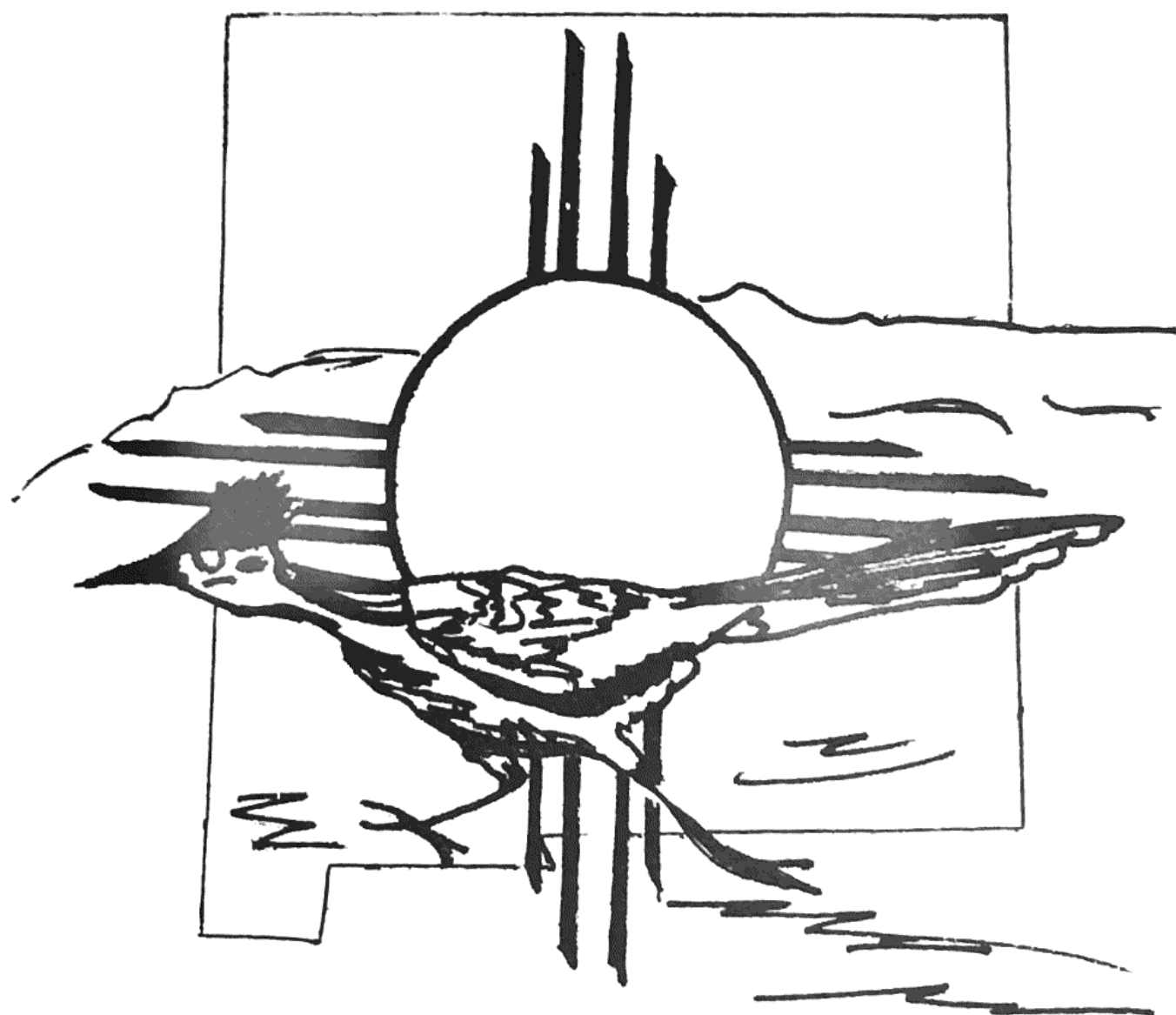


American **IRIS** Society



REGION 23
SPRING 1979

OFFICERS

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
505 898-1814 Post Office Box 1006, Corrales, NM 87048 Mrs. Patricia Clauser

ASS'T REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
505 256-9454 704 Jefferson NE, Albq., NM 87110 Mr. James Mahoney

SECRETARY Mrs. Valerie White
1428 Stagecoach Lane SE, Albq., NM 87108

TREASURER Mrs. W. H. McKinley
3109 Diamond A Drive, Roswell, NM 88201

IMMEDIATE PAST R.V.P. Mr. Robert D. Steele
3920 Clinton Blvd. SW, Albq., NM 87105

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN Mrs. Cassel Lowry
1714 Ridgcrest Dr. SE, Albq., NM 87108

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Mrs. Dorothy Steele
3920 Clinton Blvd. SW, Albq., NM 87105

JUDGES TRAINING CHAIRMAN Mr. Robert D. Steele
3920 Clinton Blvd. SW, Albq., NM 87105

MEDIAN REPRESENTATIVE Mrs. J. Yocum

REGION 23 RESULTS OF THE SYMPOSIUM BALLOT ...

Iris growers in New Mexico voted for 275 different irises in this poll. Twenty-nine of these iris were write-in votes. The leading vote-getters were:

<u>VARIETY</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>VARIETY</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
NEW MOON	22	GALA MADRID	12
QUEEN OF HEARTS	21	KILT LILT	12
STEPPING OUT	16	PROSPERITY	12
DEBBY RAIDON	15	SHIPSHAPE	12
DREAM LOVER	15	LAUNCHING PAD	11
PINK TAFFETA	15	WEDDING VOW	11
DUSKY DANCER	13	BABBLING BROOK	10
FEMININE CHARM	13	BUFFY	10
CHRISTMAS TIME	12	SUMMER SUNSHINE	10

SPEND AN AFTERNOON WITH BENNETT JONES ...

On Sunday, May 13th at one o'clock, we have a special afternoon planned which we hope you will share with us. Bennett Jones, an Award Winning Hybridizer and Officer of A.I.S., has agreed to lead a garden discussion in the Shockey garden. I believe any iris grower will find this afternoon to be a real treat. Bennett's knowledge of iris is truly expert and the Shockey garden is superbly grown. This afternoon is open to all iris members and their friends. Judges will be given 1 1/2 hours credit for attendance.

Patty Clauser

R.V.P. REPORT ...

As soon as the holidays are happily over, Region 23 comes to life, planning the Spring Shows. We have listed their dates for your convenience. Do visit the shows and participate!

Many thank yous to the Roswell Iris Society for hosting a lovely Region meeting this past October. A great time was had by all! (See Dorothy's special article.)

To get our Region 23 membership increasing, at least at the same rate as the National A.I.S. increases, we hope to spur our members to bringing in new members by offering an iris of recent introduction to the Region 23 member who signs up the most new A.I.S. members between the issue of this Newsletter and the next Regional Meeting to be held this October in Albuquerque. Notify me of the new memberships that you are responsible for obtaining at the time you obtain them.

We are pleased with the activities of all of our members and especially those who are taking their time to give programs on iris, as Barbara Figge, Frank Kalich, Howard Shockey, George Bryant and Gladys O'Kelly are ... Congratulations to Donna Downey for another fine Aril Society International Yearbook. This is her 3rd year as Editor in Chief.

Do enjoy your gardening this Spring. After this long cold winter, it will be great to be outside and working again!

Patty Clauser

REGION 23 R.V.P. FUND

On September 1, 1977, the total assets of the R.V.P. Fund were: \$455.69

Income since September 1, 1977:

November, 1977	Roswell Iris Society	\$ 50.00
February, 1978	NMIS	\$200.00
March, 1978	Mesilla Valley I.S.	\$ 50.00
March, 1978	Roswell Iris Society	\$ 50.00

Total Income \$350.00

Debits since September 1, 1977:

February - Winter Newsletter; B. Steele	\$ 93.46
September 18, 1978 - Postage/mailling labels; P. Clauser	\$ 40.21
September 18, 1978 - Flyer; P. Clauser	\$ 26.00

Total Debits \$159.67

On October 1, 1978, the total assets of the R.V.P. Fund were: \$646.02

Submitted by

MRS. W. H. MC KINLEY

REGIONAL MEETING FUND A.I.S.

On February 15, 1978, the Regional Meeting Fund was created, with a deposit of \$194.00 from Mesilla Valley Iris Society.

This was placed in a Savings Account.

On October 1, 1978, the balance was: \$200.19

Submitted by

MRS. W. H. MC KINLEY

SPRING DATES TO REMEMBER

Regional Meeting in El Paso..... March 31
Mesilla Valley Iris Show..... April 20 and 21
Hobbs Iris Show.....
El Paso Iris Show..... April 21 and 22
Albuquerque Aril Show..... April 29
Roswell Iris Show..... May 6
New Mexico Iris Society Show..... May 12 and 13
Judging School with Bennett Jones in the Shockey
Garden, Albuquerque..... May 13

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CONGRATULATIONS to Vic and Cheryl Berner on the birth of their daughter, Jennifer, near the end of January!

APOLOGY! We offer our apology to Niki Riddler ... in our last newsletter credit was given to Garth Riddler for "Queen of Show" Award when it was really Niki who won ... Now we know Garth enjoyed that, but Niki was really the one who won the award with iris. We are really sorry about it, Niki ... forgive us!

A.I.S. is going to have a nation-wide contest for black and white photographs of all kinds of iris. All entries will become the property of A.I.S. Eventually there will be a picture library for use in public relations and AIA publications. More details on the contest will be available in the Bulletin.

REGION 23 BUSINESS MEETING

October 7, 1978

Sally Port Inn

Roswell, New Mexico

Following the welcome and introductions by Lucille McKinley, the business meeting was called to order at 2:30 by Patty Clauser, R.V.P. She thanked the Roswell Society on behalf of those in attendance. No minutes of the previous meeting were read due to the absence of the Secretary. Lucille McKinley gave an abbreviated Treasurer's Report. Patty reported that the Regional Membership count as of the San Jose Convention stood at 122; present count stands at 131.

Discussion was held regarding an inquiry from Bennett Jones, A.I.S. Convention Liaison Chairman, about the possibility of our hosting a National Convention. The greatest drawbacks were an insufficient number of gardens for Convention viewing and the fact that distances are too great for emergency garden viewing in the event of a hailstorm. President Wolford stated weather is always a factor no matter where the Convention is held. Mrs. O'Kelly suggested we weigh what we have to offer with what we've had in the past. No action was taken regarding the matter.

A.I.S. membership and an increase in dues were discussed. Inasmuch as the Directors have not been in favor of a dues increase, they have urged support of Regional donations to the A.I.S. operating fund as well as memorials. Robert Steele moved that Region 23 donate \$100 to the A.I.S. operating fund. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Lowenstein, voted on and passed.

After the January issue, the new Bulletin Editor will be Ann Dash. It was noted that Editor, Philip Edinger had donated over \$500 in expenses to A.I.S.

Robert Steele, Judges Training Chairman, made the following points: (1) travel expenses for judges is an individual matter rather than a Society matter, (2) if a judge fails to vote a Ballot two years in a row, he is automatically dropped. Rocky Rockwell, A.I.S. Judges Training and Judges Chairman, reminded the group that a LATE vote is a "NO" vote. Excuses, however, are counted; and in the past, leniency has been the policy for those unable to vote but who submit an explanation; (3) all judges account for 15% of the membership total, (4) either the R.V.P. or the Judges Training Chairman should be contacted when someone is interested in becoming an apprentice judge. Five accredited judges sign the application on his behalf.

Bonnie Lowenstein moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dorothy Steele, voted on and passed.

Betty Roberts (Mrs. L. E.)
Secretary Pro Tem

THANK YOU, ROSWELL

Dorothy Steele

THANK YOU ROSWELL, for hosting a very great and fun filled Regional 23 Meeting held October 7 & 8, 1978, at the Sally Port Inn.

Lucille McKinley as Chairman, assisted by Beth and Leslie Kilgore, did a marvelous job of arranging everything to the smallest detail. A meeting like this takes many months of planning and work to get speakers, programs, etc. going and to make it a success.

The Convention began with a "sign in" between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, so most of us drove from our homes early that morning. Members from Hobbs, Las Cruces, El Paso and Albuquerque began arriving around 11 o'clock.

Bob and I enjoyed a lovely drive down ... the early morning is so peaceful and lovely. We pulled into the parking lot at Sally Port Inn around 11 o'clock, and the first people we saw were Niki and Garth Riddler of El Paso. After we found our room and settled in, we strolled out to the assembly room. We found a large group already visiting and enjoying the lovely cookies and coffee made by the members of the Roswell club. We checked in with the Eifferts, put on our tags and hurried to join our friends for a reunion. Such a joy to see those from a distance! I love to see Rocky Rockwell ... she is so bubbly and happy ... makes you feel so good!

It was a treat to really get to know Edith and Leon Wolford ... such a nice couple. We never really got to visit and know them at Convention as they were always so busy with the many requirements of AIS President. Edith and Leon, we surely like you!

As we were visiting and registering over the cookies and coffee, Dr. Billy Shillman of Lubbock, arrived with THREE big bouquets of reblooming irises. Everyone gathered around asking about and admiring them. We were told they were his own seedlings. Some of them were really outstanding -- a black one really drew attention. There was also a nice selection of rebloomers brought by Ann Wright.

Two o'clock came quickly. We all gathered in the Colt Room for the afternoon session. Lucille McKinley introduced our guests, officers and speakers. After a session of discussions on Region business, we took a break for more coffee and cookies. Then Capt. Tom Moore of N.M.M.I., gave a very fine program on insect pests and diseases of irises. After a short question period we were dismissed for the evening's activities.

We all gathered between 7 and 8 p.m. for the Social Hour. The sounds of happy laughter and talk made you realize everyone was having a grand time. Our dinner was so very nice and Leon Wolford charmed us all with his "after dinner" talk ... his easy Texas drawl and great humor makes you feel you've known him a long time. Following dinner everyone gathered around in groups visiting for hours. During the evening a terrible thunder and lightning storm struck Roswell. We were afforded a great show by nature. Such a storm as we hadn't seen for a long, long time. It was nice for those of us staying at the Inn, as we didn't have to leave the building.

Sunday morning came quickly. Time for another busy day! Coffee and all kinds of goodies were served. Everyone was in a great mood. At 9:30 we gathered for the program. Gladys O'Kelly spoke on hybridizing, Bobbie Benson of Lubbock, spoke on Spuria Iris. Bobbie is the former President of the Spuria Society. Rocky Rockwell, our National Judges Training and Judges Chairman (from Frentress, TX) spoke on Louisiana Iris. Patty Clauser, R.V.P. of Region 23, showed slides of the San Jose Convention.

Albuquerque extended an invitation for the 4th Regional 23 meeting - time and date to be decided later.

We were dismissed, thus bringing an end to a very lovely meeting which was attended by 46 for the sessions and 54 for dinner. Texas was well represented. We appreciate that!

Mrs. Charles Benson, Mrs. Vernon Reese and Dr. Billy Shillman from Lubbock, Mrs. M. S. Downing, Ida and Joe Frank from Canyon, Mrs. Louise Nickols, Amarillo, Ruth Millikan, Edith and Leon Wolford, Dallas, Rocky Rockwell, Frentress, Niki and Garth Riddler, Lou Stopani and Nita and Red Hougawort of El Paso. There were 11 from Las Cruces, 7 from Albuquerque and Bob Brown from Hobbs, and 11 from Roswell.

We missed the many who couldn't make it ... hope next year they can come. We missed Gus Seligman; just didn't seem complete without him. Next year, Gus!

Roswell, we do thank you for all the work you did to make this 3rd Regional a success. A lovely time was had by all. We thank each of those speakers who gave of their time and knowledge to make this informative for each of us.

See each of you next year!

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THE CULTURE OF LOUISIANA IRISES ... by Charles W. Arny, Jr.

What is meant by culture? Definitions of this word embrace the idea of tilling or cultivation of the soil and the growing of a crop or some product mostly in soil.

Most people have little choice in selecting the garden soil they must use. The result is that home gardeners often begin with soils that are too sandy, too dry, too wet, too rough, often low in fertility or that have some other undesirable characteristics. This does not imply, however, that they cannot be made into good garden soils. To the contrary, many soils can be made into good garden soils.

The principal problem in managing garden soils is the development and maintenance of proper relationship between those plants one is growing and the soil surrounding them. At least two things are important to achieve this desired relationship: (1) the requirements of the plants to be grown, and (2) the nature or properties of the soils upon which plants are to be grown.

If one observes the natural geographic distribution of the iris species (*giganticaerulea*, *fulva*, *nelsonii*, and *brevicaulis*) making up the group of irises referred to as Louisiana Irises, he may conclude something of their growth requirements.

For example, the big tall blue or white iris - *I. giganticaerulea* is found growing out in the open along the Gulf of Mexico coast line from Texas to Mississippi. Here the soils are very high in organic material, in fertility and have a slight acid to almost neutral soil reaction. This iris is found growing in shallow water throughout the year except for the summer months. During the summer period of usual dormancy one finds the rhizomes protected from the sun by vegetation of some sort.

Iris fulva is found in the Lower Mississippi Valley along shaded stream banks or in areas that have poor drainage. Soils are high in fertility and organic matter, slightly acid, with heavy soil texture.

Iris nelsonii are located in a relatively small area of cypress sweet-gum swamp south of Abbeville, Louisiana. These irises are found growing in more dense shade and deeper water than *I. fulva*. Soil conditions are similar to those surrounding *I. fulva*.

The dwarf or baby of the Louisiana irises, *I. brevicaulis* is found on the terrace or bluff soils which have a pH reading of 6-6.4. These soils are low in fertility, compact and poorly drained. The soils do not have the high organic content that are found in the Gulf Coast marsh area or in the Lower Mississippi alluvial areas.

From these few facts it may be concluded that: (1) These plants like moisture during the fall, winter and spring months of the year; (2) these irises are heavy feeders and need high levels of fertility and organic matter; (3) that soils that are slightly acid appear to be most adaptable; (4) at least a half a day of sunshine is needed.

Within the adaptable climate areas for Louisiana irises, then, the culture must include provisions for meeting at least these requirements if success is to be attained.

These requirements are not as difficult to meet as they may appear. It should be kept in mind that the new cultivars now being produced by breeders are hybrids and are much less exacting as to their water requirements.

It might be said that there may be two distinct types of culture followed with Louisiana irises, namely upland or Border Culture and Bog Culture.

As a perennial for upland culture Louisiana irises are beautiful and more graceful than many other irises and add to the composition of the landscape through their pleasing contrast of flower form, color and foliage.

To translate the required conditions for success in the upland garden it is necessary to work into the soil an abundance of organic matter. (2-3" covering of the area to be planted.) Such materials as manure, composted leaves or grass, peat moss and pulverized pine bark are good sources for providing organic matter. A complete well balanced fertilizer with a fairly high proportion of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium is usually needed. For the Gulf Area the use of 8-10 lbs. of a fertilizer with an analysis of 12-12-12 or 8-8-8 per 100 sq. ft. will give good results. In those areas where the soils and water are neutral or alkaline, the addition of some material to make the soil acid is necessary. Agricultural sulphur applied at the rate of 1 lb. per 100 sq. ft. will prove very rewarding. With all of this material spread evenly as possible over the flower bed, spade or preferably with a power tiller, work the material thoroughly and deep into the soil. If there is little or no top soil or it is very poor, its removal and replacement with good garden soil, organic matter and fertilizers may be necessary.

In most circumstances, in the Gulf Area, the best time for planting or reworking iris beds is in the late summer and early Fall (August-October).

Plant rhizomes deep enough to be covered with no more than one and one-half inches of soil. Space rhizomes ten to eighteen inches apart depending upon whether they are to be undivided for more than a year or not.

It is advisable to heavily mulch beds as soon after planting as possible. Mulches are desirable means of conserving moisture and control of weeds and grass and is particularly important after iris become dormant in the summer. If iris rhizomes are exposed continuously to the sun during the summer they will be killed and rot away. Many consider a 2-4" mulch an essential part of good culture. Some of the materials suitable for mulching are: sugarcane bagasse, rice hulls, cottonseed hulls, oak leaves, rotten sawdust, pine needles and pine bark. If nothing better is available, cover rhizomes at least 1/2" deep with fine sandy loam soil.

Watering may be necessary during the growing season depending on rainfall and its distribution. It is a good rule not to let flower beds dry out once new growth of irises have started.

In Bog Culture plantings may be made in the typical natural bog or manmade around the edges of ponds or pools or in tubs placed on the bottom of shallow pools or ponds. Except where natural bogs have accumulations of decayed vegetation and soil is acid, the use of materials described with the upland culture should be used in excavated areas around the bog or pool areas where irises are to be planted.

Provide at least one half day sunshine, slightly acid soil high in organic matter, an adequate supply of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium, moisture during the growing and flowering seasons and mulch to protect rhizomes from the summer sun, and you will be rewarded with one of nature's most beautiful flowers.

BREEDING THE DWARFS by Keith Keppel
(Reprinted from the Region 14 AIS Bulletin)

Considering how well the standard dwarfs do in northern California, it is surprising that more Region 14 hybridizers aren't working with them seriously. As it is, there are really only two hybridizers with much on the market.

The first of these of course, is Ben Hager -- after all, is any class of irises immune to his pollen brush? He has several breeding lines going for goals, such as remontancy, but of course some of the most interesting things just happen, like the plicatas that began to pop here and there ... they were out-crosses, intercrossed, or just plain double-crossed to give such things as CLAP HANDS, AXIOM, PEPPER MILL, the just-barely-luminata WHIM, and the white plic recessive POPCORN. One line, worked for fine ruffling, has given TEASE and TEMPT ME, and the red-red line produced LOLLIPOP. Pinks have been worked extensively, to get away from the narrow form and poor substance so common in the class, but results have so far been elusive. Among other well known products of his SDB crossings are DEMON, HOCUS POCUS, ORNAMENT, PUPPET, and REGARDS.

Ben has worked the miniature dwarfs extensively, too. CURIO, LIBATION, PRODIGY, and THREE CHERRIES are a few of the results that come to mind. He is trying to incorporate I. aphylla into the MDB line to produce 40 chromosome plants, more fertile with the SDBs.

The second serious SDB hybridizer is Joe Gatty. Still going is a blue-spot-on-white line that began twenty years ago while he was living in New Jersey. WINK and STARRY EYED are recent results of that line. A plicata line has been started and has been worked heavily, but nothing is quite ready for introduction. Other Gatty dwarfs on the market include HOORAY, OMEN, and BEAU.

Others in the region have from one to a few dwarfs to their credit: Carl Boswell, PLUM SPOT; Don Denney, COLOR ME ROSE; and myself with, FINE PRINT and FOOTNOTE.

Intermediates

Does anyone have an intermediate "line"? With the high sterility rate in the class, it is a frustrating venture to work intermediates among one another, so much of the work is simply "dabbling" for first generation results. A number of Region 14 folk have been lucky -- or had the sense to cross the right tall and the right dwarf. Margaret Burnett is best known for ARABI TREASURE, but TOY SOLDIER and TOY MONEY are also worthwhile. Sid DuBose produced the strange blended OVERTONE. Two junior members, Susan and Steven Weiler, are responsible for YELLOW WAVES and MOUNTAIN RED, respectively. Virginia Messick, while still on California soil, produced SHAMPOO, and while Dick Pettijohn was an interim Californian, his MAIDEN LANE was put on the market. Vern Wood's first median introduction is PINK KITTEN, and I put out a plic trio: CLIQUE, PALE CLOUD, and EARLY EDITION. Joe Ghio broke into the intermediate class with BOY WONDER.

But it is the same two dwarf-breeders of note -- Hager and Gatty -- who dominate the local intermediate field. Ben has of late introduced, among others, the first red-bearded white IB CHEERS, the remontant yellow-ground plic SWIZZLE, and the dark-bearded light yellow TRIO. And let us not forget the older DOLL TYPE and the recessive INDEED, the latter often sporting horns at the ends of the beards!

Gatty goodies of the class include VOODOO DOLL (known locally simply as "VD"), and the triumvirate of violet vees: VAMP, VIRTUE, and VOILA. The pastel blended SUBTLETY and white EARLY FROST are also of recent vintage.

In the table iris class (MTBs), Hager is working diligently to add I. aphylla, trying for a better color range through the tetraploids. NEW IDEA and SHRINKING VIOLET are two of the I. aphylla derivatives.

Aril-Medes

Probably the group of dwarfs offering most fun are those containing aril blood and this brings us to Jonnye Rich. Starting with the KELITA series a little over ten years ago, she has put out a small but select group of aril-medes, including the diminutive TINY TYKE; CANASTA, with its cupped falls; the silky black NIGHT LIGHT; and the black-signalled rosy purple LOUD MOUTH. We're happy to report that there are more to come!

Border Irises

There are as many potential hybridizers of border bearded irises as there are of the tall, for most of the borders "just happen." Ben Hager is working I. aphylla for borders, too, but his best border to date -- SOMETHING SPECIAL -- just happened! The use of PROGENITOR in my own bi-color plicata line undoubtedly has aided in the segregation of small tall, MEXICALLI and PICAYUNE being two of them; EMBROIDERY just happened from non-related lines. Joe Ghio has put out many border irises, recent ones including CHILD STAR, FEATURETTE, COPY CAT, ORACLE, PASSPORT, MAGICIAN, and INNER CIRCLE: I balkana figures behind a number of them. From Frank Hutchins' pink amoena line we have SMALL FAVOR and NEW VINTAGE.

Other recent local products include TRIPLE RIPPLE and AIN'T NUTHIN' (Jim Gibson); BABY LACE (Ethel Soultz); FOLKLORE and BETHANY (Glenn Corlew); AM I BLUE (Don Denney); FRILLS (Bernice Roe); and WESTBAY by the hands of Bill Schortman, Sanford Babson, Carl Quadros, Hilda Fail, Bryce Williamson, and Larry Gaulter, among others; the evidence of "small" dividends from "big" plans.

----- EL PASO TO HOST REGION 17 MEETING ...

On March 31st, El Paso will host their Region 17 Meeting. Our own Frank Kalich, Howard Shockey, George Bryant and Gladys O'Kelly will be speakers on the program about arils and aril-breds. There will be a judging school as part of this meeting. Judges from Region 23 may obtain credit for attendance at the school. For further details you may contact Col. and Mrs. Garth Riddler, 3233 Titanic, El Paso, TX 79904.

SPACE CITY IRIS TIME-HUNTSVILLE '79
Huntsville, Alabama

The Annual Convention of the
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
May 1-5, 1979

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS:

Sheraton Motor Inn
4408 University Drive
Huntsville, AL 35804
(205) 837-3250

HOTEL RATES:

Single	\$22.00
Double (2 people/1 bed)	\$28.00
Double (2 people/2 beds)	\$30.00
Double (3 people/3 beds)	\$33.00
Double (4 people/2 beds)	\$36.00

Please make reservations directly with the hotel. State that you are attending the AIS Convention. All rooms, blocked for the Convention which are not reserved by April 16, 1979, will be released to the general public on that date. Therefore, be sure to make your hotel reservations EARLY.

REGISTRATION FEE:	Received BEFORE April, 1979.....	\$75.00
	Received from April 1 to April 20.....	\$80.00
	Received after April 20.....	\$85.00

Make Check payable to "1979 AIS CONVENTION."

CONVENTION SCHEDULE:

- Tuesday, May 1: Registration. 11:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Meetings are scheduled for Board of Directors, Median Iris Society Board of Directors and Council of Representatives, RVP's, JT Chairmen and Robin Reception.
- Wednesday, May 2: Registration. 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Joint meetings of Directors, RVP's, and Sectional Reps; all sectional meetings; 7:00 p.m., no host social hour; 8:00 p.m., Welcome Dinner.
- Thursday, May 3: Garden tours to Guntersville, AL to Kearney's and to South Huntsville gardens of McGahee, Saxton, Kennedy, and Hall. Evening, Judges training.
- Friday, May 4: Garden tours to Tennessee gardens of Williams in Eagleville and Christopher in Murfreesboro, Madison County gardens of Burch and McNeal. Evening, open.
- Saturday, May 5: Garden tours to central Huntsville gardens of Wilder, Van Valkenburgh, Lucas, Branum, and Easley. 6:00 p.m. no host social hours; 7:00 p.m., Awards Banquet.

MAIL REGISTRATIONS TO: Mrs. Ruth Wilder
2219 Matthews Street, S.E.
Huntsville, Alabama 35801
(205) 533-4809

There will be no partial registrations. If it is necessary to cancel a registration, a full refund is assured if notice is received by April 20, 1979.

Transportation from the airport to the hotel will be furnished to the greatest extent possible. If such transportation is desired, send name, date, and time of arrival, flight number to:

Mrs. Evelyn Lucas
1412 East Olive Drive, S.E.
Huntsville, AL 35801
(205) 534-4144

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We are looking forward to working with the Officers of our Iris Societies this year. They are:

MESILLA VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

President	Ann Wright
Vice President	Ken Pabst
Secretary	Tom Little
Treasurer	Newman Reed

ALBUQUERQUE ARIL SOCIETY

President	Irene Shockey
Secretary-Treasurer	Vera Nolan

NEW MEXICO IRIS SOCIETY

President	Betty Roberts
Vice President	Al Gillespie
Treasurer	Tom Isbell
Recording Secretary	Susan Latimer
Corresponding Secretary	Viola Lowry

ROSWELL IRIS SOCIETY

President	Dorothy Cook
Vice President	Erabelle Eiffert
Secretary-Treasurer	Kay Ewart

SANTA FE IRIS SOCIETY

President	Margaret Johnson
Secretary	Lois Hosack
Treasurer	Frank Ruckstuhl

JOIN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY !!!!!

Checks for D U E S (\$7.50 Annual: \$18.50 Triennial) may be sent direct to:

RONALD MULLIN
Route 3
Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058

OR ... they may be given to any of our Membership Chairmen for proper handling. If you need any information about the American Iris Society, consult either Viola Lowry or myself. We would be happy to explain what benefits are derived from membership in the A.I.S.

PATTY CLAUSER

We were delighted to hear from Leon Wolford this Fall, and wanted to share his letter with all of you ...

"We had a grand time in Roswell this past weekend and Edith and I thank you and all the other people who did so much to make our stay so enjoyable. It was good to see all of those again that we had already met. And it is also a real pleasure to get to visit iris people that we had not known previously.

I know that I speak for the entire AIS Board when I say thanks for the generous \$100 contribution from your Region to the AIS Operating Fund. After we left Roswell I remembered that we did not discuss where your Treasurer should send the check. I suggest the check be sent to Carol Ramsey. All AIS funds pass through Carol's hands for bookkeeping purposes.

Please extend best wishes from Edith and me to all your members. And a sincere thank you for a marvelous weekend as guests of Region 23."

AIS is compiling a cumulative file of qualified speakers on the genus iris to help supply the public with reliable growing data. This file will be advertised in garden magazines and elsewhere. If you would be willing to be listed in this file, please fill out the form below and send it to Patty Clauser.

NAME: _____
(Last) (First) (Area Code) Phone Number
ADDRESS: _____
(Street) City State ZIP

Iris Specialty (Check below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Tall Bearded	<input type="checkbox"/> Louisianas	<input type="checkbox"/> Organizing
<input type="checkbox"/> Medians	<input type="checkbox"/> Siberian	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows
IB's <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Spuria	<input type="checkbox"/> Pests & Diseases
BB's <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Soils
MTB's <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Natives	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrangements
<input type="checkbox"/> Rebloomer	<input type="checkbox"/> General	
<input type="checkbox"/> Species	<input type="checkbox"/> Hybridizing	Fee Charged: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Arils	<input type="checkbox"/> In the Landscape	Expenses Only: _____
		Photo Furnished: _____

FOR AIS USE ONLY:

Recommended by _____

AREA CHAIRMEN

MEMBERSHIP

Aztec..... Mrs. Robert Clark

Route 1, Box 47
Aztec, New Mexico 87401

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NEWS ON JUDGES: C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S to Cheryl Berner, Susan Latimer and Irene Shockey! Cheryl is the region's new apprentice judge. Susan and Irene fulfilled all the apprentice requirements last year and are fully accredited judges. Region 23 now has a total of thirty-four judges (2 apprentice, 22 garden, and 10 seniors). Our judges do need to improve their voting record. Judges must vote on time or be properly excused. Also, judges must file activity reports with Bob Steele, Judges Chairman. Have a good season judging and then be sure to vote and file your report.