

# Twin City Iris Society

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Here's hoping everyone had a nice Christmas and that the New Year will bring you the best of everything.

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Our last meeting(Dec.2nd) was devoted to the showing of color slides that were taken by our members. Several prizes were given for the best pictures containing iris. Mrs. J. S. Taylor of St. Paul won the most number of votes for a garden scene showing iris with other flowers. The T.C.I.S. now has quite a few members who are out snapping pictures. Duplicate pictures have been developed from some of these and the Society now has a collection of 75 slides of both iris and other flowers.

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## American Iris Society

The American Iris Society has recently appointed Mrs Esther Berger of Minneapolis as Regional Vice-president for Region 8. As the TCIS as a group, and quite a few of our members as individuals also belong to the A.I.S., we know she will have plenty of help in this area. And while we are on the subject of the AIS may we once again remind you that the TCIS has made available to everyone the quarterly bulletins of the American Iris Society at the main branches of both the Minneapolis and the St. Paul Public Libraries.

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## We Rise Over A Rose

How many iris fans saw that full page ad with a big picture of a rose on it? We do not object to the use of the rose either in the garden or in advertising, far from it, - but, Odds-Bodkins!! NOT THEM... tsk! tsk! tsk!!

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## Sick List

(Not including those who saw the ad mentioned above.)

Mrs Charlotte Sindt who has been ill with pneumonia;  
Mr Jos. Patzke - still taking it a little easy; and  
Mr Larry Bray who has recently suffered another broken arm.

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The Twin City Iris Society is very happy to extend an Honorary Membership to Mr. Orville Fay of Willmette, Illinois. Mr. Fay is the originator of the Dykes Medal winners of the past two years, Truly Yours and Mary Randall.



#### Committee Appointments

Hospitality (co-chairwomen) Mrs Lydia Franklin, Mpls. Mrs E.J. Koempel, St Paul  
Membership: Mrs L.A. Wright, Robinsdale.  
Publicity: Mr Jack Burns, Brooklyn Park.  
Program: Mr W.G. (Gus) Sindt, No. St. Paul  
Slides: Mr Arthur Nicol, Wayzata  
Show: Mr Earl Maffett, Richfield.  
Telephone: Mrs O.A. Bakke, Golden Valley  
Ways and Means: Mr Victor Bates, St Paul.  
Distribution of rhizomes in conjunction with memberships: Mr Bud Foss, Golden Valley.

It was also decided to have the corresponding secretary keep a scrap book of TCIS doings and to act as historian for the Society.

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#### Dates of 1955 Meetings

You will notice that there are two Wednesday meetings this year. This is in response to popular demand. Some of the meetings will be held in St. Paul if the program committee can find a suitable meeting place.

Thursday, Jan. 27th: P. Elmer Hallberg to speak on the use of color in the Garden.  
Thursday, Feb. 24th: Program to be announced later.  
Wednesday, Mar 23rd: Pot-luck dinner. Entertainment by members.  
Thursday, April 28th: Program to be announced later.  
Thursday, May 19th Show pointers by members of the TCIS.  
Saturday and Sunday, June 4th and 5th: Iris Show. Dates subject to change.  
Thursday, August 4th: The annual auction.  
Thursday, Oct. 27th: The annual dinner and election of officers.  
Wednesday, Nov. 30th: Christmas party.

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#### Corrections and Additions to the Membership List

|                              |                         |                |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Mr & Mrs Victor Bates (corr) | 727 West Wheelock Pkwy. | St Paul, Minn. |
| Mr Orville W. Fay (new)      | 1522 Isabella St.       | Wilmette, Ill. |

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The Society extends its congratulations to Mr & Mrs Duane Foss on the recent arrival of a new daughter, Cynthia Ann. That makes two girls and two boys for Doris and Bud now.

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#### Species Iris (Juno)

The Juno iris are very different from the usual types we are accustomed to. They have broad channeled foliage resembling miniature cornstalks. The strikingly colored blooms spring from the leaf axils and usually have from six to nine blossoms on each stalk, ranging in color from white to yellow and blue. Their season of bloom is extremely early and they sometimes get nipped by frost unless protected after the buds form. The bulbs look like hemerocallis or dahlia roots and are very brittle so they must be handled carefully. The height of the bloostalks vary from 6 to 15 inches. Juno iris prefer a light well drained soil and they require no special growing instructions that I know of. Plant them in the Fall.



#### Dues for 1955

Its time to pay dues again folks - the biggest bargain you can find anywhere. Single membership dues are \$2.00 and family membership is only \$2.50 This includes membership in the Minnesota State Horticulture Society. If you are already a member of the Hort. Soc. through some other society, you may deduct \$1.00 from your TCIS dues but you must accompany your remittance with your 1955 Horticultural membership number. Please send your dues to your secretary, Mrs L.A. Wright, 3611 Orchard Ave., Minneapolis 22, Minn.

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#### Hold the Presses!

Austin, Texas Dec 14th-(UP) Police tried desperately to find a witness to a gunbattle. "there must have been 50 people in the tavern" reported Lt. Merle Wells, "but they all say they were in the rest room". ----- We could comment on the general rooominess down Texas way - or probably say something about a full house, but figure it best not to make any remarks.

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#### Camera Tip

Where the background is undesirable and it is impossible to get a backdrop for a picture, try this method. Use a lens opening of f 3.5 or f 4. and focus very carefully. This will blur out the background by cutting down the depth of the picture that is in focus. Of course you will not need as much time for exposure either because of the larger lens opening - 1/100 of a second or there about.

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#### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 27th, at 8:00 PM at Rutherfords Garden Store, 4995 Excelsior Blvd. St Louis Park. The speaker will be Mr. F. Elmer Hallberg of Hopkins. Mr Hallberg is an authority on color placement in the garden. For those of us who constantly plant a nice row of giant orange zinnias in front of a planting of dwarf pink petunias, this meeting will be of the utmost interest. (We did it too, only it was marigolds instead of zinnias.) Mrs Lydia Franklin will be in charge of the coffee and cake.

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Mr. S.J.Rutherford has very graciously furnished our Society with a place in which to hold our meetings and at no cost to the Society. In return, if any of our members are in need of gardening tools, seeds, fertilizers, garden tractors or other equipment, we should most certainly give Mr Rutherford the first chance to supply our needs. His prices are comparable if not lower than those of others and we are certain you will enjoy doing business with him.

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We would appreciate receiving comments on iris seedlings originated by our members. We know there have been some outstanding seedlings grown up here that are as good or better than those originated in other areas. Some of these seedlings were exhibited at the last two Iris shows but we cant help but feel that many many others have never been displayed publicly. Your cooperation in calling these seedlings to the attention of the Society will be greatly appreciated