

No. 40

News from the Greater New Orleans Iris Society

January 2023

A NEW YEAR, A FRESH START

COVID is banned, and we are kicking off a New Year with our first “normal” meeting in a long time.

The Greater New Orleans Iris Society is kicking off the New Year on January 21, 2023, with a meeting at 9:30 AM at the East Bank Regional Library on West Napoleon just off Clearview. It's going to feel good!

We will return to the format initiated before COVID so rudely interrupted us. We'll gather at 9:30 AM when the Library opens, enjoy refreshments and visiting, and listen or participate in member “demonstrations” on gardening

topics. For this meeting, members are asked to bring their favorite gardening tool and be prepared to tell how they use it and why they like it. Other demonstrations are welcome.

A Little Business

A business meeting will begin a little after 10 AM. We have officers to elect and a couple of Bylaw amendments to consider. Look for more information in your email prior to the meeting.

The program for this meeting will be a presentation by Patrick O'Connor on “Other Irises For New Orleans - Not Louisianas!” Louisiana irises are our favorite, but there are several interesting but little-grown types that will do well here. They can add a bit of diversity and novelty to your garden.

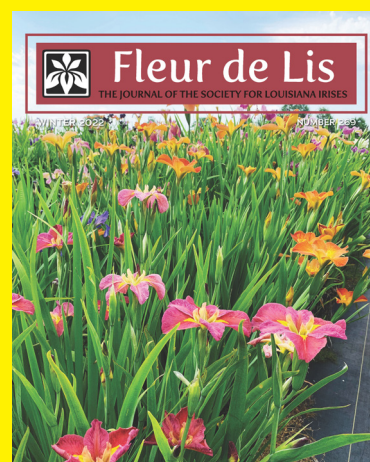
We will hold our usual raffle for Door Prizes and distribute a few freebies from our Island Iris Nursery. These are some of the benefits from our unique New Orleans City Park plantings..

Thanks

And we extend a big “thank you” to the Park for the beautiful space we enjoy on Nursery Island.

It's rare that a plant organization has access to such a place. We grow around three-quarters of an

**The latest
Fleur de Lis
is waiting for
you.**



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MEETING

**Saturday, January 21
9:30 AM**

East Bank Regional Library
4747 West Napoleon
Metairie

- Visiting, Refreshments, Demonstration: “Members’ Favorite Garden Tools”
- Business meeting (election of officers)
- Program: “Other Irises for New Orleans - Not Louisianas!”, Patrick O'Connor
- Door prizes, iris distribution

acre of irises there, which makes not only our give-away irises possible, but also the many donations we make to public gardens and our efforts to preserve the native species and historic Louisiana iris cultivars.

What We Do On Nursery Island



We hope all our members will watch this eight-minute video that covers the types of irises we grow and our objectives to preserve them.

[Click here](#) or on the picture, and share the link with your friends. You can also find the link on the home page of GNOIS website.



Barring inclement weather and holidays, volunteers work at the Island Iris Nursery each Thursday beginning at 9:00 AM. Members are invited and encouraged to join in now and then.

No one can commit to every week, but won't you pencil us in once a month or so? The jobs are diverse and need not be hard, messy work.

It's a great cause that supports a wide range of Society activities. You get to work with fellow members and learn about the irises. Plus there are always thank-you irises for volunteers.

A few scenes from the Island Iris Nursery



A newly reworked section featuring 25 of Joe Musacchia's newest and best irises.



Earl David at a Thursday volunteer day weeding pots for the spring sale.



Malinda Ibert and Makenzie Reich of the Pontchartrain Conservancy with Mark Schexnayder after picking up an iris donation for a school project.



The area around the pergola, previously very weedy, cleaned and ready for landscape fabric.



The space around the pergola with landscape fabric in place and new stands for iris trays waiting for plants



Workers from Limitless Vistas, a non-profit group that has helped us over the years and that has stepped up in recent weeks to do major work.

