

ing Awards of Merit and practically all those given Honorable Mention.

The "Family Album," near the entrance, contains introductions named in honor of Mrs. Blake—Louise Blake, Neighbor, Three Oaks, Lady Louise, and The Spartan.

To bid farewell to the iris lovers both new and seasoned, clumps of the best whites are portrayed against a background of French lilacs in a grouping called "Snowdrift."

"Three Oaks" will be a thing of beauty in the spring, for it is planned by an outstanding horticulturist, who has the eye of an artist and the soul of a poet.

1948 IRIS SHOWS*

MRS. RALPH E. RICKER, (IOWA)

Chairman, Exhibitions Committee

COLUMBUS, OHIO

Columbus' first iris show since 1941 was presented by the Columbus Iris Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society on May 22 and 23 at the Columbus Gallery of Fine Art. The excellent attendance was evidence of genuine interest and a hearty welcome of the show's return. All during the hours there were people milling around, jotting down the names of varieties they preferred. No doubt our show has done much to encourage the growing of more iris in the Ohio gardens.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was awarded to Mr. Robert H. McCormick, who received the greatest number of prize points in the show. Mrs. Paul Stephan was awarded the Bronze Medal for receiving the second highest number of prize points.

The American Iris Society membership was awarded to Mrs. S. A. Warman for her exhibit of a collection of iris by one who had not previously shown at this or any other AIS show.

The most outstanding stalk in the show was Snow Velvet, exhibited by Mrs. V. I. Sheridan.

Mr. McCormick also received the Louise H. Arbuckle Silver Cup for having the greatest number of first prize points in the iris division of the show. This cup must be won three times by the same exhibitor in order to gain permanent ownership. The Silver Cup is offered by Miss Mabel Arbuckle and Mrs. Fern A. Powell as a memorial to their mother who was one of the founders and first president of the Columbus Iris Society.

—Robert H. McCormick, *Show Chairman*

—Grace G. Innis, *Schedule Chairman*

*1948 shows in Birmingham, Ala; Enid, Okla.; Macon, Ga.; Oklahoma City, Okla., and Sioux City, Iowa, were reported in the last (October) BULLETIN.

DULUTH, MINN.

The Duluth Peony and Iris Society held its iris show June 11 and 12 in the City Hall. Due to a very early spring the show was held ten days earlier than any previous one but the quality of bloom and the number of varieties exhibited surpassed many of our past showings.

Mr. Austin Fathers carried off the honors, winning the American Iris Society Silver Medal for the most points in the show and the Bronze Medal for receiving the most points in the specimen classes.

There is a growing interest in iris in Duluth for our attendance was exceptionally large and many of the visitors were busy with pencil and paper taking the names of the varieties which they desire to purchase.

—Mrs. J. F. Thompson

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HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

The ninth iris show sponsored by the Hollywood Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society was held April 17 and 18 in Plummer Park. The date of the show being a little too early for the height of bloom naturally cut down the number of specimens for competition.

Mr. Marion R. Walker, Ventura, was awarded the Silver Medal of the AIS, and the Bronze Medal of the AIS was won by Dr. Roswell H. Johnson. The new book, *THE IRIS*, offered by the Hollywood Garden Club, was won by Mr. Frederick Kennedy, San Dimas.

Some remarkable specimens were brought out in the seedling class. One, a yellow self from the Syllmar Gardens in San Fernando, will surely be heard from when it gets into commerce. The following seedlings received the "Certificate of Commendation"—

551A—Spring Romance	Elma Miess
535A—Lake Tenaya	Elma Miess
270A—Desert Twilight	Elma Miess
Amiquita (douglasiana)	Eric Nies
8172	Tom Craig

The flower arrangements were excellent as usual. The sweepstakes was won by Mrs. Muriel Wright, North Hollywood, with a beautiful arrangement of the spuria variety, Russet Flame, with iris foliage. Second place was won by Mrs. Nan Wolfe, Hollywood, using the douglasiana, Orchid Sprite. There were about fifty arrangements in competition and they were judged by "Mirandy" (Mrs. F. S. Bauersfeld), Helen Doods and Charles Darland. The judges for the specimen and collection iris were Dr. Sydney B. Mitchell of Berkeley, Mr. Carl C. Taylor of San Bernardino and Mrs. Elsie Heimer of Sherman Oaks.

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JENKINSBURG, GA.

The Jenkinsburg Garden Club held its third annual iris show under the auspices of the American Iris Society on April 24. It was the height of the season and many fine blooms were displayed.

The most outstanding iris in the show was a well-grown stalk of Mellow-

glow, exhibited by Mrs. T. T. Patrick. Mrs. Patrick also won first place for the most outstanding arrangement. The arrangement classes of the AIS Bulletin Contest were included in the show schedule. Photographs of the winning arrangements were entered in the national contest. Of special interest in the arrangement section was the class for garden clubs, with each club in the country taking part. The Towaliga Garden Club won first place.

The Bronze Medal of the American Iris Society was won by Mrs. F. W. Childs, who received the greatest number of prize points. Mrs. T. T. Patrick won the second highest number of points but as she is a member of the AIS, the membership award was given to Mrs. H. G. Harris. Mrs. W. J. Saunders won the book, *THE IRIS*, for the third place point total.

Judges for the show were: Specimens—Mr. Harvey Hobson, our Regional Vice-President, and Mr. Milton Blanton, Atlanta; Arrangements—Mrs. Buford Freeman, Mrs. C. E. Biggerstaff and Mrs. Sallie Hawkins, Macon.

The show committee was highly commended by the many out-of-town visitors on the beauty and success of the exhibition. Plans are being made for a bigger and better one next year.

—Mrs. F. W. Childs, President

—Mrs. T. T. Patrick, General Chairman

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MIO, MICH.

An iris show of which the residents of Oscoda County and Northwestern Michigan can well be proud was staged by the Mio Irisarians at the Mio Community Building, Sunday, June 13. This was the only accredited iris show held in Michigan this year under the American Iris Society's rules and regulations.

About 1,000 people, including those from six different states, saw the show. Entries were made from Rose City, Standish, West Branch and as far south as East Lansing, Michigan.

The show included commercial exhibits from the Kohler Greenhouse of Barton City and the Gladwin Greenhouse, together with numerous individual displays of flowers and plants. An Oriental Poppy Section was included in this year's schedule and contained some fine specimens.

Mrs. Mildred Randall of Mio was the chairman of arrangements and was assisted by the club officers, Bennett Azer, Shirley Breyton and Devere Dockham, of Mio, and Mrs. Florence Bishop, of West Branch. Mrs. John Mitchell and Mrs. Mae Stevens, of Mio, were in charge of the decorations.

The AIS Bronze Medal for the best entry in the show went to Bennett Azer for an exceptionally well grown bloom spike of Missouri. Other prizes awarded included a one year's membership in the American Iris Society and about \$400 worth of choice irises, Oriental poppies and gladiolus contributed by fourteen commercial growers in various parts of the United States.

A similar show will be held in mid-June next year, and all growers of iris in Northwestern Michigan are particularly requested to watch for announcements.

Among some of the prize iris entered in the show were Great Lakes, Sable,

National Giant, Pink Reflection, Harriet Thoreau, Prairie Sunset, Tiffanja, Tobacco Road, Spun Gold, Golden Treasure, Wabash, Amigo, Ormohr and Elmohr.

Following is a list of the first-prize winners:

Arrangements—Mrs. Ersa Wheeler, of West Branch; Mrs. Iva Schroeder, Mrs. Verne Dockham, Mrs. Charles Smith, Mrs. Mildred Randall, of Mio; and Mrs. W. H. Barton of East Lansing; St. Mary's Altar Society and the American Legion Auxiliary, of Mio.

Iris Specimens (including beardless iris) and Collections; also Oriental poppies—Mrs. Ersa Wheeler and Mrs. Florence Bishop, of West Branch; Mr. William Cummings, Rose City; Mrs. E. Shantz, Fairview; Mr. L. LaMont, Standish; Mrs. W. H. Barton, East Lansing; and Mrs. Mildred Randall, Mrs. Florence Walker, Mrs. John Roder and Mr. Bennett Azer, Mio.

This iris show is of special interest as it is held annually in the most sparsely populated county of the state and in a section where it was thought to be almost impossible to grow iris.

Mrs. C. W. Naas, Detroit, accredited judge of the American Iris Society and Mr. A. W. Steward of the Detroit Iris Society and member of the AIS, judged the show.

—*Bennett Azer, President, The Mio Irisarians*

EDITOR'S NOTE—Speaking of the Mio Irisarians, Mrs. C. W. Naas, one of the show judges, said, "I have never seen a more enthusiastic group. They are growing good iris in pure sand. Mio is a little town of about 500 people, but their show was a large one and well set up in a lovely large community building."

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NEOSHO, MO.

The annual iris show sponsored by the Neosho Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society—a most successful one—was held May 8 and 9 at the Farm Auditorium of the Court House.

There were forty-three exhibitors, and many fine specimens were shown. All exhibits were displayed in attractive green containers designed and made by the club. Entries from Aurora, Pierce City, Monette and Joplin added to the interest and many visitors were here from towns in the territory.

Special features of the exhibition were a large display of named iris from the garden of Mr. Allen Wild of Sarcoxie and an outstanding display of seedlings grown by Mrs. Walter Gates of Aurora.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was awarded to Mrs. Earl Bowers, Neosho, for receiving the greatest number of points. The sweepstakes bloom was a splendid stalk of Maid of Astolat which was exhibited by Mrs. Albert Henke, entitling her to the one year's AIS membership. Mrs. Carl Wegman, of Aurora, placed first with an arrangement of early bearded iris with other flowers in a triangular arrangement. Mrs. E. E. Witty won first in a free lance arrangement of iris.

Everyone who worked to make the 1948 iris show a success is deeply appreciative of the assistance given them by the community and the American Iris Society. Officers of the club appreciate the number of entries and the work

of the exhibitors and are pleased with the interest in the special arrangements on display. The people both locally and in this territory look forward each year to the annual iris show given by the Neosho Garden Club.

—Mrs. E. E. Witty, *President*

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ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Region 18 held its first regional show in St. Joseph, May 22, under the auspices of the St. Joseph Council of Garden Clubs and the American Iris Society.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was won by Rev. David Kinish for receiving the highest number of points in the show. The Bronze Medal for the second highest number of points was awarded to Fred Stock. Dr. H. W. Schirmer won the Silver Cup for the best specimen exhibited, a splendid stalk of *Angelus* with six perfect open blooms. Dr. Schirmer also had the best collection of ten specimen stalks.

The book, *THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL*, was awarded to the three top winners in the arrangement classes. These were Mrs. Warren Adams, Mrs. George Spalsbury and Mrs. C. J. Feeney.

—Asta Schirmer, *Secretary*

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ST. LOUIS, MO.

A most successful iris show, sponsored by the Iris Section of the St. Louis Horticultural Society in cooperation with the AIS, was held May 15 and 16 in the Display House of the world famous Missouri Botanical Gardens. Despite the fact that we had a hard rain on the opening day of the show, estimated attendance was about 10,000. Hundreds of visitors were in line well before the judging was over. St. Louis' first iris show was definitely a treat to flower lovers. The AIS gained many new members.

The Silver Medal of the Society was awarded to Mrs. J. L. Reeves for being grand sweepstakes winner as the result of receiving the most blue ribbons for individual exhibits.

Mr. Clifford W. Benson was awarded the Bronze Medal of the AIS for exhibiting the most outstanding stalk in the show—*Hiwassee*.

Mrs. Walter H. Buxton exhibited a superb collection of Dykes Medal winners, which received much attention.

Many choice seedlings were exhibited. Recommended for Certificates of Commendation were *Gleaming Waters* (*plicata*) and *Royal Charm* (*amoena*), shown by Mr. Ellsworth Appel; and *Swan Lake* (*sky blue*), *Tosca* (*medium ruffled blue*) and *Seedling No. 43-34A* (*white—tentatively White Sentry*) of Mr. Clifford Benson.

Dr. C. E. Branch, Piper City, Ill., and Mr. Ralph Schroeder, Warrensburg, Ill., were the judges. The entire show committee was very proud of their efforts and we are hoping for a repeat performance in 1949.

—Clifford Benson, *Show Chairman*

—W. F. Scott, Jr., *Co-Chairman*

SHREVEPORT, LA.

The rotunda of the State Exhibit Building was beautifully decorated by the Shreveport Iris Society for the iris show which was held April 24 and 25, in cooperation with the American Iris Society.

In spite of heavy rains which preceded the opening, a fine collection of blooms was on display, both bearded and beardless. The focal point of the entire setting was a pool with running water and a rock garden with woodland plants. In the background were oaks and pines with Louisiana gray moss hanging from the limbs of the oaks.

Members of the local society who live in Longview, Texas, displayed a chuck wagon, typical of old ranching days; it was decorated with Texas blue-bonnets.

The Silver Medal of the AIS, given to the exhibitor receiving the greatest number of prize points, was won by Mrs. Walter Colquitt; the Bronze Medal for the best specimen iris exhibited was won by Mr. Ed. Dickinson. Mrs. Milton Trichel exhibited the most outstanding beardless iris in the show, but as Mrs. Trichel is a member of the AIS, the membership award was given to Mrs. S. S. Simon, who was next in line.

The arrangement classes were most interesting and photographs were made of the winning arrangements to be entered in the contest sponsored by the AIS BULLETIN.

Judges were Mr. W. R. Cochran, an accredited judge of the AIS from Dallas, Texas; Mrs. John McInnis of Minden, La., and Mrs. Doris Ocker of Barksdale Field, Texas.

—Mrs. Earl Bellows, Chairman

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TWIN FALLS, IDAHO

The Twin Falls Garden Club, inspired by its iris committee, sponsored the first meeting ever held in Region 11. Features included our first all-iris show in cooperation with the American Iris Society and a banquet in the evening. The show was held in the Public Library on June 9. Enthusiastic visitors, many from out of town, view the forty-seven classes, and during the entire show there was a noticeable interest among the visitors, many taking notes on varieties.

Mrs. Thomas E. Speedy won sweepstakes and was awarded the Bronze Medal of the AIS. Mrs. John D. Flatt, winning the second highest number of points, was awarded the AIS membership.

To encourage more entries, special cash prizes were given by the Regional Vice-President to the club whose members aggregate the most scoring points. The member who won the most points in each winning club received iris rhizomes from the donor's garden. The Flower Companions, of Castleford, placed first, the Garden Friends, of Buhl, second, and the Emanon Club, of Twin Falls, third.

Iris rhizomes from members of the Twin Falls Garden Club were credited to those persons who, as they registered, drew lucky numbers, with the iris to be delivered at digging time.

Mrs. James Maher, Nampa, Idaho, accredited AIS judge, and Mrs. C. W.

Vallette, of Declo, Idaho, judged the cultural section. Mrs. Rose Williams, Twin Falls, and Mrs. Dave Fox, of Buhl, judged the artistic arrangements.

There were thirteen classes for arrangements, the first four being those of the AIS BULLETIN contest. A photographer was on hand to photograph the winning arrangements which were sent to the contest chairman.

The show committee wishes to thank those who helped to make the show a success.

—Mrs. Sidney W. Smith, Mrs. Hanely Payne, Show Chairmen

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VILLA PARK, ILL.

The Women's Garden Club of Villa Park Spring Flower and Iris Show was held June 5 and 6 in cooperation with the America Iris Society. Over seven hundred people attended, with that spontaneous enthusiasm and interest which is indubitably associated with iris. We had visitors from Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana and Iowa and from towns in the Chicago area and from Chicago.

The Silver Medal of the American Iris Society was won by Mrs. Adolph Ryba, who received the greatest number of points in the show; the Bronze Medal was awarded to Mr. Walter Sir, Lombard, Ill., who received the second greatest number of points. In the artistic classes, Mrs. Frank Carow received the Bronze Medal presented by the Men's Garden Club of Villa Park, and in the horticultural class, Mrs. E. H. Blatter also received the Bronze Medal presented by the Men's Garden Club.

The most outstanding iris in the show was a well-grown stalk of Katherine Fay. Other outstanding varieties exhibited were Snow Carnival, Sunset Serenade, Oregon Trail, Fair Elaine, Elmohr, Miss California, Amandine, Strawberry Blonde, Chantilly, Indiana Night, Blue Rhythm and Ranger.

The judges for the iris section were Mr. Hubert A. Fisher, Hinsdale, Ill., Mr. Richard Goodman, Riverside, Ill., and Mr. Fred E. Bond, Maywood, Ill.

—Mrs. John C. Lessing, President, Women's Garden Club, Villa Park, Ill.

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WALLA WALLA, WASH.

Walla Walla may well be called the Iris City, judging by the number and variety of blooms exhibited June 1 at the Braden Equipment Company's show-rooms, in cooperation with the American Iris Society. The show had originally been planned for May 18 but the lateness of the blooming season caused postponement. However many fine specimens were exhibited in spite of a long, wet spring followed by a week of very hot weather immediately before the show.

Approximately 900 people attended, this being the first iris show for Walla Walla. It gave the Walla Wallans an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the bloom designated as the city flower. The local society took as their slogan "The Iris City of the West," and Mrs. Grace Sauers, art instructor at Walla Walla High School and Whitman College, designed the insignia to be presented to the city.

The American Iris Society Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Albert Haase for

receiving the greatest number of prize points; the Bronze Medal was awarded to Mrs. J. L. Smith, Waitsburg, Wash., who received the second highest number of points, and Mrs. J. E. Levin received a one year's membership in the AIS for third place. The best specimen stalk in the show was a very splendid stalk of Ola Kala exhibited by Mrs. Otto New.

Some of the outstanding varieties exhibited were Snow Flurry, Easter Morn, Sylvia Murray, Mulberry Rose, Amigo, Monadnock, Lighthouse, Cascade Splendor, Prairie Sunset, Casa Morena, Grand Canyon, Minnie Colquitt, Ola Kala, Brown Thrasher, Melitza, Mary Vernon, Red Gleam and Ruth Pollock.

A special feature of the show was a rainbow made of iris with the "Pot of Gold" at the end of the rainbow from which the public drew for prizes.

About two months before the show the Iris Garden Club published in the newspapers that they were interested in locating the oldest iris in the Walla Valley, with hopes of having it on display before and during the annual iris show. Chivalry was offered for the prize. This award was won by Mrs. Archie Dennis, of Lowden, a small town ten miles west of Walla Walla. Mrs. Dennis relates the following history:

"My grandmother, Elizabeth M. Goodman, brought this small white flag across the plains in a covered wagon in 1862. She planted it in the old cemetery just south of old Fort Walla Walla and it is growing there today." It is the plan of the Iris Society to keep this old iris growing in one of the city parks in memory of the pioneer mothers.

This was our first iris show and we feel it was a success. There is a wonderful spirit of cooperation in our society and we are looking forward to a bigger and better exhibition next year. We received a few AIS memberships during the show and we are hoping to secure more before the year is out.

Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, Regional Vice-President of the AIS, judged the specimen and collection classes and Mrs. Martin H. Johnson judged the flower arrangements.

—Mrs. Otto New, *Chairman*

INCREASING "BLIND" RHIZOMES

It is fairly common experience that a desirable rhizome of bearded iris will bloom and fail to produce any side-shoots, with the result that the plant is lost. The side-shoots arise from buds in the axils of the leaves; and in other plants it has been shown by plant physiologists that the growth of such axillary buds is sometimes inhibited by substances produced in leaves and flowers.

On the basis of this information, my practice has been, when a rhizome behaved in this way, to cut off the bloom

stalk and all the leaves clear to their bases. I am usually anxious to see the flowers, so the cutting has been done immediately after the opening of the first bloom. Perhaps it would be more effective if done earlier. No control experiments have been made, and I cannot present any numerical data, but my impression is that the treatment results in a much higher frequency of lateral shoots than occurs without treatment. It is certainly not always effective—but I believe it is worth trying.

—A. H. Sturtevant, *Pasadena, Calif.*