

IRIS AUSTIN

Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin
An Affiliated Society of the American Iris Society in Region 17
September, 2006, Vol. XV, No. 8

Nelda Moore, Editor

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HOSPITALITY: Pat Byrne, Chairman

Thank you to the members who signed the list to bring the following for the Pot Luck Dinner on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, at 7 P. M. IN THE GREENE ROOM of the Austin Area Garden Center, 2220 Barton Springs Road.

Audrey Baker	corn chips and dip
Patricia Colacino	bread
Imre Eifert	grapes
Pam Gaebel	main dish
Carolyn and Guy Gifford	fruit
Sonja and Charlie Hensley	salad
Lila and Ashley Lewis	casserole
Patty Reeh	dessert
Mike Renfro	dessert

MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Business at 7:30 P.M.

PREPARING AND PRICING

RHIZOMES FOR THE IRIS SALE

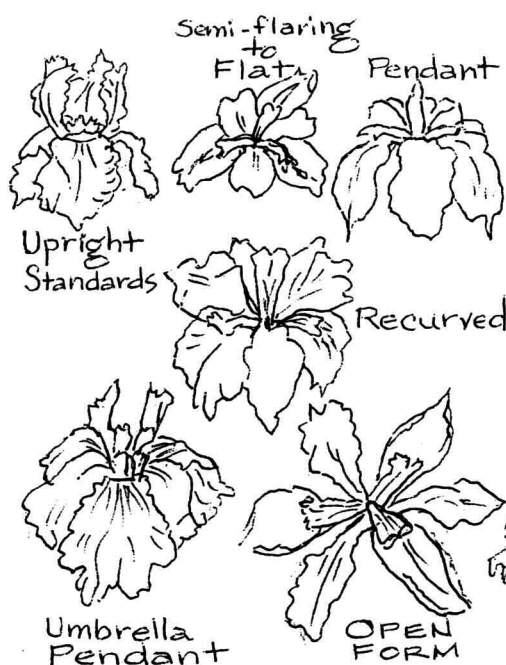
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 3-5 P.M.

Bringing in all sale items and preparing the auditorium for the sale.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9 A.M. until 4 P.M. IRIS SALE

LOUISIANAS



LOUISIANA IRIS: WILDFLOWERS ADAPTABLE TO OTHER CLIMATES

Ila Nunn, Bryce Leigh, Easter Tide, and Rhett are a few of the award-winning Louisiana irises. They are beardless (Apogon) with diversity of color and form.

The five species in the Hexagonae series include I. hexagona with flowers 4-4 ¾ inches in colors of lilac, medium blue to deep violet purple, but rarely white. The stalk is 12-36 inches, generally straight or slightly zig-zag. The leaves are sword-like, yellowish green.

Flowers are shades of red to chrome yellow, generally drooping for I. fulva while the terminal position on the erect stalk is two-flowered.

I. brevicaulis or I. foliosa, the dwarf species, produces shades of blue with flaring flowers and pronounced zig-zag stalks.

I. giganteaerulea have flowers 5 ¼ -6 inches across, mostly blues to lavender to pure white. They are double flowered at the terminal and single flowered at all other positions. These rhizomes grow only in Louisiana coastal areas and east Texas near the border.

The color of I. nelsonii is more intense than I. fulva. The flowers are 4 ½ to 5 inches across, drooping to very slightly flaring, bright red to purple, rarely in beige brown or yellow brown. The stalks are 32-42 inches and often branched. They have two buds at the terminal position and may have 2 buds at other positions. The falls are 2 ½ to 3 inches long, 1 ¼ to 1 ¾ inches wide. A signal is usually present. These are found only in Louisiana in a very limited location south of Abbeville. This species is of hybrid origin, mainly from I. fulva and I. giganteaerulea.

Another series is Laevigatae, the closest relatives of the Louisiana irises. Three members of the 15 series of Apogon include I. virginica, I. Pseudacorus, and I. ensata. They are widely distributed throughout the world.

FORMS





THE LOUISIANA IRIS: The History and Culture of Five Native American Species and their Hybrids

Edited by Marie Caillett and Joseph K. Mertzweiller

Twenty-one contributors representing the Society of Louisiana Iris from the United States, Japan, Australia, and East Germany have contributed to this account, telling about the hybridization and development of tetraploids in these beardless irises.

Only in Louisiana are all these species growing wild, but they are adaptable to all climates including South Dakota and Michigan.

John Kunkel Small, Curator of the New York Botanical Gardens, first saw Louisiana irises from the windows of a train traveling through south Louisiana. He made many trips in the 1920's and 1930's to collect these species and to introduce them to the world.

This book includes the many forms of this flower, how to grow these species in many parts of the United States and other countries, how to judge the flower, how to overcome disease or problems such as rust or leaf miner, and how to use these plants of many colors including reds in landscaping and garden design.

An appendix lists the Mary Swords DeBaillon Awards from 1948-1984. No voting for the award was done in 1985 during the time a change over to medal status took place.

**PHOTO CONTEST CLOSES
AUGUST 31**

Enter your stunning pictures of irises, gardens, and people from this society in their iris garden to win in any of six categories, but submit only five photos no smaller than 4X6 inches, not larger than a half page in the AIS 2006 Photo Contest, c/o KITTY LOBERG, 1900 Mountain View Lane, Redwood Valley, CA 95470.

IN SYMPATHY

The Iris Society of Austin extends its deepest sympathy to Roger and Marney Abel in the death of Roger's mother.

**GUEST GARDENS FOR 2008
READY FOR IRIS PLANTS**

Bearded iris are arriving and gardeners are busy planting.

Over 270 rhizomes have been processed recently in the I.S.A. ledger. Carol Canfield has been busy with some assistance from Marney Abel and Nelda Moore.

LOUISIANA IRISES

In Louisiana I was born
Where wildflowers in swamps were torn
To plant far away for study, they say.
Reds to purple and colors of every hue
Flowers of many shapes and sizes in dew
Awakened my heart wherever they grew!

Nelda Moore



Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws

It has been proposed in Executive Committee (June 27, 2006) that the calendar year for the Iris Society of Austin, currently extending from June 1 to May 31, be changed to match the traditional calendar year, extending from January 1 through December 31. The A.I.S. and the Austin Area Garden Council both operate on the January-December calendar year, and the I.S.A. pays membership dues to both organizations based on current membership for the current year. With the current I.S.A. calendar, which extends over two true calendar years, paying the accurate number of dues is confusing and in this regard a change in the calendar year would be better for the club.

It has been further proposed in Executive Committee that annual membership dues be increased from \$10 to \$12, a cost of \$1 a month. Joint memberships would be increased from \$15 to \$18. Dues for new members who join after the first month of the calendar year would be prorated at \$1 per month for the remaining months of that year.

Current paid memberships will come up for renewal in May 2007. If the proposed calendar change is approved by the I.S.A. members, then the next dues cycle will be \$6 for the remainder of 2007, and dues for 2008 will be \$12/\$18, to be paid at the November 2007 meeting.

The Executive Committee also decided to extend lifetime honorary membership to Harvey Wilson.

from Ken Fuchs,
Wednesday, June 28, 2006



SOME BORROWED TEXAS WISDOM:

PLANT MORE IRIS

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgement.

If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

There are three kinds of people: The ones that learn by reading; the few who learn by observation; and the rest of them who have to touch the fire to see for themselves if it's really hot.



IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN LIBRARY : ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY PREPARED BY
PATRICIA COLACINO AS OF MAY 11, 2006

Caillet, M., Compbell, J.M., Vaughn, K.C., and Vercher, D. (2000) *The Louisiana Iris: The Taming of a Native American Wildflower*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.

The revised edition of The Louisiana Iris: The History and Culture of Five Native American Species and their hybrids. (\$34.95)

Caillet, M. and Mertzwiller, J. (1988) *The Louisiana Iris: The History and Culture of Five Native American Species and Their Hybrids*. Waco, TX: Texas Gardener Press. (\$23.95)

This book covers the history of the Louisiana iris group including hybridization and development of tetraploids. It provides a comprehensive guide to culture of the Louisiana iris.

Fritchie, C. (1990) *Louisiana Iris Cultivars*. Society for Louisiana Irises.
Includes listing through December 31, 1989

Frizzell, J. (2001) *Tall Bearded Iris Pictorial Reference*. Smyrna, TN Courier Printing.
A visual reference of irises from local growers in Tennessee. (\$17.95)

Jeppe, B. (1999) *Irises*. Hatfield, South Africa: Umduas Press.
An oversize book with color illustrations.

Kohlein, F. (1987) *Iris*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.
A translation of a German edition of this gardener's handbook.

Mitchell, S. (1949, 1960) *Iris for Every Garden*. New York: Barrows and Company.
Useful information for growing irises in gardens.

Nash, H. and Stroupe S. (1998) *Plants for Water Gardens: The Complete Guide to Aquatic Plants*. New York: Sterling Publishing Company.
Scientific facts on plants that are commonly available, with all growing details. (\$19.95)

Roberts, K. (1998) *The 1998 Cumulative Checklist of Reblooming Iris*. The Reblooming Iris Society
An expanded and updated issue with USDA hardiness zones

Warburton, B. (1978) *The World of Irises*. Salt Lake City, UT. American Iris Society Press.
A third study of the genus Iris. The first, The Iris, an Ideal Hardy Perennial appeared in 1947.

ALPHABETICAL IRIS CHECKLISTS:
1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999

REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS;
1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, – 2000, – 2003, 2004, 2005

LIBRARY RECORD NOTEBOOK
3/14/06 HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES checked out to Sonja Hensley

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION HANDBOOK (Second Edition 2000)

AIS Bulletins:
Oct. 1990, Oct. 1991, April 1992, July, Oct. 1993, Jan., April, July, Oct. 1994,
Jan., April, May, July 1995, Jan., April, July 1998, April, July, Oct. 1999,
Jan., April, July, Oct. 2000, Jan. 2001, July, Oct. 2005, Jan, April 2006

Newsletters from Region 17, Spuria Iris Society, SLI, Historic, Medianite

ISA Show Schedules and Reports Catalogues, Poetry by Dana Lovvorn

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

September will be here before we know it. It's time to be thinking about digging and replanting our iris beds.

The sale committee has ordered some beautiful iris and spuria rhizomes for our upcoming sale. Orders are coming from Cooley's Gardens, Comanche Acres, Tom Burseen, Argyle Acres and a lot are from members' own gardens.

Ashley Lewis and Nelda Moore are working very hard to publicize our sale. Ashley has created a website with pictures of the irises we are offering. Mike Renfro is helping to put an article in the Austin American Statesman garden section the week before the sale. Don Freeman will be interviewed on John Dromgool's radio show. Nelda Moore has created and reproduced flyers that she has asked our members to distribute. We really need to talk up our sale. If you know anyone who might be interested in growing irises, invite them to our sale and encourage them to join the Iris Society. Our membership is dwindling. We need to pull in new members.

Please Note: After much careful consideration and much discussion, the Executive Committee has decided to temporarily discontinue the 50% discount to active members at our sale this fall. We need to raise funds for our 2008 convention. This is a minor sacrifice for a couple of years to enable us to host the American Iris Society Convention.

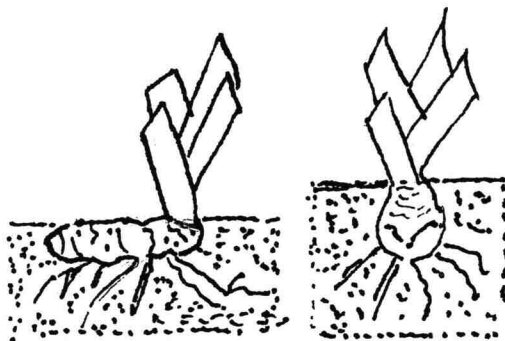
The September meeting will be a pot luck supper, when good food and good friends we haven't seen over the summer come together. After a short business meeting, we will roll up our sleeves and clean and price the rhizomes for the sale. Set up for the sale will be Friday, September 8, between 3 and 5 p.m. Volunteers are needed to man the cashier tables and the membership table. We need greeters and people to work the crowd to answer questions about iris culture. Please let Patty Reeh or Pauline Guerrero know if you can help on setup day and the sale day. All rhizomes will be on the tables by Friday.

Have you seen the website that Ken Fuchs has created for our society? It is wonderful! There is info about our society, pictures of our show and other activities. Take a look. You may see yourself. Thank you, Ken, for putting this together for us. We're glad to be out in the technosphere.

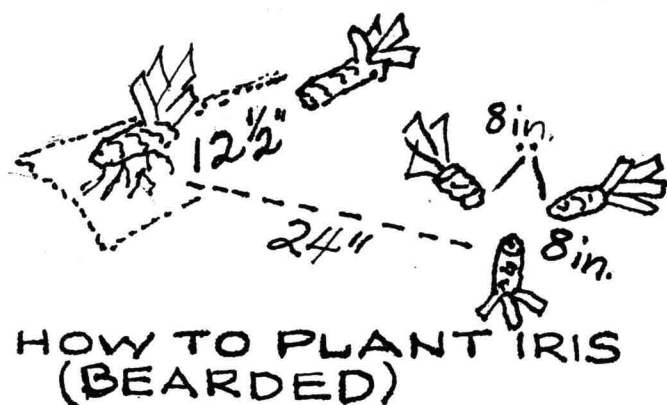
See you soon!

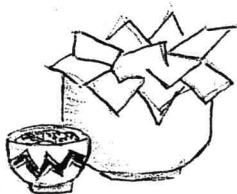
Marney Abel

DEPTH



SPACING





IRIS OF FOOD, DRINK, AND DINNER TIME

F	R	O	S	T	I	N	G	I	C	H	I	L	I	P	E	P	P	E	R
C	A	F	E	N	C	E	Y	T	O	M	E	T	A	A	Z	A	Z	E	E
L	I	M	E	F	I	Z	Z	A	P	R	I	C	O	T	I	M	I	N	T
Z	T	W	I	N	E	Y	E	L	C	O	L	O	R	T	A	R	T	L	O
E	L	E	G	A	N	C	E	Z	O	R	F	M	Z	A	M	S	A	G	E
S	P	E	O	O	N	R	A	A	A	A	B	E	G	N	B	R	A	N	D
C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E	T	N	N	C	H	E	R	R	Y	X	R
A	G	S	A	U	U	G	E	R	I	G	H	O	R	N	O	C	B	N	E
N	Z	T	E	N	O	L	W	I	N	E	E	F	A	T	S	W	U	U	F
D	O	E	Z	C	G	R	O	V	A	N	I	L	L	A	I	R	T	O	O
Y	Z	R	C	H	O	N	E	Y	R	E	D	S	U	G	A	R	T	I	M
Z	P	I	N	K	C	O	L	O	R	C	O	L	D	D	R	E	E	M	C
C	A	K	E	I	C	C	A	Y	E	N	N	E	C	A	P	E	R	S	Z
B	R	A	N	D	Y	N	N	C	H	E	S	S	F	O	A	M	C	A	N

Ambrosia (Delight)'84 Niswonger Ruffled amoena, Standards white, falls orange

Apricot (Drops)'95 Aitken Apricot orange with deeper Fall spot MTB

(Blackberry) Brandy'86 Blyth Lilac velvet purple with orange beard

Café (Ole)'91 Ghio Cocoa melon, tangerine beard

Candy (Cane Cutie) 2000 Maryott Pale pink with maroon stripes

Cayenne '06 M Smith IB red standards Cayenne Capers

(Cheese) cake'84 Gaultier RE ruffled flesh pink

Chili Pepper'96 Holk RE Standards oxblood, falls white, beards yellow

Champagne/Elegance'86 Niswonger Standards pinky white; falls buffy apricot

(Chocolate) Chess'02 Moores Beige brown, ages golden with violet flush in center

(China) Peach'95 Lankow SDB peach, spot and rim on white falls, wide, ruffled (Not visible)

(Chocolate) Mint'98 Tasco ARILBRED pale violet S, chartreuse F, chocolate B

Cocoa (Foam) 2000 Muska Standards cocoa, Falls white, Beards yellow (Find "Foam")

(Color) tart'83 Innerst Pale yellow falls with dotted burgundy

Easter(time)'80 Schreiners Cream edged yellow; falls white RE

Frosting'93 Gatty Bubble ruffled pink, beard salmon

Honey (Mocha)'80 Luihn mocha tan-brown, serrated and laced

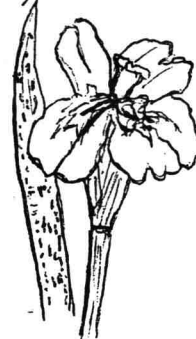
Lime (Fizz)'69 Schreiners RE Lime to yellow color

Orange (Wonder)'75 Hamner RE tangerine orange self

Sugar(time)'83 Meek Deep lavender orchid laced and ruffled

Vanilla (Fudge)

Wine (and Roses) '63 Hall Standards rose; Falls violet with rose rim Beards red



FUTURE MEETINGS: October 10 7p.m. Auditorium

Jim Landers-Portland Convention / Rhizome Exchange

November 14 7p.m. Auditorium

POT LUCK AND IRIS BINGO

Visit the WEB SITE

www.irisarian.com