

# Popularity Poll, 1956

## THE SIXTEENTH OFFICIAL SYMPOSIUM

There is a new spirit stirring in the American Iris Society! Nowhere is it more evident than in the enthusiasm with which all of the official competitions have been greeted this year.

The Popularity Poll, or Symposium, is the competition in which every member of the Society can take part; not just the Judges. This year 1796 members *did* take part in choosing the One Hundred Favorite Irises of 1956.

The 1956 list closely resembles that of 1955, and this is as it should be. These are *favorites*, not novelties. Important shifts in position were made by: Blue Sapphire (19), First Violet (24), Violet Harmony (31), Frances Craig (33), Cloudcap (46), Lady Boscawen (72), Firecracker (83), China Maid (95), and Lynn Langford (97). Six varieties of the 1955 list did not make the "Favorite 100" this year. They are: Pink Sensation, Leading Lady, Distance, The Red Douglas, Ebony Echo, and Sylvia Murray. There are seven newcomers on the 1956 list: Swan Ballet (60), Rehobeth (63), White Peacock (64), May Hall (88), Ruffled Organdy (93), Cathedral Bells (94), and June Meredith (100). It will be interesting to watch these new favorites shift in position in the years to come.

The Favorite 100 Irises of 1956 are:

Position			Position					
1956	1955	Variety	Votes	1956	1955	Variety	Votes	1956
1	1	Truly Yours	928	21	20	Amandine	403	
2	2	Ola Kala	742	22	33	Char Maize	389	
3	10	Happy Birthday	726	23	27	Inca Chief	384	
4	3	Mary Randall	683	24	49	First Violet	375	
5	14	Palomino	662	25	25	Helen McGregor	367	
6	4	Argus Pheasant	627	26	18	Sable	366	
7	8	Chivalry	625	27	22	Wabash	365	
8	7	Elmohr	621	28	21	Great Lakes	358	
9	6	Blue Rhythm	552	29	30	Solid Mahogany	356	
10	5	New Snow	547	30	35	Cahokia	333	
11	12	Lady Mohr	541	31	54	Violet Harmony	332	
12	9	Pierre Menard	537	32	24	Cherie	330	
13	10	Pinnacle	526	33	53	Frances Craig	326	
14	13	Blue Shimmer	487	34	28	Black Hills	325	
15	19	Desert Song	455	28	28	Spanish Peaks	325	
16	16	Sable Night	427	36	23	Chantilly	323	
17	15	Minnie Colquitt	420	37	43	Zantha	306	
18	17	Snow Flurry	416	38	45	Thotmes III	296	
19	71	Blue Sapphire	414	39	39	Jane Phillips	293	
20	26	Limelight	405	40	38	Solid Gold	282	

<i>Position</i>			<i>Position</i>					
1956	1955	Variety	Votes	1956	1955	Variety	Votes	1956
41	34	Starshine	279	72	46	Lady Boscawen	189	
42	31	Cascade Splendor	278	73	61	Cloth of Gold	187	
43	32	Pink Formal	275	74	65	Pretty Quadroon	186	
44	51	Top Flight	274	75	70	Master Charles	181	
45	37	Dreamcastle	264	76	74	Party Dress	180	
46	74	Cloudcap	254	77	81	Frances Kent	178	
47	52	Extravaganza	247	78	63	Mystic Melody	173	
	49	Melody Lane	247	79	93	Caroline Jane	172	
	59	Port Wine	247	80	74	Vatican Purple	171	
50	41	Blue Valley	241	81	82	Russet Wings	167	
	47	Mulberry Rose	241	94	94	Sierra Skies	167	
52	43	Ranger	240	83	55	Firecracker	163	
53	55	Golden Russet	235	73	73	Grand Canyon	163	
54	67	Tranquility	229	85	96	Cliffs of Dover	162	
55	36	Pink Cameo	226	86	96	Maytime	161	
56	65	Ballerina	225	87	72	Paradise Pink	156	
	62	Temple Bells	225	88	New	May Hall	151	
58	57	Bryce Canyon	222	89	100	Rainbow Room	144	
59	41	Rocket	221	90	86	Helen Collingwood	142	
60	New	Swan Ballet	218	90	90	Cloud Castle	142	
61	40	Sunset Blaze	217	92	79	Indiana Night	141	
62	47	Casa Morena	216	93	New	Ruffled Organdy	138	
63	New	Rehobeth	215	94	New	Cathedral Bells	137	
64	New	White Peacock	212	74	74	China Maid	137	
65	68	Amigo	211	96	84	Three Oaks	135	
66	83	Blumohr	208	97	78	Lynn Langford	134	
67	69	Gold Sovereign	207	79	79	Staten Island	134	
68	86	Lady Ilse	198	99	86	Danube Wave	133	
69	86	Black Forest	195	100	New	June Meredith	132	
70	64	Prairie Sunset	194	94	94	Pretender	132	
	60	Raspberry Ribbon	194					

## THE JUDGE'S CHOICE Of Very New Varieties, 1956

A record number of Judges participated in the balloting for the favorites among the very new irises this year. A total of 339 on-time ballots were received, compared with 276 last year. This year only 186 of our Judges failed to return a ballot on time. This is an exceptional record, and the Awards Committee is grateful to the Judges for such a fine response.

In this balloting, as in so many Society activities this year, there is an entirely new spirit evident. The balloting is prompt and enthusiastic. Truly, there is a new feeling abroad in the Society, and one which is vigorous and growing. Nowhere is this more evident than in the balloting on our various Awards and Honors.