

any just a "best practice" you're looking for. Please contact you at a member of The American Iris Society. Don't forget to add robertpries@embarqmail.com to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox! [Click here](#) to confirm your interest in receiving our emails.

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The American Iris Society

News & Notes

April 9 2016

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Sectional E-Newsletters - Dwarf Iris Society



'Guinea Gold'

Welcome to the 34th regular issue of the **AIS News & Notes**. Please let us know what you would like to see here. And if you have notes you would like to add, or you would like to become a reporter, please let us know! You can contact either [Bob Pries](#) or [Wayne Messer](#) with your comments or interest.

Be An Author

Jim Morris, the Managing Editor for the *Irises Bulletin*, could use your help. He is just starting to assemble articles for the Summer edition. **Do you have an article you are eager to write?** The deadline for this edition is May 15th. You can contact Jim at morrisje1@aol.com about your ideas for this or future editions.



'Ghost Writer'

While you are thinking about writing, remember that your Sections, Region, and Clubs also need your input. They also are eager to hear what you would like to contribute to their bulletins and newsletters. My back of the envelope estimate is there are approximately 714 bulletin and newsletter issues annually that would benefit from your articles and stories.

In addition to these, consider the [World of Irises](#) blog, the

First a short background. We use the [Constant Contact](#) service to prepare News & Notes and send it to all AIS members (with email addresses). The same service could be used to send a different newsletter to members of a particular Section, for example, at no additional cost.

We are about to test this with our first Sectional Newsletter and we invite you all to participate! The [Dwarf Iris Society](#) is our first guinea pig:) Thanks to Lyn Wilson, we will soon have the first issue of the Dwarf Iris Society newsletter to deliver this way. And initially, DIS would like to send it to everyone who would like to receive it. Membership in DIS is not required.

If you would like to see it, just let [Bob Pries](#) or [Wayne Messer](#) know. Clicking on either name should bring up your email, otherwise, use robertpries@embarqmail.com or wrmesser@gmail.com to contact us.

If your Section (or other part of AIS) would be interested in doing something similar, please let us know.

Quick Links

[AIS Website](#)

[AIS Facebook](#)

[AIS Blog](#)

[Iris Encyclopedia](#)

[News & Notes Archive](#)

[Read AIS Discuss Archives](#)

[EMembers Login](#)

[Types of Irises](#)

[Arl Society International](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society](#)

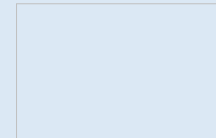
websites for Sections, your Region, and your Club, the [Iris Encyclopedia](#), and News & Notes as opportunities for you to share your experience and expertise. They all contain a wealth of iris information and could use more!

You also can share your love of irises through other publications - your local newspapers for example - and channels. Think about it: **What would you like to share?**

If you need help contacting any of these, please let us know. We'll be glad to point you in a number of directions.

2017 Calendars at Early Discount

Last month we asked you if having the **AIS 2017 Calendar** available early would be desirable. Thanks to your responses, the [Greater Portland Iris Society](#)'s generosity, and Janet Smith's devotion, preparation of the calendars is underway. And you can order them now.



'Dusky Billabong'

The form for ordering your calendars through the AIS storefront is available [here \(PDF\)](#). Note that there is a **discount for early orders placed before May 1st**. They will be shipped as soon as available.

The **Greater Portland Iris Society** provided a generous donation to enable the early preparation of these calendars. And they also requested the donation be used to create a revolving fund continuing calendar creation in future years. Thank you for this donation and your innovative approach!

Thank you also to Lois Rose and Andi Rivarola for publicizing this. Lois has been including information about the calendars with her approvals of show schedules. You may have also seen the [calendars notice on Facebook](#) from Andi.

An Abundance of Iris Shows

Did you know: **You can see an iris show every weekend from now to June 19th!** [This list of over 100 shows](#) that have already been approved has them all by date. Use it to prepare your itinerary heading to the Convention or take a quick weekend drive.



Just a reminder, this year the final show reports should be sent to **Susan Boyce, 5123 South 3500 West, Roy, UT 84067**. Her e-mail: irisgal@hotmail.com Phone #: 801-644-7172. A copy of the final show schedule should be included with the report, and any EC ballots cast at the show provided 5 or more judges voted on exhibited seedlings.

Note that we also have a map showing the show locations

[Median Iris Society](#)

[Tall Bearded Iris Society](#)

[Society for Japanese
Iris](#)

[Society for Louisiana
Iris](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast
Native Iris](#)

[Society for Siberian
Iris](#)

[Species Iris Group of
North America](#)

[Spuria Iris Society](#)

Interests

[Historic Iris
Preservation Society](#)

[Reblooming Iris Society](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

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(city and state) you can see [here](#). No guarantees that everything is where it should be on the map; I did have to move the Lincoln Iris Society show from England to Nebraska. Not a clue why this occurred.

Going East in 2016

Is the theme for this year's AIS Convention in Newark, NJ. See an [invitation](#) from Convention Co-Chair Paul Gossett, the [schedule](#) on the Convention website, and this [list](#) of topics and speakers. Lots and lots of irises: 1800+ guest plants in 888 varieties from 99 hybridizers! Plus all the other irises in the three host gardens which includes [Presby Memorial Iris Gardens](#).



The Convention [website](#) has all the details. Learn about [registration here](#). Then follow the registration link to the [registration form \(PDF\)](#).

Convention Boutique

The **2016 AIS Convention Boutique** is now accepting items for the Boutique. Please contact Jill Bonino at jillbon@earthlink.net to make arrangements to have a booth in the Boutique. Among others there will be iris jewelry, embroidered clothing, and other items such as towels.



'Boutique
Fashion'

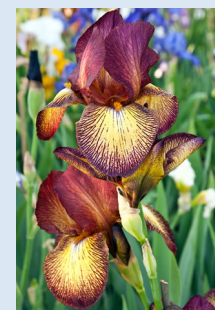
Also, we are **looking for volunteers** to help assist in the Boutique as well as other parts of the 2016 Convention. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Al Elliott at ae Elliott@grandecom.net or you may contact Paul Gossett at pwgossett@juno.com, telephone (918)853-6204.

Shipping details for the Boutique can be found [here \(PDF\)](#). Thank you for your donations.

2016 AIS Photo Contest Begins May 1st

Accepting entries that is. So **now is the time to take iris photos**. There are lots of opportunities: [Iris Shows](#), the [2016 Convention](#), [public \(and private\) gardens](#), and all the great irises you are growing (insert your own links here).

There are 6 categories and both adult and youth photographers may enter. **Entries will be received from May 1st to July 31st (midnight)**. Contest details,



2010
Landscape
Winner Elise

including prizes for the winners, can be found [here](#). That page also has a link to the [entry form, which is this PDF](#). Questions and entries can be emailed to Janet Smith at gby456@gmail.com or send your photo CD and form to the address on the form.

Previous winning photos can be seen in the *Iris Bulletin* and in the links on [this page](#). Best wishes to everyone in this year's contest!

Pollen Exchange Starting

With the bloom season just starting many places, an interesting new opportunity: pollen exchanges. This is a way for iris lovers to work together to create new irises. The [Dwarf Iris Society](#) and the [Aril Society International](#) are offering it and **listing pollen for all types of bearded irises.**



'Foreign Exchange'

Years ago the first Standard Dwarf Irises were conceived from pollen shipped in the mail between Paul Cook and Geddes Douglas. Now you may use the same means to make a cross with a rare pollen parent. Or you could produce crosses where the parents do not bloom at the same time when grown together. What unusual crosses can you make?

This is different than seed exchanges. Pollen does not go to a central location, which would be slower. To learn all the details and what pollen is/may be available, see this [Iris Encyclopedia page](#). That is also where you can offer to donate pollen.

Early Iris Jigsaw Puzzle

There usually are not any iris in bloom here this time of year. So we added some *I. reticulata* bulbs last fall. Many of them were already in bloom March 30th as you can see in this month's jigsaw puzzle. You can play both the [standard difficulty puzzle](#) and the [harder difficulty puzzle](#).



Become an Emember

If you are already a member, you might consider adding an **American Iris Society** Emembership. This is a way for you to show additional support for AIS. For just \$15 a year, in addition to your regular membership charge, you have online access to **Irises**, including all the back issues of it and the **AIS Bulletin**, the

Registration & Introductions database, and you help to support our online initiatives! Find out more [here](#).



And you will qualify for the **AIS Voucher Program** described in earlier issues.

The Emembers Login link can now be found in the Quick Links in the left column. You will need your username and password which comes from the AIS Membership Secretary (aismemsec@irises.org).