

# *Twin City Iris Society*

## *News and Views*

Volume IX, No. 2

February, 1961

The February meeting of the Twin City Iris Society will be held at our regular meeting place, the Minneapolis Y.W.C.A. — 12th & Nicollet — on Thursday, February 23, at 8:00 P.M. Here is the information on the program from our Program Chairman, Mr. G. F. Hanson:

Dear Mrs. Messer:

Our speaker is going to be Rev. Paul E. Folkers of Anoka, a man whose vocation makes him a professional as a public speaker, and whose avocation makes him both an amateur and a professional as an iris grower. He was the pastor of the Methodist Church in Owatonna for many years before transferring to Anoka last year. He is well and affectionately known to many of our members. Others who have not known him personally may have seen his beautiful gardens between the church and the parsonage in Owatonna, where the iris always formed the backbone of the plantings, with daylilies, roses, lilies, and other plants to carry on the color after the iris season was past.

Next to his calling, the iris has been Rev. Folkers' first love. And like many other growers who started as amateurs, his interest in our favorite flower carried him past the amateur stage, so that he grew and sold them professionally for a number of years before leaving Owatonna. He has also tried his hand at hybridizing and has some impressive seedlings to his credit.

Yours very truly,

G. F. Hanson  
Program Chairman

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### MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Another month has passed. For me, it has been one of many thoughts. I have searched through everything at my disposal for some answers, I keenly feel a need for an extensive library of text books, pamphlets, etc. which could be made available to society members. At the moment it is only a passing thought. I feel that someday it will become a reality. How do all of you feel about it? Let's have your thoughts and suggestions toward this goal.

Our committees are shaping up and our chairmen will be enlisting assistants and assistance. If you would enjoy participating this year in any committee activity, please feel free to volunteer by contacting the chairman of that committee.

The Year Book will be available at our February meeting. Hope to see you all there.

Milt Dale

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Adah E. M. Anderson was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in the Minnesota Judges Council of the Minnesota Federation of State Garden Clubs, at a beautiful ceremony, recently, in appreciation of the work she has done for the Federation.

Adah is one of our "members of long standing" and we are very proud she has been awarded this richly deserved honor.

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REPORT FROM MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN —

We are starting the new year with eighty-five adults and three children as members.

We are especially pleased to see the small fry taking an interest in our beloved Iris.

This year we are calling on everyone to help us put over a membership contest. To stimulate year-long interest, the monthly winner's name will be published in the News & Views. At the close of the year a worthwhile prize will be awarded the person with the largest number of new members.

Hope to see everyone at our next meeting. BRING A FRIEND.

Mary Haertzen

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REPORT FROM HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN —

The Hospitality Chairman would like to thank members of the Society who last month so willingly offered to assist with refreshments at the regular meetings. Through the generosity of those present, there are enough volunteers for the rest of the year.

March is our month for the pot luck supper and ladies of the Society are requested to bring the food. Categories from which to choose are: hot dish, salad, pie, cake. Will members please decide what they would like to bring so that they will be ready to express their choice on a slip of paper which will be passed at the February meeting? People expecting to attend the pot luck who are unable to be at the next meeting, please telephone :

Charlotte Sindt - SP.7-6429 (or)

Adah Anderson - WE.8-7216

Men, far from being forgotten, will have the privilege of contributing \$1.00 toward the expense of the supper.

Charlotte Sindt

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Since hybridizing is our theme of the year and a good many of you have expressed an interest in the various phases of this most fascinating phase of Iris culture, our Hybridizing Chairman, Mrs. Maybelle Wright, has formulated a list of questions she would like to have each one answer. Don't be alarmed at any of these questions. We realize that most of you will not be interested in the more advanced scientific aspects. You can answer with a "Yes", "No", "Maybe" or any other qualified answer. She just wants to know more about where the interest lies. We feel that those who are interested in one phase can help those who are interested in another and we can all benefit from what the others learn. Those of you who will be coming to the



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meeting can bring your questionnaire with you. The rest please send them to:

Mrs. Tom D. Wright

The questions are enclosed with this copy of the News & Views.

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#### WINTER VISITORS....

Endless entertainment as well as profit come from our purchase of a small plastic bird feeder. We hung it by a long wire in a tree only a few feet from the picture window. Recently we added a suet feeder, enticing new friends.

The Sparrows, Blue Jays, and Starlings are year-around bug and weed seed eaters, but the Juncoes, Chick-a-dees and Downy Woodpeckers only come in winter when the feeders and suet are out. The Woodpecker visits the suet feeder two or three times a week, but never touches the seed feeder. Our small daughter, Julianne, loves to watch the Chick-a-dees and Woodpeckers running up and down the tree pecking bugs from under the bark, and hanging upside down on the suet feeder. Our little black-capped and red-marked trapeze artists are a delight to watch.

Since the Juncoes, Blue Jays, occasional pheasants, squirrels, and rabbits like to eat on the ground, we also throw out a daily bowl of scraps — bread crumbs, cookies, cake, and dry cereals. By far the favorite tid-bit is peanut-buttered crusts and waffles. — Now, if we could lure the neighborhood pair of Cardinals! — Any hints appreciated.

..... Betty Ipsen

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WHAT ARE YOUR SPECIAL INTERESTS IN HYBRIDIZING ?

1. I just want to make some crosses and see what happens. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I hope to grow a future Dykes Medal winner. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I am mainly interested in learning about inheritance factors and variation. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I would like to make a serious study of Genetics. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I would like to have the group follow up any promising scientific leads members may encounter. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I would like to include a serious study of the genus Iris in its many forms. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I would be interested in attempting to induce mutations by irradiating the seed. \_\_\_\_\_
8. I would be willing to help compile parentage lists. \_\_\_\_\_
9. I would be willing to help compile fertility lists. \_\_\_\_\_
10. I would like to try embryo culture. \_\_\_\_\_
11. I would like to exchange cultural tips and experiences with other hybridizers. \_\_\_\_\_
12. I would like to work with other than tall bearded iris. \_\_\_\_\_
13. I just want to enjoy the companionship of people with similar interests. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_