

Twin City Iris Society

News and Views

Vol. IX, No. 5

May, 1961

The next meeting of the Twin City Iris Society will be held Thursday, May 25, at 8:00 P.M. at the Y.W.C.A., Minneapolis — our regular meeting place. This will be a very important meeting for everyone interested in showing iris at the show. I hope we have a large crowd on hand. Let Mr. Hanson, our Program Chairman, tell you about it:

The May 25th program of the Iris Society will be devoted to the subject of preparation for the iris show in June. Everyone who has ever exhibited at a show knows that the growing of fine stalks is only half of the battle because they can't win ribbons sitting in our gardens. Equally important is the matter of selecting and grooming the most likely specimens and, perhaps most difficult of all, getting them to the show in condition to be exhibited.

First of all, our show chairman, Urban Ipsen, will have some timely comments for us. Then a panel consisting of Mrs. Bakke and Ken Shook, with Mrs. Agnes Wright as moderator, have consented to divulge all of their secrets for carrying home ribbons. Finally, for the benefit of those whose interests and talents are in the area of flower arrangements, we will have Mrs. Marge Fisher to demonstrate the fine points of this art. She will show slides to illustrate the steps in the construction of an arrangement.

G. F. Hanson
Program Chairman

* * * * *

MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT:

According to the calendar, spring is here. Out here on the sand dunes, I wonder. So far the only Iris that look like they might even be ready for the show are the ones up next to the house. The plants look good but no bloom stalks have shown as yet.

I'm not sure how many of you took advantage of the Iris seeds Mrs. Tom Wright so generously passed out at our Annual Meeting. Not all of ours came through, but we surely feel proud of those that did. This brings to mind something that we have done and should have done long ago. I'm referring to a soil test. Thinking we were on the heavy acid side, the test proved it to be ideal in that respect but deficient in potash and phosphorous.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was on the panel at the last meeting. I left with much knowledge that would have taken years to learn from trial and error.

. . . Milt Dale

The event foremost in all our minds at this time of the year is the Twin City Iris Show. Due to circumstances beyond our control the Show will not be held at the Lutheran Brotherhood as previously announced. Instead, it will be at the Twin City Federal Savings and Loan, Minneapolis — 8th and Marquette.

The late, cold spring has made it necessary to change the dates for the show from that originally set to a week later. Twin City Federal is unable to be open to the public on Sunday so the show will not be open for public viewing Sunday. The show will be set up Sunday afternoon with judging immediately following and will be on display to the public during regular business hours of Twin City Federal all day and evening Monday, 9 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. and Tuesday, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. Those dates are June 11, 12 and 13th. This method of handling the show will mean a little difference in handling our iris. Those who have previously cut some of their iris the evening before will want to wait until the morning. If the sun threatens to be hot, all iris should be cut early in the A.M. and placed in a cool place until leaving for the show.

When you bring your iris, as of now, the exhibits may be entered between 2 and 5 P.M., Sunday afternoon — the parking lot behind Twin City Federal will be available free of charge to exhibitors. There will be signs instructing you as to the entrance to be used.

I am sure any one who has ever seen one of our Iris Shows will say it is one of the most beautiful sights they have ever seen. We want to urge you all to look over your iris very carefully and bring your best ones to the show. The iris seem to have come through the winter in very good condition so everyone should have some beautiful specimen stalks that would add a great deal to the beauty of our show. I have never been to a flower show that I didn't hear someone, as they looked over the prize winners, say "I have some at home prettier than those." So be sure you are on the list of winners and bring your best flowers to the show. You know, there is no thrill quite like that one experienced the first time you see one of your specimen adorned with a blue ribbon. And, no matter how often it happens, it is still a thrill.

There are -- as you know — three classes of competitors —

1. The Novice Amateur — those who have never shown in our Twin City Iris Show before or have shown only one year.
2. The Advanced Amateur — all other amateur growers — those who grow purely for pleasure — not profit.
3. The Open Class — this includes all the commercial growers and anyone else who wishes to enter this class.

With this division each one entering the show is competing against those who have the same amount of experience as himself.

* * * * *

Again let me urge you to attend the meeting May 25th to learn the fine points of grooming and transporting specimen to the show — then bring your most beautiful iris to the show and help make this one of the most beautiful and successful shows we have ever had. For those of you interested in the artistic side of flower shows, the arranging, there is a class for you, too. The schedules will be ready for distribution at the May 25th meeting

- 3 - News & Views, May, 1961

and you will also be able to pick up name tags for labeling the stalks as you cut them.

Finally, and this is very important, publicize the show. Tell all your friends, make it a point to invite everyone you know to view the show. The most beautiful show in the world is not a success unless many people view it. Also available at the meeting May 25th will be printed invitations with which you can extend special invitations to those you may not see or talk to. The success of the show is up to each and every one of our members!!!

* * * * *

Anyone who cannot get to the meeting May 25th and desires a schedule before the show may receive one by calling the show chairman, Urban Ipsen at LI. 5-9764 or send a card to Urban Ipsen, 6515 Knoll Street, Minneapolis 22, Minn.

* * * * *

SEE YOU AT THE SHOW !! I HOPE YOU ALL WIN BLUE RIBBONS !!!
