

Twin City Iris Society

NEWS & VIEWS

Vol. XIII, No. 8

Minneapolis, Minnesota

October, 1965

What a year for those of us who live in Minnesota!! Never has the weather been more capricious--record snows last winter, floods and tornadoes in the spring, little real "summer weather," the wettest and coldest September on record, early frost to kill the tender annuals but--beautiful flowers and growth all through the season, the most beautiful fall coloring we've had in many a year and----Those Wonderful Twins!! First the American League Championship--and now two wins over the "invincible" Dodgers from Los Angeles in the World Series. Even if we eventually lose (heaven forbid) we've had more than our share of thrills and excitement and pride in our Minnesota Twins. No chance to get bored in this state! !

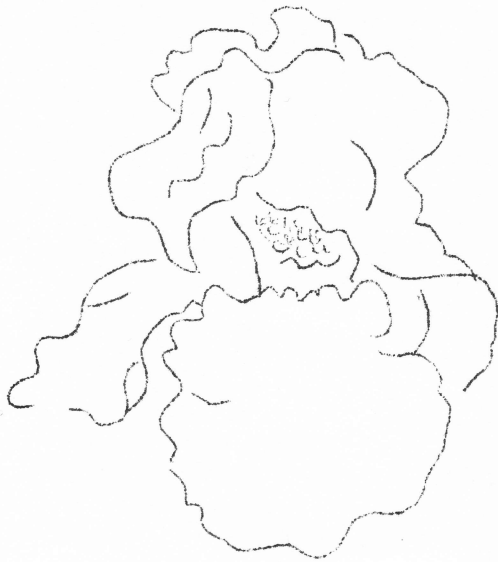
October, to the members of the Twin City Iris Society, means an easing of the pressing garden chores and, traditionally, the fall dinner meeting which encompasses the annual meeting, election of officers and an outstanding speaker. This October is no exception--the annual dinner meeting will be held OCTOBER 21, 1965 at the HEIDELBERG, 708 West 66th Street (66th and Lyndale Avenue South) at 6:30 p.m.

The program will be of exceptional quality as we have been exceedingly fortunate to obtain, as our speaker of the evening, Mr. Russell Schwandt, Commissioner of Agriculture for Minnesota, who will show slides and tell us of his experiences on a recent trip to Russia, Spain, West Berlin, Switzerland, and Belgium with emphasis on all those things most interesting to flower gardeners. Mr. Schwandt is an extremely busy man but he has consented to share these experiences with us. A large turnout is mandatory! We are sure none of you will want to miss this opportunity, so make your reservations now! !

You may make your reservations by calling Mrs. Mutterer, LI.5-7607 (evenings or week-ends) or by calling directly to the Heidelberg, UN.6-6388. The dinner including tip, will be \$3.00 and you may have your choice of baked ham, roast beef, or fried shrimp as an entree. If it is more convenient, and for those from out of town, a postcard to Mrs. E. Mutterer, 801 Rhode Island Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55427, will make your reservation. Be sure to state the number of reservations desired and your choice of entree. This is a wonderful chance to bring your family and friends because the program should appeal to everyone! !

We hope to see each and every member of the Society present at this meeting--talk it up, phone your friends, bring a visitor or two--let's make this the biggest and best ever! !

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DOMED STANDARDS

A few chores in the iris beds remain to be done. Clean up and cover the iris for winter. This is a must. Minnesota winters demand it. With extreme temperatures and lack of snow, the iris will suffer. Freezing and thawing in the early spring will surely bring losses--unless preventive steps are taken. Cover the iris with leaves, marsh hay or straw. Check your beds and see that the drainage is good. One can always make a ditch between the rows or around your plants, so excess moisture in the spring will not stand on the rhizomes.

It is about time to draw down the curtain on another iris year. I hope you all had a rewarding season. The most important thing is the happiness and fun you enjoyed with your hobby. If and when that is no longer true, then it ceases to be a hobby.

May your garden always bring you joy, good health, and lasting friendships.

Greta M. Kessenich,
President

DINNER MEETING OCTOBER 21, 1965

6:30 P.M.

The Heidelberg
708 - West 66th Street



CLOSED STANDARDS

Mr. Russell Schwandt, Minnesota's Commissioner of Agriculture will be our speaker for the evening of October 21.

Mr. Schwandt returned recently from a good will, people to people, tour of Russia, Spain, West Berlin, Switzerland and Belgium. He will show slides and speak on their floriculture, the people, their homes, city beautification, farming methods, soil, etc.

We are hopeful that all members of the Society will make a special effort to be present. Since this particular talk will be of interest to all people, we invite anyone of other organizations or your friends to attend. They may phone directly to The Heidelberg for their reservations.

We want a large representation of the Iris Society. We need and ask for your support and your help. Call other members on the phone. Urge them to be present. Do try to make this one of the largest affairs to date. WE WANT YOU! !

Board of Directors
Twin City Iris Society

One of the newest members of the Twin City Iris Society is also one of the youngest, and I'm sure the youngest to have a single membership. He is
Kevin Boyce - 4810 - 3rd Avenue South

Mr. Grable states that, "Kevin is about twelve years old and I believe he knows more about iris than many of our members."

He also belongs to the American Iris Society. His interest in iris was stimulated by his Grandmother who has raised iris for many years in Fairmont, Minn.

Welcome to the Twin City Iris Society, Kevin, and we hope a great deal of joy and satisfaction will come to you throughout your life from this interest in what we believe to be the most beautiful and fascinating flower of all.

NO ONE ENEMY OF IRIS

Remove and burn old iris leaves and other debris this fall. This will eliminate many of the overwintering eggs of the Iris borer.

In April after the first warm spell, an application of an insecticide should be used. One of the most effective sprays contain a heaping tablespoon of 50 per cent wettable DDT powder in a gallon of water. Repeat every week or ten days until blooming time. Also spray areas adjacent to the iris plants.

THE CYCLE OF THE IRIS BORER

Once in the rhizome (early July) the borers rapidly increase in size. They leave the hollowed out rhizome and bury themselves in the soil a few inches below the plant, where they change to brown pupae. After a month the pupae wiggle their way to the soil surface and split open to release the adult moth (moth stage).

Moths fly at night in late August and September at twilight they may be seen crawling around the base of iris plants. They are brown with black markings and have a wing spread of two inches.

Plant Pathologist, P. P. Pirone
New York Botanical Gardens

"INFORMATION BITS"

Median iris is the name given to the group of bearded iris that range in height from 10 to 28 inches.

A word of Caution--since disease may enter iris rhizomes through open wounds, it is better to trim foliage away with shears, rather than tear them away. Cut rhizomes apart rather than break them apart.

Leaf Spot--tan to brown spot on leaves causing them to look unsightly and die back prematurely. Rhizomes are not attacked. Spores spread by splashed water, common in rainy areas. Remove all infected leaves in the fall, burn this material.

Bacterial Leaf Blight--irregular brown spots with watersoaked margin on the leaves. Bacteria spread by splashed water. Serious only in wet seasons. Remove and burn infected leaves. After transplanting your bloom should be fairly good the first year. Your best bloom will occur in the second to fourth year.
