to help it bloom . . .

Naturally if BULLETIN readers would like to donate plants, we would be delighted! Kindly advise me (address for Busse Garden Center at the end of this article) by August 1, 1980, so that the information will be included on our Auction Cultivar and Species List. I should receive plants no later than Thursday, September 4. Special arrangements may be made to send plants later, to be subsequently forwarded to the winning bidder, so long as we are able to list the variety on our list as above.

A panel of nationally known experts are contacting hybridizers to solicit iris contributions: Mary Duvall, species; Joan Cooper, spurias; Julius Wadekamper, Siberians; Dr. W.L. Jeffries, Japanese and Louisianas.

How to enjoy its flowering . . .

An Auction Cultivar and Species List will be completed by August 1, with descriptions, and will be sent to anyone who requests it and sends a stamped, self-addressed envelope to me at the address at the end of this article. With your enthusiasm then whetted, we offer you ways to participate in the auction in person or by mail.

If you can attend in person, you will enjoy not only the auction, but also the sales tables with prices mainly in the \$1 to \$5 bracket. Little "treasures" and artifacts will also be sold.

We welcome donations other than irises for the tables. Since all of the proceeds of the auction are sent to the respective AIS sections, auction costs are paid from proceeds of the table sales. In 1977, table sales generated \$206 excess after expenses, which was sent to The Society for Siberian Irises.

If you cannot attend in person, your participation by mail will be most welcome. We have established a Plant Pal system for out-of-town supporters. Plant Pals are concerned, conscientious and knowledgeable irisarians who will do their best to represent mail bidders. They will help in either of the following ways.

1.) Send a list of the varieties you already have with a check (payable to the Iris Society of Minnesota) for the maximum amount that you wish to spend. Add special instructions, e.g. I like/don't like tetraploids; I need tall/short varieties; I don't want introductions older than 19____, etc.

A Plant Pal will then bid for you on anything that would fit your specific wishes. Plants will be mailed to you the week of September 8,

with cultural instruction and a refund of any money unspent.

2.) Send a list of what you would like, in order of preference, along with an indication of the maximum bid for each. Include a check (payable to the Iris Society of Minnesota) for the total amount you want spent on your "wish list."

A Plant Pal will bid for you according to your instructions. Plants, cultural instructions and any refund will be mailed to you the week of September 8.

Blooming details . . .

Our experience has been that some species and cultivars that are difficult to locate in one area are readily available elsewhere. The auction will serve as a marketplace where contributors and buyers come together, as well as a means of funding the beardless iris AIS sections. We are keeping a copy of the format and procedures for conducting this auction so that others interested in planning a similar event will have guidelines for reference.

We request that plants be packaged carefully so that they do not dry out. We have a large walk-in cooler at the Busse Garden Center and plants can be kept in good condition with no dry-out at all. A method of packaging that worked in 1977 was to wrap roots in damp paper towels, twist-tied inside a plastic bag. Most plants were received with the roots wrapped in moist peat moss. Labeling is a must and twist-tied labels to the plants are preferred.

If anyone prefers to bid on items coming from only one AIS section, they should make out a check directly for that section. The sections are The Society for Siberian Irises, Spuria Iris Society, Society for Japanese Irises, Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA) and Louisiana Iris Society of America (LISA).

Join the fun! Begin or improve your beardless iris collection! Help the section of your choice! Remember the Upper Midwest Beardless Iris Auction September 7, 1980, beginning at 2 p.m. at Busse Garden Center, 635 East 7th St., Cokato, MN 55321; telephone (612) 286-2654.

*PLAN AHEAD to attend the next AIS national convention: St. Louis,
May 14, 15, 16, 1981.*



Masterplanting at Philbrook

OK WAS MORE THAN OKAY!

The best laid plans of Convention Committees . . . must proceed, weather or not . . . but Tulsa '80 cannot be called a "bud convention." Tall bearded varieties were budding, with only a few early varieties open, but a delightful display of medians and arilbreds offered a perspective seldom seen at conventions.

Even more noteworthy was the prevalent attitude. The more than 750 conventioneers attending from all parts of the nation absorbed the "we-care-about-our-guests" projected by the convention committee, garden hosts and Region 22 in general. Mother Nature's cool spring may have duped the irises into tardiness and two tour days may have been abysmally rainy, but no one was dismayed. Guests duck-footed through the sogginess with good humor.

That the convention committee did a splendid job with arrangements seems an understatement. A multitude of special touches—from native rose rocks to personal oil wells (functioning best as pencil sharpeners) to an iris show—complemented the pleasant facilities at the Camelot Inn headquarters.

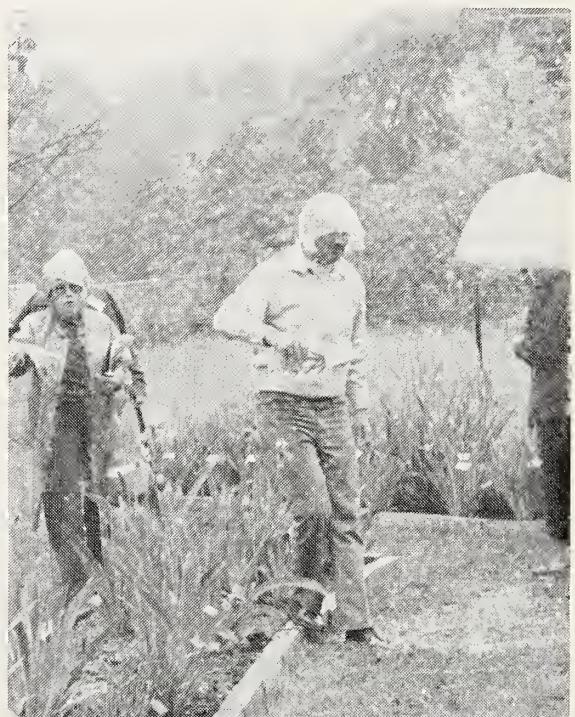
Good tour buses were appreciated, especially in view of early scheduling problems that had convention officials pulling all possible strings lest conventioneers be conveyed on covered wagons as had Oklahoma pioneers. Gardens were an interesting assortment of sizes, types and landscaping features; garden refreshments were abundant. Banquet decor was imaginative and the filet mignon served Saturday evening was delectable.

Other special features at this convention included a pool-side wine and cheese party and an Oklahoma-style lunch at the Kenneth Kelley Ranch. Beef was cooked there on the world's largest steam driven barbecue; music, a farm museum and an impressive array of steam driven equipment added midwestern flavor. The Kelley ranch will also be the site of the Oklahoma Steam Threshing Association meeting in July.

The convention was dedicated to senior irisarian Eleanor Hill, whose piquant stories of early Oklahoma delighted the audience at the Welcome Banquet. General Chairman Ron Mullin also projected his congeniality well at the microphone. Ron and the many others involved deserve the highest accolades for many jobs well done. Despite the adversity of the weather and Murphy's Law, the convention was an obvious success.



Above, buses await conventioneers in beautiful Tulsa under not-so-beautiful skies. Right, a little weather doesn't stop real irisarians from enjoying the McLane garden.



Philbrook Garden

Olive Rice, CA

Our 1980 convention hosts provided, at Philbrook Arts Center, one of the most magnificent master plantings of guest irises ever seen at an American Iris Society meeting. It was an appropriate honor to commemorate the society's sixtieth anniversary.

The approach to Philbrook generates excitement for the gardener, as tiers of pink or white dogwood blend with pale green of new foliage on spreading elm trees. The 23-acre site is bounded by a wrought iron fence, the Italianate design of the mansion framed in stately ash and maples. As he traverses the long slope from the house to the iris beds, lily pool and pavilion, the irisarian's expectations are heightened; "This is what I came to see!"

The large blotch of ripe apricot-melon color calling across the beds on convention's opening day was Bryce Williamson's SUNRISE SUNSET, an extravaganza of ruffled blossoms in a huge clump apparently headed for bloomout. Throughout the gardens this iris, descended from AVANTI and LAUNCHING PAD, continued to dominate the color scene, along with Williamson's seedling 2875, same coloring and form. Curving stalks and open standards failed to please some viewers, but appearing early in a very late season, the bright color and vigorous growth were most welcome.

The first two beds of the plantings were filled with medians in great variety and blooming vigorously, a plus for those who rarely get to appreciate these irises; also pleasing were the arilbreds with their satiny classic flowers. Dorothy Willot comments on the medians separately.

Aril hybrids from Gene Hunt, L. E. Flanagan and Mark Rogers and others drew ecstatic comment from all, including those not previously acquainted with arils. Flanagan's DESERT MONARCH, DESERT PRINCESS and MAYFEST flaunted large perfect blossoms with healthy foliage, each in clumps with six to eight bloomstalks. DESERT MONARCH, medium violet with black beard, had nine open flowers when there was little else blooming; this was the day before the convention opened, when we walked to the garden from the Camelot Inn. The three Flanagan arils are out of ESTHER THE QUEEN and DESERT DOVE.

Gene Hunt's MARTHA MIA is mauve-grape, standards a bit lighter than the falls; MARY MAGDALA, white standards with orchid pink veining and dark grape falls outlined in rosy tan. Style arms are beige. Stalks are branched on both, and growth habits good.

Mark Rogers' STITCHED RIGHT boasted white-ground standards with blue-violet margins and speckled centers; white-ground falls with blue violet margins and accent lines radiating from the beard. It had four stalks and was very fetching.

Now to the tall bearded irises, of which Jack Durrance opened, "Every convention prize winner this year is genetically primed to be an early bloomer."

There were rows and rows of superbly grown and meticulously groomed TB's, lined out in vigorous clumps with many promising bloomstalks. On the first convention tour day, as well as the aforementioned SUNRISE SUNSET, a handful of these were blooming: Weiler's THICK and CREAMY, a huge clump of ruffled ivory; Keppel's iris of the same color, GENEROSITY, with ten stalks and five open blooms. Marking the far corner of the guest plantings was Hamner's PEACH SUNDAE, with three stalks and six open flowers; the stalks were showing some atypical distortion.

Two of Jim Gibson's plicatas joined the early-bloomers: BEYOND and MIRROR MIRROR. The latter has greyed orange stitching on a yellow ground, with a silver stripe down the center; BEYOND has apricot brown standards and white ground falls with brown thumbprints and orange beard. Bob Dunn's STYLELITE was a ruffled white with yellow beard and texture veining on the falls.

Texan Bruce Clark's IDA RED caused much comment. It is a deep red-wine self with gold-bronze beard, and stood out well among the mostly light-colored early bloomers, with five blossoms out on its three stalks.

Two white iris blooming next to each other in a far corner of the garden were thrifty clumps of many stalks and flowers. Bob Annand's 68-43 was a good garden subject, while John Weiler's BRIDAL WREATH rated good marks on all counts—form, branching, vigor, substance, color.

On succeeding days we were impressed with Hickerson's ALLISON, white ruffled standards with light purple falls and gold hafts, tangerine-bearded; Emil Kuchta's 75-82-1, a tempura green flower; W. E. Jones' 73-40A, an improved OVATION, with closed rosebud standards and huge flaring falls; Bill Bledsoe's SUGAR TREE, standout at the Huntsville convention; Tina Berndt's MICHIGAN PRIDE and SATIN RIBBON, the former having superior garden value with its bright coloring; Cleo Palmer's 75112, variegata with ecru standards and purple falls; Les Peterson's SPANISH HARLEM, a brown red clump with eleven stalks and fine coloring; and Schreiner's huge VICTORIA FALLS. McWhirter's COMMUNIQUE

was a large-flowered, white ground plicata with three-way branching.

Niswonger's CORAL STRAND, just beginning to bloom on Saturday, was a huge clump with fourteen stalks, seven open blooms, and the promise of a smashing performance.

Walter Moores' HAUNTING MUSIC was a good performer in many gardens; we need the good blue violet ones. Richard Butler's MAUMELLE with its delicious perfume, violet self with violet beard, never failed to delight and was a reliable performer everywhere.

Bob Mallory's MIO CARO, winner of a silver medal in 1978 in Florence, showed its mettle, putting up eleven stalks on a huge clump and showing good bloom all week. Standards are pale violet, falls dark campanula violet. Comparing it to others, Jim Foresman commented that though it might have a lower bud count, it might ultimately be a better show iris. Jim put it and BRIDAL WREATH on his want list, and had lots of praise for Duane Meek's LIME JADE, which had twelve stalks and five open blooms. LIME JADE'S bud count ran from 6 to 9 and it had fine branching and bud placement. Meek's ANGEL SYMPHONY was another fine white iris, fourteen stalks on a good clump, in full bloom by week's end.

Saturday's standout was the clump we had been looking forward to all week after having heard about it from those who saw Philbrook's 1979 bloom parade. It was Cleo Palmer's TWIST OF FATE, a luscious production of black velvet falls and light violet-blue standards with bronze beard. It must have been the most photographed iris of the convention.

On Sunday we made our sixth trip to the master guest plantings, and there saw another winner whose top bud was being opened by its hybridizer, Perry Dyer. It was PRIDE OF OKLAHOMA, a rich brown with no haft marks which if performing on schedule must have given TWIST OF FATE, Presidents Cup winner, a run for its money.

There were lots of "ifs" at this convention, and later comment will tell what went on in Tulsa the week following the convention!

Our understanding of some of the problems encountered by the Philbrook planting committee was broadened by discussions with Dorothy Howard, Cleo Cox, Dean and Georgia Brand and Phil and Carhlann Stonecipher, plus comments from Ginzey Chancey, Dorothy Light, June Bush, Deanna Brooks and Mary Perryman.

As we first stepped into the gardens before convention's opening, we saw the Stoneciphers and the Brands patiently weeding and grooming the plants. They told us that three years ago Larry Stayer designed the planting and turf was broken for the beds. After guests were planted there followed one of Oklahoma's severest winters; the next one was the

mildest. Last year on the Fourth of July weekend when the temperature climbed to 104° the sprinkler systems were on some of the beds, and with the gates to the center locked, volunteers could not get in to turn the water off. By day's end the foliage was cooked and completely prone.

This spring the weather was so dry the beds could not be worked. There was some rot, and though they would have preferred not to aggravate the rot by watering, it seemed necessary. Did this watering trigger the four solid days and about five inches of rain? The gardeners have been fighting rot ever since.

The convention committees are to be congratulated on their foresight and efficient planning. That peak bloom did not fall on dates to coincide with those of past years was not something they could foresee. Nonetheless it was a splendid convention and nearly eight hundred people had a smashing time. Thank you, Region 22!



Garden hosts included Mrs. Kenney (above left), Mrs. Heathcock (above right), Mr. and Mrs. Lack (lower left) and Dorothy Howard, Chairman of the Philbrook Planting shown talking with Currier McEwen.



Medians at Philbrook Art Center

Dorothy Willott, OH

On tour each of the three garden tour days of the Tulsa convention, Philbrook's master plantings offered conventioneers a unique opportunity to see and evaluate recent median iris varieties. The following were among some of the most outstanding.

MIDNIGHT STROLL, an intermediate from Cleo Palmer, made a striking clump. Its deep violet blooms looked like dark-winged butterflies dancing above the leaves. Standards are domed and falls, horizontal.

FANTASTIC BLUE, another Cleo Palmer IB, had a fantastic amount of bloom on the clump. It is ruffled light blue with deeper blue shading across the hafts. The blooms are larger than many intermediates.

ULLABY ISLE, Teresa Martin's intermediate, is a lovely, waved white self. Its domed standards and flaring falls held up well in the rain.

SEA PATROL, Cleo Palmer's award winning IB, was showing why it has won more awards. It is clear, light blue with a silvery edge on the ruffled petals and delightful form.

Two pink, pink intermediates attracted attention. **PINK KITTEN** (Vernon Wood '77) is ruffled and well proportioned. **MARTY** (W. E. Jones 78) has a slightly blue cast and has horizontal falls.

Another smooth, light blue intermediate with attractive form is **SILENT STRINGS** (Perry Dyer '79).

A different color in the IB class is Mark Rogers' **VIBRANT SPRING**, with bright red violet that shouts across the garden.

Joe Ghio's IB **BOY WONDER** was a big hit. It is basically a deep yellow blend with red-brown washed over the falls. Also a deep yellow, without the wash of the previously mentioned variety, is the unique blended **SHAMPOO** (Virginia Messick '77). It has well formed blooms and is in good proportion.

An intermediate seedling that drew much attention was Anne Johnson's 71-224B, a ruffled light yellow with a slight greenish cast and light blue beards.

Miniature tall bearded in bloom included **SPRINGCREST**, Dorothy Guild's peachy pink self—dainty and well proportioned; Mary Louise Dunderman's 1980 introduction **CHICKEE**, light yellow with wide, lightly ruffled petals and Dorothy Guild's **PASTELETTE**, a light lilac self.

A standard dwarf bearded that was still covered with blooms was W. E. Jones' 1979 introduction, **MICHAEL PAUL**. This is a perky, non-fading,

deep violet self. MIDNIGHT MADNESS from Perry Dyer is another deep violet SDB, but featuring contrasting pale violet beards.

BIDDY BYE, Robert Jeffries' SDB, has pale yellow blended standards and light green-gold falls. Its jaunty petals are quite round. W. E. Jones' SDB HESTER was a light yellow with round falls.

Two attractive white intermediates were John Taylor's WHITE LADIES and Cleo Palmer's SNOW FESTIVAL. YARNSPINNER, an intermediate from Teresa Martin, was a nicely formed pale blue with greenish shadings.

A border bearded variety just opening as we left was Myrtle Wolff's QUIET PRAYER, a white with a hint of pink and pale apricot hafts.



Above, Carol Cook (Region 22) and Georgiana Reiblich (Region 4), a mother and daughter team enjoyed their first convention. Right, Perry Dyer challenges the delayed season by opening a bloom of his variety PRIDE OF OKLAHOMA. Below left, Bill Hensel (Region 22) poses with noted iris hybridizer Melba Hamblen (right.) Below right, Kay Nelson, AIS Registrar (right) poses for a three generation photo with her mother and son.



The Nettie B. Kenney Garden

Jessie Wade, TX

The Nettie B. Kenney garden in Tulsa began as a country home but with Tulsa's growth, is now suburban. The property contains a fascinating collection of trees—pagoda, Chinese umbrella, oaks, cottonless cottonwood, sweet gum, locust, pines, persimmons, redbud, pink and white dogwood and mimosa.

Her iris collection includes medians, arilbreds, Louisiana, spuria and Siberian as well as tall bearded. *I. tectorum* in both white and blue forms appeared in small groups. Other than a small fruit orchard, other noteworthy plants included tulips, pansies, various azaleas and a red honeysuckle which I had known as the wild woodvine where I grew up. I was also impressed with a beautiful pink wisteria.

Mrs. Kenney landscaped the property herself, and she has been growing irises for 25 years. Her soil is sandy, but with the addition of compost, barnyard manure and garden vegetation tilled back into the soil, she maintains a good friable soil for her plants. Normally, she does not mulch, but she mulched some of her guest irises. Fertilizers used were 10-26-10 and 10-20-10 combinations; few pesticides, other than Isotox, have been used. For the first time, she has had some scorch in her garden this year.

Among the most outstanding iris seedlings that I noted in the Kenney garden were Robert Jeffries' J 76-1, a fresh pink with a bit of orchid cast and gold hafts lit by tangerine beards; arilbred 7105 by Glen Timbs, featuring tan standards marked brown atop brown falls narrowly edged tan and Jim Gibson's 46-3A, a brown and yellow plicata with a middle white spot on falls that seem to want to split down the center.

Seedling B-92, by Freda McNeel, was a lavender with matching beards tipped deep yellow. Emil Kuchta's 75-84-J was gold with brown markings on the falls.

Named varieties attracting attention included THUNDERSTORM by L. E. Flanagan, with rosy lavender standards and gold falls sporting wine spots and bronze tipped beards and NEEDLECRAFT, a lavender and white plicata introduction from Lloyd Zurbrigg with narrow edgings on both standards and falls.

SUNRISE SUNSET (Williamson) was a warm-toned creation, lit by an orange beard, that made a beautiful clump in the garden. PINK KITTEN, an

intermediate bearded variety, was uniformly lovely in delicate pink. Jim Gibson's BEYOND offered tan standards and falls with a splash of white accenting a bright orange beard.

The Kenney garden was a treat to visit, even after a cool spring, but viewed a few days later at peak would have offered additional seedlings and named varieties in bloom for a even more spectacular visit.



Left, OKLAHOMA BANDIT, top median runner-up for the President's Cup, an IB by Hooker Nichols. Right, Hooker Nichols, Hal Stahly, AIS President-Elect, and garden reviewer Maryann Anning stand on a slope in the terraced hillside Lack garden.

The Lack Garden

Maryann Anning, CA

Long, terraced iris beds wrap the hillside and surround the home of C. J. and Kitty Lack on an 80 acre farm in Henryetta, Oklahoma. C. J. does not farm the land, although he has a few cows, and drives to work in Tulsa.

The landscaping here features oaks, elms, maples, pines, box elder and hackberry, with plantings of azaleas, nandinas and tulips around the house. We noticed brillian red paintbrush along the driveway.

Irides looked very healthy and large. As a Californian, I was pleased to hear British visitor John Taylor comment that the irises "looked California grown." Manure, plus spring fertilizing with 10-20-20, were used, and the Lacks did not use pesticides. Sawdust was added on walkways between the terraced beds to provide dry footing for conventioneers.

Medians were prominent. HONEY BERRY, an intermediate bearded by Peck, glowed with butterscotch standards, falls that were washed with red-violet and bronze beards. Very nice. Dyer's SILENT STRINGS, another IB was a beautiful blue with fine form, and the music continued with Hamblen's HAPPY SONG, a well branched pink border bearded variety.

Several IBs by Nichols interested conventioneers, including CONFEDERATE SOLDIER, ruffled in lavender-gray-blue plicata patterning and SAINT TERESA, a very tailored white self.

MIDNIGHT STROLL, an IB by Cleo Palmer, was nice in deep, dark blue. AVANELLE, another IB by W. E. Jones was white sporting a lemon beard.

Among tall bearded varieties, K. Mohr's SQUARE DANCE performed as a flaring violet plicata and SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER (Nichols) had a good clump effect. MY GIRLFRIEND (Williamson) seemed low on buds here but offered nice blooms.

Sterling Innerst's seedling 660-6 made a nice clump, blooming in violet with a blue beard. An excellent show stalk appeared on MICHIGAN PRIDE (Berndt), a slightly hafty but appealing variegata.

MAUMELLE (Butler) was a tall violet with nice garden effect in a lusty clump. VIBRANT SPRING by Rogers was well named: a good vibrant violet.

Two arilbreds were standouts in the Lack garden. Danielson's GENETIC DANCER opened in muted tones edged in gold and accented by nice blue beards. Glen Timbs' three quarter arilbred seedling 75-2 was violet with a deeper matching signal.

Near the house, the Lacks' "favorite bed" looked good with MARTEL, FRONTIER MARSHALL and others performing. The entire Lack garden pleased conventioneers with well grown plants, but I will most remember the serene setting with a sweeping view of rolling Oklahoma hills beyond the pastures.

The Heathcock Garden

Richard Goula, LA

A verdant paradise set in the middle of a wooded country hillside, the Heathcock garden offers peaceful relief from the busy activities of downtown Tulsa. The ten acre site is heavily wooded with post oak, blackjack oak and hickory.

Central feature of the garden is the spacious home, constructed of reddish-gray sandstone found on the property. House and woodland are

well united by an assortment of creative geometric landscaping designs through which three acres are devoted to garden, with numerous iris beds on the perimeter.

The iris beds are bordered, for the most part, by rough timber and reflect the seven years of care and planning that created them. Culture is excellent—plants are extremely well grown with beds nicely manicured. No mulch is used. Some beds near the house are edged in stones that match it.

Jaymie and Bob Heathcock have three children and one grandchild. Bob, retired from careers in aviation and banking, breeds Appaloosa horses. Multi-talented Jaymie, a professional pianist who played at both banquets during the Tulsa convention, is also the family gardener.

Jaymie specializes in bearded irises, although she is interested in other classes. On the day her garden was on tour, conventioneers found especially good bloom on median irises, growing in considerable shade.

Among intermediate bearded irises performing well were SEA PATROL, a Palmer blue; MARTY (Jones), in orchid-pink and FANTASTIC BLUE by Palmer. Two outstanding seedlings were 76-18-A (Robinson), an attractive low blue and J 69 D 12 C (Jeffries, a yellow, gold and green blend which clumps and flowers well.)

Standard dwarf bearded irises of note were two Dyer seedlings, G-26, a brown-gold with blue beards and D-1, an appealing yellow-gold with mahogany markings. VIBRANT SPRING (Rogers) glowed in rose-purple.

Tall bearded varieties blooming nicely included MYSTIQUE, Ghio's blue and purple bicolor; CHERUB CHOIR, Corlew's excellent pink and MAUMELLE (Butler), purple in good clumps.

SAILOR SKIES (Burger) was a pale lavender and white plicata; TOP EXECUTIVE (Hamner) showed as one of the nicer black-reds. HALLOWEEN PARTY (Gibson), a mahogany, yellow and white plicata that reblooms, attracted attention.

Most outstanding in terms of both beauty and performance were OVATION (Tompkins), a classic deep pink that attracted much admiration and comment, and CHRISTMAS TREASURE (Burger), a pale lavender-pink (almost white) pastel, highly ruffled on beautifully branched stalks.

Arilbred stars in this garden included DESERT MONARCH, a Flanagan rose-purple and SENOR BUZZBAR (Timbs) with gold standards atop mahogany falls. Perhaps the most outstanding arilbred was MARTHA MIA (Hunt) with an excellent clump featuring blooms of clear lavender standards and rose-lavender falls with a rich burgundy spot.

History was recalled as the old Dykes Medal winner WABASH created a sensation. "Gee, it's nice to see this iris in bloom again," someone exclaimed. The flower is beautiful and quite richly colored, with deep purple falls contrasting with white standards. Its prominent silver lining around the falls is uncommon in bearded irises.

Iris beds surround two sides of the patio behind the house and extend to the edge of the woods, where a charming path leads deep into the woods. Beneath a rather dense canopy of trees and among large sandstone boulders, the path is bordered with older varieties of bearded irises—blooming nicely and seemingly at home in the woods. This was one of the nicest uses of bearded irises in a woodland garden that I have ever seen.

Also to the rear of the Heathcock house was an attractive rock garden. It features several ponds, which are bordered by irises but include violas and other plants suited to rock garden culture. This area proved popular with many guests who were seeking a haven in which to rest from a rigorous day of garden visiting.



Above, Richard Goula (center) interviews Jaymie Heathcock in her garden. Right, HALLOWEEN PARTY. Below, the Lack's terraced and walled hillside.





Cleo Cox greeted his guests.

The Cox Garden

Julius Wadekamper, MN

There is never an ill wind that blows no good. Tulsa had almost two inches of rain when we were supposed to visit the garden of bachelor Cleo Cox. Our bus was diverted to the more sheltered quarters of the Gilcrease museum. A fortunate happening, as it turned out, since the Catlin, Russell and Remington collections there are among the most extensive that exist. They were truly impressive and beautiful.

But we did not neglect the Master Rose Gardener's garden. Cleo has over 650 rose bushes in perfect condition. He is President of the Tulsa Rose Society, a consulting rosarian and he is in charge of the test gardens of the AARS as well as Caretaker of the national award winning Tulsa Rose Garden, which garnered the Master Trophy of the American Rose Society for the outstanding public rose garden of its size.

Cleo, who writes for the prestigious TULSA HOME AND GARDEN magazine and teaches horticulture at both the Community Education classes and at the Free University, also grows irises. Irises of all types can be found on his two and one half acre spread of horticultural delights, which include a rare hickan tree.

Generally, the convention was too early for tall bearded irises, but Cleo had 312 guest TBs as well as hundreds of established older cultivars, many of which presented splendid blooming clumps. My favorite was a

large, beautiful clump of Doctor Saddoris' MAMA DOC, a large lacy iris with white standards atop yellow falls. MAGIC CANDLE put on a magnificent show with three stalks and eight blooms open.

Cleo received his first iris from Dr. Saddoris and then received more irises, plus encouragement, from Dorothy Howard. Today, he is an avid irisarian who has won many exhibition awards, up to Queen of Show with PINK SLEIGH, when showing the superb specimens from his garden.



The McLane garden featured a religious thematic bed.
Right, Pearl McLane and daughter smile for guests.



The McLane Garden

Claire Barr, MD

Most memorable about Pearl McLane's garden is that irises can be beautiful under the most adverse weather conditions. The irises were well grown and well cared for in this natural, almost woodsy setting. Because the heavens had opened and stayed open for some time, the grassy areas were literally turned into lakes, but the iris beds, held high with raised borders, were unharmed. The blooms were not so lucky, but some held very well.

Beds were semi-circular, raised and bordered with concrete blocks. In some there were patio block stepping stones. As described in convention literature, this was a "wagon wheel guest planting," watched over by towering cottonwoods and native redbuds. A center of interest was the bed in which a statue of St. Francis surveyed irises with Biblical or religious names, such as ESTHER THE QUEEN, ANGEL MUSIC, ANGEL UNAWARES, BETHLEHEM STAR, BETHLEHEM SONG, EMMANUEL, CELESTIAL DOLL and more.

Near the entrance to the garden, a clump of blue *I. tectorum* caught my eye. A planting with color patterns that were beautiful in the heavy rain

ranged from the violet of Butler's MAUMELLE, to the blue of Palmer's FANTASTIC BLUE, to the vivid yellow of POSY PARADE, with the paler yellow of Stuart's TOLANI and the softness of BLOSSOM PINK by Buckles-Niswonger.

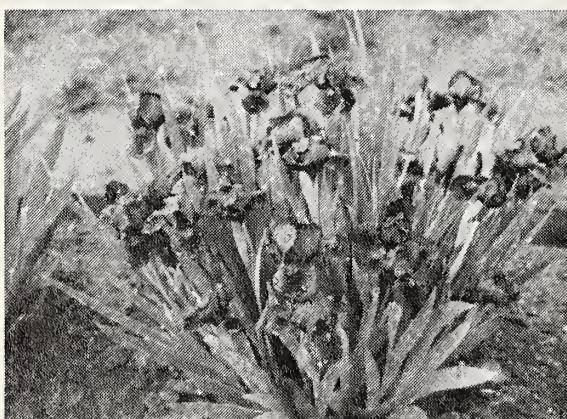
The muted tones of Hooker Nichols' CONFEDERATE SOLDIER were nearby. We were intrigued by the arils, with which we have had little success in our Maryland garden, as exemplified by Hunt's MARTHA MIA, with its bright lavender standards and plum falls.

The late season allowed us to see more medians than are usually in bloom at convention time. W. E. Jones' standard dwarf bearded MICHAEL PAUL was a deep purple velvet self; C. Palmer's intermediate CONFRONTATION stood out with its gray-toned standards and gray-gold falls. Defying the downpour was a clump of Melba Hamblen's border bearded GYPSY WINGS, the rosy-lavender falls soaring brightly. Dunderman's miniature tall bearded BLUE TWINKLE was true to its name.

Many, many of the tall bearded were showing color, but not quite ready to open, such as Bennett Jones' SUNRISE POINT and the vivid orange promise of his seedlings 71-38-4 and 74-2-5. Frank Foster's border bearded COTATI was open with rosy violet standards and falls of the same, washed tan. Ghio's MYSTIQUE was stunning, as were Zurbrigg's neatly stitched plicata NEEDLECRAFT, Keppel's FIREWATER and CARAMBA, and Muhlestein's JOYCE TERRY.

Four seedlings deserved praise for holding well in the deluge: MRR-77B, a violet self by Ed Winski; 75-91-1 by Emil Kuchta, an ice blue with white blaze on the falls near the white-tipped beards; 967 3R, a light orange by John Nelson and Bryce Williamson's 3875-1, a lovely peach with falls flushed white and orange beards.

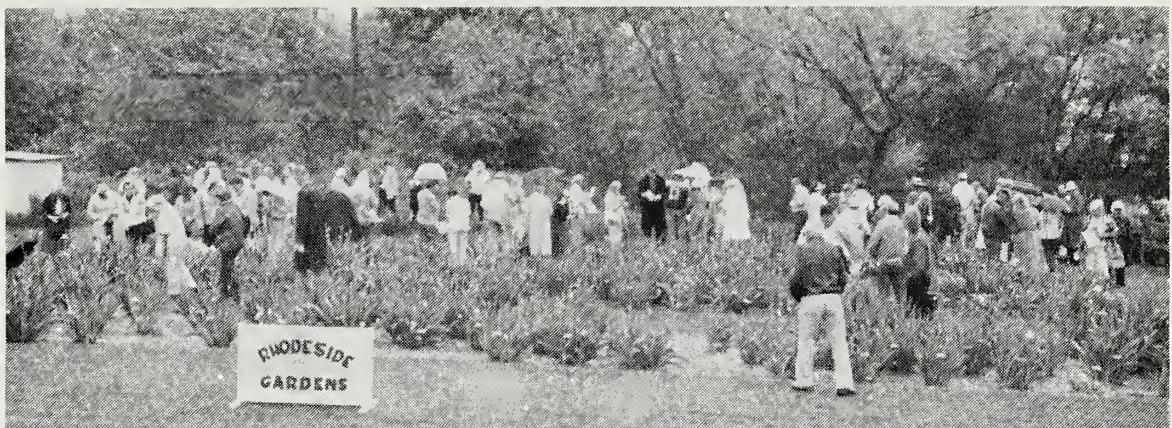
The bus captain's whistle blew a few minutes early to keep the crazy irisarians from drowning, but prevented us from talking with our hostess and finishing our viewing of this pretty Green Country garden.



MICHAEL PAUL, SDB by W.E. Jones



NEEDLECRAFT by Lloyd Zurbrigg



Burdella and
Rhodeside
Garden



The Rhodes Garden

Allan Ensminger, NE

About thirty miles northwest of Tulsa, near the town of Osage, is the beautiful one and a half acre estate of Don and Burdella Rhodes and their daughter Vicky. A sign entitled the property Rhodeside Gardens.

The dust bowl of Oklahoma turned out to be a water bowl, so the picturesque bus trip to Osage was only glimpsed through showers and low hanging clouds. The rain stopped as we disembarked from the boat—uh, bus—and we were greeted by the song of a red winged blackbird and the chatter of many martins that inhabited the three, twelve-apartment martin houses above the iris beds.

Near the Rhodes' front door is a well established clump of the standard dwarf bearded COTTON BLOSSOM. The side door is screened from the wind by a wooden lattice upon which is festooned a large wooden iris facsimile. At the base of the lattice were three more SDBs in full bloom: LADY IN RED, BLUE POOLS and DUSTY GOLD.

We were impressed by the landscaping. Since Don and Burdella bought the place and built their home in 1969, they have planted 35 kinds of trees and an array of perennials and shrubs. Around the yard is a split rail fence which supports unusual specimens of driftwood.

Adjacent to the house and its beautiful yard are five large beds of irises. Three of these beds, ten feet wide by 60 feet long, are filled with 282 guest irises, all well grown and immaculately groomed.

Because the tall bearded iris season was two weeks late, most of the TBs were a mass of bloom stalks, with some buds just beginning to show color. But, the SDBs were still in bloom and the intermediate bearded irises were beautiful. Throughout the planting, arils at peak performance looked so exotic and intriguing that many conventioneers must have decided that day to give them a try.

Among the early TBs in bloom that we noted were HAUNTING MUSIC (Moores), BLOSSOM PINK (Buckles), MYSTIQUE (Ghio), MAUMELLE (Butler) and LAWRENCE WELK (Danielson).

Lending exotic interest to the planting were MARY OF MAGDALA, an aril by Hunt; PROPHETIC MESSAGE, an arilmed by Nichols and GENTIC DANCER an arilbred created by Danielson.

There were many standard dwarf bearded varieties in full bloom but we were most attracted by a bright little yellow with an orange beard named DWIGHT JOHN by Myrtle Wolff.

Then we entered the backyard, with its pond bordered on two sides by willows and cattails and with a small bald cypress. A wide carpeted deck on the east side of the house overlooks the pond, median irises and other plantings. Across the fence and through the trees one looks down upon Keystone Lake—what a wonderful view.

Vicky, our garden hostess, gives her mother all credit for the immaculate beds and well marked cultivars. She explained that Burdella is the gardener who plants and cares for the entire garden. One marvels at the energy of one who can do this and also serve as RVP of our hosting Region 22.

I heard Harry Kuesel of Region 20 bid Burdella good-bye with these words, "Thank you, Burdella. We've always wanted a median iris showing at our spring AIS convention and we have it here in your garden."

An unusual number of clear photographs were available for this issue, answering readers' requests for more photographs. Readers are invited to submit iris photographs to the editor. Black and white glossy prints are preferred.



Ron Mullin (Fourth from left) awaits conventioneers with "cowboys and Indians" at the Maltsberger-Mullin garden. Right, members of the congenial Maltsberger family.

The Maltsberger-Mullin Garden

Audrey Machulak, WI

The elegant Maltsberger home was one of the first built in Pawnee, Oklahoma. Doris and Frank Maltsberger met Ron Mullin when their son was a student in the first class that Ron taught at Pawnee High School. The friendship that evolved led to the establishment of the lovely iris gardens that Ron planted on their property.

A fine antique collection, belonging to Doris, enhances the interior of the home; the spacious garden is set among towering oak trees. It is these and the undergrowth to the west that protect the garden from Oklahoma winds. Ron calls the area "Wildwood Gardens," appropriate since a wildwood is a sheltered place in the woods.

The garden is quite large, probably a short city block in length, with a planting of nearly 2000 irises. No irises had been grown here until Ron planted a few in the summer of 1977. The greatest number were installed in 1978, with the remainder set out in 1979. The garden comes complete with its own oil well which depicts the pot of gold at the end of the Oklahoma rainbow.

A minimum of fertilizer was used on the virgin soil. A few balky plants received a 6-24-24 fertilizer; the beardless iris received various

types of feedings, including azalea food. This past winter, rabbits dined on the beardless irises, despite all efforts to control them. In spring, Terrachlor was dusted on the crown of each plant to prevent rot, a major problem in this area. Leaves and straw mulch are used on beardless varieties to protect them from hot summer sunshine; leaves that fall in the garden provide a natural minimum winter cover.

Ron Mullin who created the Maltsberger garden on tour also has an extensive planting at his own home in Pawnee and another at his mother's farm, 185 miles away. Ron purchased his first named varieties in 1960 and has been an iris fan ever since. He joined AIS in 1965 and has held various offices, giving unselfishly of his time and talents. Currently, he serves as a Director and the national Membership Secretary, plus being General Chariman of the Tulsa Convention. He prefers tallbearded and standard dwarf bearded irises, and the Maltsberger garden showed his talents as grower.

Despite weather factors, there was sunshine on blooming irises when conventioneers toured the Maltsberger-Mullin Garden on Saturday, May 3. Bloom was heaviest in medians, with the delayed season. MICHAEL PAUL, a standard dwarf bearded by W. E. Jones, was blooming its little heart out in dark, rich tones. Hooker Nichols had three introductions in the intermediate bearded section that were traffic stoppers—SEN-TIMENTAL LADY, OKLAHOMA BANDIT and THUNDER ISLAND.

A massive clump of LAWRENCE WELK, a large white with a blue beard by Henry Danielson, caught the eye of many photographers. Ben Hager's tall bearded GRAPHIC ARTS was blooming proudly next to a fence. The name Dave Niswonger chose to describe his introduction CORAL STRAND also received much attention. In the seedling group, Iris Nelson's 3473A was receiving its share of attention.

Ron had added humorous signs to various parts of the garden, and some of his students dressed as cowboys and Indians (some authentic) to serve as garden hosts. In addition, all guests received rose rocks, native only to Oklahoma, as remembrances.

The planning and care that went into this garden were obvious. This, plus the natural beauty of the setting, enhanced the irises and, with the ebullient personality of host Ron Mullin, made the visit unforgettable.



The Mathews Garden

Jim Rasmussen, KS

Virginia Mathews' garden is located at Stillwater, home of Oklahoma State University. Her native stone home, built by her father, is nestled on a city lot among a variety of trees and shrubs.

Carefully tended beds of seedlings, perennials and vegetables bear witness that Virginia Mathews is an avid gardener who has been a member of AIS since 1958 and has attended 19 national AIS conventions.

Virginia takes care of her yard herself and, in addition to this, planted on a large lot behind the Unitarian Fellowship Church next door. There, on land that was once part of the family homestead, she improved the heavy clay soil by adding shredded plant material.

Virginia's iris interests include rebloomers, and she maintains a rebloomer test and display garden, as well as other irises and the guests installed for the Tulsa convention.

Among the irises catching the visitor's eye were such oldies but goodies as Alta Brown's intermediate bearded FROSTED CREAM and Lloyd Zurbrigg's NEEDLECRAFT, a rebloomer.

The tall bearded FORBIDDEN by Bob Dunn was an attention getter, as were SHAMPOO, an IB by Virginia Messick and GOLD BURST (Dorothy Palmer). Shutterbugs were busy snapping pictures of the impressive large, rounded bloom with white falls and a touch of bright gold at the hafts.

L. E. Flanagan's MAYFEST was an arilbred with attractive gold falls and dark red spot patterns at the beards.

Virginia Mathews must be thanked for providing us with a lovely garden spot that made the trip to Stillwater more than worthwhile.



Left, garden owner Virginia Mathews; right photo, Faye Edelman (Region 22) with AIS Secretary Carol Ramsey.



VOTED IN TULSA ...

Above, winner
of the
President's Cup
TWIST OF FATE

.....
Right, winner
of the
Cook Cup
SUNRISE SUNSET



Each year the Franklin Cook Cup is voted by those attending the national convention to the most outstanding iris seen on tour that was created by a hybridizer from outside the hosting region. The 1980 winner was **SUNRISE SUNSET** by Bryce Williamson.

Runners-up for the 1980 Cook Cup, in order were **MYSTIQUE** (Joseph Ghio), **HAUNTING MUSIC** (Walter Moores), **LAWRENCE WELK** (Henry Danielson), **THICK AND CREAMY** (John Weiler), **GOLD BURST** (Dorothy Palmer), **LIME JADE** (Duane Meek), **MICHIGAN PRIDE** (Berndt), **SHAMPOO** (Virginia Messick), **GENETIC DANCER** (Henry Danielson), **GRAPHIC ARTS** (Ben Hager), **SQUARE DANCE** (Ken Mohr) and **IDA RED** (Bruce Clark).

The President's Cup is awarded annually to the iris, created by a hybridizer within the hosting region, that receives the highest number of votes from conventioneers. The 1980 President's Cup, by a wide margin, went to TWIST OF FATE hybridized by Cleo Palmer.

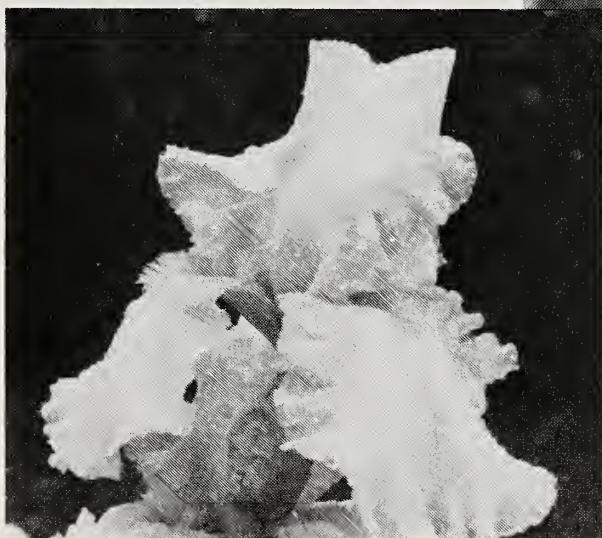
President's Cup runners-up, in order, were MAUMELLE (Richard Butler), MARTHA MIA (Eugene Hunt), OKLAHOMA BANDIT (Hooker Nichols), MICHAEL PAUL (W. E. Jones), MIDNIGHT SPECIAL (Cleo Palmer), MARTY (W. E. Jones), PROPHETIC MESSAGE (Hooker Nichols), SEA PATROL (Cleo Palmer) and MARY MAGDALA (Eugene Hunt.)

The runners-up lists this year contained both median and arilbred irises as well as tall bearded. Illinois hybridizer Henry Danielson had two varieties on the Cook List. On the President's Cup list, Cleo Palmer created the winner and four of the runners-ups. Eugene Hunt, Hooker Nichols and W. E. Jones each made the runners-up list with two varieties. On each list, attempts to list the winner and ten runners-ups were complicated by tie votes among the latter, accounting for the uneven number listed.



ALSO . . .

Above, IDA RED;
right, MARTHA MIA;
below, THICK AND CREAMY;
below right, LIME JADE.



NEW MEDAL AWARDED

The Ira Wood Medal for Siberian irises was awarded for the first time at the Tulsa Convention. This medal goes to the winner of the Morgan Award, an award which has heretofore been accompanied only by a certificate.

The iris portrayed on the medal is WHITE SWIRL which is in the ancestry of many fine present-day Siberian irises. Ira Wood's only named iris, ONG'S HAT, has WHITE SWIRL as a parent.

The medal, sponsored jointly by Region 19 and The Society for Siberian Irises, was awarded at Tulsa not only to William McGarvey for his iris AUGURY, of the Morgan Award, but also to all living members of the Morgan Award in past years.

Shown here are Elizabeth Wood and Region 19 RVP David Silverberg during the award ceremony. The obverse and reverse of the medal are also illustrated; the winner's name is engraved on the reverse.





AWARD WINNERS

Larry Gaultier, left, accepts the Dykes Medal for MARY FRANCES. Below, WHITELADIES and its creator John Taylor of England, who presented the Dykes and received our reciprocal Hybridizer's Medal for Britain.



President Leon Wolford (left) presented the AIS Hybridizer's Medal to Joseph Ghio.



Award Recipients

Among the awards presented at the Tulsa Awards Banquet was the Dykes Memorial Medal to Larry Gaulter for his outstanding winner MARY FRANCES. Mr. Gaulter, a former musician and proprietor of a decorating firm, is known not only for his irises, but also for his humor. After accepting the medal from John Taylor of the British Iris Society, Mr. Gaulter took the microphone and spoke briefly. He related a friend's comment to him, "May the Lord hold you in the palm of His hand . . . and clap."

John Taylor accepted the Hybridizer's medal from the AIS awarded to the hybridizer selected as most outstanding in the BIS. Mr. Taylor has created a long list of award-winning irises, especially in the median classes.

Joseph Ghio has produced a series of award-winners in such classifications as tall bearded, medians, spurias and Californiae. From his first introduction, NINA'S DELIGHT, to the popular MYSTIQUE and to many scheduled future introductions, Ghio irises have merited the reputation that earned him the Hybridizer's Medal. He is also the Mayor of Santa Cruz, California.

The Board of Directors voted Distinguished Service Medals to two outstanding irisarians. Bennett Jones of Oregon is a noted hybridizer, chaired a national convention, served as AIS First Vice President and Test Garden Chairman. Richard Pettijohn of Nebraska retired recently after years of untiring efforts, humor and dedication to the organization as AIS Treasurer.

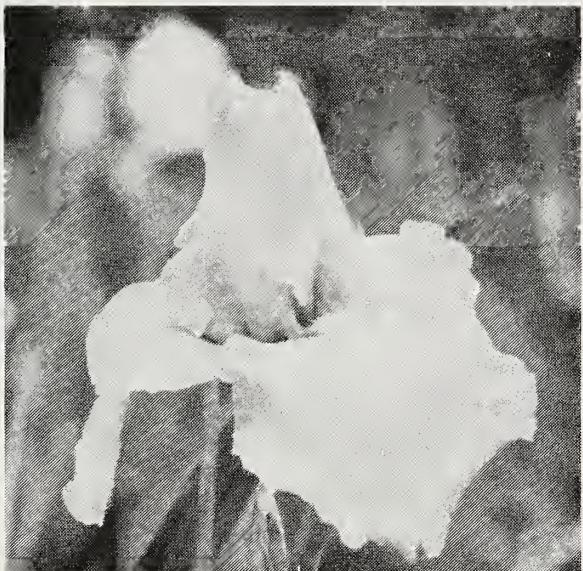
Left, Richard, temporarily wearing a neck brace, and Bennett (far right) accept Distinguished Service Medals.

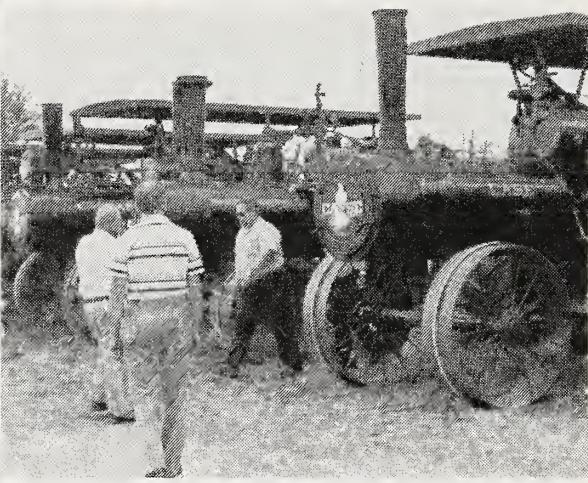


Blooming News . . .



Upper left, Ritchie's white IB seedling 75-21-12; lower left, Niswonger's 20-77, in our notes as warm white standards, light orange falls and tangerine beards; top right is a pink seedling, 73-40 A, by W. E. Jones; MIRROR MIRROR (Gibson) features an indentation in the falls that can hold reflecting rainwater.





CONVENTION SPIRIT

Mullin's "cowboys and Indians" relax between busloads, top left. Top right, Jim Rasmussen finds a way to avoid the rain. Above left, Ron Mullin brought a vase of seedlings and set up a comic note, in an effort to supplement bloom; a conventioneer placed a dog bone in front. Right, steam implements and a barbecue fascinated guests at the Kelley Ranch for lunch.

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Camelot Inn, Tulsa, Oklahoma

April 29 & 30, 1980

The regular spring meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, 1980 by President Wolford with the following in attendance: Vice President Stahly; Secretary Ramsey; Membership Secretary Mullin; Editor Dasch; Directors Corlew, Keppel, Owen, Rasmussen, Rockwell, Wadekamper and Waite; Past Presidents Fischer and Walker; Registrar & Advertising Editor Nelson; Librarian Howard; Managing Editor Williams; Committee Chairmen Burch, Harder, Jones, Nearpass and Rice; RVPs Carmer (2), Smith (3), Johnson (5), Copeland (6), Mohr (7), Machulak (8), Kinsella (9), Goula (10), Weiler (14), Chesnik (15), Wade (17), Silverberg (19), Durrance (20), Ensminger (21), Rhodes (22) and Clouser (23); RVP representatives Merrill (1) and Barr (4); Section representatives Varner (SSI), Wilder (SIS), Vogt (SJI), Zurbrigg (RIS), Corlew (SPCNI), Duvall (SIGNA) and Goula (LISA). MISS, DIS, and Regions 11, 12, 13, 16, 18 and 24 were without representation. [Guests present at the various sessions included members A. Waite (1), Ackerman (6), Baukus, Cooper, Koza, A. Machulak and Ney (8), Kassly (9), Gaultier (14), and D. Walker (15), Demory (17), Ennenga and Pettijohn (21).]

President Wolford welcomed the group, especially those attending a Board meeting for the first time, and expressed the appreciation of the Society for their willingness to serve.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, November 2-4, 1979, as printed in *AIS BULLETIN* No. 236, was dispensed with. Ramsey moved, Rockwell seconded, to correct errors which appeared in the published minutes: That Raymond Thomas, Indianapolis, Indiana, was approved as a Senior Judge; that funding for the Judges Handbook is for fiscal 79-80; and that the approved Region 10 RVP is Richard Goula. Motion passed. There being no objection, the published minutes stood approved as corrected.

The President directed the Secretary to have the minutes reflect that by mail ballots, Dave Silverberg was duly appointed and approved as acting RVP, Region 19, and that approval was given to eliminating the joint breakfast at the spring meeting.

Secretary Ramsey reported that President Wolford had accepted an invitation to participate officially in the Conference on Irises during iris week at the international exposition *Floralies Montreal*; that cost figures and sample lapel pins with the AIS Logo were available for the Board's consideration; that a question had arisen concerning the IRS tax exempt status of the AIS as a result of published accounts of a more liberal status granted another flower society; and that complaints have been received about another plant supplier's iris advertising. The Secretary was directed to write the firm in question and request corrections in its inaccurate advertising.

Membership Secretary Mullin reported that as of March 31, 1980, the Society had 5,925 members, an increase of 426 in one year, with the largest membership in Region 18, followed by Regions 15, 6, 14, 21, 22, 7 and 17. States with the greatest membership are California, Texas, Tennessee, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Alabama. Mullin reiterated that, as a service to the Sections and members, AIS continues to collect dues for the Sections when a member desires to pay through the AIS; that the dues are transmitted to the Sections along with the membership information; that AIS does not itself maintain a file or list of Section members; and that Sections should be contacted directly for that information. The need for prompt notification of address changes was stressed again, as it can sometimes take up to six weeks to process such changes.

For Treasurer Kegerise, the interim financial report for the six months ending March 31, 1980 was distributed. There being no objection, the report stood approved.

Advertising Editor Nelson reported that the AIS is losing money on some of the *Bulletin* advertising and that it had been suggested to her that some consideration should be given to adjusting advertising rates. Ramsey moved, Rasmussen, seconded that the President appoint a committee to consider advertising rates and report back before the end of this meeting. Motion passed. Wolford appointed Mohr, Nelson, Pettijohn, Ramsey and Stahly, Chairman.

As Registrar, Nelson reported that 183 registrations had been received this year to date, with 376 introductions by 76 hybridizers.

Librarian Howard advised that the Library's complete set of the *AIS BULLETIN* has been bound, and the Board enthusiastically approved the sample volume shown. The inventory storage problem was discussed, and Owen moved, Rockwell seconded, that the Librarian be instructed to remove from inventory all but 200 of the 1959 *Checklist*. Motion carried.

Affiliates Chairman Owen reported that as of April 1, 1980, the AIS had 79 affiliated local societies in 19 regions; that some problems remain with processing affiliates; and that strong consideration is being given to developing an application form for affiliation, which could be a great help to all concerned.

Awards Chairman Waite reported that official ballots were mailed to 971 accredited judges on April 7, and sample ballots supplied to the Judges Training Committee for apprentices' training; that the Symposium ballot this year will carry instructions for overseas members who wish to participate in the voting; and that new certificates will be ready for use this year. The Board agreed to continue running the notice in the July *BULLETIN* for those members who desire advance notice of official ballot results.

Judges and Judges Training Chairman Rockwell distributed the interim statistical report on AIS Judges; commended Regions 8 and 10 for instituting new judges training guidelines which go beyond the AIS minimum guidelines; and cited the Region 8 program as especially innovative in view of current economic problems.

Membership Contest Chairman Burch reported the results of the 1979 Membership Contest, as published in the April 1980 *BULLETIN*, and congratulated the winner, Dr. Robert Bledsoe. Region 21. Burch recommended that, at some future time, the Board consider retiring the new membership contest traveling trophy and utilize some type of keeper award such as a plaque.

Public Relations Chairman Rice advised that a biographical data file is being developed; called the Board's attention to the AIS ad in *House and Garden Guide*; and discussed publicity this past year, requesting that copies of any AIS publicity be sent to her. The Secretarial staff noted that many inquiries being received were the direct result of AIS publicity and that such efforts should be continued.

There was no report from the Chairman, Robins Committee.

Scientific Chairman Wadekamper reviewed the work of the committee; briefly outlined a project being considered for a grant; emphasized the need to promote research on all types and phases of irises; that to aid in accomplishing this goal recommended Drs. Al Einert, John Harvey, Jr., Carl Jorgensen, Currier McEwen and John Weiler be appointed to serve on the Scientific Committee and so moved. Stahly seconded, motion passed. Wadekamper further recommended: that a study be made of the feasibility and/or desirability of placing the Scientific Committee under the direction of the American Iris Society Foundation; and that publicity be used to alert the members and research facilities of the availability of funds for research in irises. There being no objection to the study, it was so ordered. The Board agreed that publicity should be used to promote understanding of the purpose of the Scientific Committee which does not itself conduct research, but invites inquiries, reviews requests and recommends grants for research being done by others.

Slides Chairman Nearpass reported that 66 slide programs were reserved during the six-month period ending in March; that the programs "Newest in Irises" and "Recent Award Winners" had been revised; that the "Popularity Poll" program was being updated; and that a recent fine addition to the slides library is the program "Species Irises" with accompanying commentary prepared by Jean Witt.

Test Garden Chairman Jones, reporting on Regional Test Gardens, noted that there are 16 test gardens in nine regions; that in those areas where the program is working, it is working well; and recommended no changes in the test garden program. A brief discussion concerned the possibility of eliminating coding and the RTG Award and using the HC Award in test gardens, but the Board agreed with the committee's recommendation that no changes be made.

Ramsey read the report of Youth Chairman Ritchie which stated that the winner of the 1980 Youth Achievement Award is William J. Ziehl of Michigan, and the runner-up Kristen Gilliam of Alabama; that Regions 6 and 24 are to be commended for their fine youth programs resulting from strong interest and support on the part of the adult leadership; and that the Youth Committee will assist anyone needing help in expanding regional and area youth programs. In response to a suggestion that there might be more participation in nominating deserving young members for the Youth Award if there were earlier publicity and more time, Stahly moved, Mullin seconded, that the Secretary consult with the Chairman, Youth Committee, about placing the announcement of the Youth Achievement Award contest in the October *BULLETIN*. Motion carried.

Responding to a question from Copeland about an article in a 1969 *BULLETIN* concerning benefits for Youth members, the Board pointed out that the article in question only offered suggestions and recommendations, and that Board minutes should be consulted for specific approved recommendations.

Convention Liaison Chairman Stahly advised that there are no changes to report in the present schedule of upcoming conventions, and noted that all convention committees are very concerned about inflation and making every effort to keep costs down.

The meeting recessed at 4:25 p.m. Tuesday and reconvened at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 30.

With the Board's approval of the lapel pin design, Stahly moved, Rockwell seconded, that the Secretary be directed to place an order for 500 pins to sell at \$5.00 each, postpaid, with appropriate *Bulletin* advertising. Motion passed.

Regarding the tax status question, Ramsey moved, Wadekamper seconded, to instruct the Treasurer to consult an attorney, and look into the tax exempt status of the AIS, and make a progress report at the fall meeting. Motion passed.

Editor Dasch reported that members expressed a strong preference for the type style used in the January and April issues; that there was no recommendation for a second associate editor because there was no need for additional staff; that *Bulletin* printing assignments will continue as is through the next two issues with new bids considered at the fall meeting; and that the possibility of using an IBM composer for preparing *Bulletin* copy was investigated, but proved impractical for AIS needs and is not recommended. For better understanding of the problems involved, Dasch reviewed in detail the time element in scheduling *Bulletin* production and thanked the *Bulletin* staff for its unfailing help. A brief discussion concerned the problem of allocating *Bulletin* space for necessary institutional content and, on the premise that this is the responsibility of the entire Board, it was agreed that the Executive Committee should work with the Editor on developing a Board directive.

The President called for the report of the 1980 Personnel Committee (Stahly and Rockwell, Board representatives, Goula and Wade, RVP representatives and Sindt, Section representative) and Chairman Goula announced that the committee had met, completed its work, and recommended the following as candidates for nomination: James Rasmussen, James Burch, Philip Edinger, Alan Ensminger, Larry Harder and Dorothy Howard. There being no objection, the committee's report was accepted with appreciation. Consideration of the report was deferred until later in the meeting.

Reporting for the committee on advertising rates, Chairman Stahly provided some background and discussed the specific concerns of the committee in arriving at its recommendations: that although there had been raises in 1975 and 1978 in black and white advertising, there had been no raise in color advertising in several years; that from the start of color advertising in the *Bulletin* and because color added to the *Bulletin*, it had been Board policy to subsidize part of the cost of those ads; that with inflation, the Society was now paying a disproportionately large part of color ads; that established Board policy should not be changed but the subsidy should be more equitable; that commercial directory was not now covering actual costs, and that those rates should be increased; and that black and white display advertising was so far paying its way and those rates should remain unchanged. Stahly presented, and moved to approve, the committee's recommendations: 1) that color advertising rates be set at \$200 a page plus color separations, effective with the January 1981 *BULLETIN*; 2) that commercial directory rates, for running the same ad in four consecutive issues, be one inch—\$20, two inches—\$30, three inches—\$40, effective with the January 1981 *BULLETIN*; 3) that there be no rate change in black and white display advertising. Rasmussen seconded, motion passed.

Nelson reported that work on the 1979 *Checklist* is progressing and completion is expected by the end of the year; that printers are reluctant because of rising prices to make firm bids so far in advance, but tentative figures are available from two printers; and requested a Board decision on the number of copies to be printed. Mullin moved, Owen seconded, to print 1500 copies of the 1979 *Checklist*. Motion passed. The Board agreed to postpone until the November meeting any decision on a printer or pricing; and decided to not advertise the book until it is available and accept no advance orders.

Registrations Chairman Keppel reported that he had been contacted by Louise Smith, Chairman AIS Fragrance Robins, who presented a convincing case for greater attention to iris fragrance and urged that this information be added to the registration application. Keppel suggested that when new registration blanks are printed, that a section for fragrance information be added if a valid and workable method can

be agreed on. The Chair recommended that the Registration Committee head a committee to work out the appropriate wording. There being no objection, the recommendation stood approved.

Exhibitions Chairman Corlew reported that he had been advised a few weeks ago that our long time show medal supplier, through no fault of its own, could no longer supply our show medals without new dies being made; that the bid for the dies was unacceptable and another supplier had been located with a very favorable bid; and that because of the time element in getting delivery of the medals, he had asked and received the approval of the Executive Committee in taking immediate action to work with the new supplier. Corlew moved, Mullin seconded, that the Board approve the Executive Committee's action in authorizing the change in medal suppliers. Motion passed.

Historical Chairman Harder reported on recent additions to the archives, with special thanks to Mrs. William Ayers, Jean Witt, Rosabelle Van Valkenburgh and Bee Warburton; noted that two new file cabinets had been added bringing to 25 the number of drawers now filled and sorted; that he was asking the RVPs to contact members who would be interested in assisting with the work of the committee; and that he was very interested in acquiring slides of irises introduced in the 1940's and 1950's.

The Board agreed to adjourn into Executive Session with only voting directors present for the purpose of considering the report of the Personnel Committee, and it was so ordered. The voting directors, Wolford, Stahly, Ramsey, Mullin, Corlew, Keppel, Owen, Rasmussen, Rockwell, Wadekamper and Waite, entered into Executive Session at 10:20 a.m. During the session, a counting committee, made up of Carmer, Clouser and Johnson, was summoned to count ballots and report the results to the Secretary. The work of the Executive Session having been completed, the general meeting reconvened a 10:45 a.m.

The Secretary announced that James Rasmussen had been renominated, and that Dorothy Howard, James Burch and Alan Ensminger had been nominated to complete the slate of four nominees for AIS Directors with terms expiring in 1983.

Reporting on the Board of Counsellors meeting of the previous day, RVP Counsellor Stahly advised that the exchange of information during this past year, compiled by Laverne Conrad, was the probable beginning of a new handbook for the RVPs; that the Board of Counsellors had agreed that a major problem encountered was how to hold the interest of AIS members; that officers elected for the coming year are Grady Kennedy, Chairman, and Janice Chesnik, Secretary; and that Copeland and Rhodes were elected to represent the RVPs on the 1981 Personnel Committee.

Ramsey read the report of Chairman Harvey, AIS Logo Registration Committee, which advised that an attorney had been consulted whose opinion was that although the Logo appears in the copyrighted *Garden Irises*, this protection is probably not very strong; that our use of the emblem for many years, and continued use of it, gives AIS a great deal of protection under common law; that the best probable course is to be diligent in denying the use of the Logo to anyone who does not first secure the Board's approval; and that if anyone is found using the AIS Logo without authorization, that person should be informed in writing that such use is not proper. The Board agreed that no further action was needed.

Judges Handbook Chairman Rockwell reported that all Sections had been contacted about providing authors for the chapters on specialty irises. Rockwell reminded the Board that the Handbook Committee reserves the right to approve all authors.

Chairman Copeland, Youth Show Medal Committee, reported that approximately \$1000 was needed for the youth show medal dies; that the Iris Connoisseurs of Michigan had pledged one-half the cost of the medal in matching funds; that to date \$170 had been raised; and that it was expected that all monies would be raised and the medals ready for the 1981 show season. The Board asked the committee to submit the medal design in time for Board approval at the November Board meeting.

For the Committee to Review Procedures and Criteria for Appointing Honorary Judges, Chairman Stahly reported that the committee recommended the following as Board policy:

Honorary Judges are appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the AIS Chairman of Judges and Judges Training. Unanimous approval of the Directors is required. Honorary Judges are fully accredited AIS judges, but are not required to judge shows, visit gardens or vote. They are not included in the Region's quota of judges. This honor is given to judges who have rendered outstanding service to the Society.

Nominations for Honorary Judge may be made by the RVP or other AIS member. The nominating letter, sent to the Chairman of Judges and Judges Training, must contain a full statement of the nominee's

record of service to the AIS. The nomination must be supported by written statements of endorsement from four fully accredited judges, at least two of whom must be from outside the nominee's Region.

Appointment as Honorary Judge is based on service at the national level, service that goes far beyond the expected conscientious performance as AIS judge. To be considered for appointment, one should be a judge whose leadership and dedication to the ideals of the Society are of genuine and obvious distinction. The honor is accorded only to persons who have served as fully accredited AIS judges for a minimum of ten years, except in most unusual circumstances. Stahly moved, Ramsey seconded, to approve the recommendation. Motion carried.

Corlew, as President for the Society of Pacific Coast Native Irises, reported that funding for the Mitchell Medal had been completed; that a number of medals were on hand with sufficient funds for engraving; and that the SPCNI would assume all responsibility for custody and engraving, and supplying future medals and engraving to the AIS. Ramsey moved, Rockwell seconded, that the report of the SPCNI be accepted. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 11:55 a.m. Wednesday, and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. the same day.

Ramsey reported that as a follow up to an article in the American Horticultural newsletter *News and Views* concerning display gardens at the AHS River Farm headquarters in Mount Vernon, she had initiated correspondence with the AHS official in charge; that the inquiry was warmly received and development of an iris garden at River Farm would be enthusiastically welcomed; that the assistance of the AIS would be needed in planning the location, garden layout and stock acquisition; and that the River Farm staff would be responsible for maintenance. The Board reacted favorably and it was suggested that help would be needed from AIS members living nearby. Wadekamper moved, Owen seconded to take action on the River Farm garden project and enlist the cooperation of the local region. Motion carried. Assistant RVP Barr, Region 4, was asked to make initial inquiries, and she agreed to do so.

Following AIS policy of electing a new president at the spring meeting prior to the beginning of his term in order to affect an orderly transition in administrations, Wolford called for nominations for AIS President. Mullin moved, Corlew seconded, that Stahly be nominated for President. Wadekamper moved, Rockwell seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. Motion passed, and Dr. Stahley was declared President-elect.

President Wolford nominated Mullin and Rasmussen to represent the Board on the 1981 Personnel Committee. Corlew moved, Waite seconded, to approve the selections. Motion carried.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Stahly discussed the need to at this time consider an increase in AIS dues and pointed out that the AIS has not raised its dues in ten years, a remarkable achievement. Stahly expressed the Society's thanks to the regions, local societies and individuals whose financial assistance had made possible a delay in the needed increase, but noted that a small number of regions were carrying virtually the entire burden and this could not be expected to, nor should it, continue; and moved the following:

That the American Iris Society dues be raised effective January 1, 1981 for new members, and February 15, 1981 for renewing members, with the new dues rates set at

Single Annual	\$ 9.50	Family Life	\$237.50
Single Triennial	23.75	Youth	3.25
Family Annual	11.50	Family Youth	2.00
Family Triennial	28.50	Sustaining	20.00
Life	190.00	Research	47.50

however, should income from increased membership subscriptions, gifts and donations prove sufficient to enable a lowering of the percentage of increase, the Board, at its November 1980 meeting, will adopt a smaller increase with rates at

Single Annual	\$ 8.50	Family Life	\$215.00
Single Triennial	21.25	Youth	3.00
Family Annual	10.25	Family Youth	1.75
Family Triennial	25.50	Sustaining	17.50
Life	170.00	Research	42.50

or, should income prove entirely adequate for a completely balanced budget for fiscal 80-81, the Board will cancel any increase.

Ramsey seconded, motion passed.

Sections Liaison Chairman Rasmussen reported that all Sections except the RIS were present for the Section Representatives meeting of the day before; that Marie Caillet had been elected to represent the Sections on the 1981 Personnel Committee; that reports indicate there are now over 2000 Section memberships, with almost all Sections growing in membership, with much interest from the general AIS membership, that this group will elect a chairman at the beginning of each spring meeting to serve through the year, and will continue its joint interest through correspondence; and that Sections asked that the AIS include them in the investigation of the tax exempt status. Rasmussen further reported that the Louisiana Iris Society of America (LISA) had this day met and approved a change in the LISA bylaws eliminating the dual membership provision with LISA and the Society for Louisiana Irises.

On behalf of the Board, President Wolford thanked the Tulsa Convention Committee for its gracious hospitality and arrangements for this meeting.

There being no objection, the meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m. Wednesday, April 30, 1980.

CAROL RAMSEY, Secretary



Our Readers Write

We thank Janice Badger of Tennessee for her comments as excerpted below.

"I was interested in Walter Moores article on 'The Overdoers' in the April (1980) BULLETIN. I seem to have a classical example of Problem Type A, too many bloom stalks. It is GOLDEN DELIGHT (E. Smith, 1960) a really beautiful iris, a slightly laced gold that is almost luminous.

"The first year that I planted it, it shot up eight bloom stalks and I was thrilled. . .by that fall, it had fat rhizomes sitting on top of each other so I divided it. . .now the divisions have increased beyond believing and the main clump is overgrown again. It has taken one whole end of the bed and swamped a very nice, mannerly ROYAL HERITAGE. I've given away so many pieces I can foresee every yard in east Tennessee with a clump of GOLDEN DELIGHT. Imagine, the iris that ate Chattanooga!

"Still, it is a more pleasant problem than one that sits there and sulks every other season. It has to be a characteristic of the variety, since it shares a bed and similar soil, water and feeding with several others including a recalcitrant CHARM SCHOOL, a prolific JAVA DOVE and a fairly satisfactory WINTER OLYMPICS."

IRIS SLIDES FOR RENTAL

AIS maintains excellent sets of iris slides that may be rented. Each set has about 100 slides, 35 mm size. To order, see details at end of list.

IRISES FOR EVERY GARDEN – Nice for garden clubs, this set includes an assortment of both bearded and beardless, the 25 leading TBs from the Popularity Poll and sketches for planning garden settings.

IRIS THROUGH THE SEASONS – Follows the iris around the calendar, in house and garden.

MANY TYPES AND COLORS OF IRISES – Bearded, bulbous, beardless in their great variety

BEARLESS AND BULBOUS – Species and cultivars other than bearded: Bulbous, Junos, Crested, Spurias, Siberians, Louisianas, Western Natives and Japanese

JAPANESE IRISES – Slides of exotic beauties contributed by Adolph J. Vogt.

LOUISIANA IRISES – Based on contributions from C. W. Arny, Jr. and Mary Dunn, it includes species, arrangements, and the development of Louisiana irises

SIBERIANS AND SPURIAS – Both species and cultivars of these beardless

THE WILD ONES – Iris species from around the world

THE OTHER BEARDED IRISES – Other than tall bearded: Dwarfs, Medians, Arils, Arilbreds

DWARF IRISES – Old and new miniature and standard dwarf bearded irises

THE MEDIANES – Standard dwarf bearded, intermediate bearded, miniature tall bearded and border bearded irises

ARILS AND ARILBREDS – Survey of aril and arilbred species and cultivars

DYKES: GENUS IRIS AND DYKES MEDAL WINNERS – Slides from the color plates of W. R. Dykes' *The Genus Iris*; sampling of English, French and early American Dykes Medal winners; all American winners since 1939

THE POPULARITY POLL – The 100 favorite tall bearded irises presented in the order chosen by AIS members

THE NEW RELIABLES – Popular, less expensive, bearded irises that have stood the test of widespread distribution; garden scenes

RECENT AWARD WINNERS – Tall bearded Award of Merit and Honorable Mention winners selected by judges in the past three years

THE NEWEST IN IRISES – Recent introductions; most slides made by the hybridizers in the irises' home gardens

THE DESCENDENTS OF PAUL COOK'S FAMOUS PROGENITOR – A new set of delineating progress in bicolor and amoena breeding; with commentary and a genealogical chart

THE MARK OF QUALITY – Slides of fine irises, selected as above average photographs

REGION 4 in '74, ROANOKE CONVENTION – Headquarters, garden scenes and irises on tour

ROANOKE CONVENTION 1974

SAN DIEGO CONVENTION 1975

MICHIGAN CONVENTION 1976

SAN JOSE CONVENTION 1978

HUNTSVILLE CONVENTION 1979

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING IRISES – Sets of slides with iris arrangements

IRISES IN THE VISUAL ARTS – European, Oriental and American paintings, arts and crafts that include irises

SPECIES IRISES – Commentary by Jean Witt

TO ORDER: Requests for slides should be made well in advance for proper scheduling, preferably 30 days or longer. State the exact date desired, so that slides can be sent insured airmail, and include a second choice date, if possible. Some sets may be especially popular or booked well in advance, so give a second and third choice, if optional. Send your complete address, including zip code. Slides are to be returned insured airmail, the next day after use. A check for \$5.00 (for set of 100 slides), payable to the American Iris Society, must accompany each order, except for the one free program per year for each Affiliated Society.

Mail to: D. C. Nearpass, Slides Chairman
9526 50th Place
College Park, Maryland 20740

OUR READERS WRITE . . .

PERFORMANCE, PERFORMANCE

Using the long winter months before spring iris activity begins anew, I reread my *AIS BULLETINS*, and was particularly attracted to the exchange of opinions on performance in the Fall 1978 issue.

I am in agreement with our former Editor that most complaints bemoan poor performance of certain varieties in their particular growing area. Beyond that, continued outcry is raised that too little attention is paid to countrywide performance.

That these considerations are consistently ignored, or more charitably, bypassed by our ruling bodies is perhaps merely the evidence of need for a serious, concentrated effort to evolve a performance rating system acceptable to the greatest number of AIS members, be they hybridizers, commercial growers or amateur fanciers.

Such a system might also appeal to non-members who are often disillusioned by the same poor performances we decry and might secure us new members.

I would like, then to suggest an approach to the problem which might stimulate some thought and, hopefully, stir up some action.

First, a rating based on purely political subdivisions as our regions would not be consistent with observations based on climactic variables. Growth habits in Regions divided longitudinally such as 4, 5 and 13 would vary considerably more than in those latitudinally situated, as in Regions 8, 18 and 22.

Recognizing that typical performances know no geographic boundaries, I suggest that whatever evaluation method is evolved it be based on a separation according to the USDA Hardiness Zone Chart. For simplification and in recognition of the areas where Iris are not widely grown, Zones 2 and 3 as well as Zones 9 and 10 could be combined, leaving seven climactic Zones for evaluation, a considerable reduction from the collating of sporadic reports from twenty four Regions.

To implement a rating system of this type, some uniformity of reporting would be required. Perhaps a chart could be devised, listing such characteristics as hardiness, disease and insect resistance, stalk height, time span of individual bloom, etc. To minimize expense, a sample chart could be included as a tear out sheet in the Bulletin and additional sheets furnished only on request.

A question necessarily arises; Who should be entrusted to report this data? For my part, I should like to see it restricted to judges. Members still have the Popularity Poll, by which consistently poor performers are eliminated by attrition.

In general, we Americans are too eager. As commented by Edinger, we need to pursue "the luxury of time". To expect maximum performance from first year's growth is absolutely unrealistic. In another genera for example, peonies seldom exhibit typical growth or bloom the first year after planting; we don't expect production from fruit trees in less than four or five years; many lilacs take from two to five years for typical bloom.

It has been suggested that we extend the time between AIS awards. This has already been done in the case of HM eligibility. While a similar extension of time for AM voting might allow for additional widespread distribution, it has one disadvantage. This change would also delay the Dykes Medal competition a year. In so doing it would cause the DM candidates to be disregarded by many of those who constantly seek more for the newest than the best.

Which brings me to an analysis of the Dykes Medal Award. (Strange how corollary subjects creep into one's thoughts while writing). I was particularly happy about the DM award in 1979. Not so much that it honored Larry Gaulter as a preeminent hybridizer and was well deserved, but that MARY FRANCES received 16.8% of the votes cast. The original rules for awarding the Dykes Medal required that a variety receive a minimum of 15% of the total vote. That a variety can still gain that superiority is most refreshing.

To my mind, the awarding of the DM on a "second choice" basis completely cheapened and destroyed the intent of the award. Here again the American insistence on a winner at any cost rears its ugly head. For my part, I would even tighten the restrictions to require favorable votes from $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Regions reporting. So we might wind up some years without a Dykes Medalist. Let us be reminded that the British do not give the award annually, that no DM has been awarded in France for some years, and the Australian-New Zealand group has not yet even acquired eligibility.

**Allen Harper, KS
Senior Judge**



NEW MEMBERS

January-March '80

New Members Recruited By:

MRS. MICKEY ANSON

John Harberg, NE

F. DUNCAN EADER

Lea Wall, CA

JAMES L. ENNENGA

Bea Arellano, NE

Scott Biehle, NE

Mrs. Carlton T. Draper, IA

Mrs. Terry Fitzgerald, NE

Art A. Hajek, NE

Mrs. Elmer Harder, IA

L. Douglas Helberg, NE

Bob DeJardine, NE

Edwin Pharaoh, NE

Russell Reinerz, NE

GENE GADDIE

DeLoris White, NE

STUART LOVELESS

Mr. & Mrs. John Shontz, MI

IRENE OTTE

Mary Bober, PA

Ruth G. Jennings, PA

Ursula Inez Preston, PA

ROSA BELLE VANVALKENBURGH

Karen Stinson, AL

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hilda Adams, AR

Barbara Aitken, WA

Miss Eleanor Anderson, NH

Mr. Gary L. Anderson, CA

Mr. Reed S. Anderson, WA

Miss Christone T. Bacher, VT

Mr. John Baker, AZ

Mr. & Mrs. Warren Balgooyen, NY

Mr. C.E.C. Bartlett, England

Mrs. George Beavers, TX

Mr. Tom Bedger, PA

Don & Harriet Bickford, NE

Alan D. Brooks, Jr., WA

Carla Brown, ME

Mr. Richard P. Brown, IA

Mrs. Kathy Bryson, CA

Mrs. Bill Burson, GA

Mr. Mark Calevich, OH

Agatha Campbell, OK

Dick Clark, MI

Jeff & Katherine Collier, CA

Mrs. Larry Copp, AZ

Mrs. Virgie Copp, OR

Mrs. Gladys Cowan, NM

Mr. Billy Craig, MO

Mr. Robert E. Crucius, WI

Stephen C. Davenport, NM

Mrs. Clarence Davis, TX

Mr. Donald Delmex, MO

Col. F. G. DeRox, IN

Michael & Judy Dudek, MI

Mr. Robert Erickson, IL

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Mr. Rudolph Ziarko, NY



Tulsa Convention smiles belong to (above) Olive Rice, AIS Public Relations Chairman; (above right) Barry Blyth, Australian hybridizer, and Charlotte and Gus Sindt, Minnesota irisarians.





Jayne Ritchie

Congratulations to the 1980 Youth Achievement Award winner and runner-up. We are proud of them both and proud that they exemplify the most outstanding rising efforts of many active youth members across the United States.

The Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Trophy and Youth Achievement Award recipient this year certainly has winning ways. Thirteen-year-old William Ziehl of Michigan was the 1979 first runner up in the Youth Achievement Contest, but he didn't just rest on his laurels. In spite of his youth, his achievements go back several years. He is active in the local youth club, which has an exceptionally active program and maintains a public planting, and has served as an officer. Billy is a regular worker and participant in the local iris show and has a stack of ribbons to attest to his showmanship. He has served as chairperson for the youth section and has won top awards in the youth section more than once.

Billy has won special recognition and awards in his Region, including the Bicentennial Cup in 1976 and the Regional Trophy in 1978. Billy aspires to be a judge and is studying with that goal in mind. He grows bearded and Siberian irises in his home garden, and has made some crosses involving tall bearded and standard dwarf irises. Billy is also in the national Robin program. He is an avid promoter of irises, frequently showing slides at school or at senior citizen gatherings. Billy's other interests include the school band, archery, and collecting iris artifacts. We can look forward to many more years of accomplishment for Billy, as long as he doesn't forget irises when he discovers girls!

Our runner-up this year is Miss Kristen Gilliam of Alabama. Kristen has been growing irises for a number of years. (NOTE: The Youth Chairman can attest that Kris, at about age 8, was one of the charter members of the youth group formed in Huntsville in 1970.) Kris has been active in the local youth group since its inception, and has held a number of offices in the group, including that of president. She has participated in all 9 of the shows presented by the youth club, and has served as show chairperson. In addition, she has assisted and exhibited at local adult shows. Kris

has assisted with Regional Test Garden records and maintenance. She also was a big help at the Huntsville Convention. To quote one of the nominators, ". . . she served in an outstanding manner as a member of the Guest Iris Committee . . ." Kris also served on the Convention Registration committee and worked many hours at the registration desk. Kris grows irises well and does other things equally well. She plays in the school band, and always has time to help her friends with their irises.



Runner-up Kris Gilliam attended the Tulsa Convention to accept her award.



The Math Word Game

Betty Wood reports that one of her favorite gripes is hearing "LATIN LOVER X BAYBERRY CANDLE" read just that way aloud, with X as "times." She states, "It is not part of the multiplication table" and should be read "LATIN LOVER crossed with or by BAYBERRY CANDLE. Let's keep 'the times' where it belongs, $2 \times 2 = 4$." We concur, Betty, but some time(s) is required for irises or even rabbits to multiply!



NEW REFERENCE BOOK PUBLISHED

The Garden Center of Greater Cleveland has published a two volume, 55,000 entry work entitled THE FLOWERING PLANT INDEX OF ILLUSTRATION AND INFORMATION, compiled by Richard T. Isaacson. The new plant reference books index over 200 titles and 400 volumes, and irisarians may note that there are 299 entries under iris and 28 common name iris cross references. The irises included are species forms, not hybrids. The price is \$200.00 and additional information may be obtained by writing G. K. Hall and Co., 70 Lincoln St., Boston, Massachusetts 02111.

Editor's Notebook

Reflecting on recent issues, we note a negative and a positive. First the bad news. Due to a technical problem at our Nashville printer's plant, some readers received January issues with up to sixteen blank pages. We hasten to note that this was not a deliberate ink conservation measure. If you received one of these defective issues, please request a replacement copy from the AIS Librarian Dorothy Howard, 226 East 20th St., Tulsa, OK 74119.

Good news is the overwhelming reader endorsement of the Paladium typeface. Our quest is ended. Previously, comments had favored Helios used for Summer '79. Staff members George Walters, Phil Edinger and several readers as well as Agnihotra Press, suggested one more experiment with the Paladium family.

Response was immediate and uniformly positive on the easy readability. A letter from Claire Burgess, for instance, was "a plea that you do not change the type used in the January 1980 issue . . . I find it much easier to read than the kinds used in earlier issues and would be quite disappointed if you changed back again . . ." Thanks to Claire and the others for writing; you won't be disappointed.

Another cheerful note is the quantity and quality of communications from AIS members. We are glad to receive comments and delighted when articles are contributed. Some contributions may take quite a while to reach print, but please know that all are considered and appreciated. Please continue to offer input for this, your magazine.

This vehicle for member communication has included increasing amounts of requests for reader participation. We are glad to serve various committees and groups of irisarians in their searches for opinions and participation and urge readers to take part and correspond.

Particularly, we urge all readers to respond to Elizabeth Wood's borer survey found on page 10 of this issue. Much has been said about the iris borer, but little seems to have been done lately. We are aware of no funded borer research projects currently underway, although irisarians in many areas consider it their most serious gardening problem. If every reader complied with Betty's request, results could pave the way to significant progress.

Helen Tarr is to be commended for her extensive exploration of the borer problem in beardless irises. Understandably impatient with delays in printing her rather controversial material, she gathered like-minded irisarians who wish to promote research and progress against the borer.

After reading her material in this issue, if you wish to comment, write to her at 820 Riedy Rd., Lisle, IL 60532.

Helen has been in touch with various chemical manufacturers, who are reluctant to comment. Few seem enthusiastic about the commercial value of running extensive tests of insecticides affecting the iris borer. We have been informed that it is technically illegal to recommend, or even use on irises, any chemical not officially tested and approved for that purpose. What can we do? Right now, we look to Betty and Helen for leadership.

Please respond to the questionnaire on page 11. If you live in a borer-free area (count your blessings!), we need to know that to map its territory and look for reasons that it does not live in those areas. If you are among those who wage the continuing battle against borer devastation, you will certainly want to participate. Your investment of a few minutes and a postcard can help blot out the borer. Please help!



CORRECTION: Hamner's introduction TROUSSEAU LACE, advertised on page 88 of the April 1980 issue of BULLETIN should have been priced at \$25, instead of the \$20 printed. We regret the typo.

Youth Show Awards

Jim Copeland, RVP Region 6

At the regular fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society, held in Minneapolis November 2-4, 1979, a very important event occurred: The AIS Board of Directors approved a Youth Medal Award for the Youth Section of an AIS-approved show. See page 85 of the January 1980 AIS Bulletin for more information.

President Wolford has appointed me to coordinate fund raising efforts for the Youth Medal. Cutting a die for the medal will cost approximately \$800.00. Donations will be accepted from any individual, society, or region wishing to contribute.

A savings account for the medal funds has been set up in the name of The American Iris Society. Please make checks payable to The American Iris Society and sent to

James Copeland
Rt. 1, Wolf Lake Hatchery
Mattawan, MI 49071

All donors will be listed in a future issue of the AIS Bulletin.



International News



Bee Warburton, Editor

ENGLAND: In England, being selected for trial at Wisley is a great honor for an iris. After growing there for three years, chosen irises are judged by a joint iris committee (JIC) of the Royal Horticultural Society and the British Iris Society, for the award of Commended, Highly Commended, or more rarely Award of Merit. We congratulate Gordon Plough whose DEWPOINT, sent to Wisley by Miss Nora Scopes, was honored with this high award of the Royal Horticultural Society in 1979. DEWPOINT will now be eligible for a higher award, up to the highest—a First Class Certificate.

The British Iris Society's judging system is separate from the Wisley Selection and Awards. Seedling irises may be submitted to the Awards and Judging Committee (A&JC), who may after inspecting them award a Seedling Commendation (JC) which entitles the raiser to distribute the seedling to any of a number of private gardens approved by the committee. After three years of growth, the seedling will be judged for Award of Garden Commendation, and will remain eligible for three years. If successful, it will be replanted and after a similar period it will be judged for the Fothergill Trophy (TBs), the Souvenir de M. Lemon (for other bearded), or the Hugh Miller Trophy (for Apogons). The winners of these trophies are eligible for the Dykes Medal. At each step the irises are eligible for three years.

The British Iris Society's Species Group publishes much material of inter-interest to species enthusiasts. The current issue (December 1979) presents a useful "key to the Sections of the Genus Iris," along with interesting notes from members. Subscription is now: single, £1.00; family

£1.50, and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. D. Goodwin, 42 Tycehurst Hill, Loughton, Essex, England.

C.E.C. Bartlett, Court House, Cannington, Bridgewater, Somerset, U.K., the new editor of the BIS Yearbook, requests help in identifying tall bearded cultivars particularly prone to leaf spot, for study of the genetics of resistance and susceptibility. Andrew Thompsett, deputy director of the Rosewarne Experimental Horticultural Station in Cornwall, is trying to locate prime offenders for this study. If you hesitate to put the finger on named varieties, perhaps, among the seedlings . . . ?

IRELAND: Samuel F. Sipe would like to thank Bulletin readers for the extremely generous supply of seeds sent him after his appeal in the Spring 1979 issue. No doubt Sam would be happy to receive more seeds in 1980, to keep him going until he is able to produce seeds from his own crosses. His address: Samuel F. Sipe, Kinneagh House, The Curragh, County Kildare, Ireland.

AUSTRALIA: The next Australian Convention will be in and around Sidney in 1982. For information contact Graeme Grosvenor, 44 Wesson Road, West Pennant Hills, NSW 2120, Australia.

NEW ZEALAND: Jean Collins, Secretary-Treasurer of the New Zealand Iris Society sends information about future conventions with a special note of welcome for all overseas irisarians who may plan to attend:

1980: Invercargill, the most southern city in New Zealand. 28th November to 2nd December.

1981: Hastings, in Hawke's Bay Province, on the east coast of the North Island. Probably the first week in November.

1982: Dunedin, Otago Province, southeast of the South Island. Date not yet fixed.

1983: Tauranga, in the Bay of Plenty, northeast of the North Island. Probably the first week in November.

Would you be interested in a reprint of Jean Steven's book, *The Iris and Its Culture*? Published about 30 years ago and long out of print, this has always been a popular book in spite of having been written for growers in the Southern Hemisphere. It is not a technical book, and is easily understood by the novice iris grower. The first part of the book deals with growing bearded irises, and the second part is concerned with the growing of iris species. If you would be interested drop a postcard to Bee Warburton, 2 Warburton Lane, Westboro, MA 01581, and I will relay the information to Jean.

INTERNATIONAL TRIALS

ITALY: City of Florence International Iris Competition. Inquiries for rules of the competition, instructions for shipping, and entry forms should be addressed to Comitato per il Concorso Internazionale dell'Iris, Palazzo Strozzi, 50123 Florence, Italy. Competitions are for tall bearded and border irises only. Do not send plants without following instructions for documentation.

AUSTRIA: Internationale Zwergiris-Konkurrenz Wien. International competition for low bearded irises. Inquiries should be directed to Österreichische Gartenbau Gesellschaft, Parkring 12, 1010 Wien 1, Austria. Competitions are in four categories: MDB, SDB, Median (IB, BB, MTB), and Arilbreds. Let us pay particular attention to the latter category since it has not had the publicity of the other groups.

In addition to these well-publicized international trials, there are other good show places for your introductions in Brussels, Belgium, in Frankfurt, Germany, and in Orleans, France. Brussels, contact E. Pon-saerts, 8 Ave. de l'Exposition Universelle, Box 13, 1080 Brussels, Belgium; in Frankfurt, Bruno Mueller, Palmengarten der Stadt Frankfurt, Siesmayerstr. 61, 6000 Frankfurt am Main, Germany; and in Orleans, M. Marcel Turbat, COMIFI, Park Floral, 45100 Orleans, France.

In addition to sending plants, seed collected by Hubert Fischer for fanciers in Japan has almost for the first time begun to popularize the tall bearded irises there; and your seed sent to Ireland last year makes it possible to grow plants there where importing of plants is almost if not entirely impossible.



AIS Directors include Ellene Rockwell (above) chatting with Ken Waite, and (right) Archie Owen.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AIS FOUNDATION

October 1, 1979 to April 1, 1980

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Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hamblen (UT)

Carol and Richard Ramsey (KS)

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Ralph Stuart (KS)

Carol and Richard Ramsey (KS)

Mrs. Robert H. Robinson (KS)

CONTRIBUTION IN HONOR OF:**Mrs. Francis C. O'Kelly (NM)**

Mrs. William H. McKinley (NM)

**AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES**

Send dues, making checks payable to the American Iris Society, to the Membership Secretary, Ronald Mullin, 1600 Fourth St., Route 3, Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058.

Annual	\$ 7.50
Triennial	18.75
Family Annual (any two members of a family at same address)	9.00
Family Triennial	22.50
Family Youth (age 18 and under; when an adult in the family is an AIS member; one <i>BULLETIN</i> per family)	1.50
Youth (age 18 and under; full membership privileges)	2.50
Sustaining	15.00
Research	37.50
Life	150.00
Family Life	187.50

Beginning right, from the ground up . . .

SOIL CONDITIONING FOR IRISES

**Dr. Candy Williamson
Ass't. Professor of Horticulture
Berry College**

Iris adjust to most types of soil. However, conditioning the soil—that is, modifying it to improve its workability, drainage, fertility, and pH—can result in top quality blooms. New gardeners often don't know that soil should be conditioned; more experienced gardeners condition it but may not understand why they should do it. To understand why you're conditioning the soil, you should understand 3 separate qualities.

Texture—composition of the soil. Is it sandy? Does it contain lots of clay? Texture controls the ability of the soil to admit and retain moisture and nutrients—and the ease with which roots can grow and seek these out.

A good iris soil is about $\frac{1}{2}$ sand, $\frac{1}{4}$ clay, and $\frac{1}{4}$ organic matter. It drains well during rainy spells but holds water during dry spells. Drainage is related to texture; clay soils have lots of tiny air spaces that often drain too slowly while sandy soils have fewer but larger air spaces that often drain too quickly. Overly slow drainage can promote bacterial soft rot, while overly fast drainage results in having to water and fertilize more often.

Your aim is to correct these problems by improving the soil texture.

To determine your soil type, try one of these tests:

- 1) Snowball test—pick up a handful of damp soil and pack gently.
If it crumbles under slight pressure, you have good texture.
If it won't crumble, it has too much clay.
If it won't form a ball, it has too much sand.
- 2) Barrel test—tip over a thirty gallon rain barrel of water onto your soil. If there are still puddles in 30 minutes, you've got too much clay.

What can you add to your soil to improve its texture?

Clay Soil: You will have to add materials that help it to drain and become more workable. The addition of coarse builder's (not beach) sand will help loosen it. Organic matter improves drainage, nutrient-holding capacity, and usually fertility. Organic matter comes from material that

was once alive—and includes peat, leaf mold, wood chips, compost, and well-rotted hay and manure. ALL organic matter should be rotted or decomposed or the bacteria that break it down will take nitrogen from your soil.

Sandy Soil: Again, organic matter such as peat or wood by-products should improve water and nutrient-holding capacity. Occasionally, adding clay can be beneficial since clay contains many nutrients and holds them well. Mixing in some really good topsoil is very helpful.

Fertility: is the soil's content of nutrients necessary for plant growth. Your county agent can test your soil and tell you which nutrients it needs. If you are planning an iris bed for future use, you can utilize several ways to build up soil fertility without using commercial fertilizers. These include:

- 1) Cover crops—early in the fall, turn sod under to 18 inches with a plow or spade and plant a leguminous crop cover like clover. Just before it matures, turn the crop under with an inch of manure (some people like to add 1 lb. of superphosphate per bushel of manure).

During the winter, all this will decompose. In the spring, add another inch of rotten manure or compost and mix in to a depth of 18 inches. By iris planting time, the fertility of your soil will be superb and you may not have to add chemicals.

- 2) Compost piles—will provide your garden with nutrients and you with a way to dispose of trash. Make a six-inch layer of organic matter (kitchen scraps, wood ashes, newspaper, leaves, grass clippings, but no thick bones and twigs of diseased materials). Usually, compost piles are about 4 feet square.

The next layer should consist of 3 inches of manure or soil mixed with about a pound of fertilizer. Keep alternating these layers until the pile is 4 to 5 feet tall, and hollow out a depression on top to catch water.

To maintain the pile, keep it moist and turn it every 10 to 14 days. Two things that help:

- 1) Lime cuts down the odor and hastens decomposition of the pile.
- 2) Punching holes in the pile with a crowbar hastens decomposition.

The compost, worked into the soil several months later, will vastly improve soil fertility and texture.

pH—refers to the relative acidity or alkalinity of soil, and determines whether nutrients will be available to your irises.

Soils, on a scale of 1 to 14, range from acid to alkaline. Seven is neutral, anything below that is acid, and anything above that is alkaline. Bearded

irises are best grown at a slightly acid pH—just under 7. They do grow in soil with a pH of 7 to 8, but it is said that soft rot bacteria multiply more quickly at that pH than at lower ones.

Your county agent can test your soil pH or you can do it with a home kit. Once you determine pH, adjust it thusly:

To reduce acidity, add ground limestone

To increase acidity, add leaf mold, peat, or ammonium sulfate

Now you know all about 3 qualities of soil: texture, fertility, and pH. By applying this knowledge, you can refresh the soil in an old iris bed or prepare a new bed with the very best qualities possible. And your results? A garden of healthy, abundantly blooming irises!

LARRY HARDER, Chairman of the AIS Historical Committee requests that members continue to send him publications, show schedules, newspaper articles, catalogs, convention booklets, books, magazines, hybridizers' records, slides and photographs. This means current, as well as older, materials; the former will be historical in time. Larry also notes that it is best to send these to him c/o the Courthouse, Ponca, Nebraska, 68770. Contact him with any questions.

A note from D. C. Nearpass, MD

Cleo Palmer, Oklahoma hybridizer, has played the field of the bearded irises. I ought to say more about an arilbred, FAIRY ARTISTRY, which was growing in two convention gardens on tall straight stalks, each with two branches and terminal. The pale lavender standards and chartreuse-yellow falls were accompanied by reddish brown signal and dark brown beard. The flowers were large, rather tailored, of superior substance for a half-bred arilbred. Palmer's MIDNIGHT STROLL, a charming intermediate with midnight blue flowers on kneehigh stalks was blooming nicely in convention gardens.

DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN COPY AND ADVERTISEMENTS
are April 15 (July issue), July 15 (October issue), October 15
(January issue) and January 15 (April issue.)

Domestic News

Fred Stephenson, VA
Domestic News Editor

RESEARCH — A PROJECT OF REGION 24

In cooperation with Alabama A & M University, Region 24 is sponsoring a research project dealing with the cause and prevention of soft rot in the iris. The project has also received a grant from the AIS Foundation.

According to Donald Saxton, Chairman, Region 24 Research Committee much work has been involved in setting up the project and the various experiments are now under way. The first experiments are now under way. The first experiments involve the varieties CRAFTSMAN, MELODRAMA and BABBLING BROOK.

A second experiment concerns soil pH and involves a much larger number of varieties. It is the hope of this group that the work done here will result in much valuable information that will be made available to all members as it develops.

REGION TWO PROMOTES THE IRIS

The Empire State Iris Society representing Region Two maintains a booth each year at the New York State Fair, held the last ten days of August each year. Since it is too late in the year to have any bloom other than an occasional remontant, the sponsors have to rely upon other types of publicity.

According to Lynn Carmer, RVP. the booth relies on a display of catalogs of prominent dealers. Along with these are copies of AIS BULLETINS, ESIS NEWSLETTERS and other printed iris material. Information sheets on iris culture, names and addresses of iris dealers, and a publicity sheet concerning the Empire State Iris Society are used as hand-out material. An Ektographic Projector is used to show slides featuring iris gardens and newer varieties of irises. The result has been the awarding of a Certificate of Merit each year.

The booth is maintained from 10:00 AM until 10:00 PM each of the ten days of the Fair. Involved is a goodly number of man hours as two

people man the booth at all times. Some members have to make a 200 mile roundtrip to be available. (ED. What could AIS accomplish if this type of dedication could be expected from each of its members?)

Lynn concludes his comments, "One can not realize the lack of knowledge concerning the growing of iris until one has manned a booth and answered questions."

OBITUARIES

Generally speaking, obituaries would fall within the realm of DOMESTIC NEWS so the BULLETIN EDITOR has requested that all obituaries be channelled through the DOMESTIC NEWS EDITOR. Here they will be screened for eligibility for BULLETIN publication, according to the rules established by the AIS Board. This should result in more uniform handling. Any member having knowledge of the death of an AIS member should PROMPTLY send this information to the DOMESTIC NEWS EDITOR.



Box 183
New York, New York 10014

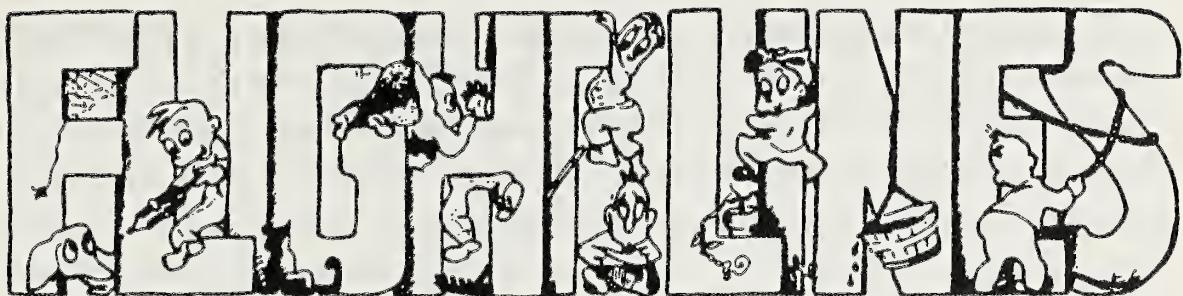
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Sam Reece, Editor
Fragrance

Clare Roberts, Ontario, Calif.: I think that the iris I found the most fragrant of those I sniffed at the Huntsville convention was Burch's 1978 introduction SOUTHLAND GRAPE. It is very Concord grape in fragrance, and seems to be a profuse bloomer. His MULBERRY MIST is a reblooming iris that also has a gorgeous fragrance, somewhat the same as SOUTHLAND GRAPE, and the two-year clump in his own garden was covered with nice stalks in full bloom. I was surprised, this year, to find that some of my "other than TB" irises had fragrance. EOLIAN, a Louisiana, had no fragrance at all in 1978, but this year was rated 7 (mildly fragrant) on my list.

Bee Warburton, Westboro, Ma.: I often look at Ethel Peckham's incredible lay-out in the '39 check list, and must say that in most respects I am a disbeliever. I would very much doubt if even the best nose in the world could distinguish between all those fragrances, and in my opinion iris fragrances are usually blended, and very hard to name. I am sure of lemon, vanilla, coconut (which Ethel didn't name), in addition to what others call "Concord grape", but which I call "Grape Kool-Aid." That I am unfortunate enough not to like in *I. pallida* and the TB irises, but actually have never noted it in the intermediates, and I think that when blended in the cross that produces the IBs, it contributes but is altered or diluted.

It is the tiny little *I. pumila* that contributes a really significant fragrance to its hybrids. Many of the pumila-talls have a truly great fragrance, and this they contribute to the intermediates. It is the pumila-talls that I am working for a line on fragrance. As for the TBs I have **never** smelled one that I thought was the sort of fragrance that perfumes could be blended . . . yet their rhizomes are sometimes fragrant even when rotting, and Orris is about as nice a fragrance by itself as anybody could ask.

I've had pumila-tall seedlings that were so fragrant they wafted down the rows, and it's a really strange thing how hard it is to find the origin. So far they have always been the most insignificant member of the family, and believe me, it's the most elusive guest in irisdom for the hybridizer. Actually, anybody would be nuts to try to breed a defined fragrance into his irises. I believe after all these years that it's only possible to breed some fragrance, nonspecific but pleasing.

I do regret that the Siberians do not have fragrance. Of course, the versicolors do, but it is mostly an unpleasant one. I would say that *I. pumila* is absolutely individual in scent, as individual as people are to dogs. A really sweet air is their distinguishing characteristic. I always think that those with yellow in them are most fragrant, and perhaps this is true of the lilliputs, but not all yellow ones are fragrant, outstandingly anyway.

I'm sorry I didn't make more effort in the species listing I did with Charlotte Gantz to record the fragrances of the pumilas. I never did try to put names to them, that always seemed to me impossible, but mainly they were (to me) like vanilla, lemon, or sweet blended (strong) like a modification of rose, sweetpea, maybe heliotrope, and of course as with blended fragrances—it would take a lifetime for a true "nose" to separate and identify them. But their fragrance is well incorporated in the modern lines of pumila-talls, and it makes better sense to locate some fragrant ones and intercross them; in any case, that's what I am doing.

I. Pumila forms are no longer easy to locate, though one might be able to get pollen, perhaps, from somebody like David Sindt; when one crosses them with TBs, you have a long row (if you are lucky) of inferior forms from which one might not even be able to select ONE that would be competitive on today's market . . . and if you think that selecting for fragrance would get you anywhere, it always seems that the most fragrant is the ugliest of the family.

I say let's select registered pumila-talls for fragrance. So many are fragrant that they would be not only a goodly number, but preselected for form and color clarity, at least. When we get them coded for fragrance, we can even select within the lines we want, including those elusive pinks.

Louise Smith, Williamsburg, VA.: I don't find it at all discouraging that we find the scents of irises so variable. I think it illuminates greatly why there are such different and divergent reports made by persons who have commented on the fragrances of irises. It seems to be that there are many irises that ARE CONSISTENT in their scents . . . and these are the

ones at which we are aiming our search. These consistent ones will be our goal, and probably will be the ones we will use for hybridizing for fragrance. I feel strongly that if and when we can identify those particular irises that are indeed consistently sweet—in all weathers—all over USA—well, we stand a much better chance of consistently producing sweet-scented offspring.

I will not buy another iris of any kind now unless I know about its scent! Correction . . . I just might buy BEVERLY SILLS because it is so floriferous!—and try crossing her with every fragrant one I possibly can. Also, I intend to use CORN HARVEST as much as possible . . . for it is supposed to be “the most nearly everblooming iris” according to someone, and the two plants I received last August have already had 3 stalks bloom here. I rate its fragrance as 8 (moderately fragrant), and it is a lovely soft yellow, short, with lovely ruffles and a delightful flare.

JAUNTY TEXAN has a perfume that I rate 8, with jaunty flares and ruffles, also light yellow but a different yellow, and it is tall and has about 10-12 buds per stalk. The tremendous variety of fragrances in iris should be **emphasized** as one of the main points for telling people why irises are so desirable. I find it hard to believe that irisarians have ignored this wonderful trait. One of the main reasons for the tremendous popularity of roses is their fragrance. Watch those **pinks**. Let's all be especially aware of the scents of ALL PINKS, and make a special effort to especially include pinks in our sniffing lists.

Reuben Smith, Marion, OH.: Don't be in too big a hurry to transplant your new fragrant iris seedlings. Some of the weak ones may have the best fragrance. I have noticed that atmospheric pressure above or below normal tends to have a good deal of effect on the amount of fragrance we are capable of receiving. Probably this same phenomenon has some effect on both the person and the fragrance of the plant.

Tom Little, Las Cruces, NM: I have been making out evaluations of all my irises as they bloom, and record something about fragrance for each. So far the ones with nice fragrance are pumila Y9C, pumila Kuban 205 (especially), BARIUM GOLD, and the following have no fragrance or very slight fragrance: ORCHID ELF, NIGHTLIGHT, KIP, pumila 145, BROWNETT, CRETICA, TINY TIKE, WEE BLUE and *I. binata*.

Barbara Benson, Lubbock, TX: I was struck with the fragrance of JAKE. This is an old-timer, but its fragrance was extraordinary. So is ALADDIN'S WISH. In fact, I crossed JAKE and ALADDIN'S WISH for two reasons: the

luminata pattern and the extroadinary fragrance of each. I made several crosses of JAKE and other luminatas or white/pink/yellow plicata recessives, hoping to keep the lovely fragrance and head towards a more respectable bloom form and substance.

I also crossed CAROLINA FRAGRANCE with a seedling I call "Sweet Smeller," one of those flowers that people rave about as long as it can't be seen. It perfumes the whole garden, then ruins the whole effect when it comes to light.

Do any of you have trouble with the very fragrant iris being more troubled with rot than some of the others? I have not kept any figures or gathered statistics on this, but somehow it seems as if the incidence of rot is higher with extremely fragrant iris, particularly if the sow (pill) bugs get thirsty in a dry period. It may be that some of the rhizomes are also fragrant. Has anyone checked this out? Does anyone have ENGLISH COTTAGE? This too seems to have a good fragrance reputation.

Lloyd Zurbrigg, Radford, VA: I do believe that the interest in fragrance deserves to be fostered. Louise has made me more conscious of fragrance, and at her insistence, I'm trying to write it up in my catalogs. I could hope that the spicy fragrances could be so listed, but apparently that is an area where taste-fragrance perception is very varied.

RED GRAPES has a rather spicy aroma, and RADFORD RED has it to an even greater extent. They both share RED POLISH as a parent, and that may be the source for it. ENGLISH COTTAGE has a very sweet and intense fragrance. I had most of my visitors try this one, and not one of them to date has disliked it.

Another of my best is KEY LIME, which has (to me) the scent of the Easter lily. It passes this along to some of its progeny, too. As a class I find the "pinks" very poor in respect to fragrance. Reuben thinks highly of OVATION, but two of you reported it as unsavory. My JEAN GUYMER is no great shakes for fragrance, but among the pinks it is pretty good. Many of this class have a really musky smell. Speaking of which, I can report by memory that old CAPITOLA has the scent of a skunk.

Blues and whites, on the other hand, tend to be sweetly scented. BLUE SURPRISE is back of my blue line, and as one noted, it was a good one for fragrance. I cannot agree that the greatest fragrance goes with the greatest tenderness, but I think there is some relation. Some of the older things like EASTER MORN, with wonderful fragrance (probably from *I. mesopotamica*), had the *I. mesopotamica* winter-tenderness too. I have bred away from that for years, carefully avoiding some of the Dykes Medal irises in the process.

ARILS

Tom Little, Las Cruces, NM: *I. hermona* (onocycclus species) opened yesterday afternoon, and is just stunning. The standards are light blue, veined all over in blue-violet; falls are beige with large violet-brown dots coalescing into a large black signal, the flowers are huge, and stand up very well in the wind. I have crossed *I. hermona* with the pumilas.

Most arilmels are produced by SDB X arilbred crosses, but it seems that the best arilmels are the ones with the least tall bearded blood. The ideal cross is tetraploid aril X pumila, since this cross produces fertile seedlings. Unfortunately, tetraploid arils are few and far between, and usually do not have the appearance of the oncos, which is so admired. I have just about all the tetraploid arils in circulation, so will make lots on this type of cross as they bloom. I have four such seedlings up from last year's crosses: three from *I. hoogiana* X yellow pumila and one from *I. stolonifera* X violet pumila.

GENETICS

Frank Sterbak, Buffalo, NY: I firmly believe that we have gone just about as far with the reds under present concept as we will be able to go. The answer to red-breeding (barring the chance mutation to pelargonidin) is to isolate malvidin and lycopene and bring them together in a combination that is as free as possible from all other pigments. This may be impossible, and only time will tell. From what I've been told, most mutations are recessive and may be completely hidden for three or more generations of inbreeding when dealing with tetraploids.

D. C. Nearpass, College Park, MD: Some—probably all—of the albino foliage seedlings that later become green would be due to maternal inheritance. This is well known in some plants, but so far I've not seen or read of a certain proof of such in irises.

In African violets it was intriguing to see little yellow seedlings develop from pepper grain size seed from certain crosses, whereas the reverse produced green seedlings. The little yellow seedlings grew up to produce variegated foliage.

The elusive "red" color in irises will not come until sufficient **mutations** have occurred to bring it about. Surely the hybridizers have exhausted the genetic combinations that have been passed on over the years. However, the reds are getting cleaner, and larger, and as tall now, as blues and whites, and with wider petals and ruffles too. And some of these signs of progress have occurred by bringing in genes from other strains, and some from "artificial selection," which of course, includes the finding of small mutations and carrying them on.

Howard Goodrick, Hemet, CA: I made a series of crosses with pink and orange iris with the purpose of deepening the pink coloration. Nothing happened of significance. Many years ago, Orville Fay used blue parents in his pink breeding, since he felt the resulting slight blue cast enhanced the pinkness. That is probably why most pink iris are on the blue side, and it is only recently that pinks from the orange side have become available.

Virginia Mathews, Stillwater, OK: I had a copy of Wilma Vallette's book when it first was published, and it seems to me that her deductions and theories were quite good, and not too much has been learned since. Someone ought to set up some really scientific crosses to make for various items of desirable knowledge, and ask hybridizers to do as many of them as they can (and have space) and keep records. If enough people made the same cross and kept records, maybe we could learn a bit more. And we need an irisarian scientist who can make chemical tests for various pigments, etc.

HYBRIDIZING

Josephine Yordy, Lebanon, PA: I used to plant seeds in jars of damp vermiculite, on window sills, indoors (usually in unheated rooms, grows faster in heated rooms), with punctured jar lids. **Usually** only need watering (misting maybe) once. I worked at it in the winter. I soaked the seeds a few days and cut off the pointed tip of the seed with a razor blade, then soaked again a day or two, then into the vermiculite. It's nice to work at in mid-winter. Then out to the soil in the spring.

Dave Niswonger, Cape Girardeau, MO: Good parent iris: DENVER MINT—this one will improve the substance on almost anything, it is quite versatile in the colors it will produce. It's good to use with browns, oranges, and yellows. It will also cooperate in putting a bank on the falls if used with a mate that has a band. I marveled last spring at seedlings developed by Gene Buckles out of DENVER MINT X MEGHAN. There were seedlings with deep yellow bands, light yellow bands, and several shades of beige bands.

GALA MADRID—again I go to some of Gene Buckles' seedlings in commenting on this one. If you're interested in bicolors, I think you could just about get any color combination you want using this and at the same time get good branching, wide short falls and good substance.

Oren Campbell, Little Rock, AR: I must have mixed up genes in STRANGE ROMANCE. One cross had about 30% albinos sprout. All of course died. This year I used a sib of STRANGE ROMANCE as a pod parent, and behold the seeds that sprouted were 75% albinos. Frank Chowning has used STRANGE ROMANCE pollen and never had an albino, and none of my other crosses have produced a "whitey" so I believe the fault lies in STRANGE ROMANCE as a pod parent. In case you've forgotten, STRANGE ROMANCE is the child of MRS. IRA NELSON X ANN CHOWNING (Louisianas).

PUMILAS

Tom Little, Las Cruces, NM: I have had the pumilas in bloom for two weeks, and enough different kinds that they really made a display. Some of the collected forms are superior to many of the garden hybrids! Ones I especially liked were Y9C (collected in Yugoslavia), a large, floriferous wine-purple; Kuban 205 (Crimea), a light yellow with dull brown spot and very wide petals. Among the hybrids, BARIUM GOLD stands out for rich orange-yellow color and short petals; RED AMETHYST has the best form I've yet seen—tailored oval petals that roll to a point instead of tucking, yellow with a very dark chocolate-brown spot; WEE BLUE is perfection in a tiny pure blue self; SPRING JOY is blue with a dark violet spot set off by a white beard. The blue ones are very nice.

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Note from the Robin Chairman . . .

Mary Alice Hembree

Share your evaluations of bloom varieties, cultural problems, etc., with your robin friends. I find that in the robins I participate in, comparative evaluations of various cultivars are among the most appreciated features—and they come all too seldom. Since too few of us have the space, time and money to grow **everything** on a trial basis, such comparisons help us decide what new iris we simply must have. It is also interesting to read how cultivars vary across the U.S. in color, vigor, bloom habits, etc.

With great regret, I must announce that Marie Spencer will no longer direct the spuria and Louisiana iris robins, due to the precarious health of her husband Al and the possible move that she anticipates. I'm sure that we all wish both of them the best possible luck and health.

While we settle on a successor to Marie, please send any queries or problems about the spuria and/or La. iris robins to me.

I would also like to welcome two new robin directors, both of whom have handled their new tasks competently for some time now. Dudley Carson has taken over for Norm Noe as director of the reblooming robins, and Skipper Thaxter has officially become director of the Japanese iris robins, a post he held unofficially for a considerable while, as he has been director of all the individual JI robins for several years.

Robin Sections and Chairmen

IRISES IN GENERAL: Mrs. Eunice Carter, Box 151; Jamul, CA 92035

TALL BEARDED: Otis R. Skinner, Jr., Box 902, Yorktown, TX 78164

HYBRIDIZING: Mrs. E. L. Roberts (Clare), 1309 N. Pleasant Ave., Ontario, CA 91764

ARILBRED: George Bryant, 1909 Calle de Suenos, Las Cruces, NM 88001

INTERNATIONAL: Mrs. Mary Herd, Box 57, Jacksboro, TX 76056

HISTORICAL: Mrs. Harriet Segesemann, 380 Crescent Dr., Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

SPECIAL EVENTS: Space Age, Novelty, Artistic (includes Arts & Crafts), Arils, Fragrance, Teens and Twenties: Mrs. Dan Edelman (Faye), Box 591, Fort Morgan, CO 80701

REBLOOMING IRISES: Dudley Carson, Route 2, Box 195, Sheridan, OR 97378

MEDIANS: Col. G. L. Seligman, Ret. (Gus), Casa Vicente, 515 Townsend Terr., Las Cruces, NM 88001

SIBERIANS: Mrs. Marjorie Barnes, 1806 N.E. 73rd St., Seattle, WA 98115

SPURIAS & LOUISIANAS: Mrs. Al Spencer, 2539 East 17th St., Tulsa, OK 74104

EVANSIAS, SPECIES & NATIVES: Joan N. Cooper, 212 W. County Road C, St. Paul, MN 55113

JAPANESE: M. K. ("Skipper") Thaxter, 39330 Highway 53, Nehalem, OR 97131

REGIONAL: Mrs. Delbert Long, P.O. Box 33, Virgil, KS 66870

ADDITIONAL AFFILIATES FOR 1980

Expiration Date Jan. 1, 1981

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	OCONEE VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Juanita Yearwood Route 3, Box 19 Middlegate, GA 31061	SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mrs. Esther Kraines 6200 Acadia Ave. Agoura, CA 91301
	SOUTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mrs. William T. Brooks 7027 Fairmont Dr. Columbia, SC 29209	EL PASO IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mr. Bill Barker 9809 Goby El Paso, TX 79924
Region 6	TRI COUNTY IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Diane Hicks 3328 Brisbane Lansing, MI 48910	JEFFCO IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mr. John Felgate Rt. 3, Box 360 Festus, MO 63023
	CENTRAL OHIO IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mrs. Lillian Davis 3257 Beach Grove Rd. Bucyrus, OH 44820	HUTCHINSON IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mrs. Evelyn Hendricks 113 E. 20th St. Hutchinson, KS 67501
Region 7	MIDDLE TENNESSEE IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mrs. Eleanor Meade 178 Lakeside Park Dr. Hendersonville, TN 37075	WASHINGTON IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Francis Boyd RR 1, Box 638 Cedar Hill, MO 63016
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	THE IRIS SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA Pres. Dr. Donald Koza 1171 E. Idaho Ave. St. Paul, MN 55106	CENTRAL ARKANSAS IRIS SOCIETY Pres. Mr. Henry Rowlins 12 Roxbury Drive Little Rock, AR 72209
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Pres. Mr. W. A. Brown
1732 North Jefferson
Hobbs NM 88240

MESILLA VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY
Pres. Mrs. Carl Martins
2020 Anita Drive
Los Cruces, NM 88001

As reported in minutes of the Fall 1979 Board Meeting (p. 84, BULLETIN #236), affiliates approved from October 1 to March 31 will have a January 1 expiration date; those approved April 1 through September 30 will have a July 1 expiration date. Requirements for affiliation were published on page 57, BULLETIN #233.

Mrs. Edward Owen, Chairman of Affiliates

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1980 Introduction

MISS BOND COUNTY (Marilyn J. Redenbo). Sdlg. 10036A. TB, 100 cm, M-L. Wide, ruffled, light salmon pink (RHS 27B) self. Tangerine beard. Well branched; usually 9 or more buds. Good parent. Parentage involves: Cloud Dancer, Esther Fay, Gay Princess, Frilly Fringes, Rainbow Gold, Ultrapoise. HC 1975. \$25.00

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1980 INTRODUCTIONS

DEFENDER (Stahly '80). TB, 34", M. Deeply colored 'black' with some red influence, the falls slightly deeper in color than the standards; self beard. No marks at haft or beard. Well-branched stalks carry 6 or 7 blooms of good size. Semi-flaring flowers are moderately ruffled and of good width. Fertile. Sdlg. 74-6-B. ((Mary Randall x Edenite) x (Licorice Stick x Black Swan)) X sib. HC '77. \$25.00

RISING TIDE (Stahly '80). TB, 34", M. A sparkling amoena with clean, medium blue falls and yellow to white beard. The well-branched stalks carry an average of 7 ruffled, semi-flaring flowers with wide parts. Fertile both ways. Sdlg. 72-60-1. Babbling Brook X Ivy League.....\$25.00

DRUM SOLO (Stahly '80). BB, 26", EM. Very deep violet standards with slightly deeper, velvety black falls and self beard. The blocky, ruffled blooms—usually 5-6 per stalk—are of very good, wide form with size in proportion for a border bearded. Fertile both ways, but sometimes difficult. Performed beautifully in the Saxton garden during the Huntsville Convention. Sdlg. 71-1-B. (Licorice Stick x Black Swan) X Sable Robe. HC '79. \$20.00

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1980 INTRODUCTIONS

- MARK CHARLES**—Sdlg. 71-8A4. TB, 36", M. Ruffled medium blue self; blue beard. Pacific Waters X ((Blue Sapphire x Blue Flight) x Celestial Snow). \$25.00
- KARLEE**—Sdlg. 66-9A1. TB, 30", M. Ruffled salmon pink self; red beard. Court Ballet X Sdlg. 61-8A4: ((Hall 42-10 x Snow Flurry) x ((Raspberry Crush x Pink Formal) x Rosedale) X (May Hall x Happy Birthday)). \$25.00
- SKY CLOUD**—Sdlg. 61-13A4. TB, 32", M. Ruffled white with blue influence; yellow beard. (First Violet X Celestial Snow). \$25.00

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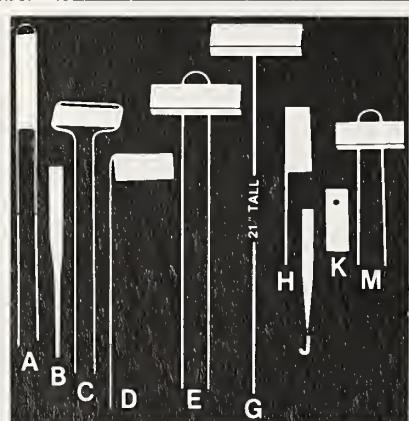
BEAUTY PAGEANT (Drake '80). TB, 33". Sdlg. 75-37. (71-38: 69-34 x Point Clear) X Pink Angel. Light peach-pink self; orange beard tipped white. Stds. closed. Stds. and falls delicately laced. Up to 10 flowers on beautifully branched stalks. Blue-green foliage. Excellent plant habits. EC 1978..... \$25.00

PLEATED GOLD (Drake '80). TB, 34". Sdlg. 70-17 (65-9: ((60-10: Bro. Charles sdlg. x 57-4) x (62.5: Bro. Charles 50-83 x 60-08))) X Sunsite. Dark yellow self; darker yellow beard. Closed, lacy stds. Falls pleated at haft and very ruffled. Heavy substance. 1977 Region 9 Hope Chest Award. EC 1977. Limited stock..... \$25.00

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PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS

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INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1980

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* * * * *

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Three-inch	\$50.00		

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One-quarter page	31.00	Three-fourths page	82.00
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Full page, color		\$200.00 plus color separations	
Cover ads		\$200.00 plus color separations	

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue.)

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:

Ms. Kay Nelson, Advertising Editor
P. O. Box 37613 Omaha, NE 68137

YOUR SYMPOSIUM BALLOT 1980

**PLEASE VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE
TALL BEARDED IRIS VARIETIES**

All members of the American Iris Society are urged to participate in this ballot in order that we may obtain a wide consensus of the tall bearded iris varieties that grow and bloom best in gardens throughout America. Mail the completed ballot to your RVP by September 21, 1980. Final results will be published as the popularity poll in a future issue of the Bulletin. Please vote!

ATTENTION: OVERSEAS MEMBERS are invited to vote the Symposium Ballot. Instructions on page 2.

BULLETIN OF THE

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

VOL. LXI, NO. 3, SERIES 238, JULY 1980
PRINTED IN TWO SECTIONS * SECTION 2

PLEASE VOTE

FORTY-FIRST OFFICIAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

1980

This is your ballot to help determine the One Hundred Favorite Irises for 1980. The list of candidates was compiled by combining the following lists of outstanding varieties:

- The 100 top varieties in last year's Symposium
- The tall bearded irises eligible for the 1980 Dykes Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 1980 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 1979 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 1979 Honorable Mentions

Every member of the American Iris Society may participate in this balloting of the 471 irises listed on the following pages and write in as many as five unlisted tall bearded irises. Each member is allowed twenty-five votes.

Please follow the instructions below.

1. Vote only for an iris that you have seen blooming in a garden.
2. Clearly place an X in front of each of your twenty-five favorites. The second member of a family membership should use an O symbol to designate votes. Additional or youth (category \$1.50) members should use a number (1, 2, 3, etc.) in front of each vote to identify it. Each member is entitled to a maximum of twenty-five votes. Since the ballot is designed for easy tabulation by the Regional Vice Presidents, please follow directions carefully.
3. No member may vote for more than twenty-five varieties, including write-in votes. You may vote for less than twenty-five if you wish.
4. Your ballot must be mailed to your Regional Vice President by September 21, 1980 in order to be counted. The name of your RVP is listed inside the back cover of each AIS Bulletin. Sign your ballot and mail it first class.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

-
5. Overseas members may vote by mailing their ballot to the Awards Committee Chairman whose name and address appear on the inside cover of each AIS Bulletin.

ACTRESS	BLUE SAPPHIRE	CHAMBER MUSIC
ADDED PRAISE	BLUE STACCATO	CHAPEAU
AFTER ALL	BLUE THEME	CHARISMA
ALLEGIANCE	BLUSHING PINK	CHARMED CIRCLE
ALOHA	BLUSHING LEMON	CHARTREUSE RUFFLES
AMETHYST FLAME	BONBON	CHERISHED
ANGEL CHOIR	BORDELLO	CHERISHED MEMORY
ANNIVERSARY WALTZ	BRIDE'S HALO	CHERUB CHOIR
ANOINTED	BRIGHT DANDELION	CHIEF ILLINI
ANON	BUFFY	CHRISTMAS CAROL
ANTIQUE TAPESTRY	BURNT TOFFEE	CHRISTMAS TIME
APRICOT BLAZE	BUTTERED ALL OVER	CINDY O
ARSONIST	BUTTERED POPCORN	CIRCUS STRIPES
ARTWORK	BUTTERSCOTCH BRONZE	CLARENDRON
ASGARD	BUTTONWILLOW	CLOUDS OF GOLD
ASTRO FLASH	BY NIGHT	CO CO MOCHA
AUTUMN ECHO		COFFEE HOUSE
AUTUMN LEAVES	CALIENTE	CORAL STRAND
AVALON BAY	CAMELOT ROSE	CORNERSTONE
	CAMEO PINK	COSMOPOLITAN
BABBLING BROOK	CAMPUS CUTIE	COUNTRYMAN
BABY FACE	CANONERO	COUNTRY MANOR
BAROQUE PRELUDE	CARAMBA	CRANBERRY ICE
BAYBERRY CANDLE	CARNIVAL TIME	CROWN STERLING
BEAUTY CROWN	CAROLINA HONEY	CROW'S NEST
BEIGE MELODY	CARRIAGE TRADE	CRUSHED VELVET
BEIGE RUFFLES	CARVED ANGEL	CRYSTAL CITY
BETTY SIMON	CARVED CAMEO	CRYSTAL DAWN
BICENTENNIAL	CARVED MARBLE	CUP RACE
BIG PEACH	CARVED PINK	
BIRTHDAY SONG	CASCADE PASS	DANCE BEAT
BLACKBERRY WINE	CATHEDRAL WINDOWS	DANCING VIOLET
BLACK MARKET	CAYENNE CAPERS	DARK ALLURE
BLOSSOM PINK	CENTER FOLD	DARK TRIUMPH
BLUE LUSTER	CHABLIS	DASHER
BLUE REFLECTION	CHAIN O' GOLD	DATEBOOK

DEBBY RAIDON	FIFTY FATHOMS	GRAND FINALE
DEEP PACIFIC	FIRESTONE	GRAND MANNER
DEEP THROAT	FIREWATER	GRAND WALTZ
DEJA VU	FIVE STAR ADMIRAL	GRECIAN GOWN
DELORA FISHER	FLAIR	GREEN-EYED LADY
DIGNITARY	FLAMEBURST	GYPSY BELLE
DISCO MUSIC	FLAMENCO	GYPSY PRINCE
DOODLE STRUDEL	FLAMING ARROW	
DOVER BEACH	FLAMING LIGHT	HAPPY FACE
DRAMATIC ARTS	FOCUS	HAPPY HARMONY
DREAMIN' BLUE	FOOLISH PLEASURE	HASH MARKS
DREAM LOVER	FRESNO FIESTA	HEATHER BLUSH
DREAM OF LOVE	FRINGED TAFFETA	HELEN BOEHM
DREAM TOUCH	FRONTIER MARSHALL	HELL'S FIRE
DUALTONE	FULL TIDE	HIGHLAND CHIEF
DUSKY DANCER		HIGH TEA
DUTCH CHOCOLATE	GALA MADRID	HIS LORDSHIP
DUTCH TREAT	GAMBOGE GAL	
	GARNET ROBE	ICE SCULPTURE
ELIZABETH MILES	GAY PARASOL	ILLINI MOON
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ENTOURAGE	GENTLE RAIN	INDIAN PRINCESS
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EVENING ECHO	HOST STORY	INFERNO
EVENING IN PARIS	GIFT WRAPPED	INSTANT CHARM
EXOTIC STAR	GLACIER SHADOWS	INSTANT LOVE
	GOING MY WAY	INSTIGATOR
FABULOUS FRILLS	GOLDEN APPLE	INTUITION
FASHIONABLE PINK	GOLDEN CLARET	IRENE NELSON
FASHION TREND	GOLDEN INGOT	ISLANDS OF LIGHT
FAUVETTE	GOLDEN SPARKLER	ISLE OF CAPRI
FEMININE CHARM	GOLDEN TRINE	
FESTIVE AIRE	GOLD TRIMMINGS	JACK R. DEE
FIESTA BRAVA	GRAND ENTRANCE	JEANETTE

JEANNE PRICE	LOUISE WATTS	MISS PHOTOGNIC
JOYCE TERRY	LOVELY JAN	MISTY SHADOWS
	LOVE SONNET	MISTY WATERCOLORS
KELLY CALLEN	LOVE THEME	MIXED BOUQUET
KENTUCKY DERBY	LOVE WITH LACE	MODERN CLASSIC
KILT LILT	LUAU	MOLLY MATTHEWS
KINDNESS	LYNN WITH LOVE	MONACO
KOALA		MONEY
	MADEIRA BELLE	MOODY BLUE
LACY SNOWFLAKE	MAGIC CANDLE	MYSTIQUE
LADY MARIE	MAGIC LADY	
LADY OF SPAIN	MAGIC POTION	NAVY STRUT
LADY X	MALAYSIA	NEON MAGIC
LAKE PLACID	MANDOLIN	NEPTUNE'S POOL
LATE REPORT	MANUEL	NEW MOON
LATIN LOVER	MARGARITA	NEW ROCHELLE
LAUNCHING PAD	MARY FRANCES	NEW VENTURE
LAURIE	MARY GADD	NIGHT DEPOSIT
LAWRENCE WELK	MATCHMAKER	NIGHT HAWK
LEISURE DAY	MATINATA	NIGHT OWL
LEMON BROCADE	MAUMELLE SNOW	
LEMON CROWN	MELODIAN	OLD FLAME
LEMON MIST	MELON BISQUE	ONE DESIRE
LE SEDNA	MELTED CHOCOLATE	ON THE GO
LILLIAN TERRELL	MEMPHIS DELIGHT	ORANGE EMPIRE
LILTING LULLABY	MERRY TUNE	ORANGE FIRE
LIME FIZZ	MICHIGAN PRIDE	ORANGE FROSTING
LINEUP	MIDNIGHT SPECIAL	ORANGE PARADE
LIZ	MILLRACE	ORANGE PLUSH
LOMBARDY	MILL VALLEY	ORANGE SPLENDOR
LOOP THE LOOP	MING DYNASTY	ORANGE WONDER
LORD BALTIMORE	MINISA	ORITAM
LORDLY WAYS	MIRIAM STEEL	OSAGE BUFF
LOUDOUN BEAUTY	MISSION RIDGE	
LOUDOUN DELIGHT	MISS PERSONALITY	PACIFIC PANORAMA
LOUDOUN PRINCESS	MISS PRISS	PAGAN

—PALACE GUARD	—RANCHO ROSE	—SILVER SHOWER
—PARIS OPERA	—RASPBERRY RIPPLES	—SINGING SKIES
—PARTY GIRL	—RIO VISTA	—SKETCH ME
—PASSIONALE	—RIPPLING CLOUDS	—SKY GEM
—PEACE OFFERING	—RIPPLING WATERS	—SKYLAB
—PEACH FROST	—RISQUE	—SNOW JADE
—PEACH TAFFETA	—RIVER CITY	—SNOWMOUND
—PEARL FROST	—RIVER RHYTHM	—SOCIALITE
—PEEK A BLUE	—ROCKET BLAST	—SOCIAL WHIRL
—PENNY A PINCH	—ROCOCO	—SOFT MOONBEAM
—PERSIAN BERRY	—ROMAN CANDLE	—SOLANO
—PINK ANGEL	—ROSE CARESS	—SOLDIERS' CHORUS
—PINK CONFETTI	—ROSE TATTOO	—SON OF STAR
—PINK EMBER	—ROUNDUP	—SONGSTER
—PINK FEATHERS	—ROYAL REGENCY	—SOUTHERN COMFORT
—PINK PICOTEE	—ROYAL TRUMPETER	—SPACE BLAZER
—PINK SLEIGH	—RUFFLED BALLET	—SPANISH STREET SONG
—PINK TAFFETA		—SPARTAN
—PISTACHIO	—SAND AND SEA	—SPICED HONEY
—PLAYGIRL	—SAN LEANDRO	—SPINNING WHEEL
—PLUM DAZZLE	—SAPPHIRE HILLS	—SPLASH O' WINE
—PLUM GLEAM	—SATIN GLASS	—STARFROST PINK
—POINT BREEZE	—SCHIAPARELLI	—STARINA
—PORTA VILLA	—SEA OF GALILEE	—STARRING ROLE
—POST TIME	—SECRET SOCIETY	—STAR SPANGLED
—POTPOURRI	—SERENE DUET	—STEPPING OUT
—POWDER PEACH	—SEWING BEE	—STITCHED RIGHT
—PRAISE THE LORD	—SHADOW MAGIC	—STOP SIGN
—PRETTY NANCY	—SHAFT OF GOLD	—STORMY STALLION
—PRIDE OF IRELAND	—SHIPSHAPE	—STRAWBERRY SUNDAE
	—SHOUTIN' BLUE	—STRAWBERRY WINE
—QUAPAW	—SHOCKING PINK	—STUDY IN BLACK
—QUEEN OF FLORENCE	—SHOWCASE	—SUGAR BEAR
—QUEEN OF HEARTS	—SHOW TIME	—SUGAR TREE
—QUIESCENT	—SILENT MAJESTY	—SULTAN'S PALACE
	—SILENT PATRIOT	—SUMMER LOVE

— SUN CITY	— THELMA RUDOLPH	— VERVE
— SUN FIRE	— THINK PINK	— VICTOR HERBERT
— SUN KING	— TOP EXECUTIVE	— VICTORIA FALLS
— SUNNY DELIGHT	— TOUCHE	— VIOLET HARMONY
— SUNRISE POINT	— TOUCH OF CLASS	
— SUN SNAP	— TOUCH OF ENVY	— WALTZING WIDOW
— SUN TOASTED	— TOWN AND COUNTRY	— WARM AND TOASTY
— SUPERSTITION	— TREASURE KEY	— WEDDING VOW
— SWEDISH MODERN	— TRILL	— WHITE LIGHTNING
— SWEETHEART WALTZ	— TULIP FESTIVAL	— WINDSOR ROSE
— SWEETWATER	— TUPELO HONEY	— WINE AND ROSES
— SWING SHIFT	— TURBULENCE	— WINGS OF DREAMS
— SYMPHONETTE		— WINNER'S CIRCLE
	— VALENTINA	— WINTER OLYMPICS
— TANGERINE QUEEN	— VALLEY CHARM	— WINTER PANORAMA
— TANGERINE SKY	— VALLEY WEST	— WOODWINE
— TEMPLE GOLD	— VALVOUCHE	— WORLD NEWS
— TENNESSEE FROST	— VANITY	
— THANKSGIVING	— VENETIAN DANCER	— YANKEE MAID
— THE BLUE BOY	— VENETIAN VANILLA	— YVONNE B. BURKE
	— VERNAL FALLS	

WRITE-IN VOTES

Each American Iris Society member voting is allowed to write-in as many as five varieties of tall bearded irises that are not on the list appearing inside this booklet. Additional family members participating (family or youth memberships) should place the symbol used for their votes in the rest of the ballot to identify their votes. Please remember that any write-in votes count toward your total twenty-five votes. In other words, if you wish to write-in three irises, you are allowed twenty-two votes on the other portion of the ballot, for a total of twenty-five.

(Make Additional Lines if Needed)

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