



# The Newscast

## Inside this issue:



**Iris paradoxa** as seen in Cindy Rivera's garden during the 2008 Aril and Median Trek in Albuquerque New Mexico.

Region 4 Board	2
Affiliates	3
RVP Message	4
Assistant RVP Message	4
From The Editor	5
CMIS Fall Regional	6
2008 Aril-Median Trek	7
Treasurer's Report	13
Judges Report	14
Sponges	15
Affiliate Reports	17
Minutes Fall Regional	21
Rebloom Report	23
Donate To HIPS	24
Web News	24
Spring Invitation	25

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**SEASONS**

*Leaves of my life are now  
turning bronze and copper  
and gold.*

*And there is the fragrance  
of burning as nights grow  
longer and cold.*

*Life's seasons are always  
recurrent and winter no  
permanent thing -*

*Yet to me it is nothing ab-  
horrent -- my life cannot  
cycle to spring.*

*The SPIRIT FOR LIFE  
which has sired me  
shall take me again in its  
power*

*And composting all that is  
mortal renew me in some  
shining flower.*

Herbert H. McKusick  
Past ASI President

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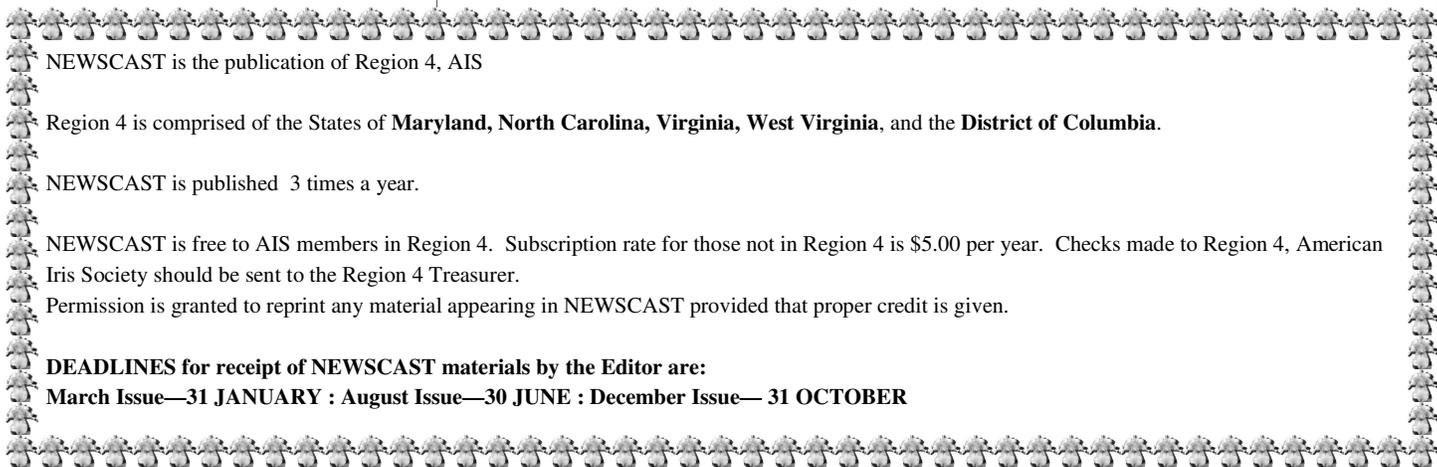
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◀Reprinted from CIS <http://www.cdn-iris.ca/poetry.html>



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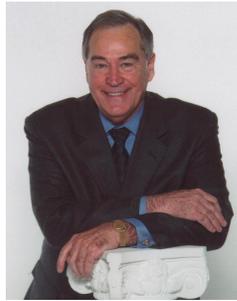
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### **THANKS TO EVERYONE**

in Region IV! During my stint as your RVP, I have experienced nothing but support and assistance from every individual and each organization. I have found Friends and Life-Long Fellowships, which I take from this job with gratitude. There are truly some great folks in the American Iris Society, and those in Region IV are absolutely at the top of the list.

As with most organizations AIS is going through some changes. The Internet and Global Communication is changing almost everything, and that brings about the need to adjust and adapt to the times. It is not something to fear, but something to embrace and find new ways to benefit the Organization through new opportunities. On a National Level the AIS Website is being totally revamped to meet the new challenges, and the Regional "Map" is being evaluated as well.

The one Thing that will not change however, is the Spirit of Our Membership. The beauty, the basic goodness, the cooperation, the humanity within the organization is quite wonderful - all of which continue to be reinforced by the very qualities of The Iris we Love. I quote John Berger from *The Sense Of Sight* (1980): That we find a crystal or a poppy beautiful means that we are less alone, that we are more deeply inserted into existence than the course of a single life would lead us to believe.



Carrie Winter, RVP Elect

### **Report of Assistant RVP Region 4, AIS October 3, 2008**

We are pleased that Carolina Mountains Iris Society has been able to host our 2008 Fall Meeting. Fredericksburg Area Iris Society will host the Spring Meeting 2009 while celebrating its own 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Plans for the Fall 2009 have not been made, pending an evaluation of the design of the Fall Meeting. Generally a need to shorten the meeting – saving time and costs – has been expressed by persons throughout the region. A recommendation for Fall 2009 will be developed as soon as possible.

Thank you for letting me serve as the Assistant RVP for the past three years.

Carrier Winter

## FROM THE EDITOR

You will notice that the Newscast has a new look. Please email me if you like it or do not like it. Both are useful. I am looking for ideas for future Newscast and would appreciate all and any ideas and even more appreciative of articles. If you need pictures of irises for articles please contact me if you do not have them and I will work to get what you need.

Now that fall is here and winter is just a hop away, it is a time that many think since the beds are asleep for winter, this is a great time to get that brain working and think of all that has happened in the last year and write it up for the Spring Newscast.

Articles can be as small as a few sentences about a new technique you have learned or how are those new irises you got doing in your area. Did you get seeds from an unusual cross? Longer articles are also welcome.

For those of you that are new to the region WELCOME!!! Introduce yourselves . Is there something you are burning to know the answer to or is there a type of iris you would really like to know about. Drop me a line and I will

see if we can add it to the Beginner section.

In the last Newscast, Krissy Lange wrote a wonderful article. Many from outside the region could not believe a youth member wrote it and were very impressed. Good Job Krissy!

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!**

**In 2009 Region 4 of the American Iris Society is 50 Years Old. I need help with a list of editors, RVPs and people of Importance that have peopled this wonderful Region. Pictures and article about the early years would be great. So those of you who have been in the region a while send me some HELP!!!!!!**

I hope all have a wonderful Winter and a great Holiday Season.

Anita Moran

### **Iris World**

Iris, iris color matt  
Spring to Summer  
Summer to Fall  
How do you last.

Dainty to strong  
White to deep black  
No matter the color  
Where do you belong.

Color perfusion  
Catalogs galore  
Keppel, Black, Spoons  
Oh, I want some more.

Dwarf to the tall  
Smell, some divine  
Waves in the wind  
I will share with you all.



## Report of Region 4 Fall Meeting October 3-4, 2008



Danee Hoover with Center Piece



'Zurich' as shown by Ray Jones  
BIS



Bill Smoot and Lois Rose as Bill prepares for presentation

Hosting a region 4 meeting was a first for Carolina Mountains Iris Society (CMIS), but everything went as smoothly as though they did it annually. It was a delightful setting arranged by CMIS president and chair of the meeting, Danee Hoover. Hotel accommodations were wonderful with excellent meals, a happy “Happy Hour” (even with the bar closed). Arrangements for the Welcome and Closing dinners were great, gorgeous fall weather in a lovely mountain setting.

Although the turnout was small, it was an wonderful intimate meeting that enhanced connecting with iris friends of long standing, plus meeting some new iris friends. The show consisted of 6 exhibitors with 11 varieties. Ray Jones won best specimen of the show award with the entry ‘Zurich’, while Mike Lockett’s seedling 20227B-RP grown by Griff Crump received an Exhibition Certificate. Ray Jones won the Silver Medal and no bronze medal was awarded.

All this and more. At the Welcome Dinner, Dr. Epperson gave a presentation called “The Menu of Iris” an interesting program on the unusual naming concepts of various iris. A proposal from the board was made to explore the option of an electronic fall meeting . Great items in both auctions, that left many wallets lighter by the end of the meeting.

We were treated to an outstanding judges training on Louisiana iris given by Bill Smoot. At the closing Dinner, Bill also gave a wonderful program on English Gardens that we could have watched all night.

Oh and I almost forgot to mention that we even had time to shop for apples and pumpkins in the heart of North Carolina apple country.

What a delightful fall weekend ! If you were there you can add to your Region 4 memories; If you did not make the meeting, you missed some good times.

Thank you, Danee and CMIS.

Carrie Winter

Photos courtesy Katharine Steele



Carrie Winter (New RVP elect) and Dr. E. Roy Epperson (AIS President) at Region 4 Board Meeting



Attendees: Griff Crump C&P, Freda Gallop HRIS, Danee Hoover CMIS, Don Rude UA, Rosalie and Jack Loving FAIS



Attendees: Ruth Barker ENCIS, Ray and Karen Jones C&P, Robin Glover CIS, and Bill Smoot HRIS



The CIS contingent: Ruth Holbrook, Carrie Winter, Robin Glover, Barbara Alexander, and Katharine Steele

## Aril and Median



Attendees of the 208 Aril and Median Trek, Albuquerque New Mexico



Jordan Seedling Pro News X  
Desert Finery



McGrath Bridge over stream leading  
to pond.

For someone who is relatively new to the aril world the 2008 Aril-Median Trek could not have come at a better time. Already in the southwest having attended the 2008 National Iris Convention, I arrived a few days early in an attempt to sneak, invited of course, into the gardens holding the treasures. Despite the fact that I was missing my own median bloom did not matter, here was a chance to see pure ARILS! As well as meet people I had just talked with. The very first thing I did when I arrived was call Cindy Rivera who orchestrated the event, then I promptly fell asleep. What a waste of time.

The following day Scott Jordan invited me to his home where he and his wife Reita graciously allowed me access into their home and Scott walked me though his garden. There was so much in a single backyard. My first surprise, were his seedlings,

as I did not know Scott hybridized. Well, Scott J93-14A and J92-11H sure caught my eye. There was also his 'Step Aside' X Desert Fury seedling that was a real eye catcher. Among Scott's seedlings was a smattering of Shockey seedlings, including an OGB 93-107A. On the other side of the yard was a raised beds for the OGB+ arilbreds and it was here I found



Dunshanbe, Tom Wilkes, R 1977, RC 'Dunshambe' (Wilkes 1977). In the rear of the garden was a clump of *Iris lactea*. It was the first time I had seen it and was impressed by its dainty beauty. Though not in bloom, Scott had some pure arils hidden in a cold frame to help keep direct sun off of them along with the rain during dormancy. After viewing his bonsai, Scott and Reita treated me out to lunch at the Indian Center where the Pueblo Indians were hosting the Gathering of Nations. While we waited for a seat we were treated to dancing and music. After lunch, Scott arranged for me to go to Pete McGrath's home and off I went.

Wow! What a spectacular setting a shaded patio edged with a stream that emptied into a large pond.

## Aril and Median Trek 2008 (cont.)



McGrath Pond and Frame house that holds iris that are pure aril.

In a relatively small area was an established arilbred bed, a newly planted Daylily bed, Seedling beds and MECCA, a large frame that held pure arils and their crosses. Pete kindly took time out of his busy schedule preparing for the Trek to

Pete's AR01-29, and oh my AR00-25 and *Iris iberica* and *Iris stolonifera* and 'Gamaliel Wisdom' (McGrath 2002). Ahh heaven. But Pete was not done with me. Not only did he give me a place to get breakfast but also when to get the best Prime Rib, other dinner and lunch options all of which went into the Garmin.



Shockey Seedling 83-38



McGrath Seedling AR1-29



Macedonia at the Rivera Garden



Shockey Seedling 83-18



I. Stolonifera at McGrath Garden

show me the different seedlings he was watching and why he had reselected them. Pete then trusted me enough to continue his work and allowed me to walk through his aril area. WOW!!!!!! There was Shockey's 83-38 and 83-18, and

was to regroup with the Jordan's after leaving Pete's, but Cindy Rivera called and said she had *Iris paradoxa* (see Front Cover) in bloom and because of recent freezes she was not sure it would last until the next day, I was easily bribed. A quick apology to Reita and Scott and I was on my way to Cindy's home. How welcoming she was and I quickly realized that Cindy was the motor that ran the Trek. After meeting the kids (dogs), she took me back to see *I. paradoxa* in bloom. What a beauty, and did you know that the beard went nearly the entire length of the fall? Just a short distance away was 'Macedonia' (Shockey 1981) in bloom as well. I was introduced to other iris as well including *Iris lactea illiensis*. A lighter form of what I had seen at the Jordan's.

## Aril and Median Trek 2008 (cont.)



'Holy Moley Plum' Chacon 2006



'Frank Rice' Rice 2002



'Loudmouth' Rich 1970



Jabba Hut frog at Rivera Garden

Then there were the guest beds with 'Holy Moley Plum' (Chacon 2006), 'Frank Rice' (Rice 2002), 'Desert Plum' (Hager 1991), and in front of her home, a wonderful clump of 'Loudmouth' (Rich 1970). It was not just the iris that held your attention it was also the garden art, but by far the best piece had to be the "Jabba The Hut" guard frog. The two very good new easy care dogs were also



Cindy Rivera, Betsy Higgins, Dolores Bates and Nancy Groshong in Rivera Garden

in various niches of the garden and then there were the cactus in bloom.

The next day I went to the Natural Center that I happened on as I was investigating the area around the Jordan's home, taking pictures of the architect of the local homes. The most numerous were the Canadian geese which you could hear them long before you saw them. Turtles, hummingbirds, nut hatches, doves, jay and woodpeckers we just some of the wildlife I saw. I was a little disappointed in the Rio Grand, as I thought it would be wider, little did I know. Looking at my watch, it was time to go and get the girls, Betsy Higgins, Dolores bates and Nancy Groshong from the airport. After I picked them up we got a call from Cindy Rivera, 'Purple Sequin' (Shockey 1992) was opened for the first time in 15 years,

a must see. After warning her of the additional guest, she said to bring 'em on down. Though registered and introduced there was never enough stock of 'Purple Sequin', an mixture of many aril species including *I. urmiensis*, *I. gatesii*, *I. mariae*, and *I. susiana*, to send people, and Cindy had all that



'Purple Sequin', Shockey 1992 AR

was left. Sitting in a bed next to where a new *I. paradoxa* bloomed, was a petite white flower with a large purple signal. Snapping pictures, of both flowers, despite the fact that there was a little frost damage on 'Purple Sequin' we toured the garden again and found even more garden art and even more cactus in bloom. Then it was time to say goodbye so that Cindy could get ready for the opening salvo the following day. Since it would be afternoon before we would be allowed into the show area, I decided to take Dolores, Nancy and Betsy to the Nature Center.

## Aril and Median Trek 2008 (cont.)

Geese, lizard, road runner, duck and hummingbird at Nature Center



This time, Nancy and I went for a walk and what I had previously thought of as the Rio Grade was in fact an irrigation ditch, ooops. We found the real Rio Grand and were able to watch several nesting pairs of geese, stumbled on to a lizard or two, and the best was when we surprised a road runner on the way back to the nature center. Acting like a cat, as if our presence was expected, the bird walked around as if he were posing for our pictures until the spell was broken by the call of a male ring-necked pheasant.



Desert Fire, Shockey 1975 AR

Then it was time to go to the first event, the iris show. Although most allowed the vast majority of their flowers to stay in the gardens for all of us to see in the subsequent days, there was a good representation of arils and arilbred as well as medians and a couple tall bearded iris. Best Specimen of Show was awarded to 'Desert Fire' (Shockey 75, AR), not only was it well deserved; this particular iris showed well in all the gardens it was in. Fortunately/unfortunately, depending on how you look at it, the local society also had a plant sale. Well... I could not let that go untouched. So I bought a couple, ok a few arilbreds to bring home with me. After we perused the show and the different irises

showing we headed out back to the iris garden planted at the Garden Center. The local society, Pat Randall actually provided a pot luck for all to enjoy food and new friendships which were quickly being established. From the Nationals Perry Dyer and Will Plotner also attended.



Lowell Baumunk Arilbred training in McGrath Garden

Finally it was out to the gardens. Our first stop was the Garden Center for Show Judging with Lowell Baumunk. This would have been great training for those judges that seldom see aril or arilbreds on the bench would have benefited from. Then it was out to the McGrath Garden and it was stunning with even more Aril bloom than before. We were given a short time to take in all we were seeing then Lowell began in garden Aril training. Gathered around a large clump of 'Refiners Fire' (McGrath 2007) Lowell pointed out the strengths and weakness of this and other arilbreds in a garden setting. Again we were fed wonderfully thanks to Pat Randall and Cindy Rivera, who was everywhere made sure there were enough chairs

## Aril and Median Trek 2008 (cont.)



Aril Seedling at McGrath Garden



Dorothy Willott at White Garden for in the garden Median Training



Norma Riley trying to get that shot of 'Dollop' in White Garden



Robin posing in White Garden

for everyone to sit and enjoy the scenery and the garden. Once finished it was back to the garden where I saw the most wonderful seedling that I was never able to get a shot of the sign so Pete, please excuse my ignorance. Returning to the hotel and work with the photos and look forward to the next day.

Change of plans, due to a freeze the previous evening we would be going to the White Garden instead of Cindy Rivera's to give her garden time to recover. First we went to the Garden Center for show judging of medians. Dorothy Willott graciously gave the training and would also do the in garden training for medians. The White garden, though it contained Arilbreds was a large planting of medians in a neighborhood setting. Everyone attempted to get a shot of the MDB 'Dollop' (Keppel 2002), as well as 'Oblivion' (Smith 2002), 'Devil's Baby' (Keppel 2002), 'Bottled Sunshine' (Nichols 1994) was a bright spot in the garden and then there was 'Dilirium' (Smith 1999) that looked wonderful. As the day before, we were allowed plenty of time to take pictures and a large sprawling tree provided ample shade on this warm day we broke for refreshments and listened to Dorothy teach. Going into the garden, Dorothy pointed out what we should look for even in those irises that have already received accolades. We were given more time to take pictures so to the arilbeds I went. Although few were blooming, there was a robin that posed for all those with cameras. He never seemed to mind the crowds or the shutter noise. After a very satisfying day it was back to the Garden Center where we noticed on our way out more flowering cactus. I did not know cactus bloomed so beautifully and in so many different colors.



Cactus at Garden Center



Chicon Seedling 2K-02E

and photograph. The Chicon seedlings were blooming as was another *I. paradoxa* bloom open and just before it was time to eat, 'Oyez' (White 1938) was found opening. The center median bed was blooming wonderfully and the *Iris lactea* was in full bloom which the bees were taking full advantage of. Of course there was the garden art, I can not imagine how I missed the turtle. Again Pat Randall fed us all as we went back into the garden to relax and enjoy the peace and beauty.

The following day we went to Cindy Rivera's garden. I thought I had gone over this garden well when I had been here before and despite the freeze damage that was worse in this garden there was plenty to see



'Oyez' in Rivera Garden

Bees Enjoying the many blooms on *I. lactea*



## Aril and Median Trek 2008 (cont.)



Jordan Garden Arilbred  
Bed



Shockey Seedling S93-  
110E in Jordan Garden



Shockey Seedling S93-  
104A in Jordan Garden

Once again we were on the road, only this time to the Scott Garden. Wow! Even more was in bloom that when I was first there and my camera was busy for a very long time as I slowly moved through the different beds, I did not want miss a thing, I think. The two seedlings I had admired earlier had fresher flowers on them and really increased my impression of them. Again the Shockey seedlings got a lot of attention as did the named varieties. Finally we were shushed out of the gardens but not before I got a few last clicks of the medians at the front of the house. Back to the Hotel, so we could get ready for the Awards Banquet, but first a photo op for all those who road the bus.

The awards ceremony was like we have all been to but it was the last time many of us who have met people for the very first time to be able to talk together until they would meet again some unknown time in the future. There were so many that I had conversed with over the internet or over the phone that I had never met until the Aril-Median Trek. Thanks to everyone present at the banquet, Oh and Pat the food was wonderful as always..., we were able to present the 1<sup>st</sup> Aril-Median Trek Octopus Award to Cindy Rivera who was literally everywhere to make sure that this was an enjoyable experience for everyone and it was.



Jordan Seedling J92-11H



Jordan Seedling J93-14A



Cindy Rivera win 1st Aril-Median  
Trek Octopus Award.

**Checking Account Balance on May 23, 2008** **\$3,761.57**

**Receipts:**

Spring Auction: \$420.00

Donations:

C & P Iris Society: \$500.00

F.S. K. Iris Society: \$400.00

Interest: \$0.64

**Total Receipts:** **\$1,320.64**

**Expenditures:**

August 2008 *Newscast* Printing & Mailing: \$937.63

Membership - Mac Shawe \$37.87

**Total Expenditures:** **\$975.50**

**Checking Account Balance on September 29, 2008:** **\$4,106.71**

**Certificate of Deposit (M&T Bank)** **\$6,948.07**

**Total Assets:** **\$11,054.78**

Carol S. Warner, Region 4 Treasurer

REGION 4, AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY  
JUDGES AND JUDGES' TRAINING REPORT

E. Roy Epperson, Chairman

October 3, 2008

\* \* \* \* \*

For 2009, the following changes occurred in the Roster of Region 4 Accredited Judges: -

One removed for insufficient required training hours: David Traylor

Two advanced from G/E to M: Dr. L. Bruce Hornstein, Bill Smoot

One transferred in: Bob Pries from Region 18

One appointed Apprentice: Lois Rose

For 2009, Region 4 will have the following Roster summary of Accredited judges:

16 Garden/Exhibition [formerly Garden]

5 Master

6 Retired [formerly Master/Retired]

3 Emeritus

7 Apprentice

Of these 37 judges, 24 are fully accredited (Garden/Exhibition, Master, Emeritus); 6 are Retired.

2009 Roster of Judges, Region 4

**Garden/Exhibition**

Ms. Ruth Barker  
Ms. Pat Bowen  
Mr. Randell Bowen  
Ms. Glenna de Quoy  
Mr. Daniel Laing  
Ms. Kristen Laing  
Ms. Linda Laing  
Mr. Michael Lockatell  
Mr. Bob Pries  
Ms. Marian "Bea" Rogers  
Mr. Don Rude  
Mr. Merrick "Mac" Shawe  
Dr. Donald M. Spoon  
Ms. Ginny W. Spoon  
Ms. Frances Thrash  
Ms. Carrie Winter

**Master**

Dr. L. Bruce Hornstein  
Ms. Anne Lowe  
Mr. Mike Lowe  
Mr. William C. Smoot  
Ms. Katharine Steele

**Emeritus**

Dr. E. Roy Epperson  
Mr. Clarence E. Mahan  
Ms. Carol Warner  
-

**Apprentice**

Ms. June Hood  
Ms. Karen Jones  
Mr. Ramon (Ray) Jones  
Ms. Anita Moran  
Ms. Lois Rose  
Mr. John Rosini  
Mr. Jim Schroetter

**-Retired**

Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr. (Susan)  
Mrs. Paul D. Kabler  
Mrs. Nancy Karriker  
Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.  
Mrs. Millie Trent  
Mr. Dennis A. Wilkie

Picture (right)

Joshua Clouser, 3 yrs old  
playing in his Grand-  
mother's Debora  
Rockwell garden in  
Loysville, PA



## Sponges, We All Have A Role

By Anita Moran

You all know what sponges I am talking about. Those little things on two feet that run through the garden, watch intently for about 5 seconds while you are trying to make that special cross before they are off and running, only to bring you that same bloom you just crossed an hour later. These sponges are just that. They soak up knowledge as fast as we are able to impart it. Repetition is important, but once they have an idea down who knows where it will go.

We have all been lucky in knowing children who have a natural ability with animals, flowers, music, or like mine who could take apart anything, and it took years before soon they were putting them back together, but it was done in a way to match what was in their mind. How cool would it be to capture some of that in the iris world? Children are fearless but want recognition for achievement. What better way than to teach them to hybridize and see what happens with certain crosses and then turn them loose?

**A weed is a plant  
that has mastered  
every survival skill  
except for learning  
how to grow in rows.**  
- Doug Larson

Dr. Donald Spoon and his wife Ginny carried out hybridizing clinics for youth members of Region 4 of the American iris society. A teacher through and through, Don made his extensive collection available to the youth members for hybridizing. The results of those crosses went to the youth members. For the Spoons this was a very large undertaking as it came at peak bloom when Don was doing his own hybridizing. The number of children and their parents made this a large undertaking. Was it worth it? Sure, it was. Every year in Region 4 I hear of the youth members hybridizing their own iris.

Some suggestions: Have clinics in your own yard. Maybe invite the local kindergarten class. Don't want to go that big, how about a couple of the neighborhood children to start? Invite the parents, maybe they will get involved and they are always, ok usually good to help control the little ones. For the real little ones, I would have some .

Picture—(right) Nicolle and friend Kaylee hybridizing in the Spoon's Winterberry garden

(Photo—ginny Spoon)



### **Sponges, We All Have A Role (cont.)**

SIGNA seeds to give the kids immediately. Perhaps something that would not be bothered by over or under watered during critical times. I like Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDBs) for this, I do not know how often I have done both of these. SDBs also have a good chance to bloom the year after they germinate. Their small size and wide variety of color fits well with children and they are very sturdy and can withstand the pressures children will surely place on them. In areas that can not grow dwarfs Intermediate Bearded or Border Bearded are a great alternative. I would leave tall bearded for those kids nine years old and above.

There are so many ways in which we can get our children and grandchildren, the neighborhood children and school children involved with irises that it is a shame that we do not utilize this very valuable resource. Our future and the future of this group of wonderful plants

depends on the youth who are now more concerned with video games and television. Take someone you love into your garden with you. Get some crosses going.

## Affiliate Reports

### C & P

The Regional meeting sponsored by our club was a huge success thanks to all the members who helped make it one. The weather was perfect, cool and sunny and the irises were at peak bloom. The iris show was held on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Winchester. We had 132 entries and the Judges, Linda, Dan and Kristen Laing, said it was the most difficult show they had every judged because there were so many outstanding entries, especially seedlings. Carol Warner won best specimen with Hollywood Nights and also the silver medal for the most blue ribbons (14). Anita Moran won the bronze medal for the second most blue ribbons (8) and all of her aril-bred entries were awarded a blue ribbon. Thanks to Shelly McAllister, Sharon Galloway and Joanna Cayford for helping me with the show both in the setup and takedown and clerking. Sharon Galloway and Glenna DeQuoy did the huge task of tallying the Nearpass, Alice Bouldin and B.Y. Morrison Award votes. Ray and Karen Jones were our indispensable registrars, and Karen also brought lots of delicious baked goodies for the garden tours. A big thank you to Rosalie Loving from FAIS who also brought

homemade bird nest cookies. We had 55 people registered for the Regional Meeting.

Bryan Spoon won the best seedling at the show (2002-B25A) and the same seedling also won the Alice Bouldin Award for the favorite seedling seen growing in the garden. The same seedling also won a blue ribbon last year at our spring show so Don said it must be time to introduce it. It was a lovely tan and mahogany bicolor border bearded. Our guest speaker and judge's trainer Perry Dyer said he liked it very much. 'Loving Pink' (D. Spoon 2008), named in honor of Jack and Rosalie Loving, won the Nearpass Award for the favorite introduced iris by a Region 4 hybridizer. 'Maslon' and 'Daughter of Stars' came in as second and third choice. Perry Dyer gave an excellent garden training on seedlings on Saturday. There were a lot of people taking the training and Don said he especially enjoyed the questions back and

forth between Don Rude and Perry about some of the rules in the handbook. Mike Lowe enjoyed taking lots of photographs of the historic irises in bloom. After dinner Jerry Coates and Mac Shawe sang a dueling duet of "I Can Grow Iris Better Than You Can." 'Explicit' by Joe Ghio won the B.Y. Morrison award for best out of region hybridizer with 'Glamour Pants' and 'Lady Friend' as second and third choice.

Don and I enjoyed hosting the training sessions in our garden and especially the time we were able to spend with all the members of Region 4 and our out of town guests. We had some of the delicious food left over from the dinner on Friday night catered by Red Hot and Blue, so we put it on ice and took it home. It made sandwiches and lunch for our early garden visitors on Saturday. There was even more food left from Saturday's dinner, so we took it home and put it in the freezer. Last week, a lightning strike and subsequent fire destroyed our neighbor's home. The barbecue and ribs made a meal that fed their family and a dozen friends who came to help clean out what was left of their belongings.

Our next meeting will be at the sale on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Meadowlark Park in Vienna. We will be sharing the space again this year with the daylily club. We always enjoy their company and the lovely blooms they have on display. If any of our members can help us prepare the irises (cutting and marking) the weekend before the sale we would appreciate it. We will be digging at Winterberry Gardens in Cross Junction on Saturday and Sunday before the sale, we will provide lunch, shade on the porch with fans, and reclining chairs in the air conditioned apartment for a nap if needed. Please call me if you can attend at 540-888-4447. We hope to see you at the sale. See the flyer in this newsletter for directions.

Ginny Spoon

## Affiliate Reports

### C IS

October 2008

The Charlotte Iris Society held its annual plant sale on Saturday, July 19, 2008 at the Metrolina Farmers Market. There was a large selection of choice iris rhizomes and a generous assortment of perennials which sold quickly, generating funds for the Society projects.

At this event it was our pleasure to get to know Kathy Chapman, the current recipient of our scholarship at Central Piedmont Community College. She is enthusiastic and very interested in many areas of horticulture.

On September 13, 2008 a regularly scheduled meeting was held featuring the auction of an assortment of plants contributed by members and a selection of Siberians and Pseudatas from Carol Warner's garden.

We will end the year with a very special Harvest Luncheon on Saturday, November 1, 2008.

June Hood  
President CIS

### C MIS

CMIS 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

January. 23, 2008: Walter Hoover gave a presentation on Japanese Irises and specie irises to The Maser Gardeners of Henderson County.

Sixty-Five CMIS 2008 Annual Newsletters were mailed out and fourteen e-newsletters were sent out.

Walter Hoover gave a program on Japanese irises for the Pedal Pushers Club in Saluda North Carolina., and gave a workshop on Japanese irises at Rux Garden Center, Waynesville North Carolina.

A donation of Iris versicolor and iris virginica fto supply Henderson County School and the Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh to develop a raingarden. Iris virginica and iris versicolor were donated to South Carolina Native Plant Society.

April 12<sup>th</sup> was our spring business meeting followed by a power point presentation on 2006 Bearded iris introduction which was ordered and purchased from AIS.

We scheduled a Spring Show for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00pm but did not have enough entries to have a certified AIS show.

Japanese Iris Exhibit at Opportunity House Hendersonville were 35 blooms were shown.

Our Iris Sale was on August 9<sup>th</sup> 2008. The week of our scheduled sale a water restriction was issued for the City of Hendersonville with the lowest recorded level of the French Broad River in 100 years. We managed to offer 300 rhizomes bearded, some Louisiana,

Siberian, Japanese and species. Buyers were down from previous year but the ones that came made large purchases, which helped us to make a small profit . We had one person sign up for triennial membership.

Two books were purchased and donated to the Henderson County Public Library.

CMIS hosted the 2008 Fall Regional Meeting October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at the Quality Inn and Suites in Hendersonville, North Carolina. It was a small meeting but nice with a Reblooming Iris Show, guest speakers Roy Epperson and Bill Smoot, a plant auction, a silent auction and judges training on Louisiana Iris.

We will have a fall meeting November 1<sup>st</sup> at the Henderson County Library.

## Affiliate Reports

### CVIS

#### CVIS Year in Retrospect

CVIS meets bi-monthly on Saturdays for scheduled meetings. Please see below for months and agenda.

January – CVIS had an informal meeting at IHOP for breakfast, casual discussion, and a White Elephant exchange by those attending.

March – Guest speaker, Carol Warner, did a presentation/slide show on Japanese Irises, followed by a business meeting.

April – At the AIS Convention, youth member, Krissie Laing, (who is one of the youngest judges and also hybridizes) had new seedlings to show. Don't ever forget, our youth is our future.

May – no meeting, in lieu of open garden tours of members Cameron Hall, June & John Rosini, and Wayne Bryant. Members also took an all day field trip, visiting Doris and Owen Rebert's garden later in month, organized by Cameron Hall.

July – July meeting was moved to June for our annual picnic at the home of Mike Kendrick and his mother, Marie. Guest Speaker, Ginny Spoon, did a presentation and judges training on "Medians and Classes of Iris", followed by a short business meeting.

September – The September was the meeting at our new meeting location, LaPrade Library in Richmond. Our guest speaker, Annette Pelliccio, spoke on "Organic Gardening", followed by a brief meeting, and plant swap.

November – This is our final meeting of the year, celebrating with our annual Harvest Dinner. It will be Saturday, November 15 at Stranges Greenhouse and Garden Center.

CVIS had two iris sales this year.

- A spring sale with potted irises, held in April at the

annual spring Master Gardener Sale in Ashland, VA. This allows us to use our left over rhizomes, which we pot up from the previous years' fall sale.

Our primary sale is our annual fall sale, which is held at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens in Richmond, VA. This was a two day sale, on September 19 and 20. This was very well attended, and very successful. Thank you, John (chairman) & June Rosini and your team for making this a success.

Our goal for 2008 has been to increase our membership. We took the advice of Anita Moran and Lois Rose and have included Iris Bucks (\$5.00) in all our new member packets. We encourage new members to visit our sales and redeem them for irises. We found this to be very successful at increasing our membership.

Our second goal is to let the public know who we are. During the year, CVIS participates at several locations by having a table/booth set up to educate the public on how to grow our beautiful irises. At our table, we have flyers, AIS bulletins, and various membership tri-folds available for the public. We also answer any questions and have had specific talks during the day. Below are places we attend:

- Hanover spring plant sale in Ashland, VA.
- Spring Gardeners Fair at the Great Big Greenhouse in Richmond, VA
- Spring Expo at Stranges Greenhouse and Garden Center in Richmond, VA

Hanover fall plant sale in Ashland, VA

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday to all. God bless!

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Scheffler, CVIS President on Oct. 1, 2008

## Affiliate Reports

### ENCIS

#### **EASTERN NC IRIS SOCIETY REPORT – OCTOBER 2008**

The Eastern NC Iris Society had a most successful 3rd Annual Iris Sale on Saturday, July 19th at the garden of Randy Ray in Raleigh. We again purchased beautiful irises from the Diamond State Iris Society, and also from Mid-America Garden and Sutton's Garden. In addition we had plants from the gardens of several of our members. There was a good supply of reblooming cultivars for sale, and these were favorites of our customers. We had over 500 plants for sale and sold every one of them by 1:00 p.m. We also gained five new members.

The Alice Bouldin Award was mailed to Bryan Spoon for his seedling 'Tina Louise', the in Region seedling winner at the Region 4 Spring meeting in May 2008.

Our Harvest Lunch to end our year's activities will be held on Saturday, November 22nd at the Raleigh home of Susan and Glenn Grigg. A program on "The Iris Family" will be presented by Vice-President Ruth Barker of Greensboro.

We're looking forward to hosting the 2009 Region 4 Fall Meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Please reserve the dates.

Susan Grigg, ENCIS President

### FSK

We had a productive board meeting and delicious picnic on a lovely August day at Bruce Hornstein's home. A tentative schedule for 2009 was approved and here are some of the dates:

#### **Saturday January 10, 2009**

Winter Board Meeting and Lunch at Carol Warner's home.

#### **Saturday April 4, 2009**

Spring Luncheon

#### **Saturday May 23, 2009**

Spring Show at the Shops at Kenilworth

#### **Saturday June 20, 2009**

Beardless Iris Show at the Shops at Kenilworth

#### **Saturday July 11, 2009**

Rhizome Sale, Watson's, Lutherville, MD

#### **Saturday July 18, 2009**

Rhizome Sale, Dutch Plant Farm, Frederick, MD

The Summer picnic and Fall luncheon are to be determined at a later date.

**Region 4, American iris Society - Minutes of the Board Meeting  
– Fall Meeting  
Quality Inn – Hendersonville, NC Friday October 3, 2008 2:15 P.M.**

In the absence of Jerry Coates, RVP, the meeting was called to order by Assistant Regional Vice-President, Carrie Winter. The first order of business Carrie asked for a motion accepting Tricia Taylor as acting secretary to take the minutes of the meeting. The motion was made, seconded and carried by all board members present.

Carrie noted that not many people voted the Symposium. Roy Epperson also mentioned that there were problems this year in the placement of the Symposium in the AIS Bulletin. The confusion about the Ballot will be addressed at the AIS Fall Board meeting in Las Vegas.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS) will be celebrated at the Spring Region 4 Meeting in Fredericksburg, Virginia the weekend of May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. It will also be the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Region 4 as it is now geographically comprised.

The minutes from the Spring 2008 board meeting were approved as printed in the August, 2008 Newscast.

Jack Loving presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Carol Warner showing a checking account balance of \$4,106.71, the certificate of deposit remained the same as in May at \$6,948.07, making total assets of \$11,054.78. The entire report was entered into the record.

Jack Loving brought up the proposed budget as was previously printed in the August 2008 Newscast. It was noted that auction income for Region 4 which had previously been in the \$1200 - \$1800, was down considerably and that donations from a couple regional chapters were helpful. Chapters are encouraged to make donations to the Region 4 treasury for expenses, including Newscast and the Fall and Spring meetings. The motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to accept the 2009 Budget.

Membership Chairman, Mac Shaw, sent in his report via Carrie Winter stating that Region 4 had regained its distinctive position in AIS with the largest membership of 492. FAIS was the largest contributing chapter, increasing its membership in 2008 by 18. Mac noted that Region 14 is the second largest region in AIS with 451 members.

Judges and Judges Training Report, was presented by Chairman Roy Epperson, who noted the following changes in the roster of Region 4 accredited judges: One removed for insufficient required training hours; two advanced from Garden/Exhibition to Master, one transferred into region, and one apprentice was appointed. The full report was filed.

The Newscast and Web Report by Anita Moran, was presented by Carrie Winter. In her report Anita noted that the deadline for the December 2008 issue is Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please email her your information at [avmoran1@earthlink.net](mailto:avmoran1@earthlink.net)

Anita is requesting pictures of irises of all Region 4 hybridizers. She will allocate up to nine (9) slots on the web per hybridizer. Please prioritize your submissions according to the three (3) newest introductions/seedlings with the rest awards winners. Snail mail pictures must be on photo paper at least 4"x6". Hybridizers who have passed will receive nine (9) slots, but she needs input from Region 4 members for quality pics of the newest introductions. The full report was entered into the record.

Lois Rose read the Region 4 Rebloom Report from Chairman, Mike Lockatell noting the wonderful bloom so far. Mike asked that everyone please fill out and submit a report and email or mail it to him as very few reports have been received.

The following affiliate reports were given and entered into the record.

Carolina Mountain 2008 Annual Report was presented by Danee Hoover, our host for the 2008 Fall meeting. She noted several presentations made members, donation of specific iris to the South Carolina Native Plant Society, a successful rhizome sale, and donation of books to the Henderson County Public Library.

CVIS 2008 Report by Vicki Scheffler was presented by Lois Rose.

Charlotte Iris Society by chapter president, June Hood was presented by Katharine Steele.

C & P 2008 Report by Ray Jones noted the different meetings held throughout the year.

ENCIS 2008 Report by Susan Grigg was presented by Carrie Winter. ENCIS is the host for the Fall 2009 Regional Meeting scheduled for October 9 & 10, 2009.

Carrie Winter presented her report as Assistant RVP for Region 4, thanking Carolina Mountains Iris Society for being our host for this Fall Meeting. She noted that plans for the Fall 2009 meeting have not been made pending an evaluation of the design of future fall meetings. Generally a need to shorten the meeting – saving time and costs – has been expressed by persons throughout the region. A recommendation for the Fall 2009 meeting will be developed as soon as possible. (See New Business).

## Region 4, American iris Society - Minutes of the Board Meeting

### Old Business – None.

### New Business:

Electronic Distribution of Newscast - The distribution of Newscast via electronic email transmission was discussed. It was noted that this option is available but needs to be encouraged. Additionally, there was discussion concerning the elimination of snail mailing of those receiving the Newscast via email and how to get persons signed up. This will save quite a bit of postage. Follow-up will be made with Newscast Editor, Anita Moran.

Electronic Fall Board Meetings – Roy Epperson presented the idea of redesigning the format of Fall Board Meetings to electronic format as is currently done at the National AIS level. He noted that the Region 4 By-Laws would have to be changed to reflect this. The general discussion presented is that there is so little business done at the Fall Meeting and the economy warrants other modes to carry our actions. Electronic meetings would also address the difficulty in securing a place for Fall Meetings, as is the case for 2009. An electronic format may also encourage our youth and less active members to become more involved. The changes would also impact other activities that are generally a part of the Fall Regional Meeting, including the auction and election of officers, both of which could be done electronically or moved to the Spring meeting. Roy Epperson also noted that there was a proposal to do judges training electronically at the national level – “E-Training”.

Positive, healthy discussion among the 18 regional members present ensued, including the financial responsibilities the current format puts on the few chapters who are able to host Fall and Spring regional meetings and the limited time to recover before they host another. Acting RVP, Carrie Winter, asked for a summary in writing regarding this proposal. She also stated that as the newly elected RVP appointing an Ad Hoc Committee to look into revamping the Fall meetings will be one of her first tasks. Roy Epperson volunteered to chair that committee.

Speaker Resources – Roy Epperson reported that Dana Brown, Chairman of the Speakers Resources of AIS, will be posting a national list on the AIS national website of all speakers available, the subject matters on which they are able to present, and any fees they require.

No further business being presented the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Taylor

Acting Regional Secretary

## Region 4, American iris Society - Minutes of the Membership Meeting Saturday, October 4, 2008

Following the dinner, the meeting was called to order by Carrie Winter, ARVP. Carrie turned the meeting over to Roy Epperson who conducted the election of officers. Roy reviewed the slate of officers given by the Nominating Committee as follows:

Regional Vice President – Carrie Winter

Assistant RVP - Don Rude

Secretary - Tricia Taylor

Treasurer - Carol Warner

A call for a motion to accept the slate was made and seconded. The 18 members present voted unanimously to elect the nominees as officers for 2009.

Invitation to next Spring Meet hosted by FAIS was given by Lois Rose. Lois noted there will be four gardens on display. She asked that we please mark our calendars for May 8 & 9, 2009 (Mother's Day Weekend).

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully, submitted,

Tricia Taylor

Region 4 Secretary

## Region 4 Summer Bearded Iris Rebloom Report

**Michael Locketell, Region 4 Reblooming Iris Chairman**

**October 3, 2008**



'Clarence' Zurbrigg

I want to thank Danee Hoover for agreeing to host the 2008 Region 4 Fall Meeting. I appreciate her hard work in organizing the event schedule. I will be keeping my fingers crossed for good weather for any outdoor activities. I trust having this Region 4 gathering in Hendersonville will spark some local interest in growing reblooming bearded iris. Regretfully, I will not be able to attend this meeting thanks to prior business commitments. I have asked Lois Rose from FAIS to read my following report into the record.

Despite a series of rolling summer droughts, my Powhatan County garden in Central VA has turned in a stellar bearded rebloom performance to this point in the fall season. Overall results may very well match performance from the sparkling 2004 growing season.

One of the factors driving surprising summer bloom at my garden was night temperatures below sixty degrees. August for instance saw nine days with nights reaching this important rebloom level. Summer flower appeared on the following bearded medians Zurbrigg's SDB Sailboat Bay, Baumunk IB Midsummer Night's Dream, Aitken IB I'll Be Back. Tall bearded with summer bloom were Hall's Pink Attraction, Hager's Anxious, Wilkerson's Summer Radiance and Lloyd Zurbrigg's Durham Dream, Masterwork and Northward Ho. It was definitely the best summer rebloom ever in my garden.

Summer rebloom was not confined to my Powhatan County garden. One of the FAIS tour gardens for the 2009 Region 4 Spring Meeting also reported exciting summer results. Mary Prozinski found early July bloom on R. Smith's Summer Olympics, Innerst's Over & Over McKnew's Rosalie Figg and Zurbrigg's Clarence. Betty Wilkerson's Echo Location and All Revved Up, Lloyd Zurbrigg's Gate of Heaven plus Ginny Spoon's Autumn Rose also flowered at this time. These recent releases offer great promise for future rebloom development and enjoyment.

Respectively submitted,

Michael Locketell

Region 4 Rebloom Chairman

## DONATE IRIS TO HIPS RHIZOME SALE

*"The Historical Iris Preservation Society was created to help preserve our iris heritage by locating at risk irises and bringing them together with irisarians who want to grow and perpetuate them. Of equal importance is the establishment of an extensive collection of reference material relating to early iris history. HIPS is the common thread that binds together irisarians everywhere."*

Annually the Historical Iris Preservation Society runs a Rhizome Sale. HIPS asks for donations of Historic Rhizomes - all iris 30 or more years old - and then sells them to fund HIPS projects. This has been a very successful project to distribute hard-to-find irises to preserve the important heritage. The Regions especially encourages the donation of Historic median irises to carry on the important work of HIPS.

Please notify HIPS Rhizome Chair, Char Holte (see contact information below) by **April 1, 2009** of what varieties and approximate number you will be able to share for the sale by next year (you can adjust this list after spring growing season starts if your list goes up or down) so she can start her list. Just a few of whatever you have available will be a huge help! All donations will be acknowledged by Char with instructions as to when and where to send them for the sale.

The Rhizome sale for next year will become available to customers via a mailed list and the HIPS web page (<http://www.hips-roots.com/>) on May 1, 2009. All donations and orders are welcomed. It is not necessary to be a HIPS member to either donate or purchase (although MIS encourages that to support this valuable work!) historic rhizomes.

Char Holte-HIPS Rhizome Sale Chair

17308 W Observatory Rd

New Berlin WI 53146

e-mail - [cholte@wi.rr.com](mailto:cholte@wi.rr.com)

PS From Editor: If you plan to donate rhizomes to HIPS, you might want to drop Char Holte a line to let her know what you have and what you would be willing to donate.



'Happy Days' Mitchell 1934



'Wabash' Williamson 1936



'Kaleidoscope' Katkamier 1929



'Golden Forest' Hutchison 1958

## WEB NEWS

Well it's finished. No not the webpage that will always be a work in progress. On October 23rd the Region 4 website was transferred for Global-Web and Network solutions to Acornhost and Dynadot. Thanks to Mike Lowe this was made despite the problems from these servers. All the pages have been up loaded and I do believe all the photographs are there but as always there are bound to be holes and missed links.

Also the Region 4 by-laws have been added to the About page in both PDF (adobe Acrobat) and Word format. Both seem to work fine on the new server.

the Newscast page was reduced to 2008 only for several reason. The older newscasts were created in different programs which made the file sizes 14Mb or more which cause some problems in reloading them. If you would like color copies of these older versions (2006-2007) let me know and I will try to get them uploaded.

I still need your help

1. Hybridizers send me by e-mail or snail mail which irises you want on your page. For now let's keep it to introduced varieties. There are nine slots per hybridizer.
2. For the older and deceased hybridizers please share those special pictures you have of their introductions.
3. The rest of the region please look in your files and photo albums and see if you can find me photos of introductions by past Region 4 hybridizers.

Always if you find errors on the page please let me know.

As with the Newscast I would like to put something up about Region 4's 50th year. So please send any information you have. Remember I have only been in a short time.

Any ideas for the web page please let me know

Anita

**INVITATION: AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY REGION 4 SPRING MEETING**

**Hosted by the Fredericksburg Area  
Iris Society**

**Fredericksburg, Virginia**

**May 8-9, 2009**

The Fredericksburg Area Iris Society cordially invites you to join us Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, for the AIS Region 4 Spring Meeting and a celebration our society's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

We have a full slate of activities planned, including a spring flower show, plant auction, silent auction, judge's training, and a full day of garden touring. Dennis Hager of Delaware will be our featured speaker and will also conduct judge's training.

Of the four gardens on tour, two are new, and two will be familiar to those of you who have toured our gardens before. Three of the four gardens have plantings of guest irises, a total of almost 80 seedlings and introduced varieties, mostly from Region 4 hybridizers.

The garden of Jim and Gina Schroetter was included on the 2003 National Convention tour. This is a wooded garden on a large rural subdivision lot, with all types of irises, but specializing in rebloomers. This is also a hybridizer's garden, so be sure to check out Jim's seedlings. In the last few years, Jim has taken out a lot of trees to create new beds and provide additional sun for the irises.

Lois Rose's garden will also be familiar to any of you who have toured with us before, during either past spring meetings or the 2003 National Convention. This is a rural garden in the middle of the horse pasture. Lois grows about 800 varieties of all kinds of irises, with emphasis on tall bearded. She has an almost complete collection of Dykes Medal winners and a master planting of the Spring Meeting guest irises.

The garden of Mary and Claude Prozinski, who own and operate Southbrook Asparagus Farm, is one of the new gardens. This is also a rural garden on an old southern plantation. Centerpiece of the property is a wonderful antebellum home surrounded by Mary's extensive gardens and Claude's asparagus and vegetable fields. Mary started out with many unnamed irises, but since joining the iris society has acquired many named varieties. Many of the Spring Meeting guests are in a newly created bed.

Also new for this garden tour is the beautifully landscaped garden of Sue and Ray Shackelford on an expansive rural lot in southern Stafford County. Sue, one of our newer members, is rapidly expanding her iris collection. In addition to her own collection she also grows an almost complete collection of Dykes Medal winners and most of the 2009 Spring Meeting guest irises.

Mark your calendar now to reserve the dates, and watch for more details in the next issue of *Newscast*. We look forward to having you join us.

Anita Moran  
Newscast Editor  
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Pylesville, MD 21132

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