

NEWSCAST

REGION FOUR OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

VOL. 46, No. 2

AUGUST 2004



In Memory of
Mary Brown
AIS Membership Secretary

(See Page 9)

-American Iris Society- Region 4 Board

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NEWSCAST is the publication of Region 4, AIS

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

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March Issue—15 February

August Issue—15 July

December Issue—15 November

The Nominating Committee composed of Carol Warner (MD), Bill Smoot (VA), Eric Simpson (DC), and E. Roy Epperson (NC) Chair, presents the following slate of officers for Region 4 for 2005.

Regional Vice President: Ginny Spoon (VA)
Assistant Regional Vice President: Jerry Coates (MD)
Secretary: Carrie Winter (NC)
Treasurer: Carol Warner (MD)

Officers are elected by the general membership at the spring meeting of Region 4 each year.

Words From Our Regional Vice President



This spring I attended the National AIS Convention in Fresno, California. It was absolutely outstanding and the people involved deserve all the praise we can possibly give them. It was quite an experience to leave home on a cold rainy day in April with only a few miniature dwarf irises in bloom and then arrive in sunny California to see fields of tall bearded irises at peak bloom only a few days later. Betty Coyle and her husband Bill kept everything running smoothly and we were treated like family. Our Region 4 members were well represented with over 35 attending. The

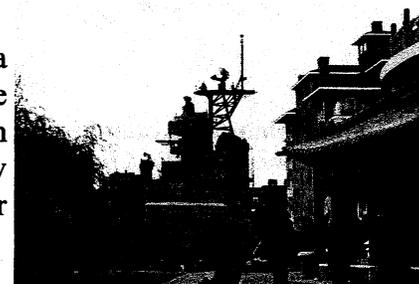


gardens were awesome and I took over eight rolls of slides and prints. I even saw irises that I had never seen before, the beautiful Pacific Coast Irises. When I arrived home a week later the standard dwarf irises were just starting to bloom and spring arrived for me a second time.



The first weekend of June I traveled to Virginia Beach for the Region 4 Meeting hosted by the Hampton Roads Iris Society chaired by Bill Smoot. Bill Smoot, Bill Trotter, Frances and Terry Thrash and the other members of the HRIS put on a three-day *Ensata* Extravaganza. We had a lovely iris show on Friday with judges training. After having judges training on design by Frances Thrash we looked over the designs in the show with a new perspective. I had fun trying to decide which one would be first in the section. The seedlings were lovely and the new *pseudatas* were just marvelous. Most of us had never seen an *Iris pseudata*. A *pseudata* is a cross between an *ensata* and a *pseudacoris*. Mr. Shimizu from Japan sent over seedlings to Carol Warner who then grew them and brought many of them to the show. Carol also showed us slides of more of Mr. Shimizu's crosses and they were absolutely gorgeous.

Saturday we had a delightful day of garden tours. The first stop on our tour was the garden of Bill Smoot and Bill Trotter. It was a lovely oasis of unusual plants and of course, beautiful Japanese irises. We saw the garden of Bill and Linda Pinkham, who not only had many Japanese irises in bloom, but an abundance of other plantings surrounding their home on a hill overlooking a joining of two rivers. The Norfolk Pagoda was the place where we had garden training and took in the beauty of the gardens with the battleship *Wisconsin* in the harbor within walking distance. The Norfolk Botanical Gardens brought us much pleasure when we were able to see a fledgling eagle in its nest overlooking the Japanese iris plantings. Last on the tour was the garden of Sunny and D.J. Marini where we were refreshed with cool drinks and more beautifully grown Japanese irises around their lovely waterfront view house. I have so many fond memories. Thank you to all our members who made this wonderful meeting possible.



Photos: (Top to Bottom) Frilled Enchantment, *Iris pseudata*, Norfolk Pagoda, Battleship "Wisconsin"
All photos courtesy of Ginny Spoon

From The Editor

I want to thank everyone for their kind remarks on my maiden Newscast. I had a wonderful time putting it together and learned so much doing it. Also, I want to thank Rosalie Figge for her constructive content help, and to Ginny Spoon for helping correct the errors and for graciously offering to help me get them all out to everyone. I want to send a special thank you to Rosalie for her writing of the memorial for Mary Brown, since I know it was a very difficult task.

The last few months have been hectic. Many worked very hard to make a smooth transition to the new AIS Membership Secretary to Tom Gormley due to the untimely passing of Mary Brown. A special thanks to Anne Lowe who did a stellar job as she filled the Membership Secretary's position temporarily until a new one could be found. Thanks to Kay Brown, Mary's daughter, this difficult task was made easier, as she allowed access to pack all the equipment and supplies for the move. In the process of this transition and putting together this issue of the Newscast, I have learned one important thing about Mary Brown. I have learned that others and I have missed so much not knowing Mary other than in brief passage. Though I have only been part of AIS for two short years, I feel the loss of those I have missed meeting.



On a positive note is the ability to meet wonderful iris people from the world over. The National AIS Convention is a perfect example. For those that have yet to attend one this is a must. Region 4 was well represented, there were new people to meet and friends met at last year's convention here in Region 4 to greet. It is a chance to look at the new and exciting and also see what the future holds as hybridizers display seedlings that they are considering. Different garden designs are always a plus when returning and dreaming of that perfect garden and companion plants for the irises. For those that keep "MUST HAVE" list, you will expand your list tremendously by attending this function. Thankfully Bill Smoot, Frances Thrash, Keith Keppel, Philip Remare, and Denise Stewart were on the bus we captained and kept us grounded and sane. Thanks for the smiles when we really needed them. Bill also performed another vital function in making sure the fair offered to us at the gardens was up to snuff. From all that was eaten along the way, that was not a problem.

Congratulations to Krissy Laing for receiving 1st runner-up in the Clark Cosgrave Award. Also, thank-you Krissy for the wonderful youth articles in the last issue and in this issue of the Newscast. I hope to see a lot more from her and hopefully other youth members. Congratulations to Mike Lowe has taken over as AIS Registrar from Keith Keppel.



Here's hoping that everyone enjoys this issue of the Newscast and as usual I hope to hear your comments, suggestions and even you criticism for one cannot learn without help. With this issue I am sending out a complete black and white issue, however, a full color version will be available on line by going to www.pilmore.com/Newscast.html follow the directions to download and we will see if perhaps this may be an option for us.

Thanks for all your wonderful support

Anita Moran
Editor Region 4 Newscast.

Photos: 1. Bill Smoot and Frances Thrash, 2. Keith Keppel and Philip Remare, 3. Bill Smoot Testing, 4. Ginny Spoon, Region 4 RVP accepting 1st runner-up of Clark Cosgrave Award for Krissy Laing. 5. Anne and Mike Lowe All photos courtesy of Anita Moran



FOR YOUR INFORMATION: A color copy of the March and August Newscast are available for download only at www.pilmore.com/Newscast.html
Follow the directions for downloading carefully. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the file as it is in PDF format, but there is a link near the download area for downloading the viewer. You can also print from

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
REGION 4, AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA
THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2004**

RVP Ginny Spoon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The minutes of the October 10, 2003 meeting were approved as printed in NEWSCAST Vol.45, No. 3, December 2003.

Reports of the Officers:

RVP- Ginny Spoon

Assistant RVP- Jerry Coates No Report

Secretary- Carrie Winter (Minutes)

Treasurer- J. Owings Rebert

In the absence of the treasurer, Carol Warner presented the report which is printed in the NEWSCAST. The RVP questioned the \$800. expenditure listed for reimbursement for travel for the RVP, noting that she had received a lesser amount. The discrepancy will be checked and corrected.

Parliamentarian- Rosalie Figge No Report

Reports of Standing Committees

Auction- Roslyn and John Mitchell No Report

Beardless and Species Iris – Carol Warner

Budget- Jack Loving

A motion to approve the 2005 budget was made and approved.

Editor NEWSCAST - Anita Moran No Report

Historian- Margaret Stone No Report

Judges and Judges Training- Roy Epperson

The three sessions of judges training available at the meeting are “Judging the Design Division”, “Exhibition Judging of Japanese Iris” and “Garden Judging of Japanese Iris”.

Legal Counsel- Bill Kuykendall No Report

Median Iris- Ginny Spoon

Membership- Mac Shawe

Photography- Bill Mull No Report

Reblooming Iris- Mike Lockett No Report

The RVP referred to the excellent Rebloom Report by Lockett in the March issue of NEWSCAST.

Robins- Libby Cross No Report

Webmaster- Bill Smoot

Smoot reported that he had been unable to get into the web site since becoming webmaster. There is a need for the database to be compatible between the region and AIS. A suggestion was made to stop payment of fees until proper changes can be made.

Youth- David Stoll No report

REPORTS OF THE AFFILIATES

Allegheny Highlands Iris Society- Margaret Stone, President No Report
Carolina Mountain Iris Society- Danee Hoover, President
Central Virginia Iris Society- Linda Laing, President
Charlotte Iris Society- Carrie Winter, President
Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society- Don Spoon, President
Eastern North Carolina Iris Society- Margaret Pearson, President
Eastern Shore Iris Society- Ann Dumler, President No Report
Francis Scott Key Iris Society- Sylvia Smith, President No Report
Fredericksburg Area Iris Society- Jim Schrotter , President No Report
Hampton Roads Iris Society- Terry Thrash, President
Virginia Peninsula Iris Society- Nelda Pressly, President No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee

Roy Epperson, chairman, reported that the slate would be presented at the general membership meeting Saturday evening. The officers elected at the spring meeting will take office at the conclusion of the fall regional meeting.

Auction Proceeds

The proceeds from the auction are to be turned over to the Region 4 Treasury; the proceeds from the silent auction remain with the host. If an affiliate has difficulty financing a regional meeting, an appeal can be made to the region after all the bills are in.

Region 4 Meetings

The spring meeting for 2005 will be hosted by ENCIS at the Holiday Inn Burlington, NC, May 5-6. The concept of a fall meeting to last only one day was discussed. A proposal emerged that the meeting could be a "one day drive-in" to consist of board meeting, luncheon and auction. A meeting place central to the region was suggested. Roy Epperson proposed that this be explored for the fall regional for 2006. The idea of a joint meeting for Regions 4 and 5 will be explored for a spring regional with garden tour into each region with the meeting possibly being held in Charlotte. Roy Epperson agreed to talk with the Region 5 RVP.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Carrie Winter
Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
REGION 4 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA
SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2004**

Following the dinner at the Holiday Inn Executive Center, RVP Ginny Spoon thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The roll call of the affiliates indicated that the Central Virginia Iris Society [CVIS], Charlotte Iris Society [CIS], Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society [C and P], Eastern North Carolina Iris Society [ENCIS], Francis Scott Key Iris Society [FSK], Fredericksburg Area Iris Society [FAIS], and Hampton Roads Iris Society [HRIS] were represented. Out of region guests included Phil Cook, Vermont; John Heimke, New York; and the Copelands from Michigan.

The chair of the nominating committee, Roy Epperson, presented the following slate of officers for the term beginning at the conclusion of the 2004 fall regional meeting:

Regional Vice President Ginny Spoon [VA]
Assistant Regional Vice President Jerry Coates [MD]
Secretary Carrie Winter [NC]
Treasurer Carol Warner [MD]

There being no nominations from the floor, Epperson moved the acceptance of the slate as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

John Schroetter, president of FAIS, extended an invitation for the fall regional meeting, October 1-2, 2004, Fredericksburg Ramada Inn. The RVP thanked FAIS for the invitation.

The meeting was adjourned.

Carrie Winter
Secretary

Treasurer's Report
 Region 4 A I S
 Submitted by J. Owings Rebert, Treasurer of Region 4 AIS
 October 9, 2003 through June 1, 2004

Balance on October 9, 2003	\$18,679.64	
Reciepts:		
Donations:		
Charlotte Iris Society	\$1,000.00	
Fall Regional Auction	\$964.00	
Interest on Account	\$11.61	
	\$1975.61	\$1975.61
Total Assets		\$20,655.25
Expenditures:		
RVP Reimbursement for Travel *	\$800.00	
Mac Shawe Regional Membership List	\$44.09	
Global Web Solutions Annual Fee	\$239.25	
Dr, Roy Epperson December Newscast	\$714.20	
Anita Moran Printing March Newscast	\$689.05	
Ginny Spoon Postage March Newscast	\$102.37	
	\$2,588.96	\$2,588.96
Balance June 1, 2004		\$18,066.29
*October 10,2003 - check #730 -Reimbursement for Spring Meeting 2003-----		
\$200.00		
May 4,2004 - check #737--Reimbursement for Spring Convention Meetings 2004---		
\$600.00		
Total Reimbursement for this time period--\$800.00		

Proposed 2005 Budget For Region 4
 Submitted by: Jack W. Loving

Printing and Mailing Three (3) Issues of Newscast		\$3,300.00
RVP Travel Expenses		600.00
Membership Committee – M Shawe		500.00
Slides and Photography		500.00
Memorials		300.00
AIS Youth Program		100.00
Web Page		300.00
Miscellaneous Expenses		300.00
	Total	\$5900.00

OUR MARY

OUR MARY

How do you find the words that mean..... "Mary"?

It's like trying to "hold a moonbeam in your hand."

She was an enigma -- a leader, and yet reticent

Adventurous, never afraid to try something new,

She had honed many skills.

A librarian,

she was also a computer expert, a photographer,

a collector, an artist, and a belly dancer.

An animal lover,

she had raised her own sheep and goats –

she could spin, dye, weave, and knit.

To these interests she added irises.

Mary Elizabeth Bomberger Brown was born May 29, 1933, the daughter of Lawrence Bomberger (a civil engineer) and Hulda Bishop Bomberger (an elementary school teacher). Because her father worked in various places in North America with the Civilian Conservation Corps, Mary went to a half dozen schools in British Columbia and Vancouver. As a result, she would laughingly point out that she learned about the American Revolution from the English point of view: "We lost one of our colonies due to an uprising of the peasants." so to speak!



At the University of Maryland she majored in geography and acquired a life long interest in theater. Not in front of the footlights, but behind the scenes. She joined an USO tour in the early '50s as a stage manager for military shows in Iceland. At college, she met her future husband, the late John F. Brown, a former pilot in the Army Air Force who had "flown the hump" in WW II. They had two children, Ronald J. Brown and Hulda Marie Kuhmarie (Kay) Brown. The marriage ended in divorce.

Photo courtesy of Kay Brown

OUR MARY (CONT.)

Even before the Internet, Mary was an expert in using computers to manipulate research databases. For 35 years she worked at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory: First as a map librarian, (Mary never got "lost" on our many trips!) then as head of the collection department (did this instigate her own collecting?) and online services (good background for becoming Membership Secretary). Having had security clearance from her days in OSS, she became librarian for the Nuclear Submarine Technology Department.



Mary dressed with a flair, and she collected everything from Indian jewelry to irises. Her interest in fibers led her to explore lace making, quilting, Japanese braiding, and various dyeing techniques. A good photographer, she



also worked in such media as acrylics, watercolors, charcoal, and pen and ink. In addition to gardening, craft interests, music, and theater, she was a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She held nearly all the offices of the Frances Scott Key Iris Society including president, newsletter editor, and membership secretary. She was Region 4 membership secretary before becoming AIS membership secretary.

Mary was very accommodating and easy to work with, besides being very honest and forthright, she was extremely intelligent. She also had good common sense. She was always open to suggestions and ideas without feeling threatened of someone else's ideas. She was unassuming and did not presume. She wasn't just a talker, she was a do-er. She was a staunch friend. Although her myriad interests kept her busy, she always had time for a friend in need.

With her sense of adventure, Mary was an ideal travel companion –always ready to drive anywhere for an iris meeting. Our private joke was my wondering if we were lost, with Mary always replying "I'm never lost". She was like the veritable homing pigeon

Photo: 1. courtesy of Rick Tasco 2. courtesy of Kay Brown

OUR MARY (CONT.)

She went with me to England twice, once on a genealogy tour, and once to attend the British Iris Society's national meeting. While at the latter in 2002, Mary's insistent calmness in emergencies was evident when she was able to get grumpy me awake and out of bed at 2 a.m. when the fire alarms in the hotel awakened her. – She had my coat ready for me to put on, our pocketbooks in hand, and our door key – She edged me out the door, practically still asleep and grumbling, to join the rest to navigate 4 flights of cold stairs to the even colder outdoors!

(Remember this was England and about 50 degrees) Due to this scare – it was a false alarm – and other considerations, we decided to come straight home rather than stopping in Iceland to visit places she had been in the '50s. We decided to postpone that until this September .



Mary survived chemotherapy for Hodgkin's lymphoma, which is a form of cancer, but she died as a result of complications from a chemotherapy drug on March 6,

2004. She is survived by her daughter, son, grandson, brother, and longtime companion. Her legacy for her children include a trove of her handcrafted treasures. Her charm, graciousness, gallant spirit, and smiling cheerfulness will be missed by her family and friends



"The best and most beautiful things cannot be seen or touched ----they must be felt with the heart." (Helen Keller) Mary was a beautiful enigma with a sensitive heart and I am among those who will sorely miss her.

Rosalie Yerkes Figge

Photo courtesy of Kay Brown

Region IV Meet the Hybridizers

J. Griffin "Griff" Crump

CAREFREE DAYS,
J. Griffin Crump (2004)
TB, 38" (97 cm), ML. S. and
style arms light peach; F.
darker peach, lightening at
edges; beards yellow-orange,
red-orange in throat; Ruffled

Photo: Courtesy of Anita Moran

Crump seedling (Carefree Days)



An iris lover since childhood, J. Griffin "Griff" Crump was captivated early on by WABASH, named for a river in his home state of Indiana. He was introduced to hybridizing by the late Earl Roberts in 1974. In August of 1975, he was named acting chief of the Defense Department's program for equal employment opportunity, which necessitated a move to the agency's headquarters near Washington. There was nothing to do but dig up his first-year seedlings, pack them in wet sand, and relocate to Virginia. He was rewarded by bloom on most of them the following spring. An early goal was to put more modern form on WABASH-type amoenas. The challenge was to retain the velvet texture of the falls and the pure white of the standards. In about 1980, his hybridizing received a major setback when a person farming land next to his leased seedling plot crossed over and destroyed a 2-year crop of seedlings. Griff quit hybridizing for more than a decade, but began again in 1992 with a generous gift of several varieties from Clarence Mahan. During the past dozen years, Griff feels that Barry Blyth, in particular, as well as Keith Keppel and Joe Ghio, have largely achieved the type of iris at which he had been aiming. But beauty comes in many forms, and since 2001 he has registered more than 20 seedlings, of which two – RANKS OF BLUE and CAREFREE DAYS – were introduced this year by Winterberry Gardens. BREATH TAKING, a red-violet self, and LAVENDER INTERLUDE (whose name bespeaks its color) are scheduled for introduction next year, as well as others, depending upon supply. Among them is TESSIE THE TEASE, an intermediate whose blooming habit and color pattern rival each other

for uniqueness.

Retired for a year and a half, Griff's varied career included newspapering, military counterintelligence, city government and editorship of a professional journal in the civil rights field. He is a graduate of Maryknoll College, Catholic University of America and the National War College, and was a senior research fellow of the National Defense University. He is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans and a past president of the District of Columbia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. He has a son, Nathan, daughters Adrienne and Laura, and granddaughters Kirsten and Kelly Ann. When not working in the garden, he can be found engaged in various literary and philosophical discussion groups, fly fishing, hunting or coordinating a weekly Irish language group at a local pub.

The Crump home and gardens, at 8924 Battery Road, Alexandria, VA 22308, are located within a few minutes drive of George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, and visitors are always welcome.

Region 4 Affiliates

ALLEGHANY HIGHLAND IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Margaret Stone

No Report

CAROLINE MOUNTAINS IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Danee Hoover

2004 Officers: President: Danee Hoover Vice President: Mavis R. del Vecchio
Secretary: Jeanne Grundies Treasurer: Flossie Nelson

In March 2004 we mailed 75 copies of our annual Iris Newsletter to members, affiliates, and interested parties. On April 24th we had our spring meeting at the Henderson County Public Library consisting of a business meeting followed by an informal talk about "How to Prepare Your Blooms for an Iris Show". Although we advertised in several local and surrounding newspapers we did not see any community quest. Also in April, we purchased and donated the following books to The Henderson County Library: Japanese Iris and Siberian Iris by McEwen, Iris Book by Molly Price, and World of Iris edited by Warburton. Since the library already had books in reference we asked that these books be placed in circulation.

Spring was mild but still our bloom time was delayed by about two weeks. Summer of 2003 produced an enormous amount of rain for our area. Our show was on May 8th at The First Congregational Church. Results from our spring show is as follows:

24 exhibitors, 190 entries, 175 varieties, BB, IB, TB, MTB, Spuria, Dutch, Siberian and species

Best of Show was a Siberian 'Over In Glory Land' by Randall & Pat Bowen

Best of Seedling SCB 12799 TB Kathy Bowen

Silver with 21 Blues Randall Bowen, Bronze with 18 Blues Gail Wilson

Our Japanese Show was June 10th and 11th at the Opportunity House. Japanese Show results are as follows: 6 Exhibitors, 54 entries, 34 varieties

Best of Show Iris ensata 'Kimie' by Betty Anna Brown

Silver by Walter Hoover with 12 Blues, Bronze by Sherry Hoover with 11 blues

Our Auction and sale will be on August 14th at the First Congregational Church.

Our fall meeting will be on November 6th with Diane Ashborn County Extension Agent as our guest speaker.

Our show chairman, Flossie Nelson has had medical problems this year and is recovering from surgery.

Danee

Region 4 Affiliates

CENTRAL VIRGINIA IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Linda Laing

This Year has been a special year for the Central Virginia Iris Society. In January the members of CVIS planned their year. In March Ginny Spoon, RVP for Region 4, presented a program of Space-agers and rebloomers. In May we had one big bang-up show. Almost 200 entries of Iris cultivars and 16 designs. I didn't think we could top last years show, but we did! We are doing another rebloomer guest iris program this year. Our sales will be June 26 and July 10. Because we had an extended period of cool weather followed by a hot weather snap that was both unseasonable and extended, our bloom time was short this year. Everything seemed to bloom out at once. This was the first time I can remember that dwarf, border, intermediate, and tall bearded iris all bloomed at the same time.

Krissy, our your member, received 1st runner up for the Clark Cosgrave award. She and her Dad, Dan, should both qualify as judges this year and will be judging shows next year. We should have five fully accredited judges for the year 2005.

We were e-mail today by Nancy Pocklington, head of the affiliates awards. She let us know we received 4th place in the membership contest.

CHARLOTTE IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President Carrie Winter

The annual seminar of the Charlotte Iris Society (CIS), Held February 14, included judges training on species iris by Barbara Alexander. The April meeting included our traditional plant exchange and tips on grooming entries for the spring iris show. In addition Design Judges (Charlotte Council of Garden Clubs) presented a demonstration for each of the classes for the Design Division of the show. Though the show, scheduled May 1 was smaller than usual with only 67 entries, it was a lovely example of "Monet's Garden", theme for 2004. Nancy Moore with only three horticultural entries won three blue ribbons which included Best Specimen of the Show and First Runner-up. She also won a blue ribbon for her arrangement in one of the design classes. Blanch Harris won the Silver Medal and Ruth Holbrook the Bronze Medal. A special part of the show was to have Krissy Lang, youth member, serve as apprentice judge.

Now we will be planning out summer sale for bearded iris and other perennials. September means its time for our annual auction which typically includes a particular beardless iris group together with contributions from our members of beardless iris and other perennials. Some proceeds from our sales are used to support our endowed scholarship for a horticulture student at Central Piedmont Community College. The base endowment is something over \$12,000.

A holiday luncheon which ends out calendar year, has been used some years to honor a member who has made unique contributions to CIS, and then we begin planning for 2005.

Region 4 Affiliates

CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Don Spoon

This spring we had our general meeting and luncheon at the Fairfield Marriott Hotel in Falls Church where I gave a talk on hybridizing for the red iris. The food was excellent and the meeting was enjoyable. The new slate of officers was presented by the nominating committee as: President, David Stoll, Vice President, Clarence Mahan, Treasurer, Ginny Spoon and Secretary, Ray Jones. The new board members will be elected at our July 17th picnic to be held at the home of Ray and Karen Jones.

On May 8th and 9th we held a sale of potted plants at the Blandy Arboretum in Boyce, Virginia. On May 15th we held our iris show at the Merrifield Garden Center in Fairfax, Virginia. We had 7 exhibitors and 83 stalks. Clarence Mahan won Best Specimen of Show with 'Captivating'. Ginny Spoon won the silver medal and Clarence Mahan the bronze.

We will be having our annual plant sale at the Knox Presbyterian Church in Falls Church on August 21 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. This is my last term as president of C&P and I have enjoyed serving as president. It has been an exciting time with three Regional Meetings in Winchester and a National Convention during my term as president.

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Margaret Pearson

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society has twenty-five AIS members, and eight ENCIS members. Five possible meetings plus an iris show were planned for 2004. Our January business luncheon at Crabtree Marriott Hotel Started the year. Glenn and Susan Grigg hosted our March meeting, where Roy Epperson gave a program on "How to have an Iris Show".

On May 1, Susan Grigg chaired the ENCIS Accredited Iris Show at the Crabtree Valley Mall in Raleigh. Nine exhibitors, including one from Virginia, entered 117 stalks. Anne and Mike Lowe graciously accepted to act as judges, and expended their usual expertise. After the show we opened the area to the public and were available for questions and iris information. Seven new members resulted from this endeavor.

In July, Burt and Margaret Pearson will host a potluck luncheon and our Annual Auction of iris and other plants, which will be our one fund raiser for the year. Tentatively planned for September is a guided tour of the J.C. Raulston Arboretum, in Raleigh, home of the guest irises the chapter received from the May 2003 National. On November 20 we will gather at the home of Dr. E. Roy Epperson. Following luncheon and our final business meeting, a slide show of the AIS national Convention is scheduled.

Plans for the 2005 Regional in Burlington will be uppermost on our minds from now until next May. Guest Irises are in place, and are doing well. We hope you will come and join us for a fun and rewarding time. We look forward to seeing you then

Region 4 Affiliates

EASTERN SHORE IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Ann Dumler

No Report

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Sylvia Smith

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society hosted a spring show at the FSK Mall in Frederick, Maryland recently. It was a wonderful venture with a mall that proved to expand our horizons with membership and sales flyers. Members answered all sorts of culture questions and advertised our garden tour and rhizome sales.

We had an excellent program on "The Invasive Pests and Plants in Gardens" this spring and welcome Frances Thrash and Bill Smoot on "Creative Design with Irises" this fall. The enthusiasm and excitement for their programs is outstanding.

Our membership and especially the board are looking for and trying to new and innovative ways to attract new members and retain our current membership. Our garden tour was kicked up a notch this year with colorful brochures and tickets created by our Garden Tour Committee. They were outdone by the gardens themselves.

While our spring show was rather small this year, we attribute that to the peak of bloom coming early to our area. We had two new members as show participants who did exceptionally well. That was very encouraging as some of our newer members are really jumping in with both feet and getting involved.

FSK is looking forward to their remaining events this year: rhizome sales, members picnic and the fall meeting.

Region 4 Affiliates

FREDERICKSBURG AREA IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Jim Schroetter

A fairly moderate winter and rather decent spring weather set the stage for FAIS; as a result, we've had a tremendous bloom season so far! Our mid-May Annual Iris Show benefited from this, having many lovely cultivars in both the horticultural and design sections. It was great to see several of our newer members so willing to help with all aspects of this well attended event! The results of the show are as follows:

Queen of Show	Jack and Rosalie Loving: Whispering Spirits
Best Design of Show	Cindy Marshall
Silver Medal	Jack and Rosalie Loving
Bronze Medal	Lois Rose
Best Specimen Youth	Kristen Laing

Earlier this year we've had presentations on "Garden Pests and Weed Control," and a slide show on Japanese irises. Also, several club members attended the National Convention in Fresno! On the horizon are several events, including our annual iris sale – which will again have many interesting cultivars as a result of our participation in the 2003 National Convention. We're also having a picnic meeting at Lois Rose's farm, and our yearly finale, the fall Harvest Dinner. Our biggest event of the year is on October 1st and 2nd at the Ramada Inn South, when FAIS again hosts the Region IV Fall Meeting. We hope to have a great turnout for this meeting due to the interesting agenda and lower gas prices. (It's an election year, right? *The price will undoubtedly be lower by then!*) Those who attend will get to hear an extraordinary guest speaker and remarkable irisarian, Dr. William A. "Bill" Shear - a distinguished professor of biology at Hampden-Sydney College, and the author of "THE GARDENER'S IRIS BOOK!" So, we're going to have a great meeting, and hope to see many of our iris friends in Fredericksburg – "*America's most historic city!*"

HAMPTON ROADS IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Terry Thrash

Hampton Roads Iris Society (HRIS) has been very busy over the last few months preparing for Ensata Extravaganza with the conclusion that Japanese Irises not only are beautiful, but that each individual needs to grow more of them in their own garden.

In addition to preparing for the Extravaganza, HRIS has also been very busy with parties, programs, and in general having fun

At the monthly meeting in October the club admired photos taken of the newest irises from the AIS Convention, in Fredricksburg and several attended the Fall Regional in Winchester. In November, the club enjoyed a program on Reblooming Irises. In December, the club met at the home of Terry and Frances Thrash for a Christmas Party. Dirty Santa was present, but everyone had a good time despite of him!

Early spring found HRIS having meetings with programs such as a video of the National Convention in Fredrickburg, a round table discussion of growing techniques used by the spoons and others in the group (fertilizing, spraying, and dividing, and timing of all these items), and slides of newer irises from AIS. In May, the group held a bearded show complete with a design division. This show was seen by thousands because it was held at the Botanical Gardens during the weekend of the Birds and Blooms Festival. HRIS also held a tour of gardens in early May and visited three private gardens and one public garden.

As you can see, we have been very busy, but have enjoyed it all and look forward to a wonderful weekend with all present.

Region 4 Affiliates

VIRGINIA PENINSULA IRIS SOCIETY CHAPTER REPORT

President: Nelda Pressley

No Report

Gardens of 2004

The Dr. Roy Epperson Garden

By Linda Laing

Central Virginia Iris Society President and AIS Judge

Dan, Krissy and I, in the warm afternoon of the last day of April visited Dr. Roy Epperson's Highpoint, North Carolina gardens. Dr. Epperson's home is a spacious house of vintage but sturdy 1950's construction and is within walking distance of the college campus where he teaches. The drive through Highpoint was enjoyable although we happened to catch the Friday afternoon traffic. Arriving at his street, Dr. Epperson's house stood out with iris, hostas, Japonicas, *I. tectorum*, daylilies, and an array of different flowers. The layout of the gardens was enhanced by some brickwork. Of picturesque interest was a gazebo-like structure built around a massive oak tree. Krissy fell in love with this structure and Dan thought it so unique and picturesque that he regretted having left the camera behind.

Dr. Epperson and his wife, Virginia, moved to Highpoint when he was hired by the university to open a new wing of the college in the 1970's. Sadly, Virginia passed away in the late 1990's but Dr. Epperson remains at the home they shared. Dr. Epperson stays active with his work at the university, AIS, the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society, and the Hospice of which he is a member of the board, the Hospice having been a blessing for both him and his wife when she took ill.

The iris in Dr. Epperson's yard were magnificent. Those in bloom, to name just a few, were Masked Bandit (IB), Apricot Drops, Spirit World (a potential Dykes?), Dumbledore (for you Harry Potter fans), and Ruby Slippers. I loved the beautiful collection of hostas (rhubarb was my favorite) and the stripped Lily of the Valley was fantastic. A very nice and mature garden of 30 plus years and certainly one to be appreciated. We truly enjoyed our visit Dr. Epperson!

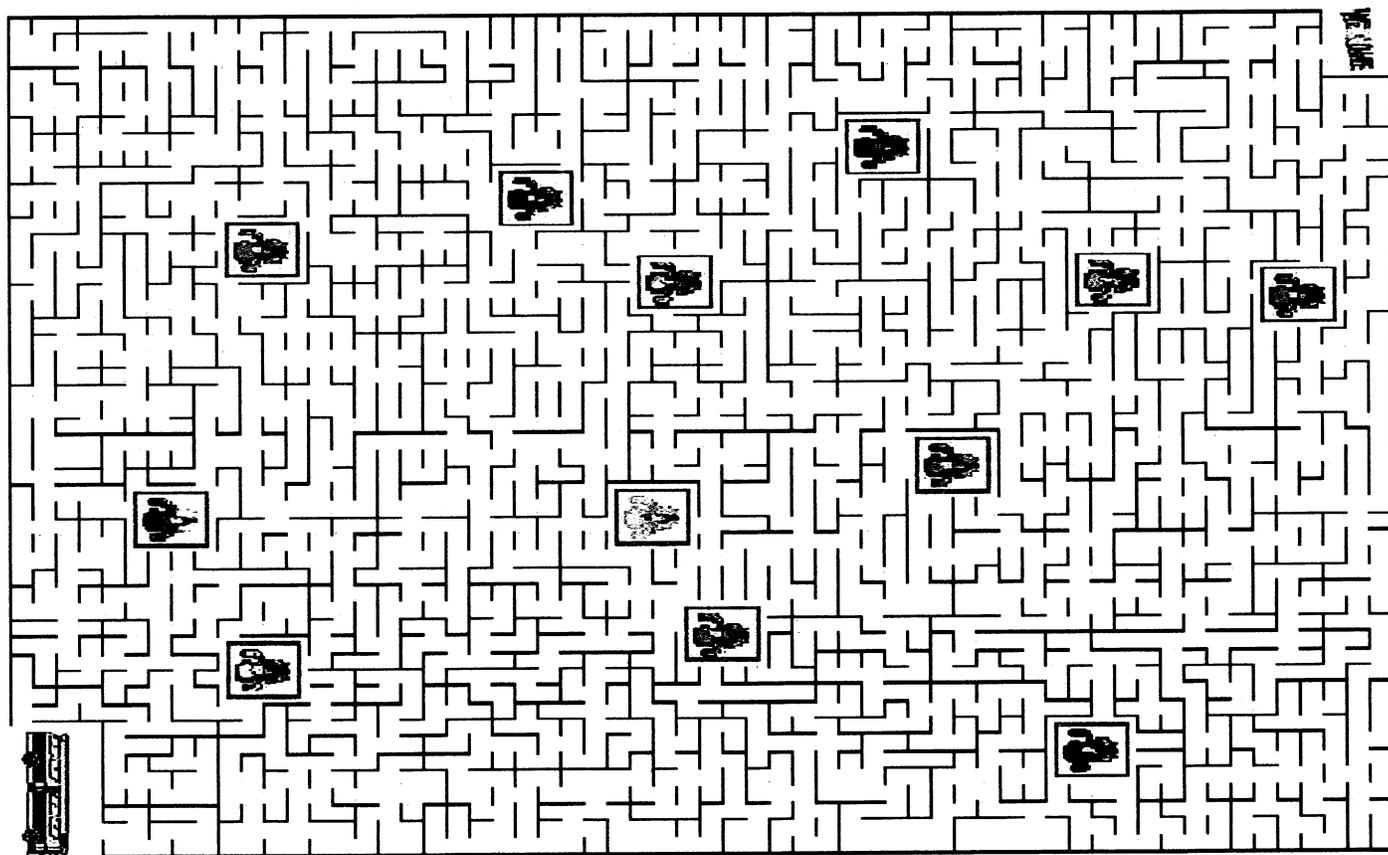
Youth Corner: Layering Iris Beds *Krissy Laing*

I have a round iris bed that Daddy made for me in the front yard. This is where I planted all of the irises that I got as replacements for those that I lost during Hurricane Isabel and the wet weather that followed it. Rhizomes that I planted in the bed last fall that were the size of my finger are now the size of potatoes. They also bloomed so well this first year that I won several blue ribbons at the shows with them. The reason that my iris bed does so well is the way that Daddy made it. Our soil is clay and we have a lot of oak trees around. This makes the soil real acidic because of the tannic acid in the trees. Also, the clay holds a lot of water for too long than is good for irises so we have rot if we don't take care of them all of the time. Daddy is a geologist so he knows a lot about rocks and soil. He designed my iris bed in a way that the soil and the acid won't cause harm to them.

To make my iris bed, Daddy pounded a wooden stake into the ground. He tied a loop in the end of a long string and put this over the stake. He tied another loop in the other end of the string too and put this over a real narrow shovel that he has. He then used the shovel to cut a big circle in the grass where my iris bed would be. After he was finished cutting the circle, he dug up the grass which we put in the back yard where we needed some, and then dug out the clay in the circle until he was about 6 inches below the grass. Then Daddy bought some chipped up dolomite gravel. This was real little gravel about 1/4 to 1/2 inches big. He put about 1/2 inches of the gravel all across the bottom of the circle. Then he put in sand until the circle was filled up to the level of the ground. Next he put in some plastic bordering that he bought at Home Depot. My iris bed is on a little bit of a slope and he said it was real important to leave a little gap at the lowest end so that it could drain good. After he had the bordering in, he put in more sand until it was almost filled up. Right on top, he put in about an inch of topsoil that he bought in bags at Lowe's.

When Daddy was finished making my bed for me, I put in my irises, planting them with just the tops of the rhizomes showing and they just love it. They grew more in 8 months than others that I had for two years did. It worked so good that I am going to have Daddy make another bed for my new seedlings. It should really work well for the young plants and give them a good start.

Happy Hybridizing!



AIS AWARDS 2004

*Number of votes listed first

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

59 CROWNED HEADS (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

- 44 TOM JOHNSON (Paul Black)
- 37 JURASSIC PARK (Larry Lauer)
- JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL (TB)**
- 123 SPLASHACATA (Richard Tasco)
- 62 WORLD PREMIER (Schreiner)
- 45 POEM OF ECSTASY (Ben Hager)

Runners-up:

- 44 FOGBOUND (Keith Keppel)
- 42 ROMANTIC EVENING (Joseph Ghio)
- 41 SWINGTOWN (Schreiner)

KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB)

- 88 ORANGE POP (Larry Lauer)

Runners-up:

- 73 LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE (Elvan Roderick)
- 65 APRICOT TOPPING (Paul Black)

HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

- 87 GNU RAYZ (Brad Kasperek)

Runners-up:

- 85 LONDONDERRY (Keith Keppel)
- 70 FATHOM (Marky Smith)

WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL (MTB)

- 106 MERIT (Kenneth Fisher)

Runners-up:

- 82 MINI-WABASH (Riley Probst)
- 73 WISTFUL WISTERIA (Opal Wulf)

COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)

- 52 MINIDRAGON (Marky Smith)

Runners-up:

- 35 RUBY ERUPTION (Chuck Chapman)
- 29 FOREVER BLUE (Chuck Chapman)
- 28 BLACKBERRY JAM (A. & D. Willott)

CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL (MDB)

- 57 DINKY CIRCUS (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 48 LITTLE DRUMMER BOY (A. & D. Willott)

CLARENCE G. WHITE MEDAL (AR & AB) (Pure aril and arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

- 42 CHOCOLATE MINT (Richard Tasco)

Runners-up:

- 25 OMAR'S VALOR (Carl Boswell)
- 15 DESERT ATTIRE (Howard Shockey)

WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL (AB) (Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

- 20 DESERT CELEBRATION (Lin Flanagan)

Runner-up:

- 13 DESERT JUBILEE (Lin Flanagan)

FOUNDERS OF SIGMA MEDAL (SPEC)

- 22 CHINA WEST LAKE (James Waddick)

Runners-up:

- 21 KING CLOVIS (Eric & Bob Tankesley-Clarke)
- 19 SUSLIK (John Burton II)

RANDOLPH-PERRY MEDAL (SPEC-X)

- 61 ENFANT PRODIGE (Tony Huber)

Runners-up:

- 19 PACIFIC STARPRINT (Lorena Reid)
- 19 ROYAL DOLLY (Lorena Reid)

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL (CA)

- 25 RASPBERRY DAZZLER (Vernon Wood)

Runners-up:

- 13 AIR SHOW (Lois Belardi)
- 12 MANTRA (Joseph Ghio)
- 12 PACIFIC SNOWFLAKE (George Shoop)

DEBAILLON MEDAL (LA)

- 34 HOT AND SPICY (Heather Pryor)

Runners-up:

- 33 RED VELVET ELVIS (Keith Vaughn)
- 27 AUNT SHIRLEY (Joseph Mertzweiller)

MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB)

- 91 BLUEBERRY FAIR (Robert Hollingworth)

Runners-up:

- 61 RIVERDANCE (Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks)
- 55 SPRINKLES (Bob Bauer and John Coble)
- 53 MESA PEARL (Bob Bauer and John Coble)

ERIC NIES MEDAL (SPU)

- 59 MISSOURI RAINBOWS (O.D. Niswonger)

Runner-up:

- 58 SUNRISE IN SONORA (Floyd Wickenkamp)

PAYNE MEDAL (JI)

Results after August 1, 2004

WALTHER CUP

(Most HM votes in any category)

- 129 CAT'S EYE SDB (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 100 PUDDY TAT SDB (Paul Black)
- 81 WINTRY SKY TB (Keith Keppel)
- 80 MASLON MTB (Donald Spoon)**

AWARD OF MERIT

TALL BEARDED

- 195 GOLDEN PANTHER (Richard Tasco)
- 170 STARRING (Joseph Ghio)
- 162 HAPPENSTANCE (Keith Keppel)
- 131 QUEEN'S CIRCLE (Frederick Kerr)

110 MY GINNY (Donald Spoon)

- 108 DEVONSHIRE CREAM (George Sutton)

- 100 MILLENNIUM FALCON (Brad Kasperek)

- 98 RING AROUND ROSIE (Richard Ernst)

- 75 LAST LAUGH (George Shoop)
- 67 SHARPSHOOTER (Keith Keppel)
- 61 VIENNA WALTZ (Keith Keppel)
- 52 GHOST TRAIN (Schreiner)
- 52 KEEPING UP APPEARANCES (Paul Black)

- 49 FASHIONABLY LATE (Keith Keppel)

- 46 CANDY APPLE CLASSIC (William Maryott)

- 45 IN YOUR DREAMS (Lynda Miller)

- 45 LET'S BOOGIE (Schreiner)
- 45 SOCIAL GRACES (Keith Keppel)

AIS AWARDS 2004 (cont.)

AWARD OF MERIT (cont.)

TALL BEARDED (cont.)

- 45 VIBRANT (Paul Black)
- 44 DREAM EXPRESS (Richard Tasco)
- 44 HABIT (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 43 BOLD VISION (Frederick Kerr)
- 43 CHARIOTS OF FIRE (J.T. Aitken)
- 42 LARUE BOSWELL (Vernon Wood)

- 41 BARBARA MY LOVE
(William Maryott)

- 41 DEVIL'S LAKE (Schreiner)
- 41 MILLENNIUM SUNRISE
(Schreiner)

- 41 MONET'S BLUE (Schreiner)

BORDER BEARDED

- 61 TEAPOT TEMPEST (Lynn Markham)
- 60 CLASSIC NAVY (Carol Lankow)

Runners-up:

- 54 BORDER CONTROL (Tom Johnson)
- 44 MAUI DAWN (J.T. Aitken)
- 44 ORANGE PIECRUST
(O.D. Niswonger)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 72 BLACKCURRANT (Marky Smith)
- 71 MING (Mark Smith)

Runners-up:

- 58 DEVIL MAY CARE (Paul Black)
- 53 SONORAN SANDS (Richard Tasco)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 87 BLUE CHIP STOCK (Paul Black)
- 73 YELLOW FLIRT (Kenneth Fisher)

Runners-up:

- 72 FESTIVE GLOW
(A. & D. Willott)
- 60 PINK-ALL-OVER (Kenneth Fisher)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

- 42 CACHET (Paul Black)
- 40 YIPPY SKIPPY (Paul Black)
- 39 DENALI (Marky Smith)
- 38 JUST A CROC (Brad Kasperek)

Runners-up:

- 37 ARTFUL (Paul Black)
- 36 NEAR MYTH (J.T. Aitken)
- 36 SABRINA'S KISS
(A. & D. Willott)
- 36 SNICKERS (Keith Keppel)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 66 YAK ATTACK (Brad Kasperek)
- 42 TINGLE (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 39 SELF-EVIDENT (Ben Hager)
- 39 TICKLE ME (Chuck Chapman)

ARILBRED (Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

- 61 WALKER ROSS (Walker Ross)
- 45 HAKUNA MATATA (A. & D. Cadd)

Runner-up:

- 31 SUE BEE (Susie Kammer)

ARIL AND ARILBRED (Pure aril and arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

- 75 OMAR'S STITCHERY (Carl Boswell)
- 45 OMAR'S EYE (Carl Boswell)

Runner-up:

- 31 LUELLE DEE (G.F. Wilson)

SPECIES

- 57 BAYOU BANDIT (Jeff Weeks)
- 39 SYLVANSHINE (Clarence Mahan & Carol Warner)

Runner-up:

- 25 GORDONVILLE WHITE
(O.D. Niswonger)

CALIFORNICAE

- 14 PACIFIC SNOWBALL (J.T. Aitken)
- 10 BABY BLANKET (Joseph Ghio)
- 10 UMUNHUM (Joseph Ghio)

Runners-up:

- 8 DEEP MAGIC (Lois Belardi)
- 8 DISTANT NEBULA (Vernon Wood)

LOUISIANA

- 30 PEACHES IN WINE (Heather Pryor)
- 28 JAZZ HOT (Heather Pryor)

Runners-up:

- 18 PRIX D'ELEGANCE (Heather Pryor)
- 16 HUSH MONEY (Mary Dunn)

SIBERIAN

- 64 FOND KISS (Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks)

- 62 SOMEBODY LOVES ME
(Robert Hollingworth)

Runners-up:

- 57 CARMEN JEANNE (Calvin Hellsley)
- 50 BUTTER AND CREAM
(Currier McEwen)

SPURIA

- 42 MISSOURI MOONLIGHT
(O.D. Niswonger)

- 39 MISSOURI ORANGE
(O.D. Niswonger)

Runners-up:

- 30 ELFIN SUNSHINE
(B. Charles Jenkins)
- 30 MISSOURI AUTUMN
(O.D. Niswonger)

JAPANESE

Available after August 1, 2004

HONORABLE MENTION

TALL BEARDED

- 81 WINTRY SKY (Keith Keppel)
- 79 CHARLESTON (Keith Keppel)
- 79 KITTY KAY (Keith Keppel)
- 77 AMIABLE (Joseph Ghio)
- 73 SECRET SERVICE (Keith Keppel)
- 72 FADE TO BLACK (Schreiner)
- 72 GOT MILK (J.T. Aitken)
- 72 REVERE (Joseph Ghio)
- 71 OBSIDIAN (Marky Smith)
- 65 CARNIVAL RIDE (Richard Ernst)
- 64 INSIDE TRACK (Keith Keppel)
- 61 BALDERDASH (Keith Keppel)
- 59 SPICE LORD (Barry Blyth)
- 58 AMARILLO FRILLS (Ben Hager)
- 58 CRANBERRY SAUCE (Paul Black)
- 58 CRYSTAL GAZER (Keith Keppel)
- 57 VAPOR (Joseph Ghio)
- 54 BEL ESPRIT (Keith Keppel)
- 51 GAME PLAN (Keith Keppel)
- 51 PICASSO MOON (Schreiner)
- 50 ANNOUNCEMENT (Paul Black)
- 47 COVER PAGE (Joseph Ghio)
- 47 SAMBUCA (Larry Johnson)
- 45 AARDVARK LARK (Paul Black)
- 44 UNCHARTED WATERS
(Larry Johnson)
- 43 BRAVE FACE (Joseph Ghio)
- 43 BROADBAND (Richard Tasco)
- 42 PRESBY'S CROWN JEWEL
(Schreiner)
- 41 OPEN SEA (Keith Keppel)
- 41 OPPOSING FORCES (Keith Keppel)

AIS AWARDS 2004 (cont.)

HONORABLE MENTION

TALL BEARDED (cont.)

- 40 CAPTAIN HOOK (Oscar Schick)
 40 ELEGANT GIRL (A. & D. Cadd)
 39 FROSTED FANTASY (A. & D. Cadd)
 39 TICKET TO RIDE (Larry Lauer)
 38 DEVIL DAVID (A. & D. Cadd)
 38 HOT PROPERTY (Ben Hager)
 37 CHOCOLATE CHESS
 (Walter Moores)
 37 PENNANT FEVER (Joseph Ghio)
 36 BUBBLES GALORE (Joseph Ghio)
 36 LOVELY SENORITA (Schreiner)
 36 METOLIUS BLUES (Schreiner)
 35 RIDE THE TIGER (Larry Lauer)
 35 T-REX (Gerald Richardson)
 35 WHITE-CAPPED WAVES
 (Richard Ernst)
 34 CHERRY BLOSSOM SONG
 (Schreiner)
 34 MARTILE ROWLAND
 (Howard Bushnell)
 34 PIONEER WOMAN (Paul Black)
 32 HUNTER PINK (Tim Stanek)
 32 SIMPLY DELICIOUS (Ben Hager)
 31 FIESTA IN BLUE (Schreiner)
 30 CLASSIC HUES (Opal Brown)
 30 FEELINGS (Joseph Ghio)
 30 SPOUTING HORN (Larry Johnson)
 29 ARMS WIDE OPEN (Larry Lauer)
 29 COSMIC VISION (Richard Tasco)
 29 CRANBERRY CORDIAL
 (Walter Moores)
 29 LADY CLAIRE (Joan Roberts)
 29 LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION
 (Lowell Baumunk)
 29 MERITAGE (Schreiner)
 29 PLEASANT SURPRISE (Ben Hager)
 28 BROWN SUGAR SPICE (Opal Brown)
 28 CAPRICIOUS CANDLES
 (LeRoy Meininger)
 28 CARL AND SISSY (Paul Black)
 28 DEFINITELY DIFFERENT
 (Paul Black)
 28 IRON EAGLE (George Sutton)
 28 MILK ON APRICOTS
 (O.D. Niswonger)
 28 RETURN TO SENDER (Joseph Ghio)
 28 SARGENT PRESTON
 (Chuck Chapman)
 27 DOCTOR NO (George Sutton)
 27 LACY DAY (Richard Ernst)

TALL BEARDED (cont.)

- 27 RUBY MORN (Schreiner)
 27 SPACE COWBOY (Larry Lauer)
 27 TRILLION (Elaine Bessette)
 26 TAUGHT BY MASTERS
 (Richard Ernst)
 26 VISITING ROYALTY (Joseph Ghio)
 25 CANDY CANE CUTIE
 (William Maryott)
 25 COLOR FUSION (J.T. Aitken)
 25 DANCING IN RUFFLES
 (A. & D. Cadd)
 25 GEORGIA STREAKER
 (Harry Turner)
 25 GLOWING SMILE (Ben Hager)
 25 LAURA BUELOW (Merle Roberts)
 25 LIP SERVICE (Joseph Ghio)
 25 NEHALEM BAY (Schreiner)
 25 SPRING FANTASY (Richard Tasco)
 25 TALK THAT TALK (Tom Burseen)
 25 TITANIC'S NEMESIS (David Miller)
Runners-up:
 24 AMETHYST SUNCATCHER
 (A. & D. Cadd)
 24 CHOCOLATE ECSTASY
 (Oscar Schick)
 24 DEB SUNSHINE
 (Everette Lineberger)
 24 ETHEREAL VOICES (Ben Hager)
 24 SONGWRITER (Ben Hager)

BORDER BEARDED

- 52 BERMUDA TRIANGLE
 (A. & D. Cadd)
 50 PRINCESS BRIDE (George Sutton)
 43 TOUCH OF FROST (Lynn Markham)
 36 ELEGANT LASS (A. & D. Cadd)
 34 RED THUMBPRINTS
 (A. & D. Cadd)

Runners-up:

- 30 CONGO BONGO (Brad Kasperek)
 30 ROYAL OVATION (Jim and Vicki Craig)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 77 RUBY SLIPPERS (Keith Keppel)
 64 HARMONIUM (Marky Smith)
 57 DUDE (Keith Keppel)
 55 JERSEY CREAM (Keith Keppel)
 52 BRAT (Keith Keppel)
 51 IN A FLASH (Paul Black)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 48 BOLD STATEMENT (Richard Tasco)
 48 JUMP START (Keith Keppel)
Runners-up:
 45 KAHUNA (Marky Smith)
 39 CANDY ROCK (George Sutton)
MINIATURE TALL BEARDED
 80 MASLON (Donald Spoon)
 55 PUG (Eugene Kalkwarf)
 42 BEN A FACTOR (Roger Miller)
 42 CONNECT THE DOTS (Lynda Miller)

Runners-up:

- 41 LARRY'S GIRL (Stephanie Markham)
 39 DANCING LILACS
 (Stephanie Markham)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

- 129 CAT'S EYE (Paul Black)
 100 PUDDY TAT (Paul Black)
 44 BALLISTIC (Paul Black)
 42 HELMSMAN (Marky Smith)
 41 DANCING BUNNIES (Paul Black)
 38 DOLLOP (Keith Keppel)
 36 CIRCUS DRAGON (Bennett Jones)
 36 LAP CAT (Lowell Baumunk)
 34 NAVY RUFFLES (Tom Johnson)
 33 QUARTZLIGHT (Marky Smith)
 32 WINE SPRITZER (Virginia Messick)
 31 SEDONA (Bennett Jones)
 29 JIVE (Keith Keppel)
 27 DAZZLE ME (Lynda Miller)
 27 QUAIL HOLLOW
 (A. & D. Willott)
 26 ENCHANTED MOCHA
 (B. & D. Schmieder)

Runners-up:

- 25 BOWL OF CHERRIES (Lynda Miller)
 25 IRISH CHANT (George Sutton)
 25 PUMPKIN MUNCHKIN (Perry Dyer)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 42 TINY TITAN (J. T. Aitken)
 27 BRANDED (Paul Black)
 23 BE LITTLE (J.T. Aitken)
Runners-up:
 22 SUN DABS (J.T. Aitken)
 22 WATERMARK (A. & D. Willott)

AIS AWARDS 2004 (cont.)

HONORABLE MENTION (cont.)

ARIL AND ARILBRED (Pure aril and arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

26 MASADA'S GLORY (James Whitely)

26 SPIRIT OF CALEB (Pete McGrath)

21 PINK SERAPH (H. & I. Shockey)

Runners-up:

12 QUMRAN CANARY
(Luella Danielson)

11 KEDESH (James Whitely)

ARILBRED (Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

20 SHABAZA (George Sutton)

16 RETURN TO AGA (Robert Annand)

Runner-up:

6 RARING TO GO
(Sharon McAllister)

SPECIES

54 PETIT LION (Lowell Baumunk)

15 R. GISKARD (Stephen Smith)

Runners-up:

14 CASCADE MIST (Dana Borglum)

14 LITTLE JAY
(Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

INTER-SPECIES

23 UNDERSTATED (Lynn Markham)

19 MAGYAR MEDLEY (Philip Edinger)

19 STITCH WITCHERY (Lorena Reid)

CALIFORNICAE

11 WINE AND CHEESE (Vernon Wood)

10 CIAO (Joseph Ghio)

7 MOCHA MELODY (Alphild Lind)

6 DRIP DROP (Joseph Ghio)

Runner-up:

5 EYES HAVE IT (Joseph Ghio)

LOUISIANA

23 NIGHT THUNDER (Richard Morgan)

22 GINGER PUNCH (Richard Morgan)

22 HONEY GALORE (Ron Betzer)

22 LONGUE VUE (Dorman Haymon)

21 SPICE WORLD (Mary Dunn)

19 RASPBERRY RILLA
(Rilla Hickerson)

Runners-up:

17 MUDBUG (Patrick O'Connor)

12 MISS GERTIE'S BONNET
(Dorman Haymon)

SIBERIAN

47 CHINA SPRING

(Bob Bauer & John Coble)

46 LAVENDER FAIR

(Robert Hollingworth)

37 BARBARA SCHMIEDER

(Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

36 JUST CRUISING

(Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

33 DANDY'S HORNPIPE

(Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

30 IN FULL SAIL

(Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

30 MAGNUM BORDEAUX

(Bob Bauer & John Coble)

29 LEMON VEIL

(Bob Bauer & John Coble)

Runners-up:

27 TUMBLEBUG
(Bob Bauer & John Coble)

26 PLUM FROLIC

(Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

25 ROSY BOWS

(Bob Bauer & John Coble)

SPURIA

26 LACED SUNSHINE (D.L. Shepard)

23 WHITEWATER RIVER
(O.D. Niswonger)

Runners-up:

22 HOCKA HOONA (Peter De Santis)

15 HASARYA (Peter De Santis)

15 PAINTER'S CHOICE
(B. Charles Jenkins)

JAPANESE

Available after August 1

Congratulations to the 2004 AIS AWARDS Winners

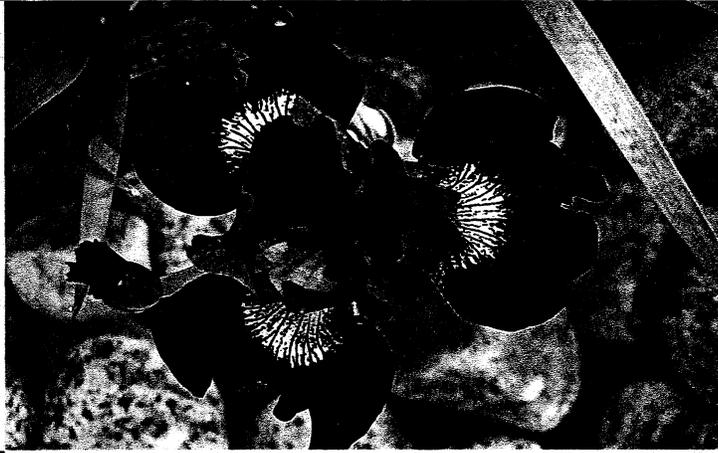


MASLON MTB
Don Spoon 2002
Runner –up Walther Cup
Honorable Mention MTB

SYLVANSHINE (Species)
Clarence Mahan and
Carol Warner
Award of Merit Species



MY GINNY TB
Don Spoon 2000
Award of Merit TB



**Queen of Show CMIS
“Over In Gloryland”
Randall & Pat Brown**

Picture Courtesy of Erin Mills Iris

**Queen of Show C&PIS
“Captivating”
Clarence Mahan**

Picture Courtesy of Sharon Engstrom



**Queen of Show FAIS
“Whispering Spirits”
Jack & Rosalie Loving**

Picture Courtesy of Anita Moran

My Introduction to the American Iris Society

By Doris R. Moran

Prior to the 2003 National Convention in Falls Church, Virginia, my knowledge of iris were that they were pretty flowers and it was my mother's name.

I was visiting my daughter, who had volunteered me to help with the raffle for the National Convention. My first thoughts were that they were talking a foreign language, with falls (thinking of pink water?), styles, hafts, and other terms. It wasn't long before I realized I was among very caring people who loved what they were doing and were very willing to take the time to explain things to a confused iris rookie. It was difficult to understand how they remembered the names of different iris, their colors, hybridizers and the year they were introduced. During this time, I was able to attend several talks and the talk by George Sutton was wonderful in introducing me to several of the terms and what made a "Good Parent Iris". Image that at age 79, I was learning that iris had parents.

I had no idea what to expect from the garden tours. When I saw my first garden, "The Loving Garden", after getting off the bus, it was like a paradise. I was so impressed that this flower that I had only seen in purple, was truly of nearly every hue. I saw "Splashacata" for the first time and thought it the most wonderful iris. Then during a break from the guest, I saw an unusual sight, a splotchy iris. "Bewildabeast" was the most unusual iris I had ever seen, but fit its name perfectly. We were rushed onto the bus and off to another garden. The garden that first day I remember most was the "Rose Garden". The day was warm and so was the reception, after a box lunch, and a walk through the iris, there were benches beneath shade trees to just enjoy the sight or learn some of the fellow bus mates names. I was standing next to a couple of iris with different name, but to me looked identical. Seeing my confusion, someone stopped and explained the differences and what to look for in similar situations, I will never forget that act of kindness, Thanks to Rick Tasco and may others who patiently answered my question.

I did not know the garden tours were a test! When we finally figured out we had to choose the best of the iris from within region four and out of region four, then 15 of my favorites, oh the choices. Thank heaven it was a long drive back from Blandy, such a difficult choice, so difficult that the last name wasn't on the card until we returned to the hotel. The Awards banquet was an eye opener as may of those who were of such help were the hybridizers themselves, and both the iris I chose WON! "My Ginny for the President's Cup, and "Splashacata" for Cook Memorial Cup. Unfortunately this ended the convention.

While still in Maryland I was fortunate that my daughter volunteered me for an iris show, also my first. Everyone was taking such great care in preparing their flowers to be judged. Since I was allowed to be a clerk, I was able to observe the entire judging process. My time in the Region Four was the best introduction into the world of the iris.

When I got back home, I was so excited about all I had seen and learned; I joined the local iris club. Since I found the way to get involved was to volunteer, I began introduction to my local group at digging, and planting parties.

Thanks to the wonderful people of Region 4 I was ready for the 2004 National convention in Fresno or so I thought. Taking the lesson my daughter gave, I once again, with her of course, volunteered for the convention in whatever capacity they might need. Well it was not long before we knew that we were to be Bus Captains. I thought this a wonderful idea, as we would get to meet even more people. Oh the work! Despite the work, the heat, no air conditioning in the bus, high winds, dust, corralling those belonging to our bus, trying not to cry as we left Superstition Garden, keeping notes, keeping the driver on the right road, handing out door prizes, and the myriad of other tasks, we also had to take our test and that meant getting in the gardens and looking at all the wonderful iris on display in so many wonderful gardens. It was a daunting task and we loved every minute of it.

As a bonus we shared a room with Denise Stewart of Snowpeak Iris. I did not know her although my daughter did through the Internet. What a wonderful experience to know new friends all due to a wonderful flower.

The people who belong to the American Iris Society are a special breed. They are happy people who willingly share their knowledge and even their plants. I have truly been blessed since my introduction into their world.



Remember to make your voices heard.

This is where your votes count. Vote for your

Favorite Tall Bearded Iris when your ballots arrive

and be sure to send them to the Regional Vice President Ginny Spoon!



INVITATION

AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting
Friday, October 1st & Saturday, October 2nd, 2004
Ramada Inn South
5324 Jefferson Davis Highway, Fredericksburg, VA



The Fredericksburg Area Iris Society, your host for the 2004 AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting, requests the honor of your presence in Fredericksburg on Friday, October 1st and Saturday, October 2nd, 2004. The club members have put together a meeting that promises to be both informative and enjoyable. Among the events we have planned for our guests to participate in:

Reblooming Iris Show! We usually have bloom in many gardens throughout Region 4 at this time of year. With the generous amount of precipitation we've had this summer, the stage is set for good rebloom; perhaps 2004 will produce one of the best rebloom shows yet! *Please* bring as many irises to enter in the show as you can. With Lois Rose serving as our show chairman, and your help with bringing entries – we're sure to have another outstanding show!

Garden Tour! Likewise, if the rebloomers are cooperating, we plan to carpool/vanpool to 1 or 2 local gardens on Saturday morning! Our coordinator, Doug Chyz, will check the pulse on rebloom in the Fredericksburg area gardens just prior to the convention. If we have irises in bloom for you to see, we will form small groups, hand out maps, and go see some irises during the morning!

Guest Speaker! After our Saturday evening buffet, we have a real treat in store for everyone. We will hear one of the most knowledgeable speakers on the topic of irises in the entire nation – Region 4's own, Dr. William "Bill" Shear! Dr. Shear, Patterson Distinguished Professor of Biology at Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, is the author of "The Gardener's Iris Book," (Taunton Press, 1999.) He will conduct what is sure to be a highly informative presentation on current and future trends in the world of irises! (*Hat's off to Mike Lockatell for arranging to have this distinguished irisarian as our special guest!*)

Judges Training! Friday afternoon, there will be a 2-hour judges training session. While not yet finalized at this writing, this workshop will cover either species irises or Louisiana irises.

Auctions! We will have a Plant Auction, led by Auctioneer extraordinaire, Dr. Roy Epperson, as a fundraiser for Region 4. FAIS will also host a Silent Auction to help offset the cost of our contributions toward this meeting. *Your contributions are needed!* Please bring irises and other plants, along with any other items you'd like to donate to either auction. Iris-related photos, paintings, books, jewelry, etc., are great auction items! Already slated for auction are *over two dozen very recent Siberian irises!*

Images of Region 4 Seedlings! We plan to have a PowerPoint show running during our Saturday afternoon social time that will feature images of the seedlings of hybridizers in our region. Our intent is to showcase the hard work of our iris breeders, while allowing attendees to see numerous irises being considered for introduction in the near future!

AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting Registration Form
Friday, October 1st & Saturday, October 2nd, 2004
Ramada Inn South
5324 Jefferson Davis Highway, Fredericksburg, VA



<p><i>Adult Registration on/before September 7th: \$70.00</i> <i>Youth Registration on/before September 7th: \$60.00</i> Registration fee includes full buffet dinner on Friday and Saturday nights!</p>	
Name 1:	Chapter:
Name preference For Name Tag #1:	
Name 2:	Chapter:
Name preference For Name Tag #2:	
Street Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Telephone # & e-Mail address:	
<p><i>Please make your check payable to:</i> Fredericksburg Area Iris Society <i>Mail check & registration form to:</i> Shirley Hardisty, Registrar 206 Mt. Pleasant Blvd Fredericksburg, VA 22405 (540) 373-6857</p>	<p><i>Meeting Information:</i> Jim Schroetter, (540) 786-1073 finelohomes@adelphia.net <i>or</i> Martha Carter: (540) 786-2913 <i>Reblooming Iris Show Information:</i> Lois Rose, Show Chairman: (540) 582-5799 lowy222@aol.com</p>
<p>Number of adults attending _____ x \$70.00 per person = \$ _____ Number of youths attending _____ x \$60.00 per person = \$ _____</p>	
<p>Add \$5 more per registration after September 7th. <i>No refunds after September 15th!</i></p>	
<p>Reblooming Iris Show: Friday, October 1st, 2004. <i>Setup from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. Open to public 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm.</i> Please bring as many irises as you can; help make this a memorable show! Judges Training: Friday, October 1st, 2004, 2:30 – 4:30. Presentation: Dr. Bill Shear. A superb presentation on current & future trends in the world of irises! Auction Contributions: Please bring irises and/or other plants, along with any other items you'd like to donate (photos, paintings, books, jewelry, etc.) to sell at the auction! Garden Tour: <i>If the rebloomers cooperate,</i> we plan to carpool/vanpool to 1 or 2 local gardens! TBD!</p>	
<p>Hotel Information: Rooms will be held for us at the convention rate until September 17th! Room rates are \$68 for an inside room (within the atrium) or \$62 for an outside room. Please call the hotel directly to make reservations. Tell them you will be attending the Region 4 Iris Society meeting. Ramada Inn South, 5324 Jefferson Davis Highway, Fredericksburg, VA 22408 Phone: (540) 898-1102 Fax: (540) 898-2017</p>	
<p>From the north, take I-95 South to exit 126 (Rt. 1 South / Massaponax); at bottom of ramp turn left onto Rt. 1 North. At second light, turn right into hotel. From the south, take I-95 North to exit 126-A. Proceed onto Rt. 1 North. At first light turn right into hotel. (Note: this is the same location where the 2001 Fall Regional was held.)</p>	

AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting
Friday, October 1st & Saturday, October 2nd, 2004
Ramada Inn South
5324 Jefferson Davis Highway, Fredericksburg, VA

Hotel Information:
Ramada Inn - South
5324 Jefferson Davis Highway
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Phone: (540) 898-1102 Fax: (540) 898-2017

(Note: this is the same location where the 2001 Fall Regional was held.)

Room rates are \$68 for an inside room (within the atrium) or \$62 for an outside room. Please call the hotel directly to make reservations. It's best to call them soon, and tell them you will be attending the Region 4 Iris Society meeting to get these discounted rates.

The Ramada Inn – South is a well-appointed hotel midway between Richmond, VA and Washington, D.C. It features 196 guestrooms, a large indoor pool, a sauna, a twirl spa, a game room and an exercise room. The Garden Terrace Restaurant and Muggsey's Lounge, offer excellent food and spirits. Just minutes away in downtown Fredericksburg, you'll find an ideal blend of past and present, with scores of authentic historic attractions, antique stores, gift shops and eateries. Also nearby are the Civil War battlefields; Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Chancellorsville and Wilderness. Other close by places to go include the Rappahannock River, The University of Mary Washington (Mary Washington College,) Central Park, Kings Dominion - and much more!

Directions:

From the North, take I-95 South to exit 126 (Rt. 1 / Massaponax); at bottom of ramp turn left onto Rt. 1 North. At second light, turn right into hotel.

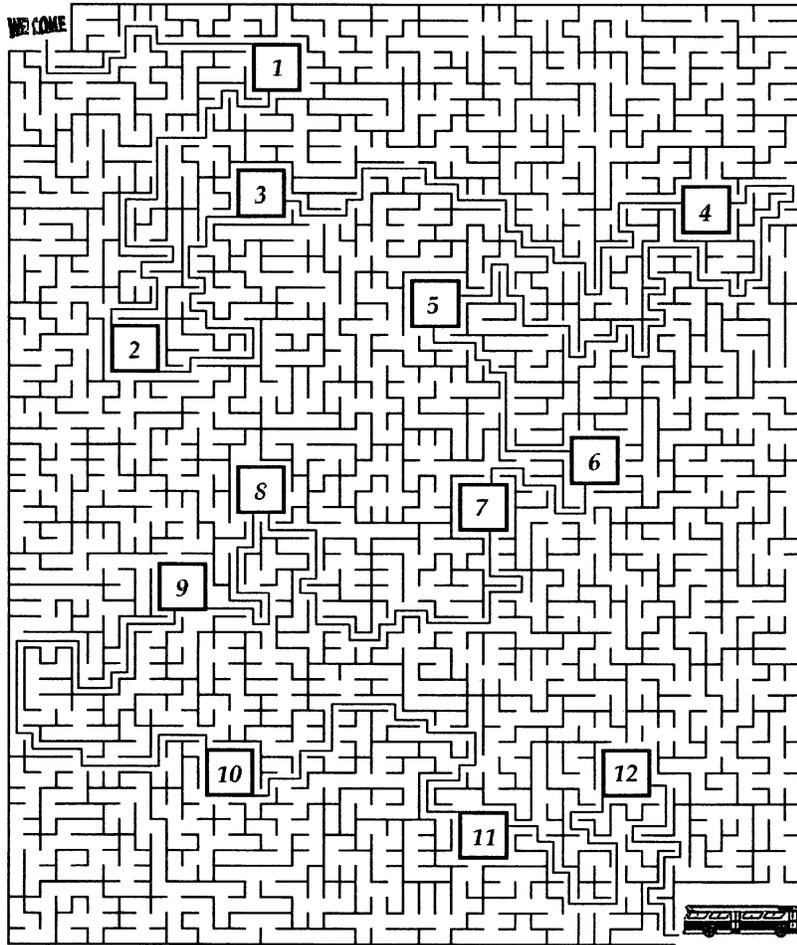
From the South, take I-95 North to exit 126-A. Proceed onto Rt. 1 North. At first light turn right into hotel.

Images of Seedlings Needed!

Whether you're an aspiring hybridizer or a seasoned veteran – we need digital images of your seedlings – *and we need them soon!* We're trying to build a multimedia presentation featuring the seedlings of Region 4 hybridizers to run during a portion of our AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting. Bill Smoot has volunteered to put the images collected into a PowerPoint presentation for us – if I'd agree to gather them. Each seedling picture will ultimately have a caption added showing the number (or a name, if it's been registered,) what irises were crossed to create the seedling, and the name of the hybridizer. *Be sure to provide this information for each image submitted!*

To submit just a few small images, (suggested limit about 2 MB total,) e-mail them to:

Solutions!



I apologize for the errors on this page but these are the solutions

PINK IRISES:Z = H

Heart of Africa

zpioq sr iaotui

Pink Horizon

ytfv asotesv

Apple blossom pink

Iyyip jdsbbsh ytfv

Country dance

Uscvqol mivup

Pink Blink

Ytfv jdtvf

Leta Black

Dpqi jdiuf

Pretty Miss

Yotnnl htbb

Cloudia

Udscmti

Kentucky Woman

Fpvqcufi gshiv

Mowie Queen

Hsgtp xcppv

INDIAN NAMES:

Indian Chief

Owvofw paair

Pocahontas

Jepfaewxfk

Pawnee Princess

Jfuwii jgowpikk

Navaho Pride

Wfcfye jgovi

Apache Warrior

Fjfpve ufggoeg

Cherokee Nation

Paigezii wfxoew

Chief Wawkesha

Paair ufuzikaf

Comanchero

Penfwpaige

Chippewa Brave

Paajjiuf qgfc

Indian Pow Wow

Owvofw jeu ueu

DYKE MEDAL WINNERS:

Argus Pheasant

Mesby rwlmyk

Chiualry

Hwajmnev

Helen McGregor

Wlnlk chselsfe

The Red Douglas

Iwl elz zfjsnmy

Wabash

Qmpmyw

Prairie Sunset

Remaeal yjkyli

Sable Night

Ympnl kaswi

San Francisco

Ymk demkhayhf

Blue Rhythm

Pnbl ewiwc

Coralie

hfemnal

Lal Rose

Anita Moran
Newscast Editor
C/o
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Cross Junction, VA 22625

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