For Iris Lovers in the Cold Zones

Aurora

Newsletter of the Can-West Iris Society

Summer, 2022 **Volume 16, Issue 2**

Update From the Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee is pleased to announce that the summer rhizome sale will start **Wednesday, July 27th**! The commercial supplier as announced earlier is Trail's End Iris Gardens. Bob and Ann Granatier have assured us that they are putting together a wonderful list of iris beauties to add to our gardens. We have no reason to question their assertion since they have previously supplied the sale with not a single complaint. We are all very excited to see the final list! Please see page 4-7 for the details. Review them **carefully ahead of time** since there have been a few tweaks to the process for 2022.

In this issue we extend our congratulations to El Hutchison on page 2 for her achievement as well as provide the results of the photo contest on page 3. There were so many beautiful photos entered and we thank you all for making it a success again this year. In the next few days the winners will be contacted to claim their prizes. There is also a new Did You Know piece on page 4 and closes out with the Photo Contest winning photos on pages 8-10.

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, fires and everything else Mother Nature has seen fit to throw at us all across the country, we need some high points.

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 - elhutch203@gmail.com
Deborah Petrie/ martyaddict@gmail.com

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Region 21 Master AIS Judge!



We are pleased to announce that El Hutchison has received word that she has been elevated from Garden/Exhibition to Master Judge status as of the American Iris Society's fall meeting last year.

El is a founding CWIS member and has been put through her paces and had her extensive knowledge of iris tested through 17 iris shows and numerous garden training and classroom sessions. As well, she has provided invaluable service to CWIS serving on the Organizing Committee and Rhizome Sales Committees since day 1. She will now able to relax just a wee bit since the requirements to maintain Master Judge status are not quite as onerous. Congratulations, El, for 15 years of dedicated service to the American Iris Society and almost 20 to the CWIS.

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SDB Pal Sam

Photo Contest 2022

(compiled by BJ Jackson)

Another year of Covid uncertainty and unease meant another year without an iris show. The 2022 photo contest which filled in quite admirably and encouraged a lot of participation from members across the country was an unqualified success!

There were a total of 240 entries from 27 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 2023.

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 - Forever Violet - BJ Jackson

PC2 Standard Dwarf Bearded - Rain In Spain - Andrea Karpinsky

PC3 Miniature Tall Bearded - Pixi-wan Kinobi - Sandy Eggertson

PC4 Intermediate Bearded - Oklahoma Bandit - Jacqueline Fiola Lawson

PC5 Border Bearded - Grace And Charm - Sandy Proulx

PC6 Tall Bearded - Tanzanite Twinkle - Michael Dossett

PC7 Siberian - (tie) So Van Gogh - Marilyn Kusler/Pink Parfait - Jacqueline Fiola Lawson

PC8 Species and Species X - I. Spuria ssp carthaliniae white form - BJ Jackson

PC9 Multiple Blooms - MDB Spot Of Tea - Sharon Rowe

PC10 Clump Shot - SDB Jungle Warrior - Julie Yatsko

PC11 Arilbred - Shimmy Shake - BJ Jackson

PC12 Spuria - not awarded due to just one entry by contest end date

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

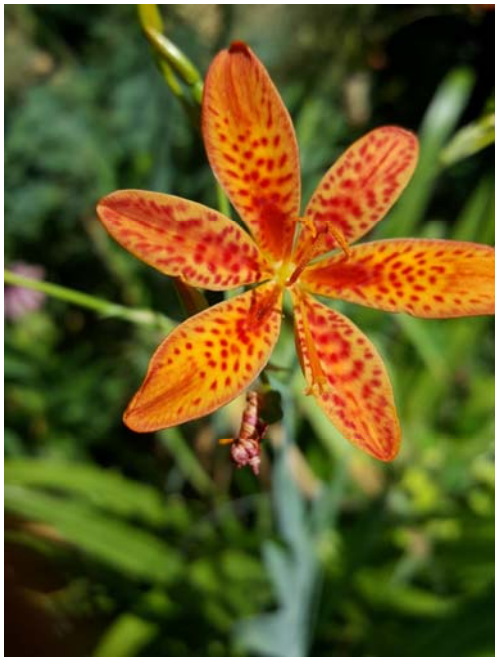
Thank you again to everyone for your entries and votes in the photo contest. We literally could not do what we do without you! (See page 8-10 for photos)

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Did You Know…

… a very uniris-looking plant is now classed in the iris family???

This species was in its own genus (Belamcanda) until DNA data showed it belongs in the iris classification system. It is now known as Iris domestica Bill Shear says when the pods mature, they expose clusters of shiny black seeds. This accounts for the common name "Blackberry Lily."



(photo courtesy Bill Shear)

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2022 CWIS Rhizome Sale

The main event of our short summer is fast approaching! Next week members will have the opportunity to purchase quality rhizomes at very reasonable prices to add to your gardens.. As announced in the Spring newsletter, our commercial 2022 supplier is Trails End Iris Gardens.

Trails End
Iris Gardens

And through the generosity of our members and friends, the list will be added to from member donations.

The sale will run from Wednesday, July 27th at 7 pm to Sunday, July 31st or until sold out subject, of course, to the rhizomes arrival on time. Orders are processed as received (by date stamp of your email) so you have be quick off the mark. There are just a few tweaks for 2022 with rising shipping costs accounting for the biggest change.

To make things easier for everyone again 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 the Trail's End website and have a look at their offerings. Disregard any marked sold out. It could be on the list since we do not receive the final list till they are shipped. It is their choice given our parameters which this year included a little bit of everything from all bearded classes available.

The rules and guidelines are basically the same, but there have been a few changes 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 27th to Sunday, July 31st 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 "**2022 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**: Electronic bank payments 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. We are still looking for the fastest, cheapest and easiest way to get your irises to you. Please stay tuned Wednesday for more information.

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. Please make arrangements before the sale goes live so you have a plan in place ahead of time. It is acceptable to ask on the Facebook page who might be nearby and interested in combined shipping but only initial contact. Details should be worked out privately. BJ Jackson will be very busy and cannot facilitate contacts between members. You need to do that yourselves.

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.

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 all precaution to ensure this doesn't happen but we are not infallable and 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)
CWIS Rhizome Sale Committee



Photo El Hutchison SDB Irish Harp

Photo Contest Winners By Category

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

PC1 to PC4



MDB Forever Violet, SDB Rain In Spain,
MTB Pixi-wan Kinobi, IB Oklaholma Bandit

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PC5 to PC7



BB Grace and Charm, TB Tanzanite Twinkle
Siberians So Van Gogh, Pink Parfait (tie)

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PC8 to PC11



AB Shimmy Shake, I. spuria ss. carthaliniae, MDB Spot of Tea



SDB Jungle Warrior clump