

## Index to 2023 TAIS Newsletters

**January 2023** – Photo: ‘Circus Stripes,’ **Index to 2022 Newsletters**; **More Crested Iris - *Iris wattii*, *I. confusa*** article and photos; blurb on **Dew, frost, fog, and clouds**; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: the re-designed AIS seal in 1958**; Haiku; Quotes: “There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of any winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogs” by Hal Borland and “And now let us welcome the new year, full of things that have never been.” by Rainer Maria Rilke

**February 2023** – Photo: ‘Backdraft,’ January Meeting Minutes and photos; **Crested irises - *Iris formosana*, *I. gracilipes* or *I. henryi*, *I. cristata*, and *I. lacustris*** - article and photos; blurb on **humus**; **Tips:** Susan Schaefer suggests to **wait a week to fertilize during rainy weeks** and **Crafton Hills Iris Farm in California is open for sales** via their [website](#); What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: *Iris variegata* and *I. pallida* – foundational species of the modern tall bearded iris**; Limerick; Quotes: “Today is the first of February, snowy, brilliant, but dripping with the sound of spring ...” by Dallas Lore Sharp and “Surely as cometh the Winter, I know there are Spring violets under the snow.” by R. H. Newell

**March 2023** – Photo: ‘Lemon Pledge,’ February Meeting Minutes and photos; ***Iris ensata* (Japanese iris)** notes and photos from Chad Harris’ presentation; **Warm-season annuals for the Tucson garden**; blurb on **pollination process and ‘bee-pods’**; **Tips:** use **Super Glue to heal cracked thumbs** by Kevin and [Schultz Bloom Plus](#) (10-54-10) by Sue; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: gardens moved beyond the realm of royalty and monasteries and into the mainstream, exotic plants transported in Wardian cases, and an International Conference on Irises in Paris in June 1922**; Limerick; Quotes: “Now say to yourself five times, and believe it...‘This is March. The main thing to do in March is to don’t...’” by Alfred Carl Hottes and “The older I grow, the more do I love spring and spring flowers.” by Emily Dickinson

**April 2023** – Photo: ‘Eastertime,’ March Meeting Minutes and photos; Structure of an **Iris Show** – from our Show Schedule; More about the Show; **Artistic Design Scoring** from the AIS Judges Handbook; **Hover Flies or Syrphid Flies** article and photos; **Ready, Set, Showtime – preparing irises for the show**; blurb on [Espoma Flower-Tone](#) fertilizer and a special soil mix for irises; **Tips:** Check out [fragrantiris.com](#) by Sue and how to **deal with fuzzy white mold on houseplant soil**; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: Specific wild Eurasian iris traits become the dream** for enriching the garden irises of the day; Limerick; Quotes: “There is no glory in star or blossom till looked upon by a loving eye...” by William C. Bryant and “It is true, as they say, that the blossoms of spring are all the more precious because they bloom so briefly.” by Murasaki Shikibu

**May 2023** – Photo: ‘Bess Cheever,’ **Notes and photos from our Iris Show, ‘Iris Enchantment,’** **Some Tips Picked up at the Show**; **Native Bees** article and photos; blurb on **hybridizers selling their unnamed seedlings may account for the huge number of NOIDS in existence**; **Tips:** [Purdue Plant Doctor](#) website for help with plants or pests and keep mulch away from crowns of plants by Sue; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: problems crossing wild Eurasian irises with garden irises comes down to ploidy** (read about ploidy in our [April 2018](#) newsletter); Limerick; Quotes: “Among the changing months, May stands confest The sweetest...” by James Thomson and “What potent blood hath modest May.” by Ralph W. Emerson

**June 2023** – Photo: ‘Coral Dancer,’ May Meeting Minutes and photos; **Notes from the National Weather Service presentation**; **Bumblebees** article and photos; blurb on **use of “bumblebee,” “humblebee,” and “dumbledor,”** **Tips:** **make two labels per iris plant to safe-guard the name**; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: Importance of crosses of *Iris cypriana* and *I. pallida* by Michael Foster**; Limerick; Quotes: “June comes, and ours is so green a world that we quite forget the all but leafless days of January...” by Hal Borland and “Mist in May, heat in June, Make the harvest come right soon.” – Proverb



**July 2023** – Photo: ‘Babbling Brook,’ Photos of Cathy Pane-Scire’s irises; **Hummingbird** moths article and photos; blurb on **botanical varieties**; **Tips: Work smarter, not harder: elevated sprinkling cans = less lifting of full cans of water, and cobbles under the roof’s drip line = less mud-splash on the walls of the house** by Sue; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: *Iris kashmiriana*’s contribution to modern TB irises**; Limerick; Quotes: “A rustle of corn-leaves; a tinkle of bells on the hills; ... A butterfly blundering by — And that is July!” ... from “July in the West” by James Newton Matthews and “If the first of July be rainy weather, It will rain, more or less, for four weeks together.” by John Ray

**August 2023** – Photo: ‘Making a Splash,’ Photos of irises in the gardens of Joyce Knill and Linda Ammon; **Hummingbirds** article and photos; blurb on **cultivars**; **Tips: Pot all new irises immediately to baby them** by Nancy McDonald of HIPS; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: *Iris trojana*’s contributions to modern TB irises**; Haiku; Quotes: “And from the hot field’s farthest edge The cricket’s soft refrain With mellow accent tells the tale That August’s here again.” by Helen Maria Winslow and “Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is hardly a waste of time.” by John Lubbock

**September 2023** – Photo: Bb ‘Sierra Sunrise,’ August Auction and Meeting Minutes and photos; **Hummingbirds and Hummingbird Gardening** article and photos; **Preparing Rhizomes for the Sale** article; 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Photo Contest details; blurb on **cultivars**; **Tips: hummingbird nectar mix**; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: ‘Trosuperba,’ ‘Dominion,’ and ‘Amas’/‘Macrantha,’** Limerick; Quotes: "But now in September the garden has cooled, and with it my possessiveness. The sun warms my back instead of beating on my head ... The harvest has dwindled, and I have grown apart from the intense midsummer relationship that brought it on." by Robert Finch and “We come from the earth, we return to the earth, and in between we garden.” by Alfred Austin

**October 2023** – Photo: AB ‘Shaman’s Magic,’ Report on the Sale with photos; **Bats as Pollinators** article and photos; blurb on **first hummingbird feeder**; **Tips: Being less attractive to mosquitos**; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: *I. mesopotamica*’s contributions to modern TB irises**; Limerick; Quotes: “O suns and skies and clouds of June, And flowers of June together, Ye cannot rival for one hour October’s bright blue weather...” by Helen Hunt Jackson and "After the keen still days of September, the October sun filled the world with mellow warmth." by Elizabeth George Speare

**November 2023** – Photo: ‘Copper Frills,’ October Meeting Minutes and photos; Notes and photos from our **Dig at TBG**; **Butterflies and Butterfly Gardening** article and photos; **Tips on Photographing Butterflies**; **Winning Photos from our Photo Contest**: Single flower or stem, Macro view, and Miscellaneous and Garden categories; blurb on **what Adam Ferrell-Wortman, TBG horticulturalist, added to the soil in the new iris beds before the Dig**; **Tips: apply ice cube to ease contact dermatitis from plants** by Sue and ideas for **fertilizing spuria** irises this month by J. Hedgecock; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month - **ideas for metal plant markers and labels, move potted irises into the sun for the cool season, and ideas for fertilizers**; **History: *Iris aphylla*’s contributions to modern TB irises**; Limerick; Quotes: “Thanks for time to be together, turkey, talk, and tangy weather...” from “All in a Word” by Aileen Fisher and “My road leads me, lures me west, east, south and north; most roads lead men homewards, my road leads me forth.” “Roadways” by John Masefield

**December 2023** – Photo: ‘War Chief,’ Tips from Kevin on **plant labels and markers**; November Meeting Minutes and photos from the Potluck; **Chocolate Midge** article and photos, blurb on **humic acid loosening clay soils**, **Tips: for planting irises – fill pot with 1/4 compost, 1/3 pumice, rest Kellogg’s Patio Plus Premium Outdoor Potting Mix (if using Miracle-Gro or other potting mix, up the compost amount to 1/3). Mix well. Add 1 T 10-10-10 or similar. Soak bottoms of rhizomes in water overnight to jump start the roots, and then plant** by Joyce; What to do in the Iris Garden this Month; **History: William Mohr**, winner of the first Dykes Medal; Limerick, Quotes: “All that is gold does not glitter...deep roots are not reached by the frost.” by J R R Tolkien and “Only in reflection, it seems, do we get to make sense of what has been, to then play a part in shaping what might be.” by Joanna Gaines

