

Newscast

Region 4 of The American Iris Society

Vol. 42, No. 3

DECEMBER 2000



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Newscast

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Vol. 42, No. 3

DECEMBER 2000

Editor: Dr. E. Roy Epperson, 1115 Delk Drive, High Point, NC 27262
(336) 883-9677

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
Membership Secretary **Anner Whitehead, P. O. Box 14750, Richmond, VA 23221-4750**

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

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

NEWSCAST is free to AIS members in Region 4. Subscription rate for those not in Region 4 is \$5.00 per year. Checks made 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 Purposes of The American Iris Society, and Region 4, shall be to develop the science of horticulture and any activities related to the study, propagation and culture of the genus *Iris*; to stimulate and foster interest in horticultural pursuits, conservation and protection of these plants; to cooperate with other organizations, public and private, in the scientific and horticultural education of all those interested in learning any phase of the genus *Iris*, by any and all means which may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. These shall include but are not limited to:

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

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*RVP's
MESSAGE*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE AND MAY YOUR IRIS BE MORE BEAUTIFUL IN 2001 !!

For those of you who could not attend the 2000 fall meeting in Winchester, VA, you missed a wonderful reblooming show as well as a very lively and interesting meeting. Our Auction which was held on Saturday afternoon was a successful event with many iris and other plants for sale. The bidding was spirited and a good time was had by all, especially those of us who were lucky to bring plants and rhizomes back home with us. Saturday morning, we spend at Don and Ginny Spoon's garden. They are busy getting ready for the AIS national in the spring of 2003. As most of you know, they have a large display garden so it was nice to take our time and enjoy all their iris. Mike and Ann Lowe were our guest speakers and they gave us some interesting and informative ideas about taking pictures in our gardens. Shortly after our fall meeting the Lowes headed to New Zealand where they were going to present their program on "The Development of Form and Color in Bearded Irises", for the New Zealand national convention. I am certain that they had a wonderful trip and left a lasting impression on iris lovers 'down under'.



IMPORTANT NOTE: Mary 21 - 26, 2001 is the time for the AIS Convention that will be held just outside of Baltimore, MD at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn. The convention, hosted by Region 3, is listed as York, PA. Due to the lack of hotels large enough to house the convention in the York area, the headquarters is the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn in Maryland. The timing of the national convention is very close to the normal time for the Region 4 spring meeting. Therefore, we will not have a separate Region 4 2001 spring meeting, but will have an Executive Board Meeting at Hunt Valley. The proximity of this national convention to Region 4 gives us an excellent opportunity for **ALL REGION 4** members to attend a national convention. Many well known gardens will be on tour as well as three Region 4 gardens. Plan on attending. Full details of this national convention are printed elsewhere in this *NEWSCAST*.

In 2003, the AIS National Convention will be held in Region 4. The site has not been confirmed, however it will probably be Fredericksburg, VA. There will be more details as planning progresses. We are lucky to have two AIS conventions in our immediate area in a three-year period. Make plans not for 2001 and 2003. You will have an excellent opportunity to put names and faces together as well as making iris friends across the country.

Sara and Walter Marley have retired back to lovely warm and exciting New York State. Maybe not warm as I think they are to have 12" or more of snow to keep them busy. They will be

missed. They have assured us that they are still Region 4 members at heart and will be looking forward to coming back to our meetings. Address: 843 Co. Rd 3, Hannibal, NY 13074. E-mail: reddigger@alltel.net.

Bill and I attended the AIS Fall Board meeting in November at Lincoln, NE. The biggest news coming out of that meeting was that we have a new membership chairman who is our own Anner Whitehead from Richmond, VA. Congratulations on your new position! Marilyn Harlow has done an outstanding job over the past years. Thanks go to her from everyone for her hard work and dedication. Terry Aitkin has been serving as editor of the *Bulletin* of The American Iris Society. He also serves as First Vice-President. The AIS Board of Directors is conducting a search for Editor as Terry has indicated his desire to give up that position. These two positions, Membership Secretary and Editor are very time consuming and hard work. Terry and Marilyn have served the Society long and well. They are both appreciated and thanks will never be enough.

Weather-wise, we have had a crazy spring, summer and fall here. We have had rain and more rain. Bill has always been so happy that he didn't have problems with rot, but this year we have lost a great number of irises to rot. Bill will go out one day and clean the beds out and get rid of the rot, then it will rain and rain and he will go back a few days later to clean out the bed and there is more rot. Normally we have a wonderful iris bloom season in the fall, but this year the rebloomers bloomed only a few at a time and didn't stay in bloom as long as usual. With our cold/warm weather, we still have iris blooming for us. We are looking forward to a great iris season next year.

I hope this finds you all in the best of health and looking forward to 2001. Wishing you the happiness of coming years to you and yours from Bill and me.

JaNiece

IN MEMORIAM

Roy Davidson, WA

Eleanor McCown, CA

Sharon Lipiec, VA

Dr. Al Rice, VA

AMERICAN IRIS CONVENTION

2001 IRIS ODYSSEY

Hosted by Susquehanna Iris Society, York, Pennsylvania

May 22 - 26, 2001

Headquarters: Marriott Hunt Valley Inn
245 Shawan Road
Hunt Valley, MD 21031
Telephone: (410) 785-7000

Room Rates:
\$ 99 Single/Double + tax
\$ 124 Triple + tax
\$ 146 Quad (4 people/2 beds) + tax

Please reserve your room directly with the hotel. Cut off date for blocked rooms is April 15, 2001. Mention the American Iris Society Convention.

Convention Registration Fees

Postmarked by March 15, 2001	\$ 198.00
Postmarked from March 16 through April 15, 2001	\$ 225.00
Postmarked after April 16, 2001	\$ 250.00
Youth Registration (up to age 19)	\$ 150.00

Visa and MasterCard will be accepted for registration fees.

Partial registration rates will be available for advance registrations only. No registrations will be accepted for the Welcoming Dinner or Awards Banquet **only** after April 15.

If it is necessary to cancel reservations, please notify the Registrar. Every effort will be made to provide 100% refund, but late cancellations may receive less than full reimbursement. **No refunds after May 1.**

Section Meetings and the **Welcoming Dinner** will be held on Wednesday, May 23, 2001.

Garden Tours will be Thursday, May 24, Friday, May 25, and Saturday, May 26. There will be ten gardens on tour in Pennsylvania and Maryland including the beautiful gardens of Dykes Medal winner Sterling Innerst and the commercial gardens of Joan and Ken Roberts (Friendship Gardens) and Carol Warner (Draycott).

The **Awards Banquet** will be held on Saturday, May 26.

Complete the registration form on the reverse of this sheet and mail to Jay Holcomb.

**REGISTRATION FORM - AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION
2001 IRIS ODYSSEY - YORK, PA - MAY 22 - 26, 2001**

(1) NAME _____

(2) NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE () _____ E-MAIL _____

NUMBER OF REGISTRANTS _____ CHECK ENCLOSED \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO : SUSQUEHANNA IRIS SOCIETY

OR: VISA/MasterCard # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature as name appears on credit card: _____

FULL REGISTRATION (3 days of Garden Tours, Welcoming Banquet, Awards Banquet)

Please indicate number of registrants below:

_____ \$ 198.00 full registration if postmarked by March 15, 2001

_____ \$ 225.00 full registration if postmarked after March 15 but before April 15

_____ \$ 250.00 full registration if postmarked after April 15, 2001

_____ \$ 75.00 per registrant for **one day registration fee**

_____ \$ 150.00 per registrant for **two day registration fee**

_____ \$ 150.00 **Full Youth registration**

_____ \$ 35.00 per guest for Welcoming Banquet **ONLY**

_____ \$ 35.00 per guest for Awards Banquet **ONLY**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 1, 2001.

Mail this completed Registration Form to: Jay Holcomb
AIS Convention Registrar
824 Brookside Drive
Boalsburg, PA 16827

Telephone: (814) 466-6114
E-mail: ejh3@psu.edu

Region 4 2001 Tall Bearded Symposium Results

66 Ballots were received. This is 10.5 % of the Region 4 membership. Region 4 introductions are in *italics*. Dykes Medal winners are in **bold**.

Votes Cultivar Rank

44 <i>Clarence</i> 1	12 Mary Frances 14	6 <i>Busy Being Blue</i> 20
	12 <i>Persian Berry</i> 14	6 <i>Classic Look</i> 20
38 <i>Immortality</i> 2		6 <i>Dawn of Change</i> 20
	11 <i>Laced Cotton</i> 15	6 <i>Fringe Benefits</i> 20
33 Dusky Challenger 3	11 <i>Melted Butter</i> 15	6 Kilt Lilt 20
	11 <i>Sky Hooks</i> 15	6 <i>Lorilee</i> 20
32 Silverado 4		
	10 <i>Anna Belle Babson</i> . . . 16	5 <i>After the Storm</i> 21
25 <i>Lady Friend</i> 5	10 <i>Afternoon Delight</i> . . . 16	5 <i>Best Bet</i> 21
25 Thornbird 5	10 <i>Celebration Song</i> . . . 16	5 <i>Boogie Woogie</i> 21
	10 <i>Forever in Love</i> 16	5 <i>Breakers</i> 21
23 Jesse's Song 6	10 Hello Darkness 16	5 <i>Good Vibrations</i> 21
23 Vanity 6	10 <i>Huckleberry Fudge</i> . . 16	5 <i>Grand Waltz</i> 21
	10 <i>Tiger Honey</i> 16	5 <i>Leda's Lover</i> 21
20 Beverly Sills 7		5 <i>Olympiad</i> 21
20 Titan's Glory 7	9 <i>Codicil</i> 17	5 <i>Pacific Destiny</i> 21
	9 <i>Epicenter</i> 17	5 <i>Proud Tradition</i> 21
18 Before the Storm 8	9 <i>Going My Way</i> 17	5 <i>Rhonda Fleming</i> 21
18 <i>Champagne Elegance</i> . . 8	9 <i>Ringo</i> 17	5 <i>Ruffled Ballet</i> 21
18 <i>Yakina Blue</i> 8	9 <i>Sweet Musette</i> 17	5 <i>Study in Black</i> 21
	9 <i>Tennison Ridge</i> 17	5 <i>Swingtown</i> 21
17 Conjuration 9		5 <i>Voltage</i> 21
17 <i>Dover Beach</i> 9	8 <i>Dazzling Gold</i> 18	
17 Edith Wolford 9	8 <i>Fancy Woman</i> 18	4 <i>Autumn Tryst</i> 22
17 Stepping Out 9	8 Honky Tonk Blues . . 18	4 <i>Black Tie Affair</i> 22
17 <i>Total Recall</i> 9	8 <i>Pond Lily</i> 18	4 <i>Bronzette Star</i> 22
	8 <i>Purple Pepper</i> 18	4 <i>Crowned Heart</i> 22
16 Song of Norway 10	8 <i>Queen in Calico</i> 18	4 <i>Cruise Control</i> 22
		4 <i>Diabolique</i> 22
15 <i>Little John</i> 11	7 <i>Acoma</i> 19	4 <i>Eastertime</i> 22
15 <i>Skating Party</i> 11	7 <i>Brave New World</i> . . . 19	4 Everything Plus 22
15 Stairway to Heaven . 11	7 <i>City Lights</i> 19	4 <i>Kathleen Kay Nelson</i> . 22
15 <i>Superstition</i> 11	7 <i>Dreamsicle</i> 19	4 <i>Lemon Mist</i> 22
15 Victoria Falls 11	7 <i>Eagle's Flight</i> 19	4 Mystique 22
	7 <i>Gay Parasol</i> 19	4 <i>Pink Starlet</i> 22
14 <i>Holy Night</i> 12	7 <i>Joyce Terry</i> 19	4 <i>Rustler</i> 22
14 <i>Mesmerizer</i> 12	7 <i>Mulled Wine</i> 19	4 <i>Seakist</i> 22
	7 <i>Owyhee Desert</i> 19	4 <i>Tanzanian Tangerine</i> . 22
13 <i>Rosalie Figge</i> 13	7 <i>Rare Treat</i> 19	4 <i>Zandria</i> 22
	7 <i>Supreme Sultan</i> 19	
12 <i>Bayberry Candle</i> 14		3 votes 30 cultivars
12 <i>Camelot Rose</i> 14	6 Babbling Brook 20	2 votes 65 cultivars
	6 Bride's Halo 20	1 vote 89 cultivars

TREASURER'S REPORT

June 25, 2000 through November 1, 2000

Balance on June 25, 2000 (Checking only) \$ 9,639.45

Receipts

Spring Regional Auction	\$ 485.00
Fall Regional Auction	\$ 1,260.00
Donation: Carolina Mountains Iris Society	\$ 100.00
Donation: Francis Scott Key Iris Society	\$ 650.00
Slide Rental (Marsha Sasser)	\$ 10.00
Interest on Checking Account	\$ 36.24
	=====
	\$ 2,541.24

Expenditures

Epperson - August 2000 NEWSCAST	
Printing and Mailing	\$ 689.19
RVP Mull - Convention Travel Allowance	\$ 600.00
Morrison Cup (Glenn Grigg)	\$ 26.38
Office of Treasurer (Postage stamps)	\$ 6.60
Wm. Mull - Slide Program	\$ 152.51
Global Web Solutions (1 year Hosting)	\$ 270.00
	=====
	\$ 1,744.68

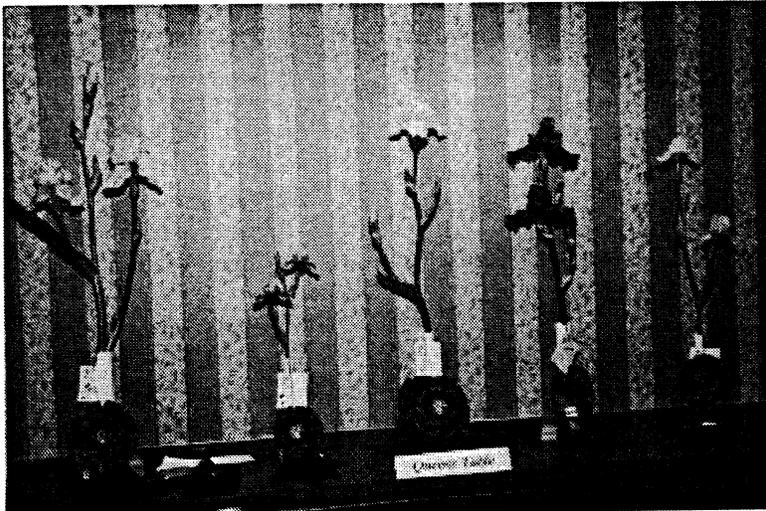
Net balance on November 1, 2000 \$ 10,436.01

Certificate of Deposit Assets - Total \$ 7,060.06

Complete Current Net Assets on November 1, 2000 \$ 17,496.07

Submitted by J. Owings Rebert, Treasurer

=====



The "Queen's Table" at the Winchester Show

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
REGION 4, AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
Winchester, Virginia
Friday, October 20, 2000**

RVP JaNiece Mull called the meeting to order. The minutes of the April, 2000, Board Meeting as printed in *NEWSCAST*, Vol. 42, No. 2, August 2000 were accepted with the addition of the name of the winner of the B.Y. Morrison Award, Monty Byers for WINE SET.

Reports of the Officers

Regional Vice President - JaNiece Mull

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society for hosting this Region 4 Fall Meeting. We are looking forward to not only some great social time with our iris friends, but to the activities you have planned for us.

I understand that we have some first-timers for a regional meeting here. Welcome and we will be looking forward to seeing you many times in the future. Would you please stand and introduce yourself to us along with your home Society.

I also understand that we are losing two of our biggest supporters Sara and Walter Marley to the New York Region. I want them to understand that they are still in Region 4 and we will be looking forward to their being at our spring and fall meetings. We will miss them on a day-to-day basis, but we wish them the best in their move and new home. (New address: **843 Co. Rd. 3, Hannibal, NY 13074**; e-mail: **reddigger@alltel.net**.)

Region 4 is getting so many Presidents that I am having problems keeping up with them. Along with our own Clarence Mahan serving as AIS President, Carol Warner was recently elected President of the Society for Siberian Irises. Congratulations Carol, you will make a great President.

At the spring meeting we passed a motion to set up AIS discounts for AIS members at the various nurseries in their area. I am more than happy to write letters, make telephone calls, personal calls or whatever, if you will let me know who to contact. We have 3 nurseries in the Tidewater Area that are giving discounts for plants only. For (4) more are considering this. The biggest problem is that the local nurseries don't want to give discounts only to have the same discount available at national or regional chains that have low prices on all their products. Tidewater will be at the Flower Show held in Virginia Beach the last of January. This is an informational booth only, so we will have an opportunity to see how the discount works as far as bringing in new members. As of this date, Tidewater has gotten 5 new members from the *AIS Invitation to Join*, but I'm not certain that the discount has had anything to do with getting these new members.

Working with public schools is a very slow process. We are still working with Taylor Elementary School, a recently built new facility where the PTA wanted to get involved in planting irises in the school colors. Unfortunately, the contractor and the school system still have not solved their problems, even though the school building has been in operation for more than a year. We are

still in touch with them and they still want to have iris gardens - so we will wait and see. I believe that there are many opportunities in the schools - we just need to hunt them out. I have had two e-mail requests for school iris projects. These have been from individuals students not in the Tidewater area.

We have two (2) National AIS conventions coming up in the next three years: one here in Region 4, May 16 - 21, 2003 and one in Region 3, May 22 - 26, 2001 in the Baltimore, MD area. We need to encourage our members to attend these conventions. Both will have Region 4 gardens on display as well as being so close to home for us. I will be attending the fall meeting of the AIS Board of Directors in Lincoln, NE, the first weekend in November.

I appreciate all the work and effort that the various officers and standing committee members put into helping make Region 4 the **BEST** region. Thank you and keep up the good work. Your reports along with the Affiliate reports are very important and we need to make certain the reports are turned in at the spring and fall meetings so we will know what is being done across Region 4.

Also it is very important that the "Show Report and Application for Awards" be sent in a timely manner to E. Roy Epperson, AIS Exhibitions Chairman. Earned medals cannot be sent without this Show Report and unreported shows cannot be listed on the annual Exhibitions Report.

We have a Web Page, the address is under the Web Master report. Spring Brooks is our web master and is doing a great job. She needs to have information about your Society, officers, shows, sales, etc. Please send her current information along with pictures. It is also very helpful if you send a copy to me.

Assistant Regional Vice President - Glenn Grigg

There have been no changes in the scheduled Regional Meetings. The scheduled meetings are as follows:

2000 Fall	Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society
2001 Spring	Meet with Region 3, National Convention
2001 Fall	Fredericksburg Area Iris Society
2002 Spring	Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society
2002 Fall	OPEN
2003 Spring	AIS National Convention, Region 4 Host
2003 Fall	OPEN
2004 Spring	OPEN

I have made poor progress in securing hosts for the open fall meetings. I request that an appeal be made to Affiliates/Societies at this meeting to host the open meeting dates. Without such acceptance of the task, then I recommend that the structure of fall board meetings be changed to make them more acceptable to member societies.

Immediate Past Regional Vice President - Sara Marley

My role as advisor to RVP JaNiece Mull has diminished since the spring meeting.

Walter and I decided to retire 'again' and are in the process of moving back to our home state of New York after living and working in Northern Virginia for 15 years. We have bought 1&1/2 acres and a much smaller house near Syracuse, NY. We have planted close to three hundred varieties of bearded, 150 starts of JIs and SIBs, along with a multitude of daylilies, hostas and other perennials. The rest of our stock has been absorbed into our friends' garden located 1/4 mile up the road.

We have met so many fine people in many walks of life in Region 4. It was a difficult decision for us to make, but when 'the spirit is willing and the body isn't', your way of life has to change. We're not saying goodbye, just so long for now.

I contacted LaRue Boswell of Concord, CA, and she gave me the name and phone number of the company that supplied us with the Past RVP pins for Region 4 that we've given in the past. I have given this information to JaNiece for further action. I have been busy as AIS Secretary and also Display Garden Chairman for HIPS in addition to working within our local society.

Secretary - Carrie Winter NO REPORT

Treasurer - J. Owings Rebert (Printed in full on page 8)

Parliamentarian - Rosalie Figge

I served as Parliamentarian at the 2000 Spring Board Meeting of Region 4 at Norfolk, Virginia. I have also taken a refresher course on Parliamentary Proceedings.

Editor, NEWSCAST - E. Roy Epperson

I continue to have many copies of *NEWSCAST* returned because of incorrect addresses. These labels come directly from the AIS Membership Secretary. **PLEASE** correctly notify her of address changes. Expenses of printing and mailing remain within budget.

Reports of Standing Committees

Auctions - Vacant

Beardless and Species - Carol Warner

Our Region is so large that the growing conditions vary greatly. For some of us this was one of the wettest and coolest summers on record. For others there was a terrible drought and intense heat. Conditions that are good for the beardless may not be good for the bearded and vice-versa. My beardless irises had one of their best growing seasons ever and I am looking

forward to incredible bloom next year just in time for the AIS Convention. I think we can show the Society how beardless irises grow in Region 4.

The Society for Siberian Irises had their convention in Iowa. Unfortunately, the Siberian bloom preceded the convention by a couple of weeks. We were able to see beautiful gardens, most of which had been on a previous hosta convention tour. Our lists of hosta we absolutely had to have in our gardens grew by leaps and bounds. The association with other Siberian lovers also made for a very enjoyable weekend even without much Siberian bloom.

The Japanese irises in my area were also early coming into bloom and the joint C&P and FSK beardless show was timed perfectly to peak bloom. The cool weather allowed the Japanese to stay in bloom for at least a month. What a treat!

The beardless and species robin became lost and still has not completed its cycle so there is no news to report from that at this time.

Tidewater Iris Society has planted display beds of Japanese irises around a pagoda in Norfolk. The site receives lots of visitors and should attract lots of attention when the irises bloom.

Budget - Jack Loving

PROPOSED 2001 BUDGET

Printing and Mailing three (3) issues of <i>NEWSCAST</i>	\$ 4,000.00
RVP National Meeting Travel Expenses	\$ 600.00
Membership Committee Expenses	\$ 500.00
Slides and Photography Committee	\$ 350.00
Memorials	\$ 300.00
AIS Youth Program	\$ 100.00
Region 4 Web Page	\$ 300.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 300.00
	=====
	\$ 6,450.00
	=====

Historian - Margaret Stone NO REPORT

Judges and Judges' Training - E. Roy Epperson
This report is printed in full on page 22.

Legal Counsel - Bill Kuykendall NO REPORT

Median Irises - Ginny Spoon

In the spring of 2000 the median bloom in our garden was spectacular in response to a mild winter with abundant rainfall. We had quite a few garden visitors who enjoyed the early bloom in April and early May. Only one visiting couple broke the spell as they drove up in late April

when our SDBs were in full bloom (at least 400 varieties in all directions around their van) and asked, "When are the irises gonna bloom?" I couldn't believe that they could not see the masses of blooms all around them, and told them that the irises were blooming. They took one quick look around and replied, "We mean when are the **real** irises gonna bloom."

The C&P median show at Benkhe's Garden Center provided a great opportunity to promote median irises and there were over 90 stalks displayed with PIPPI LONGSTOCKING as Best Specimen of Show. Don Spoon won best seedling with a white SDB with green whiskers. Our own catalog sales for medians were good and we had many more requests for MTBs and SDBs than in previous years. We potted and sold clumps of SDBs including rebloomers to a garden retailer this spring. Their sales went well as the plants were potted with bloomstalks emerging so they were in bloom at sale time.

We obtained hundreds of MTBs and arilbred medians from the Dick Sparling collection and we can't wait to see them bloom next year. We look forward to sharing their bloom with our visitors. We have so many fond memories of our trips to Dick's garden in the early spring. The C&P members who visited his garden saw two and three-year MDB and SDB clumps so full of blooms you could hardly see the foliage.

This year the median rebloom started in late July including CHAMPAGNE ENCORE (Aitken '97, IB), BABY PRINCE (Zurbrigg '96, SDB), FLOWER SHOWER (Weiler '90, SDB) and MIDSUMMER'S EVE (Spoon '99, BB). Recently, MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Baumunk '99, IB), a lovely dark ruffled purple self, rebloomed and was spectacular. Last year we had reblooming medians even into December. Don has several reblooming SDB introductions for 2001 which have beautiful pure colors and special color patterns. These are his first SDB introductions. His favorite is a ruffled dark purple out of STAR BABY and BABY PRINCE called STAR PRINCE. Don't miss the pleasure of visiting median gardens and enjoying their special beauty.

Membership - Mary E. Brown

This past summer has been a good one for Region 4. Our membership is now up to 694 individuals. Looking back at the statistics in May 1999, we had 645 members, in April 2000, we had 630 members - an increase of 40 over our high in 1999. However, there is to be no resting on our laurels. There are 326 members with expiration date of December 31, 2000, you will see that once again almost 50% are up for renewal.

The following chart shows the Region 4 membership as of October 2000. (SA=single annual; DA=dual annual; ST=single triennial; DT=dual triennial; AL=single life; DL=dual life; Y=youth)

(Oops! Ran out of space. Chart is on page 24)

Reblooming Irises - Lloyd Zurbrigg

The year 2000 was as wet here in Region 4 as it was dry in 1999. The inordinate amounts of rainfall have surely given a lot of rebloom for us. It has also brought a great deal of rot, illustrating the fact that the iris is no longer an ideal, hardy perennial, but has now reached the status of a specialist's flower.

I look forward to receiving reports from some of the members as to what has bloomed the second time for them. If you have never sent in a report, do consider doing so. The greater the number of reports, the greater the accuracy in estimating the value of varieties for our Region 4 climate.

Robins - Libby Cross (*in absentia*)

The Regional Robin, The Wild Ones has been started a second time. It was missing for almost a year and the first start met the same fate as the original robin. I hope this time that it gets back on track. It was always a most reliable robin.. The Short Ones continues to do National duty and all reports on it are favorable.

Slides and Photography - Bill Mull (Also see article on page)

Most of this year, I have spent going through the slides that I have received from Dennis Stoneburner. They are in excellent condition and are in protective sheets designed for slides. Most are divided according to subject and are ready to be sent out. I am also grateful to Glenn Grigg for sending me some of the slides that he took at the Dallas Convention.

I ordered additional protective sheets for some of the slide that are in cartons and some hanging notebooks in which to store the slides. I will be shipping the slides via Priority Mail in protective sheets.

I have e-mailed, written and spoken to many growers, hybridizers, and members of Region 4 requesting slides. Only one has responded, and for that, I am grateful. I don't believe that growers fully realize that in donating slides of their introduction to the Region 4 slide program they are, in effect, promoting their own product to a wider range of ultimate consumers. To this end, we need everyone's participation and support.

Youth - Dennis Pearson

NO REPORT

Webmaster - Spring Brooks The web page address is: www.irisregion4.com

Reports of Region 4 Affiliates (Printed on pages 18-21)

Reports of Special Committees

Revision of Region 4 Convention Handbook - Libby Dufresne

The handbook for Regional Convention chairman has been rewritten and the *ad hoc* committee discontinued.

2003 National Convention - Clarence Mahan, Convention Chair

The 2003 National AIS Convention to be hosted by Region 4 and scheduled for May 16 - 21, 2003, will probably be headquartered in Fredericksburg, VA. An open session was scheduled for October 21 at 1:00 p.m. for a full discussion of the convention and needs for committee chairmen.

Old Business

Glenn Grigg, Jr., Assistant RVP presented the Alice Bouldin Award (Jefferson Cup) to Lloyd Zurbrigg for Seedling #00571. The seedling was selected by participants at the Spring Region 4 Meeting, April 29.

Mary Brown, Membership Chairman, reported that the Membership Contest is in limbo and additional work will be done to get it back on track.

New Business

Budget. Roy Epperson moved adoption of the budget for 2001 as previously presented by Jack Loving, Chair of the budget committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Past RVP Pins. Roy Epperson was asked to present information concerning a past RVP pin for a person serving the full three one-year terms. The supply for RVP pins for Region 4 has been depleted. JB Trophies has the die for the original pin. Rosalie Figge moved, Mike Locatell seconded, that the officers of Region 4 be authorized to continue to investigate continuing the awarding of a Past RVP Pin for Region 4 and to report back to the Board information as to cost.

The following points were raised during the discussion of the motion:

- Does the die belong to Region 4 or to J B Trophies?
- If the die belongs to Region 4, could another company produce a less expensive pin?
- Does service as RVP for a one-year term, but not completion of the three one-year terms make a person eligible for a Past RVP Pin?

The question was called, the motion passed.

Fall 2001 Region 4 Meeting. An invitation from the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society was given for the Fall 2001 meeting.

Cost of Regional Slide Program. Bill Mull moved that Region 4 charge a fee for slide set rentals to Region 4 chapters/societies. He pointed out that Priority Mail (out and back) costs \$ 6.40 and insurance is \$ 1.80. The motion was seconded and after discussion Phyllis Soine make a substitute motion that the fee be \$15.00. The substitute motion died for lack of a second. Roy Epperson then presented a substitute motion to incorporate the original motion with a fee of \$10.00 for the complete turnaround cost for the slide program. Second by Lloyd Zurbrigg. A show of hands was called and the motion passed overwhelmingly.

Bill Mull then moved that Region 4 advertise and promote the slide program through the website. After much discussion (and no second), Don Spoon moved to table the issue until the Fall 2001 meeting of Region 4. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Recognitions.

RVP Mull thanked C & P Iris Society for hosting an outstanding meeting. Don and Ginny Spoon served as Co-Chairman.

All members attending their first regional meeting were recognized.

A roll call of the affiliates followed. Representatives from 8 of the 12 affiliates were present: Central Virginia, Charlotte, C & P, Eastern North Carolina FSK, Fredericksburg Area, Tidewater, and Virginia Peninsula.

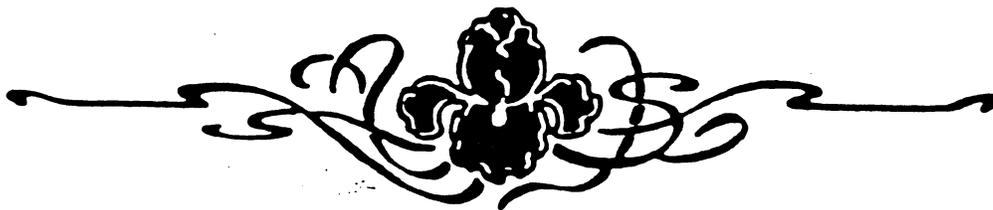
RVP Mull announced that John and Rosalyn Mitchell (ENCIS) had accepted responsibility as Auction co-chairmen.

Nominating Committee. The following persons were nominated as a Nominating Committee to present a slate of officers at the Spring 2001 meeting:

Bruce Hornstein	Maryland
Susan Grigg	North Carolina
Phyllis Soine	Virginia
To be determined	West Virginia

Bruce Hornstein was appointed Chairman by the RVP.

The meeting adjourned to the Banquet Program/Speaker. Don Spoon introduced Mike Lowe who presented an interesting and informative talk on "Iris Photography." The presentation included useful information for record keeping as well as for the actual taking of photographs. His use of slide showing "good" and "not so good" examples were especially interesting. Even non-photographers will be able to critique photographs of iris more effectively.



REGION 4 SLIDE PROGRAM

The following slide programs are available:

- 01 : Reliable Bearded Iris of the 70s
- 02 : Reliable Bearded Iris of the 80s
- 03 : Reliable Bearded Iris of the 90s
- 04 : Reliable Bearded Iris of the Millennium
- 05 : Median Bearded Iris (specify)
 - SDB IB Aril
 - MTB BB
- 06 : Japanese Iris
- 07 : Siberian Iris
- 08 : Louisiana Iris
- 09 : Spuria Iris
- 10 : Space Age Iris
- 11 : Reblooming Iris
- 12 : Dykes Medalists
- 13 : Award Recipients (in preparation)
- 14 : Planting and Care of Iris (in preparation)
- 15 : Region 4 Gardens (in preparation)
- 16 : Overview of the Iris Family
- 17 : Dallas (2000) Convention

There will be a \$ 10.00 charge for slide rental. Please make check payable to: Region 4 and mail it back with the slide set return. Requests for slide sets should be made well in advance of date needed, preferably six to eight weeks. Only one set is available for any request date. Clearly print your name, address, phone number, and the date of your program. I prefer that requests be made by e-mail. Please indicate alternate slide set programs that you will accept.

Slide sets will be sent in advance of your program by prepaid Priority Mail. The slide sets are to be returned the day after viewing by using the enclosed Priority Mail envelope. The sets will be sent in slide protective sheets. Handling instructions will be attached to the set. Carousels are available at an additional mailing charge.

Requests are to be sent to:

Bill Mull	Phone: (757) 858-5528
7112 Fox's Lair Court	FAX: (757) 858-5529
Norfolk, VA 23518-4425	e-mail: reg4slides@aol.com

REPORTS OF THE AFFILIATES

CAROLINA MOUNTAINS IRIS SOCIETY - Flossie Nelson



New Officers are:

President:	Walter Hoover
Vice President:	Leon Price
Secretary:	Jeanne Grundies
Treasurer:	Flossie Nelson

2001 Schedule of Meetings:

April 28 at Henderson County Library
May 12: Spring Show at First Congregational Church
June 14-15: Japanese Show at Opportunity House
August 11: Auction at First Congregational Church
November 3 at Henderson County Library

CENTRAL VIRGINIA IRIS SOCIETY - Mike Lockett

CVIS continued its campaign of public recognition in the Richmond area gardening circles with appearances at events in September and early October. New memberships were obtained at both activities and plenty of cultural information was handed out to interested visitors to the CVIS booth. Plans are underway to custom build a light weight exhibit booth for future appearances and we are looking to add more events to our publicity schedule for next year.

Our annual plant sale, headed by Phyllis Soine and well attended by the CVIS members was another huge success. Tall bearded rebloomers grown as guest irises by the membership were made available for first-time purchase. Demand was excellent and CVIS will continue to add more volume and selection for future sales. A follow-up sale of leftover rhizomes was attempted at the Farmer's Market in Richmond in early July. Despite a beautiful, cool and sunny summer day, there was limited traffic and sales. We are considering adding a second sale location under the right circumstances.

A combination meeting and dinner is being planned for January to assist CVIS officers in establishing goals, priorities and activities for the new year.

CHARLOTTE IRIS SOCIETY - Carrie Winter

The CIS began the second year of the 1999-2001 biennium with two Bearded Iris Rhizome Sales - the first at Cross Roads Mall; the second at The Greenery of the regional Farmers' Market. Total profit from the sales was \$ 2,274.55. Our first meeting which consists of our annual Auction and Fixed Price Sale of beardless iris and other perennials netted \$ 1,012. The sale featured newer Japanese cultivars and lots of Louisianas from Dave Hull's garden; however the priciest



plant at the auction was a gorgeous Ostrich Fern from Barbara Alexander's garden.

Our Endowed Scholarship for a horticulture student at Central Piedmont Community College is now producing income to provide a partial scholarship to a student, but additional monies are needed in order to provide full tuition. The Horticulture Department will be moved in late 2001 to a new satellite campus. We hope to be a catalyst to encourage support from other garden groups to assist with various identified needs of the program.

Due to consistent lack of participation at our November meeting, we have canceled the meeting for this year. We will use the "down time" until our February Seminar to evaluate our overall calendar, including consideration of changing to a calendar year.

Our accomplishments are significant, when we acknowledge that no more than twenty members participate in the work of the organization.

CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY - Ginny Spoon



The C & P Iris Society has had a very busy year already in 2000, with 3 sales and four shows and more to come with a fall luncheon and guest speakers Marty Schaefer and Jan Sacks speaking on siberians on Saturday, November 11, and our Christmas party at the Merrifield Garden Center on Saturday, December 9. We have been continuing with the judges' training programs for our members and we should have one apprentice judge and one garden judge approved for 2001.

C&P has gained many new members from both our shows and sales and we hope to see them at upcoming events. Our membership currently is 183 as of October 15. Some events we have planned for next year include three sales, a spring meeting on iris culture in McLean; a fall luncheon and guest speaker in November, and iris shows.

The beardless guest irises for the 2003 National Convention have arrived and been planted in the tour gardens. Next summer, the bearded guests will be arriving and the tour gardeners are all hard at work preparing for this event. Harry Reed, our guest iris chairman, has done an excellent job of distributing the irises and keeping records of them.

This will be my last year as President of C&P and I have enjoyed serving as President of this club with its wonderful and talented membership. I could not have done the job without the support of our members and the hard work of our committee chairmen and officers. Thanks to Mac Shawe, membership; Don Spoon, program; Harry Reed, guest iris and newsletter; Glenna Castillo, awards; David Stoll, youth; Ruth Filsinger, publicity; Eric Simpson, properties; and officers Joe Metzger, Jr., treasurer; Brian Lazarus, vice president and ways and means; and Jackie Black, secretary. Thanks also to their spouses and families who also gave us their help and support. A special thank you to Dick Sparling who donated his irises and his time for our club over the years and also to Sara and Walter Marley who have donated so much of their time and hospitality to our club.

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY

Since the Spring Board Meeting of Region 4, ENCIS met on July 8 for its annual auction at the home of Dr. Roy Epperson, and on September 30 at Tony Avent's Plants Delights Nursery in Wake County near Garner. A record 17 members and guests were in attendance at Tony's.

A holiday luncheon meeting was held in November at the Griggs' home. Glenn showed slides of the Dallas Convention.

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY - Carol Warner

Francis Scott Key has experienced a busy and productive year. We accomplished our regular programs and activities and this year tried having two sales. Both were very successful and we are planning to repeat them again next year.



Sylvia Smith arranged for us to have polo shirts printed with the Society name on them and several of us enjoyed wearing them to the sales and picnic.

Our fall luncheon meeting was held on November 11 in cooperation with the C&P Iris Society. Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks of Joe Pye Weed Gardens will speak to us on their goals in hybridizing siberians.

Three members's gardens will be on tour for the 2001 AIS National Convention: Bruce Hornstein, Joan and Ken Roberts and Carol Warner. We are looking forward to having the convention so close to home. The Region 4 Board meeting will also be held in conjunction with the convention.

FSK will host a show as part of the convention on Wednesday, May 23. We are hoping that there will be lots of regional entries as well as specimens from other parts of the country. The headquarters for the convention will be the Hunt Valley Marriott in Cockeysville, Maryland, and we especially invite all Region 4 members to attend.

TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY - Bill Mull

The Spring Meeting of Region 4 was held in Norfolk on April 28 and 29. We had many challenges and hysteria over changing dates and although the attendance was lower than average, it was one of the better shows and meetings of the Region. We went to two gardens as well as the Fred Huette Center and the Botanical Gardens where they were celebrating the International Azalea Festival. In conjunction with our show we had the annual Federated Garden Artistic Display that attracted a great deal of attention.

We had two sales this year, one at McDonnald's Nursery and the other at Pembroke Mall. We

concentrated on selling reblooming iris. We made enough on the sales to sustain the chapter and to support several very important projects.

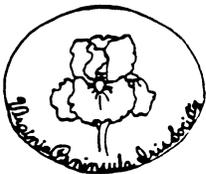
We met with three elementary schools: Taylor Elementary, Willard Elementary, and Camp Allen Elementary on the naval base. At the Camp Allen year-around school, we taught 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders one full day, teaching them about iris and the planting and care of them. At Willard Elementary we helped children plant three beds of reblooming iris. At Taylor Elementary we planned two large beds for iris, ordered 700 reblooming iris of the school colors, only to learn that the school was in litigation with the contractor and we could not plant the iris. The iris were heeled in at the Mull garden and are still waiting the outcome of the litigation.

At the Tidewater Builder's Home Show, we had the National Iris Display and manned the booth, passing out literature, answering questions about iris and getting the names of those who showed in interest in iris.

We have two public plantings: Iris were planted at the Fred Huetter Center in two beds - one 60' x 4' that contains reblooming iris and the other 44' x 4' that contains siberian iris. We planted Japanese iris in the Oriental Garden at the Pagoda in downtown Norfolk. The Pagoda was given to the city of Norfolk by the people of China and was dedicated October 15.

We gave talks before six garden clubs on the subject of iris. We are looking forward to another successful year. We are hoping to build our active membership and to promote iris in the Tidewater area.

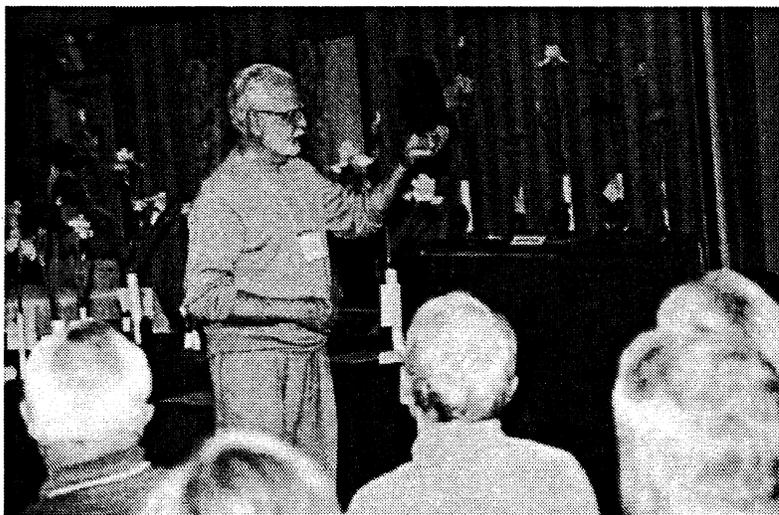
VIRGINIA PENINSULA IRIS SOCIETY - Elaine Minnick, Acting President



In August we had our Annual Picnic at the home of Mary Frances Ballard in Lee Hall, VA, overlooking the lake. We had delicious food and a good time was held by all.

Our annual rhizome sale was held at Patrick Henry Mall in September. We had a good turnout with many rhizomes for sale and other plants also.

We will be having our annual luncheon in November.



E. Roy Epperson giving judges' training on Bearded Seedlings

REGION 4, AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

JUDGES AND JUDGES' TRAINING REPORT

E. Roy Epperson, Chairman

* * * * *

For 2001, the following changes occurred in the Roster of Region 4 Accredited Judges:

- Apprentice advanced to Accredited Garden (3)
- New apprentices appointed (1)
- Apprentice removed due to lack of timely training (1)
- Transferred out (2): 1 Accredited Garden; 1 Master/Active
- Transferred in (1) Accredited Garden
- Resigned (1) Master/Active
- Failure to renew membership: 1 Master/Retired

For 2001, Region 4 will have the following Roster summary of Accredited judges:

- 28 Accredited Garden
- 3 Master : Active
- 5 Master : Retired
- 2 Apprentice
- 5 Emeritus

Of these 43 accredited judges, 26 are quota and 17 are non-quota.

2001 Roster of Judges, Region 4

Accredited Garden

Ms. Barbara Alexander
Mr. David Bowen
Mrs. Pat Bowen
Mr. Randell Bowen
Mrs. Sandra S. Bryan
Ms. Libby A. Cross
Mr. S. Herman Dennis III
Ms. Libby Dufresne
Ms. Ruth Holbrook
Mr. James P. Holmes
Mr. Walter Hoover
Dr. L. Bruce Hornstein
Mr. M. B. Lowe (Mike)
Mrs. M. B. Lowe (Anne)
Ms. Barbara Moeller
Mr. Bill Mull
Ms. JaNiece Mull
Mrs. Flossie Nelson
Mr. Dennis Pearson
Ms. Marian "Bea" Rogers
Mr. Daniel Schlanger
Mr. William C. Smoot
Dr. Donald M. Spoon

Ms. Ginny W. Spoon
Mrs. Frances Thrash
Mrs. Ruth Walker
Mrs. Carrie Winter
Mrs. Joan R. Wood

Apprentices

Ms. Glenna Castillo
Mr. Merrick "Mac" Shawe

Master/Active

Mrs. Paul D. Kabler
Mr. Clarence E. Mahan
Mrs. Richard D. Steele

Master/Retired

Mrs. Susan Grigg
Mrs. Charles L. Hare
Mrs. Nancy Karriker
Dr. Joseph B. Parker, Jr.
Mr. Dennis A. Wilkie

Emeritus

Dr. E. Roy Epperson
Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge
Mr. F. G. Stephenson
Mrs. Carol Warner
Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg

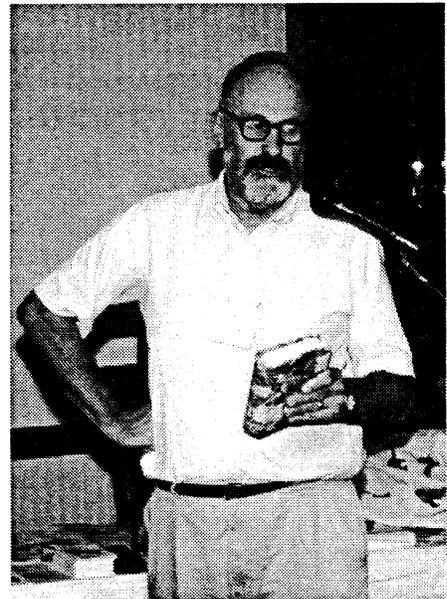
Scenes from the 2000 Regional Fall Meeting in Winchester, VA



The RVPs of Region 4. Left to right: Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg, Sara Marley, Dr. E. Roy Epperson, Anne Lowe, JaNiece Mull, and Carol Warner.



Glenn Grigg presenting the Alice Bouldin Award to Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg



Mike Lowe giving tips on iris Photography

KOMMENTS FROM KIRKLEE and THE EDITOR

There was insufficient space in this issue to print the 3rd installment of the series "Culture of Irises: A Common-Sense Approach for the Average Home Gardener." That installment "Soil Nutrition" will be in the March 2001 issue of *NEWSCAST*.

This past winter, I had the delightful experience to read *Thomas Jefferson's Garden Book*. This is his daily account of garden and orchard plantings, how they fared, and what the yield was, including dates of first "pease" to the table. At one point he wrote "The spontaneous energies of the earth are a gift of nature, but they require the labor of man to direct their operation." Mr. Jefferson tried many times to import olive trees in an effort to establish them as a substitute for cotton production in the southern states. He also imported sesame seeds for production in South Carolina. Sesame production succeeded but the southern soil is too rich for olive production.

Roy

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(From page 13) OCTOBER 2000 MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS by Affiliate

Iris Society	SA	DA	ST	DT	SL	DL	Y	Total
Alleghany Highlands	4		8	6	3	4	1	26
Carolina Mountains	12	2	13	6				33
Central Virginia	6	4	7	6				23
Charlotte	12	2	9	8		2	1	34
C&P	63	20	72	36	2	6	17	216
Eastern North Carolina	16	6	14	6	3			45
Eastern Shore	9	2	15		1			27
FSK	48	12	36	26	4		2	128
Fredericksburg Area	43	16	17	20	2			98
PCS	3		3	2	1		1	10
Tidewater	2	4	9	4	3	6		28
Virginia Peninsula	8		2	6		2		18
At Large (BR)	10	2	7	4		4		27

REGION 4 AFFILIATES

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS IRIS SOCIETY - MARGARET STONE
229 Crowfield Circle, Lewisburg, WV 24901 (304) 647-4395

CAROLINA MOUNTAINS IRIS SOCIETY - WALTER HOOVER
337 Charles Street, Saluda, NC 28773

CENTRAL VIRGINIA IRIS SOCIETY - MIKE LOCKATELL
500 Pantela Drive, Richmond, VA 23235-5020

CHARLOTTE IRIS SOCIETY - CARRIE WINTER
5801 Masters Court, Charlotte, NC 28226-8046 (704) 542-3812

CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY - GINNY SPOON
1225 Reynolds Road, Cross Junction, VA 22625 (540) 888-4447

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY - GLENN GRIGG
105 Trotters Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27614 (919) 870-8345

EASTERN SHORE IRIS SOCIETY - JOHN VINCENT
Box 166, Oak Hall, VA 23416 (804) 824-5139

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY - CAROL WARNER
16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155 (410) 374-4788

FREDERICKSBURG AREA IRIS SOCIETY - DOUG CHYZ
6 Biscoe Court, Stafford, VA 22554-6437 (540) 659-6202

PORTSMOUTH, CHESAPEAKE, SUFFOLK IRIS SOCIETY - JAN BRYANT
3600 Winborne Drive, Suffolk, VA 23435 (757) 686-1536

TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY - BILL MULL
7112 Fox's Lair Court, Norfolk, VA 23518 (757) 858-5521

VIRGINIA PENINSULA IRIS SOCIETY - ELAINE MINNICK
P.O. Box 66, Bena, VA 23018

Lois Rose

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