

HIPS Northeast Director's Report for 2015

My activities as Northeastern HIPS Director have been moderate. I compiled a list of my historic irises and submitted them to the HIPS database maintained by Brett Barney. When it came time to dig for my local AIS affiliate's sale, I included historic irises among my donations; carefully labeling them as such, and attempted to communicate to sale patrons what the term 'historic' encompasses and what they should expect from an iris marked as such.

I took pleasure in nominating Anner M. Whitehead for the 2016 HIPS Distinguished Service Award, and compiled a partial supporting list of her many activities through the years in support of HIPS' goals. However, my activities are only a very small part of iris preservation activity taking place in the Northeast.

An important contribution is being made by AIS Region 2 member Terrance Laurin of Ontario, Canada. Throughout 2015, as AIS TWIKI Photo Manager, he has uploaded to the TWIKI a number of images of historic irises. Many of these images came from websites around the world. He has also been working with Janet Smith Coordinator of AIS Iris Resources-Digital Programs/Slides and HIPS Slide Preservation Coordinator. She has provided him with a number of collections owned by Leo T. Clarke, Barry Blyth, John Weiler, Bee Warburton, Lloyd Zurbrigg and Rosalie Figge, to name a few. His current project with Janet is uploading the current HIPS slide collection to the AIS TWIKI. These activities will continue through 2016.

I will continue to promote historic irises and their conservation and will seek an appropriate area to establish a small public planting during 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Stiefel,

NE HIPS Director