

# *Newscast A. I. S.*

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## **REGION FOUR**

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Volume 40, Number 1

Spring 1998



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# *Newscast*

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

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VOL. 40, NO. 1

Spring 1998

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**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY -  
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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 \$5.00 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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 Matthew Pearson - Pg. 36-37 top  
 Dennis Stoneburner - Pg. 33, 37 bottom  
 All other graphics - Dennis Stoneburner

# RVP'S MESSAGE



Winter has us in its grip and one need not feel guilty at taking time for paperwork as the rains/snows come down. Despite the blustery weather, we have had 3 different unguicularis in constant bloom since November. What a delight it is to pick something fresh and live on a cold dreary winter day. I

heartily recommend these winter-blooming irises for their ease of growth and cold weather bloom.

Region 4 membership continues to grow. The latest list from AIS shows us at 715, an all time high. The flip side of all this is that the names of 145 members will be dropped on March 1st. Rich Randall and I discussed this during a recent visit and we were both at a loss to come up with any strategies to stem the tide of non-renewals. I hope that individual clubs will continue to press for renewal among the delinquent members in their group.

The annual Affiliation paperwork has been completed and all 13 societies elected to complete the process. One of the prime requirements for affiliation is that all elected club officials must be AIS members in good standing. There were several instances where this was not the case and much time was spent in trying to correct these omissions. Thank goodness for email so that I could check directly with Marilyn Harlow and local membership chairpersons for last minute renewals. I am very pleased to note that the Blue Ridge group has reorganized and again become an active chapter.

In February you received your January AIS Bulletin. Do carefully read pages 64 and 65 and note the changes in Exhibition procedures. Show schedules should be sent to Mike Moller; show supplies will be ordered from Barbara Figge and final show reports will be sent to Maxine Perkins. Addresses will be supplied when your schedule is approved. This division of labor is on trial basis for one year and I suggest that you keep close tabs on when you send in your paperwork as well as when you receive a reply. In Austin, Mike emphasized that the 60 days-before-show-date rule for schedule submission must be observed so that the schedules can be approved in timely fashion.

Do not hesitate to notify me or any other director if you experience problems in any area of the exhibition procedure.

Region 4 has lost several dedicated and outstanding irisarians during the past 6 months. BJ and Frances Brown, who were old and dear friends to many of us and who did much for the region in so many ways, were killed in an auto accident last fall. On February 14, Rich Randall's courageous battle with cancer came to an end. My tribute to Rich appears elsewhere in this issue. We ask your prayers for both families as they work their way through the grieving process.

I think often of you who are dealing with high water and many inches of snow. However, the February jasmine and japonica are in bloom, the days are appreciably longer, I picked the first daffodils today, and I heard the first peepers (frogs) last night. Spring must be on its way!

I look forward to a good turn-out at the Spring Regional in Maryland and I hope to see you there.



### **Nominating Committee Report**

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

RVP: Sara Marley  
Secretary:

Ass't RVP: Carrie Winter  
Treasurer: J. Owings Rebert

Clarence Mahan, Chairman



### **IN MEMORIAM**

B.J. & Frances Brown - Past RVP & Editor - South Carolina

Rich Randall - Virginia

Evelyn Kegerise - Hybridizer PA

58th Official Tall Bearded Iris Symposium  
 American Iris Society, Region 4  
 1998

\* \* \* \* \*

87 Ballots were cast = 12.79% of the Region 4 membership.

40	Dusky Challenger (DM92)	13	Persian Berry
	<b>Immortality</b>		Winter Olympics (DM 67)
39	Jesse's Song (DM 90)	12	Afternoon Delight
38	Before The Storm (DM 96)		Joyce Terry
	Silverado (DM 94)		Mulled Wine
	Thornbird (DM 97)		Queen in Calico
	Vanity (DM 82)		Study in Black
34	Lady Friend	11	After the Storm
	Titan's Glory (DM 88)		Codicil
33	<b>Clarence</b>		Ginger Swirl
32	Stepping Out (DM 68)		Gypsy Woman
29	<b>Suky</b>		Loyalist
28	Beverly Sills (DM 85)		Rare Treat
27	<b>Dover Beach</b>	10	Anna Belle Babson
	Song of Norway (DM 86)		Autumn Circus
25	Honky Tonk Blues (DM 95)		Babbling Brook (DM 72)
24	Skating Party		Bertwistle
23	Edith Wolford (DM 93)		Busy Being Blue
	Victoria Falls (DM 84)		Christmas Time
22	Laced Cotton		Dazzling Gold
21	Holy Night		Debby Rairdon (DM 71)
	Mary Frances (DM 79)		Grand Waltz
	Superstition		Supreme Sultan
20	Conjuration		Sweet Musette
19	Bride's Halo (DM 78)		Yaquina Blue
	Sky Hooks		-----
18	Champagne Elegance		9 Votes - 5 cultivars
	Gay Parasol		8 Votes - 8 cultivars
	Going My Way		7 Votes - 12 cultivars
17	<b>David Keith</b>		6 Votes - 4 cultivars
15	Camelot Rose		5 Votes - 14 cultivars
	Lemon Mist		4 Votes - 28 cultivars
	Ringo		3 Votes - 27 cultivars
	Rosalie Figge		2 Votes - 39 cultivars
14	Lorilee		1 Vote - 104 cultivars
	<b>Purple Pepper</b>		0 Votes - 171 cultivars
13	Bayberry Candle		
	Mesmerizer		

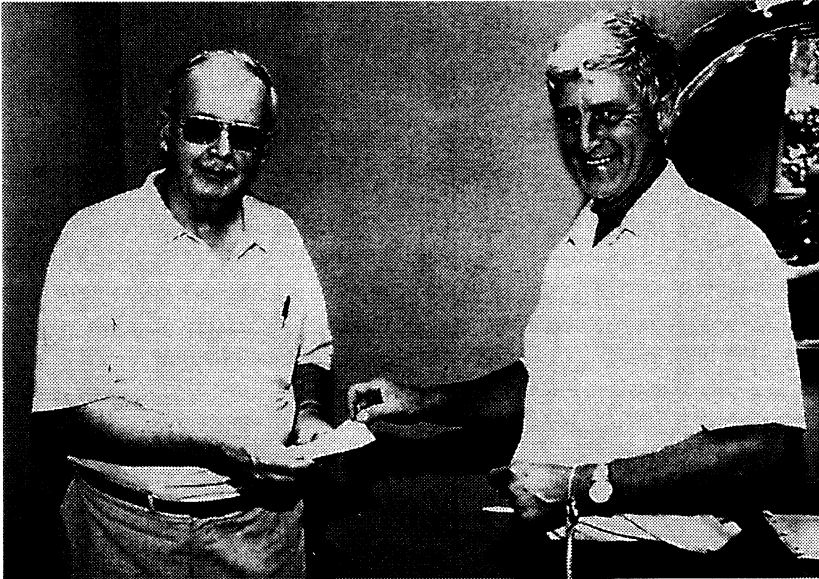
NOTE: Region 4 intros in **Bold**

## **Rich Randall** **The Man, The Irisarian, The Friend**

*Anne Lowe - RVP*

**E**arly in the morning on February 14th, Rich Randall gave up his year long battle with cancer. The iris world has lost an energetic advocate, Region 4 has lost an outstanding membership chairman, and many of us have lost a valued friend. He will be missed.

In a few short years Rich became well known within the iris community. He believed in AIS and was firmly convinced that local iris societies were the way to attract people to the growing and promoting of irises. He was instrumental in getting several regional



iris clubs started and was a charter member of at least 4 of them. His continuous recruiting efforts made him one of the top regional membership directors in AIS. He developed a regional membership contest program through which Region 4 continuously captures a number of national membership awards each year. He was a discriminating but absolutely fair judge of both bearded and beardless irises. Rich encountered more than his share of problems associated with growing irises in coastal Virginia, and he was more than willing to share his experiences or listen to advice from other irisarians. He attended conventions of all kinds and was always ready to hit the road to see a garden. He was responsible for designing and building



the low benches used to display Japanese iris at shows, first used in Tidewater and then elsewhere in the region. And who can ever forget “the Cookie Man” during the 1991 convention!

Rich threw himself whole heartedly into any project that he undertook, be it hang gliding, woodworking, bow hunting, or recruiting irisarians. He had little use for red tape and believed in plain speaking. While this occasionally upset people, you always knew where you stood with Rich.

During the past year, Rich fought his disease in typical Rich fashion—head on. He allowed the use of experimental drugs which, while they could not save his life, may provide the information needed to save others with the same disease. What a legacy! And let us not forget that Caryll shared this fight every step of the way, watching helplessly as the cancer took its toll. Our thoughts and prayers are with her as well as with Rich’s two sons, his mother and his sister.

Many suggestions will be made for ways to honor Rich. During our January visit, he expressed great concern that 145 people had elected not to renew AIS membership for 1998. I think the most fitting tribute that Region 4 could make to this energetic and dedicated man would be the renewal of those 145 lapsed memberships! These renewals can be solicited through local clubs and should be sent directly to Marilyn Harlow, AIS Membership Secretary. It is the wish of the family that any monetary gifts be sent to the AIS Memorial Fund. Any group or individual who wishes to honor Rich may send a gift to AIS in care of AIS Secretary Jeanne Clay Plank.

Over the years, Rich would drop by on his way to or from his cabin in Appomattox. His last visit was on a Sunday morning just a few weeks before his death. As always we shared big mugs of tea while we exchanged news and views. He was an easy guest, often taking part in whatever task we had going. During one visit in 1993, right after the August tornado laid down a yard full of our big trees, Rich cranked up his chain saw and joined Mike for an afternoon of cutting a path through the debris. We will miss his visits.

Rich knew how ill he was. He hoped that his membership position would be filled as soon as possible, and we discussed several possible successors when he was here. Caryll has agreed to take the job on a temporary basis. This would have pleased Rich and I am delighted that she is willing to assume this responsibility. I hope she will be able to make it a permanent appointment.

Rich’s death leaves a gap in our lives. However, we will remember him as a good man, an energetic irisarian and a steadfast friend.

## **B.J. and Frances Brown** **1913-1997 1914-1997**

*Carrie Winter - CIS*

**L**ast summer Barbara Alexander, Ruth Holbrook and I visited B.J. and Frances Brown at their home in South Carolina. During our visit both B.J. and Frances signed our applications for becoming an apprentice judge. As we left that afternoon, Frances warned us to be especially careful as we entered the highway from the road where we lived. You can imagine the shock and anguish we experienced when we received a call August 7<sup>th</sup> telling us that B.J. and Frances had been killed in an automobile accident at that very intersection. While we lost two dear and loving friends, the iris community at-large lost two distinguished contributors.

Without the support of both B.J. and Frances it is conceded that the Charlotte Iris Society (CIS) would have folded years ago. B.J. served as president from 1965-67 and again from 1979-81; Frances served from 1983-85. In addition both were active Master Judges. Each in their own way, encouraged others to grow and to exhibit their best, but more importantly to be their best.

B.J. served as Regional Vice President (RVP) for Region 4 from 1984-86. As CIS members attend Regionals, we hear stories from all parts of the region about the joy and pleasure of having worked with B.J.

Frances was an excellent photographer and had served as photographer for Region 4 when B.J. was RVP. Both were at home in the kitchen and we always looked forward to B.J.'s cornbread and Frances' pound cake at our covered dish luncheons.

B.J. was a talented hybridizer of irises and daylilies. His iris introductions include: BLUE ETCHINGS '73, DESIGNER CHOICE '83, CATAWBA FRILLS '90, CATAWBA HONEY '90, CATAWBA MAIDEN '90, CATAWBA PEACH '90, CATAWBA QUEEN '90, CATAWBA WARRIOR '90, ELEANOR YATES '93, CATAWBA CAMOUFLAGE '93, CATAWBA POTTERY '93 and QUEEN CHARLOTTE '93.

About the time that B.J. and Frances planned to move just over the North Carolina line into South Carolina, the CIS made them honorary members so that we would not lose them despite their moving into Region 5.

When they moved, they shared many of their iris and daylilies with their CIS friends, always the generous ones.

Perhaps Clarence Mahan in a letter to Katharine Steele says it for all of us when he wrote - “..if there is a paradise, B.J. and Frances will be there....B.J. and Frances loved people and were much loved in return. We shall miss them terribly.”

Thank you B.J. and Frances for the love and kindness you shared with everyone.



B.J & Frances Brown attending the 1991 Fall Regional in Roanoke

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**Region Four American Iris Society**  
**Lewisburg, West Virginia**  
**Saturday, October 4, 1997**

RVP Anne Lowe called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. With minor changes the agenda was approved. Minutes of the May 10, 1997 Board meeting were corrected as follows: Parliamentarian Rosalie Figge is serving as Corresponding Secretary for the Maryland Parliamentary Association and will attend the National Meeting of Parliamentarians in September, 1997. Minutes then approved as published in August Newscast.

**Officer Reports**

**RVP - Anne Lowe**

At the AIS Board Meeting in Dearborn, the Bylaws passed with only minor revisions and were included with the July Bulletin for general vote. Results will be reported at the Fall Board Meeting in Austin; approval means that the Term Limits Policy for AIS Directors will be in force.

In the past, AIS has awarded the Past RVP Pin to each retiring RVP. The RVP's feel that each region should decide whether or not its retiring RVP has earned that award and that AIS should no longer be involved. Each region will purchase its own pin. Our bylaws state that the regional treasurer will be custodian of this pin, so we need make no changes in our policy.

During 1998 our region will have 4 votes on the AIS Board; Clarence Mahan, 1st V-P; Mike Lowe, Director; Roy Epperson, Director Elect and I am the one year RVP Representative/Director.

The 1998 Symposium results were interesting but predictable. Although the Bulletin was not received in parts of the region until after August 15th, 87 ballots were returned—2 more than in 1997. While these were mostly from the 'faithful few', I was pleased to note some new names among the voters. Voting percentage was 12.8 which is down from last year, because results were based on 682 eligible voters; in 1996, figures were based on 596 members. Thanks to all of you who helped get out the vote.

The results of our voting made three things obvious: (1) the tried and true varieties get the votes; (2) regional introductions get the

votes—Immortality tied with Dusky Challenger for the Number 1 position; (3) newer and untried varieties do not get a significant number of votes in Region 4.

Region 4 membership is at an all time high! In May we had 637 members with 53 deleted in the March drop; currently we have 710 members with 28 possible drops in September. This is an increase of nearly 50 new irisarians and I expect the total to be even higher on the next printout. Congratulations and thanks to you all for your successful recruiting efforts. Keep up the good work! Special thanks to Regional Membership Chairman Rich Randall for his untiring support in securing and keeping members for Region 4.

Today we must reconsider our bid to host the 2003 National Convention. In August I sent 150 letters throughout the region in order to give as many members as possible a chance to express an opinion. The input has been great and will be considered as we make a final decision regarding this matter.

I have the video of the 1996 bloom in the Loomis Test Garden. I am turning it over to the Secretary. Contact her if you want to view it.

Special thanks go to the ENC group for their \$500 donation to be used to defray the publication costs of the Culture issue of Newscast. This is a down-the-line project which has already been approved by the Region 4 Board and for which funds have already been budgeted. I encourage other chapters to follow the lead of ENC in supporting this worthy endeavor.

I plan to attend the Fall AIS Board Meeting in Austin, TX.

Roy Epperson moved, Carol Warner seconded that Region 4 donate \$100.00 in honor of Rich Randall, our outstanding Membership Chairman, to the AIS unrestricted fund. The motion carried. The Eastern North Carolina Iris Society made a contribution of \$500.00 to the region for the preparation and publication of the culture issue of Newscast.

### **Acting Asst. RVP - Libby Dufresne**

We must thank Eastern North Carolina for hosting the Spring '97 meeting and for Alleghany Highlands for this meeting in the Fall '97. Eastern N. C. has hosted two Spring Regionals within 5 years and have volunteered for the Fall meeting in 2000; and Alleghany Highlands has hosted two Fall Regionals within 2 years!

What an example both of these groups have set for all of us! I have been able to add three more regional meetings to our schedule since Spring '97 but we are still not current since we should schedule three years in advance.

The following meetings have been scheduled for coming years:

Spring 98 - FSK	Spring 2000 - Tidewater
Fall 98 - Charlotte	Fall 2000 - Eastern N. C
Spring 99 - C&P	Spring 2001 - Open
Fall 99 - Fredericksburg Area	Spring 2002 - PCSIS

You may notice in the above list that no chapter has volunteered to host the Spring 2001 Regional meeting. This is a disappointment to me and may also be to all of you if no meeting is held. These Regional meetings are important, not only to see other iris gardens or to see iris on the show bench, but also for the opportunity to participate in Judges Training. This is very valuable information you need whether you expect to become a judge or not and the Regional meeting is the place to get it.

At the present time we have 13 Affiliates in Region 4. If each Affiliate took a regular turn hosting their turn would one come up once every 6 ½ years. Surely we can manage that! We need, immediately, host for Spring 2001 - this is to give the Affiliate time to appoint Chairmen and to request guest iris for the gardens. You can volunteer by contacting me at the Alleghany Highlands Fall meeting, call me at 301-769-3304 or write to Libby Dufresne, P.O. Box 85, Chaptico, MD. 20621.

**Secretary** - Susan Grigg - No report.

**Immediate Past President** - Roy Epperson

On January 1, 1998 Lloyd Zurbrigg will celebrate his 50th Anniversary as a member of AIS. Dr. Epperson was asked to arrange an appropriate gift to mark the occasion.

**Treasurer** - J. Owings Rebert - See page 20

**Parliamentarian** - Rosalie Figge

Rosalie attended as Maryland state delegate the National Meeting of Parliamentarians in San Diego in September, 1997.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Auctions** - Clarence Mahan

Thanks to Dennis Pearson for conducting the Spring Auction. Bring plenty of irises and other interesting plants to the Fall Auction.

### **Beardless and Species** - Carol Warner

1997 has been a less than perfect year for beardless irises. There were no section conventions and the lateness of the bloom season in Michigan made it almost impossible to see siberians in bloom. A Japanese Iris Symposium at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Ontario promises to be very enjoyable.

Locally, siberians especially struggled through the unpredictable winter weave, and then suffered in an extended drought. The bloom on established clumps was irregular and spotty. For the first time in my experience growing beardless, I had extensive plant loss. Plants have been under such stress that the foliage on established clumps is sprawled on the ground and the wonderful landscape quality of beardless is compromised.

The joy of gardening is the promise of a better season next year.

### **Budget** - Jack Loving

#### **Proposed 1998 Budget for Region 4**

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
Printing of (2) issues of NEWSCAST	\$3200
Mailing NEWSCAST	600
RVP Travel	600
Membership Committee	500
Memorials	300
Misc expenses (Treasurer, Show Awards)	140
	<u>\$5340</u>
Special Issue of NEWSCAST*	2500
	<u>\$7840</u>

\* This will be a one time edition covering culture of Iris in Region 4. It is expected that a time frame of at least two years will be needed to collect and publish this information.

Dennis Stoneburner moved, Bill Smoot seconded the approval of the budget for 1998. The motion was approved. The RVP reminded the Budget Committee that an internal audit of the books was due in Spring, 1998.

## **Historian - Margaret Stone**

When we were at the Region 4 Fall Regional Meeting in Suffolk, Virginia, I pleaded with the societies for more articles for the Region's Historical files. I emphasized the importance for our Region to keep records of all the good work that the societies do, so that this information will not be lost.

As the old say goes: "Ask and ye shall receive." I have received volumes of reports from our societies. I want to take this opportunity to thank each society for their response. This looks like a banner year for our Historical files.

## **Judges and Judges Training - Roy Epperson See page 21**

## **Median Irises - Dick Sparling**

Pretty poor year, Median wise and of course it was all weather related but wait until next year. If this year's growth is any indication watch out. Even some of my MTBs, which have taken a beating for two years, are showing some rebound. But it takes a reasonable winter and spring to have a good bloom. Cross your fingers.

I had some excellent clumps of small Arilbreds and as a matter of fact the best clump of the whole year was ARIL REVERIE. Just a great show. Which brings me to do a little pushing of the Aril class. In spite of what you have heard Arilbreds do quite well in this area. These are a combination of Arils and some other form of bearded iris down to 1/8 Aril or three generations of cutting the pure Aril strain. While few Arils grow well here because of the excess water and humidity, the Arilbreds can put up with this Eastern climate. Much work with them has been done by Fred Gadd up in New England. Carl Boswell has done well in the class from the Bay Area of California as has Hooker Nichols in the Midwest. The basic background of Arils is Middle Eastern where they have a hot dry climate. But the introduction of regular bearded iris of European or North American background which have a wetter climate has done wonders for the Arils here in this area. It might behoove you to try a few. The sizes range from 4" to 40" or more. The Aril Society has no separate height classification but generally splits them at 28". One must look carefully to find the height and if not in the catalog one must go to the Registration and Classification books.



I have a good deal of trouble with those Arilbreds with 3/4 Aril. I found that the Arils are able to take as much water as the other iris get and thrive. So try a few. You might like them.

There is now a National Median Robin going. Bennett Jones is the Director. A Dwarf Robin has started as well. Get in touch with John Taylor, Editor of the DIS Newsletter or me.

### **Membership** - Rich Randall

Fourteen people (9 from C&P) participated in the Regional contest. The winners are:

Dennis Stoneburner - Blue Ridge

Ruth Holbrook - Charlotte

Elizabeth Mulchaney - C&P

Ruth Walker - Fredericksburg

Bea Rogers - PCSIS

### **Photography** - Dennis Stoneburner

Since the Spring Meeting, only 1 person has requested slides. No one has sent any new introductions, or Beardless slides. We need to stay current.

I want to thank Mike Lowe for providing photos of Katharine Steele and Carol Warner, Region 4's Medal winners, for NEWSCAST.

**Publicity, Public Relations** - Open No report.

**Reblooming Irises** - Open No report.

**Robins** - Libby Cross

The Regional robins are almost non-existent at this time. Our Median robin, "The Short Ones," is flourishing, but on a national level. It is being directed by Bennett Jones, who is sure to be bringing lots of interesting news to it. It is currently carrying MDB members, as well, as Median, but The Dwarf Iris Society now has a new, eager robin director who will be providing a dwarf robin for them,

Our other robin, "The Wild Ones", for beardless and species iris, has disappeared over the summer. It is being searched for, but so far no news. This is particularly upsetting, because this is the robin that always sent copies of the letters to the director, even before it became a general rule. for all robins.

I'm afraid the convenience of e-mail has undermined the robin traffic all around, but has been especially hard on regional robins. Our region, and Region 21 are the only ones with any strictly regional robins.

And of course the e-mail robins, by their very nature are international robins. In fact, I am beginning to question the value of "strictly regional" robins, and would welcome opinions from all, as to whether we should push for more of them, or let them die a natural death, in the name of progress.

There will be a new Hybridizing Robin starting soon in honor of Dr. Nearpass. If Region 4 members would like to join it please let Don Spoon or me know.

#### **Youth - Dennis Pearson**

Four new youth members have been added this year for a total of 14. The project for the year was an excursion to Love Star lakes to plant Louisiana iris donated by Rich Randall, and have fun. The winner of the photo contest was Matthew Pearson. Two newsletters "The Stalker" were published.

#### **Memorial Fund Ad Hoc Committee - Sara Marley.**

After discussion action on this report was postponed until the 7:00 p.m. meeting. Roy Epperson moved, Rosalie Figge seconded that \$250.00 be sent to the AIS Scholarship Fund in memory of B. J. and Frances Brown and that \$100.00 be sent to the AIS Scientific Committee Fund in memory of Dr. D. C. Nearpass, the motion carried.

#### **Regional Advertising Committee Report- Dennis Stoneburner**

The Ad Hoc Committee feels that this type of advertising is not feasible for Newscast at this time.

#### **Newscast Editor - Dennis Stoneburner**

Another year of publishing NEWSCAST has concluded. The current issue was smaller in size and number of copies printed. Since there was a large number of Spring issues left over, I printed fewer copies of the Fall issue. New members will receive Spring 97 NEWSCAST instead of Fall 97. Smaller in size was due to articles not received that were promised. Right now, I expect the Spring issue to be small also. If you don't contribute, there is nothing to print.

There were 665 copies of the Fall issue printed, with 663 mailed. The mailing service fee will increase by \$20.00 next year. This is still cheaper than processing time and a postal permit.

This past year has been a difficult one for me, with increased job responsibilities, sickness, and reevaluating my priorities. Right now I am trying to balance my life between my family, my job, my church and the Iris Society. After much thought, I have decided that I can no longer edit NEWSCAST. The Fall issue 1998 will be my last issue to edit. I have enjoyed editing NEWSCAST, but the time has come for someone else to step to the plate. I will help anyway I can to find a new editor. This person will come during the same time of a new RVP. This is an important time for Region 4, and I am confident we will rise to the task at hand. I want to thank everyone for their encouragement.

### **Reports from Region 4 Affiliates**

Dr. Epperson moved that the agenda for this meeting be modified to reflect that reports of the Region Four affiliates were submitted in written form only in the interest of saving time. The reports will appear in their entirety in the next Newscast. Motion was seconded and passed.

### **Unfinished Business**

Motion to approve the change of our name to AIS Region Four, Inc. was made, seconded, and passed. This will be changed in our By-laws to finalize the incorporation process. Bill Kuykendall, our attorney of record, will be added to the standing committee list.

Roy Epperson, Dennis Stoneburner, and Rosalie Figge will complete the Region Four Operations Manual including policies, procedures, and updated By-laws.

Clarence Mahan moved, Rosalie Figge seconded the use of an engraved Jefferson cup for the B. Y. Morrison Award. Motion carried. It was clarified that this is a regional award.

If anyone has information on iris culture, send it to Dennis Stoneburner. This information will be compiled for the special issue of Newscast on regional iris culture.

The approved Regional Logo is available in a size suitable for stationery. There are no funds available from the Region for providing stationery, but anyone may use the logo and provide the stationery for affiliate use.

## **New Business**

RVP Lowe asked for approval of Lloyd Zurbrigg as Reblooming Iris Chairman. Motion was made, seconded and passed.

The RVP asked for approval to delete the Publicity/Public Relations Committee. This function is being carried out at the local society level. Motion was made, seconded and passed.

It was moved, seconded and passed to amend Section 3, Article 7 of the Region Four By-laws to say "standing committees may be created and deleted as needed." RVP Lowe suggested that the Budget Committee name be changed to Ways and Means. Motion was made, seconded and carried. Final vote on the By-laws changes will take place at the Spring '98 meeting.

After discussion a motion was made and seconded to authorize the RVP to relay to the AIS Board our request that the AIS Calendars for 1998 be available for purchase by May 1, 1998. Motion was passed.

Much concern was expressed over the performance of the current AIS Exhibition Chairman. Several societies had problems receiving show schedule approval and ribbons in a timely manner. The RVP will address this issue in a letter to AIS President Dave Niswonger.

Dennis Stoneburner moved, Roy Epperson seconded that the RVP be given \$200 toward expenses for the Fall AIS Board Meeting. Motion passed.

The following were elected to the Nominating Committee: Roy Epperson - NC, Carol Warner - MD, Clarence Mahan - VA, Margaret Stone - WVA, Libby Dufresne - DC. RVP Lowe appointed Clarence Mahan Chairman of the Committee.

After much discussion and offers of assistance from many members a popular vote showed clear support for Region 4 to host the 2003 AIS National Convention. The Board then voted to reaffirm the invitation. Clarence Mahan will serve as Chairman and Roy Epperson will serve as reserve/backup Chairman.

An invitation from FSK was extended for the 1998 Spring meeting in Towson, MD on May 22 and 23.

The meeting was suspended at 12:50 p.m. until 7:00 and is being presented now for your (dis) approval. It is recommended that:

1) A Memorial Fund should be instituted and used in memory of those individuals who have provided outstanding service to the Region. 2) A line item in the budget can be drawn from as needed. 3) It is suggested that memorials should not exceed \$100.00 per individual and be sent to the appropriate area of interest on the national level or a worthy project within Region 4's jurisdiction. Recommendations will be made by the Memorial Committee, which is comprised of three (3) appointed members.

NOTE: There have been three deaths this summer. Dr. D. C. Nearpass and Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Brown, all of whom contributed in many different ways to the Region.

This ends our report. Thank you.

Chairman: Sara Marley, VA.; with Barbara Alexander, N.C.; Betty Worrell, VA.; and Jack Loving, VA., Ex-Officio

The report was received and the Committee thanked for their diligent work.

On behalf of the Francis Scott Key Iris Society, Mary Brown invited all to attend the Spring Regional Meeting in Towson, MD on May 22-23.

The meeting was adjourned.



## JUDGES TRAINING SESSION

At the invitation of the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society, Mr. Clarence Mahan will give a Program on Species Irises". This presentation has been approved for 2 hours credit towards Judges Training and will be held at the Lee Hill Community Center, Fredericksburg, Virginia on Saturday, April 11, 1998 at 1:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited. For specific directions call Nina Cox 540-663-2655 or Lois Rose 540-582-5799.



Rosalie Figge was voted Judge Emeritus at the Fall Board Meeting of AIS. Congratulations Rosalie!!!!

# Treasurer's Report - Region IV - AIS

For Period July 1, 1997 - February 1, 1998

July 1, 1997 Balance \$10,128.48

## Receipts

### Donations:

Fredericksburg Area	\$1,000.00
*Dr. Epperson Iris Account	\$500.00
Carolina Mountains	\$ 75.00
Chesapeake & Potomac	\$850.00
Fall Auction	\$1,928.00
Newscast Subscriptions - Out of Region	\$10.00
Interest on account (7 months)	\$143.85

Total Receipts \$4,506.85

Complete Totals \$14,635.33

## Expenditures

Dunn-Rite Printing - Fall Newscast	\$1,114.19
Automated Mailing Service - Newscast Mailing and late mailing by editor	\$256.77
Anne Lowe - RVP Expenses - Office Travel - AIS Board Meeting	\$159.32
Libby Dufresne - Assist. RVP Morrison Award to Hal Stahly	\$200.00
Dennis Stoneburner - Logo Contest	\$30.77
Membership Contest	\$25.00
Margaret Stone	\$100.00
Elizabeth Mulchany	\$50.00
Ruth Holbrook	\$10.00
Bea Rogers	\$10.00
Ruth Walker	\$10.00
Dennis Stoneburner	\$10.00
Memorials: Dr. Nearpass - AIS Scientific Fund	\$100.00
B.J. & Frances Brown - AIS Scholarship Fund	\$250.00
Honor of Rich Randall - Membership Chairman AIS Unrestricted Fund	\$100.00
Rich Randall - Membership Expenses	\$97.78
J. Ownigs Rebert - Treasurer Expense 1997	\$25.30

Total Expenditures \$2,549.13

February 1, 1998 Balance \$12,086.20

Respectfully submitted,



J. Owings Rebert, Treasurer  
Region IV, AIS

# JUDGES AND JUDGES' TRAINING REPORT

*Dr. E. Roy Epperson*

For 1998, the following changes occurred in the Roster of Region 4 Accredited Judges: Apprentice advanced to Garden (2), New apprentices appointed (9), Transferred out of Region 4 (3), Master/Active to Master/Retired (1) Reinstated Garden (1), removed due to death (1), removed due to non-membership (2), advanced to Emertius (1).

For 1998, Region 4 will have the following Roster of Accredited Judges: 22 Accredited Garden, 6 Master/Active, 8 Master/Retired, 9 Apprentice, and 3 Emertius.

Of these 50 accredited judges, 30 are quota and 18 are non-quota.

## **1998 Roster of Judges. Region 4**

### *Accredited Garden*

Mrs. Pat Bowen  
Mr. Randell Bowen  
Mrs. Sandra S. Bryan  
Ms. Libby A. Cross  
Mr. S. Herman Dennis III  
Mrs. Joseph Dufresne  
Mr. Walter Hoover  
Dr. Bruce Hornstein  
Mr. M. B. Lowe (Mike)  
Mrs. M. B. Lowe (Anne)  
Mr. Clarence E. Mahan  
Ms. Sara H. Marley  
Mrs. Barbara O. Moeller  
Mr. Bill Mull  
Mrs. JaNiece Mull  
Mrs. Flossie Nelson  
Mrs. Caryll Randall  
Mr. Daniel Schlanger  
Mr. William C. Smoot  
Mr. Dennis Stoneburner  
Mrs. Frances Thrash  
Mrs. Ruth Walker

### *Apprentices*

Barbara Alexander  
David W. Bowen  
Janis Bryan  
Ruth Brown Holbrook  
Dennis Pearson  
Bea Rogers  
Dr. Donald Spoon  
Virginia Spoon  
Carrie Winter

### *Master/Active*

Dr. E. Roy Epperson  
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. Charles L. Hare  
Mrs. Fred M. Miller  
Mr. David G. Walsh

Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr.  
Mrs. Nancy Karriker  
Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.  
Mr. Dennis A. Wilkie

*Emeritus*

Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge  
Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg

Mr. F. G. Stephenson



**1997 FALL REGIONAL - LEWISBURG. WV**

*Mary Brown - FSK*

The 1997 Fall Regional was held in Lewisburg, West Virginia, October 3rd and 4th. We arrived Wednesday night so we would have a little time for sightseeing in Lewisburg before the meeting. The first official event was the Welcoming Banquet on Friday evening, so we had all day to browse in the shops and to see some of Lewisburg. It turned out to be a wonderful, relaxing Fall day, a good prelude to a very busy and interesting meeting. The Welcoming Banquet was followed by a session on Artistic Judging. The session was most informative, particularly the explanation and demonstration of how the point scale worked. We finally stumbled back to our rooms to grab a little sleep before the activities on Saturday.

Saturday's activities were to begin with a Show but unfortunately only a couple of people brought irises and the show had to be canceled. It was most unfortunate since some of the flowers were spectacular. The morning consisted of the Regional Board Meeting which was certainly not dull. A number of areas were addressed and a full report will be in the next Newscast but here are a few highlights:

- there is still a great deal of unhappiness about the AIS annual membership running on a calendar basis from January to ules and materials being returned in a timely fashion.

- Region 4 will host the 2003 AIS National Convention. It will be headquartered in Winchester, Virginia and Clarence Mahan will be Chairman. Roy Epperson will be his back-up and



co-chairman. I also discovered that the 2001 AIS National Convention, sponsored by Region 3, will be headquartered in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Three of our own FSK gardens (Roberts, Warner, & Hornstein) will be on the National tour. This means that FSK members have two chances to attend a National right in their own back yard!

After the Board Meeting we all grabbed a quick lunch before the second judges training session. This session was on Judging Basics and was led by Roy Epperson. And indeed he did get down to basics like the parts of the flower, heights of each class, etc. It all led to a very interactive and spirited discussion. It was one of the best judges training sessions I have ever attended. We all learned a great deal and had fun in the learning.

The final activities were the closing banquet followed by the auction. As always, the auction was full of wonderful bargains; I may get my purchases in the ground before it freezes!

All in all, it was a great two days. If there was any complaint it was that, with all the activities, there just didn't seem to be enough time to visit with friends.

(This is a reprint from the FSK Newsletter, Dec. 97.)



## **1997 AIS Membership Contest Affiliate Participates**

1st Place	<b>Chesapeake &amp; Potomac Iris Society</b>
2nd Place	Utah Iris Society
3rd Place	<b>Fredericksburg Iris Society</b>
4th Place	Susquehanna Iris Society
5th Place	<b>Francis Scott Key Iris Society</b>
6th Place	Iris Society of Southwest Michigan
7th Place	<b>Charlotte Iris Society</b>
8th Place	<b>Carolina Mountains Iris Society</b>
9th Place	<b>Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk Iris Society</b>
10th Place	<b>Blue Ridge Iris Society</b>

This list is pretty impressive - Keep up the great work Region 4!!

# 1997 Fall Show - Lewisburg WV

*Dennis Stoneburner*

Everyone looks forward to participating in an iris show, especially during the Fall Regional Meeting. Great care is taken to protect the stalks from freeze, transport damage, and other such perils. Then there is the stalk that won't open, so you use tricks like hair dryers, and heating lamps in the motel rooms, not to mention the warm water technique. What a relief when they are finally on the show table and you can relax and enjoy breakfast.

One major problem to rebloomers is dry weather. This past year was a doozy, and the show was cancelled due to lack of stalks and exhibitors. Everyone was disappointed, BUT...Ed and Gina Castillo provided a great deal of enjoyment with the stalks they brought. People gathered around and, with mouths wide open in amazement, let their eyes feast on 4 beautiful stalks: ZURICH, Byers '90, a beautiful ruffled white with a white beard tipped yellow; CLARENCE, Zurbrigg '91, (which was named after our own Clarence Mahan) standards of white, tinted violet at the top, falls of light blue violet with a white center and hafts and cream beard; OCTOBER, Byers '89, standards of gold and falls of bronzy gold. Over the flower is tints of violet which makes this beauty stand out; and SUMMER HOLIDAYS, Zurbrigg '79, blue-violet self with a pale yellow beard. These were not wimpy stalks either, and the flowers were many and large.

Several people inquired as to their secret, and it turned out that he had two things going for him. One, these were recent plantings; and two, plenty of water! Makes sense, water during a drought!!! I believe he said he was on well water which makes sense, since treated city water can cause problems if used too much. Some people have such large reblooming beds that watering can be time consuming and expensive.

There were other stalks that could have been used for the show, but all were in the shadow of Ed and Gina's. Such beauty!!!! Good job Ed and Gina. Hopefully this fall will be gracious to us and in Charlotte. There should be plenty of beauty for the eyes to behold.



Do **YOU** grow Rebloomers? Why not!

Marge Bosen, Registrar  
3819 Springhill Drive  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

For information Marge can be reached after 5 p.m. at 410-734-4324 or by Fax at 410-734-7723.

**Menu for Saturday's Banquet:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Boneless Chicken Breast                      \_\_\_\_\_ Maryland Crab Cakes                      \_\_\_\_\_ Sliced Sirloin of Beef  
Please check one selection. If nothing is checked we will automatically give you the beef entree.

**JUDGES TRAINING: EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!** Check if you are planning to attend.

\_\_\_\_\_ Exhibition Judging will be given on Friday, 8-10 PM by Sterling Innerst (Winner of the Dykes Medal in 1996 and the Hybridizers Medal in 1997).  
\_\_\_\_\_ Garden Judging will be given on Saturday in the Rebert garden by Anne & Mike Lowe.

**AUCTION:** I intend to bring irises or other plant material for the Auction. \_\_\_\_\_ yes                      \_\_\_\_\_ no  
My list is on a separate sheet of paper \_\_\_\_\_  
I will bring a list with me \_\_\_\_\_

**DON'T FORGET:** Bring your beautiful iris stalks for the flower show on Friday morning. They will be on display for 2 days!

The American Iris Society Region 4  
**1998 Spring Meeting**  
Hosted by The Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
May 22, 23, 1998

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
(Please print or type)

NAME (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Name tag preference: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Name tag preference: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (including area code): \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL REGISTRATION:** \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) @ \$ 80.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
After April 28, 1998 registration will be \$100. Registration closes May 5th.

**PARTIAL REGISTRATION:**

Friday Garden Tour \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) @ \$20.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) @ \$25.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Garden Tour \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) @ \$25.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) @ \$25.00/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send check (payable to Francis Scott Key Iris Society) and registration form to:

# The American Iris Society - Region 4

## 1998 Spring Meeting

Hosted by The Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
May 22, 23, 1998

### ATTENTION: IRIS LOVERS

Something special is coming — a region meeting with an international flavor. The Francis Scott Key Iris Society most cordially invites you to attend.

Our featured speaker will be the noted Australian hybridizer Barry Blyth. Barry has won the **Australian Dykes Medal** with his iris SOSTENIQUE. He was also the 1996 recipient of the **AIS Hybridizers Medal**. His long list of introductions has graced our catalogues and gardens for many years.

We have also been fortunate in obtaining outstanding Irisarians to present our Judge's Training. Sterling Innerst will do exhibition judging. Sterling won the 1996 **Dykes Medal** for BEFORE THE STORM and is the 1997 recipient of the **Hybridizers Medal**.

Anne and Mike Lowe will address garden judging. Anne, of course, is our esteemed **Region 4 Vice-President**. Mike is on the **Board of Directors of the American Iris Society**, and **Eastern Regional Director of the Reblooming Iris Society**. This dynamic duo are both highly regarded as judges, teachers and contributors to the Iris world.

As you can see we have an All-Star line-up for our meeting.

In addition to this roster of special speakers, there is much to anticipate. Our garden tours will visit five unique and acclaimed gardens. Our garden hosts will be Carol Warner, Bruce Hornstein, Rosalie Figge, Doris and Owings Rebert, and Joan and Ken Roberts. This will be a golden opportunity to see many of the newest introductions and seedlings. A delicious picnic lunch will await us in the lovely surroundings of the Roberts' garden.

The Iris Show at the Holiday Inn will remain on display for the duration of the Regional Meeting. There will be a Board meeting with everyone welcome (loads of laughs) and an auction with the funniest auctioneer in the Region presiding. There will be two banquets and the pleasures of togetherness with the warm and friendly Irisarians of Region 4.

We are expecting a record crowd to turn out to hear Barry Blyth and see slides of his garden in Australia. **Register early** and plan to bring lots of bloomstalks for the show. There will be much to see and enjoy. It should be a very exciting weekend for Iris lovers.

**LOCATION:** The Holiday Inn - Cromwell Bridge  
1100 Cromwell Bridge Road  
Towson, MD 21286  
**Telephone: 410-823-4410**

**ROOM RATE:** \$72 plus 13% tax for 1-4 guests per room per night.

When making your room reservation please mention that you are a member of the Iris Society attending the Spring Convention.

~ **Please make your hotel reservation as soon as possible** ~

**CHECK IN:** By special arrangement with the management, check-in may be any time after 9:30 AM on Friday.

**MEETING COST:** \$80 (Full Registration includes garden tours, 2 banquets and a picnic lunch)

See Registration form for Partial Registration.

### **DIRECTIONS TO THE HOLIDAY INN:**

#### **FROM THE EAST ON THE BALTIMORE BELTWAY** **(I-695)**

Use I-695 West towards Towson  
Take Exit 29 (Cromwell Bridge Road/Loch Raven Boulevard)  
Turn Right at the light at the end of the ramp onto Cromwell Bridge Road. Hotel in on the right.

#### **FROM THE WEST ON THE BALTIMORE BELTWAY** **(I-695)**

Use I-695 East towards Towson  
Take Exit 29A (Cromwell Bridge Road)  
Turn right at the stop sign at the end of the ramp onto Cromwell Bridge Rd. Hotel is on the right.

## SPRING REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

### **Friday, May 22, 1998**

9:30 - Noon	Registration and Check-in
10:00- Noon	Show entries received
<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</b>	
12:30 - 2:30	Show Judging
1:00 PM	Board Buses for Garden Tours
1:35 - 2:35	Warner Garden
3:20 - 4:20	Hornstein Garden
7 PM	Welcome Banquet (Buffet Style)
8:00 - 10:00	Exhibition training by Sterling Innerst

### **Saturday, May 23, 1998**

8:00 AM	Board Buses for Garden Tours
8:10 - 9:10	Figge Garden
9:40 - 11:40	Rebert Garden
	Garden Judging by Anne and Mike Lowe
12:10 - 2: 10	Roberts Garden
<b>Picnic Lunch</b>	
3:30 - 5:00	Board Meeting
6:00 PM	Closing Banquet
7:00 PM	Awards & Guest Speaker Barry Blyth
8:30 PM	Regional Auction



**W**hile we're on the subject of Regional Meetings - Don't forget the Fall Regional and Show in Charlotte NC on October 9-10th 1998. This should be a slam-bang event! See you there.

## Barry Francis Blyth

**B**arry Blyth was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia, and received his Diploma of Horticulture from Burnley Horticultural College. In 1961 he went to England and spent two years working in nurseries there (John Waterer Son & Crisp, and Hilliers at Winchester). He returned to Australia and went into partnership with his parents growing irises, lupines and dahlias. (His family also had a perennial and alpine nursery in England, Prichards at Mudeford in Christchurch, where they grew many irises, particularly siberians. It closed in 1966.) His maternal grandfather, Russell Prichard, came to Australia prior to World War I and began an alpine and perennial nursery. His parents began their own nursery in 1939, so Barry is the fourth generation in the nursery business.

He married Lesley, whom he met in England in 1965, and they have three children. Pan, Timothy and Heidi. Upon his parent's retirement, he and Lesley continued the iris business, calling it Tempo Two. They moved to their present location eleven years ago. He and Lesley are divorced, but are still business partners and good friends, and make their full time living from growing and selling irises.

Barry began crossing irises as a child of seven or eight, and started his present intensive breeding program in 1963 on his return from England. His main goal was to raise a pink amoena, and over thirty years it has not appeared. He cannot complain though, with all the lovely colors and combinations that have appeared in his search for the elusive Pink Amoena. On the average, he flowers five thousand seedlings per year, though some years it has gone to fifteen thousand. This usually consists of a thousand Dwarfs and Medians and the rest TBs, with a few hundred Spurias every other year. Their family would have registered over four hundred varieties of irises over the past forty years. All of their children have made many iris crosses. Lesley also makes a few crosses most years, though she is more interested in the Hosta collection they are getting together.

Barry is probably the most well-known of our "International" hybridizers to AIS members. He has been sending his irises to AIS conventions since the early seventies, and his CABARET ROYALE garnered a lot of attention at the 1977 convention in Memphis. In 1986 he was awarded the Australian Dykes Medal for his tall bearded SOSTENIQUE. He has also won a number of international awards, at the Vienna median competition, the Munich IGA and at Florence he has gotten various awards, as high as the Silver Medal (second



place). From the AIS he has won Awards of Merit for his TBs GALLANT ROGUE and TOMORROW'S CHILD and HMs for IN TOWN and WITCH'S WAND.

The three Blyth children have taken over the wholesale side of the business, purchasing ten acres next door to Tempo Two, and they are called Tempo Three. So the fifth generation carries on.

*(Reprinted bulletin of the American Iris Society, July 1997.)*



## Unique features for Iris Shows

*Carrie Winter CIS*

**W**hile iris shows are always wonderful, presenting a rainbow of color across the tables, the Charlotte Iris Society (CIS) has incorporated a feature into the show that assures even more color. We add a Section B under Tall Bearded designated as Tall Bearded Single Bloom with no stalk. The section is to encourage the inclusion of blooms especially new introductions, when the grower may not wish to cut the whole stalk. The practice means that often blooms will be included in the section that would not otherwise be seen in the show. The uniformity of height of the blooms does indeed create a glorious tapestry of color. Ribbons are given for each cultivar as in other sections, but the winner of Best of Section is not eligible for consideration of Best in Show. No one seems to remember when the section was added to the show schedule, but it is always a popular section.

Another feature of the CIS show is to provide a crystal vase or piece of similar value to each Section winner, with a more substantial piece presented to the Best in Show winner. We also have a traveling award (silver wine cooler) which is engraved with Best of Show cultivar and grower's name each year. The crystal awards are generally purchased with contributions from members given in memory of or in honor of special friends. Ribbons are nice, but our chow entrants seem to enjoy the opportunity to win crystal as well. Our budget for crystal awards is \$10.00 per award and by watching for special sales throughout the year we can provide attractive pieces of crystal for awards. Cards are included with each award identifying the donor and the person honored or remembered by the award. In addition, one of our members provides a crystal platter to the winner of Best in Design.

Each of these features seem to add a special quality to our show that our participants appreciate.

## RICHARD RANDALL IRIS LOVER, IRIS FRIEND TO EVERYONE

**R**ich Randall had a love affair with the flower iris from the first moment he laid eyes on the flower. Rich was a sailor on leave in a foreign land. And like most sailors was seeing the sights, when he came, by accident, upon a flower that would change the focus of his free time for the rest of his life. It was Florence, Italy in the late 70's. The rainbow of colors, the beauty of the flower, everything about Iris was enchanting to Rich. For a boy from the Bronx the Iris was a sight to behold.

Rich was a 24 year navy man. He retired in 1986 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer. As soon as he was on shore duty he started growing and learning more about the exquisite flower he had seen in Florence. Somehow, he managed to attend a couple of spring regional conventions and got completely hooked not only on Iris but on the Society. By the time he had retired he was growing tall bearded beauties.

Early in 1986 Rich had a meeting at his home with people mostly from Williamsburg and they founded the Tidewater Iris Society. (It is my understanding that a number of years prior to this there had been a very active society in the area.) Most of the original members of TIS lived in Williamsburg and that was where they held most of their meetings. As the year progressed more and more people from the Virginia Beach/Norfolk area joined TIS. The following year TIS and Williamsburg became two separate societies. Rich was the first President of the original chapter and then became the first President of the present Tidewater chapter.

Rich believed in the Regional and National Society. He along with his wife Caryll became AIS judges & Lifetime Member of AIS as well as members of the other sections. Rich held the regional post of membership chairman for a number of years. He was committed to membership and kept everyone updated and on their toes when it came to membership. Rich was also involved in changing our Membership Contest to the present system which he believed to be fairer for all chapters. One of his final wishes was that the members who had not joined AIS in 1998 would renew their membership.

Shortly, after starting to grow TB's, because of Caryll, Rich became interested in Siberian Iris. Then his true love came into his love—

Japanese Iris. He joined SJI and went to every National SJI convention after becoming a member. Rich loved to visit gardens and each year would make a long trip to visit Japanese gardens, one year to New England, the next year to the mid-west, then to eastern gardens and on and on. Rich was the SJI display garden chairman and loved every minute of it.

Interestingly enough even though Japanese Irises were his true love, Louisiana Iris grew the best for Rich. He attended a Louisiana Convention and found a new place in his heart for them. Spurias were a challenge to him. Rich really enjoyed Spuria Iris but never was successful in growing them.

Rich started the Portsmouth, Chesapeake & Suffolk Iris Society. Again he was their first president. He also founded the Central Virginia Chapter. Rich felt that one of the most important things all chapters should do, was to hold shows or at least expos' every year so the public would be exposed to all types of irises. To the end he was active in both local societies and made it a point to enter iris in all shows. The last show he entered was the TIS 1997 Japanese Show.

Thanks to Rich TIS has put on a Japanese show for the past several years. He built black Japanese tables to display the iris on so that they would be low enough for the public to see the beauty of the tall Japanese Iris. Rich was known for his woodworking skills and not only made the Japanese tables, but also the wooden containers we use to display our iris in the shows. For the National Convention held in Washington D.C. in 1991 he made the containers for the center pieces for all the tables at the banquet. Rich also made wooden trivets which were given to all the people who attended the convention. Rich was known in Region 4 as the "Cookie Monster" (inside joke, you needed to in Region 4 in 1991 to understand) during the National Convention.

Rich was always willing to come to see your garden, talk to you about iris, give a speech to any group and/or invite you to his garden. Every year he sent written invitations to the garden clubs in the area to come and visit his iris. Rich judged and spoke both here in Region 4 as well as outside the Region. His devotion to AIS and SJI are well known to everyone who has had the privilege of knowing him. When he went to Germany a few years back to visit family, he & Caryll made a side trip to Belgium where he visited a pen pal who he had known from the Iris Society and has kept in contact with for years.

Rich was completely sold on the value of Iris Societies, local, regional and national. The only regional he ever missed after becoming a member was last spring (1997 at High Point, NC) when he was coming out of the first of his many trips to the hospital for Chemo treatments. If he could have gone he would have been there. He also missed the National that year in Deerborn, MI which was a first, after attending for many years. Many national iris lovers were concerned by his absence and missed him.

The illness that finally took Rich from us began a year ago in February. After numerous tests, in May it was discovered that he had the big "C" cancer, it had widely spread throughout his body. From that point on until Feb 14<sup>th</sup> of this year it has been a fight every day. Hospital visits, hospital stays, doctor visits, more and different specialist, tried and true methods, experimental methods and on and on it went. Some days he didn't look or feel so good, but at the end he looked like Rich and acted like Rich. After missing the Spring Convention Rich looked forward to the Fall Convention in West Virginia and was thrilled that he was able to attend it and see so many old and good friends.

Rich entered the hospital on Thursday, Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, went into a coma on Friday and passed away Saturday at 3 a.m. the way that he would have wanted to go if he could have had his say. As was his wish he was cremated and his ashes were scattered at his cabin in Western Virginia.

The Iris Society lost a true friend with the passing of Rich. A person who devoted a great deal of time and effort to the growing and publicizing the cultivar IRIS. He introduced a great number of people to the beauty of iris. Rich was continually encouraging people to join the society and to enjoy growing iris. He will be missed not only in Tidewater, Va or in Region 4, but through the Iris Community.

Rich leaves behind his wife Caryll, who has served as Region 4 Secretary and was just re-elected Region 4 Secretary last fall. Caryll will remain in the area. He had two sons who live in Vermont, two stepdaughters and a stepson all married who live in Virginia Beach and three grandchildren. His mother and sister lives in Long Island. There will be a memorial mass for Rich in Long Island at a date to be announced later. Memorial donations may be made to AIS.

A personal note to Rich. We didn't always agree with you and we let you know it as you did with us. We always knew what you thought. Thanks for all the help, advice and most of all the encouragement

you gave not only to us but to everyone who had an interest in Iris. You will be missed and never forgotten. When we see the beauty of the Iris, no matter the season, you will be remembered.

Bill & JaNiece Mull - Norfolk, VA  
members of TIS, PCSI, Life AIS Member  
as well as almost every AIS division  
AIS Judge  
Thanks to you, Rich.



Rich Randall & Rosalie Figge discussing Membership ideas.



## **Thank you**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their cards, letters, phone calls, and prayers after Rich's death. Your love and support have made this time easier to handle.

Caryll Randall

# New Members

## Alleghany Highlands Iris Society

Carl High

Elkins WV 26241

## Blue Ridge Iris Society

Patricia L. Otterness

Lovingsston, VA 22949

Cecilia Wilson

Stuart, VA 24171

## Central Virginia Iris Society

Laura Anne Brooks

King William, VA 23086

Bruce Jones

Columbia, VA 23038

## Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society

Elsa Angell

Falls Church, VA 22042

James Benedict

Waldorf, MD 20602

Priscilla Brandon

Arlington, VA 22213

Jennifer Bunker

Alexandria, VA 22304

Charles & Marleen Caloia

Laurel, MD 20708

Smoot Carter

Winchester, VA 22603

Kelly Cleveland

Ashburn, VA 20147

Mary A. Cleveland

Alexandria, VA 22304

Carolyn Davis

Nokesville, VA 20181

Candy Erhard

Alexandria, VA 22304

Kathy Garbow

Rockville, MD 20853

Dru A. Gist

Alexandria, VA 22304

Doretta Grzasko

Rockville, MD 20850

Sandra Harding

Annandale, VA 22003

Heidi I. Hartmann

Washington, DC 20016

Deborah E.L. Jaquiss

Silver Springs, MD 20906

Harry McKittrick

Arlington, VA 22205

Mary Oursler

Dunkirk, MD 20754

Lenona Palatt

Sterling, VA 20164

Merrily A. Smith

Washington, DC 20003

Bettina Sparrone

Arlington, VA 22201

Patricia Summitt

Manassas, VA 20110

G.H. Turner

Fairfax, VA 22030

Edith P. Willis

Herndon, VA 22070

Alan Wright

Arlington, VA 22205

### **Eastern North Carolina Iris Society**

Roslyn Mitchell	Raleigh, NC 27612
Jane B. Pickard	Prospect Hill, NC 27314
E. Rogers	Pinehurst, NC 28374
Webster S. Spicher	Raleigh, NC 27606

### **Francis Scott Key Iris Society**

Gisele Booth	Baltimore, MD 21228
Dick & Adele Dahlberg	Manchester, MD 21102
Robin Mahaffey	Port Deposit, MD 21904
Marlene Pfarr	Phoenix, MD 21131
Dorothy N. Taylor	Darlington, MD 21034
Ket Warner	Whiteford, MD 21160

### **Fredericksburg Area Iris Society**

Ann P. Apperson	Fredericksburg, VA 22408
Lee B. Arruda	Fredericksburg, VA 22405
Mark Atkinson	Beverdam, VA 23015
Joyce Black-Coffey	Ruther Glen, VA 22546
Judith Boyle	Fredericksburg, VA 22408
Beverly Goodrich	Locust Grove, VA 22508
Teresa Hardisty	Fredericksburg, VA 22405
Valeria Haugen	Fredericksburg, VA 22405
Patricia D. Johnson	Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Sandra Jones	Fredericksburg, VA 22405
Roosevelt Lloyd	Stafford, VA 22554
Teri Marl	Fredericksburg, VA 22405
Jeff McDermott	Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Joyce McWhirt	Fredericksburg, VA 22408
Kathy Sampeck	Stafford, VA 22554
Mary F. Smith	Woodford, VA 22580
Cathy Snider	Fredericksburg, VA 22407
Barbara C. Terry	Woodford, VA 22580
Carla Wing	Fredericksburg, VA 22405
James W. Wright	Spotsylvania, VA 22553

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

James Murray	Suffolk, VA 23435
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The Symposium Ballot is coming!!!

## 1997 Youth Photo Essay

*Dennis Pearson - Youth Dir.*

The 1997 Fall Regional did not provide many “real” irises to view, but there were many excellent photographs to remind us of the flower’s beauty. Although participation was scant in this year’s photo contest, ( it was Region IV first photo contest attempt) those that participated enjoyed the experience. Photos were entered in all categories - “Iris and a Friend”, “The Iris”, and “The Iris Garden”.

Matthew Pearson, an eleven year old youth from Suffolk, Va., stole the show winning in all three categories, (partially attributed to limited participation). The following photos were awarded best in their category. “Robbie (neighbor’s labrador) eating a stolen iris stalk”, “Silverado with tree trunk backdrop”, and “Pond Reflections” (also winning best photograph of the 1997 Contest). A huge THANK YOU to Dennis Stoneburner for judging the display. He was kind enough to critique each photo contributing comments about composition, framing, color, and grooming improvement that would have enhanced the photo. He was great and we greatly appreciated his remarks. A very special thanks to Clarence Mahan for donating a collection of reblooming irises as the contest award.

The rules for YOUTH PHOTO 98 will soon be mailed. Chapters please support your youth by purchasing them a roll of film and being their mentor. I guarantee that a youth who photographs his garden will learn to love gardening and iris.

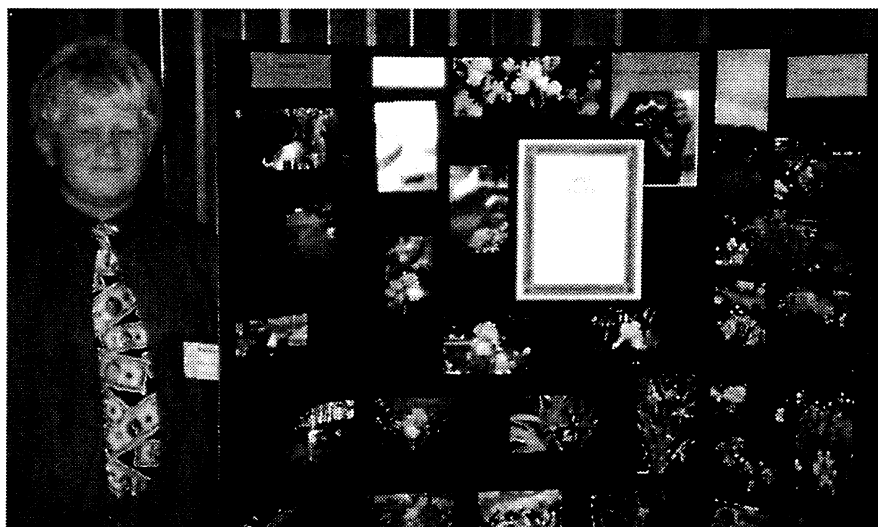


"The Iris Garden" - Best in Show





"Iris And a Friend"



Matthew Pearson and his award winning photo exhibit.

# How I got Started in Iris

by *Barbara Moeller, CIS*

**T**his Florida “Cracker” had never seen a real iris (except florist ones) until 1974 , when I inherited two clumps upon moving to Charlotte. When they bloomed, I thought “WOW!” And this was the old flag!!

A number of years passed - I became enamored of flower shows, Design Division (you know, you grow ‘em and I’ll show ‘em). Soon I was called to do a design for the Iris Show. I said I would. I noticed that everyone who entered a design received a rhizome! Mine was “Victoria Falls”! But I had to find out how to plant it. Also, those 2 clumps had grown, but I hadn’t done anything to them. They taught me how to divide a clump. So easy to grow! I grew them and they grew on me! Each year I entered a design (once I had Best Design of the Show!) and received a new iris!

Then they began to ask me to join. I resisted for awhile, but getting new iris to grow won me over. I really enjoy iris and the iris people. They are both great!

I especially enjoy visiting other member’s gardens. It is great fun to see the different iris, but, also, to see how they placed them in their landscape.

I have 2 major problems: 1. not much sun because we have many trees. I place iris where there’s sun. And still I want to grow herbs to season my organic foods. I’m thinking of planting more iris that can take some shade. 2. I cannot use chemical fertilizers, dusts or sprays. They make me ill. So...I hand weed, use organic supplements to help them grow, and hand pick the weeds and borers - ugh! (I had no borers until I bought an iris in a pot).

Soon I shall be a Garden Judge. I love learning more about irises.



## Eastern North Carolina Iris Society

### 1998 Officers

President: Glenn Grigg - 919-870-8345

Treasurer: Dr. E. Roy Epperson

Secretary: Spring Brooks

# Francis Scott Key Iris Society



## 1998 Officers

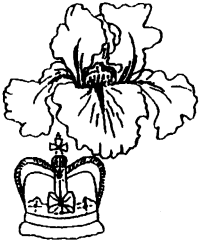
President - Mary Brown - 410-233-8069  
Vice President - Carol Warner - 410-374-4788  
R. Secretary - Sylvia Smith - 410-544-5313  
C. Secretary - Frank Marr - 410-235-9825  
Treasurer - Hal Herrmann - 410-252-1507  
Immediate Past President - J. Owings Rebert - 410-848-3781

## Calendar of Events - 1998

Mar. 6-8, 13-15: Maryland Home & Garden Show  
Mar. 28th: Spring Luncheon  
May 22nd: SPRING REGIONAL  
May 22nd: Spring Show  
June 20th: Beardless Show  
July 18th: Sale  
Sept. 20th: Picnic  
Oct. 24th: Fall Show & Luncheon

Our annual rhizome sale was a rousing success. We started at 8:00 am and by 1:00 pm had sold out of everything. We were able to raise \$3864.55. This is our only fund raiser and from this we are able to support our contributions to the Dundalk Community College Scholarship fund, to the Region, to help fund the Spring Regional and cover our operating cost.

The FSK Board voted to contribute \$1,200.00 this year to the Dundalk Community Scholarship fund for horticultural students. It will be named the Harp Memorial Scholarship in honor of Maynard & Rhetta Harp. The Harp's were founding members of FSK and were deeply committed to education. In this, our 35th year, it seems appropriate to name the scholarships in their memory.



# Charlotte Iris Society

## Officers for 1997-99

President: Carrie Winter - 704-542-3812  
1st Vice President: Dave Hall - 704-544-7346  
2nd Vice President: Ruth Holbrook - 704-596-1070  
Secretary: Barbara Alexander - 704-399-8512  
Treasurer: Elaine Smith - 704-544-9131

The organizational year for the Charlotte Iris Society (CIS) begins after our Spring Iris Show, which means that we start immediately planning for our summer rhizome sale. Thanks to a collection of rebloomers from Don and Ginny Spoon (given in honor of Don's mother, Lilla Spoon), iris from our members, including a very large number of rhizomes grown by Dave Hull in his neighbors garden, plus a group of recent introductions from Stockton Gardens, we netted approximately \$1,640.00.

The September meeting which launched our traditional Golden Anniversary year featured our traditional plant auction with a new twist....first we added a fixed price sale for multiples of perennials, but more importantly after 45 years of Tuesday covered dish luncheons we moved our meetings to Saturday mornings. Our attendance and profits from the auction increased almost threefold. The auction featured Japanese Iris from Draycott Gardens and a collection of rhizomes with emphasis on rebloomers from Pat and Randall Bowen, plus other perennials from our members.

November provided us with a preview of a new slide program on "The World of Iris" by Katharine Steele. Several garden clubs have requested the program plus the prestigious Charlotte Garden Club.

Our popular February Seminar will feature two sessions - the first one "Getting Started with Iris" by Ruth Holbrook and Dave Hull. Following this we will have a professionally produced video of Walter Hoover's garden in Saluda, N.C. and finally Walter will present a session on Japanese Iris that may be used for one hour of Judges Training. We are delighted that Walter is sharing his time and knowledge with us.

Our emphasis this year is on increasing rebloomers in the Charlotte area gardens in anticipation of our hosting the Region 4 Fall Meeting in '98. As we plan for the meeting for October 9-10, we hope that you are planning your visit to Charlotte.



## SLUGS--CONTROL

There are several management/control options for slugs. First and foremost is to remove their habitat. Avoid debris left in the garden that provides a hiding place. Encourage air movement. Using less mulch may not seem practical but will reduce the slug population. Some plants may be mulched that don't need mulching; a mature hosta plant will shade the ground and limit any weed competition.

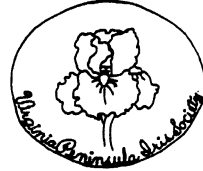
Some plants may appear less desirable to slugs. While many hostas seem to attract slugs like a magnet, many of the blue types and/or those with "waffled" leaves seem unaffected. Succulents, ivy, and ripening produce are also attractive food sources.

Certain mulch material tends to be less attractive to slugs. Cedar chips, pine needles and rinsed, crushed egg shells tend to repel slugs, either due to odor, resin and/or sharp edges. In fact, many hosta growers are reporting remarkable successes with pine needles applied two to three inches thick. Needles will not significantly disturb the soil pH.

Hand picking slugs and crushing them (or placing them in a jar or bag for disposal if you're squeamish) is another alternative, especially during the evening and early morning hours. Slugs can be trapped under boards or overturned flower pots and removed. Keep the traps in the garden several days before removing to allow slug populations to discover a new "hiding place."

(Taken from the Illinois Cooperative Extension Service Web Site.)

# Virginia Peninsula Iris Society



Summer '97 has been too dry and affected the iris growth in our area. Those of us dependent on home wells could not make up for the lack of water and others were restricted from watering gardens so iris foliage suffered from browning off more quickly than usual. Even so, it was a good digging season for sale supply

We held our iris sale at Patrick Henry Mall in September with good results for our treasury and additions to our membership.

President Betty Worrell offered to give any member, who cared to come and dig,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of what they dug, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to the sale.

In April we had a tour of members' gardens' which we hope to repeat in '98.

Region 4 Spring Convention dates conflicted with our annual show, and we were unable to obtain judges so this year it was an exhibition only. The public responded well and voted for their personal favorite iris on the show tables.

"The Iris Trivia Program" was not shown in June as planned, but we hope to show this at our October meeting.

Our annual picnic in August was held at Harwood Mills in Newport News, Va, a new place for us and a most delightful area. We had good member attendance and several visitors

Also in September, we received our order from Stockton iris Gardens. These were shared out among members to be raised for a future sale This is a new venture for us, so wish us good luck.

For November we have planned our luncheon to held at the Golden Corral, a new restaurant in Williamsburg. This will finish up our yearly meetings.

The "Diggin In" gardening column in Sunday's Daily Press continues to give us publicity. Thanks to the gardening columnist, Kathy Vonkellom.

Ed. Note:

In early January, Betty Worrell, President of Virginia Peninsula Iris Society suffered a heart attack. She is currently resting at home. Cards can be sent, and would be appreciated. Her address is on the back inside cover.

## 1998 Calendar of Events - VPIS

March - Slide show/video Topic to be announced.

April - "What Makes an Award Winning Iris" by Mike & Anne  
Lowe.

May - Two events: May 2nd - Garden tours of members gardens  
May 9th - Annual Show - Outlet Mall.

June - "Container Gardening", by Jim & Nelda Pressly.

August - Picnic

October - Speaker - TBA

November - Luncheon.



# Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society



## 1998 Officers

President: Ginny Spoon - 540-888-4447

Vice President: Brian Lazarus - 410-721-0631

Secretary: Nancy Reed - 540-635-5074

Treasurer: Eleanor Fischer - 202-526-2447

## 1998 Calendar of Events

- March 28th: Board meeting - Marley's  
April 25th: Behnke's - Median Show, English Boxes 8:30-4:30  
May 2nd: Wildflower tour & picnic  
May 16th: Spring Show - Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks  
June 20th: Beardless Show - Brookside Gardens, Wheaton,  
MD. 8:30-5 pm.  
July 11th: Bearded Sale & Auction - Falls Church Center  
Aug. 16th: Picnic - Marley's. Plant exchange & meeting  
Sept. 12th: Beardless Sale - Greensprings Park, Annandale,  
VA. 10-4pm.  
Oct. 17th: Behnke's Fall Reblooming Show - 8:30-4:30pm  
Nov. 8th: Judges Training on Siberians - 2-4pm  
Nov. 20th: Board meeting - Marley's  
Dec. 6th: Iris Art & Photography



# Fredericksburg Area Iris Society

## 1998 Officers

President: Sharon Lipiec - 540-972-2507  
Vice President: Lois Rose - 540-582-5799  
Secretary: Julie Finn - 540-373-9315  
Treasurer: Ted Caldwell - 540-373-1202

## 1998 Calendar of Events

Apr. 11th - Program on Species Irises by Clarence Mahan  
May 2nd - Garden tour (medians)  
May 16th - Annual Flower Show  
Jul. 25th - Annual Sale - Roxbury Mills  
Sept. 12th - Annual Picnic (Lois Rose's farm)  
Nov. 14th - Harvest Dinner

This past year has been a good one for the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society. Our new program director, Jim Schroetter, has put together a number of interesting programs and more members have been attending meetings. Our Spring Show, though small, was a success despite an early bloom season and a somewhat later show. Our sale this year was also a success, bringing in \$3,001.00, and a large number of new members. Because of this we have been able to contribute extra money for our scholarship at VPI. We are now looking forward to our Harvest Dinner and our new officers for the coming year.

The focus for 1998 will be on producing an informative newsletter. In this regard, I am excited to have Nina Cox as our new editor. She brings her past and present experience doing the same for the US Park Service. I am hoping the membership of FAIS will support and contribute non-technical articles, or tidbits of events.

Unfortunately, the FAIS membership appears to believe the sum total of our activities are the annual show and sale. Our public image is focused on TB's, though we have a good number into beardless. We will be promoting ALL types for all people.

Above is a listing of our activities for 1998. Please 'drop on by' and join in.

(Leslie Nelson, Past President and Sharon Lipiec, current President contributed to this report.)



# Carolina Mountains Iris Society

## 1998 Officers

President: Flossie Nelson - 704-692-7942  
Vice President: Leon Pace - 704-692-7518  
Secretary: Jeanne Grundies - 704-687-3565  
Treasurer: Flossie Nelson



## Calendar of Events - 1998

April 18th, Spring Meeting, Hendersonville Public Library.

May 16th, Annual Show, First Congregational Church,  
Hendersonville.

June 18 & 19, Japanese Iris Show, Opportunity House,  
Hendersonville.

August 8th, Iris Sale & Auction, First Congregational Church,  
Hendersonville.

November 1st, Fall meeting, Hendersonville Public Library.



# Tidewater Iris Society

## 1998 Officers

President: Bill Smoot - 757-393-4617  
Vice President: Frances Thrash - 757-481-3484  
R. Secretary: Becky Cook - 757-855-9646  
C. Secretary: Ginger McHale - 757-498-9419  
Treasurer: Terry Thrash - 757-481-3484



## Show Schedules:

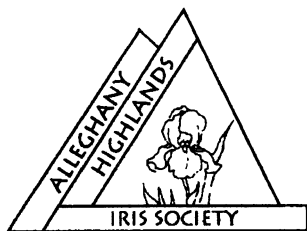
Bearded Show - Sat. May 2nd, 1998

Beardless Show - Sat. June 13th, 1998

Rebloomer Show - Sat. October 24th, 1998

You can enter iris from 8AM to 10AM. The judging will follow. The shows will be held at Pembroke Mall in Virginia Beach.

Our meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month starting at 2PM, and are held at the Fred Huttee Center, 1000 Boutetourt Gardens, Norfolk. We do not have meetings in May, July or December.



# Alleghany Highlands Iris Society

1997 Officers:

President: Margaret Stone - 304-647-4395  
Vice-President: Paul F. Jones - 304-647-4395  
R. Secretary: Connie Siess - 304-645-3696  
C. Secretary: Patty Rothe - 304-645-3696  
Treasurer: Georgia C. Hayes - 304-645-2598  
Parliamentarian - Fred Rothe - 304-645-3696

What a great time 14 members of the AHIS had in High Point, NC in the spring, beautiful gardens and wonderful fellowship, as well as delicious meals.

Five members were in Dearborn, Michigan where unfortunately their season was late and iris bloom was scarce.

Gardens in our area were late but beautiful when we returned from Dearborn.

The Fall Iris Sale was great, thanks to Dennis Stoneburner who donated a truck load of iris which we sold in Covington, VA and the Lewisburg area.

Thanks to all who are here with us at The Brier Inn to attend the Fall Iris Convention. We are glad to have you and hope you enjoy your stay in the beautiful Greenbrier Valley (our opinion).

Our Christmas dinner will be held at the home of Margaret C. Stone and Paul F. Jones Saturday December 13th at 6 p.m.

Plans are being made by members to attend the spring meeting with the Francis Scott Key Iris Society and then on to Denver, CO.

1998 Activities:

May - Tour of Barry Glick's, and members gardens.

July 17th - Iris Sale in Covington

July 25th - Iris Sale in Lewisburg

December 12th - Covered dish dinner at the home of Margaret Stone and Paul Jones.

# Region 4 Commercial Listing

## DRAYCOTT GARDENS

Siberian and Japanese Irises

Carol Warner  
16815 Falls Road  
Upperco, MD 21155  
(410) 374-4788

Send \$1 for price list.



## NICHOLLS GARDENS



*Japanese  
Rebloomers  
Siberian - Species  
LA - Median - TB  
Hosta & Daylilies*

4724 Angus Dr, Gainesville, VA 20155  
HTTP://www.he.net/~ngardens  
Catalog \$1.00

## Winterberry Gardens



Don and Ginny Spoon  
1225 Reynolds Road  
Cross Junction, VA 22626  
(540) 888-4447  
e-mail VSpoon@aol.com

2800 varieties  
450 rebloomers

Introductions-TB's-medians  
moderns-classics-historics  
Send \$2 for descriptive lists  
or \$1 for rebloomer list only

## POWELL'S GARDENS

### The Different Place

Bearded & Beardless Irises  
Catalog available

Loleta Kenan Powell  
9468 U.S. Highway 70  
Princeton, NC 27569  
(919)936-4421



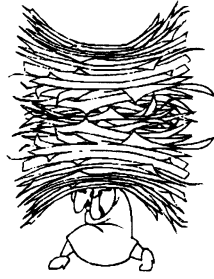
Editor late notes: Lois Rose from FAIS had knee surgery on March 3rd. Get well soon Lois!

## Friendship

Be courteous to all, but intimate with few, and let those few be well tried before you give them your confidence. True friendship is a plant of low growth, and must undergo and withstand the shocks of adversity before it is entitled to the appellation.

*George Washington*

## The Last Word.....



I'm sitting here having the strangest daydreams about water irises....OH now I know why, I have water flowing into my basement! All these February rains are doing a number on the local water sheds. I hope a little of this moisture will be around in July. People say El Nino' is the cause....well I am no expert, but whatever it is...PLEASE STOP ALREADY!

Speaking of expert, region 4 is now in need of a new editor for NEWSCAST. The Fall issue will be my last. You don't have to be an expert to edit - I wasn't and am not now! All you need is a way to edit (computer or typewriter and scotch tape) and a firm, but tactful way to let people know when the deadline is....and stick to it. It is important for a publication with timed information to be on time. Makes sense you say....but not always practiced.

I appreciate all the notes, calls and e-mails from members expressing appreciation and concern. As the picture above shows, I have been overloaded. I love to 'play with my computer' and be creative. Until God gives us more hours in a day, I'll just have to cut back and keep all my activities within a 24 hour day! I do appreciate Anne Lowe and the rest of the Region 4 Board for their cooperation in making NEWSCAST so successful. I wanted to make NEWSCAST educational and informative, while being cost-effective. I feel I have accomplished those goals.

Region 4 has an ambitious 6 year schedule planned, and will need plenty of hard working, dedicated people to complete this. I hope the local societies will do plenty of recruiting of new blood, since a lot of the 'old guard' is tired and not getting younger.

Finally, not much more can be said about Rich Randall and B.J. & Frances Brown. I enjoyed working with Rich, judging shows with him, and visiting with him and Caryll in their home. We would sometimes get into spirited discussions, but never lost our friendship over anything. B.J. & Frances were two tender, loving people who made the world around them seem all right. Their soft-spoken ways always commanded respect and attention. They are missed!

This brings to a close another issue of NEWSCAST. Enjoy the spring, or for that matter, everyday. We have no guarantee of tomorrow...so seize the day!

## REGION 4 AFFILIATES

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

**BLUE RIDGE IRIS SOCIETY** - Libby Cross  
8907 Potts Creek Rd. Covington, VA 24426 (540) 747-2123

**CAROLINA MOUNTAINS IRIS SOCIETY** - Flossie Nelson  
109 South Carolina Ave. Hendersonville, NC 28739. (704) 692-7942

**CENTRAL VIRGINIA IRIS SOCIETY** - Phyllis Soine  
2406 Riverside Dr. Richmond, VA 23225 (804) 233-3672

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

**CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY** - Ginny Spoon  
1225 Reynolds Road, Cross Junction, VA 22625 (540) 888-4447

**EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY** - Glenn Grigg  
105 Trotters Ridge Rd. Raleigh, NC 27614 (919) 870-8345

**EASTERN SHORE IRIS SOCIETY** - John Vincent  
Box 166, Oak Hall, VA 23416 (804) 824-5139

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

**FREDERICKSBURG AREA IRIS SOCIETY** - Sharon Lipiec  
9701 Colby Terr. Spotsylvania, VA 22553 (540) 972-2507

**PORTSMOUTH, CHESAPEAKE, SUFFOLK IRIS SOCIETY**  
Jan Bryant - 3600 Winborne Dr. Suffolk, VA 23435 (757) 686-1536

**TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY** - Bill Smoot  
213 Derby Rd. Portsmouth, VA 23702 (757) 393-4617

**VIRGINIA PENINSULA IRIS SOCIETY** - Betty Worrell  
172 Skimino Rd. Williamsburg, VA 23188 (757) 565-1970

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