



The Newscast

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Colin Campbell and “Corn Dance”

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NEWSCAST is the publication of Region 4, AIS

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

NEWSCAST is published 2 times a year.

NEWSCAST is free to AIS members in Region 4. Subscription rate for those not in Region 4 is \$5.00 per year. Checks made to Region 4, American Iris Society should be sent to the Region 4 Treasurer.

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



The Region 4 Vice President

Recently, I was pleasantly surprised to discover a collectible trove of iris catalogues in my filing cabinet. And glancing through them brought to mind many flowers and many friends who shared them with me over the years. In a *Cool-*

ley's Iris Catalogue I discovered a picture of "Truly Yours," and it brought to mind the first iris garden that I planted when Carolyn and I were enjoying the pleasures of home ownership for the first time in Lubbock, Texas. A colleague invited us to see his iris garden that spring and I was astounded, and, later in the summer, I was delighted when he offered to share rhizomes with me. I took home "Truly Yours," "Pacific Panorama" and a dozen others and there I was hooked on iris, and before long, hooked on the American Iris Society.

That came later. In the following spring, Carolyn and I set out one evening and found a neighbor, Barbara Benson, tending her garden. We admired "Stepping Out" and "Hidden Magic" and she promised rhizomes in the spring and invited me back on Sunday morning to take a lesson in hybridizing. Barbara introduced only three of her hundreds of hybrids, "Ocie Paton," "Certainly, Certainly"—a good rebloomer which and the more recent "Certain Bounty." I was amazed to discover that people really did create these gorgeous flowers, and set out to do it with a plan and a scientist's knowledge of plant genetics. Barbara guided me toward the South Plains Iris Society and the American Iris Society, and encouraged me to try my hand at hybridizing. I have been out there with a stamen in my hand ever since, and was pleased to discover that the greats of irisdom were willing to share their knowledge with a novice. I elected to join a robin devoted to "Space Age Iris" and it was directed by none other than Lloyd Zurbrigg. Other members included Monty Bowers and later, Jim Hedgecock and it was wonderful to have the wisdom of experts contributing to my own knowledge.

I miss the robins as did the late Libby Cross who once directed Robins in the region. These chain letters keep irisarians connected with one another across the miles, and provided us with the means to share knowledge and deepen the friendships we make at regional meetings and national ones. Such sharing seems to me to be one of the most important features of the organization, for that is what we do whenever we meet and whenever show or share our irises.

We are first and foremost a service organization. Our local affiliates serve the community by educating the public about the many species of iris and how to grow them through programs at society meetings, and for other organizations. We also familiarize the public with the beauty of iris and the rich variety of forms and colors that the genus places before us on the show bench and in our gardens. Our judges schools help all of us become familiar with many varieties of iris with which we are unfamiliar and

with the plant characteristics that make the flower desirable in the garden. I recall Roy Epperson's emphasis on bud count in the assessment of new iris varieties – like the handbook, Roy insisted that a good iris had at least seven buds. I wish that hybridizers would read the handbook and keep flowers with low bud count out of their catalogues, for too many arrive and produce five or six flowers at most. Our regional meetings also give us a chance to see the wonderful flowers that men and women in this region are producing: Don and Ginny Spoon, Mike Lockatell, Bryan Spoon, Jim Schroetter, J. D. Crump, and Anita Moran, have all brought forth spectacular flowers in the last few years. We need to do all we can to encourage the work of these individuals. I have made it a habit to send "Daughter of Stars" to friends across the country and will be sending "Courtney Rucker," "Tina Louise" and "Double Dare" when the clumps are larger. Friends here in Blacksburg have kept my supply of Griffin's "Romania, Romania" and Ginny's "Autumn Rose" limited. I think of this because one of the joys of the iris garden is the pleasure of sharing plants with others. And I have been out in the garden digging for friends today as I make room for new arrivals. And it is so wonderful to have friends in Region 4 who have found places for iris from my garden. I know they will one day pass them on.

I have been impressed with the spirit of kindness I have encountered in the Society for more than thirty years, and have appreciated the many acts of personal kindness that I have received. For example, Anita Moran, her sister, Virginia, and her friend Rose Kinnard, came to my rescue after I sprained my wrist at the national , getting me to see a physician. Such generosity marks my experience with irisarians everywhere.

Thus, when from time to time, I hear reports of discord in an affiliate caused by personality clashes, I am always saddened. An RVP can do little to calm hurt feelings, or curtail warring factions, but wish that all of us remember that "civility" should, as Carrie Winter observed in a recent conversation, should always characterize our meetings just as it hopefully does prevail in our personal lives. As an organization, the American Iris Society has so much to offer us all. I hope that members everywhere in Region 4 will extend a hand of friendship to any other person who shares their love of flowers.

Don Rude

RVP, Region 4

David Roger's BIG BUGS
Seen at the Santa Anna Botanical
Garden PCI Tour



FROM THE EDITOR

From the editor Summer 2012

Well it is nearly the end of summer and all my beds except for two have been completely redone. There are still too many in pots but between the heat and rain I am not comfortable putting them in the ground yet. I have spent this year traveling to regionals, and national meetings, visiting new and previously seen gardens and spending time with my sister, Virginia, who I have not spent significant time with since my mother's passing. The last time Ginny and I toured iris gardens was the 2003 convention hosted by Region 4. It was interesting trip. During the 2003 Convention Ginny was more interested in all the colors (everyone knows iris only come in purple). This time, hearing the various people talk about individual irises she began to ask questions. I love to impart the knowledge that was so generously given to me.

"Easy Being Green" (Richards 2009), eventually the President Cup winner, was hate at first sight for Ginny. So given the opportunity I asked her to show me her favorite iris, and there were tons to choose from and her choice was "Doctor Who" (G. Sutton 2010). Both are very nice iris but as I explained the point systems she could not deny that the President Cup went to the right iris since her only fault was she did not like the color.

As she looked at irises in this new light I am happy to report that by the end of the convention Ginny was the proud owner of 10 new irises. These she purchased in the gardens, won as bus prizes or used her raffle tickets to try and win.

The trip finale included a trip to Superstition Gardens which Ginny had never been to before. Rick was busy hybridizing among his arilbred seedling, he graciously allowed me to salivate over those same seedlings, after which Roger was our guide. I will write up my adventures for the next Newscast but there was so much to see on the 10,000 + mile trip. If you have never been to an AIS national convention it is a treat with lots to see and learn. If you like staying closer to home then please try going to a regional meeting for the same reason.



"Easy Being Green" President's Cup Winner



"Doctor Who"

The Garden of Colin Campbell: Youth Member Gone Wild

It is really a blessing to have youth members that are so excited about our favorite flower and Colin is truly an enthusiast. His home is nestled in the back country south of Winchester, Virginia, where we had our 2012 Spring Regional for Region 4 of the American Iris Society. I have been to many youth gardens around the country and parent relegate a small patch for a passing interest somewhere in the yard, well that is not what I saw at the Campbell's home. The front yard was an expanse of lawn with neatly integrated small plots



Colin's guinea fowl

each containing irises and many companion plants in a very pleasing effect, but that was the last I saw.

Parking in the rear drive, having a background in Agricultural sciences, my first attention was brought to the

guinea fowl, blues and whites, sitting atop their pen watching everything we did and, of course, giving us their opinions on everything. In the center was a pen with three sheep, one of which looked very pregnant (we later found out it was a false pregnancy, so sad),



The Sheep as interested in me as I was of them



Colin Campbell's hillside Garden

who also watched us as we meandered around the yard but our destination was clear.

On a slight incline, Colin's father built a garden of raised beds. This was not the best year for peak iris bloom and I know Colin was disappointed with the lack of bloom except for "Senorita Frog", but invading his garden were iris enthusiasts, hybridizers, and judges. There is always something to see. Most youth members play at hybridizing, from east coast to west coast those I have

talked to were into showing and the scientific portion of raising iris, and all of these are good and needed for the sharing of this flower to the public. Colin, however, has jumped into hybridizing with both feet. What he learned from Don and Ginny Spoon in one of the youth hybridizing clinic was taken to heart. Nearly all the spent stalks were filled with seed pods and as I read the crosses I could not help but be impressed.



"Senorita Frog"



Colin's Hybridizing Success

The Garden of Colin Campbell (cont.)



Strawberries, mmmmm

Not only did Colin take to hybridizing on his own, he taught the children in his area to hybridize as well and allowed them to use his garden for their efforts.

Walking towards the front of the property we were all stopping to admire the vegetable garden that involved the whole family. How special it was to taste fresh strawberries, sun warmed right off the vine with a taste that exploded in your mouth and made you want to stay picking for hours but there was so much to see. In his iris beds, Colin has included modern and historic iris, such as “Supreme Sultan” dwarfs and tall bearded. His collections of plants in smaller well groomed beds allowed us to imagine how beautiful it could be at peak bloom. But we did not have to imagine. In the house, Colin had put together a slide show that allowed us to see his garden and blooms. He did a fine job and his work was well appreciated by all those who attended.

This is one garden I plan to come back to in the future to see it at peak bloom. Colin fine job! You and your parents should be very proud.



From Colin Campbell, Region 4 C&P Reporter

For those of you who attended the 2012 Spring Regional, I would like to thank you for letting me be a tour garden, and for so many of you coming! More people came than I could have imagined, and everyone had a good time even though the only iris stalks in bloom were ‘Senorita Frog’ and ‘Supreme Sultan’. The same early bloom season that reduced the Tall

of region irises seen anywhere, in conjunction with voting the other ballots.

One very encouraging thing for me when I first joined A.I.S. was that C&P pays for first year youth memberships. This has been wonderful for recruiting new youth members, since some are interested in irises and horticulture, yet might not have paid for membership. The year of free membership gives them the opportunity to become passionate about iris and want to pay for membership the following year!

I have enjoyed how encouraging people have been to me within the Iris Society. I really like the interactions with members of various ages at Regionals and other events, and the things that I can learn from them! As a region we need more judges. One way to solve this would be for individual judges to host Judge’s Training classes on unique or special topics.

I implore you to vote on your symposium ballot this year. As a nation we are becoming lax about this. Dusky Challenger’s votes have plummeted from over 400 to under 200. This is partially due to A.I.S. membership dropping, but the less members we have, the more crucial each individual’s vote is. It is our duty to give our opinion, especially since we are in a somewhat less prominent region. It is sometimes discouraging to see iris varieties that grow poorly here on the ballot, and to see that our favorites are not even runners-up. If all, or a large majority of Region 4 members vote the Symposia this year, we can have a big impact on the results, so that the plants we love locally can attain a high position. There are a number of locally hybridized iris on the ballot this year, including iris that have never been on the ballot before. It doesn’t take very many people not voting for an iris for it to fall off the ballot. It also only takes a few votes to bring an iris into the top 100 or to raise its position. Here’s something that we can do to bring recognition to the hybrids that we think deserve reward. Vote on the Symposia this year!

Have a wonderful fall!

Best wishes for your rebloom season,

Colin Campbell, C&P



“Supreme Sultan”

Bearded Flowers at the regional made it so that there were TB, Median, Siberian, Louisiana, Japanese and Pseudata iris on exhibition, making for a unique show. The auction was still just as entertaining as in years past, even though Don Spoon was unable to attend. We all contributed and made for fun experience to be compared to the traditional Don and Ginny Spoon humor at our past auctions. Some bidders had to catch their rhizomes in mid air as they flew towards their seats. Many other amusing things happened, but would lose something in the retelling. But the highlight of the evening followed the purchase of an iris puzzle. When the happy owner was announced, she exclaimed, “Finally an iris that I don’t have to plant!”

I enjoy voting, so I was delighted to fill out the Nearpass, Alice Bouldin, and B.Y. Morrison ballots. On Saturday the runner ups for the awards were: (Nearpass) 1st: Alessandra’s Gift, 2nd: Sari’s Dance, (B. Y. Morrison) 1st: Magharee. Since these awards are restricted to what happens to be blooming on a certain day in certain gardens, maybe it would be a good idea to form other awards for favorite in region and out

Celtic Iris Garden Opens Its Gates

Nannette Morrison

Two brilliant blue and rosy-hued Bluebirds added interest, as well as they flitted busily about feeding three chicks, their house is along the outskirts of the Celtic Iris Garden in Charlottesville, Virginia. Their



actions added to the interest of the garden tour of irises and an Art Show on May twelfth. Feeding and sheltering the homeless people has become a

major issue, thus PACEM (People and Congregations in Ministry) was born. PACEM is a non-denominational group of 60 churches who feed, shelter, and care for our homeless people during the coldest months. So the official opening day of the Celtic Iris Garden hosted an Art Show in addition to taking rhizome orders. Percentages of all sold were donated to PACEM, and outright cash donations were also made.

Since this was my opening debut to the Irisarian population and being a new member of AIS and BIS, I hoped to present my garden well. Now known to many, winter virtually skipped over Virginia this past year. My concern was if there would be any irises remaining in bloom for the event, the Saturday before Mother's Day was my goal. Many thanks to S.I.G.N.A. (Species Iris Group of North America)! Some of their seed which I grew into small plants be-



came door (garden gate) prizes. They included *Iris tectorum*, *Iris pseudacorus*, some ensata and siberians as well. One "mystery client" arrived before dawn with his nifty scissors to snip off one gorgeous "Dusky Challenger". What a lead up to Mother's Day.



About 30 different tall bearded, historic, and /or medians displayed their bloom for that Saturday. "Oss" and "ahhs" were heard for the height and colors in "Supreme Sultan". "Look at those ruffles and color!" were exclaimed for "Decadence". Then multiple joyful remarks were made for "Gracchus" (Ware 1884), a yellow diploid with deep violet veins, showing an abundance of flowers. "...so much like an orchid!" remarked one avid garden visitor.



We are accepting flower orders until August 31st. Donations for the homeless are accepted until December 2012 and may be sent to Nannette Morrison, 1310 Lester Dr., Charlottesville, Virginia, 22901 and our website is **celticirisgardens.com**. The Celtic Iris Gardens hope to have various open garden days next

year. Who knows! Maybe one of our Celtic bagpipers will play in 2012.

A New Script for Rebloom

By Mike Lockatell, AIS Region 4 Reblooming Iris Chairman

A major surprise from the reblooming iris bed at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Ornamental Horticulture Department's display garden in Goochland County, VA awaited my arrival on Sunday afternoon, May 20th. I found a number of median and tall bearded rebloomers back in flower. Amazing!!

The college planting is a new effort to obtain a more representative sample of rebloom results in Region 4. Until this year, I used reporting from the Rose Garden in Northern VA as a check against data obtained from my remount plantings in Powhatan, VA. This baseline allowed me to highlight information received from other micro-climates in Region 4. The JSRCC plantings feature 53 varieties. I have also succeeded in placing bearded remounts in public display beds at Maymont Park in metro Richmond and the Williamsburg Botanical Garden in James City County, VA.



Purple Joy (Spoon 2007)



Midsummer Night's Dream (Baumunk 1999)

The Botanical Garden bed was installed in August 2011. Good spring bloom occurred on the median varieties and seedlings planted there. Half the size of the JSRCC display, only a handful of the tall bearded managed bloom-stalks. During my last maintenance visit there on May 12th, I discovered developing stalks on SDB "Purple Joy" (D. Spoon, 2007), IB "Midsummer Night's Dream" (Baumunk, 1999), and TB "Over & Over" (Innerst, 2000).

The Maymont Park rebloom planting features twenty-six tall bearded rebloomers. Peggy Singlemann, Maymont's Director of Horticulture reported five selections in bloom during April after being installed in February. Plants were growing in two quart pots prior to planting.

I donate my time and materials to maintain the Williamsburg Botanical Garden and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College plantings. Maymont Park is caring for the remounts there. As long as I am physically able and possess sufficient free time, I am confident any old or new bearded rebloom release can receive a fair evaluation in these public spaces stretched over two hardiness zones.

Another benefit for finally having some distinct public display areas is promoting rebloom's garden value to a larger audience. Surveys done last year indicate respondents are still largely unaware bearded irises can bloom twice in the same growing season. Seeing is believing. Real time or hands-on gardening experiences make a stronger argument for reblooming bearded iris in the home landscape. If current weather conditions remain in place, outstanding rebloom is possible this summer and fall.

The AIS National Convention was held in California this spring. It afforded Eastern rebloom breeders an opportunity to trial seedlings and named varieties for bloom performance in near perfect growing conditions. It was gratifying for my Kentucky colleague Betty Wilkerson and yours truly to receive mention for some of our remount children in the Winter and Spring editions of the Reblooming Iris Society's Rebloom Recorder.

A New Script for Rebloom (Cont.)

The Recorder's editor, Carole Buchheim had the meeting's master tour garden planting at Mystic Lake Garden. Carole had two years to monitor and evaluate potential remontants from around the US and Canada. Betty's TBs "Radiant Bliss" (Wilkerson, 2005) and "Serenity Returns" (Wilkerson, 2006) had photos featured on the front and inside front cover of the Winter issue. Likewise, my registered seedlings BB "Double Dare" (Lockatell, R.2009) and TB "Soda Fountain Shuffle", R.2009 received similar recognition.

Buchheim followed up the winter issue photos with a comprehensive article in the Recorder's Spring Edition. My late mentor and friend, Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg's last tall bearded rebloom introduction, "Gate of Heaven" (Zurbrigg, 2004) received praise. Wilkerson's TBs "Another Bridge" (2005), "Artistic Showoff" (2011), "Halloween Treasure" (2008), "Just Call Me" (2008) and "Star Gate" (2006) along with TB seedlings #814-02 Re and #1907-01 Re were highlighted.

Two Lockatell TB rebloom seedlings cited in Carole's story were # 20517 MB and #20229BB P&T. The former is a Moorish blue self with white tipped beards. A "Gate and Heaven" and "Daughter of Stars" (D. Spoon, 2001) child, its initial bloom was October 2009 during the Region 4 Fall Meeting in Richmond. The latter hopeful #20229BB P&T was seen in bud by Dr. Zurbrigg during a 2004 fall visit to my old garden in the Flatrock section of Powhatan County, VA. He missed seeing it in flower by a matter of days. Standards are a soft pink and falls are a beige-tan. Its performance in California was a pleasant surprise.

Finally, I received rebloom report from C&P youth member, Colin Campbell. He mentioned late October flowering on SDBs "Baby Blessed" (Zurbrigg, 1979) and "Senorita Frogg" (D. Spoon, 2002). TBs in bloom at the Campbell Garden last fall were "Earl of Essex" (Zurbrigg, 1980), "Spirit of Figi" (Zurbrigg, 1985) and "Mariposa Autumn" (Tasco, 1999). Rebloom advocates hope his growing success will lead to future breeding interest. He surely has time his side.

Radiant Bliss →
(Wilkerson, 2005)



Gate Of Heaven
(Zurbrigg 2004) ↓



Artistic Showoff →
(Wilkerson 2011)



Wilkerson Seedling
1907-01 ↓



Lockatell
Seedling →
20229BB P&T.



CVIS AFFILIATES REPORT

CVIS is composed of 43 members 15 of which are AIS members. Our November meeting consisted of our annual harvest dinner with members participating in a wonderful feast. At our January meeting Bill Blaylock and Jim Diggs gave a very informative program on iris culture and controlling iris diseases. Our March meeting program was presented by Anita Moran on grooming and staging irises in preparation of our upcoming May show.

On April 30 and May 1st CVIS participated in Strange's Garden Centers "Blooming Days", answering iris questions and distributing iris literature to the public.

Several CVIS members enjoyed having the opportunity to visit two gardens in the Fredericksburg area in late April. The gardens were those of Jack and Rosalie Loving, and of Lois Rose. It was a wonderful opportunity to see what varieties of irises were in bloom in the Fredericksburg area versus the Richmond area. On the last Sunday of April a second outing was planned to see gardens in the Central Virginia area. The FAIS affiliate had been invited to come along as CVIS guest and we were pleased to have Rosalie and Jack Loving and Lois Rose join us. Twenty-one guest and members joined together at Frieda Jerrell's home and enjoyed seeing her beautifully planned garden filled with irises, day lilies, and a large variety of other perennials. After leaving the Jerrell garden we proceeded a few miles down the road to Janie Lewis's garden. We not only enjoyed seeing the irises and other perennials in Janie's garden but were given the opportunity of having Janie and her daughter dig irises for anyone wanting to purchase them. She also had several varieties of red maples that were offered for sale. Two additional gardens had been tacked on the end of the tour and many of the members and guest proceeded with us to see Cameron Hall's noted historic iris garden in Petersburg, VA. The last stop on the tour was to the Rosini's garden in Powhatan, VA where a large number of modern and historic irises were in bloom.

Our second consecutive iris show was held at Henrico County's Tuckahoe Library on May 5th with 15 exhibitors and 84 cultivars. Queen of show was won by Wayne Bryant with the LA iris, Black Gamecock. This year's Show Committee Chairman has committed to put together the show again next year. Our May meeting was a spring picnic held at the Rosini's where everyone enjoyed the festivities until sundown.

Respectfully submitted by John Rosini, President CVIS

C&P President's Report, May 2012

C&P has enjoyed hosting the recent fall and spring Regional meetings in Winchester with over 45 members attending both meetings. We held our chapter board meeting in April at the home of Ray and Karen Jones who recently moved to Winchester. We have gotten quite a few new members in the Winchester area in the past several years, and so the focus of our board meeting centered around the possibility of forming a new chapter called the Shenandoah Iris Society. In past years, we have held our events in the Vienna, Virginia area to accommodate our members in the Washington, D.C. locations; however, participation from those members living in those areas has declined to the point where we feel that either they should either drive out closer to our location or elect officers and decide where to hold meetings. Both economy and traffic conditions have become a factor and driving two to three hours to a local meeting isn't something many of us want to attempt any longer.

We will wait until this fall to give our members time to make a decision on the matter. Meanwhile, we have contacted Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg as to the possibility of having our iris sale there this summer. Another location possibility would be Blandy State Arboretum in Boyce, Virginia.

Our new youth member, Colin Campbell has won the Ackerman essay contest this spring. Colin has also volunteered to be our Youth News reporter and report the youth activities to the Newscast editor, Anita Moran. Colin has also taught several young people how to hybridize irises in his garden and they have become AIS youth members. Great job Colin!

Don Spoon
President, C&P Iris Society

EASTERN NC IRIS SOCIETY REPORT – MAY 2012

Our year began with the February meeting showing the DVD from AIS, “New Iris Introductions”. We gained a new member at that meeting and members too notes on their favorite new irises.

Our Meetings are being held this year at the JC Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh. We hope this partnership will be a benefit to both of us. We have free publicity through the Arboretum website calendar and extra listings in the newspaper and the *Triangle Gardener* magazine.

In March we were fortunate to have Francis Thrash of Virginia Beach and Region 4, a certified National Garden Club teacher and judge, give our program on “Iris Arrangements for Exhibition”. Our club had an Artistic Division in our April show. We had only 43 horticultural entries and 5 artistic entries on April 28th for the show at the Arboretum, perhaps due to the very early season.

Our next meeting is June 10th at the Arboretum. We’ll have a demonstration showing how to dig and divide irises and prepare them for our sale, which will be Saturday, July 21st.

In August we’ll have the annual iris drawing and auction for club members and a program on “Reblooming Irises in Your Garden”. October 27th will be our Harvest Lunch, the last meeting of the year.

Susan Grigg
ENCIS President

FSK Affiliate Report Spring 2012

The Francis Scott Key Iris society began the year with a meeting at my house to solidify the 2012 meeting schedule and discuss our shows and sales for the year. Due to conflicts the FSK Spring show was canceled and Carol Warner headed the effort of having a table during the Federated Garden Club’s Spring takeover of the Shops At Kenilworth. On March 31st we had our spring meeting at the Butterburg Inn in Uniontown Maryland, where I gave a Power Point presentation on the newer introduction from various hybridizers not only from Region 4 but across the country and Barry Blyth Irises from Australia. Due to the early bloom this year we were unable to have the in garden training on Aril and I will attempt to have it next year. Our schedule for the rest of 2012 is as follows:

Beardless Show	June 23	at The Shops at Kenilworth
Iris Sale	July 14, 2012	Watson’s Garden Center, Towson, MD
Iris Sale	July 21, 2012	Dutch Plant Farm, Fredrick, MD
FSK Picnic	August 4, 2012	Dave Octavec
Fall Meeting	TBD	

Plans for the 2014 Spring Regional are progressing well and many of the beardless guest have bloomed in my garden.

Respectfully Submitted

Anita Moran

College Planting Sees Late Bloom

By Mike Lockatell

A mild winter had a major impact on remontant spring bloom in Central Virginia this year. As daytime temperatures hovered in the low eighties during mid-March, median rebloomers began flowering. My records show tall bearded remontants “Clarence” (Zurbrigg, 1991), “Gate of Heaven” (Zurbrigg, 2004) and “Radiant Bliss” (Wilkerson, 2005) had open flowers on April 2nd. “Echo Location” (Wilkerson, 2007), a butter yellow from



Clarence (Zurbrigg 1991)

Kentucky, was blooming in three locations during the same time span. Normal flowering for the class is early May. Incredible!!

As a rebloom breeder, it was a mad scramble to make planned cross pollinations and do necessary garden chores. Windows seemed to open and quickly close in a matter of days. Spring bloom for all median classes was easily three weeks ahead of schedule. Mid April however saw a sudden change in fortune. Daily low temperatures slipped to the low thirties for a few days with light to heavy frosts in many Central Virginia locales. Unlike the rebloom display beds at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, a mere five miles up the road in Goochland, VA, my remontant iris plantings at Cosby Farm in nearby Powhatan County escaped harm. Mother Nature can sure be fickle.

Cooler temperatures would prevail for April’s final weeks to slow down already accelerated flowering on the tall bearded. Blooms mercifully had a longer shelf life to make sought after crosses. Peak flowering at Cosby Farm was still early by at least fourteen days. Minimal garden tour bookings turned out to be a blessing in disguise.

Past reporting indicates micro-climates play an important role in rebloom performance. As future breeding searches for consistent late summer or early fall flowering, it is important to weigh reliability under numerous growing condi-

tions. Lois Rose from FAIS has worked with me to grow similar varieties in her Partlow, VA garden. Opportunities have recently materialized to establish public rebloom plantings west and east of metro Richmond. My hope is the new locations will continue to bring remontancy into clearer focus in AIS Region 4.

The reblooming bearded iris planting at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College resides in the Ornamental Horticulture Department’s public display garden. I planted thirty-six tall bearded and seventeen median rebloom varieties in June 2011 out of two quart pots. I used multiple pots in many cases to create attractive clumps for future visitation. All plants received the same amended soil backfill featuring calcitic lime, organic fertilizers and coarse grade builders sand. Some late fall flowering was seen on MTB “Trimmed Velvet” (D. Spoon, 2006) and “Baby Blessed” (Zurbrigg, 1970). Developing bloomstalks appeared on a few tall bearded in late December, but cold eventually destroyed any flowering possibilities.

Every median selection planted at JRSCC bloomed this spring. Tall bearded flowering however followed a different script. Many reliable rebloom varieties did not bloom or managed a single tiny bloomstalk. Mid April light frosts did not destroy bloom, but they left damaged and distorted flowers in their wake. Despite the setbacks, flowers persisted for visitors to see attending the Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners Spring Garden Fest on April 28th. Co-sponsored by the JRSCC Ornamental Horticulture Department, this event features gardening classes for master gardeners and the general public. Weather unfortunately did not cooperate as cold and rain prevented visitors from touring the garden at lunchtime.

College Planting Sees Late Bloom (Cont.)

I maintain the plantings at the College. My goal is to weed, groom and spray plants on a two to three week rotation plus record results after each visit. After doing my last spring sales event in Northern VA on May 19th, it was time to check the College display beds the following day. A major surprise awaited my arrival.

Bloom was again underway on SDB “Rosalie Loving” (D.Spoon, 2003), IB “I’ll Be Back” (Aitken, 2004), MTB “Lady Emma” (F. Jones, 1986), “Midsummer Night’s Dream” (Baumunk, 1999) and BB “Twiggy” (D. Spoon, 2004). Flowers on



I’ll Be Back (Aitken 2004)
Photo by Robin Shadlow

multiple bloomstalks were found on tall bearded “Again & Again” (Innerst, 1999), “Over & Over” (Innerst, 2000) and “Queen Dorothy” (E. Hall, 1988). Other rebloomers waiting in the wings to bloom were SDB “Sailboat Bay” (Zurbrigg, 2004), TB “Coronation of David” (B. Miller, 1999), “Gate of Heaven” (Zurbrigg, 2004), “My Friend Jonathan” (B. Miller, 1994), “Northward Ho” (Zurbrigg, 1991) TB “Pink Attraction” (E.Hall, 1988), TB “Renown” (Zurbrigg, 1992), TB “Starring Encore” (D. Spoon, 2008) and TB “Sunny Disposition” (Zurbrigg, 1991). Wow!!

If we assume the growing season is still three weeks ahead of schedule, these results could be counted as early summer rebloom. A more likely explanation is delayed or late spring flowering. “Renown” was planted last fall as a replacement. “Again & Again”, “Coronation of David”, “Northward Ho”, “Pink Attraction” and “Starring Encore” had winter developing stalks retarding potential spring performance. A major surprise however was detecting new bloomstalks on the medians and tall bearded “My Friend Jonathan”, “Over & Over”, “Queen Dorothy” and “Sunny

Disposition”. The latter remountants had multiple stalks in flower just a few weeks ago.



Sunny Disposition (Zurbrigg, 1991)
Photo by Pearl Doyle



Starring Encore (D. Spoon, 2008)



Again And Again (Innerst 1994)
Photo by Margie Vazenzuela

College Planting Sees Late Bloom

Mild weather, ideal location and clump size are probably driving the latest bloom sequence at JRSCC. Can the color parade continue through the summer? Best ever rebloom was obtained at my old garden location in southeastern Powhatan County in 2004. Night temperatures slid below 60° F on many occasions that summer sparking rebloom in early August on many reliable Eastern originations. The show lasted for three solid months outshining spring bloom by a country mile. I am grateful in retrospect the late Dr. Zurbrigg was able to make a visit to my garden in mid- October that year to see his best seedlings and named varieties. He would pass away from cancer the following winter.

Fasten your seat belts. Our crazy weather may rewrite the rebloom playbook this summer in the Old Dominion. It should be great fun.



Lady Emma (Jones 1986)
Photo by Barbara Jackson



Renown (Zurbrigg, 1992)
Photo by Colleen Modra



My Friend Jonathan (B. Miller, 1994)



Twiggy (D. Spoon, 2004)
Photo by Denise Stewart



Pink Attraction (E.Hall, 1988)
Photo by IRIS EN PROVENCE - France

Winterberry Through the Seasons

By Anita Moran

Nearly everyone in Region 4 at some time or another has made a trip to Winterberry Gardens outside Winchester, Virginia. If you have not, it is worth the time and effort to make the trip to the garden of Don and Ginny Spoon. This past year beginning in October, Winterberry was the sight for the Fall and Spring regional meetings. Fall, as in most of our gardens is a time when our gardens are preparing for winter but with so many rebloomers on the property there was plenty to look at.



Dr. Don Spoon at Winterberry Garden

With cold temperatures time in the garden was off set with a nice warm fire in the new fireplace as we warmed our toes to prepare us to return to the garden. The standard dwarf bearded, especially “Ray Jones” a bright yellow reblooming SDB, formed a nearly solid mass of color. “Rosalie Loving”, the iris, was as beautiful as always and such a reliable rebloomer. Oh, Rosalie you are beautiful too, Jack tell her. Having seen “Purple Joy” before I was surprised at how beautiful it was and fell in love with it all over again. Other reliable rebloomers which were putting on a show were “Senorita Frog”, “Autumn Orange” and “Blue Hues”. The reblooming seedling “2005-427ES” is a deep violet with black shoulders and a blue beard that has just the right amount of contrast.

It was not just the irises putting on a show, not at Winterberry. There was a stunning reblooming cherry tree near the entrance and so many different colors and types of mums. Morning glories were still peeking out when we

arrived but they were soon closing after our arrival.

Rosalie Loving →
(Spoon 2003)



Ray Jones
(Spoon 2011) ↓



Blue Hues →
(Spoon 2010)



Ice Adams
(Spoon 2012) ↓



The Spring Regional, also at Winterberry Gardens, held the excitement of having Kathy Chilton as our guest. She is a great lady and very funny. She worked so hard on the National in California I hope she was able to get some relaxation with us here in Region 4.

One of the first irises I spotted when I began touring the garden was “Ice Adams” Don’s 2012 Introduction. How he hides some of these irises from me I do not know, especially since I am there so often. He managed with this laced, ruffled bold pink with an orange beard. Ginny’s “Selah Christine”, an amoena with a pink lavender fall, very ruffled was a real eye catcher in the garden.

Because of the winter that wasn’t, much of the bloom was gone by the time the Regional came around, but Winterberry is never dull. Schreiner’s “Coastal Mist” and Keith Keppel’s “Sorbonne” made great contrasting displays. Paul Black’s “Coral Splendor” was also a beautiful clump giving a spot of apricot in the garden. As always there is more than just the iris, such as double azaleas, unusual garden art, and of course Don. Walking the garden with Don is an experience I treasure each time I go to Winterberry, and I think I am finally beginning to understand much of what he is talking about when he gets all scientific. Not once have I even walked away from the garden without learning at least one thing new.

I do not know how Ginny and Don keep up with the volume of plants they have but I am forever grateful that they allow us a peek at the beauty contained within its boundaries. Thanks Don and Ginny.

Coastal Mist →
(Schreiners 1998)



Sorbonne
(Keppel 2009) ↓



Coral Splendor →
(Black 2008)



Selah Christine
(G. Spoon 2012) ↓



Colin Campbell with Cathy Chilton



Newscast Report/ Website Report

MEMBERSHIP REPORT AIS REGION 4 as of 4/30/2012

Total Memberships = 309
Total Dual Memberships 54
Total Members = 363

RECENT HISTORY

		Members New	Members Dropped
2010	1st quarter		2
	2nd Quarter		13
	3rd Quarter		32
	4th quarter		34
	Subtotal	49	82
2011	1st Quarter	3	57
	2nd Quarter	9	est. 5
	3rd Quarter	**41	3 ** Bravo FAIS & ES
	4th Quarter	3	6
	Subtotal	53	71
2012	1st Quarter	6	39
	Total	108	192

I would like the affiliate presidents to consider assigning a correspondent in their group to act as a reporter/web assistant. Hampton Roads assigned Ben Dukes who has taken great responsibility to make sure the HRIS page of the website is updated and has given me wonderful ideas. Each affiliate now has several pages with back buttons. As I get time these will be upgraded so that each affiliate's set of pages will be like having mini-sites with photo pages, information pages, etc. Colin Campbell has offered to act in this capacity for C&P and I welcome his input as well. With this in mind I would also like to add pages to the Newscast that would not only include the affiliate reports but any information the affiliate would like the rest of the region to know.

I have lots of time in the winter to make changes, but making changes in the Spring is nearly impossible with all that is going on. If affiliates get me their schedule to post by the end of February I can post it not only on the website but put it in the Newscast as well. Changes to the schedules after that time will not show up in the webpage until June at the soonest as I visit gardens and take care of my own.

Respectfully.

Anita Moran

August 28, 2012

The AIS Region IV Nominating Committee makes the following nominations for the Officers of Region IV for the 2012/2013 year.

Regional Vice President	Donald Rude
Assistant Regional Vice President:	Anita Moran
Treasure:	Carol Warner
Secretary:	Sue Shackelford

Nominating Committee:

Ramon Jones (C&P), Glenn Grigg (ENCIS), Ann Dumler (ESIS)

2012 AIS Awards

Region 4 winners and runners-up are *italicized*

The Dykes Medal

Florentine Silk (Keith Keppel)

The John C. Wister Medal (TB Irises)

Gypsy Lord (Keith Keppel)

Kathy Chilton (Frederick Kerr)

Chief John Jolly (Tom Parkhill)

The Knowlton Medal (BB Irises)

Crow's Feet (Paul Black)

The Hans & Jacob Sass Medal (IB Irises)

Nickle (Paul Black)

The Williamson White Medal (MTB Irises)

Plum Quirky (Riley Probst)

Runner-Up

Petit Louvois (Clarence Mahan)

The Cook-Douglas Medal (SDB Irises)

Bluebeard's Ghost (Paul Black)

The Caparne-Welsh Medal (MDB Irises)

Dollop Of Cream (Paul Black)

Runner-Up

Spiderweb (Donald Spoon)

The Clarence G. White Medal (AR & AB Irises)

Nobel Warrior (Richard Tasco)

The William Mohr Medal (AB Irises)

Suspect (Thomas Johnson)

The Founders Of SIGNA Medal (SPEC Irises)

Z Z Zanzibar (Brad Kasperek)

The Randolph Perry Medal (SPEC-X Irises)

For Jay (Jill Copeland)

Runner-Up

Kinshikou (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

The Sydney B Mitchell Medal (CA Irises)

Blue Plate Special (Joseph Ghio)

Ocean Blue (Joseph Ghio)

The Mary Swords Debaillon Medal (LA Irises)

Ginny's Choice (Wayland Rudkin)

The Morgan-Wood Medal (SIB Irises)

So Van Gogh (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

The Eric Nies Medal (SPU Irises)

Solar Fusion (Les Walker)

The Payne Medal (JI Irises)

Coho (Chad Harris)

Walther Cup (Most HM Votes)

Ginger Twist (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks) SIB

2012 AIS Awards

Region 4 Award of Merit Winners and Runners-up

Tall Bearded

Runner-Up

Orchid Dove (Donald Spoon)

Intermediate

Runner-Up

Cat's Hat (Donald Spoon)

Species

Gubijin (Hiroshi Shimizu)

Species Cross (SPEC-X)

Runner-Up

Tsukiyono (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Region 4 Honorable Mention Winners and Runners-up

Tall Bearded

Blackbeard's Daughter (J. Griffin Crump)

Winterberry (Donald Spoon)

Romania Romania (J. Griffin Crump)

Runner-Up

Autumn Rose (Ginny Spoon)

Corn Dance (Donald Spoon)

Border Bearded

Runner-Up

Tina Louise

Standard Dwarf Bearded

Teagan (Donald Spoon)

Runner-Up

Karen Jones (Donald Spoon)

Purple Joy (Donald Spoon)

Anita Moran (Donald Spoon)

Send In The Clowns (J. Griffin Crump)

Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Runner-Up

Kayla's Song (Donald Spoon)

Ampersand (Donald Spoon)

India Ink (Donald Spoon)

Aril & Arilbred

Runner-Up

Anaheim Daughter (Anita Moran)

Interspecies

Okagami (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Runner-Up

Shirabyoshi (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Take No Sato (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Ryugan (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Minutes Spring 2012

Region 4 Spring Board Meeting Secretary's Report

Marriott Hotel, Winchester, VA

May 25, 2012

The meeting was opened by RVP Don Rude at 3:05 pm. with a welcome to everyone attending.

Secretary's Report:

The 2011 Fall Secretary's Report was published in the Spring 2012 issue of Newscast. RVP, Don Rude asked for a motion to accept the Fall 2011 minutes as they were printed in the Newscast. Susan Grigg moved the minutes be accepted as printed, it was seconded and RVP, Don Rude stated minutes stood as printed and approved.

Treasure's Report - Carol Warner

Carol Warner read the treasurer report . Beginning balance - \$11,488.96. Receipts - \$1,505.00 and a return of \$1,505.00 to the checking account (from a voided check for the 2010 Regional Fall Meeting which was never cashed by the now defunct hotel). Expenditures \$84.46. Balance of \$12,909.50 in the checking account.

RVP, Don Rude, called for the following Committee Reports:

Judges Training Chair - Carrie Winter - (Absent) - No Report

Medium Iris Chair - Ginny Spoon (No Report)

Membership Chair - Mac Shaw - read a written report and stated that Region 4 has 363 total members . He expressed concerns about losing members and how to attract new members. A discussion followed.

Re-blooming Chair - Mike Lockett - Written Report read by Lois Rose

Beardless Iris Chair - Carol Warner - No written report, verbal report given by Carol stating the beardless show to have been held in Michigan in 2012 was cancelled because of this spring's weather. It has been rescheduled for the same place in 2013.

Youth Chairman- Ray Jones - (No Report).

Newscast & Web - Anita Moran - Anita asked for each affiliate to consider assigning a correspondent to act as a reporter/web assistant for their affiliate. Affiliate reports and information, along with photos, could be put on these web pages.

Budget: Jack Loving - Jack brought up concerns about RVP travel expenses: He stated that travel expenses now appears to be \$800 per year. Jack raised the question of What is the purpose of the RVP travel expenses, who gets it, and why. Carol Warner gave a history of why the expenses were set up. Expenses were to help the RVP cover cost of trip for the fall business meeting, they were set for \$300. At a later date they were increased to \$600 to help cover the spring meeting expenses also. Anita Moran added that they were increased to \$800 at the request of past RVP, Carrie Winter, to help cover the high cost of flights out of the Charlotte area. Jack Loving stated that the amount of the 2013 budget, as suggested, totals \$5,050. Carol Warner indicated that amount would not be sustainable from the funds Region 4 relies on. A discussion followed.

Minutes Spring 2012 (cont)

Carol Warner moved that the allotment for Newscast be reduced to \$2000.00 a year; move seconded by Anita Moran. It was also decided that the Membership allotment could be reduced to \$100 and that Web expenses could be cut in half. A new proposed budget will be available at the Region 4 Fall Meeting.

Susan Grigg brought a discussion to the floor regarding funds to help with a celebration for AIS's Centennial in 2020. After much discussion it was decided that the discussion should be tabled until more information is made available by AIS.

Affiliate Reports:

Charlotte - No one present, no written report

Central Virginia - Presented by John Rosini

Eastern North Carolina - Presented by Susan Gregg

Chesapeake & Potomac - Present by Ginny Spoon

Eastern Shore - Gale Reily-Cross - No written report but gave an oral report. She stated they are rewriting their by-laws; that their plant sale in 2011 brought them 8 new members, and that they are getting ready to do a historic iris planting at Popular Hills Mansion in Salisbury, MD.

Francis Scott Key - Presented by Anita Moran

Fredericksburg Area - No report

Hampton Roads - Presented by Jan Bryant.

New Business

Anita Moran took the floor and recommended that Region 4 consider contributing an annual award for Best Seedling at the AIS National Convention each year. A discussion followed on the type of award that would be given, the cost of the award, and the name to be given the award. A declaration was made by RVP, Don Rude, that Anita should go forward in approaching AIS to discuss whether or not they would be interested in Region 4 making this award available each year at the AIS convention.

RVP, Don Rudd asked for volunteers to serve on a nominating for the 2013 officers. The committee formed is: from Maryland, Ann Dumler; from Virginia, Ray Jones; and from North Carolina, Glen Grigg.

Anita asked for a Sunshine Committee to be set up for sending cards and keeping in touch members who have sickness or other causes in the region. Frances Thrash volunteered to take the responsibility but she asked for guidelines for who would receive cards or memorials and the amount allocated to be spent.

RVP, Don Rude appointed Frances Thrash and Karen Jones to put together some guidelines for a Sunshine Committee and to report back at the Fall 2012 Regional Meeting.

RVP, Don Rude made note of the time and adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
June Rosini, Secretary

PROPOSED 2013 BUDGET FOR REGION 4

Expenditures	Dollars
Printing and Mailing two (2) Issues of Newscast	\$2000.00
RVP Travel Expenses	600.00
Membership Committee – M. Shawe	100.00
Memorials	300.00
AIS Youth Program	100.00
Web Page	150.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	300.00
Total	\$3550.00

Submitted by:

JACK W. LOVING

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance on October 21, 2011:						\$11,488.96
Receipts:						
		Fall 2011 Regional Meeting Auction:			\$799.00	
		Fall 2011 Regional Meeting Registrations (Late):			\$205.00	
		Donations:				
		Fredericksburg Iris Society			\$500.00	
		Checking Account Interest:			\$1.00	
Total Receipts:						\$1,505.00
Expenditures:						
		Fall 2010 Regional Meeting - Richmond Ramada VOIDED			-\$1,030.67	
		Membership Chair (Mac Shawe)			\$87.28	
		C&P Iris Society (Banquet Guests)			\$40.00	
		RVP Gifts			\$51.11	
		Sue Sawyer - E. Roy Eperson Award			\$88.00	
		Spring 2012 Newscast Printing & Mailing:			\$848.74	
Total Expenditures:						\$84.46
Checking Account Balance on May 25, 2012						\$12,909.50
Carol S. Warner, Region 4 Treasurer						

Region 4 of The American Iris Society

Presents

"Irises Again!"



Accredited by
THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
Co-sponsored by Little Neck Garden Club
Member of National Garden Club, Inc.
South Atlantic Region
Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs

October 20, 2012

Fred Heutte Center
1000 Botetourt Gardens
Norfolk, VA 23507

Open to the Public
1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

No entry fee or admission charge



Directions to AIS Region 4 District Fall Meeting

This year's meeting will be held at:

**Fred Heutte Center
1000 Botetourt Gardens
Norfolk, VA 23507**

JOIN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

www.irises.org

Single Annual Membership:	\$25.00
Dual Annual Membership:	\$30.00
Single Triennial Membership:	\$60.00
Dual Triennial Membership:	\$75.00

Youth: \$9/year with *Bulletin*
Youth: \$5/year without *Bulletin*

Send dues and membership information to:

Mac Shawe, Region 4 Membership Chairman
6405 Fairborn Terrace
New Carrollton, MD 20784-3315

GENERAL RULES

1. **Anyone who grows iris may enter this show. No entry fee. All entries (except seedlings) must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag. Members of a family may exhibit from the same garden.**
2. **Entries must be made between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 20, 2012. Judging will begin at 10:30 am.**
3. **Exhibits and ribbons must remain in place until 5:30 p.m. Exhibitors should remove their entries promptly. Those remaining after 5:45 p.m. will be disposed of.**
4. **Entry tags and containers for specimens will be furnished by the show committee. Both halves of the entry tag must be filled out with the correct name of the cultivar before it can be entered. I incorrectly named entries will not be judged. All cultivars must be registered with AIS and introduced (except seedlings, species, and natural hybrids).**
5. **Each specimen must be passed by the Classification Committee before being placed on the show table. Only full stalks will be judged. The Classification Committee will assist exhibitors in classifying iris whenever possible.**
6. **All seedlings must be named or numbered and entered in the name of the originator of the clone. Numbers/Letters must be used unless the name of the seedling has been registered with AIS.**

Fall Region 2012 Show Schedule

GENERAL RULES (cont.)

7. Specimens will be arranged alphabetically by cultivar name within sections. Exhibitors are allowed only one entry of a variety in a section.
8. The Show Committee may combine or subdivide sections or create new sections as the number and type of entries warrants.
9. Specimens will be judged by accredited judges of the American Iris Society according to AIS rules and regulations. Decisions of the judges will be final. Any award may be withheld if, in their opinion, an exhibit is not worthy.
10. Only authorized personnel will be permitted in the show area during judging
11. The Show Committee will exercise caution in safeguarding exhibits, but cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage.
12. Exhibitors who are also judging the show may choose not to judge when their own entries are being judged.
13. The official rules and regulations of the American Iris Society cannot be violated.

DIVISION I -- HORTICULTURE

Section A Tall Bearded

Section B Other Bearded

Group 1 Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Group 2 Standard Dwarf Bearded

Group 3 Intermediate Bearded

Group 4 Border Bearded

Group 5 Miniature Tall Bearded

Section C Beardless Irises

Section D Dutch or bulbous irises (not eligible for best specimen of show but they may win ribbons or Section awards.)

Section E Any other, such as Aril, Arilbred, etc.

Section F Species or natural hybrids

Section G Historic Irises (any variety introduced before 1983)

Note: These can be placed instead in other appropriate sections if preferred by the exhibitor.

Section H A single stalk of an iris that is unknown and cannot be identified. Stalks that arrive too late to be properly entered for judging. No AIS awards given in this section. FOR DISPLAY ONLY

DIVISION II -- SEEDLINGS

Single stalks of un-introduced irises entered by or for originator under number or registered name.

DIVISION III – ARTISTIC

Section A – Tricolor – all fresh materials are required. All designs will be displayed on tables covered with black cloth. Each design will have a space of 30” wide x 24” deep – height is the designer’s choice. Backgrounds and underlays are encouraged but not required, provided by the exhibitor.

- Class 1 – Sunny Morn
- Class 2 – Cloudy Day
- Class 3 – Colorful World
- Class 4 – Water, Water, Everywhere
- Class 5 – Stormy Night

AWARDS

1. Only one first, one second, and one third AIS ribbon may be awarded for each named cultivar. As many Honorable Mention ribbons may be given as quality merits.
2. An AIS silver medal, certificate, and HORTICULTURAL SWEEPSTAKES rosette may be given to the exhibitor receiving the most blue ribbons. In case of a tie for the Sweepstakes Award the second, then third place ribbons will be counted.
3. An AIS bronze medal and certificate may be given to the exhibitor receiving the second most blue ribbons.
4. The best specimen ("Queen") of the show will receive the AIS BEST SPECIMEN rosette and certificate.
5. AIS special award rosettes may be awarded to up to two runners-up to the Best Specimen.
6. The best specimen of each section may receive an AIS section rosette provided AIS requirements are met.
7. The best seedling of the show may receive an AIS BEST SEEDLING rosette if merited.
8. An Exhibition Certificate will be awarded for the best seedling. Additional EC's may be awarded to any seedling receiving five or more votes from AIS judges attending the show.
9. Special Award AIS small rosettes and section certificates may be awarded for the most blue ribbons in each section provided AIS requirements are met.
10. Tricolor Award may be awarded to the design scoring the highest in Section A, Classes 1 – 3. To be awarded the Tricolor Award, there must have been 4 designs in each of the 3 classes and the design must have scored 95 or higher. Tricolor is a rosette of red, yellow, and blue. The winner of the Tricolor Award will also be awarded the Best Design of Show Rosette of the American Iris Society. The Best Design of Show Rosette is of all purple ribbons.
11. The Artistic Sweepstakes will be awarded to the individual who wins the most blues in the design division, provided the individual has won at least two blues ribbons.

DESIGN DIVISION RULES

1. All designs must be previously registered with the Design Division Chairman, Frances Thrash at 757-481-3484, no later than October 6, 2012.
2. Arrangements must be the work of one individual. Individuals have complete freedom in style of designs.
3. Designs will be checked for conformance to the schedule by the Chairman.
4. Fresh plant material may NOT be treated in any manner, including oils, sprays, or paint.
5. An exhibitor may enter as many classes as desired, but may have only one exhibit per class. There will be four entries per class.
6. NO ARTIFICIAL material in any design allowed. Fresh materials do not have been grown by the exhibitor, nor must iris be named. There must be an emphasis on fresh materials.
7. Iris must DOMINATE the arrangement. Landscapes or scenes are not permitted. A 3 x 5 card must accompany each design with materials listed.
8. Artistic classes will be judged by National Garden Clubs, Inc. judges. The authority will be the *Handbook for Flower Shows, 2007*, with corrections. Decisions of the judges are final. Judging will begin at 10:30am. Only Chairman, Judges, and Clerk may be present during judging.
9. Designs may be entered between 8:30 am and 10:00am, October 20. Entry cards will be available from the Show Chairman during the show and should be completed in waterproof ink, pencil, or mailing label. Arrangements must remain in place until 5:30pm but must be removed by 5:45pm, October 20.
10. Design Division is open to everyone.
11. Plants on the conservation list of Virginia used in arrangement MUST have been grown by the exhibitor and labeled as such, otherwise they should not be used. No members of the animal kingdom should be included in any design of this show.
12. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
13. Scale of Points for designs is listed below:

a. Conformance to schedule	20
b. Design (Elements, Principles)	42
c. Artistic Concept	12
d. Expression	10
e. Distinction	16

TOTAL	100
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SHOW COMMITTEE

General Chairman	Frances Thrash	(757-481-3484)
Schedule	Frances Thrash	(757-481-3484)
Staging	Frances Thrash & Bill Smoot	(757-481-3484) (757-393-4617)
Classification	Lois Rose	(540-582-5799)
Entry/ Placement		
Awards Secretary	Frances Thrash	(757-481-3484)
Judges	Bill Smoot	(757-393-4617)
Properties	Bill Smoot	(757-393-4617)
Clean up	Region 4 members	

OFFICERS OF AIS REGION 4

Regional Vice-President	Don Rude
Assistant RVP	Ray Jones
Secretary	June Rosini
Treasurer	Carol Warner

Welcome to Norfolk!

Three years ago the region was in an unusual position. We had no member society that would host our fall regional meeting. Everyone agreed that a fall meeting was necessary, but we had a couple of societies that had already stepped forward and one that was deciding if they should disband. After further discussion it was decided that the region would host the meeting. Next came the question of where? No one volunteered to be chairman. Frances Thrash and I have worked together on several past conventions, meetings, projects, schools, and, both are associated with irises, other groups, and several plant societies, so the idea must have simultaneously come to us at the same time. We looked at each other and said, "Let's do it!" So, it was announced that we would chair the 2012 Fall Regional Meeting ... Three years have almost passed and it is time for us to honor our commitment. So we say to you, "Welcome to Norfolk", for our 2012 Fall Regional Meeting!

We have approached this meeting in a unique way. Our goals have been to cut meeting costs, provide additional judges' training and iris information, and do something different and unusual. I think that we have done that. All of our meetings will be held at the Fred Heutte Center – a non-profit urban garden and horticultural education center in downtown Norfolk. There will be no "convention hotel". A list of area hotels is being provided with rates ranging in price for your choice. All are within 10-15 minutes of the Heutte Center. We will be having our Fall Regional Show on Saturday morning, so please bring your show entries. We'll also be having our plant auction Saturday night, so don't forget to bring items for the auction.

Meals

On Friday evening we will go as a group to Number 1 Chinese Restaurant in Norfolk for dinner. This is one of the best all-you-can-eat buffets in the area. They have a large variety of food types on the buffet tables. Cost is around \$12.00 per person, depending on your drinks. You will pay on your own. We will need a head count, so please let us know that you intend to go.

Lunch on Saturday is on your own. There are numerous restaurants nearby. Dinner is included in the registration fee. It will be served buffet style and will have crab cakes, flounder, and tenderloin as entrée choices. Salad, dessert, and non-alcoholic drinks are provided. You may bring your own wine if you choose.

Training

There will be four hours of Judges' Training available at this meeting. Bill Smoot will be conducting a two hour JT program on "Exhibition Grooming & Culture of Japanese Irises". Anita Moran will be presenting two hours of JT on "Aril & Aril-Bred Irises".

Glenn Grigg will discuss iris culture. He'll focus on what works, what doesn't, techniques and practices, chemicals, etc.

Tours

Our special treat will be a visit to the Virginia Zoo. Your visit will be a behind-the-scenes tour conducted with one of the zoo horticulturists. Here folks don't only come to the zoo to see the animals – they also come to the zoo to see the plants! The zoo has just finished adding a fifteen million dollar tiger exhibit and West African addition. See several of their rain gardens used to collect and control runoff, and pollution. All zoo property is just one foot above the Lafayette River, which partially encircles it.

Home to over 400 animals, amphibians, reptiles.

Have over 500,000 visitors annually.

Practices organic "chemical & pesticide" free gardening.

Plants carefully selected that are safe for the animals.

Won national acclaim for its conservation practices.

Displays animals in naturalistic setting – including plants when possible! Located in the old City Park and is over 110 years old.

Recently expanded to over 53 acres with a new fifteen million dollar expansion and additions of "Trail of the Tiger" and Okavango exhibit

There are many other interesting places to visit while in Norfolk. Most are close to the Heutte Center. We are providing information and a map so that you may visit some, or all of them.

So, as you can see we have a jam-packed exciting weekend planned for you. Some things old! Some things new! We hope to see you the weekend of 19 & 20 October in Norfolk.

Bill Smoot & Frances Thrash

AIS Region 4 Fall 2012 Meeting

Friday, October 19th, & Saturday, October 20th, 2012

Norfolk, VA

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY October 19th, 2012

- 11:00 – 6:00 **Registration** Fred Heutte Center (1000 Botetourt Gardens, Norfolk, VA 23507-1866)
- 2:00PM **Region 4 Board Meeting** at Fred Heutte Center
- *Optional Places to Visit on your own- approx. a 5 min. drive! Chinese Pagoda Garden, Nauticus, Battleship USS Wisconsin, Gen. Douglas Memorial*
- 5:30 – 7:00 **Buffet Dinner** on your own at : Number 1 Chinese Restaurant 7635 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA (757) 423-8880 (Corner Granby Street/Little Creek Road)
- 7:30 – 8:15 **Discussion on “Iris Culture”** Glenn Grigg Fred Heutte Center
- 8:30 – 10:30 **Judges’ Training** Bill Smoot Fred Heutte Center
– “Grooming & Exhibition Judging of Japanese Irises”

SATURDAY October 20th, 2012

- 8:30 – 10:30 **Flower Show at the Fred Heutte Center – 2nd floor** Show entries accepted
- *Optional place to visit – Norfolk Botanical Gardens*
- 10:30 – 12:30 **Judges’ Training**
Anita Moran – “Arl & Arilbred Irises”
- *Lunch On Your Own – will provide suggestions/directions*
- 1:45pm Depart for Virginia Zoological Gardens from Fred Heutte Center
- 2:00 – 4:30 **Virginia Zoological Gardens Tour**
- 6:00 – 7:00 **Buffet “Surf & Turf” Dinner at Fred Heutte Center**
- 7:00 – 8:00 **Region 4 General Meeting**
- 8:00 - ??? **Auction**

WEB SITES

Fred Heutte Center	www.genserva.com/fhcgarden
Norfolk Botanical Gardens	www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org
Virginia Zoological Gardens	www.virginiazoo.org
Norfolk Pagoda Gardens	www.pagodagarden.org
Nauticus Museum	www.nauticus.org
MacArthur Memorial	www.macarthurmemorial.org
USS Wisconsin	www.norfolkvisitor.com/uss-wisconsin.html

OPTIONAL PLACES TO VISIT

AIS Region 4 Fall 2012 Meeting
Friday

Note.- The location of the Fred Heutte Center is shown on some maps as Ghent Square!

(Less than 10 minutes from The Fred Heutte Center)

All these sites are within short walking distances from the Pagoda & can be visited within a 3-4 hour period. There is a parking garage at the corner of Waterside Drive & West Plume Street. The Chrysler Museum is four blocks from the Heutte Center. Nautilus Admission is \$13.95 per person. Seniors & AAA members rate is \$12.95. All other admissions are free.

A CHRYSLER MUSEUM OF ART

B PAGODA CHINESE GARDEN

C USS WISCONSIN – one of the last surviving battleships from WWII

D NAUTICUS – Maritime museum

E GEN. DOUGLAS McARTHUR MEMORIAL – Personal & WWII artifacts of the General and his gravesite.



Directions from Fred Heutte Center (Ghent Square)

Head South from Fred Heutte Center on Botetourt Ave. Make a Left on Olney Road. Stay in Right lane and make a Right on Duke Street. Make a Left on Brambleton Ave and immediately get in the Right lane. Make a Right on Bousch Street. Make a Right on West Tazwell Street. Go down two blocks and make a Left on Harbour Street. The garden is immediately on your Right and parking is available there.

NORFOLK BOTANICAL GARDENS

6700 Azalea Garden Road, Norfolk, VA

Open from 9:00am until 5:00pm. daily

Directions from Heutte Center

Head North on Botetourt Gardens and make a Right onto Princess Ann Road. Then make a Left onto Monticello Ave. Monticello Ave runs into Granby Street. Stay on Granby Street for approx. 5 miles and make a Right onto Little Creek Road. Go approximately 0.5 miles and make a Right onto I-64 before the underpass. Go on I-64 two exits and take the Azalea Gardens Road Exit (Signs to Norfolk International Airport). Make a Left on Azalea Garden Road. Go approx. 0.5 miles and the entrance to the Botanical Gardens is on the right. Admission is \$9.00 for adults & \$8.00 for Senior Citizens. Present a membership card from any other botanical gardens and the entry is free.

HOTELS

Prices are subject to change and does not include taxes!

LESS THAN 2 MILES FROM FRED HEUTTE CENTER

Tazewell Hotel Downtown, an Ascend Collection hotel (VA473)

245 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA, US, 23510

Phone: (757) 623-6200

Fax: (757) 457-1516

The Norfolk Plaza Hotel \$99.00

700 Monticello Avenue,

Norfolk, VA, 23510

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel \$129.00

777 Waterside Dr,

Norfolk, VA, 23510

Norfolk Waterside Marriott \$150.00

235 E Main St,

Norfolk, VA, 23510

Residence Inn Norfolk Downtown \$139.00

227 West Brambleton Avenue,

Norfolk, VA, 23510

LESS THAN EIGHT MILES FROM FRED HEUTTE CENTER (Approximately a 12-15 minute drive)

Ramada Norfolk Airport \$59.00

1450 N Military Hwy,

Norfolk, VA, 23502

La Quinta Inn & Suites Norfolk Airport \$72

1387 N Military Hwy,

Norfolk, VA, 23502

Red Roof Inn Virginia Beach - Norfolk Airport \$56.00

5745 Northampton Boulevard,

Virginia Beach, VA,

Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites Norfolk \$109.00

1157 N Military Highway,

Norfolk, VA,

Econo Lodge Inn & Suites \$49.00

5819 Northampton Blvd,

Virginia Beach, VA, 23455

REGISTRATION FORM

AIS Region 4 Fall 2012 Meeting
Friday October 19th & Saturday, October 20th, 2012
Norfolk, VA

Name (1): _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Name for Nametag: _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Name (2): _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Name for Nametag: _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

FULL REGISTRATION: \$40.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

Includes all judges' training, Zoo
 Tour, and Saturday Awards Banquet

LATE REGISTRATION (after 7 Oct.) \$50.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

YOUTH FULL REGISTRATION: \$15.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

Friday Night Optional Chinese Buffet on your own, approx. \$12.00 per person but please let us know how many people will be going. _____

PARTIAL REGISTRATION:

Awards Banquet \$25.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

Friday Night Judges Training \$10.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

Saturday Night Judges Training \$10.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

Zoo Tour \$15.00 X _____ PERSON(S) = \$ _____

Send completed Registration Form with a Check made payable to AIS Region 4 and postmarked
 By 7 October, 2012 to:

Bill Smoot
 213 Derby Road
 Portsmouth, VA 23702

billsmoot@cox.net
 (757) 393-4617

Anita Moran
Newscast Editor
5351 Rocks Rd
Pylesville, MD 21132