



The American Iris Society

News & Notes

June 11 2017

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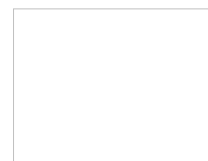
2018 Your Invitation to Attend the AIS/SLI Conventions in New Orleans.

2018 Votre Invitation à Assister Aux

Welcome to the 48th 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.

From the 2017 Convention

As we recover from the AIS 2017 Convention:), our thanks to everyone who helped to make it a successful convention by volunteering and by attending. The weather cooperated marvelously and there were many, many irises in bloom!

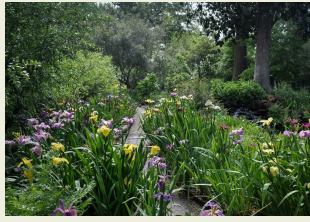


The ***Irises Bulletin*** will have more about the convention and the five gardens in the next issue. Some of the early results can be found on the [AIS Facebook page](#). Be sure to see the other convention photos there as well! These include the convention cups winners:

- President's Cup - ['Landscaping Made Easy'](#) (Ensminger)
- Franklin Cook Memorial Cup - ['Heart Of Hearts'](#) (Black)
- Ben R. Hager Cup - ['Chocolate Fountain'](#) (Fisher)
- Lloyd Zurbrig-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup - [ADG 11-02-04 \(Dash\)](#)

And a [short video of the Jurik garden](#) from Facebook. The [Convention website](#) also has photos and we will be adding more. Here are some [visitors to the Iowa Arboretum](#) and a view of [what would greet visitors in two days](#).

Conventions AIS / SLI à New Orleans



The American Iris Society, [The Greater New Orleans Iris Society](#), and [The Society For Louisiana Irises](#) are glad to be the hosts for the [2018 AIS/SLI Conventions in New Orleans, LA](#). New Orleans

"The Big Easy" is the largest city in Louisiana. It was established by French colonists and strongly influenced by their European culture.

Attendees will have the opportunity to tour 6 beautiful gardens for three days. Wednesday we will tour [Longue View House & Gardens](#) and [NOMASydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden](#).

Thursday travel to and Tour "A Louisiana Pond" in Madisonville and [Hammond Research Station of the LSU AgCenter](#). Friday travel to Baton Rouge to Tour [Burden Museum & Gardens](#) and The [Baton Rouge Botanic Gardens](#).

The [Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel](#) located in Kenner, LA with free shuttle service to and from the airport. Also, the hotel is offering our attendees 'Complimentary' Free Parking as well as 'Complimentary' WIFI in the guest rooms and meeting rooms.

Watch for more information on the [AIS web site](#) as well as in upcoming issues of "IRISES" and "News and Notes".

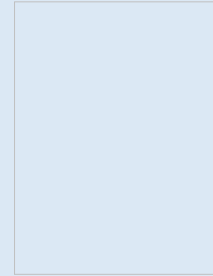
You are invited to Come to New Orleans and enjoy two wonderful conventions and see the

There were several new features at this convention. Among them was the Saturday Symposium. This featured **The Juno Iris Species by Tony Hall, Artistic Iris Arrangements by Dawn Boyer, and Agnes Whiting and the Journey to Blue Rhythm by Cathy Egerer.** Thank you to all our speakers. And an additional thank you to Tom Jurik (of the Kris and Tom Jurik garden) who volunteered to record all these talks. Copies of these will be available; details to follow.

AIS Iris Shows

We are coming to the end of the regular iris shows season. You can see all the [approved shows](#) (past and upcoming) by date. They also include the first reblooming iris show approved for this year.

One part of the iris shows awards that had not occurred to me is the possibility of reusing medals. **Thank you to Jim and Jean Morris for suggesting this by donating a number of their silver and bronze medals for reuse.** Since then I have received medals from other donors and some of the show reports I am receiving specifically say not to send medals because they have had some donated which they are using. **If you have some you would like to donate, please let me know.** Send or contact me at: Wayne Messer, PO Box 64, Huxley, IA 50124
phone: 515-597-4240 | e-mail: wrmesser@gmail.com
Thank you!



Strategic Planning and Other Convention Excitement

Okay, the irises and people were more exciting and fun. And we report on some of these elsewhere in this edition.

The AIS Board took two steps forward on strategic planning at the **Des Moines Convention**. They approved the [10 Vision Statements](#) presented by the Strategic Planning Committee and then the 7 [Long Term \(2022\) Goals](#). (Links are to the PDF reports prepared for the meeting.) The [Long Term Goals](#) list also includes possible projects and short term goals for each Long Term Goal. **Which of these visions, projects, and goals excite you?**



'Sheer
Excitement'

[The reports prepared by all the committees for the Board meeting](#) can be found online (those are the Spring 2017 ones). Reading them is a good way to find out what is happening and to see how you might like to participate. **AIS needs your ideas and enthusiasm!** Another resource for how you might jump in is the [Volunteer Opportunities page](#).

Paul W. Gossett, 2018
Convention Co-Chair
Joe Musacchia, 2018
Convention Co-Chair

Quick Links

[AIS Website](#)

[AIS Facebook](#)

[AIS Blog](#)

[Iris Encyclopedia](#)

[News & Notes Archive](#)

[Read AISDiscuss
Archives](#)

[EMembers Login](#)

Types of Irises

[Arl 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](#)

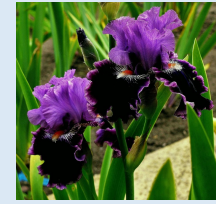
[Reblooming Iris
Society](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

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World of Irises

The AIS blog [World of Irises](#) has so many great topics that I have fallen way behind in highlighting them. There are several ways you can keep up with the blog including follow by email and becoming a follower - see the left-hand column of the blog. Another option is by going to this [list of the most recent 100 postings](#); it is automatically updated when a new post is made.



'Hazelbrae'

Some recent topics are:

- ["Talking Irises" GARDEN MAGIC FILLS MY SOUL](#) by Susanne Holland Spicker includes a [video](#) of award-winning iris hybridizer Katarzyna "Kat" Zalewska's iris garden
- [Space Age Iris - After Austin](#) by Jean Richter. Be sure and see her 3 part series [Lloyd Austin - Pioneering Iris Hybridizer](#) (link is to part3)
- [Dwarfs for Every Garden](#) by Tom Waters. Which led me to his [list of pure Iris pumila cultivars](#) to help your hybridization efforts. This is on his [Telperion Oasis website](#) devoted to the theory and practice of hybridizing bearded and arillate irises.
- [Recent Louisiana Iris hybrids](#) by Ron Killingsworth offers mouth-watering photos of Louisianas.

Whatever your iris interests, **World of Irises** will have something you need to see!

HIPS Rhizome Sale July 22-27

The annual HIPS rhizome sale starts on **Saturday, July 22 for HIPS members** and on **Tuesday, July 25 for non-members**. This year's sale promises to be a blockbuster! We expect to have over 500 varieties of irises available, almost all of them historic. This will be a "live" sale



again; you will be able to see what's available using our online spreadsheet, and as rhizomes are purchased the quantities will decrease. The master list, with photos, will be posted by Monday, July 17, giving everyone a few days to look it over and make their selections. HIPS members will get priority purchasing for the first three days. Irises will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. If you aren't a member, you can join for only \$13 per year (\$10 for an electronic membership). Check www.historiciris.org for information and links to the master sheets as we set them up. Mark your calendars, and thank you for your support!

Programs for Your Club

One of my goals with News & Notes is to help you find the useful and exciting items you need. Programs for your clubs are hopefully both.



'Speakeasy'

AIS has two types of program resources for you, **Speakers** and **Slides & Digital**.

Al Elliott handles the requests for speakers. Contact him (email aaelliott@grandecom.net) if you are looking for a speaker for your club or an iris outreach program for other groups. He has a database being updated of iris topics and speakers. [This questionnaire](#) he created has a list of past topics.

The digital programs are offered in both CD and digital (PowerPoint) versions. You can [order from this list](#) or learn more about the [programs here](#).

In addition to programs from AIS, several of the sections offer slides, CDs or digital versions for sale or rent. Since I was unable to find a summary of these, I've started one on the wiki. You can see it [here](#). **Please add others that you know! Thank you.**

Photo Contest Deadline June 15th

We're getting very close - so just a short reminder. The **deadline for receiving entries in the AIS Photo Contest is Midnight June 15th.**



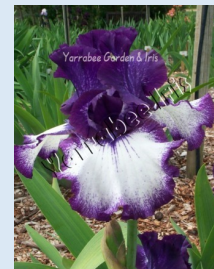
The photos of iris do not have to be from this year. If you have a good photo from past years, enter that. Thank you to all who are participating.

Janet Smith
Coordinator of:
AIS Calendar and Photo Contest
HIPS Slide Preservation
P O Box 1585
Coarsegold, CA 93614-1585
559-683-0447 (home and fax)

All the [contest details are available here](#). And this is a direct link to the [entry form \(PDF\)](#). Email your entries to Janet at gbyp456@gmail.com.

AIS Board Notes

We've already covered some of the Spring 2017 Convention in other items. There were a number of other decisions made which are listed in the [Board Motions Spring 2017](#) (that link is to a directory rather than to [this PDF](#) which may have a different name - meaning this PDF link will no longer work - as revisions are made.)



'Checkerboard'

Included were some Bylaw changes that were accepted and others that have been proposed for discussion. More details on these can be found in the [Bylaws Review Committee Report](#) and their [Bylaw Changes Draft](#).

Something I learned from attending the meeting, the Judges Handbook Revision Committee has the chapters from the Handbook on the wiki, as PDFs, so you can see them and add your suggestions and comments. There is

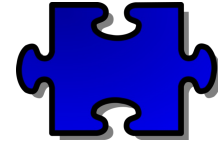
also a draft of [Judging Plants Grown in Containers](#) for possible inclusion. [Start here](#) to find the different Handbook parts for your review and suggestions.

See [all the committee reports here](#).

Upcoming will be **Board teleconferences on the fourth Wednesday of the month beginning at 8 p.m. Eastern time**. Watch [AISDiscuss](#) and check the [News page on the AIS website](#) for details on listening and participating.

A Convention Jigsaw Puzzle

With the Convention in Des Moines this year, I have lots of great irises to choose from for puzzles.



First up is '[Rare Coin](#)' by Ghio (2014) with a photo taken a few days after the Convention in our garden. You can play either the [standard puzzle](#) or the [harder puzzle](#) or both.

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).