

What gorgeous fall weather! It seems that never have the colors been so brilliant and as each beautiful sunny day passes I wonder if that one will be the last for awhile. We have certainly been very fortunate — though it is getting dry and we could use the moisture.

The mums are out in their full glory and though some varieties are a full two weeks late in blooming, are bursting out now in a riot of color.

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October, as usual, brings a dinner meeting, which combines our annual meeting with a chance to meet your fellow members over a delicious dinner. What better combination, delicious food, good fellowship and repartee with other avid iris gardeners. Our annual dinner meeting will be held Thursday, October 27, at the Boulevard Twins Restaurant, 5315 Lyndale Ave. So. The price of the dinner is \$2.25 and you will have your choice of a beef, ham or turkey dinner. You must make up your mind in advance, though, and notify at the time you make your reservations.

Reservations must be made by Monday, October 24 — and can be made by calling any one of the following:

Mrs. Milton Dale.....SU 4-8160
Mrs. O. A. Bakke.....JU 8-6919
Mrs. J. S. Taylor.....MI 9-5978

Or — if you'd rather, you may mail a post card. But remember to indicate your preference — beef, ham or turkey — and the number of reservations desired.

At this meeting your new slate of officers will be presented and voted upon and all business pertinent to an annual meeting will be transacted.

An exceptional program has been procured. Mr. Jim Kooy, a native of Holland whose ancestors have been tulip growers for years, and whose father is one of Holland's well known tulip hybridizers, will show slides and speak on tulips — where to plant, how to plant and all about them. He will have bulbs for sale if anyone wishes to buy them at that time.

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WINTER PROTECTION FOR IRIS G. B. Gable

A year ago we learned that the soil must be in a moist condition going into the winter if we are to avoid severe losses over winter. Just watering with the garden hose is not the answer. The soil must be loosened up in order to retain the moisture.

We know that iris continue to grow roots until the ground is frozen and covering early retards the freezing and makes a longer growing season. Covering early also has the advantage of keeping the soil at a higher temperature and I have good reason to believe that the ground did not freeze solid three years ago, permitting the water from a heavy rain in February to run into the ground and avoid heavy losses suffered by many members of our society.

Hilling up the iris before covering for winter provides furrows between the rows

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or around the clumps and water from melting snow collects in the furrows and not over the rhizomes'.

So be sure to loosen up the soil around your iris and cultivate to make sure the soil retains the moisture. Water if necessary. Just before the ground freezes, hill up and cover with about 8 to 10 inches of loose hay. If in a suburban area with a field mice problem, delay the covering until after the ground is frozen.

Don't fertilize until spring. Plants making late, tender growth are easily killed during winter.

G. B. Gable

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Notes made on a visit to Mrs. Bakkes beautiful garden now ablaze with mums of all colors and sizes:

Princess Kay — a white that should be in everyones garden— three to four inches pure white.

Candleglow — a new white with ivory center — very tall with unusually strong stalk — beautiful.

White Seagull — large, frilly, gorgeous white.

Ruby Mound — New for 1960 — medium height, best small red.

Coral Mist — New - 1960 - unusual, very pretty color but it fades.

Yellow Muriel — New sport of Muriel Rice, larger and deeper yellow — exceptional.

Daisy Mum — A beautiful single white — 3-4 inches and of heavy substance.

Ruby Breithaupt — very large, ivory, the largest in the whole garden, almost a greenhouse type.

Orchid Helen — a most distinctive small flowered mum — light lavender with a purple center.

Martins Yellow — fluffy large light yellow — medium low, extra early.

Fred Stone — a large, dark red that everyone likes, tall.

Purple Waters — still the best purple.

Purple Spoon — only very early spoon type mum — very good.

There are several good bronzes —

Harvest Bronze — early, very good.

Crowning Glory — older but still very good, tall.

Mohave Gold

and

Bronze Giant

Both tops in large flowered,
tall bronzes.

Pink Seagull — large, fluffy pink — exquisite.

These are actually just a few of the many, many varieties of chrysanthemums now to be had. All of the above except the two "Seagulls" are from Lehman gardens. The White seagull and Pink Seagull are from the Jackson & Perkins "Bird" Series. Mrs. Bakke has over 50 varieties, but these were outstanding and yet there were others too beautiful not to be mentioned — Mount Hood, Minn. Pink, Cortis Rice, Early Crimson, where does one stop? They must be seen to be appreciated!!

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We have several new members we would like to welcome into the society and hope they will join us at our dinner meeting this month...

Palmer E. Lee
1162 Seminary Ave.
St. Paul 4E, Minn.

Effie Newgaard
1830 Quail Ave. No.
Minneapolis 22, Minn.

Casper I. Nelson
Route 2, Box 145
River Falls, Wis.

Mrs. Elsie & Don Jensen
4528 Drew Ave. No.
Robbinsdale, Minn.

Mrs. W. L. Schoene
6617 63rd Ave. No.
Minneapolis 27, Minn.

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Remember the dinner meeting THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 — Time: 6:30, Place: Boulevard Twins Cafe, 5315 Lyndale Ave. So. Let's make this one of the best annual meetings we've ever had. We extend a special invitation to those of you who have never been able to attend one of our meetings — this would be just the time to meet your fellow members and to find out what a wonderful group of people they are. Let's really make this an "all out" meeting. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW !!!

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