

# NEWS AND VIEWS

of the

Vol. IV  
No. 5

*Twin City Iris Society* May 1956

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Edythe Burns, Editor

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One more week of this nice (?) weather and we can all put away the old parka and snoeshoes, chase the penguins out of the south garden and the polar bears out of the north garden. Yessiree!! its time to get after the bugs and weeds.

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## April Meeting

Our treasurer, Bud Foss reported the TCIS bank balance just a trifle over \$350.00 (and that aint hay).

The members unanimously voted to extend an honorary membership to Mr. George Luxton, garden editor of the Minneapolis Newspapers.

We picked up a few hints on color photography from Mr H.A. Brown, our guest speaker. You will get your best color pictures between the hours of 9.00AM and 3.00PM.; For pictures of blue iris, try taking them in light shade or on a hazy day; If you value your negatives, put them in glass slides as soon as possible being careful not to fingermark or scratch the film.

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## Iris Show

The fifth annual TCIS iris show will be held on Sunday and Monday, June 10th and 11th, at the First National Bank of St. Paul located at 332 Minnesota St. (Minnesota and 4th) in St. Paul. The Fourth St. door will be open at 6.00 AM Sunday for the convenience of the exhibitors. Show hours will be from 1.00 PM to 6.00 PM on Sunday, and from 9.00 AM to 7.30 PM on Monday. The show chairman is Mr. W. G. Sindt of No. St. Paul.

The only major changes in the program this year are the discontinuation of the sweepstakes awards and the addition of special awards to all iris bloomstalks on the Court of Honor. Further information about the show will be on the show schedule which will be mailed to all members and former exhibitors real soon.

This will be the first iris show held under the sponsorship of the First National Bank and we feel sure everyone will cooperate in making it a real big hit.

Our former sponsor, the Minneapolis Savings and Loan Assn., extends their good wishes for a very successful show under the new sponsor.

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## Corrections and Additions to the Membership List

Mrs T. A. Gochnauer	(new)	1150 W. Iowa	St. Paul 13
Mrs J. F. Lavacot	(new)	226 Prescott	St. Paul 7
Mr. George Luxton	(hon)	138 Arthur Ave S.E.	Mpls. 14
Mrs Lavinia McCuaig	(ren)	5317 Chateau Place	Mpls. 17

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs Fern Bates who was hospitalized recently and who is feeling fine again now, says thanks to the members of the TCIS for the flowers.

\* \* \*

The Minnesota Peony and Iris Society is now sending a newsletter edited by pres. L.V. Franklin to their members. He is doing a wonderful job and we are positively chartreuse with envy.

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We have heard that Jackie Hanratty was a guest on the Arlie Haberle program recently. We also understand that Arlie will give the Iris Show some publicity on her program on W C C O - T V, channel 4, 3:00 to 3:30 PM on the Friday preceding the show.

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In spite of the cold weather quite a few of the dwarf iris are in bloom in this area. We personally were happy to renew acquaintances with April Morn, the first iris to bloom for us this year (May 8th), Atroviolacea, Cretica, Sulina, Carpathia, Violet Gem and Alinda. We fell real hard for a new little variegata named Verigay. This year one of our little Juno iris really outdid himself, producing three open blossoms on a tiny cornstalk about 6" tall. The flowers are a pretty shade of light grey-blue and are beardless.

\* \* \*

We were extremely sorry to hear of the recent death of Mr. Albert S. Gowan and extend our most sincere sympathy to the family.

\* \* \*

Mr Jack Kupka informs us that the annual auction of the TCIS will be held on Saturday, August 11th, at Highland Park in St Paul. More about the auction later.

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#### Transporting Iris Blooms

One of the hardest parts of exhibiting iris is in getting the fragile blossoms to the show without damaging them. We have tried several methods and have found the following most satisfactory. Use a large straight sided pail or can (the sort potato chips or popcorn come in is fine). Put just enough water in the container to give it a little weight to prevent tipping and place a few twigs or branches in the bottom to anchor the iris stalks. Cut your iris as close to the ground level as is possible (you can remove additional stem later if necessary). Place the iris stalk tight against the inner side of the container and fasten with scotch tape. If you have a large collection to transport, use larger containers.

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#### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24th, at the Hennepin Co-op. Seed exchange, 8140 6th Ave. No., (one block west of Winnetka Ave.) in Golden Valley. The program will consist of an arrangement workshop conducted by Mrs Hubert Burns and Mrs Lloyd Dopkins. Bring some flowers, a container, floral clay and pin holder or chicken wire if you prefer, a pair of scissors or a knife, and any other equipment you may wish to use in your arrangement. Mrs Burns and Mrs Dopkins will

offer you suggestions and helpful criticisms and will be happy to answer your questions pertaining to arrangements. In addition to the workshop, there will be the usual pre-show advice to new exhibitors by some of the more experienced ones. If by chance you have some iris in bloom and don't mind cutting them, please bring them to this meeting as they can be used for demonstration purposes. Mrs L. A. Wright, program chairwoman, would appreciate your calling her at JUniper 1298 not later than May 23rd if you can bring some bloomstalks, but if no one has any we'll quietly run out and buy some from the florist and keep the whole thing a secret. Refreshments will be served as usual at the conclusion of the meeting. So let's make it a date then, Thursday, May 24th, at 8:00 P.M.

\* \* \*

Either pansies aren't too brilliant or they have a terrific curiosity. Mrs. Charles Waterman had some in bloom way back in March. They have most likely given up by now though figuring it is Fall again.

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World shaking news items from here and there:

Melbourne, Australia. (Reuthers) Melbourne newspapers were overwhelmed by calls from people who said they had seen a flying poached egg. Some said they even heard a peculiar whining noise as it shot away to sea.

Tokyo, Japan. (AP) Tokyo seamstresses held Buddhist rites for the repose of needles broken during 1955. Remains of needles were laid to rest at the Saikoji Temple.

Slaithwaite, Eng. (Chgo.Trib.News Serv.) Sammy, a six months old kitten, walked from Slaithwaite to Doncaster, a distance of 40 miles in four weeks to set a new beginners homing record. The all-time distance record is shared by Smokey and Toby. Smokey walked from London to Cornwall, a distance of 300 miles, and Toby covered a similar distance 10 years earlier. Smokey is also the record holder for speed, averaging more than 20 miles a day for two weeks while Toby took five months. The slowest homing cat on record is Tiddles, a half Persian who traveled 100 miles but took 270 days.

San Francisco, Calif. (UP) Plans were announced Thursday for expansion of a former sardine plant in Richmond, Calif. The plant will now process whales.

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Don't forget the meeting on Thursday, May 24th. As this is guest night, invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. And don't forget the Iris Show, June 10th and 11th at the First National Bank of St. Paul. We will publish a complete list of winners as soon as it becomes available. We wish everyone the best of luck in the show and may all your iris entries be adorned with blue ribbons.

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