No. 35

**News from the Greater New Orleans Iris Society** 

July 2020

### We're back!

In the absence of meetings, GNOIS is reviving its newsletter

In these disruptive times, it is Our plans for the spring were scuttled and our schedule of future meetings is blasted.

We will get back on track, as discussed on the next page, but one piece is the revival of the Bayou and Marsh, which has not been published for two years. This hiatus was partly due to our automatic membership in the Society for Louisiana Irises which brought the quarterly magazine Fleur de Lis to GNOIS members as a pdf download. (If you are not receiving email notices of the link to the Fleur, notify Lorrie Brown, our Corresponding Secretary.)

Now, however, the virus-created communications vacuum needs to be filled. We will plan to distribute a new Bayou and Marsh as needed and as our abilities permit. No regular publication schedule is promised, but we will try to keep members up-to-date.

Even with the disruption, some interesting activities are being planned. We have the great advantage of having our "Island Iris Nursery" in City Park where we can meet and easily keep a safe social distance. Stay tuned!

### **ROLL-OUT**

### PROPAGATION INITIATIVE

A major new phase has begun in GNOIS' efforts to plant species irises in wild, naturalistic and garden settings, part of its larger Conservation and **Education Program** 

You are invited to participate. Read the details beginning on page 3.

#### **New President**

Susan Anthony of Jefferson is the new president of GNOIS. The past-president, Joe Musacchia, resigned upon becoming president of the Society for Louisiana Irises. As vicepresident, Sue moved up.

Sue is a long time GNOIS member and was on the board before being elected vicepresident. She is an avid gardener and belongs to a number of plant organizations.

Sue has appointed Ben Clement of Kenner to a vacant position on the board. Ben has participated in volunteer work at the Island Iris Nursery and helped with the move from Denham

Springs of a large planting of irises donated by Charles Riddle from the collection of the late Jeff Weeks.

The move of Sue to president leaves the vice-president position vacant. Under the bylaws, the **GNOIS** board

must fill a vacancy in the position of an officer.

**GNOIS** is grateful to Joe Musacchia and wishes him the best as president of SLI.



President Susan Anthony

**JULY 2020** 

## THE FUTURE OF MEETINGS

What can we do in the era of COVID-19?

We had a great place to meet in the East Bank Regional Library in Metairie. Nice room, convenient parking, built-in media. But, it looks like the days of indoor meetings are over for a while.

Luckily, we still have the outdoors, and the GNOIS "island iris nursery" in City Park is a beautiful spot where we can set up and spread safely apart. It occupies at least a quarteracre next to a lagoon looking across to a golf course and with plenty of shade under a large live oak. Frequently, there is a cool breeze from across the lagoon. As you will see in this issue, thanks to scouts, we now have an outdoor classroom.

Depending on the course of the virus, we hope to resume meetings on the island in the fall. There can't be PowerPoint presentations, but we will be among a large collection of iris species and cultivars for inspiration and instruction.

We are open to ideas for programs. The possibility of Zoom meetings is on the agenda. With Zoom, it's possible to have guest speakers and slide presentations.

It was necessary to cancel our iris sale in the spring, but we are now looking at the possibility of rescheduling it. We have plants ready, but need to find a location and figure out the logistics of a safe event.

We will adapt. Keep gardening!

### Thanks!



hanks to the work of scouts and the Eagle Scout Project of Life Scout Raymond Johnson from Troop 221, the Island Iris Nursery now has a beautiful section of amphitheater benches. The completed project, shown on page 9, creates an outdoor classroom for GNOIS under the shade of the live oak overlooking the lagoon. It is a great addition to the island that will help support activities for years to come.

Leaders and scouts from five troops assisted with the work. They were Troops 14, 45, 177, 490 and 796.

A new Eagle Scout Project by Warren Waguespack is in process. It consists of a permanent, in-ground picnic table and four 4-foot potting tables.

We are exceedingly grateful for these projects and for the hard work and great spirit of the scouts and their leaders.



View from the island.

2

### **Propagation Initiative**

### **Conservation and Education Program**

Te are ready for the next phase of our mission to "preserve the native forms of Louisiana iris" and to promote them through public plantings and other activities. GNOIS is launching a unique **Propagation Initiative** as part of our Conservation and Education program. It builds upon the wide variety of colors and forms of the five Louisiana iris species that we have assembled for the **Louisiana Iris Species Preservation Project**. The Propagation Initiative will expand the stock of irises needed to support our plantings and other outreach efforts and do so in a *sustainable* way, without digging irises from the wild.

Over several years, GNOIS has engaged in many projects to plant the species of Louisiana irises in wild, naturalistic, and garden settings. Aside from cultivars, our species iris contributions have come mainly from "rescues" in which irises have been dug from one location and planted in another. Rescues continue to be a valuable activity when seriously endangered irises can be relocated, but rescues are limited to suitable collection sites and the particular plants growing there. Through our new Propagation Initiative, GNOIS can dramatically expand the diversity of irises available for placement where the public can enjoy them and thereby promote the mission of our organization.

The Propagation Initiative requires the assistance of members. It will involve an expansion of activities that have been carried out on a smaller scale at our iris planting in City Park.

We want to introduce you to this new Propagation Initiative and invite your participation.



#### **Conservation Begins With Preservation And Propagation**

The Conservation activities of GNOIS rest on the twin pillars of Preservation and Propagation.

**Preservation**. To preserve our native iris heritage, the organization obtains, propagates, and protects the many forms of the five Louisiana iris species. Most are part of the Society for Louisiana Irises' **Species Preservation Project (SPP)** in which GNOIS participates as a major "steward." The GNOIS website displays a subset of these irises and information on the program at:

#### http://www.LouisianaIrisGNOIS.com/SpeciesPreservation/

Several other stewards participate in the program. Most are in Louisiana, but stewards are also working in such states as Tennessee and Georgia. GNOIS maintains the most extensive species collection in the program.

Although most taxonomists currently recognize only five Louisiana iris species, a surprising range of colors and forms exist within each. GNOIS grows around 150 distinct, naturally-occurring forms of our wild irises.

They exhibit many shades of blue, red, yellow, white, purple, and hard-to-describe "in-between" colors. The GNOIS collection is more extensive than those on the core "preservation list" of the SPP, and it includes natural hybrids between species found in the wild. (GNOIS also grows human-developed hybrid Louisiana irises, which we use for beautification projects, gifts for volunteers, and sales of irises to support the organization.)

#### **Conservation Projects**

With this new initiative, GNOIS is adding the propagation component and increasing the organization's capacity to effectively implement projects. Conservation and Education planting projects will be selected based upon the ability of GNOIS to make a meaningful impact on the natural landscape and public awareness of it. Projects should actively educate the public about the irises and the habitats in which they thrive.



Projects must have reasonable goals. It is not possible to turn back the clock and restore wild irises to the extent that they existed in the past. But restoration is achievable to a degree, and it is worth the effort. On the horizon, coastal restoration projects create "new" lands that may well be a natural habitat for the irises. The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and other entities are engaged in preserving and restoring forested wetlands, swamps, marshes, and other critical habitat needed for native irises and other plant species to survive. GNOIS is anxious to assist with these efforts. Also, institutions such as Nicholls State University and the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, have an especial interest in both native irises and coastal restoration. Where possible, GNOIS will work with partners, and it has initiated working relationships with these institutions in support of iris preservation and restoration projects.

#### **How To Propagate Louisiana Irises**

Our vision is clear. We will promote conservation goals by nurturing our species iris collection and utilizing it to propagate new irises for use in planting projects. "Propagation" is a task we are well-prepared to pursue at our island nursery, and it requires volunteers to engage in some specific activities and techniques. The irises to be utilized in projects will be developed primarily in two ways: propagation from (1) germination of seeds, and (2) rhizome cuttings and division.

o **Propagation from seed**. Louisiana irises produce seeds prolifically. A seed pod may contain from 20 to 80 seeds, and one bloom stalk might yield one to four or five pods. If half of the seeds collected germinate, a pod from one flower might yield 75 to 100 new plants. If these new irises are themselves harvested for

seeds in subsequent years, the number of available plants can increase exponentially.

*Collected Seeds*. Seeds can be readily collected from wild populations in early summer. If only one species is growing in a particular area, the offspring will be authentic representatives of that species. Seeds must be collected judiciously so that there is not a significant reduction in the capacity of a stand of irises to reproduce naturally.

Seeds from Controlled Crosses. Seeds can be produced by controlled crosses using the plants in the Species Preservation Project already growing in the GNOIS nursery in City Park. Since all five species and numerous colors and forms are represented – encompassing the approximately 150 different varieties – the total of individual plants at any point is many times that number and increasing each year. It is necessary to cross-pollinate by hand to produce seedlings of a known species, because, given the proximity of the plants in the nursery, bees will carry pollen randomly, and seedlings from the resulting pods will often represent hybrids between species.

On the other hand, if a GNOIS volunteer applies *fulva* pollen to another *fulva* or *giganticaerulea* pollen to a *giganticaerulea*, the resulting seedlings will be a pure member of the particular species. The process of making a cross is quick and easy once a volunteer sees it done, and it can produce large numbers of seeds with a small investment of time. It also is an interesting and educational process, does not involve heavy or messy work, and allows the volunteer to follow the progress of his or her iris seedlings from pollination to mature irises, or even to bloom.

Propagation from rhizome cuttings and division. An iris rhizome blooms only once, and in subsequent generations, the several new plants it produces as "offsets" perpetuate the variety. Some irises produce 2-3 offsets, but others may generate 5-6. "Spent," or bloomed-out, rhizomes can be used to accelerate this process. A spent rhizome can be cut into 2-3 inch sections and the parts planted in a moist, well-draining medium. In many cases, the pieces will produce offsets, increasing the number of new plants of the variety beyond its natural rate of multiplication. Each new plant produced by this method will be identical to the "mother" plant.

This technique has the advantage of permitting the propagation of especially vigorous or attractive varieties. For example, if one wanted additional plants of the white giganticaerulea 'Her Highness' or the yellow fulva 'Lottie Butterscotch', the spent rhizomes of that variety could be targeted for propagation. Or the target might be a variety that is especially vigorous or has other valuable characteristics worthy of transmitting to offspring.

The Species Preservation Project collection in City Park positions GNOIS to develop a diverse array of Louisiana irises unmatched in the country. No other source exists for as many unique forms and colors of Louisiana iris species.

The eventual distribution of excess irises from the collection is part of the vision of the SPP. For more vigorous clones, we are ready to move beyond "saving and maintaining" and to begin using plants for conservation and education activities.

**Alternative: Plant Rescues.** To date, projects have generally drawn upon irises "rescued" from one location and replanted elsewhere. Such opportunities arise occasionally, and it is entirely appropriate to take irises from a place where they are endangered. While GNOIS should not ignore such opportunities, plant rescues are not proposed as the vehicle for the routine operation of the GNOIS Conservation Program in the future. The advantages of propagation as the core strategy to obtain plants are based on several factors:

Propagation	Rescue	
Continuous and predictable after the initial ramp-up	Episodic and unpredictable	
Involves light tasks in mostly shady conditions	Often involves hard work in inhospitable terrain in open, sunny, and wet locations	
Work scalable to the volunteer capacity of the organization	Volunteer demands are dependent on the size of the iris population in need of rescue and the terrain in which located	
Some work (rhizome cuttings) can be incorporated into routine weeding and maintenance	Each rescue project produces added work	
Propagated plants easy to handle; can be available in pots or as plugs	Rescue involves handling and planting bare-root rhizomes	
Irises in containers better for planting in water and at most times of the year	Bare-root rhizomes often do not transplant well directly into water or in the hot summer months	
Can target desirable characteristics of the irises (rhizome cuttings)	Dependent on the source irises growing in a given location	
More educational for volunteers as to reproduction processes	More educational for volunteers as to natural growing conditions	

The objective of the propagation strategy is to add to the capacity of GNOIS members and volunteers to effectively promote preservation and conservation of our native irises by creating a diverse source of plants through a manageable process. It emphasizes a new, sustainable approach rather than replacing other opportunities, such as rescues, that may arise. Propagation strategies, hopefully, can engage a more substantial proportion of our members in conservation efforts and bring them to the island nursery in regular, comfortable, and supporting roles.

#### **Organization and Activities**

To succeed, the Propagation Initiative requires a group to work periodically at our island nursery on the activities described here. A Propagation Manual is being prepared to guide the tasks. However, we may engage in some experimentation involving best practices since Louisiana iris enthusiasts over the years have developed and successfully employed a variety of propagation procedures. We have set up the site for propagation work on the island, and supplies are on hand.

Propagation work will be a chance to learn about a side of Louisiana iris culture that most do not see. Propagation activities will not include the selection of planting projects, actual planting, or publicity surrounding those projects. Propagation volunteers may choose to be involved in plantings or publicity, of course, but these will not be their responsibility. Their efforts will lay the foundation, however, for important conservation work.

#### **Volunteer Day Schedule**

We are proposing two regular mornings a month -- the 4th Tuesday and the 2nd Saturday -- as "volunteer days" for the Propagation Initiative and other tasks at the Island Iris Nursery. Each will involve 2-3 hours. We are scheduling the first two days and will consult with those interested about a schedule going forward.

The two days are suggested because weekdays are better for some and weekends for others. Take your pick. We will see what shakes out. As usual, there will be thank-you irises for all.

The first dates are: TUESDAY, Jul 28 and SATURDAY Aug 8. Start time: 8:30 - 9:00 AM.

## The Island Iris Nursery

You've heard about it, seen pictures, and many have volunteered time. It is a unique asset that is poised to pay off for the club and the community in ways barely imaginable in years past.

n City Park near the police stables, sits a closed and somewhat inaccessible area that over the years has been used for many purposes. It is mostly undeveloped, but behind a locked gate near the edge of a lagoon, are about a quarter-acre of Louisiana irises grown by the Greater New Orleans Iris Society.

Irises have been there since the year after Katrina as a part of a Wetland Plant Center created to grow out plant material to aid in the recovery of the Park lagoons, gardens and bayous. They occupied only a few beds at first, but have expanded over the years under the management of GNOIS. Now there is a large plot containing hundreds of hybrid cultivars and the most diverse and extensive collection of the native species in the country.

The native iris portion of the collection consists of around 150 forms of the five Louisiana iris species that are part of a Society for Louisiana Irises "Species Preservation Project." Due to development and other habitat destruction, these irises are disappearing from the wild, and the purpose of the project is to preserve their genetic diversity. The original hybrid cultivars were given by a commercial garden now out of business.

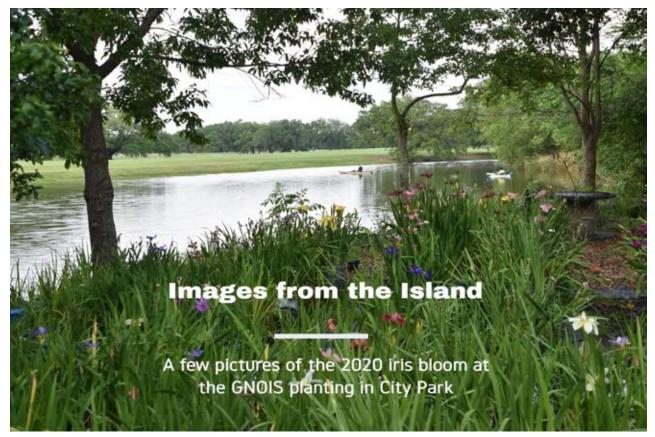
GNOIS uses the irises grown on the island for public donations and conservation. Our members also have received some as part of raffles or giveaways at meetings. In recent years, we have donated species irises, as well as many hybrid cultivars, to public plantings around New Orleans and South Louisiana. All-species plantings have occurred in Louisiana Wildlife Management Areas and National Wildlife Refuges, particularly those with boardwalks that attract visitors. We have donated to rain gardens, bioswales, and other projects. We are set up to contribute to community redevelopment and "living with water" initiatives. Thousands of cultivars and species plants have gone into the Besthoff Sculpture Garden, and we plan more donations to other City Park sites. Support of these projects and others like them are part of the core mission of GNOIS.

We have held open house events on the island during iris bloom, but this year had to cancel because of the coronavirus. We plan to hold safe meetings there beginning in the fall. It is the perfect place to socially distance, and outdoor events will be the norm for the foreseeable future.

Enjoy this pictorial review of the GNOIS Island Iris Nursery, and look for news of future activities on our website and Facebook page.



'Pontchartrain Beach



This picture and several below were included in a recent Facebook post on the Greater New Orleans Iris Society page.

See page 14 for a key to identification of pictures in this issue.













A Tour of the Island Iris Nursery







The new outdoor classroom under the oak

Recently transplanted seedlings





**JULY 2020** 



The Louisiana Iris Species Preservation Project planting at the Island Iris Nursery contains around 150 distinct clones of the five native species. The range of colors and forms is most apparent when they are seen together.





Finally, a few of the species I. brevicaulis (above) and additional cultivars from the past season. We hope an Open House to show them all will be possible next season.



## What do my irises need now?

The bloom season is just a pleasant memory, although looking at pictures keeps it alive. In the garden, the foliage is what we see, and there is a bit of upkeep needed to keep plantings neat and promote next season's bloom.

• If you have bloom stalks remaining, cut them back to a

couple of inches from the ground. The rhizome that produced that stalk will not bloom again, but



it will create offsets, which are the new plants that will bloom in the future. Energy needs to go to the babies, not to maintaining an old bloom stalk.

- If there are seed pods on the stalks, you can discard those, too, unless you would like to plant them and create some new hybrid irises. The next few weeks are the time to cut open the pods, remove the seeds, pot them up, and wait for germination in the winter. If you leave the pods on the stalks, they will drop eventually and form new plants in your existing clump.
- Clean up any yellowed or yellowing foliage. Put it in the garbage, not the compost. If there is any rust on the leaves, the disease will be perpetuated if the foliage decomposes in your flower beds. Out with yellow foliage!
- Keep your Louisiana irises consistently watered. If they get too dry, the foliage will start looking scruffy and, in the extreme, the iris could go dormant.

- Iris foliage can remain nice looking through the summer if the plants stay consistently damp. "Consistently" is the key.
- The irises can benefit from a little fertilizer after bloom. If they did not get a dose then but look to still be actively growing, they will enjoy a little now. New growth comes from the center of the fan, so that's where you'll see bright new leaves emerging if the irises are in growth mode. And, if they are not growing well now, you might as well wait for the usual fall application of fertilizer. A dormant or semi-dormant cannot process nutrients.
- It is not necessary to cut irises back after bloom, but anytime foliage looks scruffy, it can be cut. Good growth will resume in fall.

Now is NOT the best time to dig and replant bare root irises; they will not appreciate being moved as the heat of summer arrives. Save that for the fall (September, October or even November), if it is necessary this year at all. (If you have to dig rhizomes now, try to keep them wet and in a shady spot until growth resumes; they'll pout but probably survive until fall growth starts. Don't expect much until then).

Check out the following for more information:

General Louisiana iris culture: <a href="http://www.LouisianaIrisGNOIS.com/IrisCulture/">http://www.LouisianaIrisGNOIS.com/IrisCulture/</a> Read the interview with the proand the article on fertilizers for Louisiana irises by Robert Treadway).

Also, on growing from seeds: http://www.zydecoirises.com/Culture/Propagation.htm

#### **Questions?**

There are bound to be questions. You may want to know more about iris culture, about a garden or other place where irises can be seen, or about iris activities in the area. Direct any questions to the editor, Patrick O'Connor, pfoconnor@cox.net. And check out the GNOIS website or Facebook page for bulleltins.

#### Sale?

We had assembled around 400 potted cultivars for our Spring Iris Sale, but it was covidedout. Many were nice donations from Cindy's Louisiana Iris (cindyslouisianairis.com) in Carriere, MS. We are working on the logistics of a make-up sale that we hope will be held in August. Watch for details in your email and online.

#### Bayou & Marsh

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS IRIS SOCIETY

#### **OFFICERS**

#### Susan Anthony, President

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Vacant

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#### Lorrie Brown, Corresponding Secretary

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#### Carolyn Drouant, Recording Secretary

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Mark Schexnayder Metairie
Benjamin Clement Kenner
Joe Musacchia Gray (past president)

#### NEWSLETTER Patrick O'Connor

4628 Newlands St. Metairie, LA 70808 504-343-1399 pfoconnor@cox.net



#### In the Summer 2020 Fleur de Lis

The Summer 2020 issue of *Fleur de Lis* from the Society for Louisiana Irises, available for download by GNOIS members, features the articles below. A link was sent by email.

- A pictorial review of the 2020 bloom season in Northwest Louisiana by SLI Treasurer Ron Killingsworth.
- A tale of two old, yellow mystery irises growing in the GNOIS planting in City Park, by Patrick O'Connor.
- Announcement of the winner of the Charles W. Arny Award for 2020. Ron Betzer's 'Dark Dude' won in the annual SLI popularity poll. Article by Dave

Nitka, who runs the poll.

- Charles Perilloux writes about some fascinating Louisiana irises growing in Texas.
- Australian Hybridizer Heather Pryor writes about the story behind the name of one of her latest registrations.
- Rick Johnson, Curator of Briarwood, provides the latest "Reflections" on the Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve in Saline, LA.

## Commercial Directory

### Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

608 NW 119th Street Vancouver, WA 98685-3802

Phone. (360) 573-4472 aitken@flowerfantasy.net

#### www.flowerfantasy.net

Featuring Beardless and Bearded Irises

#### **Bois d'Arc Gardens**

Rusty McSparrin 1831 Bull Run Road Schriever, LA 70395

Phone: (985) 446-2329 E-mail: bois@charter.net Web: www.bois-darc.com

Catalog with color photos online

Wholesale & Retail Prices

#### Cindy's Louisiana Iris

93 Cassaday Drive Carriere, MS 39426

Phone: (601) 798-3352
Cell: (601) 799-6780
Email: cindyslairis@gmail.com
www.cindyslouisianairis.com
Hybrid and Native Species
LA irises
Featuring introductions by
Joe Musacchia,
Patrick O'Connor, Benny
Trahan and Roland Guidry

#### Collier's Garden

P.O. Box 32 Lawson, MO 64062-0032

Phone: (816) 580-7116

thomascollier@juno.com

FREE Catalog upon Request

Louisiana Irises, Rebloom Bearded Irises, Daylilies

#### **Iris City Gardens**

7675 Younger Creek Road Primm Springs, TN 38476 Phone: 800-934-4747

email@iriscitygardens.com www.iriscitygardens.com

Full catalog with color pictures available online.

Catalog text available as a PDF download from the website.

#### Louisiana Iris Farms

PO Box 82367 Lafayette, LA 70598

Phone: (337) 277-9930 www.louisianairis.com

Wholesale and Retail as per website

Featuring introductions by Kevin Vaughn & Elaine Bourque

### Redbud Lane Iris Garden

Full color catalog online

2282 N. 350th Street Kansas, IL 61933

Phone: (217) 232-5479 Email: redbud142@gmail.com

Catalog \$1.00

Louisiana and Bearded Irises Mail order Louisiana iris nurseries generally ship only in the fall. Those listed here should be taking orders now, but may run out of some varieties soon. Most have websites.

The Commercial Directory from SLI shows where to get irises (besides GNOIS sales)

**PICTURE ID**: *Page 8*, by row from upper left: 'Gulf Moon Glow', 'Mothership', 'Silver Run Creek', 'Dark Dude', 'Lemon Zest'. *Page 10*: *I. nelsonii* clones above text; *I. fulva* (red and yellow) and *I. giganticaerulea* (blue and white) clones below text. *Page 11'*: *I. brevicaulis* above text. White in center is 'Louisiana Snow', a rare color found by Kent Benton in Livingston Parish. Cultivars below text: 'Alouette', 'Flaming Hot', 'Divorcee', 'Rose Cartwheel', unknown, 'Katrina Rising', 'Professor Barbara', 'My Friend Dick', and 'Ginny's Choice'.

### **GNOIS On The Web**

www.LouisianalrisGNOIS.com

www.facebook.com/GreaterNewOrleansIrisSociety



### **GNOIS**

## PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW!

2020 Dues \$10 per person or household for one year, or \$25 for three years. Please make checks payable to Greater New Orleans Iris Society, or GNOIS. Please provide the names of those in the household who will participate and, if desired, email addresses for each.

NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PHONE	_		
EMAIL (Please provide and email address to receive this newsletter and other information.			

Mail to: GNOIS, P. O. Box 872051, New Orleans, LA 70187-2051

# Society for Louisiana Irises Membership Form Name: Address: City: State: Zip:

United States Subscribers Annual Dues:

E-mail:

- [] Youth-\$5.00
- [] I Year (Individual)-\$17.00
- [] 3 Year (Individual)-\$45.00
- [] I Year (Family)-\$22.00
- [] 3 Year (Family)-\$60.00
- [] Life-\$1,000.00

International Subscribers Annual Dues:

Phone Number:\_\_

- [] I Year (Individual)-\$30.00
- []3 Year (Individual)-\$82.00
- [] I Year (Family)-\$33.00
- [] 3 Year (Family)-\$90.00

[] Life-\$1,000.00

Return Form & Payment To:

Society for Louisiana Irises 10329 Caddo Lake Road Mooringsport, LA 71060

### Society for Louisiana Irises Storefront

#### THE LOUISIANA IRIS: THE TAMING OF AN AMERICAN WILDFLOWER

Contributing Editors: Marie Caillet, J. Farron Campbell, Kevin C. Vaughn, and Dennis Vercher Details: 254 pp, 111 color photos, 5 watercolors, 21 b/w photos, 14 line drawings, 11 tables, hardcover.

This authoritative treatment by The Society for Louisiana Irises is based on the first edition published by the Society in 1988, but it is considerably expanded. It covers every aspect of the history, botany, and development of these distinctive irises, with particular emphasis on the newest hybrids, hybridizing techniques, and cultural practices, and also includes suggestions for their use in the landscape and in floral arrangements. It should serve to introduce a wider gardening public to these colorful and versatile flowers. - \$30.00



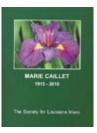
#### Special Publication of the Society for Louisiana Irises - The History of Hybridizing (2007)

This Special Publication of the Society for Louisiana Irises is a 100-page summary of how the "ditch irises" of Louisiana have been tamed and introduced into American gardens. Contents include informative articles on such early pioneers as Mary Swords DeBallion, Caroline Dormon, and Percy Viosca; the Shreveport and Lake Charles groups, the California hybridizers, and a wide variety of other contributors to the development of the Louisiana iris. Includes 30 color photographs of outstanding cultivars. Paperbound. - \$5.00 plus \$2.00 shipping within U.S.



#### Special Publication of the Society for Louisiana Irises honoring Marie Caillet (1915-2010)

This is a very high quality publication that pays tribute to Marie Caillet, a charter member of SLI, longtime editor of the SLI newsletter, and the "grandmother" of SLI for many of us. This is a 52 page  $8.5 \times 10$  publication in full color with many pictures of Marie, species Louisiana irises, Marie Caillet Cup Winners with pictures, a listing of SLI Distinguished Merit Award winners from 1989 to 2010, and memories of Marie written by several members of SLI. - \$10 plus \$3 shipping within US



#### Louisiana Iris Hybridizers 1985-2010

This is a paper bound booklet consisting of 99 pages of color pictures, the Marie Caillet Cup Winners from 2001 to 2010 with color pictures, the Mary Swords Debaillon Medal winners from 1986 to 2010 with color pictures and many articles written by the hybridizers during the period 1985 to 2010. This is a companion book for the Special Publication of 2007, which contains information on the hybridizers from the beginning to 1984. - \$5 plus \$2 shipping within US



#### Special Publication of the Society for Louisiana Irises 1995

This paper bound special publication, edited by Marie Caillet and Joseph Mertzweiller, consist of 86 pages and contains "a half-century of progress", information on hybridizers, the development of the tetraploid LA irises, information on LA irises in Australia, culture of LA irises and many beautiful pictures of LA irises. There is a limited supply of this publication remaining so get them while they last. - \$5 plus \$2 shipping within US

#### The SLI Louisiana Iris Checklist CD!

The CD checklist is illustrated with photos of many of the cultivars and it can be displayed in three formats. It has a powerful search feature that allows you to search the checklist by cultivar attributes such as name, date of introduction, hybridizer, parentage and much more. The checklist lists names, descriptions, breeder/introducer and parentage of iris cultivars from the 1920's through the present. The iris are grouped by year of registration and/or introduction. The CD will cost \$10 for delivery to the United States,



Any of these products & other Iris materials can be ordered from the SLI Treasurer Ron Killingsworth. For shipment outside US please contact Ron Killingsworth directly for pricing

10329 Caddo Lake Road, Mooringsport, LA 71060 318-996-9969 retmiagt@gmail.com