

any just a comment, but if you're looking for a member please you are 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.

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



The American Iris Society

News & Notes

November 14 2016

In This Issue

[Recently discovered archeological tool sheds new light on the world's secrets](#)

[Strategic Planning - We Need Your Help](#)

[Christmas Is Coming](#)

[Eagle-eyed Irisarians Needed](#)

[An Ad for Iris Ads](#)

[Spuria Popularity Poll Deadline November 30th](#)

[Planning for 2017 Club Programs](#)

[Planning for the 2017 Convention](#)

[A Jigsaw Puzzle Reprise - Sort Of](#)

Recently discovered archeological tool sheds new light on the world's secrets

Welcome to the 41st 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.

Strategic Planning - We Need Your Help

AIS has a Strategic Planning Committee that really needs your help. You've seen the [Mission Statement that came from their work](#). (That link also has a little more about their results.) Now the group has turned their focus to Long Term and Short Term Goals for AIS.



'Another Suggestion'

And that's where you come in! As an experiment, we're [sharing some of the goals being considered](#). Please give us your thoughts on any or all of them. You can do this in the Comment Box at the bottom of the page or you are welcome to send them to me directly wrmesser@gmail.com. Many of them have questions. We would appreciate your answers and other questions we should be asking.



'It's No Secret'

We all know how frustrating searches on the internet can be. Either we are directed to all sorts of peripheral information or we are inundated with information we don't need. Now on the [Iris Encyclopedia](#) we have available a historic tool that solves these problems. Yes you can still do searches on the Encyclopedia and often they will give you more information than you want. Searching for a cultivar will certainly get you to its page, but it may send you also to all pages where that name is mentioned. If you are looking for a particular topic a search may give you hundreds of pages. But with this "new" ancient tool you can zero in not only on iris information in the Encyclopedia but also information on the AIS website, The Foundation website, and many Section websites. Where can you find this magical tool? On the left side bar highlighted in yellow you will discover the [General Iris Topic "Index"](#).

With the index you can go right to all sorts of things, from the [AIS bylaws](#), to [galleries of botanical art](#). The Index can take you to the [official discussion group AIS discuss](#) or the [current committee reports under Reports to AIS Board](#), or the [job descriptions of AIS offices](#). The Index can help you find [Caps, Sweatshirts, T-Shirts, and coffee mugs](#) with AIS designs that you could give as Christmas presents by going to those words. Hopefully any Iris topic you can think of can be found in the Encyclopedia. If I have missed something let me know. -Bob Pries at robertpries@embarqmail.com.

Be sure to check the links in some of these as well. They are working examples. What do you think of them? **Thank you for your comments, suggestions, thoughts, questions, and interest!**

Attention Planners and Visionaries: If you are able to **contribute your thoughts and feedback on a regular basis** with the AIS Strategic Planning Committee please email Andi Rivarola, the Committee's Chairman: andinsky@gmail.com. Thank you

Christmas Is Coming

It seems early; however, the holidays are just around the corner. And this year there are some exciting new iris-merchandise items for gift shopping. The [AIS CafeExpress Shop](#) has another collection for you to choose from. See the 'Gypsy Lord', 2015 Dykes Medal Winner, [range of items here](#). The [2020 Centennial items with the official logo](#) are also still available. Andi Rivarola has also created a [poster you may use that shows several of the items](#).



The [AIS Storefront](#) is the place to find books, calendars, note cards, and much more.

Several of the Sections also offer shopping on their websites or special selections. Direct links to the shops I've found are:

- [HIPS](#) (they have several [special items for the holidays](#))
- [Society for Japanese Irises](#)
- [Society for Louisiana Irises](#)
- [Spuria Iris Society](#) (they hid it under Tools)

Remember to put yourself on your gift list as well!

Eagle-eyed Irisarians Needed

A draft version of the **Awards ballot for 2017** is available for download at voteirises.org.



'Eagle Eyes'

I am mostly interested in any errors in the irises listed, but I will consider all suggestions for improving the format.

Thank you,

Gerry Snyder
AIS Awards chair
voteirises@gmail.com

Can you help Gerry? Even if you are not looking for errors, it is worth taking a look at the draft Awards Ballot. See what irises you are going to be judging or which ones you should consider growing. You can [search for them in the Iris Encyclopedia by name](#) to learn more.

Quick Links

[AIS Website](#)

[AIS Facebook](#)

[AIS Blog](#)

[Iris Encyclopedia](#)

[News & Notes Archive](#)

[Read AISDiscuss
Archives](#)

[EMembers Login](#)

[Types of Irises](#)

[Aril Society
International](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society](#)

[Median Iris Society](#)

[Tall Bearded Iris Society](#)

[Society for Japanese
Irises](#)

[Society for Louisiana
Irises](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast
Native Iris](#)

[Society for Siberian Irises](#)

[Species Iris Group of
North America](#)

[Spuria Iris Society](#)

[Interests](#)

[Historic Iris Preservation
Society](#)

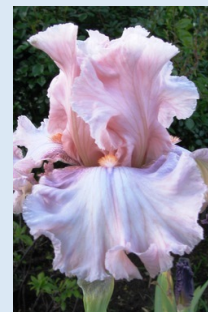
[Reblooming Iris Society](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

::

An Ad for Iris Ads

If you sell irises, please consider a 2" or 3" ad in the shopping section of IRISES. **Target your advertising money to people who love irises!**



'Going Shopping'

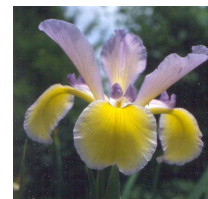
The shopping section ads run for all four issues within the year. So you will have your ad appear in four issues of IRISES. The **cut off date for your ad in the shopping section is November 30th**. Shopping section ads are generally accepted only during this period and again, they run for the year of 2017.

See advertising specifications within any issue of IRISES, or contact me for more information.

Ron Killingsworth, Adv Editor, IRISES
retmiagt@gmail.com

Spuria Popularity Poll Deadline November 30th

It's time for members of the [Spuria Iris Society](#) to vote! What are your 10 (or fewer) favorite Spurias from this growing season? List them in order (number 1 at the top) and **send to Kate Brewitt by November 30th**. Email kbrewitt@rogers.com.



'Happy Choice'

If you are not yet a member, there is still time to [join online](#) and vote!

You can also see the results - with photos! - of some of their earlier popularity polls on the **Iris Encyclopedia**. [Start here for the 2012 results](#) and follow the links to later years.

Planning for 2017 Club Programs

Are you putting together next year's meetings and programs now? There are a number of AIS resources to help you.



'Vintage Year'

Many **Slides and Digital Programs** are available as part of the **Iris Program Resources** from AIS. Information about this service can be found [here](#). The list of Digital Programs and the order form can be found in the *Irises Bulletin*, Fall 2016 issue on page 47. An [earlier PDF 2016 order form](#) can be found online. It does not have the two newest offerings, "**Storybook Gardens**" and "**Color Patterns - Forms - Novelty**". Contact Janet Smith at aisslides@irises.org to order any of these.

There are also videos from AIS and others that come from YouTube that could serve as programs or parts of programs. Many of these you can find on the **Iris Encyclopedia** by [searching for "video" in the Iris Encyclopedia](#). Also check out these [five videos from the 2016 HIPS Program](#) at the Convention.

Do you have suggestions for programs that Clubs and other groups should consider? Please let us know!

Planning for the 2017 Convention

Something else to add to your calendar, the **AIS 2017 Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. Mark the dates May 23-27**. Read all about it in the *Irises Bulletin* Fall 2016 issue, p 44-45.



'Blue Rhythm'

These are the links you need: The [Convention website is ais2017.wordpress.com](#) and the [Registration page is here](#). The Registration page has the Convention Registration form, Convention Rates hotel reservation links, and Geek Dinner registration information.

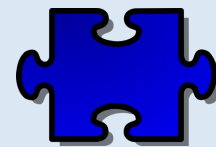
The **five display gardens feature 2200 guest plants representing over 600 varieties**. See them at the three private gardens plus the [Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden](#) and the [Iowa Arboretum](#).

Did you know that you can also follow [our website](#) and receive an email each time it is updated? When you go to the website, there will be a **Follow box** in the lower right-hand corner. Just click on Follow and enter your email address, then click on Sign me up. If you don't see the box, try scrolling upwards.

Hope to see you in Des Moines!

A Jigsaw Puzzle Reprise - Sort Of

While I try to avoid using the same iris too frequently, at this time of year having fresh photos limits my choices. And I really like this photo where I turned on the date stamp.



The iris is the SDB ['Prank'](#) by Keppel 2000. Looking at the description and the photos has me wondering whether they really match up with mine. What do you think?

You can see my October 29th photo by solving either the [standard difficulty puzzle](#) or the [harder difficulty puzzle](#). Thank you for your comments.

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).