



Twin City Iris Society

News and Views

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was the day after a light rain. The sun was setting over the hill by the corncrib, looking through the apple trees across the strawberry bed. The diffused rays gave the atmosphere a soft color, sort of pastel orange-pink. The light blue sky shone above the green trees. Warmth came up from the earth. Whole Cloth was between me and the setting sun, between me and the blue sky, between me and the green lawn, between me and the black soft earth. No matter which way I looked at it in that light it was a beauty. Irises are the most beautiful of all flowers and when viewed in certain lights at certain times of the day they surpass anything that can be expected of a plant to fill the soul with satisfaction and delight.

We are starting the 18th year of the Twin City Iris Society. I hope that everyone will be participating to the extent of his pleasure. I believe the iris society exists for the good of its members and a member will get from the society what he wishes to get from it. There seems to be a general principle on which happiness is based, namely that of giving rather than receiving. So give, ask for a job, volunteer your service, but above all participate, meet people.

Since I will be your president for this year let me tell you a little about myself. I am unsophisticated and do not read motives into people's actions. I tell you straightforward what I think and I hope you will do the same. I realize at times kindness and discretion come before frankness. I regard all as having equal rights and I regard position as a place from which people can serve their fellowman. Position is not a source of power, it is rather a mandate to serve.

We have started the year out well. Five new committees have been established, Budget, Educational and Exhibitors Training, Publications, Outstate and Scientific. We hope these committees will lend efficiency to the society. We also hope they will open up new possibilities of participation for more members. Any member who would care to serve on any committee, please let me know. In the way of organization we have separated committees from appointments. Committees are formed by groups of people with specific jobs to accomplish, such as membership, auction, etc. Some jobs by their very nature are appointments and their work is carried out by the appointed member, i.e. publicity, historian, etc. Elsewhere in this issue of NEWS and VIEWS you will find a complete listing of the committees and their members and the appointments made so far.

We have several goals for this year. First is to continue all the aspects of the society which mean something to all

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3414 Arbor Lane
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APPOINTMENTS-

AUDITORS- O.A. Bakke,
Stan Rudser
HISTORIAN- Walter Carlock
PHOTOGRAPHY- O. A. Bakke
PUBLICITY- Hazel Sweeney
PUBLIC PLANTINGS AND
ARBORETUM- Warren Johnson
TAX ADVISOR- Glenn Hanson

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Mr. S. C. Rudser
2548 Douglas Drive No
Golden Valley, Minn

TREASURER-

Manfred Warmuth
3656 Gettysburg North
Mpls, Minn. 55427

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

to date:

AUCTION- Urban Ipsen, ch.
Stan Rudser, Ernest
Mutterer, Scott Feyen
BUDGET- J. Wadekamper, ch.
Manfred Warmuth, Alice
Bakke, Freda Levine
EDUCATIONAL & EXHIBITORS
TRAINING- Glenn Hanson, ch.
all judges as members
GENERAL SHOW COMMITTEE-
Gus Sindt, ch., Greta
Kessenich (June Show)
Carol Lankow (Early Show)
HYBRIDIZING- Dr. David, ch.
Virginia Messer, Maybelle
Wright, Carol Lankow
MEMBERSHIP- Zula Hanson, ch.
Marie Vincent, Dorothy
Cutter.
OUTSTATE ORGANIZATION-
Robert Tiplady, ch.
PUBLICATIONS- M. Duvall, ch.
Ed Holloway, Dorothy
Rudser, Warren Johnson
PROGRAM- Charlotte Sindt, ch.
Executive Board members
SCIENTIFIC- ch.
Warren Johnson, Mary Duvall
RECEPTIONISTS- ch.,
Mary Waterman
SOCIAL- G. Benedict, ch.
Laura Sutton

of us, good meetings, one of the finest shows in the nation and good working committees with the participation of the members. We would like to stress especially Out-state organization. Mr. Robert Tiplady of Brainerd is the new Chairman of this committee. To this end we also propose changing our name to The Iris Society Of Minnesota, as has been suggested by one of the members at the Executive meeting. I invite all of you to comment on this idea. We will also stress the revision of the constitution. Financially we are sound, but we would like to work on a firmer, more organized basis by a previously drawn up budget which will be presented to the Executive committee and then to the membership for approval. The budget committee will meet at the Bakke home after the January meeting. All requests for needed funds should be presented to Manfred Warmuth before this time.

We would like to stress Education this year and included in this is exhibitors training. Glenn Hanson has generously accepted this job. All judges are members of this committee. We look forward to the committee as being especially helpful in spreading knowledge about irises, the American Iris Society, showing and exhibiting irises, and all other aspects of the iris world. There is so much general education that remains neglected.

We are happy to have Dr. David as chairman of the hybridizing committee. He grows many seedlings and is well qualified and enthusiastic about his work. Dr. David has launched a campaign to collect slides of seedlings of iris aphylla as well as other species and varieties. By this work, so important for the study of genetics, Dr. David is setting a national precedent and we sincerely applaud his efforts. His committee will work out their plan for the year. Their meetings will be open to anyone of the membership who wish to attend.

Zula Hanson is the new membership chairman. She will also announce her program for the coming year, but I know she expects all to work in the acquisition of interested members. The program committee includes all the Executive Board and is headed by Charlotte Sindt. The Auction committee will be headed by Urban Ipsen this year. They have a lot of work to do in putting the Rudser Plan on a broader basis but they have a good committee to work.

Gus Sindt will again be general show chairman. He will be assisted by Carol Lankow for the early iris show and Greta Kessenich for the June Show. I will have more to say about the June show and Greta's work in a later issue. Mary Duvall will head the Publications committee whose chief work will be the NEWS AND VIEWS. I would urge all to cooperate with her and Ed Holloway when they solicit you for articles. Hazel Sweeney has accepted the position as Publicity Director. She brings a wealth of experience to the job. We are very fortunate and I am most grateful to her for accepting this important position in view of all the other commitments she has.

I would like to keep you all informed to the fullest

about all the activities of the society. To this end I have asked all the committee chairmen to keep me fully informed of their activities so in turn I can report to you.

In closing I wish to express my thanks to all the members for all the cooperation this far shown, especially to the Executive Board members for their efficient and orderly manner of conducting business. With this kind of understanding and cooperation I am sure we can do what has to be done. Our thanks also to Warren Johnson for a very successful past year; we look forward to his wise counsel and help this year.

-Julius Wadekamper

MEETING--

JANUARY 16, 1970 8PM

Guaranty State Bank ----- 3700 West Broadway

"Panel Discussion on Basic Iris Culture"

A program for those who grow or would like to grow irises successfully. Aspects to be covered include Uncovering of irises, fertilizing, cultivation and weeding, and hybridizing. Panel members will be Ed Holloway, Mary Duvall, Dr. David.
COME WITH YOUR QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

HYBRIDIZER'S MEETING

JANUARY 30, 1970 7:30 PM

The Hybridizers will have a meeting at Dr. David's home, January 30th. Anyone who has interesting slides of seedlings to show, please bring them along. All those interested in hybridizing can come.

CORRECTION-

Readers of Barbara Flanagan's Column in the Minneapolis Star: Last November Barbara Flanagan incorrectly stated that Rudser's Iris Gardens gave a donation of irises to the "Dream Kids". Stan Rudser asks that we correct this statement. A collection of surplus irises from the annual auction were given to Enos Butenuth, to be distributed to the "Dream Kids" gardening group. The donation came from the Twin City Iris Society.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD

The Executive committee of the Twin City Iris Society met on Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the Curtis Hotel in Downtown Minneapolis. Warren Johnson gave a summary report of last years' activities. He cited those that should be carried on this year. One of the items he is especially interested in is an arboretum planting of irises. Warren will follow up on this work and it will be discussed at a future meeting.

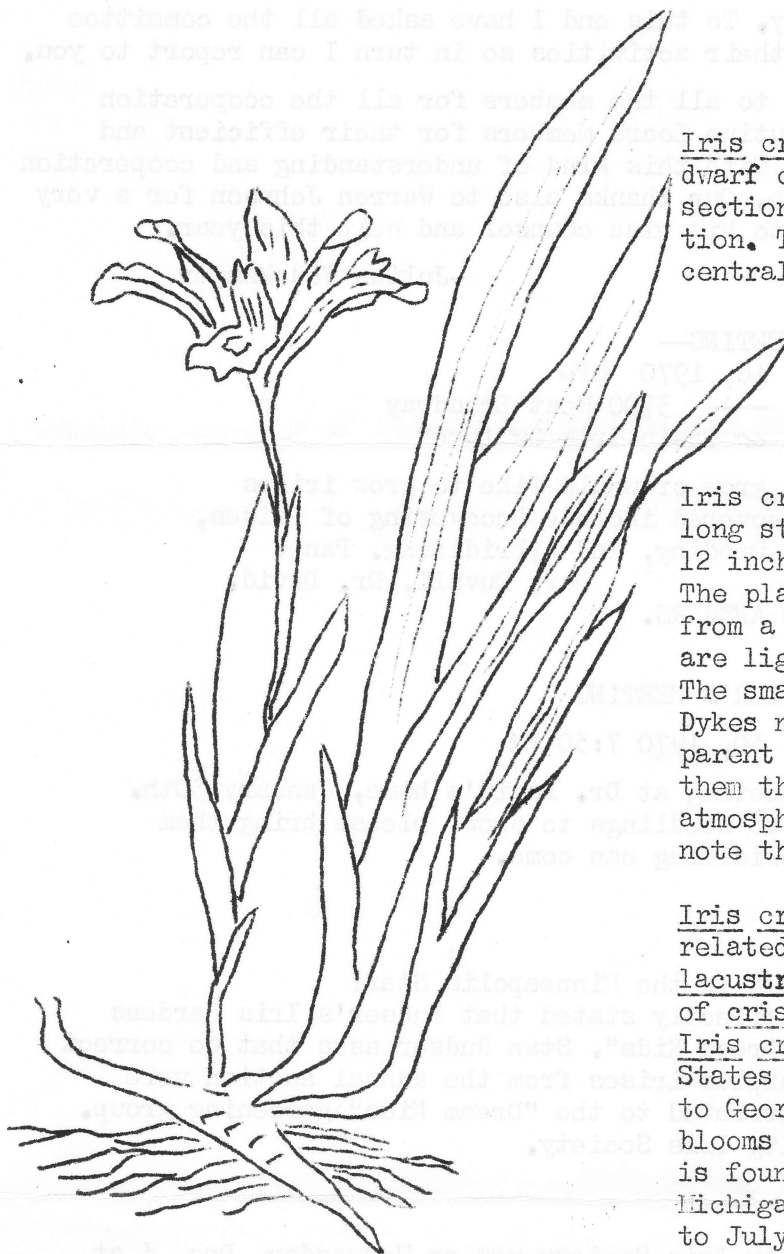
Several committee chairmanships were suggested. Work will be done primarily by the committees. It is hoped that each committee will have a significant report to present at each membership meeting.

It was decided to withdraw from the Builder's Show this year.

Program suggestions for the coming year were discussed. Charlotte Sindt accepted the program chairmanship.

It was decided to continue the practice of sending flowers and a card to the ill and hospitalized.

An executive committee meeting will be held sometime between the January and the February regular meetings.



IRIS CRISTATA

Iris cristata Ait, is also known as the dwarf crested iris. It belongs to the section of iris known as the Evansia section. These iris are characterized by a central line or crest along the haft.

Otherwise there is great divergence among this section which includes I. japonica, I. tectorum, I. milesii, I. speculatrix and I. gracilipes as well as I. cristata.

Iris cristata has slender rhizomes with long stolons. The leaves are from 6 to 12 inches long and are greenish yellow. The plants bear 1 or 2 flowers that come from a sharply keeled spathe. The flowers are light lavender. They are rarely white. The small brown seeds are oval shaped. Dykes notes that the seeds have a transparent gelatinous appendage twined about them that shrivels on exposure to the atmosphere. Gleason and Cronquist² also note that the seeds are arillate.

Iris cristata Ait is apparently closely related to Iris lacustris Nutt. Iris lacustris is described as a smaller form of cristata. The seeds are also arillate. Iris cristata is found in eastern United States from Maryland to Missouri and south to Georgia, Mississippi and Arkansas. It blooms in April and May. Iris lacustris is found further north around Lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior. It blooms from May to July.³

Are the two iris of common origin? Are their differences due to environmental factors? The distinguishing characteristic of these species is the length of the perianth tube. In I. cristata it is 4-6 cm. long and exceeds the spathe. It is longer than the sepals. In I. lacustris it is 1-2 cm. long, barely exceeds the spathe and is shorter than the sepals.

Dykes tells of the difficulty of producing seeds from I. cristata in cultivation. It would be interesting to grow and cross I. lacustris and I. cristata.

1. Dykes, The Genus Iris

2. Gleason and Cronquist, Manual of Vascular Plants

3. Richett, Wild Flowers of the United States, Vol. 1 part 1