

Twin City Iris Society

vol. 3 NEWS and VIEWS Oct.
no. 6 edited by edythe burns 1955

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The iris auction is proving to be one of the most popular of all TCIS activities. The bidding was fast and peppery - We took in around \$ 200.00 Victor Bates and Bud Foss took turns auctioneering. The Emil Foss' beautiful gardens were an extra dividend. They have quite a collection of roses and other flowers. My favorite rose must be Floradora-- bet I asked Mrs Foss about it eight or more times

Now is the time to start your campaign against the iris borer. Clean up your iris clumps and pull off all the old foliage and weeds Borer's lay their eggs (when they are in the moth stage of course) in and around the old foliage and debris----have everything cleaned up so that early in the spring, as soon as the iris start to show signs of growth, you can give them a spraying of D D T. Borer is one of the easiest pests to control - just a matter of not letting them get the jump on you.

American Iris Society Awards for 1955

Dykes Medal --- Paul Cook's beautiful SABLE NIGHT. We saw this in Illinois a year ago. The color is a gorgeous deep black. I think it has a definite wine red tinge although of very deep coloring.

Caparne Award (dwarf iris) Walter Welch's BLAZON, a deep blue purple with gold markings radiating outward from the beard was the winner of this award. This one is not too tiny---some dwarf iris are so small its hard to see them without getting down on your hands and knees.

Mary Swords Bebaillon Award (Louisiana iris)
THE KAHN grown and introduced by Miss Caroline Dorman

Awards of Merit (tall bearded iris)

FIRST VIOLET	hybridized by	Fred DeForest
FRANCES CRAIG		Tom Craig
TOP FLIGHT		David Hall
LADY ILSE		Kenneth Smith
PRETENDER		Paul Cook
WHITE PEACOCK		Mrs D. Pattison
CAROLINE JANE		Fred DeForest
RASPBERRY RIBBON		Robt. Schreiner
CLIFFS OF DOWER		Orville Fay
RUFFLED ORGANDY		Edward Brenan
MYSTIC MELODY		Jean Stevens
QUEENS TASTE		Geddes Douglas

Mrs E.J.Koempel called to say she has found an ideal place to hold TCIS meetings in St.Paul. Mrs Koempel will most likely give us more information at the annual dinner on Thursday, Oct. 27th.

Corrections and Additions to the Membership List

Mr and Mrs K. W. Fisher (C of A)	2208 Wentworth	So. St.Paul, Minn.
Rev. Paul Folkers (renewal)	215 East Main St	Owatonna, Minn.
Mrs A. J. Tauer (new)		Morgan, Minn.
Mrs P. M. Perry	Box 113	Timpson, Texas
Mrs Grace Jaster	3252 McKinley St N.E.	Minneapolis, Minn.
Mrs Maloy Wittman	Route # 2	Lake Lillian, Minn.
Mr Milton W Anderson	2743 Benjamin St N.E.	Minneapolis, Minn.
Mr Carl Holst	5124 Beard Ave So.	Minneapolis, Minn.
Mr J. P. Withrow	229 C Port Snelling	St Paul 11, Minn.

A hearty welcome to the new members. We hope your stay with us will be long and pleasant.

The Last Iris of Summer

Guess the Urban Ipsens of Golden Valley had the last iris to bloom this spring, it was Blue Valley and it opened down the whole stalk in mid-July. The last one for us was West Point which bloomed on July 1st. The dwarf iris started flowering in late April so this must set some sort of record for a long blooming season. While we are on the subject of blooming times, we would like to pass along this information taken from notes we made during the springs of 1953 and 1955. In 1953 the first dwarf iris to bloom were Atroviolacea, Azurea, Sulina and April Morn which opened on May 9th Carpathia, and Macrocarpa and Violet Gem bloomed on May 10th. The 1953 Iris Show was held on June 6th and 7th or about 28 days later. This year Sulina and Atroviolacea bloomed on April 27th and Carpathia, Macrocarpa, April Morn and Cretica on April 28th The 1955 show was held on May 21st and 22nd or 24 days later. Our peak bloom this year hit on about May 29th and 30th. This information could be helpful in setting show dates in the future. Most of our shows have been held rather early in the season and we see very few late iris in competition for the awards. Just in case you've forgotten, this years Queen of the Show was Pink Cameo.

We received a wonderful letter from member L.B.Losey of Walla Walla, Wash. We are certain his comments on some of the new iris will be of great interest to all of us, so we are reprinting portions of his letter.

-Some of Schreiners that we have and are good are, BLUE SAPPHIRE, CRISPETTE (better than LAVENESQUE), GOLDEN SUNSHINE and INCA CHIEF. We also bought Carmela but it is much lighter than its picture. We wanted to see TRIM but it was late and not out. FRONT PAGE and FULL REWARD we did not like as well as SOLID GOLD. We liked BEECHLEAF but did not buy it. SIERRA SKIES is a very lovely iris, also BIG GAME which we like very much. We also have FORTUNES GIFT which with CARMELA are Schreiners two best. We also have TOP HAT which we think the best of their blacks.

DeForest has moved to a better location, better soil and more accessible. His place is small with some very nice things though. NIGHT n DAY is very late and was not in bloom, we liked CAROLINE JANE and FIRST VIOLET is very fine and a nice doer. We bought TEXAS WAY, good color and substance and a sturdy plant.

Jack Linse's Bold Contrast is one of his best, a real beauty. California people say his CASCADIAN is one of their best whites.

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Mr Maxwell (ITG) likes lace and frills on his iris. We like his Ruffled Elegance and bought it.

We went way north to Wenatchee where Gordon Plough grows iris. His new things were really tops, wide falls nicely rounded, very flaring and fine closed standards. The colors are really different. His BUTTERSCOTCH KISS, GAY PARSIE and PRETTY GAY were knockouts, watch for them when they are introduced.

BIG UTE has been the best red for us so far, we like QUEENS LACE and SWAN BALLET very much and they are very popular." -

Mr Losey would like to hear of the new things we have seen but he is way ahead of us on new iris.

Annual Meeting

The annual dinner meeting and election of officers will take place this coming Thursday, Oct. 27th, at the Hasty Tasty, 1433 West Lake St (just off Hennepin Ave.) in Minneapolis. Cost of the dinner will be \$2.00 per person and the main entree will be Roast Beef. For those of you who are on a non-meat diet we are sure exception will be made. Please make your reservations by calling Mr W.G.Sindt, 1847 East Ave., St Paul telephone VIctor 9 0532 if you live in the St Paul area, or Mrs L.A.Wright, 3611 Orchard Ave. Robbinsdale, telephone JUniper 1298 if you live in the Minneapolis area. Out state members may write to either of them. Should you decide to come at the last moment and dont have a reservation, come anyway we'll make room for you. This meet- was originally scheduled for St Paul but last minute complications developed and we had to move back to Minneapolis again.

Mrs Esther Bergor who attended the American Iris Society annual convention in Canada during the iris blooming season will give a talk on some of the new iris varieties seen there and will also discuss some of the highlights of that meeting. So lets make it a date then, Thursday Oct.27th at the Hasty Tasty 1433 West Lake Street in Minneapolis. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM.

A Bit of Spice

Saffron, the golden powder made from the stigmas of the autumn crocus (crocus sativus, a member of the iris family) Truly a luxury is this delicately perfumed spice. Each crocus blossom must be hand picked and then each of the three stigmas must also be picked by hand. It takes 75,000 separate blossoms or 225,000 stigmas to produce one pound of saffron powder. In the early days of the Roman Empire, saffron was the symbol of extravagance and luxury, it was used dissolved in water to spray the interiors of theatres and dining rooms. It was used by the Egyptians in religious ceremonies, being burnt as a sacrifice to the Gods. Golden saffron, treasured by Solomon, the plant of the Sun - so expensive it was used only by the richest of households and in the palaces of kings.

Give Away Department

Available for adoption around Christmas time, five puppies. Mother is a refugee from the city and is known only by the name of Susie. Father of the pups deserted them --the cur-- Mother Susie unable to support them on meager salary of part time watch dog. For further information or reservations for these puppies, please contact their agent, Mrs Edythe Burns, 1707 77th Ave No., Minneapolis 12, Minn. Telephone JUniper 4189. Detailed descriptions of each follows:

- Elmer All black coat with white shoes and brown spats - natty dresser - we have great hopes for Elmer as an explorer
- Calico He is mostly black also, has argyle socks of snowy white and brown - white blaze set nicely between brown eyebrows. Is musically inclined.
- Laramie This one is almost all black and is a kind and gentle pup. He is honest and upright and a straight shooter. Will travel.
- Grouchy: He is the largest of the litter. Black coat with a white muzzle, brown socks and white shoes. Has a brilliant mind and has already mastered the arts of growling and barking.
- Magnolia: Maggie is a gorgeous white girl puppy with a lovely jet black domino mask extending over and around her ears. She is very photogenic and will make an excellent model if not grabbed up by movie scouts first.