



Bayou *and* Marsh

Newsletter of the Greater New Orleans Iris Society

Annual Iris Sale and Swap Meeting Just Ahead

Help Needed With Sale at the NOBG Fall Show

The fall busy season is about to begin. The GNOIS schedule includes:

- **The annual iris sale on Saturday and Sunday, October 16-17.** This year the sale will be held at our booth at the New Orleans Botanical Garden Fall Show.
- **A workday on October 9 to prepare our sale irises.** We have purchased a good variety of recent cultivars from Iris City Garden and also will have plants donated by members. Members will have an opportunity at the workday to buy plants in advance of the sale.
- **Our fall meeting at Longue Vue, Tuesday, October 12, 7 PM.** We will elect new officers, fine tune plans for the NOBG sale, and have an iris swap among members. Bring a few plants to trade! We always have interesting irises.

This is an ambitious schedule, particularly in holding the sale at the NOBG show. It will require that we man our booth with at least three people during the morning rush both days, and two for as long as the irises last. Hopefully we

will sell out fast.

Volunteers

If you can help out for a few hours at the sale, please call Patrick O'Connor, 456-6060 or sign up at the October 12 meeting. The workday on October 9 will run from 9 AM until 4 PM and will be set up for people to drop in and help for an hour or two at their convenience. The work will consist primarily of labeling and "grooming" the irises for sale. We have given a bit of thought about how to make the sale preparation and process as labor un-intensive as possible, so the work should go fast.

The Sale Setup

We will sell our purchased irises bareroot. They will be held in water after the shipment is received. We have plastic boxes available, one for each cultivar, and a picture will be attached. Customers can select the particular plants they want from each box. We will only need to keep the roots damp during the sale. We will supply a plastic sack for purchases, which can be sealed to retain moisture. (Donations of plastic grocery bags appreciated!)

Each iris we sell for \$5 regardless of whether it is a registered cultivar, a species plant or a seedling. This will minimize the work in checking people out and collecting money.

Donated Irises

Members are encouraged to donate plants to supplement those we purchased. Donated plants can also be bare root or can be potted, if preferred. If bareroot, just wash the roots well and keep the plants moist. Dig as close to the sale as possible.

Please let Patrick O'Connor know what varieties you will donate so a picture can be located and printed, if possible. You can bring the plants to the workday, the meeting on the 12th or make another arrangement.

We need help! Please do what you can.

New Bylaws

GNOIS adopted new bylaws at the August 10 meeting. Copies are available. The bylaws create a Board in addition to officer slots, and all these positions are scheduled to be filled at the meeting on October 12. A nominating committee has been named.

The bylaws set annual dues at \$5 annually, subject to periodic review by the Board and membership. We soon will begin to collect dues for 2005.