For Iris Lovers in the Cold Zones

Aurora

Newsletter of the Can-West Iris Society

Summer, 2021 **Volume 15, Issue 2**

Update From the Organizing Committee

Here we are in the third week of July and the Organizing Committee is pleased to announce that the summer rhizome sale starts next **Wednesday, July 28th**! The commercial supplier was just confirmed in June. We hope you will be pleased with what we have put together despite the delays. Please see page 3 for the details and review them carefully since there have been several changes for 2021.

The bloom season was pretty good for most members if the number of photos posted to the group Facebook page is any indication. And, members really stepped up with entries to our photo contest given that Covid restrictions demanded that a physical show was not doable once again in 2021.

In this issue we extend our congratulations to Sandy Proulx (page 2) for her achievement as well as debut the winners of the photo contest. There were so many beautiful photos entered and we thank you all for making it just as big a success as the virtual show was in 2020. In the next few days the winners will be contacted to claim their prizes.

And now as we move to late summer, please keep an eye out and report any rebloom you may be lucky enough to have this year. With heat, drought, floods and fires and everything else Mother Nature has seen fit to throw at our members across the country, we need some good news to report.

As always, enjoy the newsletter and if you need to contact us, we are just an email away. You can reach us at:

BJ Jackson - jacksonb@mts.net Jennifer Bishop/ Jennifer@dataways.com
El Hutchison - eleanore@mymts.net Deborah Petrie/ martyaddict@gmail.com

New Region 21 AIS Judge!



We are pleased to announce that our own Sandy Proulx has received word that she will be elevated from Apprentice to full G/E (Garden/Exhibition) judge's status as of the American Iris Society's fall meeting this year.

Sandy is a long time CWIS member and has been a long suffering show clerk for the past several years. She will now able to fully participate in judging as an equal voice and joins senior judges El Hutchison and BJ Jackson in that role.

Sandy joined the AIS in 2015 and began the journey toward iris judging in 2016. In 2017 and 2019 she attended the AIS national conventions in Iowa and California respectively and participated in both classroom and garden judging opportunities that were available there. She was scheduled to attend the 100th national convention in New York in 2020 just as the world blew up with Covid 19. And finally, her elevation was approved in June of this year.

Congratulations, Sandy, on a job well done!

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Did you know the two most common reblooming irises on the prairies are TB Inmmortality and SDB Forever Blue?

Photo Contest 2021

(compiled by BJ Jackson)

Another year of Covid restrictions meant another year without an iris show. But being ever adaptable with the virtual show in 2020 that was a rousing success, the 2021 photo contest proved even more successful!

There were a total of 191 entries from 16 CWIS members and friends through our Facebook page. More than 200 votes were cast over the various categories. Thank you to all who participated and here's hoping there will actually be a physical show in 2022.

And now to the results! There were some amazing photos entered and these are the ones that came out on top with the most votes in each category.

PC1 Miniature Dwarf Bearded - Spot Of Tea - Deborah Petrie

PC2 Standard Dwarf Bearded - Cherry Web - BJ Jackson

PC3 Miniature Tall Bearded - Merit - Janet Rein

PC4 Intermediate Bearded - Cat In The Hat - Andrea Karpinsky

PC5 Border Bearded - Lenora Pearl - Andrea Karpinsky

PC6 Tall Bearded - Jean Cayeux - BJ Jackson

PC7 Siberian - Grandis - Dianne Skimming

PC8 Species and Species X - I. variegata var. reginea

PC9 Multiple Blooms - TB Bold Fashion - Julie Yatsko

PC10 Clump Shot - MTB Aachen Elf - Sandy Eggertson

PC11 Arilbred - Desert Snow - BJ Jackson

PC12 Spuria - Sellwood - Sandy Proulx

Congratulations to all the winners! You will be contacted directly with details of your prizes.

Thank you again to everyone for your entries and votes in the photo contest. We literally could not do what we do without you! (See page 6-8 for photos)

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2021 CWIS Rhizome Sale

The main event of our short summer is fast approaching! Members will have the opportunity to purchase quality rhizomes at very reasonable prices to add to your gardens. For 2021, Chuck Chapman Iris will be our commercial supplier. (Hint, visit Chuck's website at http://www.chapmaniris.com/ and have a look at his new introductions. They are so new they don't yet have their names approved so appear under seedling numbers).



As well, the list will be augmented by an outstanding list of member donations.

The sale will run from Wednesday, July 28th at 7 pm to Sunday, August 1st or until sold out subject of course to the rhizomes arrival. Orders are processed as received (by date stamp of your email) so you have be quick off the mark. It will operate as it has in the past with a few tweaks (shipping has gone up again). To make things easier for everyone this year, the guidelines are included below so please familiarize yourself with them ahead of time so you know the process if you haven't participated before. Some of the varieties will be in very short supply and others will be plentiful. We do the best we can with what we've got.

We thank you for your support in the past and look forward to introducing you to new and never seen before in local or indeed any Canadian gardens. (Hint, visit Chuck's website and have a look at his new introductions. They are so new they don't yet have their names approved.)

The rules and guidelines are basically the same as in previous years, but there have been a few tweaks so please read everything through carefully before you start shopping. If you don't understand something or something is not clear to you, please ask.

In most cases, the rhizomes have been in transit for many days and will not look freshly dug when you receive them. All they require is a good soak (just enough to cover the roots) for an hour or two to rehydrate them. Then plant and enjoy them next year.

Instructions

1. **REQUIREMENT TO PARTICIPATE**: Paid membership in CWIS is required. The membership fee remains at just $5.00 per year. The membership fee is to be included with your order. The exception is those who joined up between August of last year and July of this year or those who have paid for multiple years. We know who you are. If you have any questions regarding your membership status, please ask.

2. **SALE PERIOD**: The sale will run from Wednesday, July 28th to Sunday, August 1st or until the iris are sold out, whichever comes first. These dates are subject to arrival of the rhizomes of course. Any change will be communicated directly to members via an alert in their email inbox. Orders are filled on a first come, first served basis based on the time stamp of your email arriving.

3. **ORDERS**: **DO NOT HIT REPLY AND SEND THE ENTIRE LISTING BACK TO ME!** Create a new e-mail with your order to B. J. Jackson at jacksonb@mts.net with "**2021 Rhizome Sale Order**" in the subject line.
With your order, please include:
- iris selection and price
- shipping method (Canada Post, Winnipeg delivery or other)
- full address and postal code
- method of payment
- membership status
*****Orders not in the format above will not be processed until corrected. *****
Please note a change this year! To avoid mass confusion that is the first few days of the sale, just one e-mail order per day per person will be accepted. Ensure that everything you 'must have' is included in your first email. Subsequent additions to orders in the next days are subject to availability.

4. **ACCEPTED PAYMENT METHODS**: Interac E-transfers are preferred; however, if you wish to pay by cheque or other method, indicate this on your order and **wait** for your confirmation before sending. NSF cheques will be charged a service fee at current bank rates plus $5. Electronic bank transfers are to be sent to jacksonb@mts.net. Check your online banking site for information and the instructions on how to use it. Depending on your bank and your account type, there may be a charge to you for using it.
*****We need to know your payment method at time of ordering!*****

5. **RHIZOME AVAILABILITY**: Some of the varieties are in very limited numbers. Only 1 rhizome per variety per order unless advised otherwise.

Confirmations will be sent once your order has been received **in the proper format** and processed. Please remember the Rhizome Sale Committee volunteer their time and labour to us and we do have lives outside of iris. If you don't receive an acknowledgement within 24 hours, please write again to confirm your order has been received. Your patience is appreciated.

6. **PRICING**: Prices are shown either beside the classification or beside the individual variety. Please check both before writing and **include the price** per variety with your order!

7. **PHOTOS**: A link to the American Iris Society's Iris Encyclopedia is provided where possible. In the case of those not yet on the iris encyclopedia, a link will be provided to the grower's webpage. Just click on the link and you will go to the particular variety. If clicking on the link doesn't work, just copy and paste the link into your browser.

8. **SHIPPING CHARGES:** Postage charges are **not** included. A flat fee of $20 will be added to all orders to be shipped via Canada Post. If the cost is less, you will be reimbursed for the difference. Large orders may incur additional shipping costs.

Combined order shipping is encouraged for out-of-province orders. If you are in close proximity to another member who also places an order, your orders may be sent in one box to one address for a single shipping charge. The shipping charges may be more than the flat rate indicated above. Please talk to them before the sale goes live so you have a plan in place beforehand.

Local Winnipeg pick up is available for $5. Please indicate this in your order email. Those who elect this option will be given specific instructions as to how to make arrangements to pick up their orders in the city when they have arrived there.

All COVID-19 public health orders and protocols will be in effect for both your safety and the safety of our pick up person.

In return for following these guidelines you will acquire some healthy and strong iris rhizomes at a very reasonable cost. We cannot guarantee replacement should you happen to get a misnamed iris. Both we and the suppliers have taken every precaution to ensure this doesn't happen, but sometimes mistakes are made. Have fun and enjoy the process. We have tried to make it as simple as possible but if there is any problems, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at jacksonb@mts.net. Be quick and have fun!

BJ Jackson (on behalf of the Rhizome Sale Committee)

Photo Contest Winners By Category

(Photos as submitted by the exhibitor to the group Facebook page)

PC1 to PC4









MDB Spot Of Tea/SDB Cherry Web
MTB Merit/IB Cat In The Hat

PC5 to PC8



BB Lenora Pearl/TB Jean Cayeux
SIB Grandis/SP I. variegate var. reginea

PC9 to PC12









AB Desert Snow/SPU Sellwood
Multiple Blooms TB Bold Fashion
Clump MTB Aachen Elf