



ILLINOIS IRISARIAN

“Land of Lincoln”

Issue 2010-001

February 10, 2010

Greetings from your RVP. . . Margaret Kelly

Hello Region 9



I am so pleased to be your RVP. It is a real honor to represent our Region. The Officers and Board of Directors are looking forward to this new year of the new decade, 2010.

With snow covering our Iris beds and the cold weather, it seems spring is some time away. I guess that will depend on whether the Groundhog sees his/her shadow or not. Weeding time will be here before you know it and then we'll be looking forward to bloom season and Iris Shows.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our Spring Meeting at Rochester Community Center in Rochester, IL. , on Saturday March 20, 2010. Coffee and sweets will be available during the

morning of the meeting. The business meeting will begin at 10:00 AM, with a potluck at noon. (We have wonderful cooks and bakers.) I will be giving judges' training on Aril & Arilbred Irises after lunch.

I look forward to giving this presentation as I have pictures taken in my garden to share with you. We will also be planning for the fall meeting. Our Public Iris Sale will be held at the Washington Park, Botanical Gardens, in Springfield, IL, the home of our display Iris beds.

We will also discuss the Silent Auction, a work day at the Botanical Gardens with a picnic lunch, committee reports and reports on Garden judging and the affiliate Iris Shows.

Our shows are one of the ways we can demonstrate to the public what we have to offer. Our Iris sales give the public a chance to join us in growing irises.

See you at the spring meeting!

**Margaret Kelly
Region 9, RVP**

THANK YOU NANCY POCKLINGTON!

On behalf of Region 9, thank you Nancy for your leadership as our RVP. Some of Nancy's accomplishments were:

- As the Region 9, Asst RVP and the RVP, helped start and mentor the Sangamon Valley Iris Society.
- Region 9 Iris Garden at Washington Park Botanical Gardens (see below)



- Coordinated excellent training for Region 9
- Supported affiliate iris sales

IN MEMORIUM:

It is with sadness that we advise that our American Iris Society President, Dr. E. Roy Epperson passed away suddenly on the weekend of January 23/24 2010. It goes without saying that Roy will be greatly missed not only by those of us who knew him and worked with him for many years, but also by many others in the world of iris.

The AIS Officers are now:

President - Judy Keisling

First Vice President - Jill Bonino

Second Vice President - Vacant



We hope to see you at our Spring Membership meeting!

Region 9
American Iris Society (AIS)
Membership Meeting

Saturday March 20, 2010
Rochester Community Center
Rochester, IL

Our Meeting Agenda:

- 9:30 AM Coffee & Snacks
- 10:00 AM Business Meeting
- 12:00 PM Lunch--Pot Luck--bring your favorite dish
- 1:00 PM Judges' Training Aril & ArilBred Irises
"Welcome to My Little Corner of the World" by Margaret Kelly

THE STORY OF THE IRIS

Ancient Egypt

- *In ancient Egypt, the iris symbolized rebirth. After the overthrow of Syria, where irises bloomed in abundance, Egyptian King Thutmose III immortalized these exotic flowers in temple sculptures, gardens and drawings found in palaces.*

French Emblem

- *In past centuries, iris roots were hung inside France's wine casks to ensure freshness. Because of its strong resemblance to the lily, the iris is also called a fleur-de-lis, French for "flower of the lily," and is the national symbol of France.*

Roots

- *The iris flower became the emblem of Florence, Italy, in the 1800s. Pleasant scents derived from dried iris rhizomes, or underground stems, helped create favorable perfumes, a major industry in Florence.*

Colors

- *The Greek word for "iris" is "rainbow." This blossom grows in an array of brilliant colors, including white, blue, purple, red, pink, yellow or brown.*
-

Secretary's Report, Region 9 Fall Meeting, August 29, 2009

The Annual Fall Membership meeting was held in the Rochester Community Center, Rochester, Illinois.

Nancy Pocklington, Region 9, RVP, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Nancy recognized the former RVP's present at the meeting. The minutes were published in the newsletter. Ann Henson moved to accept the secretary's report; Orville Dickhaut seconded; motion passed.

John Bilski gave the treasurer's report. The balance as of January 2009 was \$7686.07. The balance as of August 29, 2009 is \$5214.00. The Report was filed for audit.

Committee Reports

Judges' Training: Becky Simon - Everyone sent their reports on time for the year. Everyone has the minimum garden training done for the 3 year period of 2007, 2008, and 2009. The new period is 2008, 2009, and 2010.

Youth: Lu Dickhaut – The AIS bulletin listed all youth member contest winners. The chief thrust is for new youth members. We are losing Heather Hamblin as a youth member. Lu encouraged everyone to keep a record of youth activities as a region.

Societies used to pay for youth members - \$9.00 with bulletin with adult member, \$7.00 without journal. Lu challenged local presidents to under write dues for youth members.

Irisarian Newsletter: Ann Henson – Has been editor for 12 years. For the fall she printed 125 newsletters and mailed 117. Printing was \$385.62, postage \$122.00, envelopes \$15.00 = \$523.62. The Bulletin is on the web site. New editor is Dave Miller.

Membership: Patrick Hayden –

Memberships as of 07/31/2009

Single Annual 27

Dual Annual 12

Single Triennial 34

Dual Triennial 9

Single Life 8

Dual Life 4

Youth No Bltn 7

Affiliate Annual 5

Total Memberships 106

Total Members 131

Web Master: Dave Kelly – Newsletter is on the Web site. Have added Illinois hybridizers to web page. Will advertise sales. Need pictures!

Iris Garden: Washington Park. Nancy Pocklington - Nancy reports good bloom. Redbud Lane Iris Garden (Jerry & Melody Wilhoit) donated a new introduction for the iris bed – Mema's Peachy. Thanks to Irv Pocklington, Dave & Debra Miller and Gib Holz for weeding the beds.

Symposium – get to Nancy – list by numbers by e-mail

OLD BUSINESS:

Memorial to Bennett Jones – top hybridizer. Steve Poole moved and Ernie Henson seconded we sent \$100.00 for memorial to AIS for scientific research. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring meeting March 20 or March 27 . Ernie Henson moved and Becky Simon seconded the motion that the spring meeting be March 20th with a potluck luncheon. Motion passed.

Suggestions for judges' training per activity by Becky Simon (Species, Species X, Siberian and Arilbreds)

Fall meeting: Brian Davis moved and John Bilski seconded the motion that the fall meeting and sale be at the Botanical Gardens August 14, 2010. Motion passed. We will try sale at the Botanical Gardens as an experiment!

Formal Election:

RVP	Margaret Kelly
VICE RVP	Richard Funk
Secretary	Debra Miller
Treasurer	John Bilski

Elected by acclamation – motion by Ann Henson and Jerry Wilhoit seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned!

Steve Poole gave report on seeds produced by his hybridizing. Playing the natural game, he exceeded personal expectations of seeds per cross. ½ SIB to Emma's Laughter produced 2,252 seeds.

Announced he will be hosting a Louisiana Iris garden judges' training in 2011 for 3 hours, first such training in Illinois.

Respectfully submitted
Margaret Kelly
Secretary

REGION 9 TREASURER REPORT FOR
January 1, 2009-August 29, 2009

<u>Balance: 1 Jan. 09</u>	\$7,686.07
Interest	\$ 85.86
<u>Total income</u>	\$ 85.86
<u>Expenses</u>	
Becky Simon, judge's trainings supplies	\$ 27.78
Pat Hayden, soda spring meeting.	\$ 45.24
Brad Kasperek Speaker spring mtg.	\$ 605.20
Nancy Pockington rent, speaker	\$ 16.08
Rochester Community Spring and Fall rent	\$ 30.00
Nancy Pockington	\$ 88.99
Ann Henson Irisarian	\$ 421.00
Mid America Gardens plants for the fall	\$ 150.00
Bob Hollingsworth fall plant sale	\$ 150.00
Bank charge.	\$ 5.00
Checks	\$ 13.80
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$1,553.09
<u>Cash on hand 29 Aug.09</u>	\$6,218.81

AIS 2010 Convention:

Time to sign up for the AIS 2010 Convention if you have not already done so. This is an event you do not want to miss!

This year the AIS Convention takes place May 31 to June 5, 2010 in the Madison, Wisconsin area. Please go to the special section of the AIS website for the information on this exciting annual AIS event. See you all there. Enjoy lots of irises and iris friendships.

Region 18 Judges Training **A very special opportunity** **from Region 18**

GUEST SPEAKER-KEITH KEPPEL

SPONSORED BY THE JEFFCO, MINERAL AREA, & SEMO IRIS SOCIETIES

OCTOBER 16, 2010

10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

Cost: \$20 for 5 hours of training - lunch included

**LOCATION: MINERAL AREA COLLEGE
FARMINGTON, MISSOURI**

**FOR RESERVATIONS OR QUESTIONS
CONTACT: BOB SKAGGS @ 314-706-3701 or
robert.e.skaggs@wildblue.net**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW
FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT—THIS IS
CLOSE AND WELL WORTH ATTENDING!!**

Garden Judging Training

Saturday May 29, 2010

Two hours. of Garden Judging Training

*Hosted by Jerry & Melody Wilhoit
Kansas, IL*

More information to follow

Garden Judging of Louisiana Irises

In May of 2011 Southern Illinois Iris Society will sponsor 3 hours of free garden judging training of Louisiana Irises.

Trainers: Jerry and Melody Wilhoit

Location: El Dorado, Illinois

Guest Iris Chair: Steve Poole

**THIS WILL BE THE FIRST SUCH JUDGES
TRAINING SESSION OF LOUISIANA IRISES
IN REGION 09 AIS**

**PREREGISTRATION WILL BE NEEDED TO
DETERMINE FOOD QUANTITIES**

MORE DETAILS AT A LATER DATE

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR
THIS VERY SPECIAL EVENT!**

Symposium Results on 2009 Ballot

Reported by RVP Nancy Pocklington on 09/14/09

22 ballots returned

1 st	16 votes	Silverado
2 nd	11 votes	Dusky Challenger
3 rd	10 “	Breakers
	10 “	Stepping Out
5 th	9 “	Thornbird
6 th	8 “	Edith Wolford
	8 “	Pond Lily
8 th	7 “	Conjuration
	7 “	Dorothy Devenport
	7 “	Going My Way
	7 “	Happenstance
	7 “	Stairway to Heaven
	7 “	Yaquina Blue
14 th	6 “	6-way tie
20 th	5 “	6-way tie
26 th	4 “	12-way tie
38 th	3 “	28-way tie
66 th	2 “	42-way tie
108 th	1 “	68-way tie

REGION 9 HYBRIDIZER REPORT

Brian Davis from Champaign just had a new garden experience and thought he'd share. Below is his story.

Greetings fellow gardeners!

As you all know, I am a true iris nut. This little story just goes to prove how bad off I am I suppose.

I decided it was time to go ahead and plant my iris seed from the fall of 09 in the basement as they have been in the fridge now for several months just above freezing temps. I wanted to use the soilless mix that I get from the local recycling center for this purpose as advised by a good friend. Sounds simple enough.

I got my pots out in the basement and had my potting table all ready to go. Time to go get the potting mix. It's outside in a couple of covered

large trash cans. Well,,,,,,, I guess water got into the cans at one point and I found two lumps of soil mix, each of several hundred pounds, frozen solid in the cans!

Not to be deterred I got out a shovel and tried to break some of it up. Nothing doing! Almost snapped a handle off!! Since my head is harder than this soil, I was still determined to get enough out of these cans to plant my seeds !

I went back down into the basement and got a 2" masonry chisel and a large hammer. 45 minutes I finally had a 5 gallon bucket full of frozen dirt chips and chunks. It is down in the basement thawing and I am sitting here trying to catch my breath.

I've never had to chisel for my soil before. The things we will do for our obsessions!!! I am hoping to be able to go down in a couple of hours and actually plant the seeds. Carol got her daylily seeds planted yesterday but she was smart enough to use store bought soil. I was much too stubborn for that!

Let's all hope that I get something pretty out of all of this! Not that that would stop me if I didn't ! HA

Spring can't come soon enough for me!!!! Hope everyone is doing well!

Bloomin' Bucks 2010 fundraising program:

The AIS is now a registered non-profit organization with the Bloomin' Bucks 2010 fundraising program by Brent and Becky's Bulbs!

This is how it works: It's simple...supporters of the registered organization, the (AIS) American Iris Society, can go to www.bloominbucks.com and from a pull down menu of all of the organizations registered, select to support the AIS!

One click takes you into the Brent and Becky's Bulbs website where you can order whatever you want, in whatever quantity you want...books, bulbs, tools, supplements, gift certificates... anything..and a percentage of each order goes to your organization!

Every little bit helps and it all adds up to support the AIS! Please note: This is the only way to earn credit; go to the www.bloominbucks.com website, then selecting to support your organization and placing an on-line order ...so no phone orders, faxed orders, etc..

Region 9 Board:

Regional Vice President	Margaret Kelly	1708 Holiday Drive Pekin, IL 61544 Kelly@grics.net
Assistant RVP	Richard Funk	5519 Lincoln Highway Rd Charleston, IL 61920-8034 rbfunk@consolidated.net
Secretary	Debra Miller	61 Laconwood Drive Springfield, IL 62712-8727 Miller42@aol.com
Treasurer	John Bilski	9127 Wedgewood Drive Fairview Hts., IL 62208-1056 jbilski@aol.com

Region 9 Affiliate Presidents:

Mid-Illinois Iris Society

Ernie Henson, President
6401 Cedar Road
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618-822-6584
erni@midwest.net

Northern Illinois Iris Society

Bruce Reider, President
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630-654-8143

North Shore Iris and Daylily Society

Marge McCannon, President
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Prairie Iris Society

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