

Newscast A.I.S.

R E G I O N F O U R

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FRONT COVER: Drawing of *Iris alata* by
 Sandi Wells. Cover design
 by Sean Mahan.

Law, say the gardeners, is the sun,
Law is the one
All gardeners obey
Tomorrow, yesterday, and today.

--W. H. AUDEN

RVP'S MESSAGE

Again Orion is appearing in the night sky, and the sun's rays fall ever more ineffectually upon our northern latitudes. For flower lovers, the outdoors has lost much of its charm.

But we can think ahead in our imaginations of floral beauty to come. Certainly Blue Ridge Iris Society is planning a floral feast for you in Roanoke and Radford next May. There will be some entirely new gardens for you to inspect, a few of large size. The former home of Frances and Allen Brown has been purchased by our new president, Vick Layman and his wife Jane, and the display of iris there will be greatly extended. Do not be too surprised if you should see a huge white bird settling on the roof during our visit.

Buses will travel to Radford to see the Zurbrigg garden at 708 Noblin, but also the large planting---mostly seedlings---at the nursery called "The Home Place." Here the emphasis has been upon rebloom, blue-bearded pastels, texture, veining of a contrasting color, and upon added flounces or spoons.

We are hoping to give you a wonderful holiday, and at the same time serve the cause of the iris flower.

My thanks to all who are making my term of office a time of growth, and to those who are serving as officers of Region 4 and the local societies. Region 4 is now 3d in numbers for the nation! Let us do our best to share our interest in iris with newer members.

A very happy holiday to one and all!

Lloyd Zurbrigg, RVP

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

REGION 4, AIS

October 8, 1988---High Point, North Carolina

RVP Lloyd Zurbrigg called the meeting to order at 10:00 am at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge. He welcomed Board members and members of Region 4, especially those attending for the first time. He expressed pleasure at the number of stalks in the Fall Iris Show and at the quality of bloom in a difficult summer season for irises.

Reports of Officers

Assistant RVP, Owings Rebert: "This report is a combination of both the office of Assistant RVP and some final remarks on the Spring Meeting as convention chairman.

"During the past year few contacts have been made, both to and from the office of Assistant RVP. Prior to the time of the Spring Convention, and a part of the early summer digging season, our time and energies were devoted to the purpose of this event. We were glad to have been able to present this annual spring occasion in the traditional FSK manner.

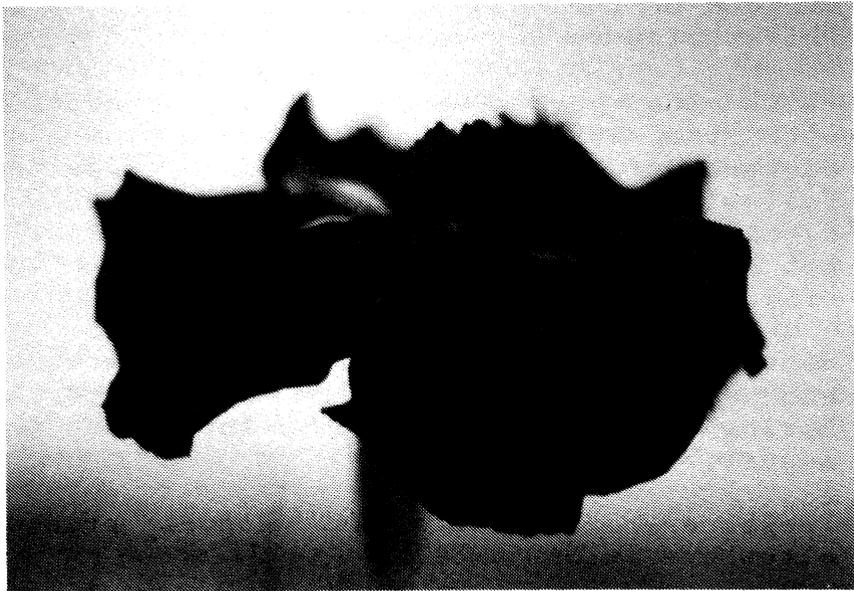
"There was apprehension expressed to the fact that the Region did not see fit to permit FSK's making a cash donation to the Regional treasury in lieu of holding a rhizome auction. The alternative sale that was conducted did not lessen the load of work involved for those in charge. This we had hoped to do by using our original plan.

"The office of treasurer promptly received two checks as the result of the sale. The total amount being \$1,000. As time proceeded, I, as Assistant RVP, had two concerns. First, the deposit was not made

into your account until 58 days later. Secondly, since the Region can use all available cash resources toward the coming National, the interest on this amount for this period of time was not realized.

"On request, a statement of receipt for the above total amount was received from the auction chairman. We had hoped to find a copy of this report in our latest NEWSCAST.

"Being unable to attend last years Fall Meeting, you may recall that my report was presented by an able FSK fellow member. Several concerns that I expressed at that time are still existant. Chief among these is the question: How can the Assistant RVP be responsible for Fall Regional programs under the present set up? Note Article 4, Section 4 of the bylaws.



THE BEAUTIFUL JAPANESE IRIS WINE RUFFLES, HYBRIDIZED BY DR. WILLIAM ACKERMAN. THE STALK OF THIS RUFFLED 6 PETAILED BEAUTY PICTURED WAS THE WINNER OF QUEEN OF THE SHOW AT THE JOINT FSK/C6P BEARDDLESS IRIS SHOW IN 1987.

"In a recent autumn newsletter, a neighboring chapter announced that it will be host for the 1989 Fall Meeting. There are no outlines referring to this procedure. How does the convention chairman become involved?

"Is there a firm established regulation on annual elections? Bylaw Article 4 Section 3 states: 'Officials shall be elected at the annual Spring Meeting.' Somehow, we have missed a year. Perhaps it was my duty as Assistant RVP to inquire or follow up on this, and especially since FSK was in charge for 1988. I do not know.

"I would have liked that my report be more positive. However, I would be remiss not to mention the fact that I do indeed appreciate the cooperation and fellowship of the various offices that I have had contact with while being in this position.

"With the garden involvement in connection with the 1991 National, and for the best concern of the entire region, I make the following statement. As of this date, Oct 8, 1988, and with some reservations I will not be a candidate for the nomination to the office of either RVP or Assistant RVP."

Secretary, Susan Grigg: It was seconded and passed to accept the minutes of the Spring Board Meeting as printed in the August, 1988 NEWSCAST.

Treasurer, Brian Lazarus. Report printed elsewhere in NEWSCAST.

Historian, Polly Price. No report.

Parliamentarian, Rosalie Figge: Concern was expressed over remarks by the Assistant RVP over the timely election of officers. B. J.

Brown and Dr. Zurbrigg pointed out that a nominating committee had asked all officers to continue in their present offices for '88-89 until the Spring election of officers. A nominating committee will be appointed at this meeting to bring a new slate of officers to the 1989 Spring Meeting. Those officers will assume positions in the fall of '89 to serve for at least one year.

Reports of Committees

Finance, Dr. A. W. Rice: Care must be taken by the Region so that sufficient funds are available for the National Convention in 1991 and for the publication and mailing of NEWSCAST.

Membership, Tamara McBride: In Tamara's absence, RVP Zurbrigg reported that Region 4 presently has 632 members, the third largest region in the nation. Credit should be given to our newest chapters who have done such an outstanding job of recruiting members.

Youth, Nancy Schuhmann. No report.

Editor of NEWSCAST, Clarence Mahan: The December NEWSCAST will be the last issue for the current editor. Anne and Mike Lowe will be the new editors. Great appreciation was expressed by the RVP and all present to Clarence for the excellent job he has done.

Judges Training, Carol Warner: "With a total membership of 632, Region 4 is allowed 95 quota judges. We have a total of 47 judges, 29 quota and 18 non-quota. Changes for the year are:

Advance to Master: Mrs. Frank Figge and Charles L. Hare

Advance to Garden: Mrs. Joseph P.

Dufresne, Mike B. Lowe, Anne Lowe, and Ruth Walker.

New apprentice: Victor Layman

Deletions: William D. Kelly, deceased; Mrs. Robert L. Munn, deceased; and Mrs. B. E. Crumpler, non-renewal."

Auctions and Awards, J. D. Stadler: "The Spring Regional auction held in Westminster, Maryland netted \$1,000 for our treasury. Special thanks should go to Owings and Doris Rebert for their contributions. Many others donated irises, and our thanks to them also.

"The best seedling was won by J. D. Stadler for a TB pink H9/90 (now registered as PINK CELEBRITY) and it was awarded the Bobby Lee Evans Award donated by Alice Bouldin. The best Region 4 introduced iris was awarded to the border bearded iris CELESTIAL DREAM (J. D. Stadler, 1984). This is the D. C. Nearpass Award donated by the C&P Chapter.

"Region 4 hybridizers should send seedlings and introductions to Dick Sparling for the 1990 Regional meeting and the 1991 National Convention."

Clarence Mahan announced that the C&P Chapter has voted to amend the rules for presenting the D. C. Nearpass Award. No iris will be eligible for the award again after once winning that honor.

Conventions, Owings Rebert: Convention sites were announced: Spring '89, Blue Ridge Chapter, Roanoke, VA, May 18-20, 1989. Fall '89, Fred-Richmond Chapter. Spring, '90, C&P Chapter. Fall '90, Tidewater Chapter. Spring '91, National, Washington, D. C., May 18-22. Fall '91, Vacant. Spring '92, ENC. Fall '92, Vacant. Spring '93, Tidewater.

Robins, Anne Lowe: "The robin program

continues to grow and change. Ruby Buchanan is back! She has consented to replace B. J. Brown as director of the Ramblin' Robin. Sincere thanks to B. J. for directing the RR during the past year. His support certainly made things easier for me when I assumed the position as Regional Coordinator last year.

"Lloyd Zurbrigg has requested that he be replaced as Director of the Royal Four; Mike Lowe will take over on the next flight.

"The Wild Ones has been grounded since May due to the unexpected death of Director Alma Childers's husband. Efforts are being made to get it in the air again. I hope that Alma will continue to act as director.

"Last but not least---a new robin is flying! Pinfeathers, a robin for those new to the raising of irises and directed by Libby Cross, took off on September 1. There are openings for those interested in joining this or any of the other robins presently in flight.

"I am sending a report to Sam Reese regarding the fact that Region 4 has four Regional Robins---a record unmatched by any other region if National Convention reports are to be believed. Hopefully, Sam will be impressed enough to print something in the Bulletin.

"I ask you all to recruit for the Region 4 Robin Program. I will place new members in appropriate robins or start another if warranted. Wouldn't 5 regional robins be impressive?"

Photography, Frances Brown and Publicity & Public Relations, Roy Epperson: No reports.

Beardless and Species Irises, Carol Warner:

"Beardless and species irises continue to grow in popularity in Region 4. The auction scheduled for Saturday evening should offer an opportunity to purchase some very desirable plants.

"Guest plants for the 1991 convention in Washington have been arriving and are being planted in tour gardens. By providing three years for the beardless varieties, these should be excellent clumps.

"Plan to attend the Society for Japanese Irises convention to be headquartered at the Holiday Inn in Manassas, Virginia on June 16 and 17, 1989. Tour gardens should be in peak condition and we anticipate a great show of very special new and imported varieties. All meals and an excellent tour will be included in a very economical national convention price. Region 4 is very pleased to be able to host this very important meeting."

Median Irises, Richard Sparling: Mr. Sparling was not present. Dr. Zurbrigg reminded the group that the Sparling garden is an excellent example of a median display garden, and may likely be on the National tour.

Reblooming Irises, Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg: "The record drought and heat of June and July made one believe that 1988 might be a repeat of the difficult 1987 season. Fortunately, wet and cooler weather came in mid-August, and many areas are now reporting rebloom. A visit to the meeting of the Fredericksburg-Richmond Iris Society at the home of Michael and Anne Lowe provided the chance to see several clumps of irises in bloom in mid-September. Reports through the Region 4 reblooming iris robin indicate bloom is now abundant, though a little on the late side.



REGION 4 SPRING MEETING TOUR VISIT TO THE WARNER GARDEN NEAR UPPERCO, MD, WAS THE OCCASION OF THIS GROUP PHOTOGRAPH. DR. JOHN WEILER, THE GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE MEETING IS 4TH FROM THE RT IN THE FRONT ROW. THE GENTLEMAN IN THE SUNGLASSES IN THE 2D ROW IS ANDY WARNER, AND WIFE CAROL IS SLIGHTLY IN FRONT AND TO HIS RIGHT. WHAT A GREAT LOOKING GROUP OF PEOPLE, AND THEY'RE MIGHTY NICE FOLKS, TOO!

"For the first time ever your chairman has had an iris in bloom ever since the spring season. Frank Jones of NJ has had this happen many times in the past 15 years, and indeed some of his irises helped establish the continuous bloom in Radford.... Region 4 members were able to visit his garden this past weekend.

"SUGAR BLUES gave a wonderful summer performance in Radford, giving six stalks, with more in bloom now. Moreover, three of its children in three different crosses also gave summer bloom, with more coming on now.

This is one of the most fragrant of all varieties, with a very sweet perfume."

Reports of Chapters

Blue Ridge, Victor Layman: "The Blue Ridge flower show was very successful with over 200 entries. With many plants donated by the Lowes, the plant sale and auction netted \$200 for the Region. A gift of an iris in stained glass was presented to the Lowes by the chapter. Cathy Hudson Wiley was the artist; she will have a display and items for sale at the Spring Meeting. The chapter has 13 new members, many of them in their 30's and very enthusiastic. New officers: Vic Layman, President; Dennis Stoneburner, Vice-president; Karen Stoneburner, Secretary; and Kay Cooper, Treasurer. The chapter is looking forward to hosting the Spring Meeting. There will be 10 to 12 gardens to tour and many seedlings to enjoy and evaluate. Kay Cooper and Millie Trent are chairing the meeting. Appreciation is expressed to Kay Cooper who for the past three years kept the chapter going."

Cabarrus County, Diane Shue: No report.

Charlotte, Pat Rodgers: B. J. Brown reported that a successful show was held with over 200 entries and the society is celebrating its 40th anniversary. He noted that dues were still \$3.00 as they were 40 years ago. After the fall meeting and sale the society expects to send money to the region.

Chesapeake and Potomac, Richard Sparling: Clarence Mahan reported that the chapter had a most successful spring show with over 300 entries and every kind of iris. The summer sale netted over \$3,000. The fall sale brought in \$900. C&P has put \$5,000 in CD's for the National Convention. They have had

George Reed's booklet The Iris of Japan reprinted and will present a copy to all who register for the Japanese Iris Convention next June. Copies remaining will be available for \$5.00. On Saturday, October 22d, the 4th annual Great Fall Show will be held in Arlington at Mrs. McGregor's Garden Center. Nancy Schuhman is owner of the center which has some wonderful rare items for sale.

Eastern North Carolina, J. D. Stadler: "ENC had a successful show in May in Greensboro. A meeting and auction was held in July at the Roy Epperson home. No fall meeting was planned due to hosting the Region 4 Fall Meeting. Our chapter was deeply saddened to lose two of its most active members. Jim and Ruth Ritchie were both killed in an auto accident. We will miss them very much."

RVP Zurbrigg asked the group to observe a few moments of silence in memory of the Ritchies. Anne Lowe moved that Region 4 make a donation to the Scientific Research Fund of AIS in memory of Ruth and Jim Ritchie. The motion was seconded and after brief discussion, it passed.

Francis Scott Key, Doris Rebert: "Francis Scott Key Iris Society's summer activities have been reported in NEWSCAST. Currently we are planning a fall membership luncheon on October 29 at the Sheraton Conference Center in Towson. Our annual election of officers will be held at that time. Rosalie Figge has accepted the nomination as President and all other officers will remain unchanged.

"At our last board meeting a discussion was held on the possibility of our society sponsoring a bus trip to Presby Gardens in NJ next May. The dates for the 1989 events

will be decided at our next board meeting. My term as president of FSK concludes at our fall meeting. At this time I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to all Region 4 members. It was good working with you."

Fredericksburg-Richmond, Roger Glasshoff:
"The FR Chapter assembled September 17 in the secluded meadowland of Blackstone, VA at the garden of Anne and Mike Lowe. Greeting our arrival were several reblooming irises. A brief fall meeting provided the opportunity to assess achievements of 1988 and discuss goals of the coming year.

"We marveled at the selection of CELESTIAL DREAM, a beautiful border bearded iris, as Queen of the Show at our spring show in Fredericksburg. Also sharing the limelight on the honors table was the space age iris SKY HOOKS. Numerous exhibits of recent tall bearded irises and a beautiful pink seedling from J. D. Stadler's garden drew the attention of the public.

"Since the chapter's reactivation our summer sale has exceeded expectations. This year our sale was extremely successful reflecting an outstanding effort by chapter members. Recognizing the assistance and generous contributions our chapter has received during the past few years from many Region 4 irisarians, members unanimously voted to contribute to the regional treasury. Accordingly, the chapter is proud to present \$1,000 to express our gratitude.

"Enthusiasm is evident among chapter members. Future goals include expanding programs for meetings, developing an educational exhibit, and expanding our slides of iris gardens. We enjoyed a presentation earlier this year by Dr.

Ackerman regarding Japanese irises and again are emphasizing becoming a qualified AIS judge. We concluded the meeting with slides of the 1988 Regional Spring Garden Tour narrated by Lois Rose.

"We would like to remind everyone that the FR chapter will host the 1989 Regional Fall Meeting. Plan to join us."

Ruth Walker, in Roger's absence, thanked the Reberts and other members for their generous donations of plants. The sale netted \$2,500. The chapter is having a Harvest Dinner, and each one is encouraged to bring a buddy, a less active member.

Carolina Mountains, Joseph Summey: No report.

Marydel, Mary Etta Brightman: No report.

Tidewater, Richard Randall: Elsewhere in NEWSCAST.

Williamsburg, Betty Worrell: Elsewhere in NEWSCAST.

Report from the N. C. Iris Society: Elsewhere in NEWSCAST.

Results of the Symposium: Elsewhere in NEWSCAST.

Unfinished Business

Mike Lowe announced the sale of Bulletins, NEWSCASTS, books and catalogues donated by the late John Moffitt.

Anne Lowe announced that she will be taking dues for the Historical Iris Preservation Society (HIPS). Annual dues are \$3.00 or \$4.00 for a family membership.

New Business

The following nominating committee was elected: Mike Lowe, VA; Roy Epperson, NC; Margaret Stone, WV; and Owings Rebert, MD (Chairman). They will bring a slate of officers to the 1989 Spring Meeting. It will be published in NEWSCAST.

J. D. Stadler announced the results of the Show: Queen of the Show, REFINED, an SDB exhibited by Diana Nicholls; Best Seeding, Lloyd Zurbrigg's T-6, an SDB. The Silver Medal went to Diana Nicholls and the Bronze Medal to Lloyd Zurbrigg.

To promote Japanese irises in Region 4, Clarence Mahan announced he would donate a quantity of top Japanese iris cultivars to any chapter that had not had a beardless iris show but which would agree to schedule one in the next two years.

After discussion of the responsibilities of the Assistant RVP as described in the bylaws, no further action was taken. The meeting was adjourned.

C & P IRIS SOCIETY PROGRAM FOR 1989

Diana Nicholls

Jan 15 -- Judges training on Japanese irises by Carol Warner. National Arboretum, 2 p.m.

Feb 5 -- Blaney Marlow's wonderful buffet dinner at her home in Silver Spring, MD. Slides and presentation by Mike and Anne Lowe "What It Was Like to Go to our First National AIS Convention." "Now Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society and Region 4 Are Going to Host the 1991 AIS National Convention."

Mar 10 -- Annual Banquet at American Univ.

Apr 21 -- EVENING MEETING. Slide presentation on Louisiana irises.

April/May -- Garden Tours

May 14 -- C&P Bearded Iris Show at the U.S. Botanic Garden.

May 18-20 -- Regional Spring Meeting at Roanoke, VA.

June 16-17 -- National Convention for the Society for Japanese Irises at the Holiday Inn, Manassas, VA. Fourth Joint C&P/FSK Beardless Iris Show on June 16, Holiday Inn.

July 23 -- Bearded Iris Auction at the Garden of Charles and Celeste Cox, Falls Church, VA.

August -- Annual Picnic Hosted by John G. and Mrs. Robert Lawson, Annandale, VA.

September -- Beardless Iris Auction Hosted by Don Spoon at Georgetown Univ. Campus.

Oct 6-7 -- Fall Regional Meeting, Fredericksburg, VA.

Oct 21 -- C&P Great Fall Show at Mrs. McGregor's Garden Shop, Arlington, VA.

MARYDEL CHAPTER REPORT

Grace Hartge

At the September 11, 1988 meeting of the Marydel Chapter the following officers were elected for 1988-1989:

President.....Mary Etta Brightman
Vice Pres.....Richard Kleen
Secretary.....Grace Hartge
Treasurer.....Karon Simmons

At the May 22 Iris Show held at the Easton Firehouse, Mary Etta Brightman was awarded the Silver Medal and Richard Kleen the Bronze Medal. The Youth Medal was awarded to Meade Windsor. The Queen of the Show was COPPER CLASSIC exhibited by John Vincent.

We are looking forward to our 20th Annual Show to be held on May 21. Mary Etta Brightman and Richard Kleen are Co-Chairmen.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee for the election of 1989 Regional officers, presents the following nominees:

Regional Vice President....Carol Warner
Asst RVP.....James D. Stadler
Secretary.....Lois Rose
Treasurer.....J. Owings Rebert
Historian.....Clarence Mahan

Note: Additional nominations may be made from the floor, providing those persons being nominated have been contacted and have consented to accept the nomination prior to the election meeting.

Dr. Roy Epperson
Margaret Stone
Michael Lowe
J. Owings Rebert, Chairman

NEWSCAST ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page.....\$25.00
Half Page.....15.00
One-Fourth Page.....8.00
Commercial Directory.....10.00

Region 4, American Iris Society

TREASURER'S REPORT

Oct 4, 1988

Balance as of 5-1-88 \$4,113.91

Income

Interest to 9-1-88	74.09
Contribution Blue Ridge	200.00
Contribution ENC	50.00
Contribution Williamsburg	300.00
Spring Region Auction	972.00
Rounding Contribution: FSK	28.00
Subscription: R. Kiyomoto	3.00
Subscription: Gigi Hall	9.00
Total Income	<u>1,636.09</u>

Expenditures

Judges Training Expense	21.08
Two sets AIS labels	34.45
Printing Summer NEWSCAST	699.86
Postage Summer NEWSCAST	<u>110.17</u>
Total Expenditures	865.56

Balance as of 10-4-88 4,884.44

Brian Lazarus, Treasurer

ATTENTION NEWER MEMBERS!!!

Everyone who knows Libby Cross will be delighted to learn she has moved back to Region 4! Being the wonderful worker and good member she is, Libby has already taken on the job of directing the new Pinfeathers Robin. She recently wrote your editor to ask that an invitation be extended to join this robin to all people relatively new to "irising." So here's the invitation. Give Pinfeathers a try. Write Libby Cross, Rt 4, Box 399M, Covington, VA 24426 and tell her you would like to join up and learn.

WHY I GROW IRISES

B. Y. Morrison

[*ED. This article first appeared in Garden Magazine, December 1918.*]

I grow Irises because I began years ago and now I cannot stop. And because I have been loving them for years, I find some difficulty in telling just why they are my choice above other flowers, for choice always follows, or at least suggests, comparisons, judgments and rejections, and no person who regards his hobby with affection can offer an unbiased presentation of its merits nor does he find pleasure in assuming even for the moment, a position in which he may appear to cast discredit on the less loved flowers.

The arguments in favor are these: culturally, the problem is as simple or as difficult as the collector may desire. In matters of variety, there is a wide range both in species and in horticultural forms. In return for labor, the rewards are great. Counted in amount or period of bloom, the comparison is favorable with any perennial; in diversity of color, there is no equal, though some colors known to man are missing; in value for the garden picture, it has few rivals; and for decoration in the house certain forms are invaluable. So in all it measures well, using the standards which should be applied to any candidate.

My personal pleasures in Irises are these. First there is the pleasure which comes to any collector. This may be dismissed without discussion, explanation or defense. Secondly, there is a pleasure which I find in the plant judged from the standpoint of design. There is a dignity and precision in the splendid fan of leaves

with their clean vigorous curves, in the sturdy stem, carried with assurance, and in the flowers, lightly poised and of exquisitely delicate tissue. Thirdly, there is a pagan pleasure to be had from the mass of color. From velvet purples through clarets and garnets to pink and which turning through palest green and gray-whites to yellows and gray lavender: surely this is a lavish palette. Then given those colors in a tissue which cannot be matched in any other bloom, so that sunlight and shadow play magic with it---and you have no end of riches. And lastly there is the pleasure which has come in the raising of seedlings---a very new pleasure for me, but one which I have enjoyed by proxy for some time.

Therefore, I am quite content that my roses should be few and my Peonies and Lilies fewer still, even though the trio be given old traditional honors, and find my pleasure in quantities of iris---with their wealth of color, their subtle perfume, and their festival recurrence which makes mid-May all poetry.

GREAT REGION 4 IRISARIANS OF THE PAST:
BENJAMIN YEO MORRISON (1891-1966)

"The fairies that stood sponsor at the birth of B. Y. Morrison must have been in doubt as to what special gift they should bestow on him, so to give him a choice they placed within his reach Art, Music, Literature and Science. Whereupon he grasped them all and refused to part with any of them; but the feature of this many sidedness that is of greatest interest to us is his love of flowers and his interest in plants." That is what J. Marion Shull said of him in his 1931 book Rainbow Fragments.

John Wister, first President of AIS, in the obituary he wrote for B. Y. Morrison in the April 1966 AIS Bulletin, related the role Morrison played in the founding of AIS: "Ben's iris article in *The Garden Magazine* in the autumn of 1919 was really the start of the American Iris Society. It brought together the enthusiastic group that arranged for the organization meeting at the New York Botanical Garden in January, 1920." B. Y. Morrison was Regional Vice President 1920-21, Editor of the Bulletin from 1935-40, and AIS Secretary from 1934 to 1940.

B. Y. Morrison was born in Atlanta, received a B.S. degree from the University of California, and a Masters in Landscape Architecture from Harvard in 1913. At Harvard he became friends with Robert Sturtevant, and was deeply influenced by the irises being hybridized by Grace Sturtevant. Miss Sturtevant was so impressed with the young man that she named one of her loveliest irises in his honor. B. Y. MORRISON (Sturtevant, 1918) is a pale violet to deep purple bicolor; it was one of the most popular irises in America in the 1920's. Morrison was 27 years old when the iris named in his honor was introduced.

The accomplishments and honors of B. Y. Morrison were monumental. He was one of the organizers of the American Horticultural Society and was its President for a number of years. He was also the Editor for that organization for many years. He worked for many years at the Office of Plant Exploration and Introduction of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and rose to the position of director. It was Morrison who drafted the plans for the U. S. National Arboretum, and then organized and directed the work of building it. He was named its

first Director in 1948.

He was named a Vice President of the Royal Horticultural Society in 1945, awarded the Peter Barr Memorial Cup in 1963, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal of the American Horticultural Society, the Gold Medal of the American Daffodil Society, and the Arthur Hoyt Scott Gold Medal and Award of Swarthmore College. He received the AIS Distinguished Service Medal in 1941.

During his most active years, Morrison lived at 116 Chestnut Street, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C. He was one of America's first breeders of show daffodils, but his most outstanding achievement was the creation of Glenn Dale azaleas, over 400 of which were introduced into the nursery trade. The display of the Glenn Dales at the National Arboretum is an awe-inspiring sight indeed.

The great accomplishments Morrison had with azaleas overshadowed his work with irises. But during the 1920's and 30's a number of the most popular irises in the U.S. and England were his creations: DAMOZEL, DUSK, JOYA, and PETRUCHIO in particular. All of his irises are listed and described in Iris Chronicales, No. XX, which is devoted entirely to his life and work.

Quoting again from John Wister, "...I saw him often, not only at the Society's annual meetings, but at iris shows and iris gardens. I went to his garden each spring to see iris seedlings, and in later years his daffodil seedlings. I remember his taking the pollen from the flowers of the then very rare BRUNO, which I exhibited at the Washington Iris Show about 1925. From this pollen he grew many fine varieties, but

these like his other varieties, alas, are no longer remembered in the swift advance of the iris breeding which he did so much to encourage."

From the beginning of AIS, Region 4 was one of the most active centers of iris growing and enthusiasm. And of the greats of irisdom, B. Y. Morrison was one we can, with pride, claim as our own.



THIS BEAUTIFUL PINK JAPANESE IRIS IS JOY PETERS (ACKERMAN, R.88). PREVIOUSLY UNDER NUMBER A4-5-44, ITS DESCRIPTION: "JA. 34" (86 CM), M. S. LAVENDER-PINK (RHS 69B); NEAR WHITE STYLE ARMS WITH PALE, PURPLE (76B) MARGINS AND LIPS; F. RUFFLED LAVENDER-PINK (69B) AT EDGE, BLENDING TO PALE PURPLE (76B), NEAR GREEN SIGNAL." IN ITS BACKGROUND ARE DOUBLE CREAM, GOSHOASOB1, AND MIYOSHINO. IF YOU ATTEND THE SJI CONVENTION NEXT JUNE YOU WILL FIND JOY PETERS GROWING IN THE NICHOLLS GARDEN AND THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY GARDEN OF DON SPOON. YOU CAN ALSO MEET THE LOVELY LADY FOR WHOM THIS IRIS IS NAMED.

SMALL IRISES, BIG DIVIDENDS

As winter draws to a close or shortly after spring begins, the miniature dwarf bearded irises break into bloom. Tucked into crevices of a rock garden, interspersed among stepping stones, growing along a woodland path, or emerging from the front of a flower border these wee lovelies can bring great delight. The varieties that tolerate our southern clime are virtually trouble free...unless you consider producing massive increase trouble. For those of you who have not been growing MDBs, here are the twenty-three most popular cultivars, as voted in 1988 by members of the Dwarf Iris Society:

<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Description</u>
Zipper	Yellow self, blue beards
Ditto	White/maroon
Lemon Puff	Lemon/white
Libation	Wine red bitone
Nuggets	Bright orange-yellow self
Penny Candy	Greyed yellow/orange
Alpine Lake	White/light blue
Garnet Elf	Dark red/violet beards
Puppet Baby	Blue-lavender/plum hafts
Sun Sparkle	Bright yellow
Buttercup Charm	Yellow with orange spots
Grey Pearls	Pearl grey, yellow beards
Brass Button	Brassy yellow bitone
Gizmo	Violet/red violet spots
Golden Eyelet	Bright yellow-orange
Promise	Violet red
Scribe	Blue plicata
Baby Tiger	Yellow/red edged yellow
Flea Circus	Purple plicata
Orchid Flair	Rosy orchid self
Pussytoes	White/greenish white
Quip	White;violet styles/beard
Snow Sparkle	Pure white, white beard

1989 REGION 4 SPRING MEETING

Dennis Stoneburner

The 1989 Region 4 Spring Meeting will be held in Roanoke, VA on May 18-20, 1989, hosted by the Blue Ridge Iris Society.

We will gather at the Holiday Inn-South on Franklin Road. Good food, good fellowship and beautiful gardens will welcome all who venture to this annual springtime event.

We will have a mixture of new gardens as well as the gardens of the seasoned growers. Included on the tour will be gardens of Daisy Hylton, Fred Stephenson, Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg and the Roanoke Garden Center. The "new" gardens will include Vic Layman's garden, 'Landsend', the former home of Frances Brown; the garden of Tamara McBride, who recently moved to Roanoke; and the gardens of Betty Kidd, Gene Pattersson and Dennis Stoneburner. One last garden will be the beautiful mountain retreat of Ama Childress. The view of the mountains from her Iris and Rose Garden is breathtaking.

Judges' bench training will be included in the activities along with the spring business meeting, the banquet and the auction. There will be some surprises and plenty of fun for all, so don't miss it.

The March NEWSCAST will have detailed information regarding registration, directions, and gardens on tour. Any questions should be directed to Mrs. Keith Cooper, Chairman, 3513 South Circle SW, Roanoke, VA 24018. Phone 703-989-5438.

*Breathes there a man with soul so tough
Who says two sexes aren't enough?*

--SAMUEL HOFFENSTEIN

THE BIRTH OF AN IRISARIAN

Vic Layman

The first seeds were planted long ago as I strolled through the beds hand in hand with my grandfather. On our many journeys, he lovingly introduced me to the names and characteristics of each tree and wildflower. It was then, in those impressionable years of childhood, that he instilled in me a deep appreciation for God's gifts to all of us.

When my dear Papaw (Chester John Frain, 1899-1983) passed away, I reflected on those precious times together. I longed to somehow keep him alive in a way more tangible than memory.

Papaw had a brother, Irving W. Frain, who was an iris hybridizer in Waltham, Massachusetts during the 1940's. Knowing of his brother's love for nature, Irving sent Papaw a box of rhizomes back in the 1950's, to establish an iris garden here in Roanoke. Until his health deteriorated in the late 1970's, Papaw nurtured that iris bed with great pride.

In the early 1980's, the wiregrass took its toll and the iris bed was mowed over week after week. We hadn't seen irises bloom there in years, but while looking through family slides several months after Papaw passed away, I recalled the memories of his lovely iris garden. I walked out to the patch of lawn where the bed had been. To my amazement, there under the bright summer sun were the remnants of the irises still clinging to life. At that moment I knew there was a way to keep my grandfather with me.

When I shared the discovery with my grandmother and told here of my plan, she

was delighted. My wife, Jane, and I were back that weekend to search through the grass for the tiny rhizomes. Most were the size of a thimble, but a few were as large as my thumb.

With great excitement, we collected a pail full of rhizomes, and headed back home to start a bed in memory of Papaw.

The garden was planted in July of 1983. It was done with great anticipation. We awaited the bloom season in May of 1984. We hoped for a return of many bright colored blossoms which had been captured on the family slides. Unfortunately the rhizomes required more time to recuperate, and we would have to wait another year. But something remarkable did happen. That May a single bloom stalk emerged and we later identified the flower as WABASH (Williamson, 1936). That bloom stalk filled me with great enthusiasm and hope for the 1985 bloom season.

During the winter months I joined the AIS and discovered the Blue Ridge Chapter. Kay Cooper and all the others welcomed me with open arms. It just so happened that the Spring Regional was here in Roanoke in 1985, so after the garden tours there was no doubt that I was hooked for life.

Papaw's irises bloomed magnificently that year! Jane and I delighted in counting the emerging bloom stalks each morning. We had over 100 spikes that spring with eight varieties.

To help me get started with modern irises, Daisy Hylton gave me many rhizomes from her garden. Rena Crumpler took me under wing and helped me acquire many of the most recent introductions. These kind

ladies, along with Lloyd Zurbrigg, Clarence Mahan and other members of our chapter and region have given me extensive encouragement and training. I intend to follow in Rena's footsteps...quite a challenge. But test gardens for hybridizers nationwide with a commitment to cultural perfection and regular feedback will be the focal point of my efforts.

In the winter of 1986, Kay Cooper told me about a home and garden that might be put on the market. She took me to meet Allen and Frances Brown at their home "Landsend." The property was wonderful, and a friendship developed with Allen and Frances. Jane and I purchased their home and occupied it in July 1987. We are most grateful to the Browns for enabling our dream to come true and for their years of dedication to the iris world.

In preparation for your visit to the Regional Meeting here in 1989, we are opening new beds and adding additional cultivars as quickly as we can.

Only a couple of the irises for our "Chester John Fraim Bed" have been identified. I am hopeful that with the help of visitors from our region we can determine the names of additional varieties. And I wish you health and happiness until we see you here in May!

DID YOU KNOW...

Many of us still grow the lovely amoena ELIZABETH NOBLE (K. Smith, 1955). Do you know what this iris has in common with BETTY NESMITH (Washington, 1934)? Both irises were named in honor of Mrs. Thomas J. Nesmith, one the greats in AIS history.

PROFESSOR OF IRIS

A part-time gardener came to help us out that August, and I initiated him into the simple mysteries of dividing iris. There was quite a lot to divide and replant---several hundred feet of it that edged the Top Garden paths---and when he had finished he was quite skillful at the job. In his previous conditions of servitude this helper had made shoes, cut grass, done odd jobs of farming and tended the furnaces of the valley homes. This was his first plunge into the shoreless sea of flowers, and he took to it as a whale to water.

The week after he retired from my employ strange rumors came up from the valley. Otherwise sane and contented folks grew hectic and discontented with their gardens. Something must be done about their Iris. This worthy fellow, having graduated from my simple hilltop school, set himself up as Professor of Iris, went about from garden to garden, struck a solemn pose before every Iris clump he found and, with the judicial airs of the learned, handed down his opinion. Up and down the valley he went, lifting Iris, dividing it, replanting clumps and thus making jobs for himself until Winter. The next years these gardens made history for themselves in Iris time, which goes to prove that a little knowledge is not invariably a dangerous thing.

[ED. This vignette appears in Richardson Wright's The Gardeners Bed-book, first published in the 1920's.]

"Creeping Jenny is one of the meanest of weeds...A whispering little hussy that creeps in and spoils everything."

--Edwin Rollin Spencer: *All About Weeds*

THE 1988 FALL REGIONAL

Barbara Lozaw

The 1988 Fall Meeting of Region 4, American Iris Society was held at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in High Point, NC and the Eastern North Carolina folk surely made us feel welcome.

After registering on Friday, October 7, we gathered in the motel restaurant for a dutch treat dinner. It was a joy to see many of the faces we saw at Westminster, Maryland in May. After dinner and a 'welcome' we were presented with a very informative talk on "Arils and Arilbreds: Form and Culture," accompanied by slides. Dr. E. Roy Epperson was the instructor. A test was given for those who desired credit for judges training.

The AIS accredited fall iris show was displayed and judged in the Guilford room on Saturday. The judges were Ruth Walker, Polly Price and Dave Walsh. Queen of the Show was the dwarf REFINED, exhibited by Diana Nicholls. Special Horticultural Awards went to B. J. Brown, Mike and Anne Lowe, and Lloyd Zurbrigg. Lloyd also won the Best Seedling Award. The Silver Medal went to Diana Nicholls; the Bronze Medal was awarded to Lloyd Zurbrigg.

The Board Meeting, open to all members, was followed by a lovely luncheon at beautiful High Point College. Then, back at the motel, there was another judges training session on "Awards and Balloting" taught by Dr. Epperson, followed by a refreshment break.

At 3:30 pm a lively discussion, "Everything You Wanted to Know About Hybridizing But Were Afraid to Ask," was



ON THE LEFT IS DR. D. C. NEARPASS'S SPECTACULAR SEEDLING 78-16 WHICH WON THE BEST SEEDLING AWARD AT THE C&P MAY SHOW THIS YEAR. RUFFLED CHOCOLATE PLEGATA FALLS ARE TOPPED BY BUTTERSCOTCH STANDARDS AND AN ORANGE BEARD...YUMMY! AT RIGHT IS OUR GREAT HYBRIDIZER HIMSELF. THE YOUNG GENTLEMAN WITH DR. NEARPASS IS BRYAN WILLIAM SPOON, SON OF DR. DONALD SPOON, C&P NEWSLETTER EDITOR AND C&P SHOW CHAIRMAN.

paneled by Clarence Mahan, J. D. Stadler, and Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg. It is amazing how much can be learned when you attend such an informal exchange of questions and answers with everyone taking part, bringing out the very information a person wants to know. Dr. Epperson began this session by projecting the reproductive parts of an iris on a screen as an actual specimen was stripped and we were shown the stigmatic lip and the pollen producing anther. We were

made aware of how necessary it is to use uncontaminated elements, i.e. the pollen and the ovule, when crosses are made. This is necessary to be sure of the true parents of the new seedlings. It was strongly recommended that beginning hybridizers use the best quality irises to make their crosses. A book, The World of Irises, was suggested to aid in our hybridizing endeavor.

The Lodge dining room was the setting for our buffet style banquet. Raffle numbers were drawn for an iris trivet and a 20 piece set of iris china. Owings Rebert passed around a couple of cards for everyone to sign to remember some of our friends who were ill and unable to attend this meeting. The D. C. Nearpass Award was presented to J. D. for the best Region 4 hybridized introduction, CELESTIAL DREAM, a beautiful white border bearded iris with blue rims on the falls.

We then moved on to a wild and wacky auction of a multitude of Siberians, Louisianas, TBs, Arils, Japanese, versicolors, hostas, lovely handpainted T-shirts (created and donated by Agnes Vergon), iris wind chimes, and a couple of ceramic iris vases. I think everyone departed pleased, satisfied, and looking forward to the next regional meeting on May 18-19, 1989, in Roanoke, Virginia, with Blue Ridge as our host chapter.

[Barbara joined WIS in March of this year and she and her mother Ruth Savage have attended both of the 1988 Regional Meetings. They have been enthusiastic supporters of both chapter and regional sales. We are blessed to have such great new members! Thanks to Anne Lowe for passing along this interesting article.]

FOURTH ANNUAL GREAT FALL SHOW

Diana Nicholls

On anything but a spring day, the "Spring Renaissance" reblooming iris show, sponsored by the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society, was held at Mrs. McGregor's Garden Shop on October 22, 1988. Gladys Lee exhibited a very nice stalk of I DO, Queen of the Show, which did remind us very much of spring in the garden.

The AIS Silver Medal for most blue ribbons was won by Diana Nicholls, and the Bronze Medal was won by Gladys Lee. Our good friend Frank Jones was able to come down from Mercerville, New Jersey, and enter quite a few stalks. Frank had some very nice seedlings of his own, Clem Reeves and Norman Noe. Best Seedling Rosette went to Clem Reeves's F-61-1, a lavender MDB. Everyone is waiting for Clem to register and introduce this lovely iris.

Judges for our show were our Maryland friends Dennis Wilkie, Alice Miller and Rosalie Figge. We really appreciate their coming out and judging on such a chilly, windy day. A very special 'thank you' goes to Virginia Walzcak and Joy Peters for looking out after the information table. They signed up several new members for AIS and C&P. And our dedicated Property Committee, Mac Shawe and Bob Hall, is to be much thanked, too. To Joy, who looked after the show all afternoon, "God bless you!"

"It would be useful...to know the conditions which would induce more Irises to flower again in the autumn. Is this character an idiosyncrasy of the individual plant, or is...[it] brought about by any external circumstances?" --Dykes, *IRISES* (1911)

I'M NOT GOING TO GROW MORE THAN FIFTY IRISES

Ron Harris

Irises are the most exciting and dramatic flower in the world today. They possess a certain indefinable passion that causes "grown" men and women to revert back to the happy days of childhood and become once again those carefree, robust, avid collectors (baseball cards, Captain Marvel comic books, movie star pictures, bubblegum wrappers) of days gone by.

As grown "kids" we irisarians recite with conviction, "I'm not going to enlarge my beds and grow more than fifty irises," and then we deliberately add one hundred and fifty irises or two hundred irises, and enlarge our beds. Last year I had fifty-six irises. This year I have two hundred and sixty! However, this is not quite as bad as it appears at first because part of the 204 addition to the garden this year comprise MTBs, rebloomers, Siberians and Japanese irises, constituting a far better, more well rounded collection, with a considerably extended iris bloom season.

The exciting news in my garden is the addition of a private, walled Japanese garden, complete with a garden pool, statuary, pagoda lamps, and a specially designed Shinto gate. One of our new members, Bob Smithson, and I are both constructing Japanese gardens. It's difficult now to remember where the idea originated, but once it was born we both added one item after another until what started out to be a simple Japanese garden has now become something unique. We both feel that the really exciting garden contains far more than just irises...irises first, but also mums, roses, impatiens, tulips, hostas, and on and on.

The Tidewater Chapter is exciting to belong to. Since March we have had something going each week, and we really enjoy being with one another, which makes it more than just a special interest group with a monthly meeting. Our members are constantly reading, studying and trying to improve our knowledge of irises.

I personally feel that everything we do in the iris garden is important, even the labels. I have designed and made special labels that not only identify the iris, but also list the hybridizer, the year of introduction, the HC, HM, AM and Dykes awards won and the years of these awards. Six of us are now using these special labels. The Japanese and Siberian irises have their own specially designed labels, and consequently can be identified at some distance due to their unique shapes.

A great deal of the success of the Tidewater Chapter is due to our president, Rich Randall. Rich is a leader who gives us a great deal to do, and yet is mature enough not to be threatened when we do it and do it well. In fact, he is always there, cheering us on and making us aware that we are doing a good job and that he appreciates our efforts.

We are now getting ready for a huge Christmas Banquet, with a real live Santa Claus and all the trimmings. It has been a wonderful full year; but as the irises sleep we will be forging our plans for the spring tours, spring show, potting party, spring sale, annual picnic, fun and companionship, and yes, the special comradeship we have here in the Tidewater Chapter.

But honestly, I'm not going to grow more than 260 irises....

IRIS HEXAGONA

John Wood

I am writing this article by request, and would like to dedicate it to Mrs. Ruby Buchanan. Ruby has spent untold hours researching data on *I. hexagona*. She was instrumental in bringing to my attention the fact that The Bicentennial Special Publication of the Society for Louisiana Irises Observing Its 35th Anniversary, 1941-1976 maintains that *I. fulva*, *I. nelsonii*, *I. brevicaulis* and *I. giganteaerulea* are the only species of Louisiana in the foundation of modern hybrids.

It also came to my attention that Chapter 12, "The Louisiana Iris," written by Barbara Nelson and Charles W. Army in The World of Irises, does not mention *I. hexagona* as being part of the foundation of modern hybrid Louisiana irises. The World of Irises says about *I. hexagona*: "The type species, *I. hexagona*, is often disregarded in lists of Louisiana species, because, although it has the widest distribution, it mainly grows further east than the species involved in the garden hybrids. *I. giganteaerulea*, one of the famous ancestors of the series, is listed by some as a variety of *I. hexagona*, but is now usually considered a separate species."

I have an established planting of *I. hexagona* and am familiar with its growth habits, bloom and other characteristics. I found it very disturbing that authorities were asserting that it was not included in the foundation of the modern Louisiana hybrids. I spent the latter part of 1984 and the first quarter of 1985 corresponding with Dr. Charles Fritchie and Joseph K. Mertzweiller in Louisiana, and Marie Caillet in Texas.

There is much that should be told about the species *I. hexagona*, as there are many people in the iris world who are not familiar with this iris. My first plants came from the low country of South Carolina, and were originally collected from a roadside ditch many years ago. I find that these plants produce true from seed. I also have plants from Florida, as well as two collected and named clones from Louisiana, CATHEDRAL BLUE and CATAHOULA BLUE, which were used by Frank Chowning in his hybridizing program.

One must see *I. hexagona* blooming to appreciate the pure blue coloring of the flowers. The foliage is very striking in that it remains evergreen for me unless there is extreme cold. It doesn't yellow or spot in late summer as do the hybrid Louisianas that I grow. I do not have the white form of *I. hexagona* in my collection, and would certainly like to obtain it should someone reading this article know of a source.

Believe me, I am not "whistling 'Dixie'" or "blowing smoke" when I stress how important *I. hexagona* is to the iris world and the fact that it is present in the foundation of modern Louisiana cultivars.

From 1931 to 1940, there were 21 cultivars introduced with *I. hexagona* as one of the parents. Hybridizers using it were: Washington, Williams, Wayman and Nies. There were an additional 31 cultivars listed from 1940 to 1981 which have *I. hexagona* as a parent; many of these were produced by Chowning who made extensive use of CATHEDRAL BLUE and CATAHOULA BLUE.

The Louisiana Iris, a new publication sponsored by the Society for Louisiana

Irises, gives the history and culture of the five native American species and their hybrids; it recognizes that there is evidence *I. hexagona* is involved to a small degree in the foundation of modern Louisiana hybrids, but expresses the view that *I. giganteaerulea* has been the main contributor. This book also stresses that cytological studies, which deal with biological pathology, structure, function and life history of cells, and taxonomic studies, which deal with classification, are needed to determine the relationship between *I. hexagona* and *I. giganteaerulea*. Is *I. giganteaerulea* a separate species, or is it a variant of *I. hexagona*?

Chromosome, microscopic rod shaped bodies that carry genes, are constant in number for each species. The number of chromosomes have been counted for all five American species in the Series Hexagonae. The counts: *I. fulva* (42), *I. brevicaulis* (42 and 44), *I. giganteaerulea* (44), *I. nelsonii* (42), and *I. hexagona* (42 and 44). Some chromosome counts have been made of plants which contained 43 chromosomes, which would indicate that they were hybrids of two species, one with 42 and the other with 44 chromosomes. Earlier counts for *I. brevicaulis* were 44 chromosomes, but more recent studies of several collections consistently showed a count of 42. We have the same situation with *I. hexagona*. Foster counted 42 chromosomes in 1937, and Dr. Randolph counted 44 in 1954. The 44 count by Dr. Randolph was on a white form of *I. hexagona*.

In the work of Ira Nelson and Dr. Randolph which resulted in Randolph's elevation of *I. nelsonii* to species rank, karyotype analyses were used, and each distinctive karyotype included different

marker chromosomes in each of the four species studied. But *I. hexagona* was not included.

It strikes me as very odd that marker chromosomes for *I. hexagona* were not shown along with the four other "species," since Dr. Randolph was extensively acquainted with both *I. giganteaerulea* and *I. hexagona* plant material in the field. I also do not see how he was able to conclude that *I. giganteaerulea* was a separate species with 44 chromosomes when he had made a chromosome count of 44 on *I. hexagona*, unless he did a karyotype analysis on *I. hexagona* and found the marker chromosomes different from those of *I. giganteaerulea*.

I think we can all appreciate the work that has been done up to the present with the five Hexagonae species; but we must realize that there are many unanswered questions about this group of irises, and there is a need for additional research. The last work done that I am aware of was done by Dr. Randolph.

There is a bright cloud on the horizon. It is my understanding that the Scientific Committee of the AIS Foundation has awarded a grant to make studies to clear up the controversy as to whether *I. giganteaerulea* is a species or a variant of *I. hexagona*. Work started on this project this fall with Bob Bennett doing extensive collecting of plant materials for this study. It is my understanding that Mike Arnold will be doing the analysis, and I assume this work will be done at Louisiana State University.

With this additional research may *I. hexagona* be recognized in its rightful position in the development of the modern Louisiana iris hybrids.

EXCERPTS FROM REGIONAL ROBINS

From The Wild Ones, Region 4 Beardless and Species Robin:

Steve Harsy: We got a call yesterday that we have to leave for Santiago, Chile to sign some adoption papers in court in Santiago tomorrow. Our new son, Nicholas Adam, was born April 4. Unfortunately we can't bring him back this trip; we have to wait a few months longer. It's very hard. (Mt Airy, MD) [ED. Nicholas arrived & attended the C&P beardless iris auction at Georgetown University in September, along with older brother, Chris. Mom and Dad, Linda and Steve, were smiling big. Welcome, Nicholas!]

Anne Lowe: I have LAVENDER BOUNTY and it is flourishing after one year....So far it hasn't repeated for me. We have added about 30 JIs and an equal number of Siberians and Louisianas are thriving in the drain. I join the Harsy's in welcoming Nicholas. (Blackstone, VA)

Ruby Buchanan: I have about decided that 77 is almost too late to start over collecting iris. Since my brother...needs so much help in his azalea nursery, I dare not hope for assistance with my iris patch. I'm still threatening to trade my TroyBilt Horse for a mule! Or maybe I need a goat...to eat grass and weeds!...Bruce Richardson sent me a start of *I. aphylla* HUNGARY, which came from Randolph's garden when the Richardsons visited in the 60's; also *I. pontica* (from Randolph); and *I. swertii*, which he described as a cream and rose plicata. He also included a start of *I. fossii*, which I had lost last winter. (Winston-Salem, NC)

B. J. Brown: We had a very good bloom season here, and have had better than thought-for

sales. We have just about sold out all our LA irises. An article in Flower and Garden listed our garden as a source for LA irises, and we got a good response from that, and are still getting requests for catalogs.... (Charlotte, NC)

Dick Sparling: I knew there was another iris I must get that will grow in the sun and was mentioned in the robin. I found it in Carol Warner's garden: *I. verna*. I put many of my beardless species in front of the house where there is more shade and protection. I guess I've been too protective and will move some out back where they will get more water and sun. (Olney, MD)

John Wood: Thanks to Rusty Ostheimer in Houma, LA, I now have planted a goodly number of the species *I. giganteaerulea*. Of the collected named clones, I now have HER HIGHNESS, BARBARA ELAINE TAYLOR, BARATERIA BAY, CREOLE CAN-CAN, and RUTH HOLLEYMAN. Also three for real wild *I. giganteaerulea*, *I. nelsonii*, *I. fulva*, collected. 'Chacahoula' and thanks to Dick Sparling, DOROTHEA K. WILLIAMSON, a cross of *I. fulva* X *I. brevicaulis*. So I am sure you can imagine I am overjoyed with all these goodies. (Mooresboro, NC)

Doris Simpson: When I began to buy JIs I went in for new ones---until I found that some of the new ones might be scientific advances---but they just weren't pretty. Well, you can't eat Japanese irises, so if they aren't pretty what good are they?....I began to search out the old cultivars of Arlie Payne, the Prairie series of Hazzard and some of the early Marx imports. I'm having a wonderful time! I have a few good new ones, like Lorena Reid's RUFFLED DIMITY and George Bush's JAPANESE SANDMAN. But I'm concentrating on semi-antiques. This fall

I'm getting (I hope) DEBONAIR PRINCE, REIGN OF GLORY, BLUE LAGOON (again), MAGIC OPAL, MIDNIGHT WHISPER, MAI OGI, TAGA SODE, ENCHANTING MELODY, SPRINGTIME SHOWERS (Reid, 86), HAKUGYOKURO---and *Iris laevigata albopurpurea* COLCHESTERINSIS (I've wanted this last one for about 10 years.) (Baltimore, MD)

Virginia Rowland: Last year was the first year martins didn't come to our martin house. I wondered if it was because we have three cats. They did come to our next door neighbor's though. (Goose Creek, SC)

Carol Warner: Last fall I planted a great number of Spanish, English and Dutch irises. The Dutch have had foliage up all winter and the others have begun to show through their mulch...I also planted a *versicolor*, *virginica* and *I. setosa* Hondonensis....I saw a picture of SILVER ILLUSION in...[a] catalogue. I'm pretty sure that I saw it in bloom at one of the conventions under seedling number, and it was great. [I always order] Johnson's and Hollingworth's thing directly from them...both [of these] hybridizers have some gorgeous introductions. (Upperco, MD)

Clarence Mahan: The 1939 Checklist has two named forms of *I. verna*. VERNAMONT (a "mountain form" collected near Rydberg, WV) and VERNAPIED (the "piedmont form" collected in Virginia.) Both were carried in the 20's and 30's by Jesse C. Nicholls, Jr's Royal Iris Gardens. (McLean, VA)

HAIKU

Bright snow lades the boughs---
Ephemeral as today
Or tomorrow's mire.

Bee Warburton, 1988

From the Ramblin' Robin, Region 4 General Interest Robin:

Don Spoon: I got SCHORTMAN'S GARNET RUFFLES from Clarence 3 years ago. I have a big clump. I tried its pollen and pod many times with no success. I like it "ok" but it seems to bloom out quickly. I used it in a funeral bouquet with the pink LOVEBOAT and LORD BALTIMORE...really striking.
(Washington, DC and McLean, VA)

Mike Lowe: I would have thought all would be quieted down by now and that I would be laid back in the hammock in the shade, swizzling a tall cool one and totally without a care in the world. Hah! I owe at least three letters, four phone calls, two "Thank you's", an article, rhizomes for three local society sales, shipments of rhizomes to Texas, Oklahoma, California...ten orders to be made out (money?--what money?), one robin to respond to, 5 seedling reports to gin up and mail and...the grass is at least two weeks overdue for cutting. (Blackstone, VA)

Anne Lowe: I volunteered to edit the Historical Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) publication...starting in September. Anyone with articles dealing with older irises, please send them to me. I need all the help I can get! (Blackstone, VA)

[ED. Subsequently, those of us lucky enough to be members of HIPS received the 1st issue of Roots: Journal of the Historical Iris Preservation Society, edited by Anne. It is superb! What a great job! If you are interested in older irises or iris history, beg, borrow or sell an iris to get the \$3.00 it takes to join HIPS so you can get this publication. Family membership is \$4.00, Single Triennial \$7.50, Family Triennial \$10.00. Send dues to Verona Wieckhorst, 4855 Santiago Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80917.]

Ruby Buchanan: I talked with Karen [Bennett] again yesterday. [Bob and Karen Bennett] had just returned from Florida, and her report sounded most promising. "The iris were everywhere we went. I saw more species irises in Florida than we had ever seen in Louisiana!" So their Carolina vacation was changed for field trips and species collecting in Florida. They were assisted by a scientist from Florida State. The man from Florida will keep check on the "tagged species"...and they collected specimen plants for growing in Louisiana. (Winston-Salem, NC)

B.J. Brown: We had outstanding bloom on the following IB varieties: AZ AP (a nice clear blue); APPLEBLOSSOM PINK (the name describes the bloom---nice); BOLD PRINT and RARE EDITION were full of plicata blooms, similar in some ways, but still different; TOWNCRIER, red with yellow beards made a strong contrast; SILENT STRINGS (blue). Two raspberry varieties of Hamblen were especially good: RASPBERRY BLUSH and RASPBERRY ROSE. (Charlotte, NC)

Diana Nicholls: REFINED, an SDB, has been wonderful! It bloomed in early April. In early May it put up two more stalks. In late May it bloomed again. Early June saw another stalk and again in late June. On July 10, it was in bloom again. (Gainesville, VA)

[ED. Diana wrote the above in a letter mailed on July 26. In October she brought some of the most beautiful iris stalks ever seen at a fall show to High Point, NC. And her entry of---guess what---took Queen of the Show? Why REFINED, of course.]

Karen Simmons: I really enjoyed reading everyone's letters and...am constantly in awe of the information contained in this

robin. Don Spoon's information is mind-boggling, as is J. D.'s. How you all keep these crosses and seedlings straight is beyond me. (Claiborne, MD)

Julie Allen: The arrival of the robin was a welcome visit with friends in a place which is still new and rather lonely. It takes time to establish new friendships, and although I look forward to doing so, we are still newcomers in Sparta....My husband received an invitation to attend the annual picnic of the Midstate Iris Society of Region 7, held in Murfreesboro, TN. We went, and we enjoyed it very much. We were made to feel welcome by the Regional VP, Joseph Christopher, and his wife. Phil Williams was also especially cordial and easy to talk to. (Sparta, TN)

[ED. Julie and her family recently moved from California to her husband's farm in Tennessee. Julie has been an "honorary" Region 4 member since 1986!]

J. D. Stadler: Below I am listing what really did well this year:

GYPSY WOMAN: Tall & large and a color combo that I had not seen before. S. were pale yellow, F. white with a raspberry border. Everyone wanted it.

CREATIVE STITCHERY: Again tall and very large. A violet plicata with very distinct stitching along the edges. Very impressive.

ROYAL CRUSADER: The largest of all. If I described it to you, you would think it was a fish tale. I have never seen a bloom this large anywhere. S. lt. blue, F. med. blue.

GRECIAN SKIES: Very nice light blue with red beards. The most beautiful in this color class.

SKYBLAZE: Another blue with red beard, the blue just a little darker. Tried several crosses with this and GRECIAN SKIES.

SNOWBROOK: Magnificent! Pure white with a violet blue border all the way around the falls. Stalk was short, but on a first year plant.

INFINITE GRACE: A near pink amoena that I like very much.

EASTERTIME: Also looked very good. Good substance, tall and good branching, although the bud count was 6. Light yellow with white in the falls.

SCHORTMAN'S GARNET RUFFLES: A red brown with ruffles. I tried this in several crosses.

These were the new iris to me. Some of the older ones that continue to impress:

HOLY NIGHT: Still one of the best dark iries I grow. Tall and large and dependable. One of my favorites.

OLYMPIAD: I still think it is one of the best irises around. I love that darker blue flush over light blue.

JENNIFER REBECCA: Rose pink rebloomer. Lloyd's best. I loved it this year. Can hold its own with anything out. I had replanted last summer and believe every rhizome bloomed.

FRESNO CALYPSO: An orange from John Weiler. I had left it undivided far too long. Last summer it was divided and replanted and really put on a show. Evidence that it is not the iris's fault when quality diminishes...certainly not if it is left too long in one spot.

CAPTION: Just as great this year as last year. One of Ghio's best. Looks like a modern version of QUEEN OF HEARTS, but a much better grower....

Last, but not least, LADY FRIEND. Brightest raspberry rose around. Good growth, branching and increase. Its only fault is 5 or 6 buds. Despite bud count, I voted for it for the Dykes. (Reidsville, NC)

Clarence Mahan: There were two irises that "bowled me over" at Oklahoma City. First, Mary Dunn's DIVINE. It is not an easy iris to describe because it defies the laws of mathematics: the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Heavily ruffled pale orchid standards rise above ruffled falls of medium violet with a large white zonal around the beard, which is also white. Everything about this iris is nice....The second iris at OK that fascinated me was Monty Byers's LURID, as seen in Paul Black's garden. It is without question the most elegant space age iris in existence. Pure white with red-orange beards and long white horns extending from them. It should have been named "Elegance."
(McLean, VA)

CHICKWEED CONTROL

In many places chickweeek has become one of the very worst lawn weeds. Often liming the soil will help keep it out of bluegrass lawns. Another good way to fight it is to dust the plants with ammonium sulphate while the dew is on. This will burn the plants enough to kill them, and since ammonium sulphate is a good fertilizer for lawns, all that is left after the day's action should be washed into the soil by heavy sprinkling with water. --Edwin Rollin Spencer: *All About Weeds*.

MEDIANS AT WEYMOUTH

Charlotte Gantz

Every gardener dreams of a perfect season ahead. If he grows irises, all of the new additions will bloom, the old ones will multiply and cover themselves with glory, none will die or fail to perform. And it never happens that way. So when Clarence Mahan asked for another report on the medians in my public garden at Weymouth here in Southern Pines, I looked back over my notes and knew a pang over the losses, as well as joyful surprise over what I did get.

One of the brightest spots in the season was the blooming of BABY BLESSED on October 5. A new addition, in hadn't performed in April, but now in the fall its unexpected appearance surprised me. Besides, it is a beauty with perfect iris form and delicate pale yellow and cream coloring with a white spot. It was in bloom again on October 25, and may have had flowers in the interval.

Other SDBs, however, have done less well, and it seemed a good time to take stock of the problems. Being fairly far south and on the Coastal Plain was obviously one problem, over-watering at Weymouth was another. The lawns and gardens are wet by daily sprinkling on an automatic basis. I have tried and tried to get this controlled in my section---to no avail. The miniature and standard dwarfs I plant have often come from the northern sections of our country---many were developed there, and often the rhizomes I receive are very small. BEAU was one such. It took six years to bloom. CLAP HANDS bloomed in '81, then sulked for six years. Both are lovely irises; I'm very glad I waited. Others frequently fail to perform for two or three years in a row. The miniature dwarfs are a particular prob-

lem. This year they bloomed in my own garden, but not at Weymouth; and while my SDB bloom was good here, it was disappointing there. Over-watering may be the reason. IBs, MTBs, and tallis all fare much better in both places. Do others in areas such as mine have similar problems? I would like to know. I didn't have these problems in Pennsylvania. A few SDBs always perform well, and this includes many of the oldies: ANGEL BABY, BETSY BOO, BOO, CHERRY BLOSSOM, FORTY WINKS, GOLDEN FAIR, LITTLE HIAWATHA, MELON HONEY, MEN ONLY, OPEN SKY, SOFT AIR, SPECKLED SPRITE, STARRY EYED, and WHEELS.

Now for a few notes on the SDBs I especially like. MICHAEL PAUL chose to bloom this year with its near black, purple tones...it's a favorite. I still like the yellow and brown of WHEELS, set off by its violet beard. This is one of the first to bloom, while MEN ONLY, another browish-yellow with an orange beard, is often the last. BRIGHT DAWN of *mellita* parentage may be even later, but while this is listed as an SDB, it looks to me more like a table iris. It certainly tries to bloom with them. The apricot MELON HONEY is good and I was pleased to see BOLD TYPE. That had taken four years, but when it finally showed its colors---they are deep blue with a grape halo---I was again glad I hadn't thrown it out. The white ANGEL BABY is most satisfactory, and I was very happy with CLAP HANDS, a yellow blend with a brownish blue edging on the falls. The deep gold of LITTLE HIAWATHA is also good.

The most satisfactory part of my median garden, however, is unquestionably the MTBs or table irises. Most of these---I now have twenty-five---bloom regularly and make a fine display. Among my favorites are BLUE

TWINKLE, CHICKEE, DANCING GOLD, DOLL RIBBONS, ECHO POND, FLASHING BEACON, ORNATE PAGEANT, PANDA, QUIRK, ROSEMARY'S DREAM, SPANISH COINS, TOPSY TURVY, VIOLET CORSAGE, and WHITE CANARY. They have all come a long way from the table irises we had in the '60's, and for those who are not familiar with our present MTBs, they are worth a try.

I am still devoted to the SDBs---pesky fellow that they are---and having cut down on most of my work at Weymouth (I was in charge of all the gardens there), I am hoping to have more time for my section, the medians and herbs. As I look over the many small irises that have not bloomed, I am determined that next year they will have much TLC to see whether they can't be coaxed into showing their colors.



A SECTION OF THE MAGNIFICENT GARDEN OF ANNE AND MIKE LOWE NEAR BLACKSTONE, VA. ANNE AND MIKE ENJOY HAVING GARDEN VISITORS, AND VISITORS SEE IRISES GROWN TO PERFECTION.

CAROLINA MOUNTAINS CHAPTER REPORT

• *Jeanne A. Grundies*

The new officers for our Carolina Mountains Chapter are as follows:

President.....Flossie Nelson
Vice Pres.....Walter Hoover
Secretary.....Jeanne Grundies
Treasurer.....Melinda Neighbors

We feel so fortunate that Flossie Nelson's health has improved so that she can serve as our president again, and also that Walter Hoover, who has contributed so much to our chapter in enthusiasm, time, talent and knowledge, has consented to serve as vice-president.

In early May we scheduled a trip to Inman, SC to visit the lovely gardens of Everette Lineberger, hybridizer and Chairman of Section Liason for AIS. In October our meeting was at the home and garden of Flossie Nelson, after which we toured the gardens of John Lyon in Hendersonville and Joe and I. V. Summey on Zeb Corn Road. This gave us the opportunity to see the contrast between home and field planting. It was also educational in that we learned how to prepare our beds for fall and winter. Here is our 1989 schedule:

Winter meeting....Sat, Feb 18, 1989 (1:30)
Spring meeting....Sat, Apr 22, 1989 (1:30)
Iris Show.....Sat, May 20, 1989
Iris Auction.....Sat, Jul 22, 1989
(Cover dish at noon, sale at 1:30)
Fall meeting.....Sat, Oct 28, 1989

Our meetings, show and auction will all be held at the Meadows Community Building on 3rd Ave West and Justice St in Hendersonville.

REGION 4 1988 TB SYMPOSIUM RESULTS

<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Votes</u>
VANITY	46
BEVERLY SILLS	40
SONG OF NORWAY	32
IMMORTALITY	25
LACED COTTON	25
SUPERSTITION	25
LADY FRIEND	24
STEPPING OUT	24
VICTORIA FALLS	24
MYSTIQUE	22
TITAN'S GLORY	21
GOLD GALORE	20
SPINNING WHEEL	20
BRIDE'S HALO	19
MARY FRANCES	19
EARL OF ESSEX	18
JESSE'S SONG	16
CAMELOT ROSE	15
DOVER BEACH	15
MASTER TOUCH	15
RINGO	15
WINTER OLYMPICS	15
COPPER CLASSIC	14
EASTERTIME	14
RUFFLED BALLET	14
SHIPSHAPE	14
THEATRE	14
BUBBLING OVER	13
GAY PARASOL	13
STUDY IN BLACK	13
CUP RACE	12
DEBBY RAIRDON	12
IDOL'S DREAM	12
LATIN LOVER	12
LEDA'S LOVER	12

"The future belongs to those who believe in
the beauty of their dreams."

--ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

REPORT OF NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY

E. Roy Epperson

There has been discussion for some time concerning the status and fate of the NC Iris Society. At a meeting on July 16, 1988, that fate was decided by the following: B. J. Brown, Frances Brown, J. D. Stadler, Roy Epperson and Polly Price. These are four of the past five presidents of the NCIS and the long-time treasurer. There is no dues-paying membership of NCIS. Its activities and meetings are redundant with the other existing iris groups in NC.

It was decided unanimously to disband the NCIS and further decided to divide existing society funds (\$1,126.91) as follows:

40% = \$450.75 to Treasurer, Region 4, AIS

15% = \$169.04 to Charlotte Iris Society

15% = \$169.04 to Cabarrus Iris Society

15% = \$169.04 to Eastern NC Chapter, AIS

These checks will be distributed shortly by Polly Price, NCIS Treasurer.

Of the 40% designated for Region 4, \$110.00 was utilized to purchase Siberian irises for the Fall Auction. There are 33 pots of recent Siberians, 4 *versicolors*, and one LA. There should be a good return on this investment.

This seems to be a satisfactory solution to this situation and an equitable distribution of assets.

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY REPORT

Doris Rebert

The annual fall membership luncheon of the FSK Iris Society was held, Oct 24 at the Towson Sheraton Convention Center. A total of 38 iris folks had an enjoyable social hour

with punch followed by a delightful lunch.

The program featured slides of the 1988 Spring Regional, as seen through the camera of the Barrs. Bill & Claire offered to present FSK with coverage of all activities. We are grateful for this thoughtfulness. The presentation was made with Gerald Richter operating the projector. The Harps provided the equipment, & Owings Rebert was the narrator. By the applause, the choice & results had been appropriately calculated.

Doris Rebert, president, proceeded with the meeting, giving due credit to various persons. Each place setting had been provided with a gift from Fleur de Lis Gardens---a popular hemerocallis. This was made possible by recent contacts made by our hard-working and benevolent-minded Rosalie Figge. New FSK membership rosters were also individually placed.

Plans are going ahead for a bus trip to Presby Gardens next bloom season. The annual election was held resulting in the following: President, Rosalie Figge; Vice-Pres, Frank Marr; Recording Sect, Carolyn Schlanger; Corresponding Sect, Lucy Hauck; and Treas, Hal Herrmann.

The retiring president then said a few words of encouragement and appreciation. At this point it was announced by Maynard Harp that a side committee had been functioning for the purpose of presenting Doris Rebert with an appreciation gift: a beautifully engraved silver tray. Gerald Richter presented it. Vicky Dorf then presented The World of Irises to Owings Rebert, to recognize his work on the Regional Spring Meeting. The chair was then passed to newly elected president, Rosalie Figge. We then had an iris drawing, arranged by Rosalie. Newer irises were given to everyone.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY

Additions:

Laura Burton, Skywater Rd, Gibson Island, MD
21056

John N. Trudell, 566 Williamsburg Lane,
Odenton, MD 21113

Christian J. Letsch, 622 Barnes Ave,
Westminster, MD 21157

William A. Favand, 221 W. Lanvale St,
Baltimore, MD 21217

Changes:

Kathleen Wood, 946-B Lorimel Rd, Sykesville,
MD 21784

Helen F. Walsh, Rt 3, Box 614, Berlin, MD
21811

Delete:

Mrs. Harris J. George

Viola F. Wells

Iris F. Trescott

Ruth S. Rodgers

Donald H. Waugh

Iris Alberts

Cheryl A. Bird

MARYDEL CHAPTER

Additions:

Frances Crane, Rt 1, Box 142, Sudlersville,
MD 21668

Leslie Shaffner, 107 Woodstock Dr,
Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Mary Ellen Raun, 73 Bunker Hill Rd, Warwick
MD 21912

Changes:

Richard L. Kleen, P.O. Box 873, St. Michaels
MD 21663

Mrs. Donald Brightman, 13 Haven St, Rt 3,
Denton, MD 21629

Delete

Mrs. Alexander MacGlashan
Mrs. Charles E. Taylor
Gladys H. Powers
Mrs. James Cope
Mrs. T. E. Graves

CHESAPEAKE AND POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY

Additions (Washington, DC):

Jacqueline Favilla, 60 W St NW, Washington
DC 20001
Dr. P. W. Ogilvie, 1227 Franklin St NE,
Washington, DC 20017
Smithsonian Institution, Horticulture Branch
Library, Arts & Industries Bldg #2401,
Washington, DC 20560

Additions (Maryland):

Beth Bowling, 46 Sunset Dr, Hughesville, MD
20637
D. M. Jones, Rt 3, Box 540, Hollywood, MD
20636
Nancy Stewart, 10611 Burbank Dr, Potomac, MD
20854
Mrs. William H. Slasman, 2170 Blue Ridge Rd,
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Pamela A. Byrne, 933 John Brown Lane,
Knoxville, MD 21758

Additions (Virginia):

Florence K. McNally, 16002 Crest Dr,
Woodbridge, VA 22191
B. J. Burnett, 510 Lost Acre Ln, Great
Falls, VA 22066
Thomas E. Welsh, 18052 Olde Port Ln,
Triangle, VA 22172
Rena McCune, 4400 Eaton Pl, Alexandria, VA
22310
Betsy L. Stanford, 2415 S. Fort Scott Dr,
Arlington, VA 22202
Loretta Horvath, Rt 1, Box 327-A, Warrenton,
VA 22186

Changes:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Dufresne, Box 85,
Chaptico, MD 20621
I. Ray Baker, 653 Yorktown Rd, Pogooson, MD
73662
Dr. Jeff Hatfield, 703 Devonshire Rd, Takoma
Park, MD 20913
Janice G. Bigelow, 1726 Pebble Beach, Vienna
VA 22180
Grady Michael Evans, 2 Garfield St, Stafford
VA 22554

Delete

Mrs. Elizabeth T. Jones
Josephine Z. Borkowski
Dr. Nicholas Rogentine, Jr. 1
Eugene S. Burger
Brian D. Ricks
Lois M. Carroll
Gerry Hyland
Candy Erhard
Edward Harris
Joyce A. Kinnecom
Lee Meadows
Clarence & Dorothy Roy
Charles Edward Roy
Mrs. Kent Leathers
Kayt Neall
Akane Orlandella
Marie Bernegger
Sandra S. Mueller
Jennifer A. Bramlett
Alexandra M. Baez
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Arachibald (to Region 3)

FREDERICKSBURG-RICHMOND IRIS SOCIETY

Re-enter:

Melanie R. Shebalin, 814 Woodlawn Dr,
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

Additions:

Mary & Betty Berrey, P.O. Box 597,
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Judith A. Coin, Rt 8, Box 1030, Spotsylvania
VA 22553
R. V. Harvey, Jr., Box 99, Ladysmith, VA
22501
Rose Hawkins, Box 1020 L O W, Locust Grove,
VA 22508
Martha Massad, 335 Clay St, Fredericksburg,
VA 22401
Sandra Towe, 313 Berkley Dr, Partlow, VA
22534
James H. Turner, Sr., 6628 Schoolhouse Rd,
Bealeton, VA 22712
William C. Vaughn, 47 Van Horn Ave, Stafford
VA 22554

Changes:

Rosemarie R. Ayres, Rt 1, Box 443, Louisa,
VA 23093

Delete:

Hazel W. Owens
Judith Jones
Estoria P. Pence
Dallas Laws
Eileen A. Hart
Brian & Connie Speer
Gale Graham
Deborah R. Bowen
Millie A. Woodward (to Region 21)
Michael D. McAdams
Garland E. Dovel

BLUE RIDGE IRIS SOCIETY

Additions:

Homer D. Baldwin, 4358 Fontaine Cir SW,
Roanoke, VA 24018
George L. Benson, Jr., 2435 Keagy Rd, Salem,
VA 24153
Gregory Bowles, Rt 3, Box 293, Ferrum, VA
24088
Margaret T. Bowles, Rt 3, Box 293, Ferrum,
VA 24088
Amarilis S. Childress, 6549 Masons View Ln,
Roanoke, VA 24018

Stella H. Couch, Rt 2, Box 693, Grottoes, VA
24441
Sally V. Carver, 719 Illinois Ave, Salem, VA
24153
Joseph A. Danis, Jr., 6364 Franklin Rd,
Boones Mill, VA 24065
Mildred Dimond, 6300 Moncap Trail, Roanoke,
VA 24018
Kathy Sue Hudson-Wiley, 714 Texas Hollow Rd,
Salem, VA 24153
Reed Kelly, P.O. Box 612, Daleville, VA
24083
Nellie Kirk, Route 3, Rocky Mount, VA 24151
Edward P. Kozlowski, Route 2, Box 474,
Fincastle, VA 24090
Emily O. Lindsey, Route 1, Box 1014, Chaney
Store Rd, Ringgold, VA 22586
Debra K. Luckado, 2605 Tillett Rd SW,
Roanoke, VA 24015
Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Sizemore, HC 05, Box
468, Coeburn, VA 24230
Frank Sparks, 912 Clairborne Ave, Vinton, VA
24179
Brian Stoneburner, 2114 Avenel Ave, Roanoke,
VA 24015 (Youth)
Beatrice Stovall, Route 1, Box 205, Meadows
of Dan, VA 24120
Linda M. Tellian, 2435 Keagy Rd, Salem, VA
24153
Mildred V. Walker, 3418 Overhill Trail SW,
Roanoke, VA 24018
Dr. Walter Scott Walls, 202 Georgetown Rd,
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Changes:

E. S. Weikle, Rt 1, Box 54, Shawsville, VA
24162
Rudolph & Catherine Jones, Rt 4, Box 2235,
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
E. H. & Virginia Robinson, 4637 Cook Creek
Rd, Roanoke, VA 24012

Delete:

Ann M. Shannon

Doris B. Swanson
Sarah Simmons
Carole A. Leary
Anne Robinson
Mildred Woods Biegar
Linda T. Marsh
Mr. & Mrs. Paul P. Cornett
Brian & Jane Duncan

WILLIAMSBURG IRIS SOCIETY

Additions:

Lewis H. Beazlie Jr., 112 Sherwood Dr,
Williamsburg, VA 23185
Elizabeth Q. Clement, 2477 Forge Rd, Toano,
VA 23168
R. V. Luethy, 11 Lighthouse Way, Newport
News, VA 23606

Delete:

Kathy Eggleston
Nancy Heath
Lewis R. Nobles
Malcolm L. Boswell

TIDEWATER CHAPTER

Re-Enter:

Brent C. Heath, The Daffodil Mart, Rt 3, Box
794, Gloucester, VA 23061

Additions:

Anne Battaile-Hennessey, 5216 Powhatan Ave,
Norfolk, VA 23508
Doreen E. Jagodnik, 4592 Picasso Dr,
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
Millie McGuire, 4510 Holly Rd, Virginia
Beach, VA 23451
Lee C. Mellott, 6255 Drew Dr, Virginia Beach
VA 23464
Leonard J. Rogers, 8608 Sunnygrove Rd,
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Changes:

Cheryl Bacon, 5209 Acacia, Bethesda, MD 20814

Delete:

Amy L. Stratton
Frederick A. Smith
J. W. Steffe, Sr.
Johnnie B. Potocnick

WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER (Inactive)

Addition:

Georgia Hayes, 524 W. Jefferson St,
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Change:

Alma Childers, Bowles Rt, Box 215, Hamlin,
WV 25523

Delete:

Charles C. Shamblin (to Region 15)

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

Additions:

Marianne B. Hayworth, 910 Croyden St, High
Point, NC 27260
Pat Kelley Henderson, 4575 Old Winston Rd,
Kernersville, NC 27284

Delete:

Richard E. Joiner
Shirley Hardin
Jack E. Lineback

CHARLOTTE CHAPTER

Delete:

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Hughes (to Region 7)

CAROLINA MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

Addition:

M. Samuel McCown, 6 Pointview Ct, Arden, NC
28704

Change:

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Summey, Rt 14,, Box 78,
Henersonville, NC 28739

Delete:

Mr. & Mrs. George A. Sargent
We-Du Nurseries
Doris Leighton Glover
L. D. Koryta
Sharon Edwards

CABARRUS COUNTY CHAPTER

Delete:

Mrs. Audrey Cline

LETTER TO RVP LLOYD ZURBRIGG

The following is excerpted from a letter, dated November 13, 1988, from Shirlene Shreckengaust, Corresponding Secretary of the Tidewater Chapter: "Please accept this one hundred dollar contribution to Region 4 on behalf of the Chesapeake and Potomac Chapter whose members were so generous and helpful in getting our chapter established."

The check for \$100, for deposit to the Region 4 treasury, was sent to Brian Lazarus. This donation to Region 4 by the Tidewater Chapter, done in the name of the C&P Iris Society, is a wonderful tribute to another chapter, and it says a lot about the donating chapter, too. You guys and gals are great over there in the tidewater!

He thought he saw an Elephant,
That practised on a fife:
He looked again, and found it was
A letter from his wife.
"At length I realise," he said,
"The bitterness of life!"
--LEWIS CARROLL, *The Gardener's*
Song

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY - REGION 4 BOARD

Regional Vice President - Lloyd Zurbrigg,
708 Noblin St, Radford, VA 24142
Tel: (703) 639-1333

Assistant RVP - J. Owings Rebert, 152
Leister's Church Rd, Westminster, MD
21157, Tel: (301) 848-3781

Immediate Past RVP - B. J. Brown, 11026
Steele Creek Rd, Charlotte, NC 28210
Tel: (704) 588-1788

Secretary - Susan Grigg, 4908 Auburn Rd,
Raleigh, NC 27609, Tel: (919) 787-8345

Treasurer - Brian Lazarus, 1786 Generals Hwy,
Annapolis, MD 21401, Tel: (301) 849-8818

Historian - Polly Price (Mrs. A. H.), 2307
Scalesville Rd., Summerfield, NC 27358
Tel: (919) 643-4422

Parliamentarian - Rosalie Figge (Mrs. Frank),
4 Maryland Ave, Towson, MD 21204
Tel: (301) 337-9118

Editor Newscast - Clarence Mahan,
7311 Churchill Rd, McLean, VA 22101
Tel: (703) 893-8526

Conventions - J. Owings Rebert, 152
Leister's Church Rd, Westminster, MD

Judges Training - Carol Warner (Mrs. Andrew)
16815 Falls Rd, Upperco MD 21155
Tel: (301) 374-4788

Finance Committee - Dr. A. W. Rice,
2817 Avenham Ave SW, Roanoke, VA 24014

Membership Committee - Mrs. Tamara McBride,
2509 Avenham Ave SW, Roanoke, VA 24014

Auctions & Awards - J. D. Stadler, 1613
Country Club Rd, Reidsville, NC 27320
Tel: (919) 342-0006

Median Irises - Richard Sparling, 18016
Lafayette Drive, Olney, MD 20832
Tel: (301) 774-4151

Youth - Mrs. Nancy H. Schuhmann, 6520
Walters Woods Drive, Falls Church, VA
22044, Tel: (703) 528-8773

Reblooming Irises - Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg,
708 Noblin Street, Radford, VA 24142
Tel: (703) 639-1333

Beardless & Species Irises - Carol Warner
(Mrs. Andrew C.) 16815 Falls Rd, Upperco,
MD 21155, Tel: (301) 374-4788

Robins - Anne Lowe, Rt# 3, Box 135,
Blackstone, VA 23824, Tel: (804) 265-8198

Photography - Mrs. B. J. (Frances) Brown,
11026 Steele Creek Road, Charlotte, NC
28210; Tel: (704) 588-1788

Publicity & Public Relations - Dr. E. Roy
Epperson, 1115 Delk Drive, High Point, NC
27262

Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society - Richard
Sparling, 18016 Lafayette Dr, Olney, MD
20832

Marydel Chapter - Mary Etta Brightman, Rt 3,
Haven St, Denton, MD 21629

Fredericksburg-Richmond Iris Society - Roger
Glasshoff, 1111 Wythe Ct, Fredericksburg,
VA 22405

Eastern N.C. Chapter - J. D. Stadler, 1613
Country Club Rd, Reidsville, NC 27320

REGION 4 BOARD (Cont.)

Cabarrus County Chapter - Diane Shue, 49 Main
St, Concord, NC 28025

Carolina Mountains Chapter - Flossie Nelson,
109 S. Carolina Ave, Hendersonville, NC
28739 (704) 692-7942

Charlotte Chapter - Pat Rodgers, 4910 Carmel
Park Dr, Charlotte, NC 28211, Tel: (704)
366-5008

Blue Ridge Iris Society - Mrs. Keith Cooper,
3513 South Park Circle, Roanoke, VA 24014

Francis Scott Key Iris Society - Doris
Rebert, 152 Leister's Church Rd,
Westminster, MD 21157, Tel: (301) 848-3781

Tidewater Chapter - Richard R. Randall, 524
Windsor Gate Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Tel: (804) 340-9077

Williamsburg Chapter - Betty Worrell, 172
Skimino Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23185

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It has been a great joy to serve Region 4 as editor for these past three years. It has been an exciting period of growth for the region and for me. So many friends...so much new knowledge...so many kindnesses! To everyone who has helped, contributed, advised, suggested: 'Thank you.'

Anne and Mike Lowe are talented writers and editors. We are fortunate that they will be taking on regional editorial duties. We have some interesting times ahead, and Anne's and Mike's warmth, enthusiasm and love for irises are just what we need. Give them the help you gave to me, and they will give us a publication that is the envy of other regions. Of that, I have no doubt.

One of the most appealing aspects of the iris is its seemingly unlimited ability to change. Despite all the hybridizing 'miracles' in this century, there are many more 'miracles' to come. Region 4 is going to be one of the centers of the great changes ahead. We have an intensity of interest in remontants, medians, and beardless species. It is likely that these are the areas in which the great advances of the future will occur. NEWSCAST has a big job ahead of it to carry such news, along with news of wonderful iris people in Region 4, news of iris shows yet to come, news of iris gardens yet to be visited.

To you, my many friends in Region 4, I offer a parting gift from the pen of 'the Good, Gray Poet':

*Passing, I leave thee lilac with
heart-shaped leaves,*

*I leave thee there in the dooryard,
blooming, returning with spring.*

Clarence Mahan

Clarence Mahan
NEWSCAST Editor
7311 Churchill Road
McLean, Virginia 22101

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2112 West 17th
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