

SPURIA NEWS





The Spuria Iris Society Salutes the hybridizers series

Each issue will focus on the people who create the iris we all enjoy. It takes a special dedication to produce new spurias. Our hats off to you.

Featured this issue:

B. C. JENKINS

Spurias featured on the cover

Purple Smoke '95

Touch of Lace '90

Lee Walker Seedling
(Spuria National Convention 2003)

This spuria was a clear true blue with a hint of purple streaked into the bright yellow signal. Now don't you wish this was in color!

Membership

Membership Dues	Single annual.....\$9.00	Family annual.....\$12.00	Life Membership....\$100.00
	Single triennial \$20.00	Family triennial...\$24.00	

Registrations & Introductions Booklet U. S. A. \$10 Canada \$11 Overseas \$12



Spuria News
Winter Issue
2004

President's Message By Jim Hedgecock



As I reflect on the year of 2003, all I can say is, "Wow"! The convention in Saint Joseph, Missouri was a tremendous success. The weather was perfect, bloom unbelievable, and we had a wonderful turnout of people in attendance. Another plus was the fact that we had money left over to put in the society's treasury.

I have been in touch with a number of pollen daubers not commonly known as spuria hybridizers, but they have already made crosses with spurias. You will note that **B. Charles Jenkins** is featured in our new series, "A Salute to the Hybridizers". Joanne wants to do biographies on as many spuria hybridizers as possible. Look for this new series in upcoming issues of the Spuria News. I hope you will enjoy learning more about these wonderful people and their stories.

It was a real plus to have **B. Charles Jenkins** in Saint Joseph for the convention. His work with the Lactea-Spuria crosses is showing some very promising twists and turns. I am sure we will be hearing more from him in the near future.

I have joked with many of you about the fact that I know spurias will be the iris of this century. That is because I have registered the name, "*Twentieth First Century*". I have a very dark red-black spuria coming out of **Bordertown** that has almost no signal. This spuria may be the one that gets the name!

I hope the new year finds you all well and looking for those first spuria blooms. Remember, grow more spurias, you won't be sorry.

Missouri Ramblin'

I really wanted to get this information into this winter issue, because some of you might want it as hybridizing information this spring. Our area of Missouri has the worst drought in recorded history for the past 2 years. One thing is for sure, if a spuria variety stayed evergreen this year, it is worthy of mention! This is a list of the spurias that stayed green.

Monspur Cambridge Blue *Bellisinado* *Iris Musulmanica* *Irene Benton* *Lenkoran* *Iris Carthalinae* *Rodeo Blue*

Mrs. Tait *Spring Plum* *Imperial Ruffles* *Missouri Streams* *Amanda's Eyes (semi-deciduous)*

I also noted that *Missouri Rainbows* and *Missouri Autumn* made the largest rhizomes I have seen in spurias. Another very good plus for *Missouri Rainbows* is that many of the rhizomes had multiple bloomstalks and at least one new increase on every rhizome. *Bellisinado* also has produced more than one bloomstalks per rhizome here. I would think that these would make excellent parents. I would however put *Bellisinado* on newer wider form varieties. I hope we see more comments from members on this subject in the future. The information will help us all in our quest for new spurias.

B. Charles Jenkins

A Brief List of Awards, Registrations & Introductions

74 spurias registered

70 spurias introduced

Megagold '95 was the best iris in Region 15, 1997

Walker Ferguson Spuria Award was presented at the first Spuria Iris Society mini-convention in Phoenix, Arizona (April 1998)

Honorable Mention: eligible for the **HM** (3) three years after introduction.

1996	<i>Zulu Chief</i>	1992
1999	<i>Guiseppe</i>	19
1999	<i>Lady Butterfly</i>	1994
2000	<i>Stella Irene</i>	1995
2001	<i>Elfin Sunshine</i>	1998
2001	<i>Megagold</i>	1995
2003	<i>Butter Ripples</i>	1998

Award of Merit: eligible for the **AM** two years after receiving the **HM**.

1997	<i>Alpha SPU</i>	1992
1995	<i>Candle Lace</i>	1989
1996	<i>Color Focus</i>	1989
1998	<i>Zulu Chief</i>	1992



**SPURIAS
In
ARTISTIC
DESIGN**

Tucson Area
Iris Society

37th. Annual
Flower
Exhibition

**Easter Parade
Of Iris**

Class One
Easter Bunny

OPPS!!!!!!!!!!!!

In all the excitement of the Spuria National Convention, a few things were omitted.
The Spuria Iris Society & the Pony Express Iris Society, apologize for any errors that were committed.
And although Scoonchee and seedlings bloomed all around, the hybridizer's name could not be found.
The convention booklet did not list,

Pete DeSantis

And we are sorry for this!

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY



In Memoriam: Ruth Wilder

by Everett Lineberger, South Carolina

RUTH STEWART WILDER, FORMER RVP of Region 5 and former President of the Spuria Iris Society, died in Anderson, SC on July 11, 2003 as the result of a stroke. She was the third former RVP of Region 5 to die in less than 12 months, the others being Jane Johnson and Virginia Burton.

Ruth, a registered nurse, was very active in the Huntsville, AL, iris group before returning to her native state in the 1980's following the death of her husband, Archie.

Her garden was one of those on tour when the AIS Convention was held in Huntsville. She was RVP of Region 5 when the national convention was held in Atlanta in 1992.

A master judge who was always interested in gaining more knowledge in that area and sharing that knowledge with others, she traveled extensively to attend conventions and judges' training events.

She was especially interested in Louisiana and spuria irises. In addition to being a member of those AIS sections and the Tall bearded Iris Society, she was instrumental in establishing the Foothills Iris Club of Anderson and the Dixie Iris Study Club, and she gave of her means and talents to strengthen the work of many other local groups.

Ruth was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in Anderson. Her funeral service was conducted by her minister, the Rev. Dr. Rick Baggett, and the Rev. Everett Lineberger, former RVP of Region 5, who gave an eulogy and funeral meditation. She was buried in the Old Silver Brook Cemetery in Anderson. She certainly will be missed by the many irisarians whose lives she has touched.

Ruth was the 1st. VP in 1992 and served as President of the Spuria Iris Society from the summer of 1993 to the summer of 1994

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Spuria Slide Show

A new & updated presentation is available for rent \$10.00

Please contact:

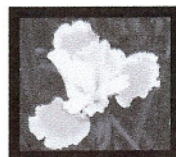
Riley Probst

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WWW.SPURIA.ORG

Bob Dickow - Webmaster

Spuria National Convention Pins for Sale !

What a great gift for your iris friends.
If you missed the convention, this is a way you can share
in the fun & support your society.

\$5.00

Contact Jim Hedgecock for more info

Membership Report 1/2004

Submitted by J. Lee Miller

Overseas Members

2	Canada
3	Australia
1	South Australia
1	England
1	Poland
2	New Zealand
1	West Germany
2	The Netherlands
1	Germany
1	United Kingdom

**Total
Membership**
206

Life Members
65

AIS Members
108

**On-line
Members**
49

Members by States

Alabama – 2	Michigan – 2
Arkansas – 2	Minnesota – 5
Arizona – 10	Missouri – 14
California – 34	Mississippi – 1
Colorado – 4	Nebraska – 7
Connecticut – 1	New Jersey – 2
Delaware – 2	New Mexico – 6
Florida – 1	Nevada – 1
Georgia – 2	New York – 4
Hawaii – 1	Ohio – 3
Iowa – 3	Oklahoma – 6
Idaho – 4	Oregon – 10
Illinois – 7	Pennsylvania – 1
Indiana – 3	South Carolina – 5
Kansas – 7	South Dakota – 2
Kentucky – 1	Tennessee – 2
Louisiana – 2	Texas – 17
Massachusetts – 2	Virginia – 5
Maryland – 1	Washington – 8
Maine – 1	

Treasurer's Report 12/2003

Checkbook Balance 6/2003 \$4,916.74 Checkbook Balance 1/2004 \$5,466.88

Income:

Membership:

Dues	\$ 865.00
R&I	\$ 128.00
Slide Show	<u>\$ 10.00</u>
Total membership	\$ 1,003.00

Other Income:

Convention pins	\$ 272.21
Postage	\$ 10.00
Rhizome sale	<u>\$ 2,269.00</u>
Total Other Income	\$ 2,551.21

Total Income \$ 3,554.21

Expenses:

Convention expense:

Awards	\$ 139.93
P.E.I.S. (final costs)	\$ 839.97
Pins	\$ 439.49
Postage	\$ 74.20
Refunds	\$ 149.00
Supplies/ postage	<u>\$ 295.62</u>
Total convention expense	\$ 1,938.21

Publishing expenses:

Printing	\$ 525.14
Stamps	<u>\$ 487.60</u>
Total publishing expenses	\$ 1,012.74

Slide Show expense:

Postage	\$ 19.79
Tray	<u>\$ 5.33</u>
Total Slide Show expense	\$ 25.12

Total Expenses \$ 3,004.07

Submitted by J. Lee Miller



A Method of Handling Spuria Iris Rhizomes

by B. Charles Jenkins, Arizona

Unlike with Tall Bearded irises, spuria rhizomes should not be allowed to become dry when they are out of the ground. If the rhizomes are being shipped, most growers trim and wash them, dip them in a fungicide, then wrap them with damp paper toweling, newspaper or wood shavings then seal them in a plastic bag. If they are being held for any length of time, they are stored in a refrigerator.

During the last four years, I have had to deal with a fairly large number of spuria cultivars without any refrigerator space for storing the rhizomes. Since most spurias are summer dormant, I reasoned that because irrigation can be controlled here, no water is given beginning a month to six weeks after flowering ceases. When dormancy is complete, usually in early August, the clumps are dug and divided. This is not an easy task (I have broken more than one digging tool handle in the process)!

I have dispensed with the washing and dipping, but as the clumps are being divided, I cut off old roots and tops, then tap the cut end of the rhizome in a wettable powder of, "Terraclor". (I suppose any good powdered fungicide would do). The rhizomes are labeled and sealed in a plastic bag, the size depending on the number of rhizomes placed in it.

A number of bags are placed in a larger plastic bag with a damp cloth and held shut with clips. The size of the cloth or towel depends on the size of the larger bag. With the moisture outside the smaller bags, the rhizomes remain dormant until they are planted. I have held them at room temperature in a dormant state for more than two months without any problems.

As I see it, this method has several advantages. First, the washing and dipping are dispensed with. Next, storing damp rhizomes in a refrigerator induces root development that is fragile and easily broken at planting time. Finally, it is well known here in the Southwest that if rhizomes have been refrigerated, bloom can be as much as a month earlier, and height is definitely shorter in the first year. However, I have received beautiful rhizomes dug in warm weather in Australia, and planted in warm weather here in Arizona. Less than half showed slow weak growth and the others succumbed during our long hot summer. I believe now that they should have been refrigerated before being planted.

WHAT'S NEW IN SPURIAS?

Submitted by **Mary Duvall**

Marcy Gaugert and I, along with my daughter Elaine, attended the National Spuria Convention in St. Joseph, Missouri on July 6, 7, and 8th. Spuria season was at peak, so we saw many of the new offerings.

Some of you may remember the large yellow **SUNNY DAY** (H. P. Sass 1931) in Glenn and Zula's garden years ago. Large clumps of it was seen at the **Boswell Garden**. All the gardens were a pleasure to visit. Many gardens had spurias incorporated within their perennial borders.

PAINTER'S CHOICE (B. C. Jenkins 1998) had violet standards with heavy yellow veining on the inside. The falls were bright yellow with some veining at the violet edges and lavender style arms. Nice! **TINY LOU** (B. C. Jenkins 1990) was charming. One of my favorites, **BALI BALI** (B. C. Jenkins 1988) was also a fragrant iris. It was white with yellow falls and had an ivory margin. Another one that caught my eye was **LOOK AGAIN** (B. C. Jenkins 1990). This spuria was purple with a striking yellow signal.

MAHOGANY LORD (B. Blyth 1993) was a rich deep mahogany color. Another very different brassy iris, **BRASS BEAUTY** (E. McCown 1991) sported a tiny gold edging around the petals. For a very good deep blue (violet?), **SONORAN CABALLERO** (F. Wickenkamp 1988) was one of the best I had seen.

Niswonger's **AMBER RIPPLES** (1981) was small, but very colorful. **MISSOURI IRON ORE** (O. D. Niswonger 1996) was good everywhere! Another lovely one, **MISSOURI RAINBOWS** (O. D. Niswonger 1996) was very large. Still the closest approach to pink, **RIVULETS OF PINK** (O. D. Niswonger 1995) was a ruffled pinkish mauve overlaid with yellow on the falls. Or, for pink, maybe it would be **MISSOURI DREAMLAND** (O. D. Niswonger 1999), blended yellow and rose? **HICKORY LEAVES** (O. D. Niswonger 1998), – an apt description – had ruffled standards. A large clump of **ADRIATIC BLUE** (O. D. Niswonger 1995) had deep blue standards, golden falls with blue edging, shows what great landscaping irises spurias are!

Hager's **HANDSOME IS** (1993) was fantastic! It had purple brown standards and brown falls, with a deep yellow signal. Another one showing great contrast was **LOOK LIVELY** (B. Hager 1987). The standards were deep purple, with white falls displaying thin purple veins and narrow purple edge.

There were many others, as well as some very striking new seedlings, particularly from **O. D. Niswonger** and **Lee Walker**. **Dr. Rodionenko** had a spuria there – **Lenkoran** (Dr. George Rodionenko by T. & E. Abrego 1994). Probably a species selection. There was an added bonus. One of the tour gardens happened to be the **Hollingsworth Peony Garden**, so we saw many of the greatest peonies – notably **CORA LOUISE**. Decidedly, it was a foretaste of the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the American Peony Society Convention at the Landscape Arboretum.

A Salute to the hybridizers

Biographical sketch of Dr. B. Charles Jenkins



1. DEGREES and WHERE OBTAINED:

- * B.Sc. (Agriculture) 1941 University of Alberta
- * M.Se. (Agriculture) 1944 University of Alberta
- * Ph.D. (Genetics) 1950 University of California

2. EXPERIENCE and ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- (a) Directed plant breeding program in Field Crops Department University of Alberta, while earning the Master's degree.
- (b) From 1944-1947 was Assistant Cerealist at Canada Department of Agriculture Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Worked on development of Rescue wheat and established the far winter increase station in Imperial Valley, California. This first solid-stem wheat saved farmers Fifty Million Dollars annual loss from the wheat stem saw-fly.
- (c) From 1948-1950, was in charge of organizing the program for improvement of winter wheat at the Experimental Station in Lethbridge, Alberta. In addition to conventional breeding methods, started program of systematically substituting the chromosomes of rye for each of the chromosomes of winter wheat.
- (d) In 1950, accepted the position of Associate Professor in the Field Husbandry Department, University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and was responsible for the breeding programs with wheat, flax, safflower and Kochia.
- (e) In 1954, joined the staff of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, and was the first holder of the unique Samuel Rosner Chair in Agronomy.
Organized a program of basic work with wheat and wheat relatives, and initiated the development of the new crop, triticale.

(Continued.....)

- (1) Organized the First International Wheat Genetics Symposium in Winnipeg, in 1958. Was President of the Second International Wheat Genetics Symposium held in Lund, Sweden, in 1963.
- (g) Was guest of the Rockefeller Foundation in Mexico, acting as temporary Scientific Aide in the wheat program in the year 1964. Initiated genetic studies in both common and durum wheat with the object of learning more about the inheritance of day length response.
- (H) Joined the staff of World Seeds, Inc. in 1966 to direct basic research in the cereal grains and to lead the plant breeding program on triticale. Left on March 1, 1968 to work independently in the Salinas, California area.
- (I) In September, 1968, was appointed as Research Professor at Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa and established the Jenkins Foundation for Research in Salinas, California. The Foundation was a non-profit California corporation organized to further the development and improvement of the new grain, triticale. The college appointment provided a close association as a means of achieving scientific and humanitarian goals. In addition to being president, directed the research activities of the Foundation until it was forced to close in 1974, due to lack of financial support.
- (J) Worked independently in the Salinas area and later became associated with Kershen Triticale Company of Canyon, Texas, until 1980
- (k) In November, 1980, was employed as Senior Plant Breeder (triticale) with Dessert Seed Company, Inc., El Centro, California, a wholly owned subsidiary of Atlantic Richfield Company. As manager of the Salinas Research Station, directed triticale research for Dessert Seeds, whose name was changed to ARCO Seed Company in 1983. Retired on June 30, 1985.



3. MAJOR TRAVELS:

- (a) Attended the Eighth International Congress of Botany in Paris, France in 1954 and also visited several research stations in Europe at that time.
- (b) Attended the International Wheat Rust Conference in Mexico City, early in the year of 1956
- (c) Attended the International Genetics Symposia in Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan on September 4, 1956.
- (d) Attended the Tenth International Congress of Genetics held in Montreal, Canada in 1958.
- (e) Visited Moscow and Leningrad, U.S.S.R., as guest of the Ministry of Agriculture in 1961.

Continued.....

Continued.....**3. MAJOR TRAVELS:**

- (f) Attended the Eleventh International Congress of Genetics held in the Hague, The Netherlands, in 1963, presided at the Second International Wheat Genetics Symposium in Lund and Svalof, Sweden and also visited twenty-two countries in Europe and the Near and Middle East, at that time.
- (g) Attended the Third International Wheat Genetics Symposium held in Canberra, Australia, in August, 1968, and made visits in Hawaii, Tahiti, French Polynesia, Australia, New Zealand, The Philippines, India, Greece, Italy, Hungary, Poland, England, New York and Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
- (h) Attended the Interregional Wheat Workers Conference hold in Stillwater, OK., February 9-11, 1971.
- (i) Attended the EUCARPIA Meeting on Genetics & Breeding of Dumm Wheat, held in Bari, Italy, May 14-18, 1973. Made visits to Poland and Austria before returning to California.
- (j) Attended the EUCARPIA Meeting on Breeding of Triticale held in Leningrad, U.S.S.R. July 2-6, 1973. Visited Kharkov and Moscow Research Stations, also Hungary, Poland, The Netherlands and England, before returning to California.
- (k) Attended the Fourth International Wheat Genetics Symposium held in Columbia, Missouri, August 6-11, 1973.
- (l) Attended the 58th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Cereal Chemists held in St. Louis, Missouri, November 4-8, 1973, and presented a key paper in a special symposium; Biochemistry, Nutrition and Utilization of Triticale
- (m) At the invitation of President Ferinand E. Marcos of the Philippines, and under the auspices of Holstein-Friesian International Company of Chino, California, attended the first Seminar on Triticale, participated in by private cooperators and Bureau of Plant Industry personnel, Manila, Philippines, May 5-9, 1975, on the subject, Triticale: Its Breeding, Its Cultivars and its importance.



- (n) Attended the EUCARPIA Meeting of the Cereal Section on Triticale held in Radzikow, Poland, July 1-8, 1979. Made stop-over visits at the Plant Breeding Institute in Cambridge and with Organic Farmers and Growers in Stowmarket, England, on the return to California.
- (o) Attended the Sixth International Wheat Genetics Symposium held in Kyoto, Japan, November 28-December 3, 1983 and participated in the pre-symposium tour of several research stations in that country.
- (p) Attended the Fourth International Triticale Symposium held in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada, July 26-31, 1998. (Was awarded a triticale plaque honoring my pioneering work in the development of triticale).
- (q) Attended the Fifth International Triticale Symposiwn held in Radzikow, Poland, June 30-July 5, 2002. (3 7 countries represented)

4. PUBLICATIONS and MEMBERSHIPS.

- (a) Was author or co-author of more than thirty scientific papers, as well as several popular articles. Was responsible for compiling the proceedings of the First International Wheat Genetics Symposium,
- (b) Was a member of twelve scientific societies and subscriber to a number of popular hobby type journals.

5. HOBBIES. Gardening, Stamp Collecting, Photography, Classical Music. (Was one of twenty-five judges for All-America Gladiolus Selections and actively hybridized in the genera: *Dahlia*, *Gladiolus* and *Iris*. and *Narcissus* (*Daffodils*). Continued emphasis on spuria irises, while working at SHEPARD IRIS GARDEN, August 24, 1993 to May 3, 1999 and GARDENER'S WORLD, May 5, 1999 to June 10, 2002. Have now registered more of this kind of iris than any other person.

Became a triticale consultant for AgriLogic at College Station, Texas on October 10, 2002.

Begun managing the CuMary Garden for LON's

at the Hermosa Inn in Paradise Valley, AZ October 30, 2002 to present.

6. PERSONAL:

- (a) Born June 13, 1920, New Westminster, B. C. Canada.
- (b) Raised on a farm at Bon Accord, Alberta, Canada.
- (c) Married, with four children - (youngest son deceased).

Presently resides at: 9426 East Topeka Drive Scottsdale, AZ 85255-5522

Phone: (480) 585-6390 E-mail: DC4797@wmconnect.com

