



RAMBLING RHIZOMES
August 2007
Newsletter of the Tucson Area Iris Society



POTLUCK, AUCTION & NEW IRISES

5:00 pm, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25TH



At the Home of

John & Joyce Slekar
6840 Andrea Doria Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85604



Bring your favorite dish and plan to take home some of the newest and most beautiful irises available!

Rhizomes from the 2007 Region 15

Spring Trek will be auctioned off after a delicious meal, then the NEW IRIS PROGRAM irises will be distributed to door prize winners, show winners, and those who have worked so hard to make this a successful year for TAIS. This is also where we will distribute the IRIS4U donations from Bob Van Liere.

Don't miss it!!

TAYLOR DIG—September 8th

TAIS members will be trekking to Safford, AZ to dig some wonderful newer rhizomes for our sale. We will be carpooling. Right now, Peggi Ishman and Kathy Chilton are driving—we hope for more drivers. We'll all enjoy the road trip, lunch, beautiful Taylor daylilies, and get some wonderful irises to add to our gardens. Please contact Peggi or Kathy if you can spend the day with us.

See the list of irises we will be digging on page 5.

TAIS FALL SALE at Harlow's Nursery
September 15th & 16th, Sat 9-5 & Sun 10-5
TBG on September 28th & 29th
—more information on page 4

from TAIS President Peggi Ishman

Peggi's Corner



Can this already be August? Wow, the summer has really gone by fast.

Let me start the column this month with a few things to be doing in the garden this month and next. We all need to be removing the browned leaves from the iris clumps and making sure if the rains haven't been enough, that the irises are being watered. Usually once or twice a week watering well will be enough.

Also we should be redoing any identification signs that need aid. Many of mine got washed off in the rains here. This is the month to plan what we want to add into the beds for next spring, if we haven't done that already. Make lists to look for new favorites at the annual auction, and club fall sales. There will be good ones available there and the prices are great!

In September you will want to plant the new rhizomes in properly prepared beds. If you have questions please contact a fellow TAIS member for assistance. There is also valuable information in your club directory on soil preparation. Add 0-45-0 (super triple phosphate) to the established or newly planted irises. About 1 to 2 tablespoons scratched in the ground around each clump and watered in well. This will help make better roots on the plants.

The TAIS potluck and auction will be on Saturday, August 25th at John and Joyce Slekar's beautiful poolside patio. Bring a dish to pass and your own chairs and service. (Plate, silverware, and cup) This is always a really fun affair. It will be a great opportunity to get some newer varieties of irises during the auction. Also this year at the potluck, we will be giving out the new introduction irises as rhizomes for a special thank you to all our volunteers this year. If you helped at any TAIS functions this year it

will be important to attend and receive your thank you iris. These are the ones you get to grow for two years and keep one of it. All increases are then given back to the club for the fall sales, so other club members and the public can purchase them inexpensively for their gardens. This gets newer irises into our area for a small club investment. Kathy Chilton has made arrangements to get some really good ones for us in this program. You won't want to miss picking yours up.

We are expecting to have really large fall rhizome sales this year, because it has been a good year of iris growth. Terrell Taylor in Safford, AZ has notified me of his donations this year. He has over 40 varieties and half of them are 2000 or newer introductions. I think we will be getting well over 200 rhizomes from him this year.

I am looking for a good sized group of members to volunteer to help go there and dig the Taylor rhizomes on Saturday, September 8th. Please see me at the potluck if you can drive, dig, divide, or help in any way.

It is always a fun event and remember that "many hands make light work".

We have extended the Harlow's sale to two days - September 15th and 16th. We have asked Comcast Cable volunteers to help us with set up and tear down at the sales.

Check the TAIS website for the times and dates of the fall sales. www.tucsoniris.org

Look for a detailed article in this issue on these two sales and the criteria for submitting your rhizomes for the sale.

Have a great summer and happy gardening. See you at the potluck.

Peggi



JUNE MEETING

Attendees were treated to a colorful presentation of photos from the 2007 AIS National Convention in Oklahoma City by Kathy Chilton.

Yummy refreshments were provided by Lucille Skerston, Irene Watkins, Marilyn Lesh and Ginny Hester. We raised \$11 with the raffle. Stephanie Lee won 2 coffee mugs; Marilyn Lesh won another, and the two new intro iris winners were Irene Watkins and Perri Larson.



FALL SALES @ HARLOW'S & TBG

The 2007 TAIS FALL RHIZOME SALE will be held at Harlow Gardens on E. Pima St., September 15th and 16th. Peggi has lined up volunteers from Comcast Cable to help with the set up and tear down! We need rhizomes to sell!!! If you are digging, we need your contributions to make our sale a success. TAIS will pay you, the grower, \$1 for every rhizome we sell at the sale, unless you choose to donate them to the club.

Here's How!

1. Survey your iris beds and make a list of the iris clumps you will be digging.
2. Add the hybridizers' names and year of introduction to your list, along with descriptions.
3. By Sept. 1st, get that list to Maxine Fifer, (743-7993) —email: wetypefast@aol.com 4527 N. Camino Cardenal, Tucson, AZ 85718. Keep a copy of the list for yourself.
4. Contact Peggi Ishman (825-1771) at or after the potluck to get a seller's number
5. A few days before the sale, dig the clumps & separate the rhizomes. Trim the leaves to

about 6 inches & the roots to about 4 inches long. Clean off all the dirt & label each rhizome with its name on a center leaf with a permanent marker. Put your seller's number on a leaf, too.

6. Add the number of rhizomes you will be selling to a copy of your list to bring to the sale. Make a note on the list if you want to pick up unsold rhizomes Sunday at closing, or if you wish to donate them to TAIS.
7. Put your rhizomes in paper bags or on nursery flats & bring them and your list to Harlow's Saturday, September 15th between 7 & 9am.

We will need lots of members to work at this sale. It's fun to help shoppers find that special iris and to answer their questions. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Potluck on August 25th for time slots. Since we will have outside volunteers to help with set up and teardown, our members can spend more time working with the public.

If you have questions, contact Peggi Ishman or Ben Herman.

TBG SALE

Sept. 28, 12-6 Members Only Sale

**Sept. 29, 9-4 Tucson Botanical
Garden Fall Sale**

Sign up at the Potluck!



TAYLOR DIG — SAFFORD, AZ — SEPTEMBER 8TH

We will be meeting in Tucson that morning for the trip to Safford.
If you want to come and help, please call Peggi Ishman or Kathy Chilton.
More details at the Potluck.

ABOUT TOWN — BLYTH 97
ABOVE THE CLOUDS — SCHREINER 2004
ANCIENT ECHOS — BLYTH 97
ARIZONA SANDSTONE — TALOR 2000
ARTIC FOX — WOOD 98
AURA LIGHT — BLYTH 97
BLACK BUTTE — SCHREINERS 99
BLONDE BOMBSHELL — GHIO 97
COLOR ME BLUE — 97
CONINUITY — INNERST 94
DANGEROUS MOOD — SCHREINERS 2004
DIAMOND BRACELET-SCHREINERS 2004
DUSKY CHALLENGER — SCHREINERS 86
GALLERY — T.JOHNSON 2005
INFRARED — GHIO 2002
JUMPING — SCHREINERS 2000
LADY JANE — LAUER 2002
LENA BAKER — KERR 98
MANAGUA — GHIO 94
NAVY BLUES — DUNN 94
NIGHT GAME — KEPPEL 96
OCELOT-GHIO 98
OH JAMAICA — SCHREINER 95
OVER ALASKA — SCHREINERS 2002
PAINTER'S FRENZY — TALYLOR 97
PINK GIGGLES — TALYOR 96
POLISHED MANNERS-KEPPEL 2000
PRESBY'S CROWN JEWEL — SCHREINERS 2002
PRETTY IS — MULLIN 95
RED HOT LOVER — SHCREINERS 2003
RETURN ADDRESS — GHIO 2000
RITUAL — GHIO 99
ROMANTIC EVENING-GHIO 96
ROYAL ESTATE — T.JOHNSON 2003
SEA POWER — KEPPEL 99
SHARPER IMAGE — BLACK 2005
SHARPSHOOTER — KEPPEL 2000
SOARING WINGS — TAYLOR 98
STIRWAY TO HEAVEN — LAUER 93
SUNNY BUBBLES — MARYOTT 93
SUNSHINE AND SNOW — SCHREINER 2001
SYPMPHONY OF LIGHT — MEININGER 2003
TRUMPET CALL — SCHREINER 2003
VALENTINE'S DAY — WOOD 96
WHISPERING SPIRIT — ERNST 2001



LADY JANE



SHARPER IMAGE



VALENTINE'S DAY

August 25th

5pm Potluck & Region Auction
New Iris Program distribution
John & Joyce Slekar's poolside patio.

September 8th

Digging party at Terrell Taylor's garden
in Safford, AZ

September 15th & 16th

Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5
RHIZOME SALE AT HARLOW'S

September 28th & 29th

Fri 12-6 Members only, Sat 9-4
TUCSON BOTANICAL GARDEN SALE

October 20th TAIS Meeting

Time & Location will be announced.
Annual election of officers.

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TAIS TREASURER'S REPORT:
Balance as of 8/8/07= \$3,580.46



TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY
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