



# The American Iris Society

News & Notes

April 7 2020

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## Ackerman Essay Deadline Extended



'Eternal Youth'

*"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life. It goes on." Robert Frost*

**Welcome** to the 77th regular issue of the **AIS News & Notes**. Please let us know what you would like to see here. And if you have notes you would like to add, or you would like to become a reporter, please let us know! You can contact either [Bob Pries](#) or [Wayne Messer](#) with your comments or interest.

## Handling Iris Shows

The [table of iris shows by date](#) has changed considerably from the previous issue of News & Notes. More than half the shows are now officially cancelled and we expect most of them will eventually not take place. If you need to cancel, please let Wayne Messer [wrmesser@gmail.com](mailto:wrmesser@gmail.com) and/or Lois Rose [lowy222@aol.com](mailto:lowy222@aol.com) know.



'Share The Love'

Some clubs are creating "virtual iris shows" for everyone to share their photos on Facebook or websites. See how the Mt Diablo Iris Society is handling their show below.

**Note:** See a list of other event cancellations [here](#).

## Mt Diablo Iris Society Virtual Iris Show

Making the Best of a Bad Situation.....or.....When life hands you lemons, hold a VIRTUAL IRIS SHOW.  
You knew we couldn't let this rest!

Hello all AIS Youth. I don't know what to say that hasn't already been said during this scary tense times. I hope that you are all safe staying at home.

The deadline for the **AIS Foundation's Ackerman Youth Essay Contest** passed on March 31. We are all trying to cope with our new situations. The past two months have been confusing and worrisome, so perhaps you were not on track getting all deadlines met. So, the deadline for entering your essays has been **extended to May 31**.

Perhaps you have time now to finish or write an essay to this year's theme. It is really a very sad thing that the American Iris Society's 100th Anniversary Celebration Convention had to be canceled.

But it is still our 100th anniversary and we would love to have more of you write to this year's theme. In case you need the prompt again, here it is:

**It is the 100th Anniversary of the American Iris Society this year! Imagine that you are the President of the American Iris Society 50 years from now, on the 150th Anniversary of AIS. How would you encourage people to join AIS and continue to support growing and sharing irises into the future? What do you think irises will look like in 2070?**

Get those essays finished up and send your creative stories by mail or email to:

Debbie Strauss  
2213 Hereford Blvd  
Midland TX 79707-5012  
[debbie@loveirises.com](mailto:debbie@loveirises.com)

To see all the [rules and great prizes click here](#).

**Remember if you are having a hard time, we are thinking about you. We will get through this.**

Here is an opportunity for this unprecedented year. We are holding a VIRTUAL IRIS SHOW. Instead of bringing your flowers to Alden Lane, you will take pictures of flowers in your garden and enter the photographs in the Virtual Iris Show. Photos will be judged by AIS judges and ribbons will be awarded - well, at least Virtual Ribbons. It's a chance for you to enter iris that might not have been ready on the day of the April Show, or iris that you really didn't want to cut, and you don't have to worry about getting them to the show in one piece! Also, you don't have to leave your property and risk infection. Here are the details.



'Lemon Sorbet'

1. Email us at [MtDiabloIris@gmail.com](mailto:MtDiabloIris@gmail.com) and let us know that you MIGHT be interested in entering iris in our Virtual Iris Show.
2. We will email you an ENTRY NUMBER and a unique REGISTRATION form and a SHOW BROCHURE with all of the sections, and classes, picture information, and entry details.
3. Take pictures of the iris you wish to enter. Each entry requires four pictures. A picture from the top of the iris, a picture of the flower from the side, and a full shot of the entire plant and flowers (stalk)...from soil to top of the flower, and lastly a GLAMOUR SHOT, any angle or format you wish...a macro or just a pretty view of your iris.
4. Rename the file of your pictures with your entry number, the section, class, and the photo. (JPEG files only)
5. e.g. 01SATBPA.JPEG would be Entry number 01, Section A, Class TB, Photo A (photo from the top)

Photo A - picture from the top, Photo B - picture from the side, Photo C - full shot (stalk), D- GLAMOUR shot.

If you have trouble renaming your files, send them to us and we will rename them for you. Just be sure to send us the file names specified for each entry.

1. Complete the REGISTRATION form with the section, class, and variety (There is a PAGE 2 if you need it)
2. Email the completed REGISTRATION form and four named JPEG pictures per entry to [MtDiabloIris@gmail.com](mailto:MtDiabloIris@gmail.com)

**by midnight July 1, 2020.** ( Please keep JPEG file sizes below 5MB [5000KB])

1. All GLAMOUR shots will be entered into the MDIS Photo Contest to be judged by Mike's Camera
2. All photos become the property of MDIS. If they are used by MDIS you will receive photo credits.

#### JUDGING

Judging the Virtual Iris Show - As in all AIS varietal shows it is not the Iris being judged but the exhibitor.

75% of the points are for Horticulture 25% are for presentation.

**Horticulture:** How well it is grown for its particular variety or species? Judges should pay attention to damage; brown spots or leaf tips, infestations of insects, poor symmetry of growth, other factors showing poor vigor for the specimen.

**Presentation:** Is the image in strong sunlight with disruptive shadows? Is there a disruptive background detracting from the flowers? If in a pot, is the pot clean? Are there weeds surrounding the plant? Could spent blossoms have been removed?

"It is only in our darkest hours that we may discover the true strength of the brilliant light within ourselves that can never, ever, be dimmed." Doe Zantamata

## Quick Links

[AIS Website](#)

[AIS Facebook](#)

[AIS Blog](#)

[Iris Encyclopedia](#)

[News & Notes Archive](#)

[AISDiscuss Archives  
2005-Nov 2017](#)

[Read AISDiscuss](#)

[EMembers Login](#)

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### Types of Irises

[Ariel Society  
International](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society](#)

[Median Iris Society](#)

[Tall Bearded Iris 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](#)

Generally, is the plant/flower being presented with its best face?

**Note:** A trifold of the show schedule is available as a [Word \(docx\) file](#) and as a [PDF](#).

## Required Images for New Registrations

Many registrants have submitted their images as required with new registrations. There are many still outstanding from 2019 and even 2018.

If you have 2020 registrations lined up, please feel free to submit them. Because the seedling number is a part of the file name, I can accept them even

if the name is not approved. Simply let me know when you have uploaded and inform me if the name approved is changed. At the AIS website you will find a [guide about the requested file name format](#). An article in the Spring 2020 issue of *Irises* includes this information as well. Presently I am working to create a presentation which will reinforce this information (originally planned for the AIS convention in Newark).



'Image'

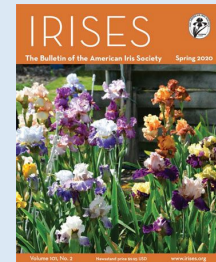
Uploading to a folder on Google Drive OR sending a USB memory stick or SD card to me remain the most reliable methods. You can attach files to email as well. **PLEASE observe the filename request and image size.**

As always I am available to assist you in learning how to submit your images.

Neil Houghton, AIS Images  
[images@irises.org](mailto:images@irises.org)  
3873 Rush Mendon Road  
Mendon, NY 14506  
iPhone: (585) 301-8256 (Voice/SMS)

## Spring 2020 Bulletin Available in eMembers Area

The **AIS 2020 Spring *Irises Bulletin*** is now available online for viewing by AIS Electronic Members. eMembers should log into their account using the "Log In" button at the top right of the [AIS website Homepage](#).



Early availability of the the Irises Bulletin is one of the benefits of becoming an eMember. You also have access to the Irisregister Database and the AIS Bulletin Library. You can [learn more about eMembership](#) on the AIS website and [join as an eMember here](#).

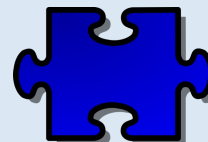
## Year of the Iris

2020 was declared **Year of the Iris by the National Garden Bureau**. You can see what they are saying [here](#). Be sure and check out the references at the end of the article and the resources offered in the right-hand column.



## Something Different for the Jigsaw Puzzle

Many of you enjoy the iris jigsaw puzzles to relax and work on a different mental challenge. And right now we all need more chances to relax and get away from everything.



So, we are adding a few more chances to enjoy iris puzzles. Beginning April 1st, not a belated April Fools' prank, we have a [Daily Iris Puzzle](#) for you to enjoy. Still the same format, a standard puzzle, a harder puzzle, and a link to the Iris Encyclopedia entry for the iris. At least until I get to NOIDs:)

Stay well and enjoy!

## 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](mailto:aismemsec@irises.org)).