

# *Twin City Iris Society*

## NEWS & VIEWS

Vol. VII No. 3

March 1959

Hear ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Do you want good food, good company, good conversation and a good program? Come to the Twin City Iris Society's annual pot luck supper! This meeting has been postponed a week from our usual meeting date because of Holy Week and will be held April 2 at the East Lake Y.M.C.A. at 1845 East Lake Street - 6:30 P.M. The pot luck supper is always a high light of the year's program and this year will prove to be no exception. There will be many tasty dishes to wet your palate and some of the finest people in the Twin Cities for company. The ladies are to bring food (if you haven't been contacted as to what to bring call Mrs. George Sutton - JA. 9-3412 - to find out what is needed). Men just bring your appetites and \$1.00 and we will guarantee you the best dollars worth of food anywhere.

We are going to be highly honored by having as our guest for this evening, the regional Vice President of Region 8, American Iris Society, Mrs. Ruth Goodriek, who will speak to us. We hope everyone will attend because this promises to be a banner evening and we would like to show Mrs. Goodriek what an "up and coming" society we have here in the Twin Cities. This is a "can't miss" event. Let's break all attendance records!!!

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### Editor's Note:

The following represents a lot of work on the part of Mr. Sindt. He has discussed with several of us the desirability of more definite color classifications for the show and a better schedule. We all have agreed that improvements are needed. Please study this and note any thoughts, additives or changes that might occur to you and come to the meetings prepared to discuss them.

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### A New Schedule: W. A. Sindt

It was about ten years ago that a group of iris enthusiasts drew up the schedule for iris specimens that has been used by the Twin City Iris Society in all its shows. I will remember sitting around the

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# A New Schedule (Continued)

dining room table in the home of the late Joe Patzke. There was much discussion and there were many questions whether this "new" schedule would work. Granted, it has not been perfect, and I believe an attempt should be made to improve it. Within the past few years the A.I.S. has started to work out a color classification for iris. It lists 65 different color classes, some of which at the present time have no varieties of that color. This is an attempt to look to the future and the work of energetic hybridizers.

The following schedule is based upon that classification system in which one iris could be entered in only one class and would eliminate the possibility of some variety appearing in two classes such as both a brown and blend. Undoubtedly it has faults but so does any schedule. Following is a proposed schedule and court of honor. Any suggestions and helps will be welcomed. By starting on this reasonably early, it can be used for this year's show.

The open and advanced amateur would contain the following classes. The numbers following the "color" would be the A.I.S. color numbers falling into that class.

01	White	1, 2, 3, 9
02	White ground plicata	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 19, 33
03	White bicolor	10, 11, 13, 14
04	Light violet self	15, 16, 17
05	Dark violet self	18, 64, 65
06	Violet or red bitone	20, 21, 22, 23, 31, 35, 61
07	Violet blend	24, 25, 26, 27
08	Light blue self	28
09	Dark blue self	29, 30, 32, 34
10	Light yellow self	37, 38
11	Dark yellow self	39
12	Yellow ground plicata	40, 41, 42, 43
13	Yellow bitone	42, 44, 45, 46
14	Yellow bicolor	47, 48, 49, 50
15	Light brown blend	36, 51, 52
16	Dark brown blend	53
17	Pink	54, 55, 56, 57, 58
18	Red	59, 60, 62, 63
19	Oneobred - must show once characteristics	
20	Recent Introduction - 1955 or later	
21	Minnesota Introduction	
22	3 stalks light self	T.C.I.S. classes 01, 04, 08, 10, 17
23	3 stalks dark self	" 05, 08, 09, 11, 18
24	3 stalks blend	" 03, 06, 13, 14
25	3 stalks blend	" 07, 15, 16
26	3 stalks plicata	" 02, 12
27	3 stalks oneobred	" 19

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### A New Schedule (Continued)

The novice class would have the following:

301	White	306	Red
302	Violet	307	Plicata
303	Blue	308	Bicolor
304	Yellow	309	Blend
305	Pink	310	Oncebred

The court of honor could be made up of the following:

Best single stalk from open class  
Best single stalk from advanced amateur class  
Best single stalk from novice amateur class  
Best three stalks from open class  
Best three stalks from advanced amateur class  
Best seedling  
Champion arrangement  
Queen of the Show would be selected from the best single stalks, and each of the other two would be Princess.

The cost of the A.I.S. color classification schedule is 20¢; however, I hope to be able to get a quantity for 15¢ a piece. These may be available at the next meeting of the T.C.I.S.

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### A.I.S. Membership:

The value of membership in a national organization is often questioned by "What can I get out of it?" The American Iris Society publishes a bulletin quarterly of about 130 pages containing iris information of all kinds. The national society also acts as the official registry for new varieties, so that only one name will be given out. It offers research fellowships for work on iris diseases, etc. In fact the A.I.S. helps the individual iris grower in these and many other ways.

I am membership chairman for the Minnesota area and would like to make this offer to all of you who wish to become new members of the A.I.S. I will give iris of your choice (insofar as I have them) equal to the total cost of the membership, based on the standard prices of the iris varieties selected. The cost for one year is \$5.00 and for three years \$12.50. If you desire to accept this offer, please make your checks payable to The American Iris Society and mail to me, W. G. Sindt, 1847 W. McKnight Road, North St. Paul 9, Minnesota. Enclose a list of varieties you would like, and make it long enough, for I do not have all varieties (only about 200). I hope this turns out to be an expensive venture for me.

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This is a most generous offer made by "Gus" and deserves the whole-hearted support and thanks of the whole Society. Editor

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The following was part of a Newsletter received recently from the Regional Vice President, it was so timely I thought the whole society should have a copy:

The old adage of "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" most definitely applies to iris culture. Cleanliness is one of these ounces. In a few weeks when the snow has finally disappeared and the ground has dried enough so that you don't go up to your ankles in mud, mulches should be removed, as should all of the old foliage which should be burned. Adding this to the compost makes for spreading of any diseases. Do you have trouble cleaning the clumps of Siberians? Last year early in the spring we burned over one clump as a means of cleaning out all the old foliage. That clump performed better than any of the others.

Another ounce is treatment with DDT - with or without gypsum -- for borer control. This we do by sprinkling 50% wettable DDT powder around the iris clumps when the beds are being cleaned. Borer control has been very successful. Spraying with DDT solution as the fans develop is recommended.

Another ounce is the prevention of botrytis or dry rot. The method described below was recommended by Wilma Valette in one of her Robins. "In late October is the time to make a solution of Captan -- 2 lbs./gal. of 50% Captan, and pour it over the rhizomes and around fan bases of smaller plants to prevent botrytis. If you have ever lost iris between the time the ground thaws in winter and settled warm weather arrives, with a pithy, corky, non-stinking rot, this is botrytis. You may or may not find any resting-bodies and may not notice the usual mold at the base of the fans, but any pithy rot that does not get mush and has no ill odor is botrytis--the most insidious of all iris diseases except scorch. I soak all my new iris for one-half hour, before planting, in a Captan solution or, if I can get it, Semasan (not Semasan-Bel). Then in fall I douse all plants smaller than 5-6 rhizomes with Captan and dust with 5% Captan on clumps up to 10-12 rhizomes. Then next spring as soon as the ground is dry enough to walk on after it thaws, I do it again, only this time I add 2 tbsp. aureomycin to the solution to protect again both botrytis and wet rots, whether the season is cold and wet or warm and wet. In a cold wet season repeat the dose a time or two at 2-3 week intervals. The aureomycin serves two purposes, as it not only protects against soft rot, but it also offsets the slight growth-inhibiting effect the Captan may have in some soils." -- Wilma Valette

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DON'T FORGET THE POT LUCK SUPPER AT THE EAST LAKE Y -  
THURSDAY, APRIL 2 - 6:30 P.M.