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The American Iris Society

News & Notes

December 12 2016

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Beginners Corner - Not Just for Beginners



Welcome to the 42nd regular issue and final 2016 issue of the **AIS News & Notes**. Lots of iris news even if most of our gardens are resting. **Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season.** Please join us again in 2017! If you have notes you would like to add, or topics you would like to see, please let us know! You can contact either [Bob Pries](#) or [Wayne Messer](#) with your comments and suggestions.

Year End Donation Reminders

As the holidays approach and the New Year arrives, remember December 31st is your last opportunity this year to have tax deductions for your contributions to AIS. There are a number of funds to which contributions can be designated.



'Holiday Spirit'

The **AIS Foundation** is the organization which handles donations for AIS. You can make checks payable to: **The AIS Foundation** and mail them to:

Jill Bonino
AIS Foundation Sec./Treas.
3110 Kirkham Dr.
Glendale, CA 91206-1128

The Fall 2016 **Irises Bulletin** has the details on page 9 including the different funds you can donate to. Or you can see them [here](#).

'Busy Beginning'

Most of you, dear readers, are past the beginning stages of your iris passion. You may remember how it was; so many exciting things to learn and so many questions. You now know AIS has many resources to help you learn and answer your questions. Which we hope you continue to share with new irisarians and those who might become ones.

I was reminded of this by **Bryce Williamson's World of Irises** posting [Fifteen Tall Bearded Irises For The Beginner](#). Another great World of Irises contribution for you to enjoy and share.

It also inspired me to set up a page to collect such items. You can see the [page on the Iris Wiki for the Beginner's Corner](#). It has this reference and others such as the [Index to General Iris Topics](#) and the [Iris Video Library](#).

Please use and share all these and help by adding or suggesting more. What else should be there?

Quick Links

[AIS Website](#)

[AIS Facebook](#)

[AIS Blog](#)

[Iris Encyclopedia](#)

[News & Notes Archive](#)

[Read AISDiscuss Archives](#)

[EMembers Login](#)

[Types of Irises](#)

[Arl Society International](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society](#)

[Median Iris Society](#)

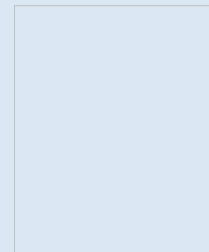
[Tall Bearded Iris](#)

This is a great means of getting a tax deduction and supporting the AIS. Thank you.

Holiday Gifts

There is still time to order holiday gifts for your irisarian and future-irisarian friends.

An [AIS membership](#) makes a good Christmas gift for someone who is a gardener. An E-membership is only \$15. and could start that Millennial on the road to becoming a dedicated AIS member. The [voucher](#) is an extra gift that comes with the new (or upgraded) membership. What a good way to honor a former or current officer in a local affiliate.



'Gift Of Dreams'

Also don't forget the [American Iris Society CafeExpress Shop](#) with sweatshirts, T-shirts, coffee mugs, and much more. Choose from the **2020 Centennial Collection** and the **Gypsy Lord Collection**.

The [AIS Storefront](#) has a number of items as potential gifts and for your education. Similarly see what the Sections offer. **HIPS** has [Iris themed items](#) as well as more [traditional materials](#). The **Society for Japanese Irises** has a special offer, [The Japanese Iris edited by McEwen](#). The **Society for Louisiana Irises** has a [number of special publications](#). The **Spuria Iris Society** offers [books, pamphlets, and a digital program](#).

Strategic Planning Follow-up

Thank you to all who read and responded to our request for feedback on some possible goals for AIS. You gave us a number of interesting and useful suggestions and comments.



'Feed Back'

We would appreciate comments from even more of you. Something that should have occurred to me earlier: **to encourage more participation include a jigsaw puzzle**. Our [Possible Goals for AIS page](#) now includes a jigsaw puzzle in it! Read it or reread it, find and enjoy the puzzle, and please let us know your thoughts afterwards. You can use the Comment Box on the page or email wrmesser@gmail.com with your comments.

You can learn more about the [Strategic Planning Committee here](#). And if you would like to contribute thoughts and feedback on a regular basis with the AIS Strategic Planning Committee please email Andi Rivarola, the Committee's Chairman: andinsky@gmail.com. Thank you.

2017 Convention Notes

Society

[Society for Japanese Irises](#)

[Society for Louisiana Irises](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris](#)

[Society for Siberian Irises](#)

[Species Iris Group of North America](#)

[Spuria Iris Society](#)

Interests

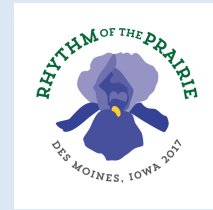
[Historic Iris Preservation Society](#)

[Reblooming Iris Society](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

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You can start thinking about the great irises we will have at the [AIS 2017 Convention May 23-27 in Des Moines, Iowa](#). Some 2200 guest plants! Many of which we saw as [reblooming guest irises](#). Find [registration information](#) (you can register now) and see the [schedule and updates](#).



Planning for the **Silent Auction** is also underway by **Nick Stewart and Debbie Strauss**. You can see their requests for donation of items in the Fall 2016 **Irises Bulletin** on page 16 as well as [online here](#). (And as a [PDF of the request here](#).) As part of this, ([see the PDF](#)) they are asking hybridizers to consider donating irises for the Silent Auction.

Hey all you local societies, have you started collecting items from your area to give to your RVP for your Region's **Raisin' Region basket** for the Iowa AIS National Convention? The silent auction really needs and appreciates your participation and so do our shoppers. Contact your RVP about where to send your donations! Thank you.

Debbie is digitally available at debbie@loveirises.com to answer questions or accept information about your donations.

Pacific Coast Native Iris Seed Exchange is Online

The [Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris](#) (SPCNI) has its annual seed exchange open now. You can see their great [selection of seeds](#) here. Please review the [general seed exchange information](#) before ordering. And while you must be a member to order (like most seed exchanges), you are able to join as you place your order. A great opportunity to grow and see these beautiful irises!



'Egocentric'

Fulfillment will begin the week after Christmas (barring any catastrophes in Southern CA). Seeds are \$3.00 per packet with at least 10 seeds each. Some seeds have limited quantities. Questions can be sent to Louise Guerin siber@siber-sonic.com.

Note from the Editor: One thing I learned recently, and have not confirmed yet, is that you can grow PCNI in the Midwest and other colder parts of the country. However, you need to do it from seed rather than plants. With PCNI plants the usual timing for shipping does not do well here. So don't rule out ordering these if it is super-cold outside now. Have you tried this?

Preserving Your Irises

A topic everyone needs to consider at some time: **what happens to your iris collection when you**

are no longer able to maintain it? You have invested considerable time and talent in developing your special collection. Now you need to determine how to preserve it.



[HIPS](#) has some resources to help you address this. They have a section on their website (under Resources) entitled [Posterity Planning](#) as a follow-up to an article in the Fall 2016 issue of ROOTS. There you can find that article ["Hereafter"](#) as well as some sample documents you might start with.

Master Plan'

Please note that HIPS is not giving legal advice, and we encourage people to consult their own lawyers concerning any legacy planning.

Pogoniris Book Available Again

A Study of Pogoniris Varieties by W.W. Sand is now back in print and available in the HIPS shop for only \$14.00. This classic reference from 1926 is spiral-bound with two color plates. You'll find it in the [Reference Materials](#) area of the [HIPS Shop](#).



'What Again'

HIPS Welcomes Two Research Curators

HIPS has designated **Phil Edinger**, of California, and **Catherine Adam**, of France, as **Research Curators under the Guardian Gardens program**.



'Guardian Angel'

As HIPS collaborates more closely with top botanical collections around the world, Phil will bring to this task his vast knowledge of tall bearded irises, and Catherine will be continuing her work to confirm the identities of historic irises by French hybridizers in the national and institutional collections of France. Thank you, Phil and Catherine, for sharing your expertise and helping us save old irises from extinction!

Another Jigsaw Puzzle

In this case I say "another" to let you know it is not the same puzzle you found in the [Possible Goals link](#) in the **Strategic Planning Follow-up** above. This is a separate puzzle with both a [standard difficulty puzzle](#) and a [harder difficulty puzzle](#). How many jigsaw puzzles did you find and solve with this issue of News & Notes?



Become an Emember

If you are already a member, you might consider adding an

American Iris Society

Emembership. This is a way for you to show additional support for AIS. For just \$15 a year, in addition to your regular membership charge, you have online access to **Irises**, including all the back issues of it and the **AIS Bulletin**, the **Registration & Introductions** database, and you

help to support our online initiatives! Find out more [here](#). And you will qualify for the **AIS Voucher Program** described in earlier issues.



The Emembers Login link can now be found in the Quick Links in the left column. You will need your username and password which comes from the AIS Membership Secretary (aismemsec@irises.org).