

# *Newscast A·I·S·*

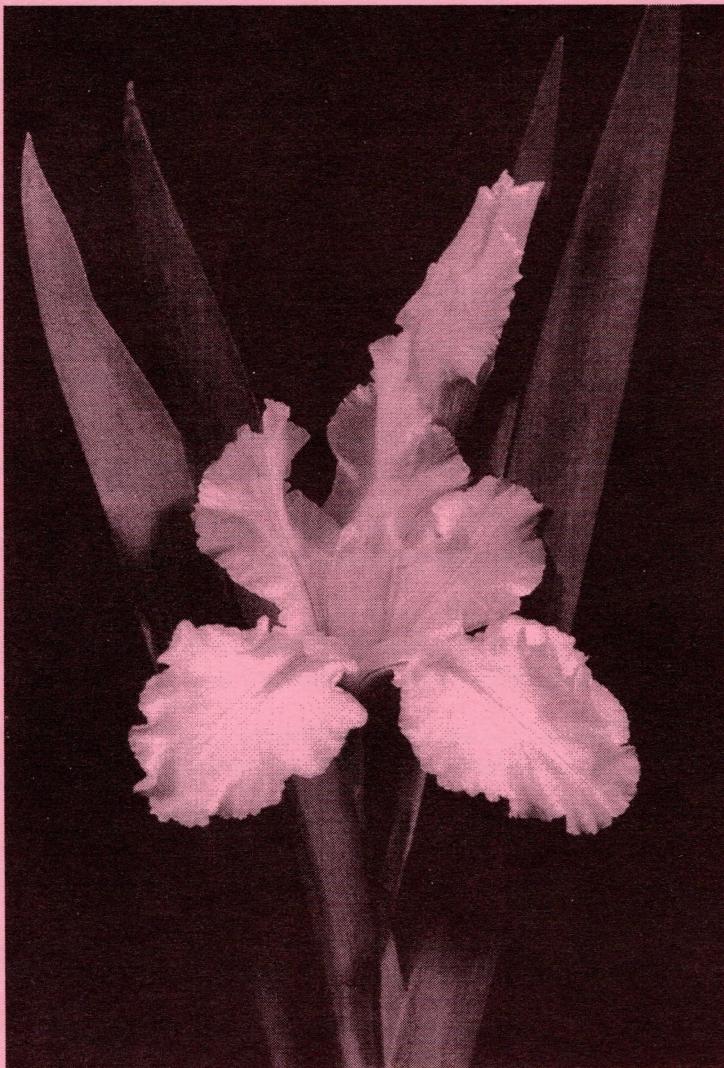
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**REGION FOUR**

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Volume 38, Number 1

Spring 1996



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# *Newscast*

## **Region 4 of the American Iris Society**

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VOL. 38, NO. 1

Spring 1996

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**Editor:** Dennis Stoneburner 2114 Avenel Ave. Roanoke, VA  
24015-3506 (540) 982-2176

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY -  
MEMBERSHIP, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155

Communications regarding **American Iris Society membership, dues and change of address** should be addressed to **Marilyn Harlow**.

Region 4 is comprised of the states of **Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia**.

NEWSCAST is free to AIS members in Region 4. Subscription rate for those not in Region 4 is \$3.00 per year. Checks made out to Region 4, American Iris Society should be sent to the treasurer.

Permission is granted to reprint any material appearing in NEWSCAST provided that proper credit is given.

All copy due in Editor's office by **Feb. 1** for the Spring issue and **July 1** for the Fall issue.



### ***Our Purpose***

The Purposes of the American Iris Society, and Region 4, shall be to develop the science of horticulture and any activities related to the study, propagation and culture of the genus Iris; to stimulate and foster interest in horticultural pursuits, conservation and protection of these plants; to cooperate with other organizations, public and private, in the scientific and horticultural education of all those interested in learning any phase of the genus Iris, by any and all means which may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. These shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) encouragement and support of scientific research, including those pertaining to the solution of diseases related to but not necessarily exclusive to the genus Iris, and investigation and conservation of the genus in the wild;
- (b) collection, compilation and publication of data concerning the history, classification, breeding and culture of Irises; and
- (c) education of the public through exhibitions, public display gardens, published standards for judging and local, area, regional and national meetings open to the public.

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## RVP'S MESSAGE

There is an old Bohemian Christmas carol which says... "Mark my footsteps my good Page, tread thou in them boldly..." Following in the tracks of one who has twice been RVP is daunting indeed. As I begin my term as your RVP I am very aware of what Roy has accomplished and am grateful for his counsel and for the example he has set.

While I do not intend to set up an elaborate set of goals for the next three years, there are several things which I hope and expect to see accomplished. One goal has already been met: every Region 4 Iris society is now affiliated! We welcome CVIS as the newest member of the group.

Region 4 has the second largest membership in AIS but Regions 6 and 18 are hot on our heels for this number two spot. The National Membership Contest proves that we have an excellent recruitment program; Marilyn Harlow's membership report shows that new one year memberships account for one third of non-renewals. I want to see us hold our present position, and in order to do this, we must have something to offer members that will make them want to stay with us. Several of our smaller chapters are experiencing difficulties in recruiting and retaining enough active members to continue to stage shows, hold rhizome sales, etc. I would like to see more interaction between the smaller chapters who could use some support (moral and otherwise) and the larger more active iris societies who are in a position to offer it.

There are several areas within the region with which I am not familiar and there are many of you whom I have not met. During the next three years, at your invitation, I would like to visit each Iris Society at least once. I would appreciate having your show, sale and meeting schedules to aid me in planning these trips.

I would like to see Region 4 become number one in promoting the iris as a desirable and hardy perennial. This means

a concerted effort from our hybridizers, grass roots irisarians, organizers and writers--anyone who can/will promote our favorite flower. I believe that one way to achieve this is to return to 3 issues a year of Newscast (which is internationally known as one of the best iris publications going). In addition, Region 4 irisarians possess a wealth of expertise and talent and it is my goal to make this knowledge available to all who are interested via a 'stable' of trainers who Have Program, Will Travel.

On January 1, 1996, the HIPS e-mail Robin took to the air (literally). Directed by Ellie Weikle, this HIPS Robin is a first for AIS. Also in January we became the first AIS Region to put up a Web Page on the Internet, thanks to the efforts of Bill Smoot who is the Region 4 Webmaster. Are we in the 20th Century or what?! Although this sounds complicated and trendy, e-mail offers the fastest, easiest and cheapest communication ever.

The Fall AIS Board Meeting brought forth a number of difficult decisions, including the increase in AIS dues. I have been asked to serve on the newly formed Library Committee and on the controversial RVP Proposal Committee. Both groups pose challenges which will be worked on during the winter and discussed in depth in Sacramento.

On the downside, Region 4 has recently lost four long standing iris friends. Charles Hare, Retta and Maynard Harp and Virginia Epperson will be sorely missed. We celebrate having known them and grieve at their demise. Our prayers go out to all their families.

As I write this, Blizzard '96 is melting and the iris catalogs are arriving daily, reminding me that it is time to think about the coming iris season. The Spring Regional in Leesburg sounds exciting. Many of us have not met Speaker Tony Huber, and the prospect of new tour gardens and "The Greatest Iris Show on Earth" is tantalizing indeed. See you there!

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

**Sadie Edwards, Fredericksburg Chapter**  
**Virginia Epperson, Eastern North Carolina Chapter**  
**Charles L. Hare, Carolina Mountains Chapter**  
**Maynard Harp, FSK Chapter**  
**Retta Harp, FSK Chapter**  
**Dorothy M. Marr, FSK Chapter**

## **Retta E. Harp**

*By Frederick J. Ladd*

Members of Region 4, and in particular FSK lost one of its most well known members with the passing of Retta Harp, aged 95, on September 2nd, 1995.

Together with her husband, Maynard they founded the Francis Scott Key Iris Society in 1967. Retta was a keen amateur gardener who developed a passionate interest in Iris cultivation from the 1940s onwards. Her professional training as a music teacher brought her into contact with the Sheppard end Enoch Pratt Hospital in the 1920's. Following music teaching appointments in the 1950s and 1960's at Towson and Parkville High Schools, Retta volunteered her services in garden therapy at Sheppard Pratt for many years.

Retta was also associated with the Garden Club of Govans, and a member of the Towson Woman's Club garden department. She received recognition for her more than 50 years service in 1989 from the National Council Of State Garden Clubs.

Members will recall with gratitude Retta's many services in promoting Iris culture in the Region. In addition to holding various offices in FSK, Retta held the distinction while membership chairperson of Region 4, an appointment made by Frank C. Sherrill in the early 70's, of increasing Regional membership for the first time to 500. It ranked second place among the 24 regions. This record for membership enrollment in Region 4 was an all time high at this period. Retta was in charge of hospitality for the memorable Regional convention in 1976 hosted by FSK, when members' gardens, including Maywood, were on the convention bus tours.

The FSK Horticultural Committee benefited from Retta's keen interest in enrolling and educating new members on growing iris. It was never too much trouble for her to answer questions and offer advice, passing on her enthusiasm for its culture. Retta and Maynard also lectured with slide illustrations on growing Iris throughout Maryland and Virginia.

Most of all, members will treasure happy memories of the delightful visits to "Maywood", near Hereford, in Baltimore County, the picturesque country home of Maynard and Retta. Their wonderful borders of Iris were laid out amid a beautiful landscape setting. Annual picnics and other meetings held there were always special events to look forward to.

The generous and gracious hospitality of Retta and Maynard in sharing their lovely garden will long be remembered.

We extend to Christine and J. Markwood Harp Sr., and their family, our deep appreciation of Retta's valuable contribution to Region 4 and FSK.



## **Maynard Edwin Harp**

### **April 4, 1899 - December 9, 1995**

*By Claire Barr, Past President, AIS*

Maynard E. Harp, devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, successful business man, lover of flowers of all kinds, but especially irises, left us on December 9, 1995, just three months after his beloved wife Retta had preceded him in death.

Few of the newer members in Region 4 will have had the privilege of knowing this gentle man who spoke softly, but always wisely, who with his wife Retta and a few friends founded the Francis Scott Key Iris Society (or "Chapter of Region 4", as it was known then in 1967), who served as Regional Vice President in the early seventies, and who was at all times a strong and guiding force in local and regional affairs whether holding office or not. Maynard was respected for his wisdom and his integrity, never wavering from what he thought to be the right course of action. All who knew him felt his strength along with the warmth of his character.

A native of Frederick, Maryland, Maynard came to Baltimore in the late twenties, and in 1932 he founded his own electronic sound and communication systems business. In 1950, his son Markwood joined the business; twenty or more years later two grandsons followed suit. This three-generation business was highly respected for its quality service throughout Baltimore.

In 1967, as members of The Chesapeake and Potomac of Region 4, Maynard and Retta decided to form a new chapter and held a charter meeting at Maywood, their lovely home in Hereford. This was the beginning of The Francis Scott Key Chapter (later affiliated as The Francis Scott Key Iris Society). It was also the beginning of many wonderful picnics

and garden walks for the members, the site of a beautiful party in honor of the Harps' fiftieth wedding anniversary (they were to spend twenty-one years more together, and the site of a never-to-be forgotten farewell party given for this writer and her late husband when they moved from Maryland to California.) The memories of happy hours spent at Maywood are shared by many in the region. Maynard loved irises, wild flowers, trees and many other nature subjects. His slides were shared with many groups through the years, just as his and Retta's iris gardens were shared with so many iris lovers.

All who knew Maynard Harp respected him for his honesty and absolute integrity, his ability to cut through the trappings and find what was important; and they loved him for his devotion and for his quiet sense of humor. How fortunate we all were to have known him. His spirit will long be felt in Region 4.



Maynard & Retta Harp

# Treasurer's Report - Region IV - AIS

For Period July 1, 1995 to January 31, 1996

July 1, 1995 Balance	\$7,778.91
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## Receipts

Newscast Subscriptions - Out of Region	\$21.00
Interest on account (7 months)	\$113.30
Donations:	
Blue Ridge Society	\$500.00
Fredericksburg Chapter	\$600.00
Fall Auction	\$1143.00
 Total Receipts	 \$2377.30

Complete Totals	\$10,156.21
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## Expenditures

Membership Committee - R. Randall	\$160.45
Postage and Printing - JT - Dr. Epperson	\$32.00
Dunn-Rite Printing - Fall Newscast	\$1274.43
AIS Labels for Newscast	\$28.96
Automated Mailing Service - Newscast Mailing	\$230.35
Dennis Stoneburner - Editor Postage	\$3.00
Dennis Stoneburner - Newscast to New Members	\$44.92
Jack Loving - Mailing Auction Iris	\$32.82
Anne Lowe - Fall Board Meeting Travel	\$300.00
Renny Martin - '94 Membership Contest Award	\$100.00
J. Owings Rebert - Treasurer Expense	\$22.52
AIS Scholarship Fund	
Memorials:      Retta Harp	\$100.00
Charles Hare	\$100.00
 Total Expenses	 \$2,429.45

January 31, 1996 Balance	\$7726.76
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Respectfully submitted,

J. Owings Rebert, Treasurer  
Region IV, AIS

# Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, October 7, 1995; Region 4 AIS Fall Board Meeting Brier Inn, Lewisburg, W.Va.

Asst. RVP Anne Lowe, presiding in the absence of RVP Roy Epperson - Stoneburner moved, Cross seconded, to elect Sara Marley to act as Secretary pro-tem in the absence of Susan Grigg. Carried.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 A.M.

Item 1) Stoneburner moved, Warner seconded, to adopt the agenda. Carried.

Item 2) Approval of the minutes as printed in the Fall '96 Newscast with an addendum (Pg. 10, 2nd para.) from Rich Randall, Reg. 4 Membership Chairman. Carried.

Item 3) Reports of Officers

RVP - Roy Epperson - absent - written report; Symposium tabulation, page

**Asst. RVP** - Anne Lowe - verbal

No new regional convention sites to report; thanked Alleghany Highlands Iris Society for their detailed planning of this Fall Meeting.

RVP Roy Epperson will not be able to attend the fall AIS meeting. Warner moved, R. Randall seconded, that RVP elect Anne Lowe be designated as the official representative of Region 4 to the AIS Fall Board Meeting to be held in Oklahoma City in November, and that the Region pay \$300.00 toward her expenses. Carried.

**Immediate Past RVP** - Carol Warner - verbal

**Secretary** - Susan Grigg - absent because of health reasons

**Treasurer** - J. Owings Rebert - Page 8

It was noted that Fredericksburg Area Iris Society has donated a total of \$1000.00 to the region in 1995.

**Historian** - Margaret Stone

I am pleased to advise that the reports from the Chapters are coming in at an accelerated pace. I am also very happy to see that newspaper clippings are being included by the Chapters in their reports. The newspaper clippings will, of course, add significantly to our historical records.

We have not quite yet achieved a 100% reporting from the Chapters. I am hopeful that this will be achieved during our next reporting period. Chapter reports are, of course, very important

as this will be our only record in future years of what our Region has accomplished. Without these reports, a major part of our history will simply be gone forever.

**Parliamentarian** - Rosalie Figge - verbal

Stated that she had recently attended a national parliamentarian conference - a grand experience.

**Editor of Newscast** - Dennis Stoneburner

With modest prodding, articles were received only 2.5 weeks past deadline. Many positive comments continue to come in, and a few articles are even now arriving for the spring. Some of Region 4's members will be given a writing assignment soon - get your pens ready.

There were 760 copies of the Fall issue printed, with 722 mailed. This will be the last issue printed using Dunn-Rite Printing Co. A local printer will be contracted for the Spring issue. Charlie Dunn has provided a wonderful service to Region 4 for many years.

A note of concern for the future. As this report is made, the cost of paper is rising, and not a small amount. Some types of paper have more than tripled in cost this year. It will be an ongoing challenge to provide a top quality product at the lowest possible cost. Any input is appreciated.

a) paper costs have risen, thus lessor quality paper might have to be used to keep costs down

b) possibility of returning to 3 issues with the 3rd one being topical, featuring iris culture, etc.

c) Dennis will be using a different publisher

Stoneburner moved, M. Lowe seconded, that the Secretary write Dunn-Rite Printers a "thank you" for the excellent service given to the Region 4 Newscast Editors. (per Dennis & Susan Grigg)  
Carried.

**Item 4) Reports of Standing Committee Chairmen**

**Beardless/Species** - Diana Nicholls

Another interesting year in the garden. Some of our members, especially to the south, were inundated with water; while others found a serious lack of rainfall. The spring here had no rain during March and April. These months were critical as the plants were emerging and entering into the first major flushes of growth. Everything was incredibly slow to get going. Also we had a cool spring. We found that the Japanese Iris that we lined

out in the fall were especially hard hit by the lack of rainfall as they started out. Most stayed on the stressed side and size. May and June had a nice amount of even rainfall. The beardless as a whole seemed to take hold and make up for the slow start. The bloom season was good with the blooms holding very well in the cool temperatures. Then August started with a nice rainstorm on the third. This was the last drop we were to see until September 16. August was also the second hottest on record. Needless to say the summer was spent dragging hoses and the well did not let this happen without a couple of complaints so the watering schedule had to be slowed down. We managed to keep everything looking okay except for those lined out in the previous fall. They just refused to be robust while getting hit with a double whammy of stress in one year. Our "famous" horse manure mulch is the only thing that saved the day here in our garden.

For the fourth year, the Carolina Mountain Iris Society held a two day Japanese Iris show. They had very nice help publicizing the show in the local newspaper with a nice photograph featuring Japanese Iris entitled "Purple Passion". Nice work CMIS.

While visiting The Royal Horticultural Society Wisley Garden in England this summer, I happened upon the trial gardens in Portsmouth Field. Included in this years trials were various cultivars of lettuce, carrots, alstroemeria and JAPANESE IRIS to name a few. Upon perusing the Japanese iris cultivars, I found our own Region 4 hybridizer, Dr. William Ackerman represented with his LASTING PLEASURE and WINE RUFFLES. Thousands of people visit this garden every year. What a wonderful opportunity for the public to get acquainted with one of our favorite flowers.

**Budget** - Anne Lowe announced that the following Budget Committee has been appointed to serve, starting January 1, 1996: Jack Loving, Chairman, Carol Warner, Susan Grigg, ex-officio J. Owings Rebert.

**Judges Training** - Roy Epperson - Page 24  
**Median Irises** - Dick Sparling

Another season has come and gone. One that saw Miniature Tall Bearded Iris take a big step forward at the National Convention. Not only did Bangles-L.Miller-95 win the Cook Cup as the best out of Region iris but Robin Goodfellow - Mahan-95 tied for second. I have never seen them grown with

such majesty in all the gardens. These are my passion as most of you know. I only wish they grew as well for me. I had to move most of my MTBs this year. They were switched to three beds that I rototilled with Alfalfa last year. With this reconstituted soil I hope I get the spectacular results I've been getting using Alfalfa as the main addition. I also decided I'd transfer the iris by clump instead of just planting two rhizomes. So I divided my original clump moved part to the new beds and put the rest in our rhizome sale. The only thing I now believe I should have done was to cut the fans. Of course, the summer turned hot and dry and like most anything that was planted they basically sat there until it started to rain and get cooler in early September. Now the new growth is starting to show but I must wait until next year to evaluate the Alfalfa results.

All the other Medians I planted this year are just now jumping out of the ground, many planted where Alfalfa with multiple increases. I replanted all my Arilmeds also but using two rhizomes in Alfalfa treated beds and they are going great guns. Even some reluctant growers like Big Black Bumblebee and Sheik are responding. Needless to say I'm becoming an Alfalfa freak.

Needless to say I'm hampered with my broken arm. It has halted all outside activity for now so weeds abound, gardens don't get made and other projects have to be put off. I may be able to pull some weeds toward the middle or end of November but these hands might not be able to withstand the cold. Weather permitting my Medians should be overwhelming next year if the weeds don't out grow them. Come on over and find out.

Announcement was made that Dick had recently broken his arm.

### **Membership - Rich Randall**

In a few weeks Marilyn Harlow will be sending out renewal notices. This will be the only notice that she will send. Please do not put it aside for tomorrow, tomorrow it may be lost.

Thanks to the general membership and the chapter membership chairman, 83% of our Regional Societies have entered the national contest. Within those societies, 37 members are in the running for the Regional award of \$100.00 in irises. And the Winner Is!!! Eleanor Fischer and Betty Molchany of the C&P Chapter. (First time there has been two winners.) They will share the \$100 prize.

The following is a list of the members who participated this year.

Sara Fox Chapman	Mrs. Ruth Denit
Laura Faaborg	Gloris Fairhead
Ruth Filsinger	Eleanor P. Fischer
Jeanne Grundies	Joan Herbert
Ruth Brown Holbrook	Diana Hunter
Leonard D. Justinian	Frederick J. Ladd
Vic & Dayna Layman	Anne Lowe
Sara Marley	Renny Martin
Chauncey & Ginger McHale	June Mitchell
Elizabeth Molchany	JaNiece Mull
Rosemary Newcomb	Dennis Pearson
Gary Pearson	Merrick E. Shawe
Bill Smoot	Richard & Meredith Sparling
Patricia Stagg	Katherine Steele
Dennis Stoneburner	Deborah Tucker
Helen Walsh	Ms. Cen Waters
Carrie Winter	Robert Withey

### **Photography - Dennis Stoneburner**

Many new slides have been added this year including Japanese and newer bearded irises, along with National Convention gardens. They can be borrowed anytime.

Since the Spring Regional, Four request for slides have been received. Many members are sending photographs also that can be used for Newscast. This is greatly appreciated.

### **Publicity/Public Relations - Ken Roberts**

At least one person read my spring report. He has written me for suggestions in increasing membership. We will respond, hopefully at this meeting.

In the last issue of Newscast Dennis Stoneburner wrote about our logo contest. To date there have been no submittals. If we want a logo someone will have to design it. Where are the creative thinkers? Or are we waiting for the gardening season to end before retiring to the drawing board?

The following is a repeat from the last meeting. If anyone wishes help in getting FREE advertising for an AIS event or other ideas in promoting an AIS related function, please contact me at the office at 301-854-6837 or home at 410-442-1197.

Written requests may be directed to me at P.O. Box 350, West Friendship, MD 21794. I will be glad to suggest ways to increase member or public turnout at an AIS event.

Cut off date for LOGO contest is March 1, 1996.

**Reblooming Irises - Joan Roberts - Page 21**

Mary Brown will write a related article for Newscast and The Recorder

**Robins - Libby Cross - Page 19**

**Youth - Tammy Lee**

I would like to thank those who appointed me to the position of Region 4 Youth Chairman. As youth chairman, I have had the pleasure of writing to several pen pals who enjoy growing irises. This position has also prompted me to send cards encouraging other youths to join The American Iris Society and to keep their dues current. This organization has given me the opportunity to have one of my drawings, as well as an original idea published in our newsletter, "Iris Fan." Serving refreshments at our workshops and aiding in the collection of items for hand-outs at the Region 4 Reblooming Iris Fall Show were others activities that I participated in during the past year.

I was selected by Jean Morris, of the American Iris Society, to join Schreiner's test Garden Seedling Test Panel. I was sent two seedlings to plant this fall and will be evaluating them and sending my findings to Schreiner's next year after they bloom. I also received rhizomes to plant and evaluate from Isaiah Price, another youth member, who lives in Reno, Nevada.

I am currently a sophomore at Greenbrier East High School, Lewisburg, West Virginia, where I am company commander in the JROTC. I am also a youth member of the Alleghany Highland Iris Society. My other hobbies include swimming and biking on nature trails. (Her photo is on Pg. 28)

**Item 5) Reports of Region 4 Affiliates**

**Alleghany Highlands Iris Society - Margaret Stone, Page 55**

**Blue Ridge Iris Society - Kay Cooper, Page 50**

**Carolina Mountains Iris Society - Betsy Higgins, Page 57**

**Charlotte Iris Society - Carrie Winter, Page 54**

CIS has over 100 members and is planning a seminar in February 1996 on hybridizing, etc. They will be celebrating their 50th anniversary as a society in 1997. Handout presented to all chapters.

**Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society** - Sara Marley, Page 52  
**Eastern North Carolina Iris Society** - no report  
**Eastern Shore Iris Society** - verbal report - Joan Wood, (Pg.50)  
**Francis Scott Key Iris Society** - J. Owings Rebert, Page 51

FSK has a membership of 142 and are scheduling their Spring Show for May 25th.

**Fredericksburg Area Iris Society** - Jack Loving, Page 49

Jack thanked everyone for attending the Spring '95 Region 4 meeting, and also those in their club for their efforts.

**Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk Iris Society** - Bill Smoot - verbal Members have established plantings of irises at several public locations in/around the PCSIS area. Terry Aitken has been secured as the keynote speaker for the Fall '96 meeting. PCSIS V-P Dennis Pearson thanked Richard & Joanne Murphy and Walter & Sara Marley for contributions to their July Rhizome Sale.

**Tidewater Iris Society** - report to be mailed, Page 57

**Virginia Peninsula Iris Society** - no report, information Page 56

This group was formerly known as the Williamsburg Iris Society.

#### **Item 6) Reports of non-affiliated Region 4 Chapters**

**Central Virginia Iris Society** - written; verbal report given by Anne Lowe, also Page 53

The new president is Anner Whitehead of Richmond, Va.

#### **Item 7) Unfinished (Old) Business**

1. Proposal for Judges Training Program for Region 4:

A revised version from Roy Epperson, dated 9/27/95, was presented; after thorough discussion, these changes were recommended:

(A) Title: To Become A Student in the Judges' Training program, these steps are necessary.

1. same
2. add previous to application
3. same
4. same

When these requirements are completed, then the Region 4 JT Chairman recommends to the AIS Board that the student be accepted into the Apprentice Program.

(B) 1. It is suggested that 3 hours of bearded and 3 hours of beardless classroom training be required instead of 4 & 2 respectively. Stoneburner moved, S. Marley seconded, that this entire proposal be tabled until the Spring '96 Region 4 meeting. Carried.

A. Lowe announced that RVP Epperson has dissolved the present JT committee consisting of Carol Warner and Clarence Mahan in addition to himself.

2. Warner moved, Stoneburner seconded, that the Region 4 Board go on record requesting that the AIS J.T. Chairman try to institute a change in the scheduling of training sessions that are held during the National AIS Convention in the spring. It is recommended that these sessions be held at 3 different times, so that attendees can participate in more than one session. Carried. Warner moved, R. Randall seconded, that the Secretary send a letter to that effect to Glenn Corlew, AIS J.T. Chairman, and encourage him to present this recommendation at the AIS Fall Board Meeting. Carried.

In the absence of the Secretary, Carol Warner agreed to write the letter to Corlew.

### 3. Status Reports:

LOGO Contest - Ken Roberts

Region 4 LOGO contest already discussed in PR report

AIS Insurance - Mike Lowe

AIS has secured liability insurance covering all AIS members when they are involved in iris-related activities at the Chapter, Regional, and National levels. Non-AIS members are not covered. See page 27 for more details.

## Item 8) New Business

### 1. Election of the Nominating Committee:

nominations were received from the floor as follows:

DC	-	no candidate available
Md.	-	Carol Warner, Chairman
NC	-	Carrie Winter
Va	-	Walter Marley
W.Va.	-	Margaret Stone

S. Marley moved, Figge seconded, that nominations be closed and the secretary pro-tem cast one ballot for the above slate. Carried.

2. Request has been received from AIS for a poll of Region 4 members regarding their wishes in seeing color photographs of newer irises in the AIS Bulletin. The present AIS policy is that there can be no color photo of an iris as long as the iris is eligible for any AIS award (AM, HM, etc.). Discussion followed; there will be a vote taken at the membership meeting this evening.

3. Discussion of suitable memorials for Retta Harp and Charles Hare, both of whom were active members of long-standing in the region.

Figge moved, Moeller seconded, that Region 4 send \$100.00 in memory of each to the AIS Scholarship Fund. Carried.

**Item 9) Invitation by Sara Marley**, Pres. of the Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society, to attend the 1996 Spring Regional meeting scheduled for May 17 & 18, 1996 at Leesburg, Va.

It was noted that there are a significant number of out-of-region guest irises now grown in the Regional Tour Gardens, and that some sort or recognition should be given these irises so as to encourage hybridizers to send them to us.

Mahan moved, Smoot seconded, that a B.Y. Morrison Award be established to recognize the best out-of-region variety seen in tour gardens during Regionals. Carried.

Form of this award to be decided later.

**Item 10) Adjournment** - In the absence of the customary formal turnover to the incoming RVP, there was no further business. Stoneburner moved, R. Randall seconded, to adjourn at 12:25 P.M. Carried.

Submitted by: Sara P. Marley, Sec. pro-tem



**You're Invited to the  
1996 Society for Japanese Irises  
Annual Convention and Garden Tour  
in St. Louis, MO June 13-15  
Hosted by the Greater St. Louis Iris Society**

Contact: Annabelle Wiseman, Registar

500 West Highway N

Wentzville, MO 63385

## Minutes of the Region 4 Fall General Membership Meeting

Following a delicious dinner, the Fall Regional General Membership Meeting was called to order by RVP-elect Anne Lowe at 7:40 PM October 7, 1995, at the Brier Inn, Lewisburg, W. Va.

The question of whether or not to have color photographs of irises eligible for AIS awards (HM, AM, Medals, etc.) in the AIS Bulletin was brought before the membership. Clarence Mahan gave some insights into the policies in force at this time as well as reasons for the proposed change. After some discussion, a vote was taken: 40 in favor, 2 opposed. Carried.

Sara Marley, President of the C & P Iris Society, presented the Nearpass Award to Lloyd Zurbrigg for MABEL ANDREWS, his TB that received the most votes as Favorite Region 4 Introduction seen during the Spring Regional garden tours. A water color of MABEL ANDREWS by Bill Poesch was presented to Lloyd.

The Alleghany Highlands group was again thanked for their warm hospitality as our hosts for this fall meeting.

An invitation to attend the 1996 Spring Regional Meeting on May 17 - 18, 1996 in Leesburg, Va, was issued by Sara Marley and Clarence Mahan. Mahan says that "the show of all shows" will take place on Saturday AM (May 18th). Two afternoons of garden tours, garden and show judging training, dinner, speaker, and a business meeting will round out a busy weekend. Plan to attend and bring your bloom stalks to the Show.

Meeting was adjourned; auction followed.

Submitted by, Sara Marley, Secretary pro-tem



### Calling All Guest Irises

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society, cordially invites Region 4 Hybridizers to send recent introductions and seedlings for planting in Tour gardens for the 1998 Region 4 Spring

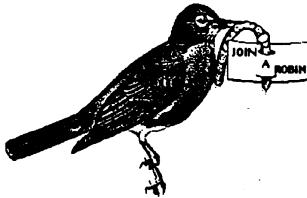
Meeting. Please send no more than 5 rhizomes, to:

*Richard Huge, Guest Chairman  
3819 Beatty Rd.  
Monkton, MD 21111*

# Regional Robins

By Libby Cross

Our Species and Beardless Robin, "THE WILD ONES" and the Median Robin, "THE SHORT ONES" are both traveling well.



The new Robin (designed to help the widely-scattered members of the Alleghany Highlands chapter keep abreast of chapter news) is now in flight. We need more of the chapter members who are distant from the chapter base in the Alleghany Highlands to join in and take advantage of this Robin.

We still have no newcomers showing interest in a "PINFEATHERS ROBIN"

A search is continuing for the "RAMBLIN ROBIN" which has been missing for over a year.

There are plenty of opportunities for new Regional Robins if anyone would like one in an area of interest that is not being addressed by the Robins already in flight. Please address all inquiries about Robins to me, Libby Cross, at 8907 Potts Creek Rd. Covington, Va. 24426, or call (540) 747-2123.

---

## Nominating Committee Report

At the Region 4 Board Meeting in May, the Nominating Committee will propose the following slate of officers for election:

RVP: *Anne Lowe*

Ass't RVP: *Phil Ogilvie*

Secretary: *Susan Grigg*

Treasurer: *J. Owings Rebert*

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*Walter Marley, VA*

*Margaret Stone, WVA*

*Carrie Winter, NC*

*Carol Warner, Chairman, MD*

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## Editor Corrections

There were two omissions from the last issue.

1.) Clarence Mahan won an AM for his introduction SUKY.

2.) Joan Roberts won Best Seedling at the FSK Show.

Congratulations to both of these people.

# FLIGHTLINES

ROBIN FEATHERS from "THE WILD ONES"

(July to Oct. 1995)

*From Doris Simpson:*

I was back at Carol's for the J.I. Convention, helping with the refreshments. We had a wonderful afternoon with the people and the flowers. Ended by making a dash for the train station with Dr. and Mrs. Currier McEwen, so they could catch the train for Philadelphia where Currier was to be honored at a banquet of the American Horticultural Society. We got there with about seven minutes to spare.



*From Libby Cross:*

I had very poor luck with crosses this year, either from wet weather, or my own ineptitude. Even the bees had a problem making crosses this year. Instead of the usual 30 to 40 bee pods to dispose of, I found only 3-4. Of the 30 crosses I did try, less than ten of them took.

*From Elaine Hulbert:*

My crosses were ineffectual, too, at least with the JIs. This really baffled me, because I used lots of pollen on a clean, wide, sticky stigmatic lip and can see grains adhering....yet most of the time nothing eventuates.

*From Clarence Mahan:*

This year I really did get rid of a lot of once blooming TBs I'm really tired of rot and poor increase that so many suffer. No matter how beautiful the flower, a bearded iris that must be babied and protected isn't worth it. Dependable cold weather rebloomers are very resistant to rot because they have *I. trojana* in their heritage, and almost no *I. cypriana* or *I. mesopotamica*. The fact that TB breeding has been dominated by people living in mild climate areas in modern years has really harmed the TB as a versatile garden plant for harsher climates. We just have to have more breeders in climates such as ours if we are to restore the TB to its historic place in the garden...or we are going to have to stick with dependable rebloomers. MTBs, and old TBs I'm adding a photo of a display of hanashobu in Japan that Hiroshi Shimizu sent me.

# Reblooming Iris Report

*By Joan Roberts*

With record breaking heat and a drought that lasted for 32 days, it is amazing that we have anything to report. Although the soaker hoses, sprinklers and whirly thingamajigs were in almost constant use nothing really received a normal amount of water this year. There is nothing like a good old fashioned rain to give the gardens a thorough soaking.

Many thanks to our iris friends for their calls and letters telling us of their successes with reblooming irises. A special thank you goes to Dennis Stoneburner for including a rebloom report form in Region 4's Newscast. That should make it easier for us to keep track of our rebloomers. It is more important than ever because a new Reblooming Iris Checklist is in the works and we would like to include as much reblooming data as possible.

## *MARYLAND*

**Rosalie Figge** - BELVI CLOUD (Jensen '88), SEPTEMBER REPLAY (F. Jones '92), VIOLET MIRACLE (Zurbrigg '79 and EVELYN WARLICK (Wright '92).

Bruce Hornstein & Dick Huge - SEPTEMBER REPLAY (F. Jones '92), SEA FLUFF (Smith '94), NORTHWARD HO (Zurbrigg '91), and REMARKABLE (Smith '94).

Mary Brown - ENGLISH COTTAGE (Zurbrigg '76, and FEEDBACK (Hager '83).

**Joan & Ken Roberts** - BELVI CLOUD (Jensen '88), CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE (Niswonger '87), JULY SUNSHINE (Brown '65), ETERNAL BLISS (Byers '88), NORTHERN FLAME (Byers '90), LADY EMMA (F. Jones '86), SILVER DIVIDENDS (Zurbrigg '91), BLESSED ASSURANCE (Zurbrigg '95), LO HO SILVER (Byers '89), IMMORTALITY (Zurbrigg '82), HARVEST OF MEMORIES (Zurbrigg '85), NORTHWARD HO (Zurbrigg '91), LADY ESSEX (Zurbrigg '91), PURPLE DUET (Smith '65), QUEEN DOROTHY (Hall '84), RENOWN (Zurbrigg '91) and GOLDEN CHILD (Byers '89).

## *OHIO*

**Winifred Brehrner**, Toledo Botanical Gardens - BABY BLESSED (Zurbrigg '79), LO HO SILVER (Byers '89), I BLESS (Zurbrigg

'88), IMMORTALITY (Zurbrigg '82), THIRD CHARM (Weiler '82), THRICE BLESSED (Weiler '82) and THEN AGAIN (Byers '89).

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Sterling Innerst - RECURRING DREAM** (Hager '93)

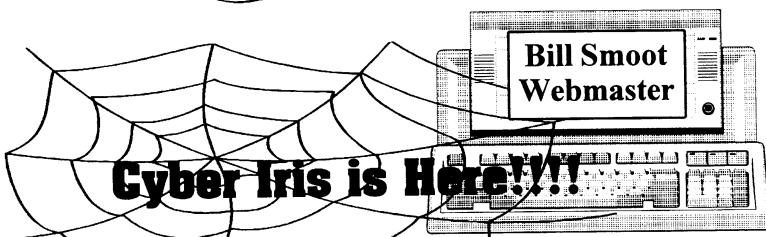


## Important AIS Membership Renewal Information

*Marilyn Harlow, Membership Secretary*

Since the AIS Board agreed to put all new memberships on a calendar year basis, eventually phasing out the mid-year memberships, there have been many questions about how that will be put into effect for members who now have mid-year memberships. For those of your members whose memberships expire June 30, a letter will be included with their dues notice which goes out in mid-May. That letter will inform them of the Board action regarding the dues increase and the calendar year memberships. If they choose to pay at the new rate, then 6 more months will be added to their memberships at no further cost to them. Eventually, all memberships will end on December 31 (It will take approximately three years before this happens.)

Please feel free to contact me with membership questions.  
My address is: P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155



The age of the computer has come to the world of irises. Several members of Region 4 have e-mail addresses, and we are the first Region with a WEBMASTER.

He is Bill Smoot's e-mail: 73210.1725 @ compuserve.com (all small letters.) This will be a regular feature with the latest e-mail addresses of our members, and information on the "Cyber Iris".

# Fall Show - Lewisburg West Virginia

*By Mary E. Brown*

**A** show? A fall reblooming show? For a Regional!

These are words that strike fear or at least apprehension into a Show Chairman's heart. This years regional show at Lewisburg West Virginia was a triumph of good organization and the determination of the Region 4 irisarians 'to make it work.' Even in the best of years (which this one was not) a fall show is more problematic than a spring show for many reasons. First of all not as many people grow rebloomers and secondly the growing season is longer and more varied. There must be a minimum of five people entering 20 cultivars or varieties to qualify as a show. Therefore as the appointed day approaches, the chairman is really urging members to bring any stalk they may have regardless of the quality. The plea is 'we must make the minimum.' It was even more urgent this year since reports were coming in from all over the region that "I haven't a stalk in sight."

The usual miracle occurred however and the Allegheny Highlands chapter pulled it off and how! Ten people from both the local area and the rest of the region entered 29 stalks which included enough different varieties to qualify for a show. There were a number of beautiful stalks as well as a few like ROSALIE FIGGE which was short a few standards and BELVI QUEEN which ended up being used extensively as an example of how not to show a stalk during the Judges Training session later in the afternoon.

Best in Show went to a lovely stalk of NORTHWARD HO entered by Joan Roberts of FSK. LADY EMMA won Best in Section for MTBs entered by Jerry Coates, also from FSK. Dennis Stoneburner from Blue Ridge won a blue ribbon in the IB class for I BLESS and GOLDEN CHILD entered by Joan Roberts took the blue in the SDB section. The best seedling was also Joan's - a pink known as #788-2. It is a peach pink with deep orange beards.

My personal favorites in the show came down to three - BUCKWHEAT, HEMSTITCHED, and PURPLE DUET. All of the stalks were well displayed and the three walls of the room in windows certainly set them off. And so another Fall Reblooming Show was held successfully and another Show Chairman could breathe a sigh of relief and say that she knew it could be done all along!

# JUDGES AND JUDGES' TRAINING REPORT

*Dr. E. Roy Epperson*

For 1996, the following changes occurred in the Roster of Region 4 Accredited Judges: Apprentice advanced to Garden (1); new Apprentices appointed (2); Master/Active changed to Master/Retired (4), three by request for medical reasons, one due to insufficient hours of training; one (1) dropped for delinquent dues; three (3) removed due to death; one (1) resigned due to ill health.

For 1996, Region 4 will have the following Roster summary of Accredited judges: 21 Accredited Garden, 8 Master/Active, 9 Master/Retired, 9 Apprentice, 2 Emeritus

Of these 49 accredited judges, 29 are quota and 20 are non-quota. Region 4 has a quota maximum of 109 accredited judges for 1996.

## 1996 Roster of Judges. Region 4

### *Accredited Garden*

### *Apprentices*

Mrs. Sandra S. Bryan  
Mrs. Keith K. Cooper  
Ms. Libby A. Cross  
Mr. S. Herman Dennis III  
Mrs. Joseph P. Dufresne  
Ms. Gloria Fairhead  
Mr. Walter Hoover  
Mr. M. B. Lowe (Mike)  
Mrs. M. B. Lowe (Anne)  
Mr. Clarence E. Mahan  
Ms. Sara H. Marley  
Ms. Diana Nicholls  
Dr. P. W. Ogilvie  
Mrs. Caryll Randall  
Mr. Richard Randall  
Mrs. Joan Roberts  
Mr. Ken Roberts  
Mr. Daniel Schlanger  
Mr. William C. Smoot  
Mr. Dennis Stoneburner  
Ms. Ruth Walker

Mrs. Pat Bowen  
Dr. L. Bruce Hornstein  
Mr. Richard H. Huge  
Mr. Victor R. Layman II  
Mrs. Barbara O. Moeller  
Mrs. JaNiece Mull  
Mr. William Mull  
Mrs. Flossie Nelson  
Mrs. Frances Thrash

### *Master/Active*

Dr. E. Roy Epperson  
Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge  
Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr.  
Mrs. Paul D. Kabler  
Mr. Richard Sparling  
Mrs. Richard D. Steele  
Mrs. James H. Trent  
Mrs. Andrew (Carol) Warner

*Master/Retired*

Mrs. Miles P. Farrar  
Mrs. Nancy Karricker  
Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.  
Mrs. A. W. Rice  
Mr. Dennis A. Wilkie

Mrs. Charles L. Hare  
Mrs. Fred M. Miller  
Dr. A. W. Rice  
Mr. David G. Walsh

*Emeritus*

Mr. F. G. Stephenson

Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg



Carol Warner gives instruction on proper grooming of iris stalks at the Fall Regional in Lewisburg.



.....And yes, they were paying attention.

# **1995 FALL REGIONAL**

## **You Should Have Been There!**

*By Caryll Randall*

**T**he trip to and from Lewisburg was spectacular, traveling through rolling hills followed by sparsely populated mountains. The hustle and bustle of city life seemed a million miles away. Here and there on the hills you could see a few trees with their fall coats of yellow and red offering us a foretaste of the glorious scenes still to come.

In Lewisburg, West Virginia they say that there is only two kinds of people "those that will return and those that wish they could". I believe it I want to return and visit the Northhouse Museum to see the Conestoga Wagon and other historical memorabilia

On our first night Margaret Stone welcomed us to West Virginia and introduced us to Rev. Charles Jack who was the Chairman of the 1968 Spring Regional. We also met Andrea Gainer-Home Demonstration Agent for Greenbrier County. Andrea told us of the 236 acres that are protected and of the Greenbrier Country Club that is just a short distance away from where we were staying. It was from Andrea that we learned that Greenbrier County is steeped in history and has a beautiful rural setting to boot.

I know, this was an iris convention, and so far it reads like a Chamber of Commerce Ad. But I have to set the scene, right?.. So, now we have the setting, on to the convention activities. After the welcome banquet and Andrea's introduction to Greenbrier County, we were introduced to our Round Table Panel. Joan Roberts, Mike Lowe and Dennis Stoneburner being from different areas and having different soil types (Mike has sand, Dennis clay) were able to answer questions that all of us could relate to. There was a lot of discussion on weeds- how not to grow them that is- or if you do grow them how to get rid of them. Joan uses Snapshot 80 or Surflan in the Fall to prevent the Spring weeds. Mike has yellow nut sage and uses Pennant, applied in early Spring. Vantage and Post Plus can be used for any type of grasses. There is book on control of weeds available from Virginia Tech, cost is approx. \$35.00.

The reblooming iris show was a great success, more than

enough blooms for an accredited show. After lunch, Judges Training was given by Carol Warner with her usual aplomb. Carol used a couple of the show entries to demonstrate her points. She also discussed the peculiarities of rebloomers, the possibilities of the flowers not being as large, not as much branching and the lack of clarity in the color. The training on Show Judging was well attended and Carol made it so interesting and informative that the 2 hours flew by.

There were some excellent buys at the auction which included not only TBs but Japanese, species and Siberians.

This is one convention I wont forget, the hospitality and friendliness of the Allegheny group make it unforgettable. Thank You Allegheny, for giving us the opportunity to meet our old friends and make new ones in such a congenial atmosphere. The Lewisburg saying is correct, I do want to return.



## AIS Liability Insurance

*By Mike Lowe, AIS Policy Chairman*

The American Iris Society now holds a Commercial General Liability policy underwritten by Travelers Insurance Co. This coverage is designed to protect the personal assets of AIS members as well as the assets of local Chapters, Regions, Sections and the National Society in the event of a claim arising during Society functions.

The policy limits of interest to AIS members arranging Iris shows, Iris sales, meetings and tours are as follows: \$1,000,000 each occurrence, a \$1,000,000 General Aggregate limit and a \$5,000 Medical expense limit. Medical Payment liability covers bodily injury to claimants but is not designed to provide coverage to the insured (AIS members). Thus the Medical expense limit does not cover AIS members.

All AIS members are covered whether or not their Iris society is an Affiliated Society. The coverage extended to Affiliated AIS Chapters is a cogent reason for seeking such affiliation. It is also a strong selling point for encouraging non-AIS Chapter members to join AIS since Club affiliation with AIS does not offer any coverage to non-AIS members.

When AIS members are arranging events with malls, hotels etc., insurance coverage should not be mentioned until/unless it becomes a requirement for the staging of the event.

When the mall requests proof of liability coverage, tell them a Certificate of Insurance will be provided. If the site management requires that they be added as an additional insured, this can be done at a small additional charge.

You may request Certificates of Insurance or the addition of other entities as an additional insured from:

**Leslie Signore**

**Rodman Insurance Agency**

**75 Wells Avenue**

**Newton Centre, MA 02159**

**Tel: 617-527-3000 Fax: 617-965-2947**

The following information must be furnished: date of the event, location, name and address of the entity requiring the Certificate and whether this entity needs to be shown as an additional insured.

In case of an accident AIS members should never admit liability or discuss insurance coverage. Any member doing so may be held personally liable. In the event of bodily injury, offer assistance and simple first aid if you have these skills. Remember that malls, bus companies, hotels, etc., have liability coverage which is primary. The AIS insurance comes into play only when site management limits are exhausted.



Miss Tammy Lee, Region 4 Youth Chairman

## *HOW DID I GET STARTED IN IRIS*

*By Sara Marley, Hillsboro, Va.*

**H**ow did I get started in Iris? That question has been asked of me many times in the past 5 years.

Having been born & reared in the asphalt jungle of Buffalo, N.Y., I was not exposed to floral gardening until I met my husband (of 46 years) in 1948. His Dad had a lovely rose garden, some irises, lilacs and an assortment of other perennials.

His grandfather, who was living alone at the time, also had a garden that was in a sad state of neglect. One Saturday morning, in late April of 1949, I took it upon myself to try and get one of Grandpa Dohse's iris beds free of weeds and grasses. Needless to say, it was obvious that it was going to take longer than the 2 hours I had allotted. After much yanking, coaxing and digging, I found a huge mat of iris rhizomes. They did bloom in late May, just in time for us to use in bouquets for the annual Memorial Day decorations. There were two shades of blue, a white, and a pale yellow; small flowers and not too many on a stalk. During the course of the summer, I restored those areas close to the house that Grandpa could see from his window.

The next encounter with irises was, after Walter and I bought our farm in 1955. Not much time for flowers; with 3 children, vegetable garden, cows and chickens to tend to, but Aunt Josie insisted I have some of hers and a neighbor gave me one that was white with a pale lavender rim. That one wasn't as tall as some of the others, but it was nice. Then Walter's Dad gave me the hugest peach colored one I'd ever seen. I planted it where I thought was the perfect spot. The dogs thought it was the right place for them to lay too, so it didn't survive their comings and goings.

Flower gardening was sort of put on hold until 1983. That was the year we sold the farm and moved in toward town. In 1985, we discovered thru an ad in the local paper, that there WERE more than 5 or 6 iris and that each one had a NAME. You didn't MOW them OFF in the fall when you did the peonies and that there were some that flowered in the fall; of all things. Viewing 600 different varieties in bloom, in one place at the same time was truly awesome. I selected 18 or so and was told that I could pick them up in July. We planted them as instructed, at the one end of the vegetable garden, taking care to make a map of

their name, color, location and other information. They grew very well in their new environment. That fall, Walter & I visited friends in northern Virginia and Maryland. We had 2 job offers and decided to take employment as farm managers near Bluebonnet, Va. in March 1986.

We brought our newly acquired iris and other plants with us, joined AIS and gradually became active in the Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society. We have increased our plantings from a mere 22 varieties to over 1000 different irises. Tall Bearded dominate with Medians next; then Siberians, Japanese and Louisianas in that order. We've decided that we are going to reduce the number of TB's and enlarge the Median plantings. We really like having the earlier bloom and form that SDBs & IBs give, and MTBs are also fast approaching as favorites.

Our garden is one of four that will be on tour in May, when the Region 4 Spring meeting is held in Leesburg, Va. We are growing 150 guests from 23 hybridizers, that is included in the count of 1000 +. Walter and I are looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones. Most of our irisarian efforts have come about from those folks we've come in contact with, in the last 8 years. I'm not going to name any of those wonderful people, because there are too many that have given an insurmountable wealth of knowledge, time, and energy on our behalf.

It is our earnest hope that you will want to visit our garden and see for yourself whether the mounds of information received, has been utilized to the fullest.



## M.A.S.S. MEDLEY

Mad About Species and Siberians

June 14,15, and 16, 1996

Westford, Massachusetts

Contact: Marty Schafer

337 Acton St.,

Carlisle, MA 01741

# *Largest Iris Show Ever Held in the United States*

Clarence Mahan

We want irises from Charlotte, from Richmond, from Baltimore, from Lewisburg, from Hendersonville, from Portsmouth, from Frederick and Fredericksburg, from Williamsburg, Westminster, Roanoke and Norfolk. Bring your Dwarfs, your medians, your TBs, your Siberians, species, Louisianas, seedlings, Spurias, Arilbreds, Japanese and historic!

Along with hosting the Region 4 Spring Meeting, C&P Iris Society will sponsor a great iris show...a show that promises to be the chance of a lifetime. Our goal is to have the largest iris show ever held in the United States, both in numbers of entries and in types of irises. The show will be at the hotel where the Spring Meeting will be convened: Best Western Hotel, 726 E. Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia. It will be held on the second day of the meeting, on Saturday, May 18, 1996.

The theme of the show is "A Symphony of Irises", and there will be horticultural classes for all types of irises. There will be eight design classes, all based on a musical theme. These classes will be:

## **Class 1 Debussy: "La mer"**

A design featuring water                          Four entries

## **Class 2 Bach: "Concerto for Two Violins"**

A design using two containers                          Four entries

## **Class 3 Beethoven: "Symphony No. 6, 'Pastoral'"**

A design expressing tranquillity                          Four entries

## **Class 4 Gershwin: "I Got Rhythm 'Variations"**

A rhythmic design                                  Four entries

## **Class 5 Handel: "Royal Fireworks"**

A colorful design                                  Four entries

## **Class 6 Mendelssohn: "Arabesque"**

An interpretative design                                  Four entries

## **Class 7 Berlioz: "Symphony Fantastique"**

An assemblage    Four entries

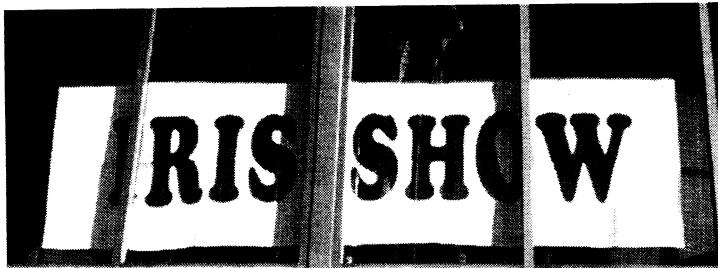
## **Class 8 Ravel: "Bolero"**

A design expressing motion                                  Four entries

If you are interested in entering the Design Division, contact Artistic Design Chairman, Dale DeFeo at (703) 425-6123. As in other shows, we must have reservations made for design entries

in advance of the show. But there is no need to make reservations for horticulture entries...just bring the stalks.

C&P Iris Society is doing its best to see that this is the grandest iris show ever. We have our own containers and the containers of two other clubs lined up. We have eight senior judges coming down from Pennsylvania to judge the show, and other judges held in reserve in case we need them. We have everything we need but you and your irises! Come on now! Ya'll come. We promise the show of a lifetime!



C&P Provided this sign for the Fall Show



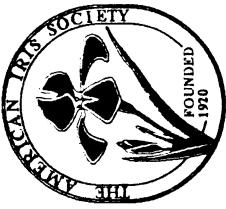
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY  
REGION 4 SPRING MEETING  
LEESBURG, VIRGINIA

Hosted by the Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society

\*\*\*\* RALLY IN THE VALLEY \*\*\*\* MAY 17-18th, 1996 \*\*\*\*

The last 'Big' event that C&P sponsored/hosted was the AIS National Convention in 1991. We have been gearing up for this upcoming event since 1994, when Dick Sparling first made contacts for guest plants. We have over 200 varieties from 23 hybridizers, being grown in 4 Host gardens.

BASE of operations will be centered around the BEST WESTERN MOTOR INN, 726 E. Market St., at the junction of Rte's 7 (business) and 15, Leesburg, Va. Room rates are for double occupancy and will be \$55.00 plus tax, per room, per night. Cut-off date for these rates are May 3, 1996. When making your reservations, please state that you are with the Iris Society. Their phone # is (703)777-9400.



## AIS REGION 4 SPRING 1996 MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

(Please print or type)

Name (1): \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter (1): \_\_\_\_\_ Training (1): S  G   
Name Preference for Name Tag (1): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name (2): \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter (2): \_\_\_\_\_ Training (2): S  G   
Name Preference for Name Tag (2): \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: (        ) - \_\_\_\_\_ Home  Work

Please check S(how) and/or G(arden) Training Box(es) above to be considered for judges training

Full Registration:	Number of persons	\$80 per person = \$	Total
<b>Partial Registration:</b>			
Friday Evening Dinner only:		X \$25 per person = \$	
Saturday Evening Dinner only:		X \$25 per person = \$	
Bus Tour of Gardens only:		X \$40 per person = \$	

*After May 1, Registration will be \$100 per person.*

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Flower Show:** Please check if you expect to bring entries:  Try to bring as many as you can!

**Auction Contribution:** Please bring irises (or daylilies, hostas, etc.) for the Region!

List cultivar names being offered if possible: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you have other materials of interest to bring, please indicate: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please check if you plan to bring plants:

Please check if you plan to bring plants:

Please make all checks payable to:  
Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society (C&P IS)

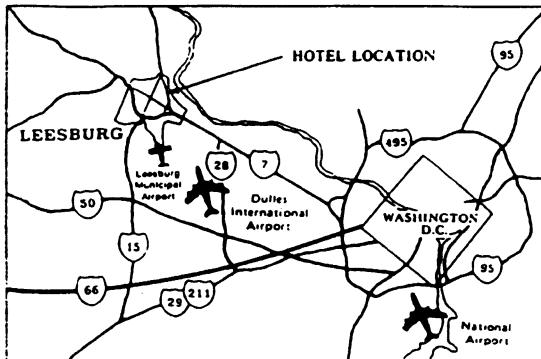
Mail registration to:

Joseph F. Metzger, Jr.  
11927 Beaver Dam Road  
Union Bridge, MD 21791

Information:

(410) 775-7737

**DIRECTIONS:** Coming west on Rte. 7 from Tyson's Corners, stay on Business 7, go OVER Rte. 15, turn right at the first red light. ① Turn right at the first driveway, *Best Western* is straight ahead. Coming from Maryland on Rte 15 south, exit at the Business 7 ramp, bear right & turn right at 1st red light, ①. From the south, take Rte. 15 north, to Leesburg, ② continue on the bypass 15 north & 7 east, exit at Business 7, turn left, go OVER Rte 15 and turn right at 1st red light, ①. From I-81, at Winchester, Va., take Rte 7 east where you will merge with 15 north, ②



**MEALS:** A welcome buffet dinner on Friday night and dinner on Saturday night are included in the full registration. You're on your own for breakfast and lunch, both days. Gabriela's Restaurant & Lounge are located at the motel and there are numerous other eateries (fast food and otherwise) within walking distance. (2-3 blocks)

**REGISTRATION:** Please register, no later than May 1st, 1996. We have 3 buses reserved for the garden tours, and will need to know at that time if we should reserve another. Send your Registration Form in NOW with check made payable to: Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society, and mail to:

**Joseph Metzger, Jr.  
11927 Beaver Dam Rd.  
Union Bridge, Md. 21791**

For more information contact: *Clarence Mahan (703)893-8526  
or: Walter or Sara Marley (540)668-9004*

# REGION 4 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### **FRIDAY, May 17**

- 9:00 am - Noon Registration and hospitality tables open  
Noon - 1:00 pm: Lunch on your own  
1:00 pm: Load buses for garden tour to Oatlands Plantation & Marley's; Garden Judging at Marley's  
5:00 pm: Return to Motel, Registration table open  
6:30 pm: Social hour  
7:00 pm: Welcome dinner (buffet)  
8:00 pm: Tony Huber - *Presentation of Iris versicolor, related species and natural hybrids*  
9:30 pm: Preliminary set-up for Saturday's "Mother of ALL" flower shows

### **SATURDAY, May 18**

- 7:00 am - 10:00 am: Entries accepted in Horticulture & Artistic Design Flower Show  
10:00 am - Noon: Region 4, Spring Board meeting  
10:15 am - Noon: Judging of entries (4 apprentices will be accepted on first come first served, See registration form.)  
12:00 - 1:00 pm: Lunch on your own  
1:00 - 5:00 pm: Flower show open to the public (earlier if judging is completed)  
1:30 pm: Buses loaded for tours to Murphy's & Raver gardens  
5:00 pm: Return to the Motel, turn in Ballots  
6:30 pm: Social Hour - cash bar  
7:00 pm: Closing banquet (buffet), Awards announced, raffle drawings of framed x-stitch iris and a bisque porcelain table iris.  
8:00 pm: Tony Huber presents, *Hybridizing with Versicolor*  
9:00 pm: Annual plant auction

# INTRODUCING OUR GUEST SPEAKER

## MR. TONY HUBER

The main speaker for the conference will be Tony Huber of Laval, Quebec. Mr. Huber heads the Apogon Plus Research Institute which investigates the formation of new iris types through hybridization. Relationships and origins are clarified with detailed chromosome counts at each level. In order to develop his living assembly of iris plants, he has collected wild-forms all over eastern Canada and the northern United States. Plants in his garden represent colonies from the Atlantic coast of Labrador to the plains of Manitoba and from Georgian Bay, northeast of Detroit, to James Bay, on the southern edge of Hudson Bay. In this vast area he has found a confusion of types representing *Iris versicolor*, *Iris virginica* var. *shrevei*, and hybrids and color variations of these two species. While this is fascinating material for the plant geneticist, it is also a beautiful natural rainbow of spectacular iris when offered as a slide presentation. Both talks will be generously illustrated with slides and, as anyone who saw Tony's slides at the St. Louis SIGNA conference will tell you, Huber is not only a master plant breeder, but also an expert photographer. Tony's first presentation will display a sampling of this array of flowers representing wild forms as well as natural and experimental hybrids, produced over four growing seasons. His experiments in the garden have served to clarify the chaos in the wild.

The second presentation will emphasize the more advanced breeding program that has resulted in some of the newest and most exciting garden varieties. His "Versata" crosses (*I. versicolor* X *I. ensata*) are easier to grow and to my eye, more beautiful than JI's. Tony has also been kind enough to offer plants for the Regional auction. The bidding should be spirited, in the effort to add these rare and spectacular iris to Region 4 gardens. So whatever your iris interests, this should be a Spring Regional to remember.

## HOST GARDENS

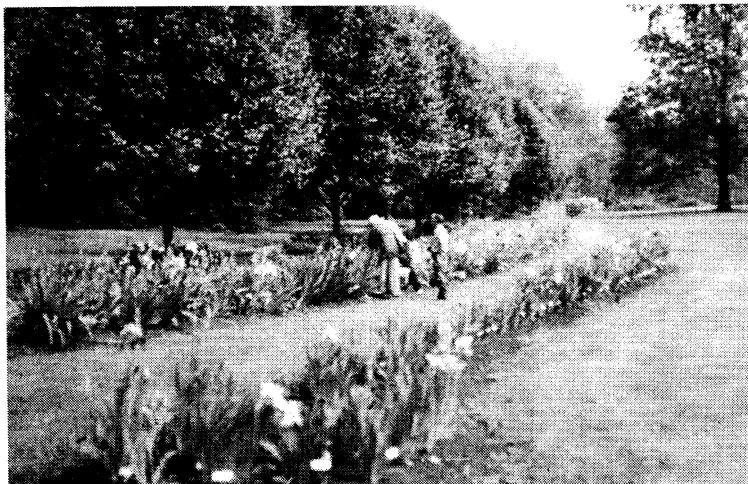
DICK & JOANN MURPHY

Glen Cairn Farm - Tuscarora, Md. 21790 (301)831-8769

The garden of Dick & Joann Murphy is the only one of the 4 gardens being visited during this Spring Regional, that has been on tour before. It was one of the highlights during the 1991 National AIS Convention that was held in Washington, D.C. Those of you who attended that convention will remember the 500' long flower bed, featuring: irises, peonies, Bradford pear trees and other perennials.

The Murphy's have not held any offices in the C&P Iris Society, but have always been staunch supporters in many of the activities.

Joann is retired now from her job as a library technician for the Navy. Joann says: "I think Dick had something to do with airplanes". Dick's former vocation was that of an aeronautical engineer and had piloted B24's during World War II. (I think he qualifies).



Joann, Sara Marley, & Bob Raver inspect the A.M. bed.  
Guest bed in foreground.

Dick and Joann have been married over 20 Years and were given some irises as a wedding gift by a very close friend. Those irises were: Violet Harmony (Lowery 48)DM57, Melody Lane (D.Hall)AM52, and Pierre Menard (E. Faught 48)AM50.

These irises were the beginning of their Awards of Merit collection, which is complete, dating from 1972 to the present. They have quite a number of historical iris in the ‘other’ garden. Adjacent to the AM bed are the 150 ‘guests’ that are awaiting your inspection. Complete your visit with a walk through the ‘other’ garden which contains a nice assortment of medians, Siberians and Japanese irises, and a healthy representation of Region 4 hybridizers throughout.



### ROBERT RAVER

23700 Mt.Ephriam Rd. Dickerson, Md. 20842 (301)349-5752

Bob Raver’s garden lies below Sugarloaf Mountain in south-central Maryland, near Dickerson. He is a retired Extension Agent, raised and showed registered Holstein cattle and has lived on this farm since 1966. When he retired in 1987, he was unceremoniously exposed to iris by a friend and was smitten with the iris virus.

He joined AIS that same year and planted some 50 varieties, mostly tall bearded. He now grows close to 1000 different irises, of which some are IBs and SDBs. His ‘guest’ irises number about 135 and should present a pleasing tableau during your visit.

He is an avid photographer and has photos of just about every iris that is growing in the garden.



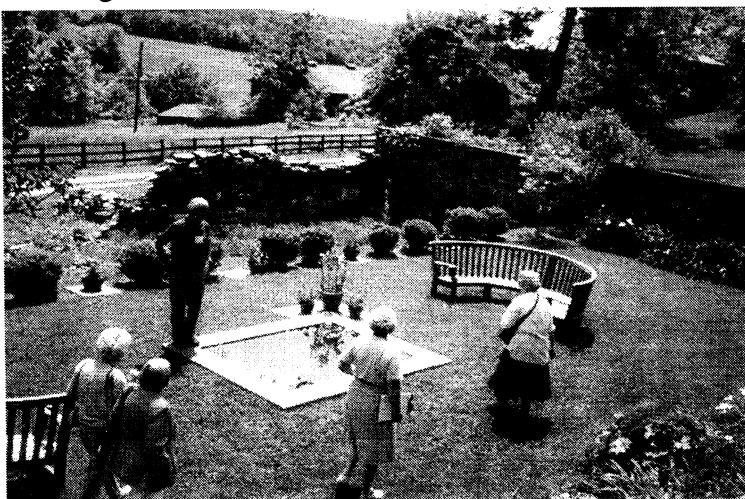
Sara Marley & Bob Raver with Sugarloaf Mountain in back.

OATLANDS PLANTATION  
RD Rte 15 Leesburg, Va. 22075  
Attn. Jill Winter, Horticulturist; Karen Mazza, Head Gardener  
(540)777-3174

Oatlands Plantation is located on US Rte 15, 6 miles south of Leesburg, Virginia. The property and its furnished, 1803 Greek Revival mansion was given to the National Historic Trust in 1964 by the daughters of William & Edith Corcoran Eustis. "Oatlands" was purchased by the former prominent Washingtonians in 1902 and was the social center for many dignitaries locally and abroad. President & Mrs. Roosevelt were frequent visitors. The iris "Eleanor Roosevelt" is extensively grown here and reliably reblooms each fall.

"Oatlands" garden was termed "Virginia's premier historic garden" when its nationally renowned restoration was completed in 1985. The four acre garden features a reflecting pool, boxwood bowling alley leading to a teahouse, a rose garden, an annual cutting garden, antique statuary, and an herb garden. Recent additions include a memorial garden to the Eustis's daughter, Anne.

Seventy-five 'guests' from 23 hybridizers are currently being grown in the cutting garden for the 1996 Spring Regional garden tour. A guided tour of the gardens and the mansion will be one of the highlights for you to enjoy during your two day stay in Leesburg.



View of the Anne Eustis' Memorial Garden

**WALTER & SARA MARLEY**  
Rainbow Iris Garden, Rte 1, 13358 Sagle Rd. Purcellville, Va.  
(540)668-9004

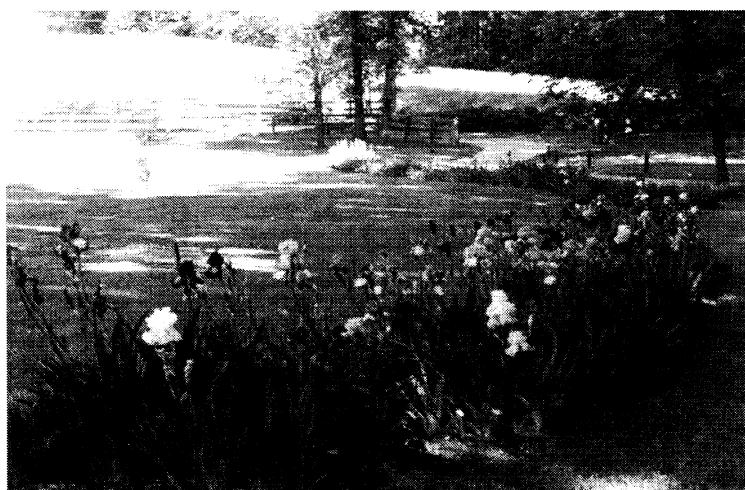
The Marley's have been busily preparing for your visit. Their garden is located 4 miles west of Hillsboro, Va., at the eastern base of the Blue Ridge Mountains and just south of Harper's Ferry, W.Va. They currently have over 900 different varieties of irises of their own and will have 150 guests' on display.

Their garden is the areas designated Display Garden for: The Reblooming Iris Society, The Historic Iris Preservation Society and The Median Iris Society. They also have quite a few of Region 4's hybridizes irises represented.

Walter & Sara are farm managers of Stoneleigh Knoll Farm, which raises North Country Cheviot sheep, Tennessee Walking horses and a hay cash crop. They are originally from western New York, where they were involved in registered Holstein cattle and poultry.

This garden was established in the summer of 1991, in a field of ragweed and on a new construction site. The 1805, 25'x 30' log structure was originally located in south western Virginia, was dismantled and reset with a new addition by Mr. and Mrs. Leigh, the owners of the farm.

**A BIG WELCOME TO YOU FROM ALL 4 OF THE HOST  
GARDENERS!!!**



Two of thirteen beds that comprise the Marley Garden.

# ABOUT LEESBURG, VIRGINIA

Leesburg, Virginia was originally named, "George Town" honoring King George II, and was established in 1758 from land held by Lord Fairfax, then renamed for the influential LEE family of Virginia.

The town was formed at the cross roads of two important Colonial roads, now Routes 7 & 15, and is the seat of government for Loudoun County.

Leesburg was a staging ground for the British during the French & Indian War, and the Colonials during the Revolutionary War. During the War of 1812, the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and other vital documents were carried to a safe haven here. President James Madison resided at nearby Oakhill, and where the Monroe Doctrine was written in 1823. In 1825, General Marquis de Layfayette received a grand reception at Belmont, also near Leesburg.

Leesburg was a strategic point for troop movements during the Civil War. At the 1861 Battle of Ball's Bluff, Rebel troops pushed the Yankees back across the Potomac River. Houses on King Street served as hospitals to the valiant wounded, including a young Oliver Wendell Holmes. Today, you can tour Balls Bluff National Cemetery, and/or take a walking tour of the 'historic' downtown district.

General George C. Marshall called Leesburg home. Dodona Manor, his residence after retiring from the military, is currently being restored and is open to visitors.

Entertainer, Arthur Godfrey, owned and lived on a 2000 acre farm nearby and Godfrey Field, the Municipal airport is named after him.

While in the area, you may wish to browse through the many and diversified antique shops and books stores, located downtown and on the outskirts of town. On Saturday, the 18th and Sunday, the 19th, Oatlands will be hosting the annual SHEEP & DOG TRIALS. Eventors, vendors and related displays will be there from all over the Eastern Seaboard.

Members of the Chesapeake & Potomac Iris society are looking forward to making your stay in Leesburg; entertaining, educational and a memorable experience.

## *Yet --- Another Mole/Vole Story*

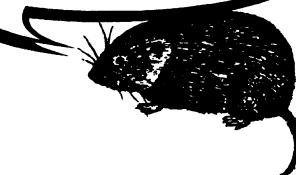
By Joanne Krzeminski

**D**o I have a mole story for you!! I had a mole. I came home from vacation to discover it was eating the roots of my tomato plants. First I was told to try moth balls. I put out half a box. No luck. Then I purchased some mole repellent. It got rid of the mole for three days and then they were back. I then tried the peanut butter - mouse trap. I came home from work and looked at my garden and saw that the flower pots that I had put over the mouse traps were on their side. I walked out, with some trepidation since I do not like "road kill", only to find that the mouse traps were gone. I looked all over the yard and found one 30 feet from where I had put it. I have never found the second trap. I then mixed the peanut butter with some poison that I purchased. That seemed to get rid of the voles but that mole went after some flowers. I then bought one of those big mole traps; the ones with the prongs. I tried to get it to work and could not. I asked my son and he finally told me that it was bent. I then bought some of those smoke bombs. I put out four. The next day when I got home I discovered that the mole had opened up each hole where I had placed a bomb and had throw out the burnt remains of each bomb. Now my yard looked like a target area and I had the distinct feeling that I was living in a comic strip. I took the bent trap back and got another one. This one I was able to set. I came home to find that the trap had been sprung. I pulled it out but no mole; however, in front of the trap was a hole. That mole had sprung the trap, had dug a hole to check on what I had done, then HE FINALLY LEFT TOWN. I may not have gotten him but I finally convinced him to leave my garden alone.

By the way I have tried Squirrel Repellent. It is some type of red pepper that makes me sneeze my head off but the squirrels love it. They invited all their friends and emptied my bird feeder in record time.



"Hurry Vincent, that mean ole lady's coming!!!!"



# WHY I STARTED GROWING IRISES!

By Rosalie Figge

Once upon a time - - thirty-some years ago on a hot summer day - a dear friend said she was going to order some irises. This jolted a childhood memory when my Victorian-type mother came home from HER garden club just ecstatic because this weird (to me) potato-like something with green leaves was a YELLOW iris!!! (Today, I wonder what it could have been — in the VERY early'20s - a question for the Lowes!)

I do not remember ever seeing my-queenly, corseted mother actually “working” in the garden (or in the house, if the truth were known! Cooking, baking, preserving, all kinds of needlework, yes, - but not “housework”!) Gardening was probably accomplished while I was in school or playing. I was a reluctant weeder. Our back yard was a small 25' x 25' space with a 3' border on three sides full of roses, assorted perennials, including red bergamot (nowadays called monarda), lilies of the valley and golden glow (I have descendants of these last two, mint for tea, catnip for my cat and, undoubtedly, purple irises plus my two plants.

In those days, some garden company solicited the grade schools with a double-page flyer listing seeds and plants. Out of my savings (five cents a week allowance) I bought a pussywillow for 1 cent and a Bridal Wreath Spirea bush for 5 cents! I don't recall any other pussywillow in the area, but that one always had “pussies” every spring and grew to be at least 10 feet tall. That and the spirea survived until long after I was married. Somewhere there is a snap-shot of my fiance' and very slim me standing in front of that pussywillow.

In retrospect, I have often regretted my lack of garden interest (I was more focused on animals). So much could have been learned about flowers “at my mother's knee” if I had weeded more willingly instead of torturing her Succulent - a large sedum or a sempervivum (we called it “hen and chickens” probably erroneously). Mother's kid brother (more my age than hers as is often the case in large families) showed me how to gently -VERY gently - press the leaf until it lost its starch greenness and became two sheer tissues which could then be blown up to resemble a frog. What fun!

But to get back to my conversion to growing irises! The late Georgie Reiblich brought over her catalogs (probably Schreiner's and Cooley's) and we pored over them, along with one of mine, comparing our desires and budgets for such wild expenditures. Both our husbands taught at THE University (of Maryland), hers in the Law School and mine in the Medical School; we also had children about the same age. Georgie was a devoted dirt gardener, but I, until then, was no rival for my husband's garden space and was not interested in slogging in the dirt and sun. Some years back he had suggested we have either chickens or roses, and I quickly agreed to the roses! Some of his roses have managed to carry on without his TLC all these years as a backdrop to the irises that have taken over.

Those catalogs were so beautiful and enticing! My contribution was a most unusual one from AUSTIN. I had never seen such flamboyant printing before — nor-since. The descriptions were PRINTED in RED, YELLOW, BLUE, GREEN, as well as black — indicating the types of irises and special characteristics such as REBLOOMING ability. Wonder of wonders -- like a child in a candy shop, I was just drooling over the possibility of irises blooming TWICE, and practically swooning over the idea of THRICE! Well, why not? My greedy thought was, if you enjoy them once, it was a bonanza to have a second bloom and just this side of heaven to anticipate a third!

Georgie loved BLUE SAPPHIRE and some then popular supposedly red iris, long forgotten, but I went berserk for those that would rebloom again — and again — AND AGAIN!

My first upsetting setback was in a January snow about like we are experiencing now. I went outside hopefully, surreptitiously; peeking here and there for those blooming rebloomers! My dear husband, with a whimsical, benevolent expression observed my silent droop and gently reminded me that those catalog-promises were for a warm climate like California and not for Maryland.

No irises in the snow was a rough awaking, but my anticipation heldout for SPRING - with the rewards later in the SUMMER with a feast for my eyes. It was worth all the anguish. Each Spring the catalogs refuel the hibernating garden enthusiasm and, again, irises become my life.

# IRISES CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE

By Carol Warner

I wish I had a nickel for every time I've heard, "I know you, you're the Iris Lady." How could I have arrived at such a state? People don't know my name but they know I grow irises.

Growing up on a farm meant plenty of outside activities. We had cats and dogs, cows, horses, ducks, chickens, and sometimes pigs. We didn't have TV for quite a while and nobody ever heard of video games but there were woods to be explored and streams to play in.

Our farm had a big lawn and hedges and several kinds of shrubs and a couple of flower beds. Mom even had 2 groups of "flags", one on the hill behind the house and one in front near the fence but I can't remember what color they were. I knew the names of the shrubs; there was Forsythia, Bridal Wreath, Fire Bush, (that had thorns) and the "pink bush". I also knew a chrysanthemum from a marigold. The peonies were great because my brother and I would pick the hard buds off and throw them at each other. Even now I disbud some of my peonies. My jobs never involved taking care of any flower beds but I did have to help with the vegetable garden and mow the grass.

How, then, could I have come to the point where I have a mail order iris business and am asked to speak to garden clubs by the dozen and even fly to other regions to give judges training on irises? The first step was simply meeting local iris nuts and joining in the activities of the local group.

My mother-in-law invited me to join her garden club. That club then went to visit the garden of Maynard and Retta Harp. I had to have some of those irises; so they finally agreed to sell me three siberians; GRAND JUNCTION, SPARKLING ROSE, and EGO. When I went to pick them up in the fall the Harps twisted my arm to join the local iris society. I did, but assured them that I could not be very active because I had two small children. I missed the meeting planned for the next day; even though the Harps invited me to go with them. Since that time I believe I've attended every F.S.K. meeting.

Claire and Bill Barr got me interested in attending a regional meeting and Rosalie Figge and Alice Miller invited me to go with them to the national meeting in Denver.

Over the years, meetings and conventions became a chance to see local friends and folks from across the country who have become some of my very best friends.

Iris are one of the most beautiful, if not the most beautiful, flowers on earth. New colors and patterns and forms and sizes are being introduced by hybridizers every day and I seem to have the desire to grow a great many of them. I have a "wish list" after every convention, regional meeting, tour or just a local garden visit. I can even go right off the deep end reading one of the iris catalogs. My boys tell me I have too many irises, (and in my heart I know from a landscaping point of view that the garden has too many irises) but I always want more, more, more.

The American Iris Society has changed my life - sometimes it seems like it is my life - but I wouldn't have it any other way. Now I have the chance to sell enough plants to pay for my iris trips with enough left to buy a few more varieties for my garden. Hopefully, the plants I sell or give away and the talks I give will encourage others to find the joy and friendship I have received from being part of a fine group of iris nuts.



At the Fall Board Meeting of the American Iris Society, two of our own were honored for their years of service to the Society. Dr. D.C. Nearpass of the C&P Chapter, received the *American Iris Society Hybridizer's Medal*. Mr. Fred G. Stephenson of the Blue Ridge Chapter received *Emeritus Judge*. Congratulations to both of these fine gentlemen.



The American Iris Society, and Region 4, mourns the loss of two outstanding individuals who have served the AIS for many years. Mr. C.J. Lack of Tulsa OK, who was Publications Director, and Mrs. Bee Warburton, Hybridizer from Massachusetts.



**Did You Know** - That Alfalfa is a natural herbicide? "Auto-Toxicity" is what it's called. When planted, nothing else grows. The same effect is true when using the pellets, provided that you use plenty. Don't forget to use a little Nitrogen with the Alfalfa.

56th Official Tall Bearded Iris Symposium  
American Iris Society, Region 4  
1996

\* \* \* \* \*

92 Ballots were cast = 12.6% of the Region 4 membership.

51	<b>Immortality</b>	16	Codicil
48	Vanity (DM 82)		Hindenburg
47	Silverado (DM 94)		Lorilee
39	Beverly Sills (DM 85)		Ringo
37	Before the Storm	15	Anna Belle Babson
	Dusky Challenger (DM92)		Breakers
	Titan's Glory (DM 88)		Infinite Grace
32	Stepping Out (DM 68)	14	Everything Plus (DM 91)
	Lady Friend		Leda's Lover
31	Jesse's Song (DM 90)		<b>Purple Pepper</b>
	Song of Norway (DM 86)	13	Dazzling Gold
30	Edith Wolford (DM 93)		Loyalist
	Thornbird	12	Conjuration
27	Laced Cotton		Eastertime
26	Mary Frances (DM 79)		Mulled Wine
	<b>Suky</b>	11	Babbling Brook (DM 72)
24	Victoria Falls (DM 84)		<b>David Keith</b>
23	Sky Hooks		Debby Raidon (DM 71)
22	Bride's Halo (DM 78)		Gypsy Woman
	Champagne Elegance		Navajo Jewel
	<b>Dover Beach</b>		Tide's In
	Gay Parasol	10	<b>Betty Frances</b>
21	Holy Night		Lemon Mist
	Honky Tonk Blues (DM 95)		Mystique (DM 80)
	Skating Party		Navy Strut
20	Camelot Rose		Oktoberfest
19	Going My Way		Pink Taffeta (DM 75)
17	Persian Berry		Pure As The
	Superstition		Shipshape (DM 74)
	Supreme Sultan		Son of Star
	Winter Olympics (DM 67)		

9 Votes - 12 cultivars

4 Votes - 18 cultivars

8 Votes - 9 cultivars

3 Votes - 31 cultivars

7 Votes - 7 cultivars

2 Votes - 33 cultivars

6 Votes - 14 cultivars

1 Vote - 73 cultivars

5 Votes - 18 cultivars

0 Votes - 105 cultivars

NOTE: Those cultivars shown in **Bold** are introductions of Region 4 hybridizers.

# New Introductions from Region 4 Hybridizers

## **Dr. William L. Ackerman (C&P)**

(Introduced by Nicholl's Garden)

SAMURAI CREST (Ackerman 96) JI, A late blooming giant with a 10 inch flower. It is tall in stature blooming on a 44 inch stalk with two branches plus terminal for a total of 6 blooms per stalk. This giant in purple has a slight mottling on the standards. White rays extend from the yellow signal on the falls to an inch from the edge giving a band effect. Samurai Crest will be one to extend the bloom season in your garden with its lateness and many blooms per stalk. Pictured on cover of *Flower & Garden*, Jan. 1996 issue as well as page 51.

## **Libby Cross (AHIS)**

RECONSIDERED (Cross 96) TB, 32" Light yellow self, that reblooms.

## **Clarence Mahan (C&P)**

(Introduced by the Iris Pond)

LADY BIRD JOHNSON (Mahan 96) TB This lovely, laced, heavily substanced, gently ruffled beauty can be seen on page 59 of the latest AIS Bulletin (Number 300). Limited stock.

## **Loleta K. Powell (ENC)**

(Introduced by Powell's Garden)

ORANGE FURNACE (Powell 96) TB 30" Splendid vivid orange self with deeper orange beards, ruffled, with sweet fragrance.

TRADITIONAL (Powell 96) TB 37" S. Blue-white; F. Royal violet, edged blue-white, same beards. Sweet fragrance.

# New Members to Region 4

## Alleghany Highlands Iris Society

Ethel R. Anderson	1845 Rowan Rd.	Sinks Grove, WV 24976
Kolin S. Brown	947 Maple Dr.	Morgantown, WV 26505
Margaret Critzer	255 Route 4	Lewisburg, WV 24901
Pat Nichols	Rt. 1 Box 326 A	Ronceverte, WV 24970
Tom & Connie Siess	Rt. 2 Box 228 A	Caldwell, WV 24925
Mrs. Lillian Smith	613 S. High St.	Huntington, WV 25702

## Blue Ridge Iris Society

Ms. Jean Craft	P.O. Box 40	Eagle Rock, VA 24085
Freida Martin	100 Sunnyside Dr. Unit 214, Apt. 1	Harrisonburg, VA 22801

## Charlotte Chapter

Phyllis A. Gaul	349 Upper Stanley Rd.	Stanley, NC 28164
Donald R. Halsey	2730 Dogwood Cir.	Charlotte, NC 28208
Paul Pawlowski	14818 Youngblood Rd.	Charlotte, NC 28278

## Carolina Mountains Iris Society

Sharon A. Bienert	2656 Rock Creek Rd.	Burnsville, NC 28714
Thelma Flanagan	Rt. 2 Box 2811-B	Green Mountain, NC 28740
Louise McClung	25-A Parris Cemetery Rd.	Sylvia, NC 28779

## Central Virginia Chapter

David Traylor	7724 Hickory Rd.	Petersburg, VA 23803
Norman Van Ferguson	P.O. Box 3951	Richmond, VA 23235

## Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society

Marie Cone	2000 Klinge Rd.	Washington, D.C. 20010
Danny M. Fluhart	14940 Hoffman Rd.	Waldorf, MD 20601
Jane M. Hammarstrom	13000 Harvest Pl.	Fairfax, VA 22030
Mrs. Joan Houck	Rt. 2 Box 4860	Berryville, VA 22611
Joanne Howl	4304 Tenthouse Ct.	West River, MD 20778
Bill & Janet Miller	7613 Quintana Ct.	Bethesda, MD 20817
Mary Oshannon	7530 Fisher Dr.	Falls Church, VA 22043
Skip & Sharon Pound	845 Whann Ave.	McLean, VA 22101
Donna J. Stallings	145 Sulgrave Ct.	Sterling, VA 20165

## Eastern Shore Chapter

Dan Sterrett	P.O. Box 85	Craddockville, VA 23341
Richard & Susan Sterrett	P.O. Box 85	Craddockville, VA 23341

## Fredericksburg Area Iris Society

Ms. Loretta Burgess	14062 Fallbrook Ln.	Woodbridge, VA 22193
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## Francis Scott Key Iris Society

Loretta & Frank Donelson	2505 Perring Woods Rd.	Baltimore, MD 21234
Sue Snyder	708 Red Cedar Rd.	Annapolis, MD 21401

## **Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk Iris Society**

Martha Johnson	736 Benefit Rd.	Chesapeake, VA 23322
Byron E. Pearson	8201 Harborwood Pl.	Suffolk, VA 23436
Matthew A. Pearson	8201 Harborwood Pl.	Suffolk, VA 23436
Meredith E. Pearson	8201 Harborwood Pl.	Suffolk, VA 23436
Bill Rogers	3728 Concord Dr.	Suffolk, VA 23435
Trisha Seacrist	211 Derby Rd.	Portsmouth, VA 23702
Bill Trotter	213 Derby Rd.	Portsmouth, VA 23702



## **Eastern North Carolina Iris Society**

### **1996 Officers:**

President - Burt H. Pearson III  
Secretary - Geraldine S. Davis  
Treasurer - Dr. E. Roy Epperson



## **Fredericksburg Area Iris Society**

The Fredericksburg Area Iris Society would like to thank the Region 4 members for making our Spring Meeting such a success. FAIS had a very successful Iris Sale in July, which enabled us to contribute a \$1000.00 to the Region 4 Treasury.



In September, we had a picnic at the Rose's Farm and will have a Harvest Dinner in November. At the Harvest Dinner we will hold election of officers that will remain in office for two years. I have enjoyed being part of the Region 4 Board for the past two years and serving as chairperson for the 1995 Spring Meeting.

FAIS is also looking into establishing some type of scholarship for the area.

### **1996 Officers:**

Chairperson - Leslie B. Nelson - 540-663-2769  
Vice-Chairperson - Roger L. Glasshoff - 540-371-0467  
Secretary & Editor - Joanne Krzeminski - 540-891-0223  
Treasurer - Walter J. Gaylord, Sr. - 540-371-1644

# Blue Ridge Iris Society

In May, my productivity came to a halt via a knee problem. As of now, we are on a roll again. A successful Siberian iris auction and a lovely covered dish luncheon took place at Fairacres, our garden center. A great time was enjoyed by our usual working group. We are not adding new active members but our dozen are always available when needed.



Blue Ridge is so happy to give the region a \$500 donation. We wish it could be more, however our iris sales are off. Our area has several gardens in which iris are sold. The market may be flooded here at the present.

At our October meeting, we will decide if it is possible to have an iris exhibit in May. At the present time, a show is not possible. Dennis Stoneburner is planning an educational program in March at our area wide flower and garden show. Hopefully, we will attract new members at that time.

This chapter still has enthusiasm and we look forward to a great future together. We all love iris so much that we will not fail.

#### 1996 Officers:

President - Kay Cooper - 540-989-5438

Vice-President - Fred Stephenson - 540-774-0202

Secretary - Helen Padgett - 540-947-5098

Treasurer - Millie Trent - 540-774-9171



# Eastern Shore Iris Society

#### 1996 Officers:

President - Robert S. Withey

Vice-President - John Vincent

R. Secretary - Ann Ayotte

C. Secretary - Betty Jorden

Treasurer - Genevieve Deggendorf

**March 30** - Spring Luncheon Meeting

**May 11-12** - 3 Judge Training Program as part of the Salisbury State University's Annual Art & Flower Show.

# Francis Scott Key Iris Society



The summer of 1995 brought more activities for FSK than usual. Sponsoring the National Society of Japanese Iris Convention, more work and fun hours were crammed into our already busy mid-summer schedule. The results were pleasing and comments were complimentary. We are happy to have been able to do our part.

Our membership chairman tells us that FSK is now at an all time high for number of members enrolled. The figure now stands at 142. This is indeed a challenge to keep every member actively involved.

We are looking ahead to the spring of '98 with keen interest. Time for another Spring Regional from FSK. We will all soon be hearing more about this.

In early September, FSK was saddened by the passing of our charter member and co-founder, Retta Harp. This is indeed a great loss to our society. A donation to the AIS Foundation has been made in her memory.

## 1996 Officers:

President - Mary E. Brown - 410-233-8069

Vice-President - Carol Warner - 410-374-4788

R. Secretary - Sylvia Smith - 410-544-5313

C. Secretary - Dick Huge - 410-367-8030

Treasurer - Hal Herrmann - 410-252-1507

## Calendar of Events

**March 1-3 & 8-10:** Maryland Flower & Garden Show, State Fair Grounds, Timonium, MD. Education & Exhibit booth.

**April 13:** Spring Luncheon, TBA

**May 25:** Annual Flower Show - Chatham Mall, Ellicott City, MD

**July 13:** Iris Sale, Watson's Garden Center, York Rd, Timonium, MD.

**July 28:** Annual Picnic, TBA

Fall Luncheon & Meeting, date and place TBA.

# Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society



The Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society has continued to be a top contender in the national membership contest. Mac Shawe, our membership chairman, announced that there are over 30 new members on the roster since July 1st.

The 1st Saturday in July, was the "Big Dig". The family of the late Celeste Cox, contributed the irises that had been maintained on the berm in front of their home for many years, to our July sale. Eighteen members came, dug, sorted, cleaned, marked and bagged over 125 clumps. Most of the varieties had been introduced in the late 70's and early 80's and stood the test of time and recent neglect. At the end of the morning, the job was completed, resulting in LOTS of rhizomes that could be offered the following Saturday at the sale.

Several of our members took the opportunity to attend the National Convention, held in York, Pa. For some, it was their 1st, (I think they were impressed). I always learn something and enjoy meeting new people. This year, I attended the Louisiana Judges Training session. It really gave me added appreciation of these spectacular plants.

The T-Shirt Project has been well received. Gloria Fairhead, Chr., says that we have plenty of shirts in all sizes available (\*note to collectors) for anyone wishing to purchase one. For the ladies, I made a collar in a contrasting color and attached it to my shirt.

Even tho' this report is SHORT, the club has been LONG on activities. I must thank everyone, AGAIN, for all the support (especially my hubby Walter ['overalls']) that has given me in the past two years as president.

## 1996 Officers:

President - Renny Martin - 703-476-6639

Vice-President - Gloria Fairhead - 410-224-3130

Secretary - Valerie Canada - 301-498-6003

Treasurer - Eleanor Fischer - 202-526-2447

# Central Virginia Iris Society

CVIS  
CENTRAL VIRGINIA  
IRIS SOCIETY



1996 Officers:

President - Anner M. Whitehead - 804-358-6202

Vice-President - Phyllis Soine - 804-233-3672

Secretary - Deborah R. Bowen - 804-745-9553

Treasurer - N. Van Ferguson - 804-741-6591

Immediate Past President - Cameron D. Hall

## Calendar Of Events

**March 9** - Information and Member Recruitment Booth, Great Big Greenhouse and Nursery Gardener' Fair, Richmond

**March 23** - Spring Business Meeting, Speaker - Clarence Mahan

**April 19-20** - Educational and Floral Exhibition Booth, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Spring Gardener's Fair, Richmond

**May 11** - Garden Tour, Jack & Rosalie Loving's Garden, King George, VA

**September 21** - Fall Business Meeting

**December** - Holiday Reception, TBA

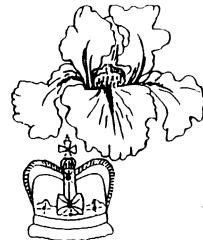
Annual Plant Sale(s) - TBA



Lloyd Zurbrigg receives the Nearpass Award from Sara Marley

# Charlotte Iris Society

1996 Officers:  
President - Carrie Winter  
Vice-President - Dave Hull  
2nd Vice-President - Ruth Holbrook  
Secretary - Barbara Alexander  
Treasurer - Pat Rodgers  
Past President - Barbara Moeller



## Calendar of Events

**April 9** - Plant Exchange & show pointers for May Flower Show  
**April 27** - Tour of Local Gardens, TBA  
**May 4** - Iris Show, Cotswold Mall  
**July 13** - Bearded Iris Sale, Cotswold Mall  
**September 10** - Annual Plant Auction  
**November 12**, Meeting, TBA

The Bearded Iris Sale of July provided a smooth transition to the new organization year for the Charlotte Iris Society. The successful sale featured recent Tall Bearded introductions along with some Rebloomers and Intermediate Bearded. We anticipate seeing these newcomers in the '96 show.

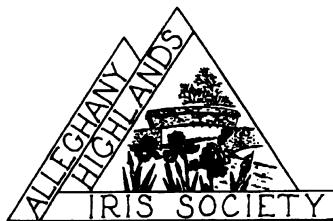
Our theme for 95-97 is "Iris for Your Garden Every Month of the Year". The Winter Seminar will have a 2nd presentation on Iris Species Through the year.

The fall auction which featured beardless iris and other perennials was successful - enriching both our treasury and our personal plant collections. Our spring and summer will be marked by our plant exchange, tour of iris gardens, Iris Show and summer bearded iris sale.

Membership in CIS and AIS will be emphasized as well as local opportunities for judge's training. CIS presently has three youth members.

In 1998 we will celebrate our 50th anniversary. Plans for making that time a special one will be underway soon.

# Alleghany Highlands Iris Society



1996 Officers:

President - Margaret C. Stone - 304-647-4395

Vice-President - Paul F. Jones - 304-647-4395

Treasurer - Georgia C. Hayes - 304-645-2598

R. Secretary - Connie Siess - 304-645-3696

C. Secretary - Patty Rothe - 304-645-7210

Things have been going very nicely since the Spring Regional meeting in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Subsequent to the Spring Regional meeting, nine members attended the National Convention in York, Pennsylvania.

On June 10, Mrs. Georgie Hayes hosted the Chapter's annual picnic at her home in Lewisburg. Covered dishes were brought by the members. They enjoyed loads of food and good fellowship.

Two Iris sales were held by the Chapter. The first Iris sale was on June 8 at the Aides Discount Store in Covington, Virginia. Two weeks later, the second Iris sale was held at the Aides Discount Store in Fairlea, West Virginia. The proceeds from the sales added significantly to the Chapter's treasury.

On September 8 and September 9, an Iris exhibit was entered by the Alleghany Highland Chapter in the annual flower show of the Garden Clubs of Greenbrier County, West Virginia. The exhibit, entitled "The World of Irises", was put in place by Margaret C. Stone, and her husband, Mr. Paul Jones. The exhibit won second place in the educational division.

On September 30, a workshop was held at the home of Margaret C. Stone and her husband, Paul Jones, to make final arrangements for the Fall Regional Conference. Refreshments for workshop participants were served by Miss. Tammy Lee and Pattie and Fred Rothe.

The Chapter is planning a Harvest Covered Dish Dinner on October 28, at the home of Mrs. Georgie Hayes. We are wondering if there might be one "rebloomer" left somewhere to serve as a centerpiece.

On Dec. 8 or Dec. 9, whichever is the most convenient for the Chapter's membership, Mrs. Margaret C. Stone and her husband, Mr. Paul Jones, will prepare Christmas dinner in their home in Lewisburg. All the Chapter's members have to bring are their best Christmas smiles and hearty appetites.

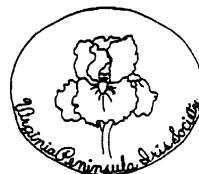
Five Members of the AHIS Chapter from the Lewisburg area are planning to attend the American Iris Society Convention to be held in Sacramento, CA in April, also the Region 4 meeting to be held in May in Leesburg, Va.



"Simon says" ... turn your head to your right.... well almost everyone!!

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## Virginia Peninsula Iris Society



**March**—Herb Gardeners—Mary Black.

Appointment of Nominating Committee.

**April**—"Grooming for Show"—Anne and Mike Lowe.

**May**—Showtime, date to be announced. Slate  
of officers will be published in May "Rhizome Review".

**June**—Election of officers for 96/97

**July**—NO MEETING.

**August**—Picnic September—Sale time.

**October**—Business Meeting. November—Fall Luncheon.

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**Get Well Wishes** to Willa W. Owens, former member of the Marydel Chapter, and Secretary of Region 4. She is recovering from a heart attack, and bypass surgery.

# Tidewater Iris Society

TIS has had a very slow and quiet summer. We did have our TB Show in May and the beardless Show in June. Then in July we had a successful iris sale at a local nursery summer festival.



TIS is on a fiscal year, therefore we installed officers in August. In September we had our annual fall picnic. For those that attended it was a great event, however, it rained and rained. Thank goodness we had the picnic at a local parks shelter. Thanks to the Ways & Means Chairman we had great new introductions for our auction.

We are looking forward to a busy year. The program committee has an outstanding list of speakers presenting a wide array of iris topics.

TIS is looking forward to seeing at their friends at the Spring Region IV meeting.

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## Carolina Mountains Iris Society

Carolina Mountain Iris Society had another successful year. Our Spring meeting was held on April 11 at the home of Leon & Jean Pace, who grow their irises in a magnificent setting of rhododendrons, azaleas, daylilies, flowering shrubs, a lovely water garden and a special collection of exotic birds. It was truly a memorable meeting.



Easter Sunday, April 16, 1995 will never be forgotten in my home as the year a Tall Bearded became part of the centerpiece that graced the dinner table. Bloom season was at least three weeks early and there was some concern as to whether there would be any TBs for our Show on May 13. Fortunately, the season cooled off somewhat. We are also fortunate in having irisarians at the lower elevations and in the mountains—someone always has iris bloom regardless of the weather. Because of the early season we also had many beardless entries and, in fact, a Spuria won Best-in-Show.

Our Japanese Show proved to be our best ever, with more entries than usual. The popularity of Japanese iris has been growing in leaps and bounds here in Western North Carolina, so we expect our Shows to be bigger and better each year.

Our Sale and Auction on August 5 was also successful, enabling us to fund once again a horticultural scholarship at Blue Ridge Community College.

Our Fall meeting on November 4 included a slide program on Siberian irises. We had a good turnout for this meeting, including a number of growers who attended because of the program. Siberians and other beardless irises are also growing in popularity in this area as more and more gardeners discover their value in the landscape and their ease of culture.

#### 1996 Officers:

President - Betsy Higgins - 704-693-3260

Vice-President - Leon Pace - 704-692-7518

Secretary - Jeanne Grundies - 704-687-3565

Treasurer - Flossie Nelson - 704-692-7942

#### Calendar of Events

**April 27** - Spring meeting 1:30 pm, Hendersonville Public Library Auditorium

**May 11** - Annual Iris Show, First Congregational Church, 1735 5th Ave. West, Hendersonville

**June 13 & 14** - Annual Japanese Iris Show, Opportunity House, Hendersonville

**August 10** - Annual Iris Auction, First Congregational Church, Hendersonville



## A Dig Is More Than Uprooting Irises

By Dennis Pearson

The opportunity to go on a massive dig was a most exciting adventure for our little group. Dick and Joanne Murphy, who hosted the guest beds for the 1991 National Iris Convention invited us to dig up some irises in preparation for an upcoming regional display in '96. Well, we got out our Maryland maps, plotted our course, got up at 5 AM and hit the road after meeting

at Hardee's for breakfast. The three and half hour drive somehow turned into five hours. We arrived about noon to the lovely home of our new friends. The men (Paul, Dennis, Dick (Joanne's husband)) dug in some very red clay soil which clung like super glue. Byron's (Dennis's son) legs provided the miles of transportation required between the fields and the processors.

According to Byron, he walked over 500 miles, needless to say he slept all the way home. The ladies, (Jan, Bea and Joanne) under the canopy provided by our guests, trimmed and bagged our treasures. The sun laid hot upon our shoulders and brows. We sweated, we laughed, we enjoyed the day. It was difficult to choose varieties, there were hundreds, all types TBs. IBs, BBs, and MTBs. It was truly like Christmas in July. We were all amazed at the knowledge crammed in Joanne's pretty head. She knew most all of irises intimately. She knew their colors, their growth habits and told us whether they received her personal endorsement.

She is such a charming lady. We all got quite tickled at the way she talked to her labs. She would say, "NOW GIRLS" with a southern draw and the dogs would immediately respond by calming down. Dick removed all of our cut foliage with a tractor (we had bunches) and we ventured into their beautiful home for a lunch they had prepared for us. The men were so dirty that they made us take showers. There was a slight plumbing catastrophe which added considerable excitement to Dennis's shower. After repairs were made, we ate, we visited and bid our good-byes as we set out for Sarah Marley's.

Sarah's property provided a whole new dimension to our trip, she and her husband are caretakers of a farm which includes an 1800 Circa tavern which has been converted into part of their home. The tavern is in its original state and it is breathtaking. The planked floor, the chinking between the logs and her tales of whipping up water that runs between the logs with each driving rain made a vivid picture that this old house was a lot of work - it still was beautiful. Her gardens are in a landscaped lawn which beckons a lemonade and a strolling partner. Daylillies, and irises in immaculate beds, a pond down the way, fields of sheep grazing to the west, Oh! it was so wonderful. Because we were running so late leaving the Murphy's, Sarah had already dug up the clumps which she was donating to us and all we had to do was round them up. We quickly took to our task so we could visit.

She let us tour the property, gave us some additional insight and we saw the world's largest yard stick collection. Iris people are such fun people. She then told us that when they applied for the job as caretakers that one of their work conditions was that they bring their irises. Well, the property owners have been blessed with their additions. Dark clouds were forming, our bodies were stiffening and we headed south. A grueling five hours later we pulled into our drive, jammed pack with adventure, great company and we returned with some fabulous irises. The rest is HISTORY. With their donations we were able to offer many varieties that had been freshly dug for our annual iris sale at a nearby garden center. A closing word, relationships are built upon shared experiences and I feel personally closer to everyone associated with the dig. The next time we have the chance to work together please join in. You will be glad you DIG.



And we thought Fred Stephenson & Anne Lowe were just "Looking" at the irises in York PA!!!

## Soil Preparation

By J. Owings Rebert

**M**y soil preparation for replanting iris has run the full length of the scale, from the extreme of each end to the now happy medium. As an early teenager in the late 1920's I watched as my mother lifted our only iris clump with a spading fork, (the same one as I use even today) and then with her hands break it into smaller pieces. They were to be planted into a single row across a well worn area of our yard. There was no soil preparation. Using a Mattock, individual holes were made and pieces were put into the ground about two inches deep. Not a single little scrap was discarded and the earth was tamped down with the foot. The soil here was quite full of shale, so the larger pieces of stone were taken away. The object was to disturb the soil as little as possible. This was sometime in the early spring as the foliage was about four to six inches tall. There was no thought of adding anything to improve the soil. Yes, there were a lot of bloom that first year. The row thrived and made a barrier that no one intentionally walked across or thru. These remained here undisturbed for better than a decade.

It was not until the 1960's when we joined FSK that soil preparation ever became a factor to consider. Our first major planting was done in an area that had been used for a vegetable garden, and on what had first been fertile farmland. We had extensively improved it by generously applying the richest of poultry manure and commercial fertilizer. The soil had been plowed to a depth of at least twelve inches and readied by using the maximum depth of a roto-tiller. The iris responded beautifully.

My practice today is basically unchanged. We no longer have our lot or garden "plowed". That would be impossible. Our tiller is always used to the maximum depth. In tight corners I rely on my trusty spade. Before the second tilling, I like to add well composted barn-yard manure. I have pushed dozens of wheelbarrow loads up the lane from the farm across the road. Then more often than not I generously add a one half mix of 10-10-10 fertilizer and super phosphate on top of the final tilling. I occasionally like to add some form of lime, also gypsum on some clay-like areas before the final dig. Planting follows immediately.

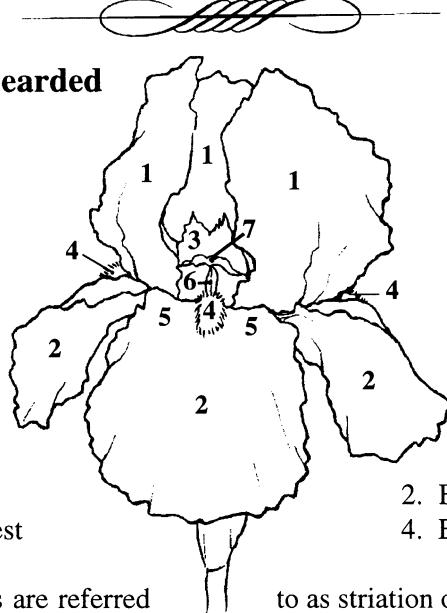
On a few select spots I have tried the double depth digging method. This requires a lot of mostly handwork. The results were good, but in the final vote I decided it was not worth all the effort.

Some have commented on color variations of certain cultivars as compared with other gardens, even to the extent of accuracy of identification. Perhaps many things could be responsible for this, the availability of moisture, nutrients, trace elements, Ph level, amount of sun or shade, herbicide effects, companion plant environment and the list goes on. Variation in bloom size is also a factor of much speculation.

Many of our beds are showing fatigue from many years of constant iris growing. There is practically no more virgin soil remaining to turn to here. Crop rotation is a conservation practice that we probably should be using more widespread. This policy can be more effective when one has access to larger plots. Having seen and known the growth and bloom that we have experienced over the years, I feel there is little need to change our pattern of the yearly application of soil nutrient additives and garden compost. If anything, a little less of all of it sounds very good at this point of time.

---

### Parts of a Bearded Iris



- 1. Standards
- 3. Style or Crest
- 5. Haft of Fall
- (Any markings are referred
- 6. Anther

- 2. Falls
- 4. Beard
- to as striation or venation)
- 7. Stigmatic Lip

# Region 4 Commercial Listing

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J. Markwood Harp, Sr. - Pg. 7

Walter & Sara Marley - Pg. 36-39

Mike Lowe - Pg. 60

Dennis Stoneburner - All others including Front Cover

Front cover: Louisiana Iris

# The Last Word

After a near record breaking winter, Spring can not be far behind. Just ask the little hosta trying to grow outside my office window. After one 60 degree day, it thinks it's April. Well sorry little fellow, we might have yet a little more winter to go. At least we're getting moisture from the melting snow. (We might need it this summer.) One nice thing about editing *Newscast*, I can remember the wonderful experience in Lewisburg, and the good time I'll have in Leesburg, and feel the bite of winter depart.

We have been blessed by knowing those who have gone before us, and by those who remain. The list of those passing grows longer with each issue, both regionally, and nationally. Everyone listed will be sorely missed. Those of us who remain, have our work cut out for us. There are mighty big shoes to fill.

We ARE the 2nd largest region, but rank towards the bottom in participation. The Symposium voting is a good example. I have been on this soap box before, and it's time to dust it off. I still don't understand how only 92 of 700+ members vote the ballot. Fill it out, and mail it! A 32 cent stamp is all it cost. Can we achieve at least 20% participation this year??? PLEASE!!!

How about coming to Leesburg in May. Where else can you see the Largest Show in the United States?, and meet great people too! Many of those who wrote articles in this issue will be there, so here is your chance to meet them, don't miss it.

Speaking of articles, what a pleasure it was to receive 97% of all copy before January 31st. Those who had writing assignments came through with great articles. There will be other assignments coming, so don't loose your favorite pen.

As I send another issue of *Newscast* to press, I think this saying from Noel Coward best describes my feelings, "I'll see you again, Whenever Spring breaks through, Again!"



## **REGION 4 CHAPTERS AND AFFILIATES**

**ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS IRIS SOCIETY** - Margaret Stone  
229 Crowfield Circle Lewisburg, WV 24901 (304) 647-4395

**BLUE RIDGE IRIS SOCIETY** - Mrs. Keith K. Cooper  
3513 South Park Circle, SW Roanoke, VA 24018 (540) 989-5438

**CAROLINA MOUNTAINS IRIS SOCIETY** - Betsy Higgins  
608 Buena Vista Drive Hendersonville, NC 28792 (704) 693-3290

**CENTRAL VIRGINIA CHAPTER** - Anner M. Whitehead  
3212 Patterson Ave. Richmond, VA 23221 (804) 358-6202

**CHARLOTTE CHAPTER** - Carrie Winter  
5801 Masters Ct., Charlotte, NC 28226-8046 (704) 542-3812

**CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY** - Renny Martin  
2710 Linda Marie Dr., Oakton, VA 22124 (703) 476-6639

**EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY** - Burt H. Pearson III  
Rt. 2, Box 633 Franklinton, NC 27525 (919) 496-2865

**EASTERN SHORE CHAPTER** - Robert Withey  
Popular Hill Mansion, 117 Elizabeth Street, Salisbury, MD 21801  
(410) 749-1776

**FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY** - Mary E. Brown  
416 North Chapelgate Ln, Baltimore, MD 21229 (410) 233-8069

**FREDERICKSBURG AREA IRIS SOCIETY** - Leslie Nelson  
P.O. Box 764, Dahlgren VA 22448-0764 (540) 663-2769

**PORTSMOUTH, CHESAPEAKE, SUFFOLK IRIS SOCIETY**  
William C. Smoot  
213 Derby Road, Portsmouth, VA 23702-2017 (804) 393-4617

**TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY** - JaNiece Mull  
7112 Fox's Lair Court, Norfolk, VA 23518-4435 (804) 858-5521

**VIRGINIA PENINSULA IRIS SOCIETY** - Grace Hall  
25 Manassas Court, Hampton, VA 23669 (804) 851-8033

American Iris Society  
Newscast, Region 4  
2114 Avenel Ave.  
Roanoke, VA 24015-3506

**Address Correction Requested**

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229 Crowfield Circle  
Lewisburg, WV 24901

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