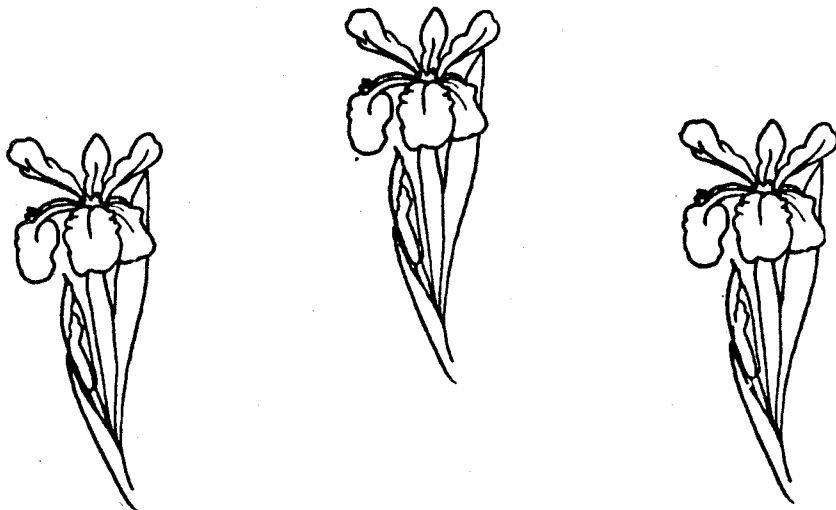


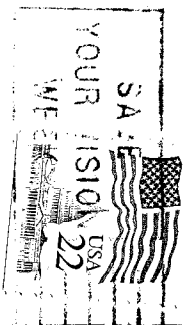
# SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Gordon Green  
Box 301  
Bonham, Texas 75418

FIRST CLASS MAIL



FALL 1985



OFFICERS OF THE SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: RAY M. JOHN  
1004 SPRINGFIELD  
FT. WORTH, TX 76112

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: MRS. MAXINE PERKINS  
BOX 494  
MESILLA PARK, NM 88047

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: MRS. A.D. (RUTH) WILDER  
2219 MATHEWS SE  
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801

SECRETARY/TREASURER: FLOYD WICKENKAMP  
10521 BELLAROSE DR.  
SUN CITY, AZ 85351

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: GORDON GREEN  
BOX 301  
BONHAM, TX 75418

I appreciate your good work for SIS and thank you for same.

My best to you and your wife,

Sincerely,

Ila L. Crawford

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You will notice a new slate of officers on the inside cover, all of whom have pledged hard work on behalf of the Society during the next two years.

Jim Foreman gets a big vote of gratitude for editing and publishing the Spuria checklist for the Society. Also those members who took the time and effort to write parts of the publication deserve our thanks.

Thanks are also due to Ruth Wilder, our new membership chairman, who has already contacted former members to notify them that their membership in the Society had lapsed. She has had good response on renewals.

Please be sure to notice the proposed dues increase elsewhere in this issue. The Executive Committee agreed that this was a necessity to meet the rising costs of postage and printing on the newsletter.

Also, note the new membership campaign which we are starting, with everyone eligible to be a winner.

Should you have an interest in seeing something in particular discussed within the Newsletter, let the editor know and he will be more than happy to seek articles on that topic.

Lets start planning on being in San Jose for the next annual meeting of the Spuria Iris Society. I know there will be some spurias in bloom somewhere.

Ray

SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
MAY 20, 1985

Committee Members Present:

Dave Niswonger, President  
Ray M. John, First Vice President  
Floyd W. Wickenkamp, Secretary-Treasurer  
Virginia Matthews, Immediate Past President

1. The new Spuria Checklist is to be sold for four dollars (\$4.00) plus one dollar (\$1.00) for postage. [A total cost of five dollars (\$5.00) each. Four hundred six (406) copies were delivered to the Secretary-Treasurer by James Foreman, Editor and Publisher.
2. By unanimous vote it was agreed to raise the dues effective January 1, 1986 as follows:

Single Annual	\$3.00
Family Annual	3.50
Single Triennial	7.00
Family Triennial	8.00
Supporting Annual	4.00
Life	40.00

inasmuch as the scale of dues is contained in Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws of the Society, it will be necessary to amend these to conform to the new schedule, or to amend the By-Laws by eliminating the dues schedule therefrom, and giving the Executive Committee the authority to modify the dues rates as deemed necessary. The Secretary will prepare a proposed revision of the By-Laws for inclusion in the Fall 1985 issue of the Spuria Iris Society Newsletter, and will submit the draft to the Executive Committee members for approval.

All dues received before January 1, 1986 will be accepted at the old rate regardless of the term involved.

The Secretary will prepare an article for the Fall Newsletter in reference to this change.

Floyd W. Wickenkamp  
Secretary-Treasurer

My good wife will be glad when I finally get the seeds out of her freezer. She sure is patient with me.

Owen H. Boy

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From the desk of Ila L. Crawford:

Dear Floyd:

It was good to talk with you about the publication of the Check-List- but as you say- it is more.

I should like to have seen publication of all the past presidets as this one publication is a record of more than just a "check-list" Somewhere down the line past presidents would be a good record to keep. Maybe other officers that did commendable work- such as you and many others that I could mention. I am delighted that the Society is well and functioning for the good cause of the Spuria Iris.

I have many letters and moments of history that I should put together before time runs out for me.

I sent a letter to the Sooner State Iris Society today for promotion of the NEW publication to be printed in our next newsletter. Perry Parrish is Editor of Sooner State and a Life Member of SIS and I am certain of that publicity.

I so appreciate Dave Niswonger for the commendable job he has done as our president-and all the other officers Floyd. I have always felt the Society was in good hands when the Treasurer's job went to you. I am glad that we are solvent, but I shall and will include my check to SIS to help subsidiz the printing of this valuable Check-List.

My Garden Club-APOGON IRIS CLUB-has given me permission to up-date the Will Rogers Display Garden, and I will do that this year. Sooner State in 88 will host the AIS National Convention and I want that garden to look good. I remain chairman and I shall follow through. God willing that I will be here in '88. I will attend your Convention in '87 if the Lord spares me the time.

HERE AND THERE

Owen H. Boy, of Burleson, Texas writes:

" I wish to renew my membership in the Spuria Iris Society. I can't seem to locate the membership information, but I'm sending the enclosed, if it is too much, keep the balance for the Spuria Society.

I also want to place an order for the book on page 7 of the Spring Newsletter. "The Spuria Irises etc 1985" Cost \$5.00.

I found the planting of seeds information in the newsletter to be very interesting. I didn't hybridize this year, but will be getting at it next year.

When I belonged to the Spuria Society over 15 years ago, I used to receive free seeds occasionally. I grew them and had fun.

One batch of seeds were from Tell Muhlstein spurias. I grew some, and kept the rest in the freezer at below freezing temperatures.

After several years in the freezer, I planted some and had excellent germination. The plants are doing well now, almost 16 years from the planting of frozen seeds.

This proves that seeds can be frozen and planted later. I would have to caution that the seeds be quite dry when freezing them.

I have a final test, which will tell the story. That is when I plant the seeds that have been frozen over 16 years. Wish me luck.

I also have some seeds from TB Hybridizing, and some daylily seeds all over 16 years in the freezer. I sure hope that I can prove that freezing in the deep freezer does not interfere with germination, even after more than 16 years in the freezer.

I'm sure that other members of the AIS will have made similar results with deep freeze seeds.

Enclosed is my check to cover themembership and book.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

AND

PROPOSED INCREASE IN DUES

Spuria Iris Society dues were last increased January 1, 1981. at a meeting of the Executive Committee in Indianapolis on May 20, 1985 the concensus was that a modest increase in the dues was indicated in view of the continuing increases in printing and postage for the newsletter. The proposed new schedule of membership dues is as follows:

Individual Annual	\$3.00
Individual Triennial	7.00
Family Annual	3.50
Family Triennial	8.00
Supporting Annual	4.00
Life	40.00
Honorary Life	No dues

Article III of the By-Laws of the Spuria Iris Society (See page 22, Fall 1980 Newsletter) describes the various classes of membership and Section 2 of that article lists the dues rates. To avoid repeated revisions of the By-Laws to take inflation into account, the Executive Committee proposes that the determination of the dues rates be delegated to the Executive Committee. This will require a revision of Article III, Section 2.

Article IX of the By-Laws, Amendments, reads as follows:

"Any proposed amendment to these by-laws which has the approval of the Executive Committee will be submitted to the membership by publication in the SPURIA NEWSLETTER. Any such proposed amendment will become effective three months after publication unless within that three month period five members in good standing have notified the President of the Society that they desire a vote on the proposed amendment. Any proposed amendment brought to a vote will be ratified if approved by a majority of the votes cast."

In accordance with the provisions of Article IX, it is proposed that Article III, Section 2 of the By-Laws be amended to read:

"Section 2. The scale of dues for the various classes of membership shall be determined by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. This information shall be published in the SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER.

It is proposed that the above mentioned amendments to the By-Laws and the revised schedule of dues take effect January 1, 1986, provided further that new or renewal dues payments received prior to January 1, 1986 for whatever period of time, will be accepted at the old rates of \$2.50, \$3.00, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$3,00, and \$35.00 respectively.

Signed for and submitted by the Executive Committee, Spuria Iris Society.

Ray M. John,  
President

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NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

Dorothy Brien of Illinois reports:

A newly formed iris and daylily society THE NORTHSHORE IRIS AND DAYLILY SOCIETY held their first annual show on June 8 & 9 at the Chicago Botanical Gardens.

Don Albers entered PROTEGE (Hager '69) and won Queen of Show.

There were more Spurian and Louisiana than TB's at the show.

Gordon Green of Bonham, Texas reports:

Although there were very few Spurias shown at the TEXOMA IRIS SOCIETY show, a beautiful stalk of BARITONE (Ferguson 70) was selected as Queen of Show.

This show was held in conjunction with the Region 17 Annual Convention, and almost all of the judges there were in agreement with this selection.

NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

Albert C. Faggard, of Beaumont, Texas writes:

"Please send me two copies of the publication "The Spuria Irises Introduction and Varietal Listing 1985.

My check is enclosed...this is a little extra. If you are taking memorial gifts, it (the extra) will be for a dear friend F.A.C. McCulla whose iris interest helped me get started in the Louisiana and Spuria Societies many years ago, not to mention the Men's Garden Club.

My Spuria collection continues to grow. The interest when they are in bloom is very good. While my bloom season was less than expected due to this dry season. I certainly enjoyed seeing ARCHIE OWEN (Hager '70) and DAWN CANDLE (Ferguson '65) two oldies that I reacquired. VINTAGE YEAR (Niswonger '80) and ADOBE SUNSET (McCown '79) will hold their own with any I have.

If you ever come this way, I'm just 13 blocks off Interstate 10.

Either way, the money is for the checklist fund.

Sincerely,

Albert C. Faggard

IN MEMORIUM

Region 17 is sad to report the passing of two of their beloved members, both of whom were members of the Spuria Iris Society.

Gene Lawler of Dallas was taken from us after a long bout with cancer. Many of the members of the Spuria Society will remember Gene from his attendance at the annual meetings as well as being membership contest chairman for AIS.

Rudi Fuchs of Denton, Texas, was also taken from us after attending the AIS Convention in Indianapolis. Rudi had been to many of the AIS Conventions as well as to numerous Region 17 conventions. His garden featured many outstanding varieties of all types of irises, including many "guest" irises from hybridizers. His family donated his entire iris planting to the Iris Society of Dallas for disposal. With the proceeds of the sale of these fine irises, the Society has set up a memorial fund to be used for educational purposes.

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MEMORIALS

The following have been received by the Secretary-Treasurer:

Dear Mr. Wickenkamp:

Please find my check made payable to the Spuria Iris Society as my personal contribution to the treasury fund of the Society.

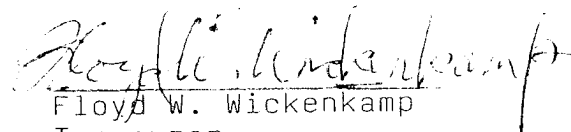
I would ask that this be known as a memorial to my friend and Spuria Iris Society Member, Rudi Fuchs, Denton, Texas.

Sincerely,

William Dean Lee

SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
AS OF  
AUGUST 15, 1985

Balance carried forward September 15, 1985	<u>\$2,712.38</u>
INCOME:	
Membership Dues	370.00
Bank Account Interest	102.20
Checklist Sales	501.00
Donations for Checklist Publication	180.00
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>1,153.20</u>
EXPENDITURES:	
Fall 1984 Newsletter	286.17
Spring 1985 Newsletter	191.62
Checklist Printing and Binding	1,366.69
Mailing labels for Newsletters	9.24
Mailing Checklists (containers & postage)	12.00
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>1,861.72</u>
Balance in Bank Account as August 15, 1985	<u>1,999.86</u>

  
Floyd W. Wickenkamp  
Treasurer

## MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN OR CONTEST

Call it what you like, a campaign or a contest... we are seeking to increase the membership in the Spuria Iris Society.

By increasing the membership, we will also increase the interest in this beautiful flower.

The "prizes" in this contest will be as follows:

ANYONE earning fifty (50) or more points will be awarded a Life Membership in the Society

ANYONE earning twenty (20) or more but less than fifty (50) points will be awarded a Triennial Individual Membership in the Society.

ANYONE earning ten (10) or more but less than twenty (20) points will be awarded an Individual Annual Membership.

Points will be earned as follows:

MEMBERSHIP	POINTS
New Individual Annual	2
New Family Annual	3
New Individual Triennial	3
New Family Triennial	4
New Life	10
Change Individual Annual to Individual Triennial	3
Change Individual Annual to Individual Life	10
Change Individual Triennial to Individual Life	10
Change Family Annual to Family Triennial	4
Change Family Annual to two or more Life	15
Change Family Triennial to Two or more Life	15

Send dues to the Secretary/Treasurer, and notify the President as soon as you have secured a new member or have talked someone into changing their classification to a longer term.

BARITONE and DARK AND HANDSOME, but a breif account-  
ing of the beauty he has sent forth for our gardens.

The Spuria Iris Society was formed in the early 1950's in Houston, largely through the efforts of Mrs. Willis Slaughter. It was then a local group and it built and maintained a wonderful display garden, and sponsered an important research job by Dr. Henry Hadley. Guided by Ila Nunn, the organization expanded to one of national significance. We find the names of Mary Redford, Clarke Cosgrove, Edith Cleves, Ralph Johnson, William Jones, Ila Crawford, Marilyn Holloway, Archie Owen, Oren Campbell, William Gunther, among the travlers on this exciting road.

And again we find the talents of Dr. Lee Lenz contributing to the understanding and advancement of an important garden iris. His trips into their wild European habitats, his studies in the great botanical libraries, and herbaria abroad, the painstaking laboratory and field work in California, gave the keys to many a puzzle and this work still continues.

Ben Hager was among the first to put the knowledge of the new genetic studies to work. Some notable additions from his hand include PORT OF CALL, ELIXIR, SUSPENSE, the beautifully blended CON-NOISSEUR, and his work has scarcely begun. From Elenor McCown come the lilting IMPERIAL SONG, and IMPERIAL BURGUNDY. Here and there new breeders are trying out their skills. The future before us seems to wear a come hither smile.

1. Ed. Note. Spurias are being grown throughout the country in the 80's, just thirty years later.

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Reprinted with the permission of the American Iris Society, from The Bulletin of the American Iris Society, Number 196, January 1970, pg. 74-75. Author Peggy Burke Grey.



## A FLIGHT OF BUTTERFLIES

The butterflies of irisdrom, SPURIAS, came to the west with Spanish settlers, and in California and the southwest they thrive. Their main center of development today is in California. But most of our earlier garden varieties came from England. Sir Michael Foster's deep purple PREMIER and delicately veined CAMBRIDGE BLUE are still in our gardens.

Jamina Brannin in California was an early breeder, but her creations faded from our sight. Henry Sass gave us SUNNY DAY. Carl Millikin gave us first MT. WHITNEY, then later the great WADI ZEM ZEM. In Nashville, Thomas Washington worked with them and Elizabeth Nesmith in Massachusetts introduced them. BATHSHEBA, LUMIERE, and BLUE ACRES remain among those we grow today. She also presented a large number for Phillip Corliss.

Bright shines the name of Eric Neis, for the 40's was a decade of development for a whole new concept of spurias and it was from him that we acquired SAUGATUCK, BRONSPUR, DUTCH DEFIANCE, LARK SONG, PASTORAL, and AZURE DAWN. He also gave us MICHIGAN STATE, COLOR GUARD, and RUSSET FLAME. Tom Craig gave us the golden INVESTMENT, BIG CLOUD, BLUE VALENTINE, and BLUE PINAFORE. Marion Walker worked with Eric Neis and has given us the sultry BLACK POINT (Nies-Walker), beautiful softly tinted MORNINGTIDE, DRIFTWOOD, CANARY ISLAND, and today we have his supremely large flowered LYDIA JANE and dusky toned CHUMASCH CHIEF. We see the name of Herman Thorup who brought us FAIRY LIGHT. And Tell Muhlestein was responsible for FLUTED BUTTERCUP and the exciting RED STEP. Frances Combs produced a lovely GOLDEN LADY.

The work of Walter Ferguson has given him the role of undisputed dean of modern day spuria breeders. WAKE ROBIN was a triumph. He gave us GOOD NATURE, the vibrant BANNERS OF BLUE, deep brown

Be sure you list who the new member is, the membership classification, and put your name on the notice to receive credit.

Those who have been awarded Life Memberships in the campaign will be recognized at the annual meeting of the Society.

ORDER FROM

NOW AVAILABLE

10521 Bellarose Dr.

Sun City, Arizona 85351

THE SPURIA IRISES

INTRODUCTION

AND

VARIETAL LISTING

PUBLISHED BY THE SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY

1985

ORDER FROM

Mr. Floyd W. Wickenkamp  
Spuria Iris Society  
10521 Bellarose Dr.  
Sun City, Arizona 85351

PRICE \$5.00 postpaid.

SLIDE SET AVAILABLE

To fulfill the need to have available an opportunity to introduce the gardening public to the world of Spuria Irises, the Society now has a set of slides available.

This is in answer to the request of many of our members and is the result of combining slides from many sources to produce a suitable presentation of the Spuria Irises. Included with the set is an introduction to Spurias as well as a list of the slides suitable for reproduction to hand out to those attending the presentation.

It is hoped that this is the first set of several which will be available free of charge to members in the future.

The set is available for postage both ways.

When ordering, be sure to include the date (s) which you will need the slides. They will be shipped within two weeks prior to the date needed.

Please include a check or money order for \$7.50 to cover the shipping to you via UPS Blue Label. Be sure to give directions if you do not have a street address to which they can be delivered.

Order the slides from:

SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY SLIDES  
6720 BRENTWOOD STAIR RD.  
FT. WORTH, TEXAS 76112

We hope all members will take advantage of these wonderful slides in the near future.