



The American Iris Society

News & Notes

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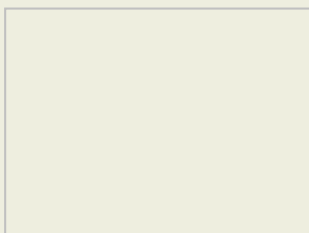
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Make your plans NOW to attend the 2018 AIS/SLI Convention in New Orleans



Welcome to the 53rd 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.

2018 Aril Trek

The [Mesilla Valley Iris Society](#) (MVIS) and [Aril Society International](#) (ASI) will host an **Aril Trek in Las Cruces, New Mexico April 6-7, 2018**. We will convene on the evening of Friday April 6 at the historic [Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces](#), which is offering us luxury hotel accommodations at economy hotel rates (\$99 per night) for the Aril Trek. After the evening registration, there will be a social hour and we will play Aril Bingo. We shall retire early in preparation for a full day of garden tours and an evening banquet on Saturday April 7. Noted Aril hybridizer Pete McGrath has agreed to be our Keynote Speaker.



MVIS has scheduled Aril Trek 2018 to coincide with the expected peak bloom of Arilbred Iris in our area. The garden tour will visit four member gardens, each with plantings of 100-200 Aril and Arilbred iris. Several Arilbred hybridizers have contributed recent introductions for these gardens. A light breakfast and lunch will be served in the gardens. The tour will conclude with an Arilbred judges training in the last garden.

Sunday April 8 will be a travel day, conveniently

Make your plans NOW to attend the 2018 AIS/SLI Convention in New Orleans.

Six beautiful and distinct gardens will be seen at the 2018 AIS/SLI Convention in New Orleans. You will find information and registration form on the 2018 Convention Website

www.2018irisconvention.org.

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

We will be visiting **Longue Vue House and Gardens** located in New Orleans. The house and gardens were the dream of Edith and Edgar Stern, who were prominent citizens of the community.

The construction of the mansion was completed in 1942 and is surrounded by eight acres of beautiful gardens. The estate was opened to the public in 1968. You will see an assortment of Louisiana Irises planted in the gardens, both hybrids and species.

We will also be visiting the **New Orleans Museum of Art's Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden** located in New Orleans City Park. The GNOIS Display Garden is located here with about 120 cultivars and guest plants along a beautiful lagoon.

While in City Park, we will take a tour of the **Louisiana Iris Species Preservation Project** site. This is not a manicured site but, you will have a unique opportunity to see our native irises as they were once found in the wild.

Thursday, April 12, 2018

On Thursday, we will cross the 24 mile Lake Pontchartrain Causeway to Madisonville, LA and **Gary and Leigh Anne Salathe's "A Louisiana Pond"**. This is a subdivision detention pond next door to their home that Gary turned into a place to showcase Louisiana Irises, other native plants, and a habitat for wildlife.

Since we are on the

scheduled for continuing to the [AIS/SLI 2018 Convention April 9-14 New Orleans, LA](#).

We look forward to sharing the joy of our gardens with friends from the American Iris Society. For information and Aril Trek Registration please contact Dell Perry, 800 Purcell Dr, Plano, TX 75025 (972-816-3418) or seandelirises@yahoo.com.

Registration form also available at:

<http://www.arilsociety.org/docs/events/ARIL-TREK-2018-Registration-form.pdf>.

2018 Convention Boutique

Vendors, now is the time to begin planning for the sale of your merchandise at the boutique of the **2018 AIS and SLI National Convention**. Hosted by the **Greater New Orleans Iris Society** on **April 8-14** at the Hilton New Orleans Airport, 902 Airline Drive, Kenner, La 70062

Set-Up: Sunday, April 8, 2018

6:00pm - 10:00pm

Take Down: Saturday, April 14, 2018: 9:00am - 2:00pm

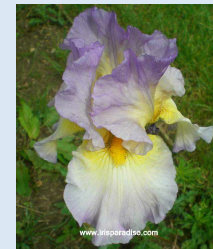
Once your table is set up, you need not be present during the convention. We will handle the sales.

If you are not attending the convention, arrangements can be made to set up and tear down your table. Merchandise can be mailed to: **Eileen Hollander, 5436 S. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125**. Please be sure to mark the outside of your box: 2018 AIS CONVENTION BOUTIQUE. Please ship by the U.S. Postal Service, UPS or Fed-X. Boxes must arrive there by Sunday, April 1, 2018.

Further details and the registration form are available [here](#).

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 682-300-6943 (leave message if no answer or you can text me at this number) or email me at wadefemk@yahoo.com.

Thanks,
Kathy Wade
Boutique Chairperson



'Fashion Boutique'

Dallas and Webconference Board Meetings

Several notable items from Dallas and for future Board meetings. A big **thank you to the Iris Society of Dallas** for hosting the Fall Board Meeting in early November. It was great! Online you can find the [motions from the meeting](#), the [reports](#), and soon the minutes.



'Web Of Desire'

Northshore we will drive to the **Hammond Research Station of the LSU AgCenter**, which focuses on landscape horticulture rather than agricultural crops. The 150 acres is the setting for the evaluation of more than 500 ornamental plants including large beds of Louisiana Irises. One large bed is devoted to convention guest irises.

Friday, April 13, 2018

We drive north to Baton Rouge to tour the **Burden Museum and Gardens**. This is a 440 acre LSU facility that includes formal gardens, and an arboretum and swamp. You will see primarily species and older Louisiana Irises and many other things. **The Rural Life Museum** is a special attraction at Burden

The Baton Rouge Botanic Garden in Baton Rouge has many of the late Joe Mertzwiller hybrids. Joe's efforts led to the creation of the large iris planting. You will see both guest plants and other cultivars.

See you in New Orleans.

2018 Convention Committee

Note: Permission given to use portions of this information as originally appeared in the Fall 2017 issue of the SLI "Fleur de Lis" pages 9 through 12 and on the 2018 Convention Web Site.

Quick Links

[AIS Website](#)

[AIS Facebook](#)

[AIS Blog-](#)

[Iris Encyclopedia](#)

[News & Notes Archive](#)

[AISDiscuss Archives - 2005-November 2017](#)

[Current AIS Discuss](#)

One of the decisions was to continue the monthly Board teleconferences as webconferences. Beginning with the **Wednesday, November 29th meeting** you can participate via the Internet or you can call in. Zoom is the service we will be using for video. Learn all the details on the [AIS website News page](#) or [here](#). Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate in these meetings.

Another change that began after the Dallas meeting is in AISDiscuss. This has been moved to Google Groups. As before, everyone can read the discussion; however, only Board members, committee chairs, RVPs, and certain other positions can post to it. You can read the new [AIS Discuss discussions here](#).

Other Board discussion lists are also being moved to Google Groups. Some of the committees have also begun using Google Groups for their committee discussions. If you would like to do this, David Cupps, Electronic Services Chair, can help you get started.

Note: The Quick Links in the left-hand column of News & Notes have been updated to incorporate the AIS Discuss change. The previous AISDiscuss archives, from 2005 to early November this year, are still available [here](#).

Additional Note: Would you like to try out Google Groups? I have set up one for playing around with. You can see it and post to it [here](#). You can also post to it by sending email to ais-sample-test@googlegroups.com. Please try it out! I would love for you to send your News & Notes suggestions and comments that way. Difficulties? Email me directly wrmesser@gmail.com.

Vote for Your Favorite Spurias - Deadline December 15th

Every year the [Spuria Iris Society](#) has a popularity poll for members to choose their favorite spurias. You can choose up to 10 favorites and list them in order of preference from 1 - your TOP favorite - to down to 10. The overall favorites are then chosen using a point system. Your **favorites do not have to be growing in your garden.**



'Line Dancing'

Return your favorites list to Darol Jurn **no later than December 15, 2017**. Include your garden location and/or your USDA zone. Contact information: E-mail: djurn@prodigy.net

Mail to: Darol Jurn
100 Sedona Vista Dr.
Sedona, AZ 86338-6017
USA

You can see galleries of the winners on the Iris Encyclopedia. Here are the [2012 favorites](#), the [2013 favorites](#), and the [2014 favorites](#).

Iris Themed Holiday Gifts

[EMembers Login](#)

[Types of Irises](#)

[Ariel 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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It's not the sport of Black Friday; however, you can find a number of gifts for others or yourself from AIS. See the [selections from Cafe Press](#) where there are now 4 different collections. Head over to the [AIS Storefront](#) for books, note cards, Judges Handbook, and other reference material. And an [AIS membership](#) makes a good Christmas gift for a gardener.



'Alessandra's
Gift'

Look at the Sections for shopping as well. There are items at [HIPS including publications and gifts](#), the [Society for Louisiana Irises special publications](#), [Spuria Iris Society books, pamphlets, and images](#), and the [Reblooming Iris Society checklists and programs](#).

The ***Irises Bulletin*** has many advertisers as well. Find gifts for you favorite gardeners there!

More Iris Events

Two more opportunities to see irises next year!

The **2018 Silver Siberian/Species Convention** will be **May 25th and 26th in Hunt Valley, Maryland**. There will be [5 gardens and an iris show](#). [Hotel information and registration form](#) and the [tentative schedule](#) have more details. See this [Convention page of the Society for Siberian Irises](#) for any updates.



'Social Event'

If a royal wedding is not sufficient reason to visit England next year, consider this: the **British Iris Society** will have iris shows! The [schedule for the early and late spring shows](#) and the [schedule for the summer show](#) are now available on [this page](#) of the British Iris Society website.

Excitement with Newsletters

Newsletters throughout AIS are great sources of information and ideas! I'm always amazed by what the editors are doing. These are some that I've recently encountered.



'Sheer
Excitement'

Region 17 has a great [newsletter](#); however, that is not why I am mentioning it. What they have decided to do is **email it to all AIS Officers, Directors, Chairs, and RVPs**. A great idea! And something for other groups to think about.

A club [newsletter](#) I was recently reading comes from the **Delaware Valley Iris Society**. One of its components is a long-running series of iris photography tips. As an example check the one on the last page of [their October 2017 newsletter](#). Ron Thoman has done an incredible job creating these tips over a number of years.

Thank you to all the newsletter editors for all you do.

Did you know that the [Hager/DuBose Memorial Online Iris Library](#) includes reading rooms where you can find newsletters or links to them? A great starting point for locating newsletters. More and more of them are available online or in digital format.

Icing the Jigsaw Puzzle

Another guest iris from the 2017 Convention. This is '[Icing](#)', a MTB by Stephanie Markham (2011). It was seen at the [Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden](#) during the tours. Both [standard difficulty](#) and [harder difficulty](#) puzzles for you to enjoy.



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).