



# Canadian Iris Society

## cis newsletter

Winter 2011 Volume 55 Issue 1





# Canadian Iris Society

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Cover photo "Butchart Sunken Gardens"  
by Ted Baker BC Iris Society







# Presidents Message

By Ed Jowett



While sitting bored with life and sickness: I thought it would be good to promote our fellow Canadians and CIS members with their large task of hosting the

2011 AIS Convention in Victoria, British Columbia. What could be more beautiful than the garden on our cover? Just one of the gardens to visit either before, during, or after the convention. Also the Hatley Park Gardens designated a National Historic Site, Hatley Park is one of the few Edwardian estates in Canada

with its key structural elements intact, including Hatley Castle. The site features hundreds of heritage trees including 250 year old Douglas firs. The convention Master planting is located here. Twelve (12) specially-designed Iris beds display almost 800 guest Irises.

We have also shown some of the guest iris in this issue. The BCIS have worked very hard and long and I am sure their efforts will pay off well and rewarding for these efforts.



Hatley Castle







If you are even thinking of attending I suggest you register as soon as possible as there is a limit as to how many can be accommodated. For more information go to either the BCIS web site: [www.bc-iris.org](http://www.bc-iris.org) or the AIS web site: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)



Pop Idol [Ghio 2008]



Adoree [TB 2009, Blyth]

I was caught by our sudden snow fall which has not let up a few flurries each day. I have approximately 40 irises in pots that never got covered. I am hoping at the first melt I can at least get the pots into the shed and save them. At the moment they have to survive under a foot of snow.

Again this year we will be offering a number of Irises for sale at great savings to members. Since last year was a sellout on Medians and not so well on Tall Bearded we will offer more Medians this year. ►

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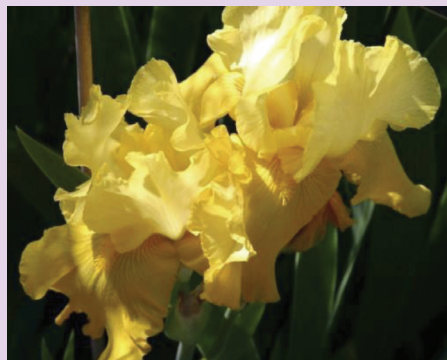
**Editors Note:** The comments and statements in this bulletin are those of the writers and not necessary those of the board or society.

## Val Saari Ridgeville, Ontario

Val has been hybridizing since 2003. As a naturalist, musician and artist, hybridizing irises seemed a natural extension of her talents. She lives in the heart of the Niagara Peninsula, bordering on the Carolinian Forest where glacial soils provide nutrients for numerous species of irises including I. virginica, Japanese, Louisiana, and Siberian.



**JJ05:** TB 34" M Nicely ruffled pansy purple falls, white standards with gold glitter open to display striped royal purple and gold style arms.



**KY06:** TB 35" E-M Vibrant sunny yellow bitone, white rays at golden beards.

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If I do not have the listing of Irises for this bulletin it will be in the May Bulletin and may even send out special sale notification. I am sure we are all thinking spring even though it is a few months away. Look for more pictures and details of the convention in this issue. This year we are adding two floral design classes to our Flower Show. If anyone would like to have visitors to their garden(s) during the bloom season; please let us know. I am sure those listed as Canadian sources would have tours but phone for times and bloom before going to be sure someone is home to show you around.



GG051: TB 37" E-M Purple based foliage, butter-cream self with glitter on standards, antique gold tiger pattern on hafts of falls, mauve translucent haze on centre of falls and standards.

I attended a Hort Society meeting where the speaker spoke on Veggies in our flower gardens which was quite interesting as to how some of our tall flower can grow veggies at the feet and not be too noticeable; even garlic and many other herbs. It really becomes your imagination. I am sorry for the lateness of the November Bulletin but due to a multitude of things it happened. Missed communication, computer problems and then sickness. I will try for it not to happen again. Will you be seen in Victoria in May? Don't wait register to-day. Time and space are running out. I have been advised that the updated AIS web site is now available so take a look at the new [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org).

*Ed Jowett*



## **Canadian Iris Society:**

You are invited to join the Canadian Iris Society. Membership in the CIS is open to all persons interested in irises regardless of skills or experience. New members are welcome. Join us at our next regular event, the annual iris rhizome sale on Sunday, August 14, 2011 at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Plains Road West, Burlington, ON. Visitors (non-members) are very welcome at this sale/auction event. This is an opportunity to obtain some of the same beautiful iris on display here today for your own garden. We look forward to seeing you again. Official membership applications and other information will be available at the show or on the official CIS website: [www.cdn-iris.ca](http://www.cdn-iris.ca).

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Tidbits from the Pro's

# Keith Keppel "Do it Yourself Instructions"

*The following article has been re-printed (with permission) from Keith Keppel's 2003 catalogue. Several other articles on the subject of hybridizing will be printed in future issues of this newsletter.*

(Minor editing by Ann Granatier - Trails End Iris Gardens)

We encourage you to make a few iris crosses, simply to see what it's all about. Besides, it's fun! Each seedling in a cross will be somehow different from all the others. The challenge of course is to get something pretty, and different from all the others. If nothing else you begin to appreciate the work that goes into the production of a new variety.

With luck you can see the results of your crosses in two years. (\*See editor's note.) Make crosses this spring. When seed pods begin to split this summer, save the seeds. Plant them in the fall and most of them should germinate next spring. When seedlings are big enough, and as early as possible, set them out in well prepared soil in full sun. Keep them watered so they grow all through the summer, and in spring at least some of them should bloom. (Short season summer parts of the country, poor soil, or competing weeds, may throw the schedule off a year.)

Taking good care of seedlings IS work. Remember it takes no more space and energy to grow potentially good seedlings than it does to grow grossly inferior ones. That's why you should use the best varieties available and never cross two varieties with the same fault. Newer varieties are generally better (though certainly not always) than old ones. If going back to an old variety to try to recapture some lost colour pattern; or for vigour, cross it with a newer variety to help bring form and pizzazz back to speed. When seedlings bloom, discard ruthlessly the ones that aren't improvements. That's one way that raising seedlings is simpler than raising a family. You can't compost the kids that don't measure up!



Keith Keppel in his iris garden







Tag crosses you make with the names of the parents. (Pod parent is listed first.) Keep track of this information when you save and plant the seed, and line out the seedlings. You will learn from your mistakes and successes. The most frustrating thing is getting something outstanding and having no idea how you got it, so you can't repeat your stunning success. Use parentage of named varieties to guide you. This is why parentage is included in catalogues. Our modern tall bearded are about 25 generations away from the species, which makes things all the more unpredictable, but knowing what the parents and grandparents look like does make things all the more predictable. Look at the parentages of new irises you admire but can't afford ... what varieties were used to produce them? Varieties showing up consistently are good candidates for inclusion in your crosses, as well as other varieties that have good breeders in their lineage. Good plant genealogy is a great winter time project for planning spring crosses.



**iris Joyce Terry** © “gababad” <http://community.webshots.com/user/gababad/profile>

Basically the safest crosses are “like X like”—crossing two favourite blues, or two stunning pinks etc. Most of the progeny will be decent looking and you could get a stunner or two. Wild crosses such as “pink amoena X black plicata” are likely to throw not so pretty things in the first or second generation(s). The trick here is to take the best ones, interbreeding them to allow the various genes (amoena, plicata, tangerine, black, etc.) to regroup, build up, and express themselves again — often in a little different combination than we've had before. Of course, you need to select for branching, good growth, bud count, etc., at the same time.

Once you start, you'll begin to recognize certain basic happenings. Plicata is a recessive factor, so both parents must be plicatas, or at least carry the plicata factor, before the seedlings can be plicata. Luminata or glaciatas are like “jokers” in the plicata





breeding deck, so in a cross for plicatas, one can be substituted and still allow plicatas to occur.

Think in terms of pigments: you are colouring your irises with two different “brands of paint”. One “brand” is water soluble (it comes in blue, lavender, violet, blackish purple, orchid pink, the cool colors) and the other is oil soluble (think warm: cream, yellow, pink, orange etc.) Each brand of paint has its own patterns (plicatas are cool pigments, the *Joyce Terry* pattern is warm) learn to think in terms of layering one type of pigment over the other. Reddish violet plicata plus yellow ground gives a brown and yellow plicata. Want a vibrant “iris red” self? Produce a bright dark lemon gold self and a dark rosy purple self in the same flower. The overlay of colors gives a very red effect. Hint: to understand the effect better, look at the hafts of a plicata. There is almost always a white area beside the beard. Compare the plicata (water soluble pigment) markings on white with the same markings on the adjacent oil-soluble warm pigment ground. In the variety *Caramba*, perilla purple dotting on white becomes java brown on the yellow ground. Look at the other plicata combinations to learn more.



iris *Caramba* © [www.hornbakergardens.com](http://www.hornbakergardens.com)  
Princeton, Illinois



On their 10 acre Iris farm, Bob and Ann have developed perennial beds showcasing the Irises amongst companion plantings of peonies, ornamental grasses, shrubs, trees and various rockery plants. There are approximately 6000 Iris plants comprised of over 500 varieties, most of them blooming in the gardens or in the production beds. Visitors can enjoy easy access to the gardens across lawns or enjoy the view from a shaded bench. For customers wishing to purchase potted Irises, there is a limited selection available to take home on the day of your visit. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail [bob@trailsendiris.com](mailto:bob@trailsendiris.com) or telephone (519) 647-9746.

**\*Canadian growers:** It is hard to get seedling irises to bloom in two years in our relatively short summers. Bob and I refrigerate our seeds in the fall for 3 months and then plant up the seedlings in January (place them in a sunny south window or under Grow lights.) We will include detailed instructions in the summer issue. — Ann Granatier, Trails End Iris Gardens.



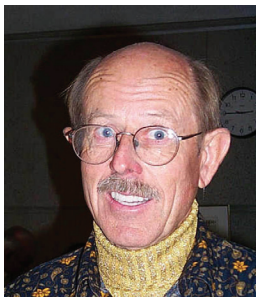


# NEW AND NEWSWORTHY...

By Nancy Kennedy

**R**ecently I made a small investment in some reading material to placate the winter doldrums. I contacted **KEITH KEPPEL** in Oregon and for a couple of dollars received the last dozen years' worth of his iris catalogues. That along with the new Tempo Two catalogue for 2011 meant I was fit for entertainment until the early spring, until such time as the other guys grind out their stuff about mid March.

After having read everything cover-to-cover, I thought it important to comment here about all the interesting reading encountered in the back pages of the catalogues (scattered throughout in fact) – a hybridizer's observations, as it were, as to how well certain things are growing (or not growing), how some "lines" are progressing, why various seeds do this or that.... I learned a very important lesson from reading one such blurb on crosses. My first attempt at hybridizing a couple of years back was a disaster; 3 seeds germinated while friends had near 100% take on theirs. I was devastated and disheartened, and babied the stupid things for way too long. What I was shooting for was a hooked black. On reading Keppel's note sections I learned that the "black influence" results in slow and low germination rates—viola, self-esteem was restored and my resolve to continue bolstered.



Keith Keppel

In these notations he talks about what throws what, where it throws it and even where it might land. You'll learn that luminatas yield early bloom yet have a tendency to rot, and lessons to get around that. If you want dark tops do this, for banded bicolors you do that. If you're after the fancy characteristics make sure both parents carry the trait—a wealth of information for the budding hybridizer.

Pedigrees giving clues as to what you are trying to create is a no-brainer, but reading through all the notes can give you specifics on whether you are aiming for something short or tall, early or late, or alternately aiming to cut out certain undesirable characteristics by using this or that, or by not using this or that. To quote Keppel directly, "there are of course many outstanding parents—the trick is to put the right ones together." Keith has always been interested in plants. He received a gift of an iris collection at age 16 and read how new colours could result by raising them from seed. The results of over 55 years of hybridizing are known to us all. Indeed, since his first introduction in 1962, some 350 named varieties have followed, with the awards and accolades as testimonials, in the form of 3 Dykes Medals, 3 Premio Firenze Awards, the AIS Hybridizer's Award and an AIS Gold Medal (the Society's highest award) but to name a few.







Barry Blyth

Indeed probably his most widely popular iris is *Decadence*, from which he has introduced many noteworthy offspring of the years — the former having just been honored with the Wister Medal for 2010, the highest award a foreign introduction can earn on American soil.

Shipping has begun in Australia, so the 2011 season for them is nearing a close, yet there is still time to make selections. This year's introductions from Barry bring many pastels to the forefront. *Softly Waiting* is a miraculous combination of so very pale creamy peach-apricot standards with slightly darker stylearms, giving a perception of glow from within. Falls are similar with a soft overlay of gentle pastel lavender. The colours are barely there, but a beautiful flower nonetheless. Very ruffled and flared with show branching. Again, progeny of *Decadence*. *Wedding Kiss*, a romantically pale lemon cream self with just a shade more colour of the



New introduction: Chased but Chaste

www.tempotwo.com.au

Mid-America Gardens



Decadence

standards and reverse of the falls. A soft and pleasing little child of Sugar Bomb, blooming mid to late season. *Love Changes* with its pure white wide open standards shows just a bit of lavender stippling around big tangerine beards as its only colour, the falls otherwise just ever so softly blushed with lavender over white.

I love white iris, in fact I love all white flowers. *Chased But Chaste* and *Destined to Dance* are both pristine whites, the former sporting clean citrus lemon beards and just an inkling of gold way down the hafts, where only the bees go. *Cameo Minx* appears to my mind as an improved version





of Celebration Song, a former Dykes winner, and indeed this one looks like a winner too, as does the sister introduction *Amorous Heart*—with just a bit more coloring yet a whole lot more ruffle. *Mandolin Wind* looks like a sister too, but it's not, yet the form here is just so lovely with near horizontal falls and so much ruffling you wonder how it could unfold itself to the world without damage.



New introduction: *Dreamalot*

*Dreamalot* was my favourite pick of his new introductions this year, but I just couldn't go for the \$75 price tag, in case the thing croaked after transport. I'm hoping **Paul Black** has it in the wings a couple of years hence. Anyway, if you liked *Blyth's Hysteria*, which was introduced 2 years ago, you'll love *Dreamalot*—one of those outstanding patterns that creeps into the gene pool occasionally. The whole centre of the flower seems to glow a creamy apricot, inviting you to peer inside as the standards are slightly open. The falls are a whiter shade of that pale apricot but with striking purple veins running wildly outward from the bushy tangerine beards. Striking this

flower is, certainly one for the collector!

I liked *Sunday Concert* too. What struck me in the pics was the so very tall standards that were kept selfishly closed, creamy lemon yet at the midrib sporting much olive. The falls are pastel lavender over cream with very pleasing prominent olive veining overall. Show branching and said to be a reliable rebloomer on home soil (although with its VE rating it just might meet with a frosty morning here).

*Serena Louisa* graces the back cover, and what a lovely flower this is. Deep, dark and sultry indigo, standards a rich violet, falls deep indigo, the undulating falls rimmed in the lighter colour. The handsome purple-based foliage is a bonus. Barry says it's a standout. I can believe that. Another quality iris with Louisa's Song in its pedigree, I would like to own this some day.

*Prince of Hearts* was selected for introduction based on its colour presence in the garden. Here is a rich burgundy-rose self with an olive flush up the midribs, lightening the standards just a touch, with some deep burgundy-brown tucked in at the hafts, ever so rich. *Electric Candy*, another rich deep lavender, is an intriguing combination with its high point an electric violet blaze below the mustard beards. Ruffled to lace with show stems and a nice sweet fragrance—a typically wondrous Blyth flower.



New introduction: *Prince of Hearts*





On the front cover, *Frilled To Bits* sports exceptional flower form; ruffled, fluted and horizontally flaring. Deep down in the hafts is a rumbling orange, from which sprout the vivid mustard beards. The flower is an overall citrus lemon with lime veins running through a small white thumbprint emanating from the beard tip. Look closely, you will see a little sparkle of blue there too. An amazing flower, destined for the show bench in my unqualified opinion. *Cinnamon Bells*, an intriguing “dark top” will ignite the iris bed at season’s start. With *Nouveau Riche* in its pedigree (a recent Keppel introduction) this is already a winner to me. The flower stance is impeccable, the flowers ruffled to near lace—cinnamon over gold. I wonder if it smells like cinnamon!

Mid-America Gardens



Nouveau Riche

Rounding out the offerings this year is a couple of pumpkin-coloured kids. *Victory Chant* reminds me indeed of Rio, only stronger, but just as handsome. *Rubenesque*, yes it is, and tall at 42” – this orange/apricot/coffee self sports big dusky tangerine beards, super show stems, high bud count and a long bloom season. What more could you want to win the show?

There are several amoenas to choose from too. Take your pick from *Café Viva* (looking seriously like a brother to Gypsy Lord), *Picadilly Party* or *Romantico*. The stance of this latter flower is unusually handsome with purest white, wide-open standards allowing a view inside of the also pure white ruffled style arms. Falls too are pure white but blended at the edges with varying degrees of lavender here and there. Vivid tangerine beards finish it nicely. Short but smart.

Co-introduced this year with Keith Keppel in Oregon is *Another Woman*. This is an absolutely beautiful flower with all the desirables – colour, fluted, ruffled, laced – outstanding flower form with lovely balance. Standards are cattleya mauve and falls deep cattleya magenta, sporting a lighter rim. The only reservation with this plant is its VVE choice of bloom time. Its tick-tock has it blooming down south with the SDBs and that just won’t work I don’t think for us here in Canada. We might have a hard time keeping this one going, although it’s so beautiful I’m sure that won’t prevent some of us from trying.

Iris season will again embrace us soon. Hurry up already. As Barry Blyth’s season closes on these introductions for 2011, soon the rest of the iris world will stir with excitement at the tantalizing fare being offered up this year. I wonder what everybody else has new in store for us. Can’t wait for the books to arrive... .



\* Many thanks to Keith Keppel for providing the bio information used in this article.







# American Iris Society 2010 Awards

Taken from British Iris Society 2010 year book

## The Dykes Medal

'Paul Black' (Thomas Johnson)

## John C Wister Medal (TB)

'Decadence' (Barry Blyth)

'Winter Sky' (Keith Keppel)

## Knowlton Medal (BB)

'Eye Candy' (Keith Keppel)

## Hans & Jacob Sass Medal (IB)

'Ruby Slippers' (Keith Keppel)

## Williamson-White Medal (MTB)

'Sailor's Dream' (Kenneth Fisher)

## Cook Douglas Medal (SDB)

'Ultimate' (Tom Johnson)

## Caparne-Welch Medal (MDB)

'Chemistry' (Paul Black)

## Clarence G White Medal (AR & AB)

'Rivers of Babylon' (Lowell Baumunk)

## William Mohr Medal (AR)

'Ulalena' (George Sutton)

## Founders of Signa Medal (Spec)

'Raspberry Slurp' (Rita Butter)

## Randolph Perry Medal (Spec x)

'Ally Oops' (Dana Borglum)

Sydney B Mitchell (CA)

'Wild Survivor' (William Plotner)

## Mary Swords DeBaillon Medal (LA)

'Night Thunder' (Richard Morgan)

## The Morgan-Wood Medal (SIB)

'Here Be Dragons' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

## The Eric Nies Medal (SPU)

'Missouri Dreamland' (O D Niswonger)

## The Payne Medal (JI)

'Sue Jo' (Donald Delmez)

## The Wather Cup

'Eye of the Tiger' (Paul Black)

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## Award of Merit

### Tall Bearded

'Gypsy Lord' (Keith Keppel)

'Wild Angel' (Thomas Johnson)

'Jazz Band' (Keith Keppel)

'Kathy Chilton' (Frederick Kerr)

'Parisian Dawn' (Keith Keppel)

'Absolute Treasure' (Richard Tasco)

'High Chaparral' (Schreiner's Gardens)

'Dance Recital' (Keith Keppel)

'Glamour Pants' (Barry Blyth)

'Belle DeProvence' (Lowell Baumunk)

'Aristocracy' (Keith Keppel)

'Rhineland' (Schreiner's Garden)

'Saturn' (Tom Johnson)

'Fortunate Son' (Schreiner's Garden)

'Italian Velvet' (Keith Keppel)

'Sharper Image' (Paul Black)

'Secondhand Rose' (Ginny Spoon)

'Guardian Angel' (Keith Keppel)

'Bamboo Shadows' (Keith Keppel)

'Blackalicious' (Schreiner's Garden)

'Designer's Art' (Frederick Kerr)

'Guatemala' (Tom Johnson)

'Peggy Sue' (Larry Lauer)

'Secret Rites' (Keith Keppel)

'Padded Shoulders' (Paul Black)



### Border Bearded

'Crow's Feet' (Paul Black)  
'Zingerado' (Lowell Baumunk)

### Intermediate Bearded

'Nickel' (Paul Black)  
'Dragonmaster' (Marky Smith)  
Miniature Tall Bearded  
'Redrock Princess' (Jean Witt)  
'Petit Louvois' (Clarence Mahan)  
Standard Dwarf Bearded  
'Bluebeard's Ghost' (Paul Black)  
'Wish upon a Star' (Paul Black)

### Miniature Dwarf Bearded

'Dollop of Cream' (Paul Black)  
'Ruby Elf' (A & D Willott)

### Aril & Arilbred (Pure aril & arilbred of ½ or more aril content)

'Noble Warrior' (Richard Tasco)  
'Kalifa's Joy' (Robert Annand)

### Arilbred (Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than 1/2/ aril content)

'Suspect' (Thomas Johnson)  
'Nefret' (Marky Smith)

### Species

'Woolong' (James Waddick)  
'Epic Poem' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)

### Interspecies

'Roy's Repeater' (J T Aiken)  
'Kinshik Ou' (Hiroshi Shimizu)

### Californicae

'Lines That Rhyme' (Joseph Ghio)  
'Hidden Asset' (Duane Meek)

### Louisiana

'Ginny's Choice' (Wayland Rudkin)  
'Frenchmen Street' (Patrick O'Connor)

### Siberian

'So Van Gogh' (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks)  
'Kaboom' (Bob Bauer/John Coble)

### Spuria

'Solar Fusion' (Lee Walker)  
'Sunrise Surprise' (O D Niswonger)

### Japanese

'Coho' (Chad Harris)  
'Beyond Chance' (Donald Delmez)

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## Other awards

### From International Competition in Florence 2010

#### Louise Branch Prize for the best branched variety:

'Royal Snowcap' (Schreiner's Gardens)

#### Florence Garden Club Cup for the most original colour

'I Love a Parade' (Paul Black)

#### Rora and Luciano Bausi Prize for the Best Blue Variety

'Merchant Marine' (Keith Keppel)

#### Laura Tancredi Prize for the Best Pink Variety

'Guilt Free Sample' (Paul Black)



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**Editor's note:** I mention these last awards simply because, for anyone looking for specific colours — these should be available to you.





# Winter 2011 Garden Diggings: Time to stop – think – plan and go!

by Christopher Hollinshead

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arden Diggings is a regular column in the CIS Newsletter. Chris Hollinshead lives in Mississauga, Ontario with his family, an ever-evolving garden and lots of irises. He may be reached by e-mail at: [cdn-iris@rogers.com](mailto:cdn-iris@rogers.com)

It is January and the absolute depths of winter all across this country... but let's not dwell too long on that topic. What's happening this next spring? Look forward a little and make some plans.

Now is the time to get all the tools and garden equipment lined up that you need for the coming season. Check over the old favorites, provide maintenance for those that need it. If needed maybe replace some tools and add a new item or two that may make the tasks easier or more pleasurable. All this is fun stuff not really considered work... correct? Perhaps this is also a great time to plan out some new gardens or perhaps a renovation of an existing garden. You will find that you always need a new garden to hold some new plants, especially some new irises.

You may consider putting together a request list of catalogues to order. Iris catalogues will soon become available from the various providers of such things. Order some iris catalogues today for some serious armchair gardening.

Late January or February is a good time to request the catalogs. Order them any time now. Most commercial sources are compiling their catalogs now for the season. The bulk of them show up in March/April with a few more trickling in later. Some commercial suppliers provide internet on-line versions available for download or on-line viewing. A mixture of the two catalogue types, printed and electronic, could be correct for you. I still find it nice to sit in an easy chair and take pleasure in marking up a printed catalogue with check marks of potential purchases. Do what works the best for you.







For specialty iris commercial suppliers please check our Canadian source listings that occur at the back of the CIS (Canadian Iris Society) Newsletter each issue. You may also wish to consult the AIS (American Iris Society) Bulletin and the extensive commercial listing in the back of that publication. Just be well aware of the import restrictions and extra costs associated with ordering from USA sources. The CIS also runs fund raiser sales events each year to provide a source of newer iris introductions to our members. Watch for the CIS Purchase Offer Program again this year, there you will find an excellent selection of choice newer irises at excellent prices. Details will be published in the CIS Newsletter and also on the CIS website. (This is a CIS member's only opportunity.)

From whatever source you choose, to have the best selection of the offerings you should order as soon as possible and the rhizomes will arrive at the proper planting time for your area (July/August here in our northern climate). As in most cases these are newer iris varieties with limited availability, if you really want to obtain something specific or special, the suggestion is to place your order as sooner than later to avoid possible disappointment.

If you need a little guidance selecting from the huge number of iris varieties that you find in the catalogues then consulting the AIS Awards listing that is published each



Photo: Winter is here ...even in the Pacific Northwest iris paradise.





year can be helpful. The 2010 edition was published within the CIS Newsletter as part of my summer 2010 column. Check the HM Awards for newer up and comers and the AM awards for ones that are new but a little older and have progressed further through the awards system identifying them as extra high quality irises. (Newer irises could be described as irises that have been introduced to commerce in the last ten years or so)

Have fun with your catalog reading, selecting and ordering. Prepare your own special “want list”. The extra time available in the off-season is perfect for planning those new iris variety acquisitions and how they will fit into your garden layout.

Now, back to the present reality of winter for a few moments. I hope you have protected your iris gardens from the ravages of winter. After Christmas we collect the discarded trees for use in a form of re-use/recycling; cut the branches off and place them over the gardens as an extra layer of winter protective mulch.

During the coldest months of the winter, it is a good idea to mulch your bearded irises with some means of protection against the severe cold weather and prevent heaving of the rhizomes. As the rhizome itself heaves above the soil line, the top of it can alternately freeze and thaw over and over during the early spring weather with typical warm days and freezing nights. This can sometimes produce rhizome damage and may allow a higher incidence of subsequent rot and or botrytis infections.

A late season soil mulch could consist of 5-7 cm (3 inches) soil, loosely thrown over the rhizomes in very late fall and removing it again before the first warm days of spring. Pine needles or straw will work well but do not mulch with any material that will pack down when wet and hold moisture on the tops of the rhizomes. Use porous material that will admit air and is non water-retentive.

Keep in mind that depending on exactly where you live in Canada or USA, the winters may not be as early or as severe, so set your schedule accordingly. In Ontario, for example, we mulch from late November to mid-March. Remain vigilant in your garden during the so-called off seasons. Then reap the rewards of enjoying those superb irises performing at their best in your garden.

Watch for signs of spring in your area...wherever you may be located. Spring 2011 will be coming sooner for some, later for others but it is coming! When it does eventually arrive it is always a welcome and wonderful time of year.

Get set for your best ever iris gardening year!

...and as always, happy garden digging.

***C.H. January 2011***



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Editors Note. AIS awards for year 2010 is also in this issue. (See page 12.)





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# Musings From Manitoba

October 2010

By B. J. Jackson

E-mail: [jacksonb@mts.net](mailto:jacksonb@mts.net)



It's January and it's Manitoba. I don't know why, but every year I expect it to be different and it just isn't. I think this has been the snowiest winter in recent memory. For the most part it has been relatively wind free with just one or two severe wind storms and overall the temperatures so far have been moderate (for us anyhow). That said, I'm still sick and tired of shoveling the white stuff that just keeps coming and coming about every other day.

Since it is still about three months until spring arrives, the thing that will keep me sane is growing iris seeds indoors. Between my own crosses and collecting and an order recently received from SIGNA, I should make it through. This past weekend at a gathering of gardening friends, I was also able to add several spuria seed selections to my collection, too, and share several extras with like minded individuals. All will be started in the next few weeks. The first baggies will come out of the fridge in mid-February after 10 weeks and then the fun will begin. I should have all seven light stands up and running and full of seedlings by the end of March.

In other prairie news, we were pleased to receive word recently that CWIS member **Ed Czarnecki** has been elevated from student to apprentice judge status by the AIS Judges Training Committee. He will be a welcome addition to our stable of judges which now sits at two, and he will be able to take a wee bit of the pressure off our longest serving judge **El Hutchison** and myself. Another CWIS member, **Sandy Eggertson** from St. Andrews, MB has recently been accepted as a Median Iris Society display garden. Congratulations to both Ed and Sandy!

For 2011, in addition to our 4th annual show, the major activity of Can-West Iris Society will be planning for the AIS 2011 annual convention in Victoria BC in late May at which we will serve as the Awards Committee. It is about the only way we can contribute given the distance between us and BCIS but as an affiliated society of BCIS, when they asked, CWIS accepted. This will be the first convention for us and we have no idea what to expect but the anticipation is building! Having it in Canada for the first time since 1955, too, is an added bonus. Many are making the convention a part of their vacation and we are looking forward to a great time to be had by all.





It will also be an opportunity to meet new iris friends, renew acquaintances, gain some of the required judges training hours and most and best of all, learn more about our favorite plant..... Iris. The enthusiasm and support our members have shown is very encouraging.

The transition from Region 16 (Canada) to Region 21 (which includes Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, NWT, Nunavut, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) has proceeded smoothly and we have been welcomed with enthusiasm. We look forward to participating in regional events and activities as much as we are able and hope that our southern neighbors will reciprocate when able.

So we sit and wait and plan and try to stay warm. Just a normal winter on the prairies.





*Come visit when the  
iris are in bloom*



Coffee Shop



Social Graces



Brave Face



Crystal Gazer



Decadence



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# Tara Perennial Farm



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# A Walk through an Iris Garden

By the late Ray Ward of Fresno Iris Society

**H**illbilly, Country, Western, and today everything else pertaining to music and a few things that does not, are found in the lovely city of Nashville, Tennessee.

Before Jerry Lee Lewis did his “whole lot of shaking” and much before Sutton’s “Heartbreak Hotel”, this city and state were called the capital of Iris, believe it or not.

Somewhere around 1925, a group formed the Nashville Iris Society. There were fourteen or fifteen excellent hybridizers in the group. In the next few years five Dykes Medals were won by them: Dauntless 1929, Copper Lustre 1934, Mary Deddes 1936, Wabash 1940, and Chivalay 1945.

But, I think the best was started in 1929 at the Peabody College. When you graduated and were handed your diploma, you were given a rhizome also. I don’t know how long this practice continued.

In 1933, because of the efforts put forth by this group, the State of Tennessee adopted the Iris as the State flower. A large picture and mural hangs in the Capital Foyer today. The mural is about eight by sixteen feet of purple iris. This group formed parades, picnics, garden tours, and even had an Iris Queen with five attendants. They were even given special seats at a ballgame between the police and firemen.

During this time, if history serves me right, we were in a depression; but, almost unbelievably, some of the hybridizers were selling the rhizomes for twenty dollars each and many others over ten dollars, according to a 1936 flyer. Then some of the growers gave them to homes that could not afford them, with the idea to have every home with Iris.

By the time World War II ended, many of the hybridizers had died or had moved on to greener pastures. A couple of well-established growers had settled in Salem, and Silverton, Oregon, and were bringing out high quality rhizomes although they were not from Tennessee.

Schreiner’s and Cooley’s, both in the Willamette Valley – and both with several hundred acres – took over the “Title of Iris Capital”. Today you will find a dozen or more growers in this valley and probably a dozen Dykes medal award winners.

See you next month hopefully, and remember I want to see your garden too.





# CANADIAN IRIS SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

Sunday, January 16, 2011  
1:30 p.m. at Royal Botanical Gardens

**Subject to Board approval**



**President's Welcome: Ed Jowett**

**Members in attendance:** Harold Crawford, Ann Granatier, Bob Granatier, Chris Hollinshead, Ed Jowett, Nancy Kennedy, Gloria McMillen, Alan McMurtrie, Pat Loy, John Moons

**Email:** El Hutchinson

**Ed opened the meeting @ 1:40 p.m.**

---

## 1. Adoption of Agenda:

**MOTION: To adopt the Agenda**

**Pat Loy / Gloria McMillen ..... CARRIED**

## 2. Adoption of Minutes from October 17, 2010:

**MOTION: To adopt the Minutes**

**Ann Granatier / Pat Loy ..... CARRIED**

## 3. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- (a) Medal Engraving – Ed advised the engraving has been completed and the medals are ready for pickup.
- (b) Group Purchase 2011 – Ed advised Paul Black has been contacted and agrees to provide for us again this year. More medians were requested.
- (c) AIS Region changes – Ed has communicated with Region 2 reps and has obtained a list of judges, in our local region (#2), for use in area shows. Some U.S. Region 2 members expressed interest in attending the CIS show this summer (provided no passport/visa problems).

## 4. Treasurer's Report:

Bob presented his treasurer's report. Current projected balance is \$3,614.89. Alan queried the monetary situation as compared to 1 year ago; John provided the previous year's report which indicated the CIS funds were down slightly from 2010.







**MOTION: To accept the Treasurer's report**

**Bob Granatier / Gloria McMillen** ..... **CARRIED**

**5. New Business:**

**Discussed off camera**

- (a) What effect does TORIS name change have on CIS - The following decisions were made and motions struck, with the necessity for much further discussion.

**MOTION: To follow up on CIS becoming a Cooperating Society of the AIS**

**Alan McMurtrie/John Moons** ..... **CARRIED**

Bob initiated discussions with AIS; he will follow up on letter sent.

**MOTION: To form a committee to study the viability of a Southern Ontario Iris Society**

**Chris Hollinshead/ Bob Granatier** ..... **CARRIED**

Committee to consist of Chris/John/Ed/Bob. All were in favour, motion passed.

- (b) CIS Show date change - Ed previously petitioned the Board for a date change to June 12; no objections. John was asked to be Chairman and accepted. Pat may be able to act as clerk. Show to be held at Trail's End. Show schedule has AIS approval.
- (c) Online iris forum - The Can-West group has recently embarked on a forum which has been deemed a success and of interest to many. The group expressed interest in further discussion of a CIS Forum. Ed will speak with El Hutchinson to see if she would assume "ownership" of this as the first step in the process; discussion to continue.
- (d) AGM / Iris Sale in August - Ed suggested perhaps trying for a speaker at this year's AGM/Sale to garner more interest. A New York Society recently had David Schreiner as speaker. Money issues were raised re providing an honorarium for a well-known irisanian, as well as extremely poor turnout for previous years' events.
- (e) Newsletter - Ed, as Editor, made comment that the previous Newsletter (October) content was somewhat disappointing and hoped things would improve in future publications.
- (f) Trophies - Ed is in possession of CIS trophies and requested relocation of them perhaps to the RBG Library with the CIS iris books, etc. Ed will contact RBG to ascertain whereabouts of the iris library and to relocate trophies.





## 6. Reports of the Standing Committees:

- (a) Membership –The 2011 membership form is now available, membership situation monitored, updated and managed as required. There has been an overall decline in membership over 2 years, from @140 to 109 currently.
- (b) Website – Chris indicated he continues to manage the website with scheduled updates as events dictate.
- (c) Newsletter – To be published shortly, articles presently due.
- (d) Historian – No report
- (e) London Region – McMillen Iris Faire still in the planning stages, June 4, 2011.
- (f) Ottawa Region – No report

## 7. Correspondence:

(none reported)

## 9. Adjournment:

**MOTION: To adjourn at 4:10 pm**

**John Moons / Bob Granatier ..... CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING:** April 17, 2011 @ 1:30 p.m. in the RBG Library

Minutes prepared by Nancy Kennedy



## CIS Membership Message

Not sure of your Canadian Iris Society (CIS) membership term? Check your mailing label of the CIS newsletter for your current CIS membership term dates. If you receive the electronic version of the CIS Newsletter and you wish to know this information please e-mail the CIS membership chairman at [cdn-iris@rogers.com](mailto:cdn-iris@rogers.com) and we will be pleased to advise you. Early renewals are always appreciated.





# The Canadian Iris Society

Presents its

## Annual Iris Show

Sunday, June 12th, 2011  
1 p.m. through 4 p.m.

### Trails End Iris Gardens

3674 Indian Trail Rd  
R.R. #8  
Brantford, ON. N3T 5M1  
519-647-9746  
e-mail [bob@trailsendiris.com](mailto:bob@trailsendiris.com)

Free Admission





## CIS Awards

### **F. A. Garrity Trophy**

-best iris stalk exhibited in the show

### **W. J. Moffat Trophy**

-best stalk of an unnamed tall bearded iris  
Seedling.

### **Les Richardson Award**

-best stalk of an unnamed iris seedling other than tall bearded.

### **O.A. Kummer Cup**

-best stalk of a named iris of Canadian origin.

### **Novice Cup**

-awarded to exhibitor winning most points in novice section

### **Junior Trophy**

-awarded to exhibitor winning most points in junior section.

### **Presidents Trophy**

-awarded for best Cdn seedling other than T.B.

## AIS Awards

### **AIS Silver Medal and certificate**

-Most red ribbons Division 1 Sections A-E

### **AIS Bronze Medal and certificate**

-2nd most red ribbons Division 1 Sections A-E

The individual ribbons awarded to the entries are provided by the Canadian Iris Society:

Red -First

Blue -Second

White -Third

Pink -Honourable Mention

### **Exhibition Certificates**

-best seedling and any other seedling receiving  
Five or more votes from qualified judges.

## Show Committee

Chair John Moons 519-752-9756

e-mail [Campbell.moons@sympatico.ca](mailto:Campbell.moons@sympatico.ca)

Co-Chair Ed Jowett 905-936-9941







# Iris Societies

## Canadian Iris Society

You are invited to join the Canadian Iris Society.

Membership in the CIS is open to all persons interested in irises regardless of skills or experience. New members are welcome.

Join us at our next regular event, the annual iris rhizome sale on Sunday, August 14, 2011 1.00 P.M. at the Royal Botanical Gardens Plains road West, Burlington, On.

Visitors (non-members) are very welcome at this sale/auction event. This is an opportunity to obtain some of the same beautiful iris on display here today for your own garden. We look forward to seeing you again.

Official membership applications and other information will be available at the show or on the official website.

CIS website [www.cdn-iris.ca](http://www.cdn-iris.ca)

CIS Officers: President: Ed Jowett 905-936-9941

e-mail [jowettfarm@copper.net](mailto:jowettfarm@copper.net)

Membership: Chris Hollinshead 905-567-8545

3070 Windwood Drive

Mississauga, ON L5N 2K3

## American Iris Society

You are invited to join the American Iris Society (AIS)

Official membership applications and additional information will be available at the show or on the official website. New members are welcome.

AIS website: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)

**RVP Region 2 Donna Lowry**

email: [donnadonlowry@aol.com](mailto:donnadonlowry@aol.com)





## Show Rules

1. The judging standard will be that of the American Iris Society's Judge's Handbook and cannot be violated. The decision of the judges shall be final.
2. Exhibition privileges are open to all, including judges.
3. All horticultural exhibits must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag.
4. All entries **MUST** be staged between 8am and 11am to allow judging to conclude by 1pm. Late entries will be accepted for display purposes.
5. All entries must be entered under name and in class number specified in the show schedule.
  - Containers are furnished by the Society except class 30 & 31.
  - The number of entries by an exhibitor is not restricted, but they may enter only one specimen of each cultivar per division.
  - The placement committee will aid the exhibitors to correctly identify the appropriate section.
  - Cultivars are to be arranged alphabetically in each class to facilitate staging and judging.
6. The show area is open to the public only upon completion of the judging ( approx. 1pm). No one is allowed in the exhibit area excepting the judges, the clerks, and the show chairman.
  - Special arrangements can be made for photographers before the show is open to the public. Please contact the show chairman.
7. Exhibitors may not remove entries prior to 4pm. Unclaimed entries will be disposed of.
8. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care, but cannot be responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.

The major awards of the CIS are perpetual and remain the property of the society.

All judges are asked to contact the show chairman in order to pick up seedling ballots.





# Entry Classes

## Division One Iris Species

### **Section A: An iris cultivar introduced by a Canadian hybridizer.**

- Class 1 Tall Bearded
- Class 2 Other Bearded
- Class 3 Other Iris

### **Section B: Historic Iris (introduced prior to 1982)**

- Class 4 Tall Bearded
- Class 5 Other Bearded Iris
- Class 6 Other Iris

### **Section C: Bearded Iris**

- Class 7 Tall Bearded
- Class 8 Miniature Dwarf Bearded
- Class 9 Median (SDB, IB, MTB, and BB)
- Class 10 Aril
- Class 11 Arilbred

### **Section D: Siberian**

- Class 12 Siberian iris

### **Section E: Other iris not specified above.**

- Class 13 Iris species, named
- Class 14 Iris species crosses
- Class 15 Japanese
- Class 16 Spuria
- Class 17 Other classes

### **Section F: Seedlings**

- Class 18 Tall Bearded
- Class 19 Other Bearded
- Class 20 Other Iris

### **Section G: Novice**

- Class 21 Tall Bearded
- Class 22 Other Bearded
- Class 23 Other Iris

### **Section H: Junior**

- Class 24 Tall Bearded
- Class 25 Other Bearded
- Class 26 Other Iris





## Division Two Exhibitions

### Section I: Collections

Class 27 Collection of three named Tall Bearded cultivars

Class 28 Collection of three named Siberian cultivars

Class 29 Three blooms or stalks as appropriate, all same species or cultivar

### Section J: Floral Design (Supply your own containers)

Class 30 Floral Arrangement

(must contain Iris and must exceed 15 inches in any direction).

Class 31 Floral Arrangement

(must contain Iris and must not exceed 15 inches in any direction).

### Section K: Herbaceous perennials and biennials as companions for Iris..

Class 32 properly named flower

**Note:** Bulbous irises entered in Class 17 are eligible to receive award ribbons and special section awards. Award ribbons are included in the tally for Silver and Bronze Medal/Certificates, but these entries **are not eligible for the “Best Specimen of Show” award.**

**Bonus:** Exhibitors may complete a point credit sheet during the show and have it approved by the Show Chairman. This credit sheet is applied to Purchases at CIS sponsored sales. (Does not apply to purchase plans.)

Points are awarded as follows:

**Major Trophy awards** 10 points

**Court of Honour** 10 points

**1st prize** (red ribbon) 5 points

**2nd prize** (blue ribbon) 3 points

**3rd prize** (white ribbon) 2 points

**JOIN IN THE FUN**  
**Bring along your best flower stems.**

**Picnic follows judging at approximately 1:00pm.**  
**Bring along salads and/or desserts.**

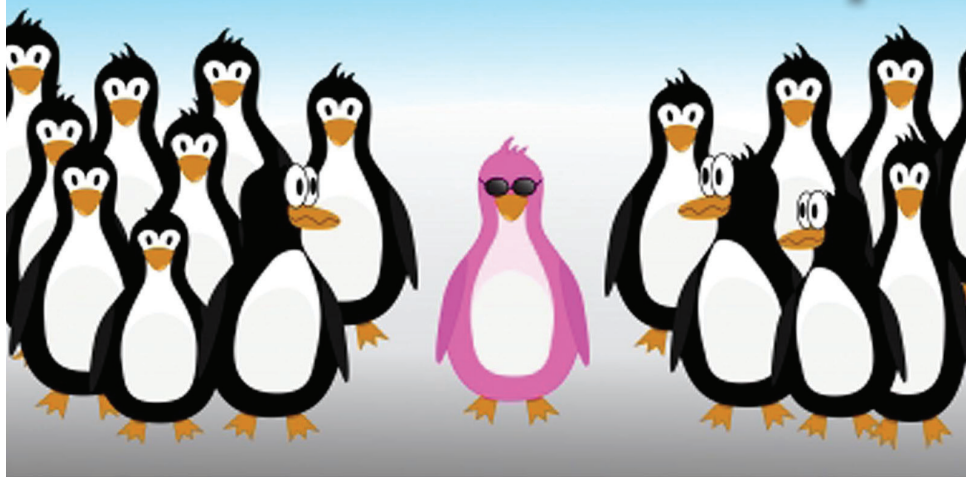






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# Buried Treasures

**Author:** Janis Ruksans

**Publisher:** Timber Press 2007

Hard cover with 384 pages and 304 colour plates

## Book Review By John Moons

Being a person who loves books, reading, plants and gardening I am always on the lookout for more books about plants. This winter a friend of mine lent me a book called *Buried Treasures* to read. The reason I am writing a review of this book in an *Iris* magazine is the fact that the author of the book, Janis Ruksans, writes about more than 70 species of Irises, as well as numerous subspecies and cultivars.

Janis Ruksans has grown bulbs all his life. He lives and works in Latvia. This is a former Soviet republic. It is situated south of Finland and north-east of Poland. It borders the Baltic Sea and the winters can be severe, not unlike the winters in parts of Canada. For 20 years Janis Ruksans has operated his own bulb nursery and he specializes in rare and unusual bulbs.

The book starts with a section in which he describes how to grow and propagate bulbs. The reader will find a lot of very helpful hints. The author has a passion for all kinds of bulbs and Irises are only part of the collection. Besides our well-known bulb plants such as Tulipa, Crocus, Muscari, Scilla and others, he has an amazing collection of Corydalis.

Part II of the book deals with the numerous expeditions the author has participated in. Janis Ruksans grew up in a Soviet Union republic and this made it easier to travel through the Soviet Union. A lot of bulbs are found in the southern areas of the former Soviet Union such as the Carpathian Mountains, the Caucasus Mountains and points further east. A lot of places that he has visited are not easy to reach, and to do the paperwork to get permission to travel to certain areas can involve more work than the actual traveling.

For the iris people there is one chapter in which he describes how they found *Iris orchoides* and another where they search for *Iris winkleri*. The next chapter in the book is about the bulbs the author receives from Siberia and Central Asia. Friends and plant collectors send him bulbs and he will grow and judge them at his nursery.

One chapter is about a trip to Turkey to find Juno Irises. Besides Juno Irises the author describes numerous other Irises he finds on this expedition.

At the end of the book is a list of plants that the author discovered that as yet do not have botanical names.

*Buried Treasures* is definitely a good read.





# AIS Regional News

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## **Region 1**

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Newfoundland/Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island

**RVP Norine Veal**

e-mail [nsveal@aol.com](mailto:nsveal@aol.com)

- No Report
- 

## **Region 2**

New York, Ontario, Quebec

**RVP Donna Lowry**

e-mail [donnadonlowry@aol.com](mailto:donnadonlowry@aol.com)

- The new updated AIS web site is now operational so please sign on and have a look around [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)
  - This is also a reminder to all that our National convention is on in Victoria, British Columbia. (See page 35 for details...)
- 

## **Region 13**

Washington, Oregon, Alaska, British Columbia, Yukon

**RVP Alan Brooks**

e-mail [ebb1012@aol.com](mailto:ebb1012@aol.com)

- There will be no regional show this year because of AIS convention.
  - The spring 2012 regional show will be held in Seattle, Washington
- 

## **Region 21**

Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, NWT, Nunavut, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba

**RVP Ron Cosner**

e-mail [keighley15@msn.com](mailto:keighley15@msn.com)

- No Report
- 

Full current details of the various RVPs and affiliated local iris clubs/societies of the AIS Regions are available on the AIS website: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org).





# **“Iris-istible”... AIS 2011 National Convention — Victoria, BC**



## **Condensed Schedule of Events**

**Sunday May 29 and Monday May 30:** AIS and Section Board meetings

**Tuesday May 31:** Morning: AIS Section Talks and Programs

Afternoon: Bus trip to Butchart Gardens

Evening: Welcome Dinner

**Wednesday June 1 and Thursday June 2:** Bus trips to Host Gardens

**Friday June 3:** Morning: 2nd bus trip to Master Planting (Hatley Park)

Afternoon: AIS Section Talks and Programs

Evening: Awards Banquet

**Saturday June 4:** Optional Tour to Salt Spring Island







## ABOUT THE HOST GARDENS AND THE GUEST IRISES

The four Host Gardens are all public gardens. Space was designated for the Guest Irises which have subsequently been maintained by very dedicated BC Iris Society members. The distance to the Host Gardens from downtown Victoria is relatively short, so we will not leave the hotel until after 8:30 am and arrive back by mid-afternoon. This will give everyone time to enjoy more of Victoria.

Royal Roads University



Hatley Park

**Hatley Park at Royal Roads University** has the Master Planting. A large lawn area was converted into 12 slightly raised beds with coarse wood chip paths. They are located in a walled area that was previously used for vegetables, fruits, and flowers to supply those living on the estate. Also within the walled garden is a very lovely, recently-restored greenhouse. There are 717 bearded and 79 beardless irises planted at this location.

Horticultural College of the Pacific



Glendale Gardens

**Glendale Gardens** converted and expanded an unused dahlia bed to create five raised beds with coarse wood chip paths. The irises are located in an area below the main display gardens. There are 240 bearded irises and 45 beardless irises planted here.

Daphne Donaldson



Finnerty Gardens

**At Finnerty Gardens at the University of Victoria** existing perennials along a berm on the south side of the gardens were taken out to make a long linear bed next to a gravel path. The beardless irises have been fenced to keep out rabbits. There are 54 bearded and 55 beardless irises planted at Finnerty Gardens.

Joy Flint/BC Iris Society



Government House

**Government House** uses three existing iris beds plus one new bed for the bearded irises which can be viewed from the lawn and a gravel path. Two small existing perennial beds bordered by paved paths have been used for the beardless irises. There are 229 bearded and 44 beardless irises planted at this location.





# Join the American Iris Society

\$25.00 one year, \$60 for three years

Send payment to:

**Tom Gormley** - AIS Membership Secretary  
**205 Catalonia Avenue**  
**P.O. Box 177**  
**DeLeon Springs, FL 32130**

Phone and Fax: 386-277-2057

Email: [aismemsec@irises.org](mailto:aismemsec@irises.org)

or visit: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org) for more details



## Your new AIS RVP's for the regions aligned with Canada:

**Region 1** Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, **Newfoundland/Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island**

Norine Veal [nsveal@aol.com](mailto:nsveal@aol.com)

30 Franklin Park East, Rockville, CT 06066

**Region 2** New York, **Ontario, Quebec**

Donna Lowry [donnadonlowry@aol.com](mailto:donnadonlowry@aol.com)

9660 Ridge Road, Brockport, NY 14420

**Region 13** Washington, Oregon, Alaska, **British Columbia, Yukon**

Alan Brooks [ebb1012@aol.com](mailto:ebb1012@aol.com)

**Region 21** Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, **NWT, Nunavut, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba**

Ron Cosner [keighley15@msn.com](mailto:keighley15@msn.com)

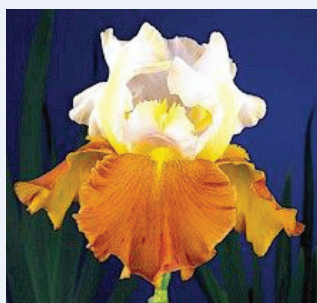
328 Central Ave SE, Lemars, IA 51031

AIS newly updated web site: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)





## Canadian Iris Society announces 2011 Annual Iris Sale



**Photos:** These are Tall Bearded type of iris; all of them are AIS registered cultivars  
top left: Kitty Kay | top right: Sea Power | bottom left: Midnight Oil | bottom right: Fall Fiesta

...Looking for unique and beautiful irises like  
these ones? Come out to our annual sale  
August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @1:00 P.M.

**Location:** Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) 680 Plains Road West,  
Burlington, Ontario (RBG main building, rooms 3 and 4)

Pick up some really excellent high quality irises at this event. The plants on  
offer are American Iris Society (AIS) registered and named iris cultivars

**Event contact:** Ed Jowett  
1960 Side Rd 15 RR 2 , Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0  
905-936-9941 | [jowettfarm@copper.net](mailto:jowettfarm@copper.net)

For more information on this and other events please go to our  
Canadian Iris Society (CIS) website: [www.cdn-iris.ca](http://www.cdn-iris.ca)

### ***Walker Ross Award:***

This is an annual award presented to a person who has given outstanding effort and performance to the Canadian Iris Society. If you know of  
someone you feel is deserving of this award; please send in your nomination to our secretary.





# Coming Events and Dates to Remember

## 2011 Meeting Dates

Sunday April 17th	Library	1:30pm	Board meeting
Sunday July 10th	Library	1:30pm	Board Meeting
Sunday August 14th	RBG Room	3/4	Annual General Meeting
Sunday October 16th	Library	1:30pm	Board Meeting

## 2011 Event Dates

May 29 – June 3rd **Iris-Istible Victoria “AIS” convention Victoria, B.C.**

Saturday June 4th **McMillen's Iris Garden - 2nd Annual Iris Festival**  
(Canada's largest iris garden)  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
R R #1 285112 Pleasant Valley Road  
Norwich, ON N0J 1P0  
Phone 519-468-6508 (1-800-468-6508)  
[www.mcmillensgarden.ca](http://www.mcmillensgarden.ca)  
See 15 acres of Iris, over 1200 varieties  
Workshops on iris (growing, grooming, & planting  
What to look for when buying iris.

Sunday June 12th **CIS Show and Picnic at Trails End Iris Gardens**  
(See page 26 for details.)

Sunday June 12th **Can-West Iris Society 4th Annual Iris Show**  
Bourkevale Community Centre, Winnipeg MB  
100 Ferry Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Open to the public — 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday July 26th **Tara Perennial Farm Iris Sale**  
(See advertisement on pages 20 & 21)

Sunday August 14th **CIS Annual Iris Sale at  
Royal Botanical Gardens Burlington ON**

## 2011 Publication Dates

May 2011	Vol55 No2 Spring Issue
August 2011	Vol55 No3 Summer Issue
November 2011	Vol55 No4 Fall Issue







# Canadian Sources for Irises

We provide this listing as a resource for our members and readers. This listing does not necessarily imply endorsement of the businesses by Canadian Iris Society (CIS). The sources listed have paid donations/contributions to help support the society. If you know of someone who should be added to the list please send the information to the editor. The listings in **BOLD** are members of the CIS

## **Chapman Iris**

RR #1 8790 Wellington Road 124,  
Guelph, ON N1H 6H7  
Phone: (519) 856-4424  
Email: [chuck@chapmaniris.com](mailto:chuck@chapmaniris.com)  
Website: [www.chapmaniris.com](http://www.chapmaniris.com)  
On-line or 2010 catalogue: \$3.00

## **McMillen's Iris Garden**

RR1 285112 Pleasant Valley Rd.  
Norwich ON N0J 1P0  
Phone 1-866-468-6508  
Email: [info@mcmillensirsgarden.ca](mailto:info@mcmillensirsgarden.ca)  
e-mail or call for Price List

## **Tara Perennial Farm**

123 Concession # 6, R.R.2  
Tara, ON N0H 2N0  
Call for availability/price list  
Marion Kuhl 519-934-3447  
Website: [www.taraperennialfarm.com](http://www.taraperennialfarm.com)

## **The Plant Farm**

177 Vesuvius Bay Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1K3  
Phone: 250-537-5995  
Email: [hello@theplantfarm.ca](mailto:hello@theplantfarm.ca)  
Website: [www.theplantfarm.ca](http://www.theplantfarm.ca)  
On-line catalogue

## **Trails End Iris Gardens**

3674 Indian Trail, RR#8  
Brantford, Ontario N3T 5M1  
Phone: 519-647-9746  
Email: [bob@trailsendiris.com](mailto:bob@trailsendiris.com)  
Website: [www.trailsendiris.com](http://www.trailsendiris.com)  
On-line catalogue





## Liaisons and Regions



### **British Columbia Iris Society (BCIS)**

Ted Baker, 185 Furness Rd.,  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1Z7  
ph: 250-653-4430 [www.bc-iris.org](http://www.bc-iris.org)

### **Can-West Iris Society**

B.J. Jackson, 2421 McDonald Avenue, Brandon, MB R7B 0A6,  
ph: 204-725-4696 email: [eleanore@mts.net](mailto:eleanore@mts.net)

### **Halton/Peel Iris Society (HAPEIS)**

Chris Hollinshead, 3070 Windwood Drive,  
Mississauga, ON L5N 2K3  
ph: 905-567-8545 e-mail: [cdn-iris@rogers.com](mailto:cdn-iris@rogers.com)

### **London Region Iris Society**

Gloria McMillen, RR#1 Norwich, ON N0J 1P0  
ph: 519 468-3279 email: [gmcmlen@execulink.com](mailto:gmcmlen@execulink.com)  
Please inquire for membership and group activities.

### **Northern Lights Iris Society (NLIS)**

Virginia Prins, 296 Furby St, Winnipeg MB, R3C 2A9  
e-mail: [inanda1@mts.net](mailto:inanda1@mts.net) [www.nlris.ca](http://www.nlris.ca)

### **Ottawa River Iris Society (ORrIS)**

Maureen Mark, 1077 Guertin Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1H 8B3  
ph: (613) 521-4597 e-mail: [mmark@rogers.com](mailto:mmark@rogers.com)

**cis website**  
**[www.cdn-iris.ca](http://www.cdn-iris.ca)**

up-to-date information on CIS activities and many useful links to other iris sites and information





**Canadian Iris Society**  
**1960 Sideroad 15, RR#2**  
**Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0**



**Walker Ross**

### **CIS Newsletter**

Published four times a year at  
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Tottenham, ON L0G 1W0  
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