

~~Newscast A.I.S.~~

R E G I O N F O U R

Volume 35, Number 1

March 1993

Iris

W Rickatson Dykes

*With Eight Coloured
Plates*



PREFACE BY PROFESSOR BAYLEY BALFOUR

*London: J. C. & E. C. Jack
67 Long Acre, W.C. & Edinburgh*

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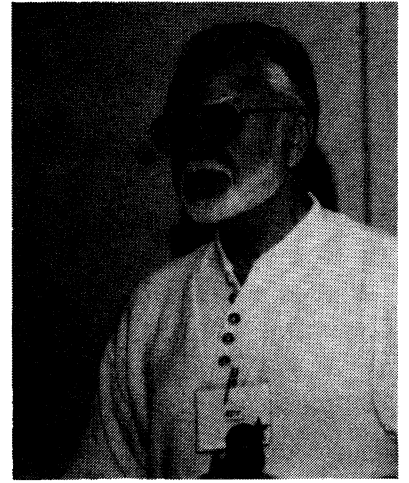
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FROM THE EDITOR

Most of you that attended the Fall 1992 Conference were aware that Mike Nicholls was rushed to the hospital for surgery during the conference. Certainly even those unaware of the cause were aware of the effect that Diana Nicholls, always hard working and usually visible, Co-Chairperson of both the Conference and the Re-Bloom Show, was not visible (fortunately she had done her hard work well beforehand). I am delighted to report that while Mike was in the hospital for two months, he is now progressing nicely and we all hope to see more of both of them. This issue has been extremely difficult to publish. At the deadline, I had only the treasurer's report and material that had been submitted for the December issue. I have had to call each chapter and each reported hybridizer at least once and some repeatedly. It seems to me that there is reason to question the need for a third issue each year. While I will not be able to attend the spring business meeting, I do hope there will be a real discussion of my report. I have neither the time nor the inclination to make this many telephone calls for each issue, there must be some resolution of this problem if I am to continue as editor. Clearly making earlier deadlines had no effect on timely publication. The publication of your *Newscast* is not solely the responsibility of the editor! Just to show that I'm not as inflexible as I may seem, by reader request, I have abandoned the international standard for the appearance of the names of horticultural varieties and adopted the form of all capital letters. If there is a contrary opinion out there let me know. With this publication the old saw "The squeaky wheel gets the grease!" is certainly true.

RVP's MESSAGE



This is the year of the iris convention! You and I have the opportunity to attend five (count them 1,2,3,4,5!) iris conventions this year. They are scheduled as follows:

1. April 20 - 24
American Iris Society Convention
Fort Worth, Texas
2. May 6, 7, and 8
Region 4 Spring Meeting
Virginia Beach, Virginia
3. June 4 and 5
Japanese Iris Convention
Virginia Beach, Virginia
4. June 11, 12, and 13
Siberian Iris Convention
East Lansing, Michigan
5. October 1 and 2
Region 4 Fall Meeting
Williamsburg, Virginia

It is unlikely that you can find the time (or the money) to attend all of these conventions, but you should make the effort to attend at least those being held in the Region. This is an unusual opportunity for Region 4 members.

The January 1, 1993, official Roster of Region 4 Membership numbers 673. Of that number 38.6 percent joined in 1980-89 and 48.8 percent joined in 1990-92. Only 85 persons (12.6 percent) have been members of AIS since before 1980. The members with longest tenure are:

January 1948	Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg
January 1949	Dr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Parker, Jr.
July 1950	Dr. & Mrs. A.W. Rice
January 1957	Mr. & Mrs. Andre Viette
January 1958	Dr. D.C. Nearpass
July 1959	Dr. E. Roy Epperson
January 1960	Mr. & Mrs. B.J. Brown

There are 26 other members who joined from 1960 to 1969 and 48 from 1970 to 1979. We must work together to keep our membership growing and try to prevent the too frequent dropout of new members.

Its catalog time again! One catalog touts "the black iris." A closer look shows that this is *I. chrysographes* and the cultural directions give no hint of the relative difficulty of growing and blooming this species. *Caveat emptor!*

I hope to see you at one or more of the 1993 iris conventions.

NEWSCAST COVERS: THE IRISARIAN'S HERITAGE

by Phil Ogilvie, C&P

This issue's cover is the title page of William Rickatson Dykes' first book on iris, the 1912 *Irises* published as number twelve in the "Present Day Gardening" series [the original is six inches by eight and one eighth inches]. It was published by T.C. and E.C. Jacks of London and sold for one shilling six pence or about 38 cents in 1912 dollars. Today it sells for up to \$100. The book is a little gem described in its preface by Professor Bayley Balfour, then Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, as "a brief but compendious guide for everybody." Dykes said that he had dashed it off in a long weekend. Of course that does not count the time preparing his monumental *The Genus Iris*, published the following year by Cambridge University Press. This 110 page book, illustrated with eight beautiful color plates painted by T.E. Waltham, sets forth a simple classification of the genus with descriptions of each of the species and hints on their cultivation. It is this little book that introduced species iris to the British gardener. In addition to *Irises* and *The Genus Iris*, Dykes wrote one other book, the 1924 *A Handbook of Garden Irises*, and at least 157 published articles.

I plan to use graphic material from historical iris books on each of the covers for this volume of *Newscast*. Covers, dust-jackets, title pages, or illustrations, coupled with a brief description of the authors literary contributions to the world of iris, as a way of putting us in touch with our intellectual past.

CHALLENGE II

by Dennis Stoneburner, BIS

In 1992, the Blue Ridge Iris Society challenged the rest of Region 4 to top us in returning Symposium ballots. As Carol Warner reported in the December *Newscast*, the total number of ballots from Region 4 was 115, up from 88 the year before. Now I don't know how you feel, but as for me that still seems a poor showing in comparison to our total regional membership. Well that can only mean one thing, CHALLENGE II. I want to see Region 4 DOUBLE the number from last year. Come on, it isn't that hard to do! If Blue Ridge can send in 29 out of 64 possible ballots, the rest of you can do as well. If we can get over 200 votes that will be the first time in a long time (or ever) that any region did so. Alright now remember, the July issue of the AIS Bulletin will have the ballot. Fill it out then mail it to Roy Epperson at once, don't delay. Let's make his calculator smoke. Don't forget any family memberships get two votes.

REGION 4

SPRING MEETING UPDATE

by Bill Smoot, TIS

The Tidewater Iris Society is alive and well and planning!! Planning to make this Spring Regional Meeting one you'll remember! We've planned excellent Tours, Good Food & great Meeting Facilities, an excellent Guest Speaker, and many other planned Surprises! Now it's your turn to plan. Plan to attend or all our plans won't plan out

HOTEL:

We've planned hotel facilities right on the beach! Holiday Inn - Oceanside is a large modern facility with excellent meeting rooms. Prices are reasonable. Rooms are \$55.00 + tax per night if you plan right and confirm your reservations before March 31, 1993. The phone number is (804) 491-1500 or 1-800-HOLIDAY. Mention the planned code word "Iris" to get your discount! We've even made directions to the hotel easy. Come to the Norfolk/Virginia Beach area on Interstate I-64. Exit I-64 at Route 44 (the Virginia Beach Expressway - heading toward the beach!). Stay on Route 44 and keep going straight until you run out of road. You'll see the hotel and parking lot. Plan on parking your car in the hotel parking lot because you're here!

PLANNING GUIDE:

Our schedule of activities is planned in advance for you. Circle the dates on your calendar and plan to attend. Also, you can help our planning by you planning to register early!

Schedule of Activities

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1993	FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1993	SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1993
1:00pm - 6:30pm Registration Table Open Hospitality Room	9:00am - Until A Day of Garden Tours! -Luncheon Buffet included (Garden Judging Training)	9:00am - 4:00pm A Day of Garden Tours! -Luncheon Buffet included! (Garden Judging Training)
7:30pm - ??? Welcome Banquet: Guest Speaker - Dr. Robert W. Hollingworth "Hybridizing Siberian Irises"	3:00pm - 5:00pm AIS Region 4, Board of Directors Meeting	7:00pm - ??? Banquet & Awards Guest Speaker: Dr. Robert W. Hollingworth "Siberian Irises: A Look Into the Future"
	5:00pm - 7:00pm Dinner on Your Own	
	7:30pm - 9:30pm Judges Training: Dr. Robert W. Hollingworth "Judging & Showing Siberian Irises"	SUPER PLANT AUCTION

GARDEN TOURS:

Yes, we've arranged garden tours! In fact we've planned to extend the convention an extra day so we can have two leisurely days of garden tours. Tours of seven gardens have been arranged, in addition to a tour of the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Our tour gardens range from large to small, and include quite a diversity of gardeners with varying interests. Rather than take room to describe each one, I'll just say that you won't be disappointed in what you will see. We will have two 30 minute credited garden judging classes - each in a different garden!

An afternoon at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens is planned. Bring comfortable walking shoes! Here you will see the TB & Re-blooming beds maintained by TIS. Our JI seedling display bed and Arthur Hazzard Memorial Bed is also located here. The won't be in bloom! (Can't plan everything!) The Norfolk Botanical Gardens covers approximately 175 acres of land and water and is composition of many different gardens. The Garden was started in 1938 as a WPA project and has grown to become one of the top ten rated botanical gardens in America. The garden is world famous for its azaleas and camellia collections. Approximately one-quarter million plants representing most azalea species and their varieties can be found in bloom. In addition, over seven hundred varieties of camellias are represented. The Rose Garden contains over 4,000 rose plants - and represents over 250 varieties of roses. You will be arriving at the height of bloom season for the azaleas, roses, dogwoods, and rhododendrons!

Over twelve miles of pathways lead visitors through such gardens as the Fragrance Garden for the blind, Sunken Garden, Japanese Garden, Statuary Vista, Tropical Garden, and Colonial Garden. A trackless train or leisurely drifting canal boat ride offers visitors a memorable trip through miles of sunlit path and quiet waterways and is included as part of your tour. We of the Tidewater area are very proud of our botanical gardens and look forward to sharing it with you!

JUDGES TRAINING:

For aspiring AIS judges, and those judges planning refresher training - we've scheduled for three hours of judges training . One hour of garden judging will consist of two thirty minute sessions in two different gardens while on tour. Our guest speaker, Dr. Robert Hollingworth, plans to give a two hour credit class on "Judging & Showing Siberian Irises" Friday night.

WEATHER:

Well, now we both know that some things just can't be planned ! But, we intend to keep our fingers crossed. . . .

<p><u>ACCOMMODATIONS:</u></p> <p>Holiday Inn , Oceanside 21st & Atlantic Ave Virginia Beach, VA 23451</p> <p>PHONE: (804) 491-1500 or 1-800-HOLIDAY</p> <p>CONVENTION RATE: \$55.00 per night + tax</p> <p>Make your reservations directly with the hotel before 31 March, 1993 for the convention rate and mention the code word "IRIS"</p>	<p><u>Registration Form</u></p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p><u>COMPLETE REGISTRATION:</u> Includes both Banquets, both days of garden tours with lunch included, entrance to The Norfolk Botanical Gardens , and one-half train or boat tour.</p> <p><i>(Cost per person)</i></p> <p>Early (before April 15th) \$65.00 _____</p> <p>Late Registration \$70.00 _____</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Return this form and your check made payable to "TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY" : % Lee Mellott, Registrar 6255 Drew Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23464</p> </div>
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An Invitation To Attend

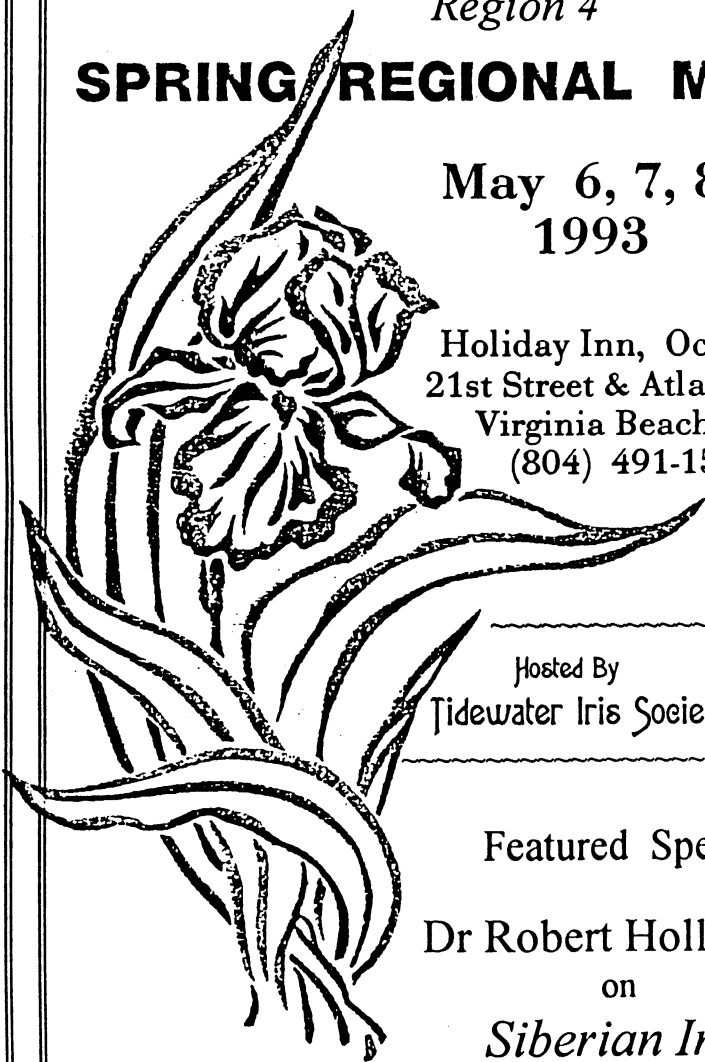
American Iris Society

Region 4

SPRING REGIONAL MEETING

May 6, 7, 8,
1993

Holiday Inn, Oceanside
21st Street & Atlantic Ave.
Virginia Beach, Va.
(804) 491-1500



Hosted By
Tidewater Iris Society

Featured Speaker
Dr Robert Hollingworth
on
Siberian Irises

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Holiday Inn , Oceanside
21st & Atlantic Ave
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

PHONE: (804) 491-1500
or 1-800-HOLIDAY

CONVENTION RATE:
\$55.00 per night + tax

Make your reservations directly with the hotel
before 31 March, 1993 for the convention
rate and mention the code word "IRIS".

Registration Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: _____

COMPLETE REGISTRATION:

Includes both Banquets, both days of garden tours with lunch included, entrance to The Norfolk Botanical Gardens, and one-half train or boat tour.

(Cost per person)

Early (before April 15th) \$65.00 _____

Late Registration \$70.00 _____

Return this form and your check made payable
to "TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY" :

% Lee Mellott, Registrar

6255 Drew Drive

Virginia Beach, VA 23464



THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

1993 NATIONAL CONVENTION COMES TO VIRGINIA BEACH ! June 3 - 5

Tidewater Iris Society looks forward to hosting the 8th National Convention of *The Society for Japanese Irises*. This is a "first" for the tidewater area and we especially want to invite all Region 4 members. You won't want to miss this opportunity.

- ♦ Two days tour of several local gardens - each specializing in growing Japanese irises. See hundreds of different cultivars - plus new seedlings and recent introductions in bloom!
- ♦ Tour The Norfolk Botanical Gardens and the Arthur Hazzard Memorial Bed with a display of 44 of the 88 varieties introduced by this noted hybridizer.
- ♦ Informative talks on the judging and evaluation of Japanese Irises. Plus an opportunity to see and enter a AIS sanctioned Beardless Iris Show with national competition.
- ♦ Meet and talk with noted contemporary JI hybridizers.
- ♦ Our *Super Plant Auction* of the many new introductions you'll see on tour! Add these new introductions to your collection!

For further info call:

Caryll Randall... (804) 340-9077 or JaNiece Mull... (804) 858-5521

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Holiday Inn Executive Center
5655 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

PHONE: (804) 499-4400 or 1-800-HOLIDAY
Convention Rate: \$62.00 per night + tax

Make your reservations directly with the hotel
before 18 May 1993, to receive the special rate
and mention Japanese Iris Convention.

Registration Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

REGISTRATION:

(Cost per person)

Early (before May 18th) \$70.00 _____

Late Registration \$85.00 _____

Return this form and your check made
payable to "TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY" to:
Ron Harris, Registrar
3592 Ingleside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23502

Tidewater Iris Society looks forward to hosting the 8th National Convention for *The Society for Japanese Irises*. This is a "first" for the tidewater area. Hybridizers and experts on the culture of Japanese Irises will be available to talk with you. In addition, you will have the opportunity to take advantage of the following:

- ♦ A two day tour of several local gardens - each specializing in growing Japanese irises. See hundreds of different cultivars in bloom.
- ♦ An opportunity to see and evaluate new seedlings and recent introductions!
- ♦ A boat or train tour of The Norfolk Botanical Gardens and the Arthur Hazzard Memorial Bed with a display of 66 of the 88 varieties introduced by this noted hybridizer.
- ♦ Informative talks on the judging and evaluation of Japanese Irises. Plus a chance to see a Beardless Iris Show.
- ♦ An opportunity to attend the national forum on Japanese Irises - *The Society for Japanese Irises* board meeting.
- ♦ Opportunities to meet and talk with noted contemporary hybridizers.
- ♦ Our *Super Plant Auction* of many new introductions you'll see on tour! *We guarantee - you'll not find these rare specimens in your local garden centers!*

Schedule of Activities

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1993

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1:00pm - 11:00pm | Registration Table Open
Hospitality Room
Irises In Art: An Object d'Art
Display of Iris theme items |
| 1:00pm - 3:00pm | Entries accepted for Show |
| 3:00pm - 4:00pm | Show Judging |
| 3:00pm - 5:00pm | SJI Board of Directors Meeting |
| 4:00pm - 7:30pm | Show Open for Public Viewing |
| 7:30pm - ??? | Welcome Banquet
Guest Speaker - Libby Dufresne |

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1993

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 9:00am - 4:00pm | A Day of Garden Tours !
-Luncheon Buffet included |
| 5:00pm - 7:00pm | Dinner on Your Own |
| 7:30pm - 9:30pm | Judges Training:
Carol Warner |

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1993

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 9:00am - 4:00pm | A Day of Garden Tours!
-Luncheon Buffet included ! |
| 7:00pm - ??? | Closing Banquet
Speaker: Dr. William
Ackerman
SUPER PLANT AUCTION |

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For further info call:

Caryll Randall...340-9077  
JaNiece Mull....858-5521



## Region 4 Spring Meeting

### GUEST SPEAKER

## DR. ROBERT W. HOLLINGWORTH

The Tidewater Iris Society is pleased to have Dr. Robert Hollingworth as our guest speaker for the AIS, Region 4, Spring Meeting. Dr. Hollingworth recently was awarded the 1992 Morgan-Wood Award for *Lady Vanessa* - the highest award given for hybridizing Siberian Irises! Additionally, in 1992 he received 3 of the 4 AM's (Award of Merit) given to Siberian Irises, and 2 HM's (Honorable Mention). Six of his fifteen Siberian Iris introductions have received AM's.

Siberian Iris fanciers are familiar with his introductions such as; *Lady Vanessa*, *Contrast In Styles*, *Forrest McCord*, *Heliotrope Bouquet*, *High Standards*, *Indy*, *Jewelled Crown*, *Pas-De-Deux*, *Sultan's Ruby*, *Windward Spring*, *Windward Serenade*, and *Wizardry*.

Dr. Hollingworth and his wife Judy, moved to the U.S. in 1962 from England in order for him to complete requirements for his Ph.D. He is a toxicologist by profession with a special interest in pesticides - how they affect pests and how they affect vertebrates. He currently resides in East Lansing, Michigan, and works at Michigan State University. He and Judy are accredited AIS judges and are very active in The Society for Siberian Irises (SSI). Both serve on the Board of Directors and Judy is the editor of the SSI bulletin "The Siberian Iris." Bob has been busy helping organize the first-ever Siberian Iris Convention to be held 11 - 13 June, at The Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

Dr. Hollingworth first became interested in irises through Judy's gardening. He "crossed some of TB's more or less on a whim, just to see what happened and got hooked." Bob states that his TB crosses were mostly "dogs". He still has one TB seedling that he kept! He switched to Siberians "since there seemed to be more prospect for advancement". "I started with Siberians in a serious way about 1975," Bob states. Only now is the result of that early work beginning to reap its rewards. Little then did he know how radically he would advance and change Siberian Irises!

Dr. Hollingworth will be giving several talks. On Thursday night he will speak on "*Hybridizing Siberian Irises*". On Friday night he will give judges training on "*Judging & Showing Siberian Irises*", and on Saturday night he will briefly talk on "*Siberian Irises: A Look into the Future*" Who is in a better position to know that future and direction than he?

### 1990

#### Award of Merit (AM)

Lady Vanessa  
Heliotrope Bouquet  
(with Indy a runner-up)

#### Honorable Mention (HM)

Pas-De-Deux  
Sultan's Ruby

### 1991

#### Morgan-Wood Award Runner-Up: *Windward Spring*

#### Award of Merit (AM)

Indy  
Jewelled Crown  
(High Standards a runner-up)

#### Honorable Mention (HM)

Contrast in Styles

#### High Commendation

2 Seedlings

### 1992

## 1992 MORGAN-WOOD AWARD: LADY VANESSA

#### Award of Merit (AM)

Sultan's Ruby  
High Standards  
Wizardry

#### Honorable Mention (HM)

Coronation Anthem  
Windward Serenade

## 1993 CHAPTER CALENDARS AND NEWS FOR THE REGION 4 AFFILIATES:

[To Be Announced = TBA]

### Alleghany Highlands Chapter

#### Blue Ridge Iris Society

|                                       |   |                                         |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------|
| March 6, Saturday                     | - | Spray for Borers                        |
| March 20, Saturday                    | - | Spray for Borers                        |
| March 21, Sunday, 2:30 p.m.           | - | Meeting                                 |
| April 3, Saturday                     | - | Spray for Borers                        |
| April 17, Saturday                    | - | Spray for Borers                        |
| April 18, Sunday, 2:30 p.m.           | - | Meeting                                 |
| April 20 to 24                        | - | National AIS Meeting, Fort Worth, TX    |
| May 1, Saturday                       | - | Spray for Borers                        |
| May 6/7/8, Thursday, Friday, Saturday | - | Spring Regional, Tidewater Chapter      |
| May 15, Saturday                      | - | Bearded Iris Show, Valley View Mall     |
| June 14/15/16/17/18, All Week         | - | Iris Digging for Sale                   |
| June 19, Saturday 9:00 a.m.           | - | Annual Iris Sale, Roanoke Garden Center |
| July 15, Thursday                     | - | Symposium Ballott                       |
| July 17, Saturday, 2:30 p.m.          | - | Meeting                                 |
| August 1, Sunday                      | - | Symposium Ballott Deadline              |
| August 19, Saturday, 2:30 p.m.        | - | Meeting                                 |
| October 8/9, Friday, Saturday         | - | Fall Regional, Williamsburg             |
| October 17, Sunday, 2:30 p.m.         | - | Meeting                                 |

### Cabarrus County Chapter

#### Carolina Mountains Iris Society

|                         |   |                                                              |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 24, Saturday      | - | Spring Meeting - Planning for Two Iris Shows                 |
| May 22, Saturday        | - | Bearded Iris Show, Congregational Church, Hendersonville, NC |
| June 17 & 18 or 24 & 25 | - | Japanese Iris Show, Details TBA                              |
| August 7, Saturday      | - | Annual Auction and Rhizome Sale                              |

[Region 5's *Southern Iris* reports that the Piedmont Carolina Iris Society of that region has been exploring with Carolina Mountain Iris Society "the possibility of having a joint fall show for reblooming iris in October of 1993."]



## **Central Virginia Iris Society**

|                           |   |              |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| March 20, Saturday        | - | Meeting      |
| May 16                    | - | Meeting      |
| Late July or early August | - | Rhizome Sale |
| September 18, Saturday    | - | Meeting      |
| November 20, Saturday     | - | Meeting      |

## **Charlotte Iris Society**

|                       |   |                                                |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------------------------|
| April 13, Tuesday     | - | Luncheon, Program on Design, and Show Planning |
| May 1, Saturday       | - | Bearded Iris Show                              |
| September 14, Tuesday | - | Luncheon and Program                           |
| November 9, Tuesday   | - | Luncheon and Program                           |

## **Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society**

### **Tentative Schedule**

|                                       |   |                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 14, Sunday, 1 p.m.              | - | Luncheon, Blaney Marlow's Home, 13425 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD                                                                                 |
| April                                 | - | TBA                                                                                                                                                        |
| May 16, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.     | - | Tall Bearded Show, Behnke Nursery Auditorium, 11350 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD                                                                       |
| May 22, Saturday, 8 a.m to 6 p.m.     | - | Field Trip, Wild Iris Viewing, in a variety of Habitats of Southern MD, including a Cypress Swamp and coastal Iris Ponds, lead by Don Spoon & Phil Ogilvie |
| June 19, 1 to 5 p.m.                  | - | Joint Beardless Show with FSK, Chatham Mall, Ellicott City, MD                                                                                             |
| July 11, Sunday, 1 p.m.               | - | Bearded Auction & Sale, National Arboretum                                                                                                                 |
| August 22, Sunday, 1 p.m.             | - | Annual Picnic, Sara & Walter Marley's Historic Farm, Purcellville, VA                                                                                      |
| September                             | - | Beardless Auction & Sale, Details TBA                                                                                                                      |
| October 17, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. | - | Reblooming Show & Tour, Accokeek Foundation Conference Room and Potomac Iris Farm, Bryans Point, MD                                                        |
| November 21, Sunday, 2 p.m.           | - | "History of Rebloom," Clarence Mahan, Accokeek Foundation Conference Room, Bryans Point, MD                                                                |

## **Eastern North Carolina Chapter**

## **Eastern Shore Iris Society**

|                    |   |                   |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|
| March 20, Saturday | - | Spring Meeting    |
| May 22, Saturday   | - | Bearded Iris Show |
| July               | - | Rhizome Sale      |

## **Francis Scott Key Iris Society**

Dr. Fred Ladd, Correspondent

Dr Ladd writes that, "We held our Spring Board Meeting yesterday [January 30, 1993]. This is why practically all the events may be subject to alteration, but they are a guide line at present."

Calendar of Chapter Activities for the Remainder of 1993:

|                                            |   |                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 20, Saturday, 12 noon                | - | Spring Meeting, Columbia Inn, Columbia, MD                                        |
| May 15, Saturday                           | - | Bus Tour of Members' Gardens (details TBA)                                        |
| May 22, Saturday, time TBA                 | - | Spring Iris Show, Place TBA                                                       |
| May 23, Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.                | - | Carol Warner's, Owings Rebert's and Rosalie Figge's Gardens will be open to view. |
| June 19, Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m.             | - | Joint Beardless Show with C&P, Chatham Mall, Ellicott City, MD                    |
| July 10 or 17, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. | - | Iris Sale, Watsons Garden Center, York Road.                                      |
| July 25, Sunday, 4 p.m.                    | - | Annual Picnic at Carol Warner's Garden.                                           |
| October 16, Saturday, time TBA             | - | Fall Meeting, Program featuring John Weiler speaking on "Rebloomers," Place TBA   |

Please note that the dates are tentative and may be subject to alteration, when members will be notified.

The FSK Society will stage an educational exhibit at the Maryland Home & Garden Show, March 10th to 14th, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, on stands 1729/1731. The Society has donated four \$300 scholarships annually, in Horticulture, to Dundalk Community College for the academic year 1993/94. The members of FSK offer their congratulations to Claire Barr, our former member, upon her election as President of the American Iris Society. We wish her well in her term of office.

## **Fredericksburg Area Iris Society**

|                            |   |                   |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| March 13, Saturday, 1 p.m. | - | Meeting           |
| April 10, Saturday, 1 p.m. | - | Meeting           |
| May 8, Saturday,           | - | Bearded Iris Show |



- |                                              |   |                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------|
| May 6/7/8, Thursday, Friday, Saturday        | - | Region 4 Spring Convention, Tidewater           |
| June 3/4/5, Thursday, Friday, Saturday       | - | Society for Japanese Iris Convention, Tidewater |
| June 11/12/13,<br>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday | - | Siberian Iris Convention,                       |

### **Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk Iris Society**

- |                 |   |                   |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| May 1, Saturday | - | Bearded Iris Show |
| May 2, Sunday   | - | Garden Tours      |

### **Tidewater Chapter**

- |                                             |   |                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 21, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.                 | - | Local Chapter Meeting at Commonwealth College                              |
| April 18, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.                 | - | Local Chapter Meeting at Commonwealth College                              |
| May 1, Saturday,                            | - | PCSIS Spring Show - enter your irises                                      |
| May 2, Sunday,                              | - | PCSIS Garden Tours                                                         |
| May 6/7/8, Thursday, Friday, Saturday       | - | Region 4 Convention - Hosted by Tidewater Iris Society                     |
| May 15, Saturday,                           | - | Williamsburg Spring Show - enter your iris                                 |
| June 3/4/5, Thursday, Friday, Saturday      | - | Society for Japanese Iris Convention - Sponsored by Tidewater Iris Society |
| June 11/12/13<br>Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday | - | Siberian Iris Convention                                                   |
| June 20, Sunday                             | - | Local Chapter Meeting at Commonwealth College                              |
| July                                        | - | No Local Chapter Meeting                                                   |
| July                                        | - | Sale at McDonald's Nursery                                                 |

### **Williamsburg Iris Society**

- |                                        |   |                                                                         |
|----------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 13, Saturday                     | - | Library                                                                 |
| March 18, Thursday                     | - | Tidewater Horticultural Symposium, Virginia Beach                       |
| April 24, Saturday                     | - | Car Trip to visit members gardens                                       |
| May 6/7/8, Thursday, Friday, Saturday  | - | Spring Regional, Holiday Inn Oceanfront, Virginia Beach, VA             |
| May 15, Saturday                       | - | Bearded Iris Show                                                       |
| June 3/4/5, Thursday, Friday, Saturday | - | Japanese Iris National, Holiday Inn Executive Center Virginia Beach, VA |
| June 12, Saturday                      | - | Library tentative program on Water Gardens                              |
| July                                   | - | No Meeting, Rhizome Sale                                                |
| August                                 | - | No Meeting                                                              |

|                        |   |                                                                   |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 11, Saturday | - | Picnic and Final Plans for Fall Regional                          |
| October 1/2            | - | Fall Regional, West Park Motel,<br>Richmond Road Williamsburg, VA |

[Williamsburg's news letter indicates that the chapter has developed a preliminary schedule for the fall meeting:

|                                      |   |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| October 1, Friday, 12 noon to 6 p.m. | - | Registration                       |
| 6 p.m.                               | - | Hospitality, Cash Bar              |
| 7 p.m.                               | - | Dinner followed by a speaker       |
| October 2, Saturday, 7 to 9 a.m.     | - | Rebloomer Show Entry               |
| 10 a.m.                              | - | Judging - Business Meeting         |
| 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.                 | - | Reblooming Show Open to the Public |
| 2 p.m.                               | - | Judges' Training                   |
| 6 p.m.                               | - | Hospitality, Cash Bar              |
| 7 p.m.                               | - | Dinner - Speaker - Auction         |

It is always fun to go to Williamsburg - Lets plan now for an exciting fall convention -The Editor]  
November 13, Saturday - Luncheon

## ROBIN ARRIVES IN VIRGINIA IN FEBRUARY

*by Clarence Mahan, C&P*

This is not the first year that a robin arrived at my house in February. In fact, sometimes they come in January or December. More than a decade ago Ruby Buchanan got me into my first robin, Region 4's "Ramblin' Robin," and I'm still flying in that one. Over the years I have joined a couple dozen robins. I dropped out of a couple because they were such slow fliers, or the subject matter did not hold my interest. Some of the robins died an unnatural death, and I never heard from them again. But I still fly in about ten robins, and enjoy them immensely.

It has always amazed me that more people do not participate in the AIS robin program. The way it works is simple. You contact the AIS Robin Chairman and tell him you want to join a robin dealing with tall bearded irises, Siberian irises, historic irises, rebloomers, or whatever. He will contact a robin director who adds you to the route list of that robin. Before too long you will receive an envelope with a route list and many letters from the other robin members in it. After you read the letters, you write a letter, put it in an envelope with the other letters, and mail the package on to the person on the list after your name. When the robin flies back to you, you delete your old letter, add a new letter, and send it on its way again.

The present AIS Robin Chairperson is Howard Brookins. His address is N. 75 W 14257, Northpoint Drive, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051. [Libby Cross is Region 4's Chairperson and her address is inside the back cover.]

Much of my iris education has come out of robin letters. I have made several hundred new friends through the robins I have belonged to over the years. When I have had the opportunity to meet many of these friends at iris conventions and tours, what wonderful times we have had. Since we already know about each others iris interests, families, cats, dogs, weeds, and other hobbies, we have had great conversations. My robin friends have helped me find irises I was searching for, iris books I couldn't locate, and solutions to my gardening problems.



It is February as I write this little article, and the robin that arrived at my home today is the International Median Robin, whose director is Hilmary Catton, who lives in New Zealand. We have two members from New Zealand, one who lives in England, one from France, and four from the United States (Oregon, New York, Massachusetts, and Virginia). I thought I would share some of the "news" from this robin in hopes that it would whet your appetite to join a robin.

Two years ago my robin friend Jean sent me VOIE LACTEE (Kurzmann-Jean Peyrard 1992), to grow. This charming creamy white MDB was introduced in France this past year, and because of my generous robin friend I was able to share it with Dick Sparling and we became the first people to grow it in the United States. Jean reports in this robin round that he has now sent VOIE LACTEE to another robin friend of his in California, but has not had any report of its performance there yet. Jean also tells me that *I. japonica* LEDGER'S VARIETY blooms for him in a pot one year out of two.

In a note to a member who is beginning to hybridize, Jean advises that he uses refrigerated pollen to make crosses. He passes on a "helpful hint:" if the cross takes on the flower you put pollen on, the flower will fade quickly. If it does not fade quickly, your cross probably hasn't taken so put more pollen on the next bloom on the stalk.

Wendy from Rochester, New York, reports in the robin that a friend who lives near her had rebloom on quite a number of SDB's this year, including BRIGHTYES, GOLDEN CHILD, EVER READY, BABY BOOM, LOW HO SILVER, and SMELL THE ROSES. Her friend also had rebloom on the MDB PERFUME. What delightful news that these rebloomers are doing their "fall thing" in upstate New York!



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### IN MEMORIAM

Isabelle Campbell (Virginia)  
Charlotte E. Fersing (Virginia)

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**TREASURER'S REPORT - Region IV - AIS**  
For Period November 5, 1992 to January 31, 1993

November 5 Balance \$ 12,795.81

Receipts

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Interest on account (3 mo.)     | \$ 96.79      |
| Newsast - Non Reg. 4 Membership | 15.00         |
| Chapter Donations:              |               |
| Tidewater                       | <u>200.00</u> |
| <br>Total Deposits              | <br>\$ 311.79 |

Complete Totals \$ 13,107.60

Expenditures

|                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Dunn-Rite Printing (December Newsast) | 987.00          |
| Lowes'- Mailing Newsast               | 122.33          |
| J.P. Trophies - RVP Pins              | 224.00          |
| Address Labels A.I.S.                 | <u>27.56</u>    |
| <br>Total Expenses                    | <br>\$ 1,360.89 |

January 31 Balance \$ 11,746.71

Respectfully submitted,

J. Owings Rebert, Treasurer

**PHOTOGRAPHY REPORT**

*by Dennis Stoneburner, BIS*

Hard as it seems to believe, Spring is right around the corner. Now, before it arrives, you have time to do something **VERY** important. Now I know many of you are wondering what that could be! Well it is time to . . . get your camera out of the drawer, send in that roll of Christmas pictures for processing, and get ready for the first blooms of the season. Make sure you have plenty of film so you can send me an abundance of beautiful slides. I still need Japanese, Species, Louisiana, and newer Tall Bearded varieties. Of course I will never turn down a Median or two. Also keep a look out for "Strange" problems in your gardens and photograph them also. It helps educate newer members in what to look for when problems come up. This year, with the help of Mike Lowe, I will be concentrating on Siberian Irises. The biggest problem is getting their true colors, so we will be experimenting on fixing that problem. Wish us luck!  
Don't forget . . . get those cameras out now!!!!!!

## THE GARDENS OF JUNE: AN OUT OF THE WAY, BUT EXTRAORDINARY GARDEN

by John H. Wright, AH

[Editor's Note - John submitted this for "Off the Beaten Path" in the December *Newscast*. Rather than butcher it to fit I held it for March so that I could run the full article with photographs.]

This is a story about an iris garden you will probably never see. It will never be on a tour itinerary, being located, as it is, among the hills of West Virginia near the town of Keyser. Keyser is about 20 miles south of Cumberland, Maryland, and about 60 miles west of Winchester, Virginia. Even traveling salesmen don't come here. But AIS has four members who live in the immediate vicinity.



THE GARDENS OF JUNE came about mostly by accident. My wife and I retired to this area from suburban Washington (Kensington, Maryland) where we had the standard half-acre, a lawn full of (the neighbors') weeds, a number of evergreens, dogwoods, and a lot of azaleas. We might even have had a few iris -- I really don't remember. Then we bought this tract of 27 plus acres of woodlands. The only things growing naturally in this location were scrub Virginia pine, a few assorted hardwoods, and prickly-pear cactus. Our area is in a rain shadow of the Appalachian Mountains, known as the Shale Barrens of West Virginia, the only place east of the Mississippi where prickly-pear occurs naturally. "Rain shadow" and "Shale Barrens" just about cover it! Rainfall is scarce and we estimate that at no point on the property is the soil depth greater than one inch -- underneath the soil it is shale all the way to China!

When we moved here we brought some of our plants with us: lilacs, daffodils, and azaleas. From my father's home in D.C. we brought some of the 1920's iris and peonies. Our greatest loss in moving was in the azaleas -- we have between 40 and 50 survivors out of the nearly 600 shrubs transplanted. The deer and drought got the rest. During periods of drought, we have found that the deer will eat anything even remotely appearing green, as long as it is in our garden.

In May, 1991, we checked out Bill Kuykendall's iris and rose garden (two miles down the road) and concluded that: by gosh! if prickly-pear will grow in the woods on our hilltop, so too, should IRIS!! Bill has lots of good topsoil to work with, we have none, ours all washed down off the hill to his valley floor eons ago.



With my father's 1920's catalogs in hand I called Gilbert H. Wild and Son in Sarcoxie, Missouri, to see if the prices were still good. After a little stuttering at the other end of the line, I was advised that they were no longer good since Wild no longer grew iris, but that I should check with Schreiner's and Cooley's, in Oregon. Wild and Son were very helpful with addresses and phone numbers and offered to send me their current catalog of daylilies and peonies. I then contacted Schreiner's and Cooley's and received their catalogs, the magnitude of which was overwhelming! I thought my ordered represented half the iris grown in Oregon!

While I was into catalogs, I had a local woodcutter in to clear some land for a garden -- about 1½ acres -- leaving some specimen hard and soft wood trees. Then the bulldozers and loaders to remove stumps and debris, to grade the area, and to dig a small pond. They hauled in load after load of "topsoil," into which I proceeded to till 210 bales of peat. By the end of July, after a great deal of effort, I had finally produced eleven raised beds in a total garden area of about 90 by 100 feet. Not much,



**BEFORE**

but a beginning. Three long curved beds, two rectangular, and six of various odd shapes all separated by grass pathways.

The first long, curved bed we planted contained the old iris we brought from the D.C. area. They had been heeled in here mostly forgotten until we decided to move them. They contained a lot of rot and dead areas, but after a good deal of cutting and soaking in both Chlorox™ and Benomyl™ solutions (I use this regimen for ALL plantings) the 183 little pieces looked pretty decent -- if only they would survive -- and survive and thrive they did! Until the day we found that the deer had found them. They had pulled up every last one of them, eaten all the leaves, and chewed on the rhizomes. We gathered the pieces, replanted them, and they started to grow again! But not enough to do any more than survive. This year they have grown much more and we hope to see bloom in the spring.



**AFTER**

Deer, we had a problem we had hoped wouldn't happen. The final answer, after a few tries, is a 12-volt electric fence (solar-powered), five feet high and consisting of nine strands of wire. The lower five strands are four and a half inches apart and the remainder nine inches apart. The 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th strands are wired HOT; the 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th strands are grounded. Nothing can try to get through without touching at least two of those wires, and ZAP! I had originally wired all strands HOT and

grounded the system with a stake, as is normal, but we found that, in periods of extended drought, there is not enough moisture in the ground for it to function effectively. Nothing has been in the garden since but a blacksnake. Incidentally, with the exception of the posts (which I painted in pastel colors) this type of fence is, from just a few feet away, practically INVISIBLE.

Of the 3,058 plants put in this first summer, 1,332 were iris of various types: TB's, BB's, SDB's, Arilbreds, SI's, JJ's, *I. pallida*, and some bulbs (Dutch, English, *I. reticulata*, and *I. danfordiae*). Included in the TB's were a number of 1991 introductions from Schreiner (CHIEF QUINABY, MIDNIGHT DANCER, RIDE THE WIND, RIVERBOAT BLUES, and SPELLBREAKER) and Cooley (CHIFFON RUFFLES, DIFFERENT WORLD, FRIVOLOUS, PAINTED PICTURES, PRINCESS KISS, and SNOW BLANKET). Some were among the group offerings from Springhill and Breck (CROWD PLEASER, DATE BAIT, LOOP THE LOOP, STUDY IN BLACK, SULTAN'S PALACE, etc.). A lot of them just looked pretty in the catalogs: BRONCO BROWN (Hamner '82), PROUD TRADITION (Schreiner '90), SWEET MUSETTE (Schreiner '86), TOASTMASTER (Ghio '84), VICTORIA FALLS (Schreiner '77), etc.). I never saw an iris I didn't like: 'Proud Tradition' is probably the most beautiful flower I have ever seen, it is majestic! All of my bearded iris were ordered in groups of four, since I planted in a diamond pattern, 12 inches apart, using plywood templates, and 12 inch iron spikes as markers.

In addition to iris, we planted 435 jonquils and narcissus (455 more never got into the ground), 106 tulips, 100 daylilies, 32 Asiatic lilies, and zillions of grape hyacinth, crocus, daises, windflowers, etc., etc. All plants in the garden are identified with name tags. We lost a few plants over the winter. They have since been reordered and replanted. This year we have added close to 300 more iris and are surrounding the garden, inside the fence, with miniature roses in seven and a half foot and ten foot redwood planters (one pair of roses for every two and a half section of planter).

This year we put in 80 roses, they were sensational. Next year we'll add more. Our bloom this first year we thought impressive, next year should be marvelous, and the next spectacular!

I have added six more beds this year, including two containing 92 of Bernard Hamner's creations - I am still seeking ten more for this group. (Hey! I had to start with SOMEBODY'S for a collection, and Hamner's had done particularly well that first year.) A long, low, sunken bed for species: *I. tectorum* (both white and blue), *I. versicolor*, *I. virginica*, *I. setosa nasuensis*, and *I. cristata*. Also in this species bed, I have placed two SI's, SHAKER'S PRAYER, a valued and gracious gift from Carol Warner. John Wood also sent *I. setosa karigaminae*, *I. siberica* X *I. setosa* (Sibtosa), and *I. fulva* W-1002-92 (as yet unnamed) to me. (I'm learning.)

Another of this year's beds contains 49 Arilbred, 11 IB's, seven MDB's, and 24 SDB's. This bed is made of 50 percent sifted topsoil, 35 percent sand, and 15 percent peat and should prove a fitting home for its residents.

I am 70 and my wife says I am mad to take up gardening at this age and on this scale, I have not had a garden of my own since I was a child. She tells me that this garden, though named for her, is my responsibility and the work therein is mine. She reminds me of this, continually, especially after she has concluded a day of pulling weeds in THE GARDENS OF JUNE, at her own initiative.

I found out about AIS, and joined up. I heard of HIPS, and joined up. June and I took in our first AIS National Convention this past spring in Atlanta, where we met some of you. I have just returned from the Region 4 Fall Conference in Beltsville. I do wish I had taped all of the presentations of Jim Waddick, Carol Warner, and Clarence Mahan -- they were unbelievable in their brilliance. How fortunate we are to have such people in our midst!

I have rambled on. I do apologize, but as you can see, I am enthused. I am happy to think that our wooded hilltop will be left a little prettier than when we came, all because of THE GARDENS OF JUNE.



### LISA MEMBERS TAKE NOTE

The Louisiana Iris Section of AIS has been dissolved and the membership merged with the Society for Louisiana Irises - A Cooperating Society of the American Iris Society. If you have not received a mailing from SLI, you should contact:

Joseph K. Mertzweiller  
9266 N. Parkview Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70815



## NEW FOR '93

### 1993 IRIS INTRODUCTIONS FROM REGION 4 HYBRIDIZERS:

I make no brief for the accuracy or completeness of this listing. At the deadline for this issue, I had no information from any hybridizer! I attempted to contact each hybridizer of whom I was aware - this is the result. If you have been left out, I am sorry, but you have only yourself to blame. Please let me know your introductions for this year and next year get them to me before February 1. It would be helpful if all Region 4 Hybridizers and Introducers would put me on their mailing lists for catalogues or lists. The descriptions are as submitted, their accuracy and completeness are the responsibility of the submitter. Since we did not run this feature in 1992, I have listed, where known, 1992 introductions when they were submitted. Abbreviations: Aa X Bb=parent cross in which "Aa" is the pod parent and "Bb" is the pollen parent, (Aa x Bb)=grandparent cross for seedling parent, E=early, EC=exhibition certificate, I=introduced, F=falls, L=late, Laev=Laevigata Section, M=mid-season, R=AIS registered, RE=remontant, reblooming, RHS=*Royal Horticulture Society Color Chart*, S=standards, Sdlg=seedling, Self=S and F same color, TB=tall bearded iris, VL=very late. - The Editor.

#### **Dr. William L. Ackerman (C&P)** (Introduced by Nicholls' Gardens)

**BLUSHING PRINCESS** (Ackerman, 1993) Sdlg. A4-6-122. JI, (3 F.), 33" (84cm), L. This beauty is a superlative addition to the garden with its unique shape that readily stands out. Pristine white standards are edged with a narrow line of rosy purple. The very large falls are white blending to rosy purple with a heavier concentration at the petal edge. It is a good season extender with its late bloom period starting mid to late June.

**EMPEROR'S COMMAND** (Ackerman, 1993) R. 1992. Sdlg. A4-5-81. JI, (6 to 10 F.), 36" (92cm), M. F. Marbled and streaked lavender (RHS 76A) to reddish purple (78B) on near white ground, yellow green (153A to 154A) signal; ruffled; white style arms with lavender lips. "Iso-No-Asakaze" X D5-8-112, involving sdlgs. from Seiko-en Nursery, Japan. This flower is truly amazing with its 6 to 10 falls. It starts the season as a double (6 falls) and progresses to 10 falls as the blooms continue to open with a nice long bloom season. The falls are near white with violet blue streaking in a uniform sanded pattern. The 6.5" flower has excellent substance that holds up flawlessly in extreme heat. (Color picture in January 1993 *Flower & Garden Magazine*.)

**FINE HARMONY** (Ackerman, 1993) R. 1992. Sdlg. A4-4-85. JI, (3 F.), 34" (87cm), M. S. near white at base, blending to pale lavender purple (RHS //C//A) at edge; F. white around yellow green (154C) signal, blending to mosaic violet (84C to 84A) with white veining, ruffled and crinkled; white style arms with large violet (84B) lips. "Gosho-Asobi" X D5-12-115, involving sdlgs. from Seiko-en Nursery, Japan.



The white standards blend to lavender purple at the edges. The very round overlapping falls are white around the yellow signal blending to a mosaic violet with white rays to the petal edges. Ruffling and crinkling of the falls show how rounded and full the flower is.

**CAPITOL DANDY** (Ackerman, 1992) Sdlg. D4 (8-84). JI, (3 F.), 33" (84cm) E. A delightful iris of very soft pale lavender-pink. Darker veining shows nicely against the lavender-pink falls and standards. There is a slight mosaic of the vein color around the bright yellow signal. The stylearms are a darker lavender-pink giving this a bitone look. To complete the picture of this dandy, the arching falls are held out with a pleasing flair. **CAPITOL DANDY** is pictured in Plate No. 24 of *The Japanese Iris*.

### **B.J. Brown (CIS)**

(Self Introduced, formerly by Brown's Vine & Branch)

**CATABWA CAMOUFLAGE** (B.J. Brown, 1993) Sdlg 0189. TB, 30" (76cm) E-M. S. tan with violet infusion at base; F. tan, violet infusion at hafts; yellow beards. French Vanilla X Field Day. EC 1989.

**CATABWA POTTERY** (B.J. Brown, 1993) Sdlg 0289. TB, 32" (81cm) E-M. S. medium brown; F. medium brown, violet in center; brown beards, tipped gold. French Vanilla X Field Day.

**QUEEN CHARLOTTE** (B.J. Brown, 1993) Sdlg 2288. TB, 32" (81cm) E. Pale pink self; pale pink beards, tipped white; slight fragrance. Vanity X 1384 (Nefertiti x Scintillation).

**ELEANOR YATES** (B.J. Brown, 1993) Sdlg 0588, TB, 30" (76cm), E-M. S. white; F. white, edged yellow, yellow hafts; yellow beards tipped white. In honor of Eleanor B. Yates, 1993 President of the National Council of Garden Clubs. Starring Role X Light Years.

None for 1992

### **Libby Cross (AHC)**

(Self Introduced)

None for 1992 or 1993

### **Jane McKnew (FSK)**

(Introduced by John Weiler)

**ROSALIE FIGGE** (Jane McKnew, 1993) 38" We are happy to introduce this very welcome addition to remontants in a limited color class with modern form as the first from a new hybridizer, Jane McKnew. The name honors a long time member, past officer, and driving force in the Reblooming Iris Society. Well branched stalks with 8-9 buds produce ruffled flowers of a luscious, deep, dark purple, slightly lighter on standards than falls with a lighter spray area around purple beards. Abundant, dependable, and early rebloom is reported both on the East and West Coasts in USDA hardiness zones 7 and 9 (MD & CA).

From the parentage and from rebloom here and in the East, we think this will perform well as a remontant over much of the country from hardiness zone 6 southward. Titan's Glory X Violet Miracle.

**Clarence Mahan (C&P)**  
(Introduced by Mahan's Iris Pond)

SHIRASAGI (Mahan, R&I, 1993) Laev. Ancient selected clone of *I. laevigata* long grown in Japan for cut flowers. Clarence imported this iris cultivar from Japan; had it authenticated by Mr. Akira Horinaka, author of the *A Pictorial Book of Iris Laevigata* and the world's foremost expert on that species and its cultivars; registered it with the AIS; and is introducing it this year. It is a white self with pale yellow ridges, a violet line on the style arms and a violet spot on the anthers. It has a very slight fragrance. For those familiar with oriental art this is the graceful species of iris most often depicted. Our western orientation frequently causes us to lose sight of the fact that this is probably the first species of iris in cultivation.

No Region 4 introductions in 1992

**Dr. D.C. Nearpass (C&P)**  
(Introduced by Mahan's Iris Pond)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Diana Nicholls (C&P)**  
(Introduced by her Nicholls' Gardens)

No introductions of her iris in either 1992 or 1993. She is the exclusive introducer for Dr. Ackerman and has introduced, in 1993, his BLUSHING PRINCESS, EMPEROR'S COMMAND, and FINE HARMONY; in 1992, his CAPITOL DANDY. Please see Ackerman's entries for complete descriptions.

**Bill Phillips (FSK)**  
(Introduced by FSK)

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society is proud to announce the introduction of five new tall bearded irises by the late William H. Phillips. These are 1992 registrations and reflect the best of Bill's many years of hybridizing. These irises are available through Owings Rebert.

**"PHILLIPS FIVE"**

BILL'S PRIDE. (W.H.Phillips, 1993) Sdlg. #88-8. TB, 36" M. S. grey-white, violet mid-rib; F. violet, bronze haft marks; deep yellow beard, tipped blue. Pleasantly fragrant. (Skyline Drive X New Moon).

RONNIE'S CHARM. (W.H.Phillips, 1993) Sdlg. #90-20. TB, 34" M. S. light yellow; F. white with yellow rim and yellow haft marks; beard, deep yellow. Pleasantly fragrant. (Hindenberg X Mary Frances).

RUTHIE'S SNOWDRIFT. (W.H.Phillips, 1993) Sdlg. #87-10. TB, 40" E-M. Pure whit self with white beard. Pleasantly fragrant. (82-1 X Mary Frances).

LINDA'S BLUE LINNEN. (W.H.Phillips, 1993) Sdlg. #87-28. TB, 40" M. Blue-violet self; yellow beard, tipped white. Pleasantly fragrant. (Mary Frances X unknown).

SUSAN'S GOLDEN SUN. (W.H.Phillips, 1993) Sdlg. #81-4. TB, 30" E-M. Deep gold self with orange beard. Pleasantly fragrant. (Unknown X Unknown).

**Loleta K. Powell (NC)**  
(Introduced by her Powell's Gardens)

ENCHANTED HUES. (Powell, 1993)

LACE RING. (Powell, 1993)

NATE RUDOLPH (Powell, 1993)

ORANGE RINGS. (Powell, 1993)

BLUEBLOOD YELLOW. (Rudolph-Powell, 1992) TB. 32" M-L. Heavily ruffled and laced light yellow, edged gilt - splendid in every way but utterly distinguished by **electric blue beards**. Extremely heavy-blooming and long-blooming (Parentage not given).

PERSIAN PEACE . (Rudolph-Powell, 1992) TB. 33" M-VL. This is a victorious sight! Rippled palest pinkish-white -- not at all "sissy." Its very prominent red beards are patriotically tipped electric blue - distinctly beautiful - as victory in the desert was! Expect many flowers for many days.

**Joan Roberts (FSK)**  
(Introduced by Roberts' Friendship Gardens)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Louise Smith (WIS)**  
(Self Introduced)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Richard Sparling (C&P)**

(Introduced by Sparling's Green Box Iris Gardens)

**SCRAMBLED EGGS.** (R. Sparling, 1992) R. 1991. SDB, 12" (30cm) M. S. dirty white infused yellow; F. white with brown and yellow specks, solid yellow (RHS 7A) partway down edge; white beard, tipped bluish. Unknown X Unknown. The first introduction this year has been in the garden for several years, and each year I've said it looks like a plate of greasy scrambled eggs. And thus its name. **SCRAMBLED EGGS** has standards of a dirty white infused with yellow and the falls are white with brown and yellow specks and solid yellow partway down the edge. The specks look like pieces of pepper. A nice little plate to see in the morning or breakfast can be served all day.

**RED EPAULETS.** (R. Sparling, 1992) R. 1991. SDB, 12" (30cm) M. S. rosy brown; F. washed rosy brown, red lines (RHS 53c) around a yellow beard. Unknown X Unknown. Our second one, **RED EPAULETS**, has a unique color. It has red lines around a yellow beard which sits on washed rosy brown falls. The standards are a full rosy brown. The color red is RHS 53c, which comes across as a real red. The flowers are on the small side, but it may have some use in trying to get the color to expand to the whole fall.

None for 1993

**Dr. Don Spoon (C&P)**

(Introduced by Spoon and Ward's Potomac Iris Farm)

None for 1992 or 1993

**J.D. Stadler (ENCIS)**

(Introduced by Stadler's Celestial Gardens)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Katherine Steele (CIS)**

(Self Introduced)

None for 1993

**Fred Stevenson (BIS)**

(Self Introduced)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Dennis Stoneburner (BIS)**

(Self Introduced)

None for 1992 or 1993



**John Vincent (ESIS)**  
(Self Introduced)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Carol Warner (FSK)**  
(Introduced by Mahan's Iris Ponds)

None for 1992 or 1993

**Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg (CIS)**  
(Introduced by Zurbrigg's Avonbank Garden)

JOAN'S PLEASURE (Zurbrigg, 1993) Sdlg. H 22-1-1. TB 26-31" M & RE (early Oct. in MD). The sole [1993] introduction for this year is a charmer. The unique coloring, a blended brown with bright lavender falls highlighted with pure white on the haft, will grab you, to use the modern parlance. But the form is even more charming, being heavily ruffled all over, like its "mama," SOAP OPERA. This fall (1992) there were five little clumps of this in Joan and Ken Roberts' garden in Maryland. Each had a bloomstalk well along, the first week of October. I quickly add that this seedling has never rebloomed for me, nor has it ever grown taller than border height, but I do not fertilize heavily. But I have kept a happy eye on it ever since it was found in my seedling garden by Clarence Mahan, during the visit of Region 4 to Radford a few years ago. Here then, is a beautiful and unique iris for the front of the border, that may give rebloom. It grows well, and it is fertile both ways. I intend to use it more heavily in my crosses, knowing that it can rebloom. Mildly fragrant. Soap Opera X Summer Olympics.

RENOWN (Zurbrigg, 1993) Sdlg. JJ 93-4-4. Here is a really huge, wide, heavily-substanced rebloomer. It has rebloomed well in Oklahoma, Nebraska, Maryland, and Virginia. The cross - Matrix X Suky - was outstanding. The plant grows luxuriantly, is very hardy, and the stalks are strong and rather well branched. The flower is oyster white with outstanding form. It is a good parent either way, and the growth on its seedlings has been spectacular.

MARGARET VIOLA WHITE (Zurbrigg, 1992) Sdlg. T 28-2. This iris won first place in the two-year TB class at Loomis Memorial Trials in Colorado for 1991. It is white with violet beards, certain not to be missed by any garden visitor. It should perform excellently in the more northern states (climate bands four and five). It is not a rebloomer. Blue-bearded white seedling from O MY GOODNESS breeding X Song of Norway.



**THANK YOU**

The Portsmouth, Chesapeake, and Suffolk Iris Society thanks the Tidewater Iris Society for their generous financial support. In the difficult days of starting a chapter, all support in the struggle is particularly appreciated.

## **\$100 Regional Membership Contest**

*by Rich Randall, TIS*

To the top recruiter, \$100 worth of Irises - of your choice - will be awarded, to enter the contest, inform your chapter membership chairperson or Rich Randall about any new enrollments and/or three-year or life conversions. As in the past, Chapters **MAY NOT** enter our Region 4 contest - **ONLY INDIVIDUALS**. Individuals can earn regional points and, at the same time, relinquish points to their affiliated society for the national contest. All individuals entering the contest will receive a certificate of appreciation.

### **AND THE WINNER IS:**



As the Region 4 Membership Chairperson, it has been and continues to be my policy not to receive personal credit for any members I may enroll. However, this does not preclude members of my immediate family. In all fairness, credit must be given where credit is due, it is therefore, with great pleasure that I announce that the winner of the 1992 Region 4 Membership Contest to be CARYLL RANDALL of the Tidewater Iris Society.

## **WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO THE REGION 4 AFFILIATES:**

### **Alleghany Highlands Chapter**

Ms. Mary Dameron  
1149 Cove Creek Road  
Sweet Springs, WV 24941

### **Blue Ridge Iris Society**

Mr. H. Lawrence Rice  
3212 Brambleton Ave., SW  
Roanoke, VA 24018

### **Cabarrus County Chapter**

### **Carolina Mountains Iris Society**

Mr. Thomas Darnell  
# 8 Flat Top Mountain Road  
Fairview, NC 28730

Ms. Sarah Fuller  
Route 1, Box 380  
Vilas, NC 28692

Ms. Linda Jackson  
Route. 1, Box 346-B  
Sugar Grove, NC 28679

### **Charlotte Iris Society**

### **Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society**

Ms. Valerie Canada  
7502 Laird's Way  
Clarksville, MD 21029-1845

Ms. Teresa Wadiak  
7383 Hidden Knolls  
Springfield, VA 22153

### **Central Virginia Iris Society**

### **Eastern North Carolina Chapter**

Mr. E.M. Penderg  
4904 Garrett Road  
Durham, NC 27707

### **Eastern Shore Iris Society**

### **Francis Scott Key Iris Society**

Mr. Jerald Glodek  
1401 Severn Road  
Severn, MD 21144

Mrs. Dorothy Wade  
57 Wade Lane  
North East, MD 21901-1620

### **Fredericksburg Area Iris Society**

Ms. Ethel Moore  
P.O. Box 346  
Locust Grove, VA 22508

### **Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk Iris Society**

### **Tidewater Chapter**

### **Williamsburg Iris Society**





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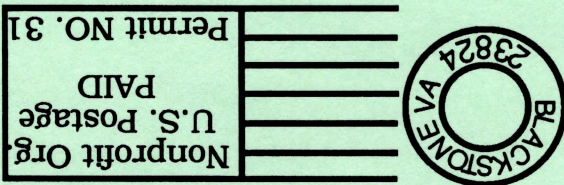
**Williamsburg Iris Society**  
Nelda Pressly - (804)220-1858  
111 West Kingwood Drive  
Williamsburg, VA 23185

**Attend the Spring Conference  
May 6, 7 & 8  
Virginia Beach, VA**

**Visit the Iris Gardens of Virginia Beach and Norfolk  
Meet Bob Hollingsworth - Hybridizer of Siberian Iris  
See Old Friends - Eat Good Food - Participate  
Enjoy Beautiful Virginia Beach in the Spring**



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