

Twin City Iris Society

NEWS AND VIEWS

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Vol. VI -- No. 1

February 1958

Greetings for 1958:

This is our first News and Views for this year and we hope to make it interesting as time goes on. We have six reporters sending material from the various districts and we urge you to send them anything you feel is of interest. Let's all get behind our little paper and make it worthwhile.

Our heartiest thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Burns for the untiring work they put into it all these years. It was always received with anticipation, and served as a link to bind our society together.

Thank you for your loyal support and we hope for your continued enthusiasm in the coming year.

Alice J. Foss, President

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Next Meeting Place

The meeting Feb. 20 will be held at St. Leo's Church, 2017 Bohland Ave., St. Paul. This is one block east of Cleveland and one block south of Ford Parkway in Highland Village. For Minneapolis area, members cross the Ford bridge and continue about 10 blocks to stop and go sign. This is Cleveland Avenue, continue one block further and turn right (south) one block. This is a combination school and church, with plenty of parking space. A fine program of Schreiner's slides of new introductions is planned. Door prizes!

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Permanent Meeting Place

The housing committee has found no one meeting place that is within 10 minutes of all members but feel that if meetings could be held at one place we would no longer go on long unknown treks into foreign lands. St. Leo's Church is available for all regular meetings, so come to this meeting and express your opinions.

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Gus Sindt

There is much anxiety felt among iris lovers, due to the lack of snow protection, for fear we may again suffer losses such as experienced last year. However, I am inclined to believe that the heavy rain last Feb. and perhaps the heavy wet snow in April created conditions responsible for the losses in many gardens.

Should the snow go away, February is a good time to examine and be sure that the wind has not blown the hay and uncovered the edges of the Iris beds. Remember that most losses are caused from thawing and freezing so recover, or if you haven't covered at all, do it now before those conditions arrive.

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Don't forget the meeting date, Thursday, February 20, 1958, 8:00 p.m.
Be prompt!!!!

Variety Comment

Each year in every iris garden there will be a few varieties that out perform all others and they are not always new ones. Last year several garden visitors inquired to learn the name of a magnificent clump and, when informed that it was Indian Hills, many were disappointed that it was not a new and exciting variety. New varieties that out performed all others in their color classes were Golden Sunshine and Blue Sapphire. Happy Birthday out performed all other pinks which perhaps accounted for it being unobtainable after early July last year. Truly Yours was at its best and really justified its awards. Two other varieties to look for this year are Cascadian and Cordolon. Cordolon is really a glorified Gypsy Rose and Cascadian, while not thoroughly tested in Minnesota, is a ruffled white that meets my approval. In 1957 garden visitors beat a path around Frances Fay and Lady Isle. Which ones will it be this year, Frost and Flame, Golden Garland, Fluted Copper or another old timer?

Many of our members grow a few Day lilies to enjoy after the iris season. There are many excellent new ones. Two, not so new, but very pleasing to the eye, are Cibola and Raven. Raven is the prettiest dark one I have ever seen.

If you are interested in this type of news this reporter will be glad to contribute it.

-- G. B. Gable

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This 'n That

It's hard to understand why -- but as soon as I have a pencil in my hand and a sheet of paper in front of me, my mind goes totally blank. All the interesting bits of information I had stored away for an emergency such as this just fade away and leave. All that remains are little corners and tail ends. Alice Foss says anything at all tho', so here's a few corners and tail ends.

According to the last two T.C.I.S. secretaries this job (being secretary) has a most unusual power. We should be a little careful whom we elect -- Mrs. Urban Ibsen and Mrs. R. J. (Pat) Wysocky have had additions to their families, a baby daughter for each.

The last board meeting was held at the home of Alice Foss and some of the points of interest that came up were: Siamese cats are sorta ornery 'tho smart - "never fail" remedies for Ag. Wright's toothache - The color of Holly Kay Pearson's eyes (she's our new grand-daughter) are blue ... At any rate we are all agreed that the iris were probably still in the ground and it was a very successful meeting. A mixed quartette needs a soprano and at least one good voice.

-- Edith Burns

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From the South Side

You never miss the water till the well runs dry, an old saying which applies very aptly to the Iris News and Views. Now we realize what a great contribution to the society Edythe Burns has made over a long period. We are happy to report that she has accepted the appointment of reporter for the north side and with the able assistance of Jack will cover the news from that area.

It was Edythe's own idea to have reporters from the different sections and our new president, Mrs. Foss, latched onto the idea and has appointed reporters and started things moving. How good a news letter we have will depend on getting your news and views to your area reporter.

I was appointed reporter for the south area and I hereby stake my claim to all that territory bounded roughly by Franklin Avenue on the north and the Gulf of Mexico on

the south. Members in this area with toothache or baby with mumps please call TU 1-6232 and ask for reporting service.

We don't want to infringe on the St. Paul reporter's territory but we feel that the following two items will not be reported by them:

Our new president, Mrs. Foss, and her "side kick" Mrs. Wright scouted the peony society meeting in St. Paul and enjoyed some Schuneman steaks. They previewed some Schreiner slides which we are trying to get for showing at our February meeting. Gus Sindt and Herb Kahlert of the program committee were also there, as well as others who are members of both societies.

Gossip has it that the Sindts are not living together. Mrs. Sindt gave her address at the dinner as East Avenue, North St. Paul and Gus gave his as McKnight Avenue, Maplewood. Too bad! And we thought they were such a nice couple.

Local Gems: Ben Haeg has been to the hospital for an operation and is now home and doing nicely. He is going to be in fine shape to pitch in on his garden work this spring. Ben has one of the finest and the best labeled gardens in this glorious south side iris paradise.

Bob Tischler of Brand Peony Farms, one of our newer members, reports that the fishing is good at Mille Lacs. He is stocking his freezer with walleyes. Perhaps the Iris society should invite themselves down there for a fish dinner next May or June.

Musings: If someone doesn't do something soon about this Iris trouble called "scorch" we are going to have to start research ourselves. The big wheels of the A.I.S. claim it is due to something in old soils but opinions differ. Ben Haeg for one doesn't think so. He has been watching our planting on new soil disappear one by one and faster till there is little left. His guess is that it is some kind of virus disease spread by insects. Jack Burns is sure that it is bugs like grubs or other small insects that eat off the roots, as they come up easily when pulled and have very little root left. Up on the frozen tundras of the far north where Jack lives it is just as likely to be permafrost coming up to nip their little tootsies, don't you think?

If this south side part of the newsletter seems to be a little mixed up, please be charitable because your south side reporter is also -- a little mixed up, that is.

-- Loren Franklin

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From Mound

We are happy to announce that two members of the T.C.I.S. will be guest speakers of the Mound Iris Garden Club during the next few months. Carl Holst will talk on "Roses" on Feb. 19. In March Mrs. Alice Foss will tell the Mound group of her experience with Iris.

Those of us who can't wait to be gardening went outside during the warm winter weather to peek under the covering on our Iris. We were sorry to see the Rhizomes were sitting in soft mud in some of the more exposed sites. Let's hope this colder weather continues until the real thaw comes in spring.

The "Man in the House" of The Ladies Home Journal has this to report:

"Our town's off-season 'garden tour' was a great success. Not many flowers, but platoons of curious people paid \$1.50 to visit five houses and poke into bathrooms and closets. A bargain; our women's club could clean up with a new tour each month."

Perhaps readers of the "News & Views" would like an introduction to the daughter of Thoumas and Electra. Her name is Iris. In Greek mythology she is the personification of the rainbow and messenger of the Gods.

-- Pat Wysocky

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Happiness is that peculiar sensation you acquire when you're too busy to be miserable.

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Official reporters are:

Gus Sindt	St. Paul
G. B. Gable	Minneapolis
Pat Wysocky	Rl -- Mound
Jack and Edythe Burns	North Side
Loren Franklin	South Side
Virginia Messer	Editor

The editor being out of town - four women got in the ink pot and this first NEWS AND VIEWS is the result.

Ag. - Helen - Al. - Alice

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Don't forget the meeting date -- Thursday, Feb. 20, 1958

8:00 P.M.

BE PROMPT