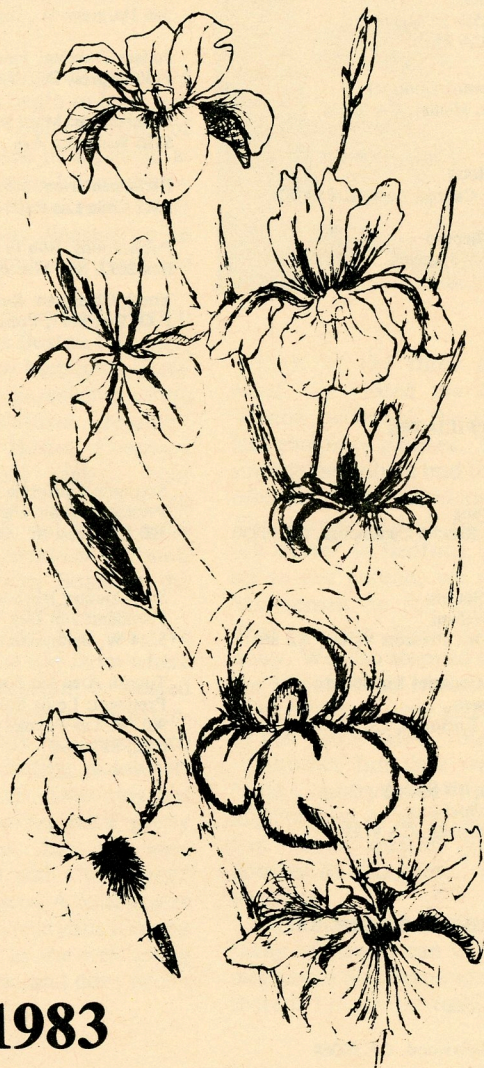


ALS Region 15 Newsletter

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA • ARIZONA



Fall 1983

MEETING OCTOBER 8

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY REGION 15 NEWSLETTER

THIS NEWSLETTER is published in the Spring and Fall each year. It is distributed to all members of the American Iris Society residing in Southern California and Arizona. Annual subscription rate to others is \$1.50. Editorial offices located at P.O. Box 2033, San Marcos, CA 92069.

REGIONAL OFFICERS

Regional Vice President
Eleanor McCown, 2550 E. Harris Rd.
Box 176, Holtville, CA 92250

Vice Chairman: Howard Goodrick
1700 Burr Oak Way, Hemet, CA 92343
(714) 925-4474

Secretary: George Hood
7032 Darnoch Way, Canoga Park, CA 91307

Treasurer: Bobbie Shepard
3342 W. Orangewood, Phoenix, AZ 85021

REGION 15 AIS AFFILIATES

Inland Iris Society
President: Ralph Strane
7403 Archibald Ave., Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
(714) 987-2835

Mountain View Iris Society
President: Findrew Nelson
6215 N. Wildhorse Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86312

San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society
President: Archie Owen
227 Peckham Place, Encinitas, CA 92024
(619) 753-7648

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
President: Myrna Pollock
17921 Ingomar St., Reseda, CA 91335

OTHER GROUPS MEETING IN REGION

Aril Society International
President: Bill Scott
1946 Vedanta Pl., Hollywood, CA 90068

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club
President: Nancy Webb
9382 Vons Place, Garden Grove, CA 92640

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Exhibition: August Phillips
566 Hargrave St., Inglewood, CA 90302

Judges Training: Janice Chesnik
1130 Cypress Dr., Vista, CA 92083

Membership: Mary Martin
5336 Winnetka Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Parliamentarian: Jennie Hopson
2312 Calle Las Palmas, San Clemente, CA 92672

Publications: Bob Brooks
Box 2033, San Marcos, CA 92069

Youth Chairman: Katie Romero
P.O. Box 5777, Prescott Valley, AZ 86312

Southern California Iris Society
President: John Wight
320 E. Locust St., Ontario, CA 91761

Sun Country Iris Society
President: Jim Day
5244 W. Sunnyside Dr., Glendale, AZ 85304

Tucson Area Iris Society
President: Leslie Follett
901 W. Las Palmas Dr., Tucson, AZ 85704
(602) 887-4398

THE REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Eleanor McCown, RVP, Region 15



Greetings all—

Here it is the half way point of a long hot summer and I can begin to look forward to the relatively cooler weather of fall. I just spent a week in Idyllwild at U.S.C.'s Isomata Campus learning how the Acoma Pueblo Indians make their Polychrome pots. It was pleasant to be above sea level for a while and enjoy the cool mountain air.

There were so few of us from Region 15 at the convention in Boston this year, I thought I'd tell a few highlights. Convention headquarters was within walking distance of the "Downtown Crossing" shopping center, the Boston Common and many historical sights, that whenever there was a spare moment, all we had to do was walk out of the hotel and meander in any direction. I found the park with the Swan Boats in the small lake a delightful place to walk.

The Welcoming Dinner was fun. We were taken by bus to the Bay front where the New England Aquarium is located and after an hour of viewing the extensive collection of sea life, we were given a "Clam Bake", including a lobster, clams, corn and chicken. Since this was essentially finger food we were pretty messy when finished, but we were thoughtfully provided with "wet ones" to wipe our sticky fingers. A cool breeze from the bay had most everyone looking for a sweater or coat as the welcoming speeches, introductions, and door prizes were given out.

Each of the three days of garden tours, we visited the Case Estates in Weston, where all the guest hybridizers had rhizomes planted. This was helpful since those only in bud the first day quite often were in full bloom on the third. This garden and all the others were in full bloom. In Bedford, as the bus pulled up to the garden, we were saluted by Minutemen, in full gear, shooting off their muzzle loading muskets, very noisy. We also stopped to view a map at the Minute Man National Park in Concord where we were given a brief resume of the "Shot heard 'round the World."

Another fun time was a visit to an "Old Country Store", pickle barrel and all, but best of all several player pianos that for a quarter played such old goodies as "Ragtime" making us want to dance.

That's enough for now. I hope as many of you as can will attend the fall meeting in San Fernando and I'll see you there if I don't get lost in South Africa.

REGIONAL MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. April 22, 1983 by Eleanor McCown, RVP, at Griswold's in Claremont with Bob and Lucienne Brooks, August Phillips, Les Follett, Carole Spies, Bobbie Shepard, Howard Goodrick, Judith Mogil, Jennie Hopson, Herb Holk, John Wight, Betty Cooper, Janice Chesnik, Jack Fitzgerald and Dena Daugherty present.

Eleanor McCown reported that through the efforts of Katie Romero a new society—Mountain View Iris Society—had been organized in Prescott Valley with 15 AIS members. The president is Mr. Findrew Nelson, 6215 No. Wildhorse Dr., Prescott, Valley, AZ 86312.

Jennie Hopson, parliamentarian, stated that the policy regarding Region meeting expense was that the Region would pay \$150 for the speaker and meeting notice if included in the Newsletter. Local clubs may absorb the expense.

Bob Brooks will continue as editor of the Newsletter. Local societies *must* get news to him.

The Nominating Committee was named as Herbert Holk, Carole Spiess and Les Follett.

Distribution of Regional iris now in the M&G Garden was discussed. Don Maurizio will take care of them.

The date of the 1984 Spring Trek, hosted by Inland Iris Society, is April 13 and 14.

Club presidents reported on shows. All reported good shows with good attendance.

Janice Chesnik, Judges Training chairman, reported Region 15 has one new garden judge, two apprentices, 18 in training, of which 8 could be apprentices by next year.

1987 Spring meeting hosted by Sun Country Iris Society-Phoenix—National Convention. 1987 Fall Meeting hosted by Southern California Iris Society.

Possible date and headquarters for the National Convention were discussed. Bobbie Shepard will contact local societies for specific help for the convention.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.

Ruth Goodrick
Secretary Protem



REGION 15 — TREASURER'S REPORT

August 31, 1983

Beginning Balance August 31, 1982:	Checking Account	1,097.15	
	Savings Account	<u>1,505.45</u>	<u>2,602.60</u>

RECEIPTS

Regional Iris Sales

Mountain View Iris Society	56.25
Tucson Iris Society (1982)	150.00
San Fernando Valley Iris Society (1983)	167.50
Sun Country Iris Society (1983)	129.75
San Diego Imperial Iris Society (1982)	168.50
San Diego Imperial Iris Society (1983)	129.50
Southern California Iris Society (1982)	130.50
Southern California Iris Society (1983)	149.50
Inland Iris Society (1982)	<u>150.00</u>
	1,231.50

Donations

Eleanor McCown—RVP Expenses Returned	250.00
San Diego Imperial Iris Society (1982)	300.00
San Fernando Valley Iris Society	<u>100.00</u>
	650.00

Interest

Regular Passbook Savings	82.83
Time CD—14%—Expires 10-12-84	<u>70.00</u>
	152.83

Miscellaneous

Newsletter Subscription	<u>3.00</u>
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TOTAL RECEIPTS 2,037.33

DISBURSEMENTS

Newsletter for Region 15

Fall 1982	237.56
Spring 83	<u>468.46</u>
	706.02

Other Expenses

RVP Expenses for 1983	250.00
One set mailing labels	12.48
Postage—Auction Iris	30.21
82-83 Region Auction Iris	307.58
83-84 Region Auction Iris	<u>300.00</u>
	900.27

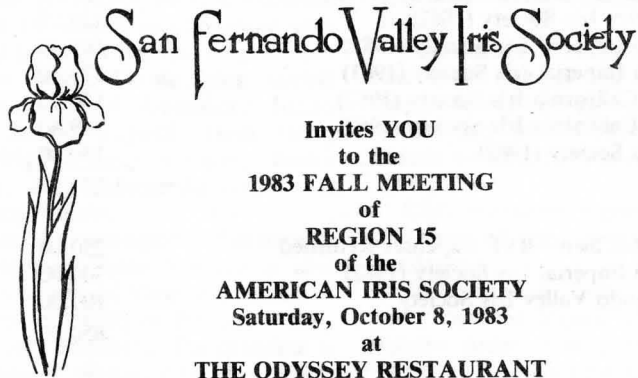
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 1,606.29

ENDING BALANCE August 31, 1983:	Checking Account	1,125.36	
	Savings Account	1,908.28	
	Time Certificate	<u>500.00</u>	<u>\$3,033.64</u>

Submitted 9-7-83 — Bobbie Shepard, Treasurer

It appears that we have much more income than last year, but in fact being on a cash basis rather than accrual, this years income should have been on last years report and donations are way down.

FALL MEETING



Invites YOU
to the
1983 FALL MEETING
of
REGION 15
of the
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
Saturday, October 8, 1983
at
THE ODYSSEY RESTAURANT
15600 Midwood Drive
Granada Hills, California
(Motels close by on Sepulveda Blvd.)

PROGRAM

- 9 a.m. Registration
Continental Breakfast
Executive Committee Meeting
- 10 a.m. Judges' Training Session
Conducted by Ms. Archie Owen,
who will moderate a Panel of
Master Judges on the subject of
"Awards and Balloting"
- 11:30 Buffet Luncheon
- 12:45 Welcome—Ms. Myrna Pollock,
President of San Fernando
Valley Iris Society
Region 15 Membership Meeting
Conducted by
Ms. Eleanor McCown, RVP
Election of Officers
Guest Speaker—Mr. George
Waters
- 3 p.m. Door Prizes

OCTOBER 8

Registration \$15.00 due by October 1,
1983. Mail to:

Ms. Esther Kraines, Treasurer
San Fernando Valley Iris Society
6200 Acadia Ave.
Agoura, CA 91301
(213) 889-8622

We are looking forward with the
keenest interest to the Fall Meeting for
several reasons. One is, the speaker of
the day will be George Waters, that
erudite, globe-trotting Editor of the

Pacific Horticulture magazine (from
Oakland), who will have something wise
and witty to say about iris in landscaping.
Secondly, our Judge's Training for the
day is on a subject vitally necessary to all
AIS judges and candidates for judgeship-
Awards and Balloting—and will be led
by an irisarian of distinction, Archie
Owen, and her panel of Master Judges.
Last but not least, the location is a fine
restaurant perched high atop a small
mountain at the northern edge of the
San Fernando Valley with a panoramic
view of the whole Valley that will take
your breath away—particularly if it is a
sparkling clear day. P.S.—Though perched
on a mountain, it's easy to find!

It's bound to be a day long remembered,
so don't miss it. We'll be expecting you
with a real old-fashioned country-type
welcome!

REGION 15 STANDING RULES

From time to time the regional board
adopts Standard Rules as guidelines to
help the clubs and the region function
more cooperatively. Make yourself
familiar with the Standing Rules.

1. The Vice Chairman shall be responsible for contacting affiliated club presidents regarding their responsibilities on the Region 15 board. (Adopted Summer of 1982, change from Spring of 1982.)

2. The Newsletter shall have two issues a year with the issues to be published at key times for the spring and fall meetings. (Adopted Spring of 1983, change from 1982.)

3. The policy for the publications editor for the Regional Newsletter shall be to include articles about regional functions, judges and clubs in preference to articles of culture and general iris topics. (Adopted Spring of 1982.)

4. The Regional Vice President shall appoint a purchasing committee or chairman to buy irises to be grown in the spring tour gardens. These irises are to be dug and returned to the Regional Vice President to be distributed to the affiliated clubs for sales. The grower may keep

one of each cultivar. (Adopted Spring of 1982.)

5. The regional board shall advise local clubs four years in advance of their responsibility in hosting the spring or fall meetings and the clubs must express their willingness to accept three years before the scheduled meeting. The schedule is to be printed annually in the Regional Newsletter. (Adopted Spring of 1982.)

Tentative Schedule at Present

- 1983 Fall Meeting—San Fernando
Valley Iris Society
- 1984 Spring Meeting—Inland Iris
Society
- 1984 Fall Meeting—Southern California
Iris Society
- 1985 Spring Meeting—San Fernando
Valley Iris Society
- 1985 Fall Meeting—Inland Iris Society
- 1986 Spring Meeting—San Diego-
Imperial Counties Iris Society
- 1986 Fall Meeting—San Diego-
Imperial Counties Iris Society
- 1987 AIS National Convention
Region 15 hosting—Phoenix, AZ
Jennie Hopson, Parliamentarian

SHOW WINNERS

Compiled by Bob Brooks from official show reports.

	Queen of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
January 23-25 Woodland Hills	Cascade Pass Judith Mogil/ Ella Anton	not awarded	not awarded
April 1, 2 Phoenix	Cool Oasis Larry Johnsen	Charlene Errigo	Julius Riedel
April 2, 3 Arcadia	Iris Basaltica John Holden	John Holden	John Wight
April 15-17 Woodland Hills	Brown Lasso Loren Zeldin	Peter De Santis	Mryna Pollock
April 16-17 Tucson	Pomo Chief Marilyn Harlow	Marilyn Harlow	Leslie Follett
April 30 Arcadia	Indigo Rim Duncan Eader	Duncan Eader	Gloria Selby
April 30 San Bernardino	Bronco Brown Hamner's Iris Garden	Redlands Gardens	Hamner's Iris Garden
April 30 San Diego	Going My Way Lee La Fond	Valera Chenoweth	Peggy McCroskey

No official report received for following show but Ardi Kary reports winners to be:

April 15, 16	Larry Johnsen	Julius Riedel	Dorald Shepard
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SECTION WINNERS

Tall bearded

Mistress—Julius Reidel
Lord Baltimore—Loren Zeldin

Arilbreds

Loudmouth—John Holden
Fancywork—John Wight
Senor Buzzbar—Audrey Roe
Larry Johnsen

Californicae

Canyon Snow—Robert Hubley

Spuria

Canary Caprice—Duncan Eader
Elixir—Peggy McCroskey
Vicki Day

Medians

Wine Pixie—Corrine Bromberger
Blessed Again—Paul Acosta
Charlene Errigo
Vicki Day

Louisianas

Clara Goula—Myrna Pollock
Ellene Rockwell—Duncan Eader
Eastertide—Valera Chenoweth
Carol Spiess

Best Arrangements

Claire Hood, Clarice Maben, Mrs. William V. Hull, Betty Rohan, Ruth Dillon, Mrs. C.R. Hopson, Irene Benton, Tom Schnorf, Charlene Errigo.

Artistic Sweepstakes

Claire Hood, Clarice Maben, Betty Aalseth, Mitzie Elchyshyn, Elsa McLean, Mrs. C.R. Hopson, Irene Benton, Mary Smith.

Best Youth Arrangements

Phillip Meyers, Dwayne Aalseth, Paul Acosta, Sheri Carpenter.

Youth Division Best Specimens

Piety, Robbyn Murdick
Piety, Paul Acosta
Misty Moonscape, Ben Cherry

COMMENTS ON IRIS GROWING

Bernard Hamner

I had been a farmer in Perris Valley for 35 years before retirement, and the knowledge I gained from growing many different crops has helped immensely in the culture and care of irises. I had specialized in growing white rose potatoes which are tuberous plants and similar in many ways to irises.

Perris is located in an inland valley approximately 50 miles from the Pacific Ocean with a low coastal range of mountains that blocks most of the damp ocean air from the area. Weather and soil conditions are both good. The soil is a sandy loam derived almost entirely from decomposed granite with excellent drainage and seems to be ideal for iris culture. The weather range is from a daytime high of 110 degrees for short periods in July and August to a nighttime low of 20 degrees in December and January. The annual rainfall is less than 10 inches.

In the spring we have about a month of heavy fog. During this time leaf spot is apt to develop and spread. I have used various fungicides to control this problem including dusting sulphur, Terraclor, Captan, and Zineb. Zineb has given the best control of the leaf spot, but I have noticed that more than two applications of Zineb within a short period of time would also cause a browning condition on the fans that results in a die-back of foliage. With more than the usual amount

of rainfall and fog conditions, we were hit hard by leaf spot. I was forced to try a different control. Benlate was recommended to me as an effective control. I used this new systemic product with very good results. I applied it three times at seven to ten day intervals without any noticeable harm to the plants. The control of the leaf spot was excellent.

Soil preparation is very important. I like to prepare the new beds well in advance of planting. Six months ahead of the actual planting is not too soon to start. Each fall I add all the leaves I can find to the compost pile plus several loads of well-composted dairy manure. I have found a source of supply of well-aged manure for \$6.00 per pick-up load. This along with the rotted leaves, is applied generously the winter before planting and is worked thoroughly into the soil with my roto-tiller or, if space allows, I use my farm tractor. I till to a depth of at least 12 inches. I keep this area free of weeds until early June. If the ground is dry I irrigate thoroughly to a depth of 12 inches, allow to dry to a workable state, add another light application of compost and rototill deeply and thoroughly.

I fumigate the beds with methyl bromide. (This requires a permit from the Agriculture Department.) Long sheets of light or heavy plastic are used to cover the bed with the edges of the

tarp buried to a depth of at least 6 inches. the cans of methyl bromide are punctured and the gas is released under the tarp at the rate of 1 lb. per 100 sq.ft. This method is very effective in the control of nematodes, worms, chewing insects, weed seeds, and organisms that might cause the various rots that plague the iris grower. The plastic tarp is left on the bed at least two full days. After the bed is uncovered, allow to air at least one week. This method of soil preparation is a lot of work and should not be used by the inexperienced gardener as methyl bromide is a deadly poison gas and should be handled with extreme caution. This method is *not* recommended for use in a perennial bed as the gas will kill all plant life within the immediate area.

I plant the new beds in July, August, and early September. The toes are planted to the south with the fresh-cut edge of the fan lined up with the path of the sun. This prevents the hot sun from burning one side of the fan in the morning and the other side in the afternoon. We have hot summers with the temperature reaching as high as 110 degrees, and a newly-set iris can bleach very quickly. I use a chalk line for straight rows and plant about 24 inches apart. We re-set the beds every two years, but we always thin the clumps on the first-year growth because of heavy increase on first-year plants.

We irrigate our beds because of lack of summer rain. We do not water heavily on a newly-set plant until the center leaf

begins to grow, then about once a week. I row irrigate in furrows cultivating the furrow lightly after each irrigation. I use my roto-tiller when the irises are newly set and until the growth is too heavy. At this stage I use the hoe so as not to damage the foliage. When the foliage is heavy enough to shade the ground, usually just before the bloom stalks appear, I make a large furrow between each row so irrigation is possible without further disturbing the plants. I continue to irrigate the established plants once a week until one month after the bloom season, then I water every two weeks during the summer months.

A commercial fertilizer is applied in the early spring just before the active growth starts, usually in late January or early February. I use a complete fertilizer mix such as an 8-8-8 or 10-10-10.

For aphid control I spray with either Cook's systemic or Cygon. Both are good. I apply twice in the spring and twice in the fall with excellent control. I have found that if I apply the systemic heavily enough so that a part of the liquid soaks into the ground, it will give added control from nematode build up, especially in the two-year beds. If possible I make daily inspections of the beds to look for aphid infestation, gopher mounds, leaf spot, weed germination, etc. Any problem I find is corrected as soon as possible.

I have been growing irises for 15 years and have enjoyed a tremendous amount of pleasure each year from this retirement occupation.

up in receipts for what it lacked in quantity of rhizomes.

This year's public iris sale, the Society's major fund raiser, will be on October 1-2. Again this year, the event is planned for the Victoria Plaza in Riverside. Having the rhizome sale before our first regularly-scheduled meeting makes for some interesting complications and for augmented phone bills.

November 7 begins the regular program year, but members are already busy making plans for the Spring meeting and trek. The challenge is equal (or better) recent treks despite the early date (April 13-14) occasioned by the time of Easter. AIS members should mark that week end on their calendars right away to avoid spring scheduling conflicts.

Corinne Bromberger, Secretary

MOUNTAIN VIEW IRIS SOCIETY of Prescott Valley held our August meeting at the home of Kathryn (Katie) Romero, our Vice-President and program chairperson. It was almost a luau with Katie preparing the Hawaiian ham.

Most of the members had "put-in" money for named iris which were purchased from the Shepards. After they were distributed we had an auction and you all would have been real proud of our actioneer, Katie. We raised some money for the region and Katie provided some of her own iris which were sold to raise money for our society.

Our September meeting was held at the home of Findrew and Edna Nelson. Mr. & Mrs. Shepard from Phoenix presented a mighty fine slide presentation. Now we are all looking forward to Fiesta 78 and some of us hope to make it to California for the October meeting.

Findrew Nelson, President

SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY plans a busy and interesting season. During August and September plant sales were held. The September sale was held during San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation's "September Faire". We had an opportunity to display iris bulletins and hopefully secure new members for our society.

At the October 16th meeting there will be an auction of non-bearded iris, as well as a good program. The purpose of the auction is to stimulate interest in non-bearded iris and to provide more competition in the non-bearded section of our spring show. We will have some good new non-bearded at the auction.

Not to forget that we also like a little social life we have scheduled a Christmas

Party and in February a Birthday Banquet.

The officers for this year are Archie Owen—President, Leland LaFond—Vice President, Peggy McCrosky—Secretary, Dena Daughtery—Treasurer.

Archie Owen, President

THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY iris extravaganza (otherwise known as a Spring Iris Show) was held last April at the Promenade Mall. With nearly 300 horticultural and 84 artistic arrangements entered, it should easily qualify as the biggest and best to date.

Queen of the Show was Loren Zeldin's **BROWN LASSO**. It might be noted that this was the second consecutive year that a border bearded has won Queen of the Show at an SFVIS Spring Show. Last year's winner was Daisy Bennie's **WHOO EM UP**. If this trend continues, we wonder if T.B.'s may in time be crowded off the show bench in the San Fernando Valley. (Only kidding, folks!)

During this month of September 1983, SFVIS is celebrating its tenth anniversary with a gala birthday party on our regular meeting night, Wednesday September 14th. We are indeed blessed to have such an active, involved and dynamic membership which has enabled us to move from a struggling handful of members at the beginning to our present status of well over 100 members whose team spirit and unceasing efforts have made us one of the most successful iris societies in the U.S.A.

We are hard at work organizing our annual rhizome sale at the Woodland Hills Promenade Mall which will take place the weekend of October 7, 8 and 9. Since we are also hosting the Fall Region 15 Meeting the same weekend on Saturday the 8th, our organizational expertise is being put to its severest test. Although it is a period of hectic activity for all members, with some fast, shuffling footwork we feel confident of being able to cover all our bases during this momentous weekend.

For those of you who may be planning to stay over in the S.F. Valley the entire weekend of the Regional Meeting, we invite you most cordially to drop by the

LOCAL SOCIETY NEWS

INLAND IRIS SOCIETY concluded a successful and interesting year with the annual August potluck and auction meeting at the Cal-Dixie Garden of Herb and Sara Holk in Riverside. That the date was also the Holks' 40th anniversary added to the festive air of the get-together. Ralph Strane and Corrine Bromberger combined talents as auctioneers for a fast-moving sale that made

Promenade Mall which is located at 6000 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Woodland Hills, and browse our sale tables. There should be bargains galore, since many newer varieties of all types of bearded iris are being offered this year. For those Louisiana fans out there, we are hoping for a fairly substantial stock to be available. These are always early sell-outs, so come early if you can!

Once again, we plan to hold a non-sanctioned winter show consisting of artistic arrangements featuring iris, and cultivars for exhibit only. The dates for this show have been tentatively set for January 28 and 29, at the Promenade Mall in Woodland Hills. For further information, contact Show Chairman Pete DeSantis at (213) 343-3755 or watch the Calendar of Events in the Los Angeles Times "Home" Section for January 1984.

Myrna Pollock, President

THE ORANGE COUNTY IRIS AND DAYLILY CLUB has been growing slowly to a current membership of 39. We would love many new members and feel that they would enjoy the friendship and information- and plant-sharing. We now have a monthly bulletin. Dues are \$3 single, \$5 family.

We participated again this year in the Fullerton Arboretum Green Scene and made \$360. This was rather remarkable as all the iris and daylily plants for sale came from just 4 gardens, and only 6 members were available to man the booth. The Club voted to keep this profit out of the general fund and use it for special projects. We would like to plant irises or daylilies, or both, at some public site but have not yet located a spot.

For practice, we had our first mini iris show at the May meeting. In spite of newspaper publicity and notices sent out, the attendance was very, very disappointing. There were 50 entries, judged by our own member, Patti Shirley. Snow Cloud was voted queen of show. Blue ribbon winners included bearded Opening Night, Orange Empire, Songster, His Lordship, Fashion Rings, Colorburst, Solano, Mystique, Pinnacle, Radiant

Apogee, Lightning Ridge, Crinoline, Bang, Thelma Leaton, and Christmas Time, as well as spurias, Louisianas, Pacific Coast natives, and seedlings.

Our varied programs covered orchids, herbs, bromeliads, geraniums, and a talk on genetics by Prof. Howard Craig, nephew of the late isisarian and artist, Tom Craig. Dr. Randy Keim, plant pathologist at the U.C. South Coast Field Station, discussed plant diseases in ornamentals and field crops. He has not done research in iris diseases but expressed a great interest in that field, we are looking forward to the possibility of having our very own plant doctor in the County to help us with our problems (mostly rust, leaf spot and soft rot). We gave him a collection of iris and the AIS booklet "Basic Iris Culture" for the start of an iris garden at the field station. Our Septemmer meeting is an iris workshop. Our December meeting is a Christmas party, with a fund gift exchange. This year we sang carols to violin accompaniment. Agents are not fighting to sign us up, but it was interesting. We had a club trek to three commercial iris gardens in Perris and Riverside.

We had almost more surplus iris rhizomes this summer than the members themselves can take care of. We should have a public sale next year, for sure, if we can get enough participating members to handle the publicity, posters, digging, labeling, grooming, and selling.

Several of our members entered the few flower shows in our area and did themselves proud, with ribbons and cash awards on irises. Some of the blue ribbon winners were Margarita, Gentle Heart, Gala Madrid, Thelma Leaton, and Lemon Lyric. President Nancy Webb had 7 entries in the Orange County Fair in July and won on all her daylilies; no irises were entered.

Patti Shirley is our club speaker. She gave talks on irises at several garden clubs in the county, illustrated with cut irises from the gardens of various members. At one of the meetings, she was asked if the iris stalks could be purchased. They were, and our club had a \$6 profit! Richard Basler has been busy

judging iris shows outside the county. Cliff Black is a daylily judge.

Several members are enjoying the results of pollen-daubing, Rae Turrini has grown hundreds of beautiful seedlings; Nancy Webb and Michael Marchante are excited beginners. Nancy's very first seedling to bloom proved to be sensational—a cross of Beverly Sills and Fresno Calypso, made by Patti Shirley... unbelievable, ruffled beauty! You can be sure she has the bug now and has found some vacant land she can borrow for growing lots of seedlings.

We extend an invitation to all iris lovers in or out of our county to attend our meetings on the second Tuesday of every month.

Martha MacFarlane, Secretary

In **TUCSON IRIS SOCIETY (TAIS)** territory at this writing (Sept.3) it is 104 degrees at 6:00 p.m. It is difficult to remember that last April 16 and 17, after a cool spring, TAIS sponsored a very successful AIS approved show at the Tucson Park Mall Shopping Center. Due to the cool spring weather, the iris colors were very bright and intense. There were about 185 entries which generated mostly from the two dozen active members of TAIS. Surely the most important aspect of this show was to continue to expose the half million residents of Tucson and the surrounding area to the world of iris.

However, there were other benefits. In September of 1982, TAIS had about 600 rhizomes remaining from a very successful fall sale. These were planted in No. 10 cans and some were brought to the spring show where about \$650 worth were sold. People could see the end product of what they were buying. In addition, orders *and deposits* were taken for about \$300 worth of iris as shown in the show but not available in the cans. These orders will be delivered in connection with the TAIS fall sale on Sept. 10 and 11, 1983, with the purchasers coming to the fall sale to pick up their orders and perhaps buy some more.

TAIS made enough money at the show to more than pay the expenses of

the show. Thanks to color publicity with TAIS arranged in the major daily newspapers, the show drew large numbers of people in the shopping mall. This did not go unnoticed by the merchants who subsequently made a very generous donation to TAIS and strongly requested that the show return in 1984. So arrangements have been made to hold the Spring 1984 show on April 21, 22 at the Tucson Park Mall. This is Easter weekend and the crowd on Saturday should be large.

While financial problems are virtually non-existent, the TAIS membership needs to be improved in numbers. Our meetings are usually held on the 3rd Sunday but are at varying times and locations—however, members are kept aware of the schedule and most make it to virtually all meetings. Officers of TAIS are happy to accept inquiries as to the times and locations of the meetings which are in February, March, April (Show), May, August (Region Auction), September (Sale), and October.

The quality (plant size, freshness, etc.) of the Regional iris sent to TAIS seemed to be particularly good—thanks to whoever was responsible for that. We failed to act on a donation at our August auction meeting—sorry for that oversight—but such a donation will be forthcoming.

Well, the weather can only get better!
Les Follett, President

SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY'S summer was busy with iris auctions to raise money for our club and with plans for the 1987 National Convention that will be held in Phoenix. The theme will be "Fiesta Phoenix '87".

Our calendar of upcoming events include our Rhizome Sale, Sept. 17-18; Pot Luck Dinner at the Shepard's, Sept. 24; Judge's Training Session with Glenn Corlew, Nov. 1; Christmas Party, Dec. 9; and the Iris Show at Christown, April 20-21, 1984.

Ardi Kary, Secretary

CLAIRE HOOD

1918-1983

Claire Hood was a member of the San Fernando Valley Iris Society for almost nine years. She and her husband George, current secretary of Region 15, became active participants very soon after joining the Society.

Claire is remembered for her outstanding accomplishments in the field of Artistic Arranging. She won so many silver bowls that she donated some of them back to the Society! She was the first chairwoman of the Artistic Arrangements section in the San Fernando Valley shows. Later, she was chairman of Artistic Arrangements in some of The Aril Society International shows.

Flower arranging was only one facet of Claire's iris interest. She grew all kinds of irises from natives to tall bearded, and Dutch iris with her specialty being median and miniature dwarf irises. She won six silver medals for her horticulture exhibits at American Iris Society shows. In addition she completed requirements in 1983 to be advanced from Apprentice Judge to Accredited Judge of the American Iris Society.

Of all the accomplishments for which Claire will be remembered, those who knew her well agree that she certainly knew how to be a friend.



1983 SPRING TREK

Jennie Hopson

In spite of the adverse weather conditions, and everyone prepared with their rain outfits, April 22, 23, 24 were pleasant sunny days. Each garden had flowers and all exemplified hours of tender loving care and hard work. Also in spite of the thought that people wouldn't come because of the weather, an enthusiastic 127 persons registered and only one family let the weather influence their decision not to come, then they worked in the sunshine in their garden all day with disappointment.

The sixteen people who made the effort to enter arrangements in the popular vote contest added much to the Reception Lobby. People were interested and did vote. Janice Chesnik's lovely yellow spuria design was voted best. Eleanor McCown had presented a special container as her prize. Ray Chesnik's line design with black Louisiana iris was second choice for which he received a Buffet Dinner for two at Griswolds. S.C.I.S. says "Thank You" to all those who added this beauty to the Friday evening hospitality and Spring Meeting.

Garden owners were Duncan & Doris Eader, Dick & Ann Sloan, Ralph & Maxine Strane, John & Barbara Wight, and Tony & Pat Guerraro & Don Maurizio.

Not only the iris but the varied garden designs, the interesting array of other plantings, potted plants and baskets all pleased the visitors. And, of course, the goodies served in each garden added to the socializing and contentment. The two early morning gardens served delicious breakfast appetizers, the two midafternoon gardens served snacks and cookies, before lunch a glass of wine with cheese and after lunch an assortment of desserts. Everyone had a choice in each garden and many asked for recipes.

By evening, people were ready to vote and relax before the banquet. Barbara Wight's seedling 79-25 was chosen best and Hamner's Sun City got the most votes as best registered iris.

Jim McWhirter presented slides of the newer iris developed in his breeding program and kept us attentive with his

delightful personality at the banquet.

The lucky numbers were many as more than fifty iris artifacts and lovely things were presented as door prizes. The individual Tupelo Honey Notepads, as favors, and the centerpiece bouquets each helped to make the visitors happy guests.

CALENDAR— SHOWS AND SALES

1983

- Oct. 1-2 Inland Iris Society rhizome sale, Lincoln Shopping Center, Lincoln & Mary Streets, Riverside, California.
- Oct. 7-9 San Fernando Valley Iris Society rhizome sale, Promenade Mall, 6000 Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Woodland Hills, California.
- Oct. 8 Region 15 Fall Meeting and Judges Training, The Odyssey Restaurant, 15600 Midwood Drive, Granada Hills, California, hosted by San Fernando Valley Iris Society.

1984

- Jan 28-29 San Fernando Valley Iris Society winter show, Promenade Mall, 6000 Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Woodland Hills, California.
- March 31, April 1 Aril Society International early Iris Specialty Show, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, Arcadia, California.
- April 13-15 Region 15 Spring Meeting, Riverside Inn, Riverside, California, hosted by Inland Iris Society.
- April 20-21 Sun Country Iris Society show, Christown Shopping Center, Phoenix, Arizona.
- April 21-22 Tucson Ar ea Iris Society show, Tucson Park Mall, Tucson, Arizona.
- April 28-29 Inland Iris Society show at Central City Mall, San Bernardino, California.
- April 1987 AIS National Convention "Fiesta Phoenix '87", Western Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona.

JOIN OR VISIT A LOCAL CLUB

ARIL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, Arcadia, California. Meetings Sundays February 12, June 10, 1984, 1 PM preceded by potluck lunch at 12 noon. November 11, 1984, 10:30 AM followed by potluck lunch at 12 noon.

INLAND IRIS SOCIETY, Glendale Federal Savings and Loan, Tyler Street across from Tyler Mall, Riverside, California. 7 PM first Monday of January, February, March, April, May and November. Other locations potluck-auction in August, rhizome sale first weekend of October. Dues \$1.00 per year.

MOUNTAIN VIEW IRIS SOCIETY—contact President for location and dates.

ORANGE COUNTY IRIS AND DAYLILY CLUB, Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid, Garden Grove, California. 2nd Tuesday every month at 7:30 PM. Dues \$3.00 single, \$5 family.

SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY—contact President for location. 3rd Sunday of some months at 1 PM. All AIS members are members with no local dues.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Iris Society, Canoga Park Women's Club, northwest corner Valerio and Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park, California. Second Wednesday of each month at 8 PM.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum Lecture Hall, Arcadia, Potluck 12 noon, 4th Saturday of January, March, June and October. Picnic and plant sale in August.

SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY, Valley Garden Center, Phoenix, Arizona, 1st Tuesday of every month at 7 PM.

TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY—contact President for locations and times. Meetings in February, March, April (Show), May, August (Region Auction), September (sale), and October.

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Box 2033
San Marcos, CA 92069

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MR + MRS FLOYD W WICKENKAMP
10521 BELLAROSE DR.
SUN CITY AZ 85351