



The American Iris Society

News & Notes November 26 2023



2024 AIS/Japanese National Iris Convention News

Greater Portland Iris Society, of Portland Oregon, would like to invite you to the **AIS National Convention with the Society for Japanese Irises in a joint Convention June 26th-29th, 2024**. You can now make your hotel reservations for the **Holiday Inn Portland - Columbia Riverfront** online using this link, *mention AIS National Iris Convention for special rates:*
<https://book.passkey.com/event/50707482/owner/4387/home>

The Convention will entail a



AIS Youth - New Coloring Contest Deadline and Website

The AIS Youth Coloring Contest **deadline has been extended to January 31, 2024**. The [Contest Image](#) (shown above) is available as a pdf. [Entry forms](#) are also available online.

The new AIS Youth website can be found here: <https://aisyouth.org/>

Welcome Banquet, Section Programs, several Judges Training sessions, Garden Tours, a Live Plant Auction, and the Closing AIS Awards Banquet.

Also available with separate registrations will be the all-so-fun [Geek Dinner](#) and a side trip to the world-famous [Japanese Gardens of Portland Oregon](#).

Registration Information for all and the Schedule of Events can be found at <https://socji.org/events/> and/or <http://greaterportlandirissociety.org/national-convention-2024>



2024 Louisiana and Spuria Combined Convention

The [Iris Society of Dallas](#) is once again graciously hosting a convention. This time the Spuria Iris Society and the Society for Louisiana Irises (SLI) combined convention will be held **April 26-28, 2024 in Dallas**. Additional information may be found at the Spuria Iris Society website: <https://spuriairissociety.org/spuria-sli-convention>



Exhibitions Has a New Schedules Chair

Attention!! Attention!! All you show chairs and show schedule writers! AIS Exhibitions Committee has a new Schedules Chair. For the 2024 show season, you should send your draft schedules for approval to:

Olga Batalov

E-mail:

exhibition.schedules@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 858-405-9077 (please email first, I do not answer calls from unknown numbers)

Snail-mail address: 8715 Sparren Way, San Diego, CA 92129

Remember that show schedules should be sent for approval at least two months prior to your show date. That may be particularly important for Olga this year as she "learns the ropes." Please be patient and give her some extra time if possible.

Draft schedules can be sent via e-mail or USPS, but email is preferred. It speeds up the process and saves everyone a little on postage.

c. Bay View Gardens



SPCNI Seed Exchange

SPCNI's annual seed catalog plans to open online **December 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024**. Bob Seaman, Leonine Iris owner and SPCNI web manager, is working with Louise Guerin, seed chair, to put the list together right now. There should be a good selection of seeds from across the PCI spectrum for members.

While only members can purchase seeds, you can join online with your order. Details and the list of seeds [will be available here](#).

c. Aitken's Salmon Creek Gdn.



2023 Spuria Iris Symposium

The Spuria Iris Society is holding their 2023 Symposium. **We welcome ANY irisarian that fancy's spuria to participate in our symposium.** Each participant may select up to 10 spuria. Your TOP favorite should appear in the first position with the remaining votes listed in descending order of preference. Awarded points by choice are:

- 10 points for the first spuria listed
- 9 points for the second spuria
- 8 points for the third spuria
- And on down the list so that 1 point for the tenth spuria

The top 10 spurias will be determined based on the total number of points earned by each of the cultivars selected.

Please consider indicating the location of your garden and/or your USDA zones. Varietal comments are always welcome. Your input could assist others in deciding which ones they may want to grow.

There are three methods available to vote, online, e-mail or by US mail. **Please vote NO LATER THAN January 31, 2024** using ONE of the following methods:

- Online:
<https://forms.gle/QziYh8uWXeYiE6X>

- E-mail: djurn@prodigy.net
- US mail:

Darol Jurn
100 Sedona Vista Dr.
Sedona, AZ 86338-6017



Holidays Are Upon Us!

It is the time of year that school holidays are here! You can spend time with your new friend and explore what kind of iris she can put in her bed next year. Since the iris you purchase are sent out at the right planting time for your area of the country, you can help your friend look at varieties they might like in their new garden. So, there is also time for you to write for the **Ackerman Youth Essay Contest 2024!** The **deadline will be June 10, 2024.** You need to make it a creative writing, but you will also be studying and learning yourself about everything iris. Be sure you give lots of facts for your bestie. Before you turn it in, get your Mom, Dad, Sister, Aunt, Teacher, or anyone to read it over after you write your first draft, and help you think about how to add to it or make it have more details and fix grammar and spelling. Here is the official theme:

A new friend, exactly your age and interested in all the same things you love, just moved in next door to you! Her Mom gave her a flower bed of her own in their new backyard. Your new bestie saw your blooming iris beds and now wants to plant iris too, but she doesn't know anything about them. So, she asked you to teach her all about iris! What are they? How do you plant them? When do iris bloom, and what do you do with them when they finish their bloom cycle? How



Novelty Iris Society News

Congratulations to Tom Burseen for his '*Don't Doubt Dalton*' winning the 2023 Dykes Medal! We are all so proud of this beautiful novelty iris. Also, congratulations to Howie Dash's '*Jedi Princess*', and Bonnie Nichol's '*Cha Cha Cha*' with flounces both winning the AM. We are proud of all our novelty iris in the 2023 AIS Awards.

Hi yall! I am looking for all you novelty iris lovers to help me out. I am new to doing a newsletter for the Novelty Iris Society and I need your input and articles and photos too. Please send them to me at debbie@loveirises.com. I had one very nice person volunteer to write for me, but I really need lots more of you please! You could send me:

- Pictures of your favorite Novelty irises
- Hybridizer stories. Did you meet Monty Byers? Fred Kerr? Tom Burseen? Barry Blyth? Others?
- What is your favorite type of Novelty iris?
- What Novelty irises are you searching for to add to your collection?

We also need new officers and directors in the Novelty Iris Society. We will be electing officers at the Novelty IS meeting in Portland. If you have questions about officer or director responsibilities, please reach out to Bonnie J Nichols (bjnhtn@aol.com).

Debbie Strauss NIS Newsletter Chair

(and when) do you fertilize them, or dig and separate them when they have grown large? In other words, she wants to know all about irises, and you are the perfect person to ask.

Write an informative essay to teach her everything she would need to know to plant, nurture, and enjoy a brand-new iris garden bed. You will need to start by researching irises and iris gardening tips and tricks. Organize the information and brainstorm your own ideas and favorite things about planting, growing, and seeing irises. Pretend you are teaching and encouraging your friend as you write out the essay – explain and be enthusiastic! This may be a longer essay than others you have written, and because you will be doing a little research, be sure you put everything into your own words (don't just cut and paste information).

[Check out the other rules](#) and send your awesome essay to me, Debbie Strauss at debbie@loveirises.com or mail it to me at 2213 Hereford Blvd, Midland TX 79707.

Debbie Strauss AIS Foundation Youth Essay Contest Chair



Submit Your Judges Handbook Changes

Each year the **Handbook for Judges and Show Officials**, unofficially known as the **Judges Handbook**, is revised to reflect rule changes or clarification on existing regulations. Changes submitted for 2022 are being completed, but there is



Vote for Your Favorite in the 2023 MDIS Virtual Iris Show

2023 was the **4th Annual Mt Diablo Iris Society Virtual Iris Show**. And you can still participate in the second part of it.

There is still time to **cast your vote for the MDIS People's Choice. Deadline is December 15, 2023** (that is an extended deadline). Watch [this video](#) to see the choices and how to cast your vote for your three favorites. Please email your votes to mtdiabloiris@gmail.com by December 15, 2023.

Thank you again to Mt Diablo Iris Society for these shows.

still time to submit suggested changes for 2023.

Judges Handbook Revisions - Send your suggestions and comments to Claire Schneider at AIS.paperwork2000@gmail.com by December 31, 2023 for consideration in 2024.

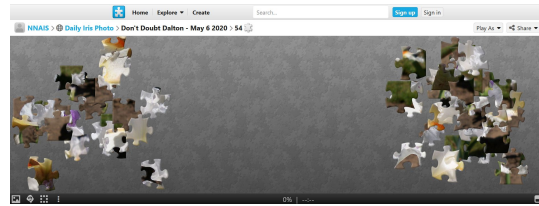
[Click here to find the 2022 Judges Handbook](#) as a complete pdf and as individual chapters.

Thank you to everyone for your suggestions and to the Judges Handbook Revision Committee for their work incorporating them.



Dwarf Iris Society Seed Sale

The [2023 DIS seed sale](#) began Sunday, October 15, with over 100 different seed offerings from MDBs, SDBs, and bearded species, including hand-pollinated crosses. Most open-pollinated seed selections from previous years have been moved to the surplus list and will be available to both members and nonmembers. You must be a member of DIS to buy seeds from the members-only list, but you may join at the same time you order your seeds. Sorry, US/Canada addresses only at this time.



Iris Jigsaw Puzzles

It's that time of year when you may have more free time (or free from iris gardening). And one way to relax is with online jigsaw puzzles.

One place to start is with the [Daily Iris Puzzle](#), a pandemic feature that ran from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

Enjoy your holidays!



Next AIS Board

Hello all median iris lovers. I hope your iris are all bedded down and ready for winter.

We now have a new treasurer after many many years of wonderful work by our dedicated Judy Keisling taking care of all of our monies. Thank you to Judy for her decades of excellent service. Debra Miller is our new treasurer. You can reach her at Miller42@aol.com.

But we are still going to need a few good members to come forward and help with officer positions and chairmen positions. Please consider stepping up.

We are also looking for a host for the Median Iris Society Convention. I can give you a set of guidelines so your club can see what it takes to host. At this point we would like to have a convention in 2026 or 2027. Please approach your local clubs or your Region and see if someone would like to host for MIS.

Do any median hybridizers have extra seeds? Would you consider donating them to MIS? Check the Median Iris Society Seed Exchange Facebook page for directions on how to donate and the most up to date inventory list of median seeds for sale. Kimberly Rieniets the seed chair and invites you to buy seeds or donate your extra seeds!

www.facebook.com/Median-Iris-Society-Seed-Exchange-103004931789099)

If I can do anything or answer any questions send me an email at debbie@loveirises.com or call me at 432-352-5483 and I will be happy to talk with you.

MIS President Debbie Strauss

There is no December Board meeting and the Annual AIS Board Fall Meeting was held on November 4th. Details on the January meeting will be in the January News & Notes.

Enjoy your holidays!



CLOSEOUT SPECIAL – AIS 2024 Iris Calendars

Each: USA \$7.00, CAN \$9.00, INT –
Contact the Storefront for price.

Pack of 10: USA \$42.00, CAN
\$53.00, INT – Contact the Storefront
for price.

John Ludi

[AIS Storefront](#)



Photo Identification

- SLI-SPU - 'Ibex Ibis'
- Exhibitions - 'Show Me'
- SPCNI - 'Developing Story'
- Spuria Symposium - 'Hot Chili'
- Ackerman - 'Holiday Lover'
- NIS News - 'Don't Doubt Dalton'
- MIS News - 'Planned Treasure'
- Teleconference - 'Needed Holiday'
- Photo Id - 'Prank'



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