

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

# REGION 15

Spring 1985 Newsletter



SPRING  
TREK

Invitation, details

21st YEAR OF PUBLICATION

## AMERICAN SOCIETY REGION 15 NEWSLETTER

THIS NEWSLETTER is published in the Spring and Fall each year, and distributed to all members of the American Iris Society residing in Southern California and Arizona. Editorial office is located at 7650 West Lilac Road, Bonsall, CA 92003.

### REGIONAL OFFICERS

Regional Vice President  
Howard W. Goodrick  
1700 Burr Oak Way, Hemet, CA 92343

Vice Chairman: Joanne Anderson  
7039 Delco Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91307

Secretary: Peggie McCroskey  
4663 55th St., San Diego, CA 92115

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

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Judges Training: Ruth Goodrick  
1700 Burr Oak Way, Hemet, CA 92343

Membership: Judith Mogil  
23337 Vanowen St., Canoga Park, CA 91370

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7650 West Lilac Road, Bonsall, CA 92003  
(619) 728-4759

By-Laws Revision: LaVerne Conrad  
7650 West Lilac Road, Bonsall, CA 92003

## DEADLINE FOR FALL NEWSLETTER

Copy must be in to the editor by August 31, but please don't wait until the deadline. Plan now to send results of spring shows so that names of winning irises can be published. Send dates of fall shows and winter events as soon as they are planned. This is supposed to be a NEWSletter, and your new items of personal and club activities are needed. Please participate.

### REGION 15 AIS AFFILIATES

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

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

San Fernando Valley Iris Society  
President: Joanne Anderson  
7038 Delco, Canoga Park, CA 91306  
(818) 340-6084

Southern California Iris Society  
President: Eldon J. Hale  
426 N. Alhambra Ave., Monterey Park, CA  
(818) 280-8516

Sun County Iris Society  
President: Charlene Errigo  
17642 North 23rd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85023  
(601) 993-7498

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

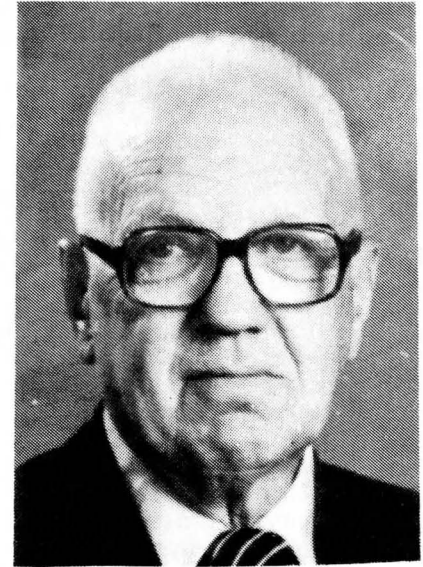
### OTHER GROUPS MEETING IN REGION

Aril Society International  
President: William Scott  
1946 Vedanta Pl., Hollywood, CA 90068  
(213) 465-7114

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club  
President: Nancy Webb  
9382 Vons Pl., Garden, Grove, CA 92640  
(714) 539-9478

Mountain View Iris Society  
President: Findrew Nelson  
6215 N. Wildhorse Dr.  
Prescott Valley, AZ 86312  
(602) 772-6625

# The Regional Vice President's Report



Howard Goodrick

The Region 15 Board met on January 12 primarily to get together and to get acquainted with one another. All of the officers, committee chairmen and most of the local society presidents were there, and included Joanne Anderson - Laws Revision, Ruth Goodrick - judges training and Judy Mogil - membership. Club presidents present were Joanne Anderson, San Fernando, Eldon Hale, Southern California, Archie Owen, San Diego-Imperial Valley, and Ralph Strane, Inland. The experience of these people extends over many decades and includes service as presidents of local societies, regional board members, RVPs, and in one instance a former board member of A.I.S.

What is written here is a reflection of the things discussed plus some thoughts of my own.

To begin, Eldon Hale and his committee of SCIS deserve a word of thanks for

vice president, San Fernando; Peggy McCroskey - secretary, San Diego; Bobbie Shepard - treasurer, Phoenix. Committee chairmen were Ralph Conrad - publications, LaVerne Conrad - By-the well-planned and -executed fall Regional Meeting.

Bobbie Shepard, chairman of the National Convention in Phoenix in 1987 detailed some of the exciting and innovative planning that Sun Country Iris Society has done. Since Region 15 also is host for the convention, it is not too soon to start making plans to attend. Local societies are designating funds for this national meeting and members will be asked to serve as hostesses, etc. during the convention in April, 1987.

Joanne Anderson, president of San Fernando Valley Iris Society, discussed the Spring Trek to be hosted by them April 19-20, 1985. In the fall of 1985 In-



land Iris Society will host the fall meeting. Sara Holk is chairman and we should be hearing from her. All of these events are worthy of your attendance.

Speaking of conventions, do not forget the National Convention of AIS to be held in Indianapolis May 19-23 this year. We hope to see some of you there.

The Judges Training Chairman, Ruth Goodrick, presented the names of the newly appointed garden judges and apprentices and discussed briefly the need to give these judges an opportunity to judge our shows. (See article this issue.)

As you may know, the well-being of our Newsletter has been of concern to me. It is the only vehicle we have to transmit information between the membership and the Board, and between the members generally. Ralph Conrad has agreed to resume the position of Publications chairman. The principal problem in editing a newsletter is to have a continuing source of news, data to publish and accurate calendar of events, and submission of articles of interest to the general reader, the beginning irisarian and the old timer who has earned his position of Emeritus Judge. It's not easy.

Ralph needs help. He has asked me to name a committee to help him obtain material, to propose subjects for articles and the like. Your contributions are solicited. Not all may be selected; all will be subject to correction of gross grammatical mistakes (as I hope this will be), and all are welcome. Send them to Ralph Conrad or me.

With your help we can have an outstanding newsletter.

The local auctions of the Region iris (iris purchased by the Region, grown in the Trek gardens, and the increase available for auction) are the primary source of income for the Region. Some local societies hold an auction of Region iris at a different time than their regular club auction, resulting in a greater income for the Region. Your society may want to

consider doing this. The other main source of income for the Region is the continuing contributions from the local societies.

My goals for Region 15 are these:

1. Strengthen the relationship between the Region, as a representative of AIS, and the individual societies. We need a continuing dialogue! The initial step is to encourage the presidents and their alternates to attend the regularly scheduled board meetings held during the Regional meetings and to report back to their societies. All the presidents of Southern California clubs and one from Arizona were present at the January meeting.

2. We must obtain recognition for our hybridizers. A simple thing is to visit their gardens to see their new seedlings and introductions. For the judges it is an opportunity to back up your choices by voting HC's and Honorable Mentions for the deserving. Remember that voting on this level is statement that the iris is worthy of consideration for a higher award, and if enough judges agree, you may have an opportunity to vote an Award of Merit or even a Dykes Medal for your choice.

3. Encourage membership in the American Iris Society and participation in its program, not the least of which is enrolling in the judges training program.

4. More representation from the Region at the National Convention in San Jose in 1986 and in 1987 in our own Region 15 Fiesta '87 in Phoenix.

A continuing effort must be made to increase our AIS membership. Our present membership is 358. Judy Mogil, our Membership Chairman, is new; you soon will be hearing from her.

Region 15 is viable and dynamic. Let's keep it that way.

One of the great things I heard at the Seattle Convention was a remark by an RVP: "I tell my people to call me when they have problems." I hope you will call me.

# It's Spring Trek Time Again!

The San Fernando Valley Iris Society is happy to announce that final preparations are under way for the Spring Meeting and Trek April 19th and 20th.

Pete DeSantis, Chairman, reports that the garden tour should be spectacular. Nine gardens are scheduled for display and/or as lunch stops. Thirty-two hybridizers and growers from all over the country have sent their newest and best irises to be grown in the display gardens—440 of them! They include tall bearded, border bearded, Louisiana, spuria and aril varieties. Visitors will ride in modern air conditioned buses. Luncheon will be served in three of the gardens. Refreshments will be provided in the gardens throughout the day. Seven  
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## *An Iris To The Rescue!*

*To France, sweet Suffolk; let me  
hear from thee;*

*For whereso'er thou art in this  
World's globe,*

*I'll have an Iris that shall  
find thee out.*

—Shakespeare: 2 King Henry VI

of these gardens are home gardens and two are commercial.

The banquet and get-acquainted party will be held at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys. Accommodations there will be available. The garden tour originates and ends there. The judges training session will be held there on the evening of April 19th. The Region 15 Executive Committee will meet there the same afternoon.

The banquet on Saturday evening, April 20th, will feature an exciting guest speaker, entertainment, prizes and some surprises.

All members of the American Iris Society (particularly those residing in Region 15) and their families and friends are invited to attend. Charge for the weekend of festivities is \$40. Reservations should be made by April 1st. Please make checks payable to the San Fernando Valley Iris Society and mail them to Registrar:

Esther Kraines  
6200 Acadia Ave.  
Agoura, CA 91301

For additional information please write or phone Mrs. Kraines at (818) 889-8622 or call Trek Chairman Pete DeSantis at (818) 343-3755 or Society President Joanne Anderson at (818) 340-6084.

Anyone wishing to spend the night at the Best Western Airtel Plaza should make reservations directly with the hotel by phoning (818) 905-1040. Be sure to mention the San Fernando Valley Iris Society Spring Trek for preferred rates.

**PLEASE NOTE . . .** Information usually furnished in this publication, such as directional map, room rates and mailing address for accommodations, and tear-out form for your trek reservations are missing here due to deadline problems. A separate mailing to all our members will be on its way with a near concurrent mailing time from the San Fernando Iris Society containing the missing items.

# Local Society News

**INLAND IRIS SOCIETY** is well underway with its plans to host Region 15's Fall 1985 Annual Meeting on October 5. Guest speaker scheduled is Bill Maryott of San Jose. Howard Shockey of Albuquerque will conduct the Judges' training session on the evaluation of Aril and Arilbred iris.

Headquarters for the meeting will be The Uplander Motel, located at Foothill Blvd. and Euclid Avenue in Upland. Sara Holk is chairing the planning committee.

In addition to our annual spring iris show on April 27-28 at the Riverside Mall in Riverside, our annual iris auction and potluck is scheduled for August 26, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Dr. Herbert and Sara Holk, 14115 Pear Street in Riverside.

**THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY** has had two very successful auctions this past summer and fall. Members were given the opportunity to bid on many new 1984 introductions and a drawing for 1982-83 rhizomes was part of the program.

Everyone is looking forward to our 1985 show on April 27 and 28 at the Santa Anita Fashion Park in Arcadia. With all the preparations being made, the plans and dreams in process, we expect this to be one of our best.

In recognition of their many years of outstanding service, acceptance of the many offices they have held, and dedication to growing iris, honorary life memberships were awarded to Faith Nixon and John and Kay Terrington. Members

like these are what have made our group so successful and we are truly proud to have them with us.

On January 19th we were entertained by Jimmy Jones and Ralph and LaVerne Conrad with slides and talks concerning their recent trip to New Zealand and Australia and their visits to iris gardens and shows downunder. It was most instructive, entertaining and appreciated.

Featured speaker at our March 23rd meeting is Philip Edinger, SCIS member when he was a pre-teenager, an editor of the American Iris Society Bulletin, and currently an associate editor. Subject matter is the early days of iris hybridizing and development of the modern iris.

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY'S WINTER IRIS SHOW** consisted of artistic arrangements designed for the dining table. The theme was "Let's Celebrate."

Betty Rohan, who chaired the event, said, "We had 27 arrangers enter the show with 50 arrangements. It was very well received by visitors to the Promenade Mall where it was held. There was great variety in the flowers used for a Winter Show and the arrangers got additional inspiration working with table accoutrements."

The show included both exhibition style and functional style arrangements. Winner of Best in Show was Betty's daughter, Bettina, with her very first entry ever.

Other winners include Caroline Sutherland, Theme Trophy; Mary Ellen Fredericks, Advanced Amateur; Caroline Sutherland, Amateur; Bettina Rohan, Novice; Carrie Baum, Youth; Christie Baum, Youth Theme; Robin Rice, Professional.

**SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL IRIS SOCIETY** is in the midst of planning its spring program which will include its annual flower show April 27-28, and regular May meeting at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas on the 19th. Slides of the Spring Regional Trek will be shown as the program for the May meet.

Our society was grieved by the passing of its founder, Jim Watkins, late last

year, and also the loss of Rosalie Garcia, an early member. She was a major contributor to California Gardens Magazine for the past 20 years.

Plans are underway for next year's Regional Trek with two gardens that were on the 1975 A.I.S. National Meeting visitation being committed among the tour locations. These are Bob Brooks and Ray Chesnik's Cordon Blue Farms, where emphasis is currently in Louisiana and spuria iris, and the Conrad garden in Bonsall where Pacifica seedlings number into the hundreds under an oak tree spread and Louisiana iris are planted at running stream edge and in the water. The garden features a wide array of popular iris sections and some lesser known members of the iridaceae family, ixia, moraea and several quite rarely seen.

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## Odds and Ends

James (Jimmy) Jones, vice president of Southern California Iris Society and recently appointed Iris Judge, has accepted the appointment of Youth Chairman for Region 15. RVP Howard Goodrick said Jim was highly qualified to build this important segment due to his background as an educator whose specialty included high school counseling. He has been retired for several years.

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REGION 14 plans a preview of its 1986 Annual Meeting of A.I.S. combined with its own Spring Meeting on April 26-27. Headquarters is the Hyatt

**SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY** has indeed a full and busy year ahead of them.

March 30 and 31 will find us having an aril and arilbred exhibit at the Phoenix Desert Botanical Gardens, to introduce the public to them as another source of color and beauty in their arid gardens.

The Rainbow Connection is the theme for our annual iris show to be held this year at Chris Town mall. Gloria Beatty is our show chairman this year.

And still another busy year is ahead of us in the gardens that are being readied for the 1987 National Meeting of the American Iris Society. A lot of work has been done already and there still is a lot more to do to make this the best convention possible.

Charlene Errigo

Hotel in San Jose. On Saturday the 27th, there will be a seedling show followed by visits to the Walt Dabel garden where the master planting has been placed, the Maryott garden and the Williamson garden, all in the San Jose area, and then the Coleman and Ghio gardens in the Santa Cruz area. On Sunday the convention gardens in the Stockton area will be visited—first the master planting at Melrose Garden where a judges' training session will be held, then to the Keppel-Gatty garden for lunch and balloting.

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Eldon Hale, SCIS prez says (with a straight face) that his introduction to iris followed a "world-shattering record" high jump from a standing position. As a young "wrangler" out west when he was quite young, he flipped open his bedroll at bedtime outward to the ground only to hear a rattling sound from underneath. Turned out not to be a rattler but Missouriensis seed in a dry pod. What a way to get acquainted!

# CALENDAR— SHOWS

- March 30-31 Sun Country Iris Society Aril Show at the Desert Botanical Gardens, Phoenix, Arizona.  
Aril Society International Aril Show at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, California.
- April 12-13 Sun County Iris Society Iris Show at Chris Town Mall, Phoenix, Arizona.
- April 13-14 Tucson Area Iris Show. No details available.
- April 19-20 Region 15 Spring Trek hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society. Details in this issue. See the announcement and invitation.
- April 27-28 San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Show at Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.  
  
Southern California Iris Society Show at Santa Anita Fashion Park, Arcadia, California.  
  
Inland Iris Society Iris Show at Riverside Plaza, Central Avenue, Riverside, California.
- October 5 Region 15 Fall Meeting hosted by Inland Iris Society.

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## *Regional Purchases for 1985 Spring Trek*

Irises purchased by Region 15 to be grown and viewed in the San Fernando Valley gardens this spring will later be auctioned by the affiliates and the proceeds returned to the Region 15 treasury.

The irises purchased include GIGOLO from Keith Keppel; PINK SWAN, Jim Gibson; CHIEF REDSKIN, Bernard and Celeste Hamner; PERFECTA, Mary Dunn; OH BABE, Melrose Gardens; OLYMPIAD, Joe Ghio; CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL, Maryott's Iris Gardens; ORIENTAL KNIGHT, John Weiler; POET, Bryce Williamson; DAZZLING GOLD, Melrose Gardens; KAREN, Melba Hamblen.

"The iris sellers were generous with extras, so I'm sure that we will have very interesting and successful auctions this summer," reports Joanne Anderson,

chairman of the committee. "My thanks to Bill Rinehart who is Guest Iris Chairman for the Spring Trek for coordinating the selections with the irises already donated to the Spring Trek," she added.

## **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOMED**

Among new members of the American Iris Society joining recently are: William C. Jensen, North Hollywood; John Guerard, Bakersfield; Mrs. Keith R. Kelly, San Diego—Garden Judge transfer from Region 20 (Colorado); Mrs. Mary Montgomery, Homeland; William L. Rasmussen, Kingman, Arizona; John H. Reinschmidt, Fontana; and Dan Tillmanns, Ridgecrest.

# FIESTA PHOENIX 1987

By Bobbie Shepard

I hope all of you are saving your pennies and energy for a great time at the "Fiesta Phoenix," now just two years away. Our headquarters will be the Pointe Tapatio in Phoenix, a five-star Western Resort set in the Phoenix land preserve.

There are tennis courts, stables for horseback riding and five swimming pools among many recreational facilities. Five restaurants are on the premises for your eating enjoyment.

Your room rate will include a free breakfast, cocktail hour, and free parking. The hotel has built us an 1800 square foot iris bed which will feature all the guest iris we receive, available for viewing throughout the entire convention period.

Regular A.I.S. officer and committee meetings will start on Tuesday, April 14, then everyone else will come in on Wednesday. A suggestion: have plenty of rest prior to arriving because we intend to keep everyone busy.

The convention will be opened Wednesday evening with a gala Mexican Fiesta; Mexican food, drinks, mariachi bands and lots of fun. The next three days will be filled with lots of tours of the gardens, perhaps a steak cookout, an afternoon in a "Real Western Town," section meetings and judges training sessions. We hope to schedule them so that those who wish may attend them all. Of course the Awards Banquet officially

ends the Fiesta, but those who would like to enjoy a desert setting for an Easter Sunrise Service will be more than welcome to join us.

I hope you have all seen the T-shirts that have been designed and printed with the Fiesta logo. We would like all of Region 15 to wear these shirts for most of the convention to let out-of-region guests know just who makes up Region 15. Of course the badges say who we are and where we come from, but everyone is not able to identify by badges quickly, and a bright yellow shirt can be spotted without glasses. The T-shirts will be sold at the convention, but not the yellow ones. We picked yellow because "Sun Country" is the hosting society and we felt yellow was quite appropriate.

The other big project for now is to get a boutique together. We want iris artifact items of A-1 quality that can be sold at the hotel to make money to offset the convention cost and we must set down the guidelines listed below for interested parties to follow.

As committee chairwoman, I would like to thank San Diego, Southern California, San Fernando Valley, Inland and Sun Country iris societies for their financial donations towards the convention expenses. We expect to have the convention to pay for itself, but it can't before the time registration money starts coming in, so we must depend on the societies for their financial support. More contributions may be sent to me at 3342 W. Orangewood, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

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## **Don't Take Liberties With My Seedling Patch**

Large sign on a utility pole near driveway leading to an iris garden on tour at most recent annual meeting of New Zealand Iris Society at Alexandra: "This borough requires that all dogs be kept under complete control at all times."



# Guidelines for Fiesta Phoenix Boutique

This boutique is being established and will be run to help offset the expenses for the convention. Why shouldn't we have iris artifacts for our guests to purchase instead of sending them to other shops where they may not even find any with iris!!!

1. Item MUST BE A-1 QUALITY WORKMANSHIP.

2. Item must pertain to iris.

3. Make a list of the exact item and its description to be submitted for approval. We don't want many people working on the exact same article and then have no variety to sell. By this we simply don't want exact duplicate items and we don't want to be overstocked on any one item. If it is something that is priced right and will sell "like hotcakes" then we would accept more quantity, but a large expensive one should be kept to minimum quantity.

4. We reserve the right to inspect and accept or reject any item offered for sale. We suggest that you make a sample and have it with you at the San Fernando Valley Spring Trek. At that time we can look at your product and give you the go ahead or rejection. If you don't expect to attend the Trek, send me a sample by

mail at the address below.

5. Items will be accepted on consignment only.

6. We hope to have Master Charge and Visa available to help our guests purchase more. All items will be marked with codes, prices, etc., and paid for at one checkout desk. Accounting for the proceeds will be done at close or after the convention and payment mailed to you.

7. Commission to the convention fund will be 20 percent. This will cover all the expenses of setting up the boutique. All you will have to do is bring your merchandise. If you wish to donate the entire sale amount it would be most generous but not expected.

If you have suggestions or improvements for these guidelines, please let me know. We want this boutique to be a success and we hope it will help us keep registration costs down. Please get busy now... April 1987 is not that far away! Good luck.

**Charlene Errigo  
Boutique Chairwoman  
17642 N. 23rd Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
Phone (602) 993-7498**

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## *Iris Many Times Plays Cupid*

It is not unusual for iris enthusiasts to find new loves when loved ones are lost, mostly through a partner's death. Having a common interest is important, and what better interest than iris. Several such pairings come to mind, the most recent Bennett Jones of Portland, Oregon, the program speaker at our last fall's regional meeting. In January he and Evelyn Minnick, who with her late husband were among the most active irisarians in Kansas City and Region 18, took marriage vows. They will live in Portland.

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# REGIONAL MINUTES

A meeting of the board of Region 15 of the American Iris Society was held at Glendale Federal Savings and Loan in Riverside, California, on January 12, 1985. In attendance were Joanne Anderson, LaVerne Conrad, Ralph Conrad, Howard Goodrick, Ruth Goodrick, Eldon Hale, Peggy McCroskey, Judy Mogel, Archie Owen, Bobbie Shepard, and Ralph Strane.

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. by Regional Vice President, Howard Goodrick. The minutes of the regular fall membership meeting were read by the secretary and accepted as read.

Vice Chairman, Joanne Anderson, whose title will be changed to Assistant Regional Vice President, reported that she is compiling a list of well-qualified speakers to be sent to local societies and asked everyone to send names of those they felt should be included.

Treasurer Bobbie Shepard reported that the Regional expenses in mid-1984 exceeded income, but at year end the balance in the checking account was \$1680 and there was \$2000 invested in Certificates of Deposit. She has changed banks in order to obtain more interest on Region 15 monies, and has also invested in two C.D.'s. She presented a budget for 1985 and after considerable discussion it was approved. A motion was made by Eldon Hale that the treasurer name a committee to prepare a budget for 1986, which was seconded and carried. The Auditor's Report was also read and accepted.

There was a discussion of the Region 15 By-Laws concerning the limitation of an officer holding the same office for more than three consecutive years. Howard appointed LaVerne Conrad to head a committee to review the By-Laws

to determine if further revisions should be considered.

Bobbie Shepard reported on the 1987 National Convention and Convention budget. Plans are moving forward very well and everything is under control at present but she stated that help will be needed from other Region 15 clubs during the last few months with food, hosts and hostesses, and items for the planned iris boutique. She asked for ideas for publicity and it was moved, seconded and passed that a color plate for advertising in the AIS Bulletin be obtained, the funds to come from Region 15 if necessary. She also presented each club president with a tee-shirt emblazoned with the convention logo and asked them to get orders for them from their members. It was felt that if they were worn to treks and conventions it would help publicize the Phoenix Convention.

Howard read a report from National AIS Headquarters which showed that Region 15 is now number 7 in AIS membership.

Ruth Goodrick passed out copies of guidelines for judging shows and a list of newly-accredited judges and apprentice judges needing an opportunity to judge shows. A discussion was held regarding the rule that an apprentice should not receive his training in a show in which he or his family have entries.

A discussion was held concerning the necessity of adding to Spring Trek Guidelines annually; it was generally felt that it was up to each society whether they felt it necessary to update each year.

Joanne Anderson reported on the plans for the 1985 Spring Meeting which will be hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society on April 19th and 20th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

**Peggy McCroskey, Secretary**

## Regional Minutes

The 1984 Fall Meeting of Region 15 of the American Iris Society was held on Saturday, October 13, 1984 at the Luminarias restaurant in Monterey Park, California. In attendance were: Joanne Anderson, Corrine Bromberger, Howard Goodrick, Ruth Goodrick, Eldon Hale, George Hood, Jennie Hopson, Eleanor McCown, Peggy McCroskey, Bobbie Shepard, Ralph Strane and John Wight.

Corrine Bromberger, the Regional Newsletter Editor pro tem, discussed the newsletter costs and explained that the calendar of events was missing from the latest newsletter because the club presidents did not get the news to her on time.

Ruth Goodrick reported that four ap-

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## JAMES WATKINS

Was raised in Washington State, and served in World War II as an intelligence officer in Germany under General George Patton. He founded the San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society in 1963 with Tom Craig, Frances Lawson and others. He was the second president of the society and active until his final illness. He lived on a Fallbrook avocado ranch with his brother Jose Rivera, who survives. They later moved to a home in Vista with a large planting of iris. Region Spring Treks included both these locations. In later years orchids were added to their interest in horticulture.

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prentice judges have completed their requirements to become fully accredited judges and that one person has completed the requirements to become an apprentice judge. When all pending approvals have been received, the Region will have a total of seven apprentice judges. The Judges training chairman will disseminate some new AIS guidelines regarding the role of apprentice judges to the club presidents and to the Region's judges and apprentice judges.

Jennie Hopson issued notebooks containing guidelines for fall meetings to each society. Responsibility for maintaining the notebooks devolves on the club presidents. A discussion was held on the ways for local societies hosting fall meetings to record and report their expenses so that a continuous record can be maintained for future chairmen.

Jennie also reported for the constitutional revision committee. The board discussed various revisions including those now required by State law (to maintain our non-profit status). It was moved, seconded and passed that the new RVP appoint a committee to revise the by-laws.

Bobbie Shepard discussed the 1987 National convention and requested more support from the local societies. It was agreed that she will send more specific requirements to the RVP for dissemination to local presidents.

Eleanor McCown reported that the Mountain View Iris Society is now defunct, also that a committee consisting of Floyd Wickenkamp and Vickie Day will audit the books before the new board takes over.

John Wight, Chairman of the nominating committee, reported the committee's slate of nominees for Regional officers to be presented for voting at the general meeting as follows: Regional Vice President—Howard Goodrick; Vice Chairman—Joanne Anderson; Secretary—Peggy McCroskey; Treasurer—Bobbie Shepard.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL REGION 15 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The 1984 Fall Membership Meeting of Region 15 of the American Iris Society was held on Saturday, October 13, 1984 at the Luminarias Restaurant in Monterey Park, California.

Eleanor McCown, Reginal Vice President, opened the meeting by thanking the Host Society, Southern California Iris Society.

The slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee was elected. They were as follows:

Regional Vice President	— Howard Goodrick
Vice Chairman	— Joanne Anderson
Secretary	— Peggy McCroskey
Treasurer	— Bobbie Shepard

Bobbie Shepard spoke of the need for funding of the National Convention to be held in Phoenix in 1987, funding which had been promised in previous Board Meetings. Following her remarks it was learned that funds sent to Bobbie were not identified as to purpose so she considered them as funds for Region 15. LaVerne Conrad moved that the \$200 sent by Southern California Iris Society be transferred to the Convention Fund; seconded and passed.

There being no futher business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Peggy McCroskey, Secretary**

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## New Iris Judges Are Announced

Region 15 has gained four new accredited judges and one apprentice judge to its roster, officially approved at last fall's American Iris Society's annual board of director meeting. Region 15 Judge's Training chairman Ruth Goodrick said the newly accredited judges are LaVerne Conrad of Bonsall, Herbert and Sara Holk of Riverside and James H. Jones of Lakewood.

John Wright of LaPuente achieved apprentice judge status.

Progressing toward accredited judge-ships are apprentice judges Richard and Maytie Cherry, Vern and Peggy McCroskey, Bobbie Shepard and Ralph Strane.

Accredited and Master Judges are urged to assist in helping apprentice judges listed to meet requirements in show and gardening judging.

August Phillips, who has ably served

in official capacities for many years for the Southern California Iris Society and Region 15, has reached the plateau of becoming a Master Judge, it was revealed by the region's Judge's Training Chairman.

Region 15 has openings for more judges since we are well below the quota of 15 percent of our membership. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this unique circle should contact the training chairman for details.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE Regional Meeting Hosts

1985 Fall Meeting—Inland Iris Society  
 1986 Spring Meeting—San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society  
 1987 Spring Meeting and American Iris Society National Convention, Region 15 hosting in Phoenix, AZ  
 1987 Fall Meeting, San Fernando Valley Iris Society  
 1988 Spring Meeting—Southern California Iris Society invite Region 14

# OUT OF THE PAST AND INTO THE PRESENT

Somewhere around the time when current officers were taking over the helm of Region 15, and possibly with this issue, this Newsletter attained the age of 21 years. During this time formats have been changed, a string of dedicated editors have come and gone, and varying opinions have emerged as to just what should be accommodated—from the bare informational material to a more meaningful publication that would compare favorably with the more complete bulletins of other A.I.S. regions.

To assess where we are today, it seems reasonable to dig into the past on occasions to better understand the underpinnings, and the following is attempted to hopefully get some membership reaction. Time frame is 1965, and your editor has excerpted material and observations plus bits of comment from the Spring issue of that year.

Thornton Abel was RVP and halfway through his final third-year period. In his report he indicated delight that there was so much local club reporting but concern that it would put too much pressure on LaVerne Conrad, who would do the typing, and also concern for those who would do the paste-up, etc. Despite the treasurer reporting a balance on hand of \$757.54, the issue contained 52 pages in addition to the cover. It production committee was composed of six members, with Marion Walker of Ventura listed as Publication Chairman.

Area Chairmen (this designation has long been abandoned) were the obvious lieutenants relied upon by the RVP for

area news and were listed by county or combination of counties in California, and state as in Arizona. For many years local society presidents have been charged with this responsibility.

The Spring meeting and trek was headquartered at Riverside's Mission Inn, and Clarke Cosgrove the banquet speaker. Garden tours were planned for 2 days, the second being optional but declared to have the best blooms.

Feature story was by Peg Dabagh entitled "My Little Black Book" in which she described her efforts to have one book with all the information an iris judge should have recorded, and the problem of having it in hand when needed, let alone having it catalogued for easy reference. She noted that experience had taught her that there was a surprising lack of knowledge exposed by iris experts, but that most of her judging expertise had been gained by following (tagging behind within earshot) them and listening to every word.

While Peg never, to my knowledge, did any serious hybridizing, she had in this piece lots of advice to those contemplating named seedling introduction. One that catches the eye was "...if you introduce one below your best then it takes three years to live it down."

The listing of gardens on tour included individual history of "how I got started in iris" on to experiences on how the iris garden was developed and problems of soil preparation to overcome.

All show information was collected by the Exhibition Chairman and written up for the Newsletter under his byline.

George Stambach, "The Johnny Appleseed of Pacific Coast Native Iris" (generally called Pacificas now) wrote an involved piece on hybridizing them. His final paragraph was a plea. "...Come to

the rescue and let's keep Pacific Coast natives always on the list as one of the choicest iris for any spot in the garden, sun or shade."

The report on the happenings of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society by Thelma Carrington included a paragraph that began "...Our December Open House was one of the Years' outstanding Social Events. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Cooper were hosts and their gracious hospitality will be long remembered." Well, Betty is still at it. Only last fall she had a gathering honoring Region 14's former RVP, Elsie Mae Nicholson, who was moving up to the California Garden Club presidency. More often than not Betty Cooper still volunteers to be the hostess for local events.

Jim Watkins was listed in that issue as San Diego's area chairman. He was probably the prime mover in getting that group's rapid increase in membership from the start. In his piece that included

an invitation to come to San Diego for that year's Spring Meeting and Trek, headed "Caviar In San Diego," he included a paragraph about the delicious and varied food table at their past Christmas Open House. "Several of the ladies," he reported, "had laden a table with a brilliant assortment of goodies, from caviar canapes to fruit cakes, and from eggnog to coffee or vice versa."

Well, to thrust us into the present, Jim passed on just recently after years of illness that kept him from iris activity. Details are elsewhere in this issue.

**Ralph Conrad**

*Peg was president of the Southern California Iris Society in 1963 and an enthusiastic irisarian in the 1950's and 60's. She was a cohort and assistant to Tom Craig, knew her iris and iris people throughout the country. She was an inveterate convention goer and outspoken in her views. Tom's iris "Peg Dabagh" may still be seen in some iris gardens.*

## 1985-85 REGION 15 BUDGET

### Estimated Income:

Affiliated Society donations	\$ 800.00
Auction Iris sales	1,000.00
Interest	300.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,100.00</b>

### Estimated Operating Expenses:

RVP Expenses	250.00
Auction Iris purchases	300.00
Newsletter — 2 issues	800.00
Mailing labels	100.00
Regional Meetings — Spring	200.00
— Fall	150.00
Judges Training Committee	100.00
Misc. Officer expenses	100.00
Committee expenses	100.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,100.00</b>



# JOIN OR VISIT A LOCAL CLUB

**ARIL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA. Meetings on second Sunday of February, July, and November with potluck luncheon. Meeting hours vary.

**INLAND IRIS SOCIETY**, Glendale Federal Savings, Tyler Street across from Tyler Mall, Riverside, CA. 7 p.m. first Monday of January, February, March, April, May, and November. Other locations: potluck-auction in August, rhizome sale first weekend in October.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW IRIS SOCIETY**, meeting time and place varies; contact president.

**ORANGE COUNTY IRIS AND DAYLILY CLUB**, Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid, Garden Grove, CA. Second Tuesday every month at 7:30 p.m.

**SAN DIEGO - IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY**, third Sunday of some months at 1 p.m., location varies; contact president.

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY**, meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Canoga Park Women's Club, corner of Valerio and Jordan, Canoga Park. Guests are welcome. Hosts of the 1985 A.I.S. Region 15 Spring Meeting and Trek. Picnic and Iris Auction Labor Day weekend. For additional information please contact president.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY**, Los Angeles State and County Arboretum Lecture Hall, 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Potluck at noon, fourth Saturday of January, March, June and October.

**SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY**, Valley Garden Center, Phoenix, AZ. First Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

**TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY**, generally on third Sunday of February, March, May, August, and October at 3 or 4 p.m. Show in April; sale in September. Place varies; check with president.

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