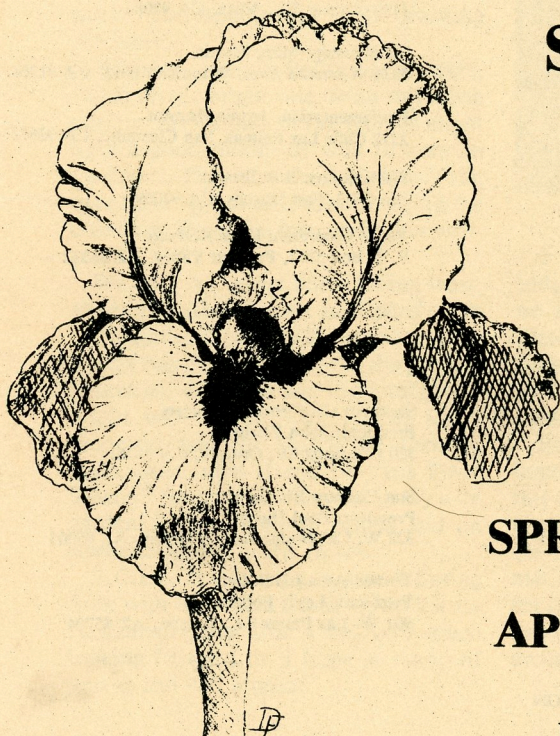


AIS Region 15 Newsletter

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA • ARIZONA

Spring 1983



SPRING MEETING

APRIL 22, 23, 1983

**DETAILS AND
REGISTRATION
FORM IN
THIS ISSUE!**

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.

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San Fernando Valley Iris Society
President: Myrna Pollock
17921 Ingomar St., Reseda, CA 92504

OTHER GROUPS MEETING IN REGION

Aril Society International
President: Bill Scott
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Orange County Iris and Daylily Club
President: Nancy Webb
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COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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Sun Country Iris Society
President: Paul Harter
322 W. Cambridge Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85003

Tucson Area Iris Society
President: Leslie Follett
901 W. Las Palms Dr., Tucson, AZ 85704

COVER: Line drawing by Doris Foster.
LAYOUT by Ray Chesnik.

THE REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Eleanor McCown, RVP, Region 15

We have just had over an inch of rain here in the valley with more predicted to be on the way. This leaves the garden too wet to work in, so I will have to start doing all the things I continually put off that keep me in the house, such as book-work, correspondence, and washing windows.

However, being a Pollyanna at heart, I look on the bright side. With this much rain just at this time of the year we might have a good bloom of wild flowers on the desert. That is, if the R.V.s don't run over them. It has also washed off all the dust from the citrus trees and other evergreens.

We have not as yet had a killing frost, although with the snow now piled up in the Lagunas it could still turn very cold. Spring has already started in the garden, hyacinths, daffodils and early tulips are bright with bloom. One species iris is blooming and the Dutch are forming buds. Soon now it will be "Iris Fever Season" for me and when not in my own garden I hope to be in others and on weekends going to iris shows.

S.C.I.S. is planning a grand Spring Trek with the added bonus of an iris arrangement show that I am very much looking forward to. I hope as many of you as can will attend.

1982 SYMPOSIUM

Only 92 region 15 members voted for their favorite tall bearded iris in the 1982 symposium. The Hamner's distinctive Gypsy Belle received the most votes with 38. Runnersup were Entourage and White Lightning 37, Bordello 36, Mystique 35, Solano and Orange Empire 32,



I have just finished mailing all the judges their cards, and I note again that we have only three apprentice judges. Please more of you consider taking the training. We need new blood and the Spring Trek would be a good place to start.

I expect to visit many gardens and I hope a few of you will find your way this far south or this far west to visit in my garden. Peak bloom here is usually the second week in April. The welcome mat is always out. I guess this sums it up for now. The sun has come out and I can stay in the house no longer. Happy gardening.

Eleanor McCown

New Moon 29, Vanity 28, Heather Blush 27, Going My Way 26, Mary Francis 25, Beauty Crown and Brides Halo 24, Temple Gold and Kilt Lilt 23, Victoria Falls 22, Shipshape 21, Sun City and Wild Berry 20. Catalyst received the most write in votes with 5 while Broadway and Dazzling Gold each received 4 write in votes.

Eleanor McCown

REGIONAL MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Eleanor McCowen, RVP, at 8:00 a.m. October 9, 1982 at the Lawrence Welk Restaurant, with Howard Goodrick, Janice Chesnik, Bob Brooks, Jennie Hopson, Herbert Holk, Duncan Eader, John Wight, Ray Allen and Don Maurizo present.

The minutes were approved as printed. Jennie Hopson questioned the amount designated for the fall meeting in budget printed in the Newsletter.

Bob Brooks, editor of the Newsletter, stated that presidents were responsible for reporting items for the Newsletter, or they may designate someone to report.

Motion by Jennie Hopson that the Newsletter have two issues a year with the issues to be published at key-times for the spring and fall meetings was approved.

August Phillips reporting on Shows stated no reports had been received from Lompoc, Bakersfield or Ridgecrest. Requirements for qualifying as a regional show are 30 iris exhibits by 3 or more exhibitors, the schedule approved by AIS, and one AIS judge.

Janice Chesnik reported on status of judges in the Region. Mary Scheidler has attained full status. Ken Mohr, Clare Hood and Laverne Conrad are apprentices and 12 others are continuing and will be recommended in the fall of 1983. Robert Parker and Roy Silvie have dropped their judgeships.

Katie Romero has been appointed as Youth Chairman.

Local society presidents all reported successful sales this fall. Ray Allen, president of the Tucson Iris Society

reported that the Iris Display Garden at the Botanical Garden in Tucson attracted much attention this year.

Club presidents were asked to reply to Sun Country's request for assistance at the AIS Convention to be held in Phoenix in 1987.

Discussion was held concerning the scheduling of the spring and fall meetings. Howard Goodrick moved that the Regional Board advise local clubs four years in advance of their responsibility in hosting the spring or fall meeting and that the clubs express their willingness to accept three years before the scheduled meeting. Motion carried. The schedule is to be printed annually in the Regional Bulletin.

Tentative Schedule:	
1983 Spring trek	SCIS
1983 Fall Meeting	San Fernando Iris Society
1984 Spring trek	Inland Iris Society
Fall Meeting	SCIS
1985 Spring trek	San Fernando Iris Society
Fall Meeting	Inland Iris Society
1986 Spring trek	San Diego Iris Society
Fall Meeting	San Diego Iris Society

1987 AIS Convention in Phoenix.

The Board Meeting will be held Friday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. April 22, and Judges' Training at 7:00 p.m. at Griswold's in Claremont in connection with the Spring Trek.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Ruth S. Goodrick
Secretary Protem

The Aril Society International holds regular meetings at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. If you are interested in learning more about these exotic members of the genus Iris, contact the President or Show Chairman for dates and time of meetings. To become a member send \$4.00 single or \$5.00 family payable to Aril Society International to Robin Kleinz, Box 2278, Payson, AZ 85541.

Southern California members will hold their annual Special Iris Show on April 2 and 3 at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia. All interested irisarians are invited to participate in the show which will feature all types of iris EXCEPT tall bearded. It is anticipated that there will again be entries of arils and aril hybrids shipped in from Israel. Advance reservations are required for the artistic division.

Full details are in the show schedule, copies of which may be obtained from Duncan Eader, 111 W. Magna Vista, Arcadia, CA 91006. Phone (213) 447-0033.

Duncan Eader, Show Chairman

The Orange County Iris and Daylily Club is well into its second year, but its membership is not growing at the rate we had anticipated. It has been well advertised, and many iris and daylily enthusiasts have been contacted; but getting people to participate has not been easy. We know there must be many AIS and AHS members and non-members who would enjoy the meetings if we could only get them there. We had five members send their dues in the mail and never attend a single meeting. Others came only a few times. We have never had all 38 members in attendance at the same time.

Our programs have included AIS and AHS slides, slides by several of our own members, talks on irises and daylilies by

Patricia Shirley, Janice Chesnik, Searcy Marsh, and Walter Gorrell. We had an interesting program on the tulips of Holland by isarian Tom Foster, a talk on the flora and fauna in our regional parks by Billy Tidwell, a park ranger, and an outstanding program on bromeliads and ferns by Jo and John Myers of La Mirada.

We had an all-day tour of commercial iris gardens and plan another for this year, as well as a tour of daylily growers. We has a plant booth at the Fullerton Arboretum "Green Scene" and made \$285; we plan to do as well or better this year. We sold irises, daylilies, succulents, impatiens, rooted Fairy roses, chrysanthemums and other flowers, and gave out free geranium cuttings which were very popular.

We do not yet have enough willing-worker members to put on a flower show or have an all-iris plant sale. Of course, we have wonderful iris and daylily plants available at our meetings, as well as a great variety of other plants. We usually make more than enough from the plant table to pay the rent. We are now putting out an almost-monthly newsletter.

Nancy Webb of Garden Grove is our new president. Our club meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30, at the Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid, Garden Grove. Dues are \$3, single, \$5, family. Visitors and new members are more than welcome.

Martha MacFarlane, Secretary

The Rainbow Iris Society has been discontinued. As a final gesture we agreed to use the money in the treasury to buy a tree for the Yuma library. Last week, after visiting several nurseries, I found a fine specimen of a 12 foot bottle tree (*Brachychiton populensis*) in a 15 gallon container for \$52.00. It has been planted on the library lawn.

Irene Van de Water, Reporter

SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY held a seminar on beardless iris culture at our October meeting. Eleanor McCown and Valera Chenoweth, two most knowledgeable irisarians, proved to be a stimulus to get some of our more hesitant club members to try their hand at growing these types of irises. Following the seminar, an auction of some of the newest and best spurias, Louisianas, and Pacific Coast native irises purchased by the club from Cordon Bleu Farms and Bay View Gardens resulted in spirited bidding.

Our annual Christmas party was held this year at the home of Betty Cooper, our past president. Once again Betty proved what a great hostess she is as we all had a great time. We were happy to meet new club members Mr. and Mrs. Ken Russell and feel very lucky to have these two iris enthusiasts join our group.

Plans for the new year include a January meeting with a seminar on tall bearded iris culture given by Bernard and Celeste Hamner. We will have our club's birthday dinner on Feb. 19 at San Diego's famous China Camp Fat City, a unique restaurant with its different Chinese-Gold Rush Western atmosphere. In March our membership meeting will be conducted by Ray Chesnik who will talk on the hows, dos and don'ts of exhibiting irises. Our annual spring show this year will be on April 30 and May 1.

Don Maurizio, President

The **San Fernando Valley Iris Society** has the month of April, as usual, jam-packed with activities. April 2-3 will find many of our members participating in the Aril Society show at the Arboretum, the artistic arrangements division of which is under the chairmanship of Valleyite Pete De Santis. Pete is, incidentally, the newly-elected Vice President of ASI. Just so he won't get into mischief since his retirement last August, Pete is also General Show Chairman of SFVIS, and has taken on the job of leading our society through the 1985 Spring Regional meeting, which we will be hosting.

While on the subject of the '85 Spring meeting, we have now been officially notified that Region 14 will be unable to participate in a joint meeting. Although they were most enthusiastic about the idea (since the Fresno joint meeting in '81 was such a huge success), their schedule proved to be too tight, due to the preparations necessary for the 1986 Convention which they are hosting. Too bad—we'll miss you, fellahs (and gals)! But we do hope that all of our Northern compatriots who are free to come down for our '85 get-together will plan to do so. We're trying to top the beautiful "mini-convention" that we threw in '79—and you all remember what glorious fun that was!

But—back to April '83 and our schedule of activities. After the ASI show comes our own SFVIS show on the weekend of April 15, 16 & 17. The place: Promenade Mall in Woodland Hills, on Topanga Canyon Blvd. about 1/2 mile north of the Ventura Freeway. As mentioned above, Pete De Santis is chairman for this event. Anyone interested in exhibiting in this iris extravaganza should call Pete at (213) 343-3755.

The weekend following our show will, of course, be devoted to the Regional meeting hosted by SCIS in Claremont. We are planning on a big turnout of our members, since this one takes place in our own backyard, which makes the extra cost of hotel accommodations, airplane tickets, etc., unnecessary.

Our own local garden trek will take place the following weekend, on Saturday April 30th. Seven San Fernando Valley gardens will be on the tour, some of which have not been visited before. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy. Bring a nose-bag lunch, as we picnic together at noon-time during this event. For further details, call Loren or Helen Zeldin, Gardens Chairmen, at (213) 886-4047. This year, we're all practicing an *anti*-rain dance, since we don't want the kind of day we had last year when our fun was dampened (but not quenched) by an afternoon downpour!

Now for a quick peek into the more distant future—our mammoth 3-day rhizome sale will take place at the Prom-

nade Mall Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and 2. The following weekend, on Saturday Oct. 8, SFVIS will host the Regional Fall meeting. Our co-chairmen for this event are Esther Kraines, Caroline Sutherland and Fran McGrath. Although plans are not yet finalized, rumor has it that this happening may take place in a restaurant perched high above the North San Fernando Valley, just off the San Diego freeway, where a panoramic view of the whole valley will set the stage for a very pleasurable day. Invitations will be sent, so watch your September mail for all the details and make plans to *come join us!*

Myrna Pollock, President

The **Southern California Iris Society** was busy in the fall promoting the non-bearded iris. Ron Lissner and Duncan Eader, twin auctioneers, kept the Pacific Coast Native, the Louisianas and spurias purchased by the Society going like hotcakes, reflecting the increased popularity of newer iris in these classifications. Among them were eleven 1982 introductions, and a nice selection donated by the Charner Wrights, the William Nixons, and August Phillips. Two Hundred Seven dollars were added to the treasury, and possible entries in the beardless classes of our show went home with happy irisarians.

S.C.I.S. honored another dedicated worker who has contributed much in time, effort, and responsibilities of many offices, with a Life Membership at the October meeting. August Phillips not only has served S.C.I.S. since 1956 but has also served on the Region 15 Board many times. The Executive Committee and members were pleased to give recognition to August for his years of furthering the objectives of the organization. We wish him well in continuing his hybridizing of Pacific Coast Natives, his Artistic Design contributions, and the value of his experiences.

In spite of all the rain, the Judges Training Program conducted at the January meeting was very successful with five trainee judges and four experienced judges signing up for credit in learning about Pacific Coast Natives. Mr. Robert

Hubley presented the message and answered questions with much participation of the members present. If more clubs make their programs qualify as judges training, with prior approval of the judges training chairman, Region 15 can increase the number of needed judges in a reasonable time.

Jennie Hopson, Reporter

In 1980, the **Tucson Area Iris Society** established and planted an Iris Garden as a part of the Tucson Botanical Gardens. The approximately 300 varieties were donated by both club members and national vendors. The spring, 1982, iris bloom in this garden was enjoyed by thousands of Tucson residents and winter visitors. Many artists were observed at work in front of the iris beds. By fall, 1982, it was obvious that the Iris Garden needed to be replanted—almost everything had multiplied greatly and crowding was observable everywhere.

Some uncertainty still exists as to ownership of the surplus iris. Happily, this was resolved for the moment to the satisfaction of both TBG and TAIS. TAIS members donated the labor both to dig and replant the entire garden.

Approximately 1,000 surplus rhizomes resulted from the dig. The surplus from a large private garden in a rural Arizona community was also made available to TAIS. Purchases of surplus were also made from two national vendors. All of this resulted in a large array of iris available to the Tucson public at the fall sale in September, 1982. The results were impressive. Not only did the unencumbered bank balance *increase* by about \$2,500, but about 600 rhizomes were left over and planted in cans to be sold at the spring, 1983 show. The bank accounts are generating several hundred dollars per year in interest!

TAIS has recently started an attendance incentive program for the monthly meetings. *All* attendees are eligible for a door prize of a 1983 iris introduction of up to \$35. Hopefully, this will also help attract new members through local newspaper advertising.

The spring, 1983 show will be held April 16 and 17 at the Tucson Park Mall Shopping Center and will be a part of the tour of the National Convention of Men's Garden Clubs of America which is being held that weekend in Tucson.

Leslie Follett, President

**TUCSON IRIS SOCIETY
WORK PARTY**





SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY

PLAN NOW FOR IRIS TREK IN SPRING

The Southern California Iris Society invites you to send in your registrations for the 1983 Region 15 Spring Trek Meeting April 22 and 23 with the 24th optional.

Make your own reservation with the Hotel before April 8th, 1983. Be sure to say you are with the A.I.S. Region 15 Iris Group to get within the block of rooms reserved until April 8th.

Quote on rooms plus 10% City Occupancy Tax:

Single \$46.00 Double \$52.00 Triple \$58.00 Quad. \$64.00 Six dollars for each additional person. Cost of room not included in Trek Reservation. Write directly to:

Griswold's Inn
555 W. Foothill Blvd.
Claremont, California 91711
Phone: (714) 626-2411

CUT ON THIS LINE

Reservation with SCIS for April 22 and 23rd meetings and Trek \$35.00 each before April 5th and \$40.00 each on or after April 5th. Deadline April 8th.

Please make reservations for the following people:

Print First Name	Print Last Name	Print Club Name
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Number of persons _____ cost each _____ Total _____

LOCAL S.C.I.S. workers attending Banquet Only April 23rd, \$20.00 before April 5th and \$22.50 on or after April 5th. Deadline April 8th, 1983.

Reserve Banquet only:

First Name	Last Name	Price
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Number for Banquet _____ Total Cost _____

Make check payable to Russell Hopson and mail it with this bottom form to Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hopson, 2312 Calle Las Palmas, San Clemente, CA 92672 (BEFORE APRIL 8, 1983). Phone: (714) 492-5096

SPRING MEETING APRIL 22, 23, 1983

The Southern California Iris Society extends a warm invitation to all irisarians to attend the American Iris Society Region 15 Spring Trek. Opening activities for Friday, April 22, will be the Registration, the Regional Board Meeting, Your Favorite Flower Arrangement Contest to be judged by popular vote (see details in this issue) and Mr. Don Denny's presentation of the Judges Training session. Saturday, April 23, will be garden tour day with five well planned gardens offering much variety in landscape, and an unusually large number of 1981-1982 introductions from the Pacific Coast Area. The one commercial garden you'll visit is in Hacienda Heights with two home gardens in Arcadia and two more spacious gardens in Ontario and Cucamonga. (See the Open Story Book of Gardens in this issue.) Luncheon will be served at the unique "Turkey House" and after the tour when you're filled with goodies and wine, the grounds of our headquarters at Griswold's Inn offer the fantastic shops of The Old Schoolhouse.

The climax of the Spring Meeting will be the prime rib banquet, the delightful door prizes, the raffle winner, and the charming Jim McWhirter who will look into his crystal ball to tell you about "Iris of the 1980s."

Sunday, April 24, a continental breakfast will be included with lodging. You are on your own for the day but with all this excitement, why stop now because there is an optional "special treat" at the nearby Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens. Dr. Lee Lenz will show and tell about his collection of Pacific Coast Natives and his many introductions. There will be several other gardens open for Sunday visitation with a special invitation to see more Pacific Coast Natives at the commercial establishment of Robert Hubley in Riverside. Many wineries are located in the area and some have "tasting samples" with picnic tables.

We want you to come join your Iris friends, meet new people, make new friends and have two or three happy days in the World of Iris. Send in your registration form today.

Jennie Hopson, Reporter
Clare Roberts, Publicity Chairman

PHOENIX TO HOST NATIONAL CONVENTION

Sun Country Iris Society made a bid for the 1987 AIS National Convention and we have been accepted. It will be a Region 15 endeavor and Phoenix will need the help and cooperation from all of the Region 15 members.

As convention chairman, I am asking for any of you that have ideas for the convention to let me know. We want to put the "bestest" convention ever together and we need a lot of help.

Those of you that have gone to several of the National sessions have enjoyed some parts and regretted others. I want to know what you have really liked and would want to do again and I want to know those things that are absolute "no, nos." Please help with your ideas.

Thank you.

Bobbie Shepard
3342 W. Orangewood
Phoenix, AZ 85021

ARRANGEMENT SHOW AT SPRING MEETING

At the spring meeting, we are having an Arrangement Show and Contest Friday evening, April 22, in the lobby of the hotel during the evening registration. You are invited to participate by bringing your own design and plant materials including iris of course. Arrangements must be in place before the Judges Training at 7 p.m. and will remain until the banquet Saturday evening. Everyone who registers for the Trek will have a ballot attached to their packet to vote

for their favorite arrangement after the Judges Training. A prize will be awarded. In order to make a more fair comparison, we request you design an average size.

We must plan for space, so if you will contribute to make this show an interesting part of Friday night's program, please notify August Phillips, 566 E. Hargrave St., Inglewood, CA 90302 to reserve space before April 8 or phone (213) 672-1457.

CHARACTERS IN OUR OPEN STORY BOOK OF GARDENS

INTRODUCTION

Interesting people create interesting gardens that often reflect personality, character, history, family relationship or favorite things. There are five such gardens on the Bus Tour of the Southern California Iris Society's Region 15 Spring Trek. The people are referred to as the characters in this Open Story Book.

CHAPTER I

One such garden shows a historical interest and tells an artistic story with seven main characters over a period of 31 years. The leading man is a professor of Speech and Fine Arts at Chaffey College and the leading lady is Chairperson of a City's Historical Commission. The garden is a joint project (with a recent special interest in iris) created on an old ranch organized into many centers of interest around iris, fruit trees, roses, a 1908 Sears and Roebuck pre-cut house, original orange trees of the area—all of

which have harmonized with little stone walls typical of the alluvial plain in an old grape vineyard area. This couple have so many hobbies they don't know what to do next, but their love for life flows out to others through their enthusiasm for each one, and their love for their old ranch garden welcomes you.

CHAPTER II

This section in the Story Book of Gardens didn't begin until the mid-sixties although the two main characters had observed yellow, blue and white iris blooming at different times to lengthen a flower season in the San Gabriel Valley. A fellow employee would bring bouquets of iris to enjoy on her desk. To the leading man it seemed as if they bloomed all year round. Through a friend, the man was invited to attend an S.C.I.S. meeting and early January iris show. Having soon both joined the club, one character started participating in the

A.I.S. Space Age Robin I and other hybridizing Robins which hooked them in. They started growing iris to hybridize and enter in shows. Soon they had filled their garden space and needed more room, so they moved to a larger piece of land to plant in rows and grow seedlings. The lady's interests and hobby center around hybridizing tall bearded and watching her own developments, but she has enriched the garden borders with other flowering plants.

Being scientific minded, the leading man's interests center around the aril-breds, species and California native iris. He works in the landscape field and has a store of scientific knowledge so he enjoys writing and editing. This story section concludes with a great deal of self pride in accomplishments in their new garden location.

CHAPTER III

This part of the story is centered on a boy growing up. At an early age, he learned to admire the older iris, like San Gabriel and San Pasqual, scattered throughout his mother's yard but when he was a teenager what really got him interested was attending a S.C.I.S. spring show. The colors, size, and variety completely overwhelmed him. He started buying the new varieties and giving members of his family a few to grow in their gardens for the beautiful blooms. Parents, uncles, aunts, sisters and brothers all enjoyed them, but the young man was specializing by joining S.C.I.S., reading books, studying catalogs, entering specimens in shows and learning from helpful members of the society. His enthusiasm carried over to an Uncle and Aunt who made their first big purchase in 1976. Now the leading character had learned so much it gave him great pleasure to work at the shows and help the curious public to learn about iris. Then came a sale of property, and as a result, three adult characters consolidated their iris and efforts to operate a commercial garden. Being a student most of his life and presently working as Coordinator of Asian Languages in his local school district, the more mature man relaxes in his gar-

den work and with his wife, a computer specialist, takes pride in their place. The younger man lives further south where he works as a court clerk but spends most of his weekends sharing jobs to grow beautiful iris. He orders the iris, supervises where they should be planted, keeps records of growth and blooming habits, and is doing more hybridizing each year. The owner of the garden handles sales and promotion. Currently he is involved in an exchange with a Hawaiian plant grower for plumerias. Relatives working closely together to develop such a hobby reflects warm family feelings and their gracious hospitality wins you over quickly.

CHAPTER IV

Another garden story with four characters and one main one started three generations ago with a seven-year-old boy who loved his grandmother, her flower garden, and especially her roses. This little boy's mother taught him to love flowers and specifically iris, so he and the leading lady have been growing them whenever they had ground to do it. They changed the scene of their story in 1975 from Iowa to California where he specializes in spurias, Louisianas, and daylillies. Both of these characters have away-from-home jobs so flowers and plants with ease of performance attract them. Theirs is reflection of beautiful relationship in this love of flowers and it points on to another generation with their daughter who has entered arrangements in the youth section of our shows. However, father believes he killed his son's floral interest by chasing him out of the flower garden as a toddler.

CHAPTER V

The last chapter in the Open Story Book of Gardens began when a California native son and a transplanted daughter of West Virginia, with two little ones, arrived at a home with many fruit trees and ornamental shrubs surrounding lawn areas thirty-two years ago. Their early interests were in roses, camellias, hippeastrums, and vegetable gardening with iris as part of the flower borders. About 1956 a relative gave them Happy

Birthday, a pink iris. This gift plus a Lloyd Austin catalog was their undoing. Being an exacting type of person, the leading man planned beds of iris and more iris with initial encouragement from his wife. The garden reflects a good manager with definite beds, paths, lawn areas—everything in its place for a reason. In the meantime the leading lady who enjoys entertaining people developed an interest in ferns and begonias, so an attractive shade area patio grew into a lovely summer evening center. Their love for iris is conveyed to others through their sincere enthusiasm and dedicated work in the iris clubs.

CONCLUSION

An Open Book Test is usually given for one to identify the correct answers. So it is with this Open Story Book of Gardens. Your reservation form for the spring trek is enclosed. Mail it in today, visit these gardens and meet the "Characters" in their gardens. You'll have fun!

Jennie Hopson

OPEN GARDEN

Sanford Roberts' garden of tall-bearded and spuria seedlings, including some re-selects, will be open from about April 10th onward. The garden is weed-free and all irises growing nicely.
13011 Oak Creek Road, El Cajon, CA
Phone 619-443-7711.

REGIONAL PURCHASES FOR 1983 AUCTIONS

Each year Region 15 budgets about three hundred dollars (\$300) to purchase new iris to be grown and shown in the Spring Trek gardens before they are distributed to the clubs for auction. It is a very important budget building activity for the Region.

This year all thirty five of the regional purchases will be found in M and G Gardens operated by Tony and Pat Guerrero and Don Maurizio in Hacienda Heights. Look for the beds marked Regional Purchases. There are 15 1982 introductions. See them and be ready to bid the highest for some of the newest at your auction. Here they are: Anon (Gibson '75), Arkansas Girl (Sexton '82), Azure Luster (Weiler '82), Bubbling Over (Ghio '82), Burgundy Brown (Gibson '79), Cavalier (Williamson '81), Centennial State (Ghio '82), Centre Court (Williamson '82), Cinema (Williamson '82), Deep Venture (Shoop '82), Desert Mist (Williamson '82), Fancy Tales (Shoop '80), Fiction (Williamson '81), Fresno Frolic (Weiler '80), Gem of Sierra (Gibson '78), Homecoming Queen (Sexton '78), Jontue (Williamson '81), Lady Friend (Ghio '81), Last Call (Williamson '82), Lemon Custard (Weiler '82), Light Years (Ghio '82), Lullaby of Love (Williamson '81), Macho (Williamson '82), New Tomorrow (Sexton '81), Norwegian Wood (Ghio '82), Perfect Accent (Weiler '80), Phoenix (Keppel '78), Preface (Ghio '80), Soap Opera (Ghio '82), Social Register (Ghio '82), Toasted Almond (Ghio '81), Twilight Whisper (Weiler '80), Veneer (Ghio '81), Well Endowed (Ghio '79), World News (Sexton '77).

IRIS CLUBS— WHAT MAKES THEM FUN? WHAT MAKES THEM GROW?

We are fortunate to have so many iris clubs in Region 22. They provide us with a chance to associate with other people who enjoy our favority flower. They give us a chance to learn more about growing and showing irises. They give us a chance to share our enthusiasm and our knowledge with others. Iris clubs can be the highlight of the month, but it all depends on what happens at the meetings.

Some of us get into the habit of going to club meetings and we forget that not everyone there knows as much about irises as those of us who have been attending meetings for years. The most important ingredient for a successful club is friendly members who are willing to make the effort to welcome new people. Try to remember the first meeting you attended. Was there someone who made you feel especially welcome? If so, try to be like that person and make new people feel welcome at your club.

Iris people speak a language all their own, and this is sometimes confusing to the people who are new at growing these lovely flowers. We speak of medians, spurias, apogons, and often give such a long list of requirements for entering a show that new people are not about to enter. Certainly there are things which must be done before one can enter a show, but it should be made clear that someone will be willing to help new people to get their entries made.

Help your new members to learn about irises and iris growing by varying your programs. Most of us enjoy seeing slides, and some of us could look at them all day long. However, new people will soon tire of looking at slides if their knowledge of growing irises does not advance. If they see slides time after time and know they can't afford to have them, they are likely to think the best place for them is home in their own little

garden with the plants they can grow. Try to have programs that will help the new people in the club. The older members are probably going to be there anyway, so don't make all the programs to suit the needs of the established iris gardener.

Strive to complete your meetings in a reasonable amount of time. Nothing is more boring than a business meeting that drags on and on. The purpose of an iris club is to have fun and increase knowledge of iris habits, etc. Don't become so involved with technicalities that you lose sight of the purpose. Your club is far more likely to survive if you concentrate on irises than it is if you concentrate on being sure that everything is done exactly by the rules. New members rarely know what is going on so far as the business of the club is concerned, and they are likely to feel left out and bored.

When someone new joins the club and expresses an interest in taking a job, be sure to offer them your assistance. Give them the guidelines to follow, and then let them do the job. Don't pounce on their every move telling them how it has always been done. So long as they are not doing something that is illegal, let them do it their way. Who knows, it may be better than anything that has ever been tried before.

Check your six guns at the door when you go to a meeting, and leave your sharp tongue there with them. A club meeting is no place for your personal dislike for another member to be shown. You need not cut that person down every time he speaks. Don't tell new members what you consider to be the faults of other members. We don't all agree on everything that is presented at a meeting, and even the best of friends can be on opposite sides in an argument. Iris club meetings are not the place for this to become

hostile. If the majority of the members want a particular thing done, accept your defeat and then do all you can to see that the plan to be followed is successful. Remember, it is your club too, and if it fails you will be the loser. Your refusal to help if you don't get your way means that you don't really care anything about the club. It just means you want your way.

When someone is giving a program, let that person give the program. It is rude to interrupt with your own personal comments while the speaker has the floor. Let him give the program, and give your comments when he has finished. Your interruption may cause the speaker to forget something he was about to say, and what is worse, it may confuse the people who are listening.

LERTON W. HOOKER

Lerton Hooker, well-known hybridizer, and resident of Region 15 since 1968, passed away on June 15, 1982. The Hooker garden hosted two national conventions. First the garden in Lombard, Illinois, was on tour at the Chicago convention in the 60's. Then in 1975 the Spring Valley, California, garden was on tour at the San Diego convention. For many years Hooker hybrids were introduced by Tell Muhlestein of Utah, two of the most famous being Black Charm and Acorn.

His final two introductions, Admiralty and Panamint, were introduced by Cordon Bleu Farms and both received the Honorable Mention award.

Watch yourself at the next club meeting. Are you friendly? Do you interrupt? Are you the reason why the business meeting drags on and on and on? Do you talk to the person next to you in such a way that it bothers others around you?

Look at what your club is doing. Are the programs varied and interesting? Do you just look at slides every meeting? Are your business meetings too long? Have you become so picky about how things are done that you forget the purpose of the club?

Iris club meetings are supposed to be fun. Do all you can to see that your members, new and old alike, can have a good time at the meetings. Keep the fun in iris growing.

Reprinted courtesy
Region 22 NEWS,
Burdella Rhodes, Editor

EDWARD OWEN

Eward Owen, a long time member of Region 15 passed away in the fall of 1982. He is survived by his well known wife, Archie Owen. The Owen garden in San Gabriel, California, was on tour at the 1956 AIS convention held in Los Angeles. Twenty years later, their garden in Leucadia, California, was once again host to a national convention when it was headquartered in San Diego in 1975.

Shows and Coming Attractions

- April 1, 2 Sun Country Iris Society show at Los Arcos Mall, Scottsdale, Arizona.
- April 2, 3 Aril Society International early Iris Specialty Show featuring all types of iris except tall bearded. Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, Arcadia, California. Foothill Freeway (I 210) south on Baldwin Avenue or San Bernardino Freeway (I 10) north on Baldwin Avenue.
- April 15, 16 Sun Country Iris Society show at Chris Town Mall, Phoenix, Arizona.
- April 15-17 San Fernando Valley Iris Society show, Promenade Mall, Oxnard Street and Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Woodland Hills. Ventura Freeway north on Topanga Canyon Boulevard.
- April 16, 17 Tucson Area Iris Society show, Tucson Park Mall Shopping Center, Tucson, Arizona.
- April 22 Arrangement show at Region 15 Spring Meeting. Entries must be completed by 7:00 p.m. Make entry reservation before April 8 with August Phillips, 566 E. Hargrave St., Inglewood, CA 90302, phone (213) 672-1457.
- April 22-23 Region 15 Spring Meeting, Griswold's Inn, 555 W. Foothill Blvd., Claremont, California, hosted by Southern California Iris Society.
- April 24 10:00 A.M. Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, 1500 North College Ave., Claremont, California. Dr. Lee Lenz will conduct a guided tour of the Experimental Garden featuring Pacific Coast Native Irises. One half mile east of Griswold's on Foothill Blvd., turn left (north) onto College Ave. and proceed to parking area at end of street.
- April 24 Bob Hubley's Longview Iris Gardens open to visitors in Riverside in the afternoon. Pomona Freeway (U.S. 60) to Van Buren Boulevard. Go southeast on Van Buren past Arlington Avenue to Colorado Avenue. Turn left (east) to 9230 Colorado Avenue.
- April 24 2:00 p.m. Judges training session, Hamner's Iris Garden, 960 N. Perris Blvd., Perris, California. Ruth Goodrick, instructor on garden judging.
- April 30 San Fernando Valley Iris Society garden trek. Call Loren or Helen Zeldin for details. (213) 886-4047.
- April 30, May 1 Southern California Iris Society show and plant sale, Santa Anita Fashion Park mall, Baldwin Avenue at Huntington Drive, Arcadia. Foothill Freeway (I 210) south on Baldwin Avenue or San Bernadino Freeway (I 10) north on Baldwin Avenue.
- April 30, May 1 San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society show, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. From downtown San Diego take 12th Avenue or Park Boulevard north to first traffic signal past Balboa Navy Hospital. Turn left into park. Casa Del Prado is on northwest corner where street ends.

Coming Attractions

- June 4-8 American Iris Society national convention, Boston, Massachusetts.
- Sept. 30, San Fernando Valley Iris Society mammoth rhizome sale, Promenade
Oct. 1, 2 Mall, Oxnard Street and Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Woodland Hills.
Ventura Freeway north on Topanga Canyon Boulevard.
- Oct. 8 Fall Regional Meeting hosted by San Fernando Valley Iris Society.
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