

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY  
**REGION 15**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA • ARIZONA

FALL 1990  
NEWSLETTER



**HI-DESERT**

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY  
ORANGE COUNTY IRIS SOCIETY

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
INLAND

SAN DIEGO  
IMPERIAL COUNTIES

SUN COUNTRY

TUCSON

*Gayle*

This newsletter is published in the Spring and Fall each year. It is distributed to all members of the America Iris Society residing in Arizona and Southern California. Annual subscription rate to others is \$1.50. Editorial office is at 5244 W. Sunnyside Dr., Glendale, AZ 85304.

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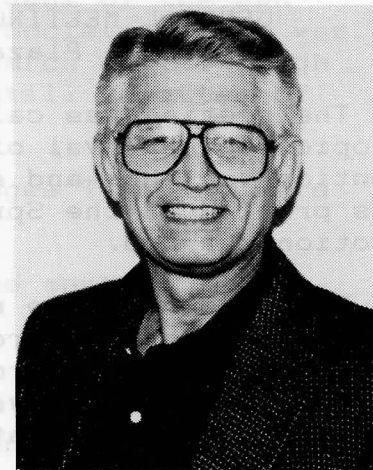
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THE REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WELL, THIS IS IT, MY LAST RVP REPORT. WHAT THEY SAY IS TRUE! TIME REALLY DOES FLY AS YOU GET OLDER. THE END OF THE TERM SEEMED SO FAR OFF IN THE DISTANCE WHEN I WROTE THE FIRST OF THESE REPORTS. IT IS A TIME FOR REJOICING AND SADNESS TOO I SHALL BE GLAD TO HAVE THE EXTRA TIME THAT THE JOB TAKES BUT I WILL BE VERY SORRY TO LOSE THE PLEASURE I HAVE RECEIVED IN THE CLOSE CONTACTS I HAVE HAD WITH YOU, THE MEMBERS OF THE REGION. YOU HAVE REALLY MADE IT FUN. I COULD FILL VICKI'S WHOLE BOOK IF I STARTED TO NAME EVERYONE THAT SHOULD BE NAMED. A WARM "THANK YOU" TO YOU ALL.



AT THE FALL MEETING I WILL HAVE MORE TO SAY ABOUT THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED WITH THE ACTUAL RUNNING OF THE REGION. I HAVE HAD SUCH A GOOD GROUP OF OFFICERS THAT HAVE MADE THIS JOB A PLEASURE. I ONLY HOPE THAT THE NEW OFFICERS HAVE THE COOPERATION THAT I HAVE RECEIVED. KNOWING THEM AND KNOWING YOU I AM SURE THEY WILL.

ATTENDING THE AIS BOARD MEETINGS AND THE RVP MEETINGS SURE OPENS YOUR EYES TO PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. I AM SURE GLAD TO LIVE IN THE WEST. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WE JUST DON'T HAVE THE BICKERING AND DIRTY PLAY THAT SOME OF THE REGIONS AND SOCIETIES HAVE TO PUT UP WITH. YOU ARE GOOD PEOPLE!

THANKS ONCE AGAIN FOR ALL OF THE HELP AND KINDNESSES THAT I HAVE RECEIVED. "LONG LIVE THE NEW RVP!!!!!!!!!!".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 20, 1990  
Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys, CA

The meeting was called to order and the first topic was approval of the By-Law changes. A motion was made and seconded to modify the By-Laws as printed in the Spring 1990 Newsletter. The motion carried.

Discussion of the mailing problems resulted in a motion by Don Shepard and second by Sarah Holk that the Region approve an increase in the weight of the Region 15 Newsletter to 2 oz. and authorize the expenditures that will result from the increase in postage. The motion carried.

The Secretary read the minutes from the previous general meeting, which were approved as read.

Treasurer Pete DeSantis passed out printed copies of the Treasurer's report. As of April 19, 1990 the Region 15 financial position was:

General Funds:	
Checking Account	\$1,820.68
CD Account	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
TOTAL GENERAL FUNDS	\$6,820.68
RVP Accounts:	
Savings Account	\$ 779.00
CD Account	<u>\$5,900.00</u>
TOTAL RVP ACCOUNTS	<u>\$6,679.00</u>
TOTAL REGION 15 FUNDS	\$13,499.68

Updating his income report from the last general meeting, the Treasurer reported that the Tucson Iris Society had sent in their annual \$300 in contribution and return on sale of Region iris as anticipated for 1989.

The Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Sarah Holk said that there was no report to present from the nominating committee.

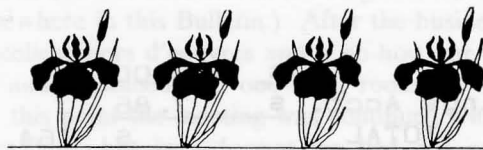
RVP Strane updated the membership on the condition of Bill Barr, President of the San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society. Bill was taken seriously ill in late March and although improving, his condition is still a matter of great concern.

Questions pertaining to Judges Training were brought up and discussed.

Pete DeSantis moved that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Jeanne Clay Plank



DEADLINE FOR SPRING NEWSLETTER

Copy must be in to the editor by February 15, 1991 but don't wait until the last minute. Plan now to send information about Fall programs, club activities and your Spring Show. Send dates so that others may attend.

This newsletter is for the benefit of all the Region. I would like to expand it to include more articles that will educate and inform us about iris. Any contributions or articles from any member will be greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to Ralph Strane and Joe Daugherty who sent their newsletter information to me early in August without being asked! A goal for everyone.

BALANCE SHEET AS OF AUGUST 24, 1990

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF APRIL 20, 1990

Checking Account	\$1,820.00	
CD	\$4,000.00	
RVP CD	\$5,900.00	
RVP Savings Fund	\$ 799.68	
TOTAL		\$13,499.68

RECEIPTS

Region Auction		
Inland I.S.	\$ 250.00	
San Diego/Imperial	\$ 300.00	
San Fernando I.S.	\$ 400.00	
Orange County	\$ 76.00	
TOTAL		\$1,026.00

Interest

CD	\$ 456.00	
RVP Savings Acct.	\$ 7.86	
TOTAL		\$ 464.39

TOTAL INTEREST AND RECEIPTS \$ 1,490.39

TOTAL BALANCE AND RECEIPTS \$14,990.07

DISBURSEMENTS

RVP Added Expenses	\$ 100.00	
RVP 1990 Conv. Exp	\$ 700.00	
Region Fall Meeting	\$ 150.00	
TOTAL		\$ 950.00

BALANCE AS OF AUGUST 24, 1990 \$14,404.07

Checking Account	\$3,052.53	
CD	\$5,000.00	
RVP CD	\$5,900.00	
RVP Savings Account	\$ 87.54	
		\$14,040.07

The 1990 Joint Spring Regional of  
Regions 14 and 15,  
Hosted by the San Fernando Iris Society  
by Margaret Sutton

When one thinks of the Los Angeles Valley and its environs, one thinks of freeways, people, and concrete. The idea that there might be land with gardens seems remote and fanciful. As those who journeyed to the Joint Spring Regional in the San Fernando Valley in April found, however, there are indeed gardens and even more specifically iris gardens, with the same flowers we love and people who give much loving care to them as we are used to in Region 14. This loving care was much in evidence to all who viewed the gardens.

When we arrived on Friday afternoon at the Airtel Plaza Hotel, the first phase of judging of the horticultural show was going on. After registering and having dinner on our own, the members of both regions had separate business meetings in adjoining rooms. During the Region 14 business meeting Jim McWhirter, RVP, announced that Region 14 had 692 AIS members, only 3 short of putting us in first place again. (For further information as to what occurred at the Region 14 business meeting, see the minutes elsewhere in this Bulletin.) After the business meetings, members enjoyed excellent hors d'oeuvres and a no-host bar while the rooms were rearranged and combined into one large room.

At this point the meeting was continued with the second phase of judging the show, but in a format we had not previously experienced. Judging had been completed during the first phase up to the point of choosing section winners. The judges then took turns wearing mikes and doing the actual selection of the section winners and then finally the Queen of Show, in front of about 200 people, for judges' training credit. Section winners were EASTERTIDE (Army '79 LA), ROVING EYE (Stambach '78 CA), *I. ochroleuca* (Species), and JAMIE LYNN (Hamner '84 TB), with a collection of ROVING EYE PCN's winning Best Collection; Queen of Show was JAMIE LYNN. The evening concluded with further hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday was the big day, with people being bussed to eight gardens during the day. (The gardens are covered in detail immediately following this report.) After seeing four gardens in the morning we returned to the Airtel for an excellent luncheon put on by the hotel. The afternoon was devoted to the other four gardens, at which time ballots were cast for the various awards.

In the evening we returned to the banquet room at the Airtel for the awards banquet. Much went on during the banquet in addition to eating, as not only were various awards announced, but also raffle winners were chosen and Region roll calls were held. Region 14 had six out of the

eight raffle winners, with Teresa Rigby winning both the serigraph and the watercolor. Region 14 garden award winners, chosen during the balloting at the end of the garden tours and announced at the banquet, were as follows: Region 14 Seedling Cup, 86-9A (L. Gartman); Cotillion Cup, BOGOTA (J. Ghio '90); Clara B. Rees Cup, PAGAN PINK (M. Byers '88); Melrose Award, EASTERTIDE (Arny '79 LA); and Out of Region Cup, Seedling S-107A (Schreiner's). Region 15 garden award winners were Best Introduced Guest, MA MOO JACK (Shepard '89); and Best Seedling, Seedling S-107A (Schreiner's).

For several years, Region 15 has also voted for the favorite irises seen blooming in one or more of the tour gardens. No awards are given for these selections, as they are just an expression of popularity. Since tabulating these is a fairly time consuming job, the results were not announced at the banquet, but rather sent to your editor by Bill Rinehart later. 191 cultivars received at least one vote, with the top fifteen being as follows: 1) CHOSEN ONE (Hamner '87); 2) PAGAN PINK (Byers '88); 3) LARRY GAULTER (B. Brown '88); 3-way tie for 4) between BOGOTA (Ghio '90), EGYPTIAN (Byers '88), and VANITY (Hager '75); 4-way tie for 7) between BABY BLUE MARINE (Denney/McWhirter '87 IB), BATIK (Ensminger '86 BB), MA MOO JACK (Shepard '89), and ROYAL KINGDOM (Hamner '82); 11) PERILS OF PAULINE (K. Mohr '89); 2-way tie for 12) between GRIFFIN'S PRIDE (Shepard '89) and MYSTIC WARRIOR (R. Dunn '89); 14) SKY HOOKS (Osborne '80); and 3-way tie for 15) between HOT STREAK (Ghio '88), INCANTATION (Ghio '87), and PERFECTA (M. Dunn '84).

After all the awards had been presented, Ray Schreiner of Schreiner's Gardens gave a talk during which he showed slides of many of their new introductions and future introductions as well as those of other hybridizers he had visited.

For those that wished, on Sunday further garden tours in the area were available, on an informal basis. Unfortunately we were unable to visit those gardens, as our own garden was calling. During hybridizing season, even a day away is that many possible crosses lost!

This was an excellent regional meeting. Arrangements were excellent, bus tours were well organized, the hotel was very good, and the food was wonderful. In addition, the iris gardens were lovely and immaculate (how do they keep them so weed-free?) and the hospitality great. As an added bonus, the booklet put out for the meeting was exceptionally fine; this was done by none other than our own Region 14 hybridizer and former Bulletin editor, Bryce Williamson. As always, it was good to see friends we only see perhaps three or four times a year, but good friends nonetheless. For those of you who are not yet regular regional goers, give it a try. It is great fun to talk about our favorite flower with others who have the same enthusiasm as we do.

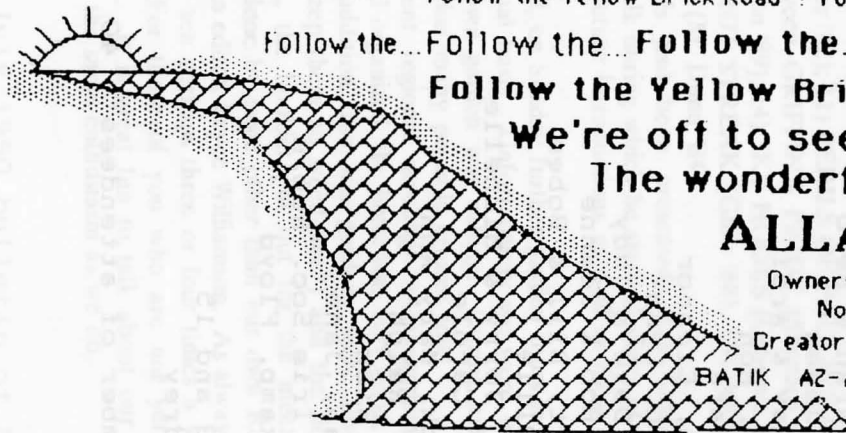
## REGION 15 ATTENDEES AT 1990 AIS OMAHA CONVENTION

Region 14 and 15	Club
Braithwait, Velma & Dale	Bakersfield
Erickson, Jean	Santa Rosa
Weiler, John	Fresno
Region 15	
Bange, George	San Diego/Imperial
Beatty, Gloria	Sun Country
Brooks, Bob	San Diego/Imperial
Carson, Hazel	San Diego/Imperial
Conklin, Jay	Inland
Conklin, Winnie	Inland
Cunningham, Don & Teddy	San Fernando
De Santis, Pete	San Fernando
Fiumara, Eilene	San Fernando
Holk, Sarah & Herb	Inland
Jones, James	Southern California
Kari, Ray & Ardi	Sun Country
Lissner, Ron	Southern California
Lynn, Sara	Sun Country
McCowen, Eleanor	San Diego/Imperial
McIlwain, Lynn	Southern California
Mogil, Dave & Judy	San Fernando
Plank, Bob & Jeanne	Southern California
Rinehart, Bill & Bobee	San Fernando
Rust, Ollie	Inland
Snyder, Jerry & Michelle	San Fernando
Spiess, Carole	Sun Country
Spurlock, Mary Ann	San Fernando
Strane, Ralph	Inland
Tasco, Rick	Sun Country
Troutman, Jane	Southern California
Tucson Iris Soc. Rep.s	Tucson
Wickenkamp, Floyd	Sun Country
Region 23 and 15	
Roe, Audrey	Albuquerque

Total number of attendees - 40



## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY



Follow the Yellow Brick Road ! Follow the yellow brick road !!

Follow the... Follow the... **Follow the... Follow The...**

**Follow the Yellow Brick Road !!!**

**We're off to see the Wizard...**

**The wonderful "Wizard of Odds"**

**ALLAN ENSMINGER**

Owner-Operator of VARIGAY GARDENS

Noted Hybridizer from Region 21

Creator of such unique and popular cultivars as

BATIK AZ-AP... MARIA TORMENA... PURPLE STREAKER  
... and many many more.

WILL APPEAR BEFORE

### THE REGION 15 FALL MEETING

Where he will instruct, inform & delight those gathered with  
his knowledge and the magic of his creations

**Take Heart!**

**Be Brave!**

**Use Your Brain!**

**Join SCIS (Dorothy and *ToTo, too*) in welcoming**

**Noted Hybridizer - Allan Ensminger - "The Wizard of Odds"  
to Region 15**

**WHEN IS THIS EXCITING EVENT ? ... Saturday, October 13, 1990**

**WHERE DOES THIS MAGIC TAKE PLACE? ... THE VELVET TURTLE RESTURANT**

**211 E. HUNTINGTON DRIVE  
ARCADIA, CA 91006**

(Located in the Embassy Suites Motel)

**TIMES: 9-10 AM** Region Officers Exec. Committee Meeting

**10 AM - 12 Noon** Judges Training Session - Allan Ensminger

**12:30 - 3:30 PM** Luncheon, Meeting & Program - Allan Ensminger

An enchanting CHICKEN CORDON BLEU will be the luncheon entree

**COST: \$20.00 per person - far less than a pair of Ruby Slippers !**

**RESERVATIONS: Send your money & reservations to**

**Lynn McIlwain**

626 N Lyall

West Covina, CA 91790

**DEADLINE DATE FOR RESERVATIONS - OCTOBER 6**

Join you Host Club - So California Iris Society - and other Region 15 members

Meet the "Wizard of Odds"

Attend Judges Training on Median Bearded Irises

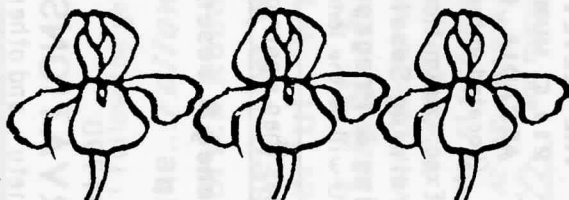
Participate in your region's government -

Enjoy a great luncheon - win door prizes of recently introduced irises!

**IT WILL BE A RAINBOW DAY !**

## MAIL YOUR SYMPOSIUM BALLOTS

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO MAIL IN YOUR SYMPOSIUM BALLOTS. GET THEM IN BEFORE SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>. OUR REGION HAS ONE OF THE WORST RECORDS FOR RETURNING THESE IMPORTANT VOTES. LAST YEAR ONLY ABOUT 11 PER CENT OF REGION 15 MEMBERS MAILED THEM TO THE RVP. THAT IS NOT A GOOD RECORD. MAIL YOURS NOW!!!!!!!



RESERVATION FOR THE FALL MEETING  
OCTOBER 13, 1990  
THE VELVET TURTLE RESTAURANT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to SCIS in the amount of \$20.00 per person and mail them to:

Lynn McIlwain  
626 N. Lyall  
West Covina, CA 91790

## PERSPECTIVE . . .

# EVOLUTION OF THE DYKES MEDAL

by Len Michel, Bella Vista, Arkansas

(formerly of Ames, Iowa and a past Region 21 RVP)

The failure of the Awards System to award a Dykes Medal and only 3 AM's in the TB class in 1987, and no Dykes Medal in 1989, has caused me to look back to see how we got in this predicament. I ran across an article in AIS bulletin 225, page 12, entitled, "Perspective: The Dykes Medal."

In the late 1920's, the medal was given to an outstanding *new* iris and the first DM's all received the award in their year of introduction.

In the early 30's, the Board "established the requirement of a two year judging period before an iris could be considered, date of registration being accepted as the start of that period."

In 1934 the rules changed again — "that the Dykes Medal should go only to an iris that had been in commerce (again, from date of registration) for five years and during that time should have received an Honorable mention."

In 1942, changes were adopted that an iris must receive an AM before it could become a Dykes contender and it would be eligible for 3 years.

The article states that present policy differs only slightly from the 1942 model. WRONG! Perhaps you will be amazed, as I was, at the rule changes that have been made over the years. In 1942 the DM was exclusively a TB award. I assume there were 12 AM's awarded each year, which would put 36 irises on the eligibility list. Today, as many as 72 irises may be eligible — which includes 36 TB's and 3 each of 12 different classifications, according to the **Handbook for Judges and Show Officials, AIS 1985, p. A-23**. If the 15% minimum requirement was intended for 36 TB irises, then, today, with twice as many eligible, the equivalent minimum should be 7.5% of the vote.

In early November 1974, the Board passed the following motion presented by the Awards Committee: "The committee recommended that all Award of Merit winners in the median classes be eligible for the Dykes Medal, as are the tall bearded class Awards of Merit and for all other classes the award equivalent to the AM." (See Bulletin 216, p.78 and 81.) The motion wasn't very specific but, nevertheless, this opened the DM to other than TB irises and the 15% minimum remained intact. At the same Board meeting a motion passed "that the alternate choice for the DM be eliminated, with a return to the method of supplementary balloting; with irises receiving 5% or more of the votes cast on the official ballot to appear on the supplementary ballot."

In November 1977, the Board approved a recommendation from a special committee on HM Award eligibility "that an iris becomes eligible for the HM Award the second year after introduction." (Bulletin 228, p. 63) This applied to all classifications. The effect was that the earliest an iris could win the DM would be six years instead of five.

At the Board meeting November 1978, the question of a foreign iris introduction being eligible for the Dykes was raised. The Board restated AIS policy as follows: "Iris not originated in America but which are registered and initially introduced in

America will be eligible for AIS Awards, but will not be eligible for the Dykes Medal because the Dykes Medal, being a British Iris Society Award, is subject to BIS rules." (Bulletin 232, p. 67) Discussion concerning DM requirements and supplemental balloting were postponed indefinitely.

The Board met November 1981 and received a report from the ad hoc committee on formalizing the MDB-AM-Special Medal. The committee stated the DM eligibility listing is too long so instead of 9 AM selections from each class, the qualifying award will be the Special Medal winner, with the period of eligibility being 3 years, beginning the year immediately following awarding of the Special Medal. The MDB class was added to the list via the Caparne-Welch Medal (Bulletin 244, p. 73). Louisiana's were added via the DeBaillon Medal, November 1983 (Bulletin 252, p. 78). The Morgan-Wood Medal established May 1984 provided entry for Siberian irises (Bulletin 255, p. 78). None of the Board minutes show any discussion of the 15% minimum requirement.

There were several interesting articles on the subject of the Dykes Medal that are worth re-reading. Ron Thoman reported on the 1972 through 1981 DM winners in Bulletin 245, p. 30 — all had received the HM the first year after introduction and had been in one of the top 3 positions in the AM vote and often were runnersup the year before winning the DM. Earlier I stated the DM was exclusively a TB award, but what about ELMOHR, the DM winner in 1945? Howard Shockey reports in Bulletin 246, p. 10 that ELMOHR was recognized at the time as a TMB type plant, a "tall miscellaneous bearded," not a TB. The Aril Society was not in existence at the time. ELMOHR is now considered an arilbred. Robert Jensen gives the history of the DM from 1927 to 1984 complete with pedigrees for each winner and the number of votes each received in Bulletin 258, p. 57.

An analysis of the Dykes voting from 1978 thru 1989 show there were three big winners, seven close calls and two blank spots. The big winners were BROWN LASSO with 24.6% of the votes, BEVERLY SILLS with 32% and SONG OF NORWAY with 28.4%. In 1978 BRIDE'S HALO received 14.5% on the first ballot, probably a half dozen votes short of winning. There were 93 irises on the ballot, 28 received no votes at all. A map in Bulletin 233, p. 8 shows the percentage of AIS judges in each region voting for BRIDES'S HALO. On the first ballot they gave it 25% or more in Regions 2, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 16, whereas Regions 10, 14, 18 and 24 gave it less than 5%. In the runoff with 4 irises on the ballot, BRIDE'S HALO triumphed with 31.5%. The next year MARY FRANCIS won with 118 votes from 701 ballots with 16.8%, 12 votes over the minimum. Judges in Regions 7, 11, 14, 17 and 20 gave it 30% or more while Regions 4, 5, 8, 9 and 10 gave it less than 5%. Percentages were based on the number of judges eligible to vote. This map is shown on page 10, Bulletin 237. Next was MYSTIQUE with 126 votes, probably about 20 votes over. VANITY had 117 votes out of 708 for 16.5%, 11 votes over. RUFFLED BALLETT had 126 votes, % not reported, about 20 votes over. VICTORIA FALLS had 110 votes which barely reached the minimum of 15% as reported in Bulletin 256, p. 77. Then comes TITAN'S GLORY with 117 votes, 16.6% of 705 ballots, 11 over. In the majority of cases we were within a few votes of not having a winner.

So much for evolution, now for the solution. The first proposal would be to eliminate or reduce the 15% minimum requirement. This suggestion immediately raised the specter of regional voting. The region with the largest number of judges has about 80, presently not enough to swing the vote. A judge is going to be more familiar with an iris from their region and would be inclined to vote for what they are

familiar with.

Don't want to mess with the 15% requirement? Then make the supplementary ballot automatic and mandatory as the 1974 Board intended. Either of these proposals would be simple to implement.

The arbitrary minimum requirements were put in place years ago and have failed us on several occasions. I don't know how they were arrived at or who thought them up. I think we need to look at them and see if we want to be shackled to them in the future. As for the minimum requirement for the TB-AM — in my opinion, 12 awards to irises is more important than 65 votes. Look back at the AM awards and you will see more close calls now than 10 years ago. If the judges voting habits are changing, then let's adjust accordingly.

The Awards System is set up to give awards, not to withhold them. Hybridizers are improving irises. I see more vivid colors, more new color combinations and patterns than ever before. The problem is that there are too many good irises on the ballot, not that there aren't any worthy.

The Dykes Memorial Medal is very prestigious. It should be awarded annually.

Reprinted from the Spring 1990 bulletin of  
Region 21



This wonderful recipe was prepared and served to  
the Board in January by Ralph Strane. Try it -  
you'll love it!

WHITE CHOCOLATE MOUSSE WITH RASPBERRY SAUCE Serves 10

1 cup sugar in 1/2 cup water, bring to a boil and reduce by half.  
4 egg whites, beaten stiff  
4 Alpine White Chocolate and Almond Bars (2.2 ounce size) chopped coarse.  
2 cups heavy cream, whipped

When egg-whites are beaten stiff, pour, while beating, the hot sugar syrup into it. This will cook the egg-whites slightly and they will not weep. Let sit to cool. Whip the cream and then add the chocolate. Fold the egg-whites into it. Combine and put in classes. Don't use too much. This is very rich and a little goes a long way, about two tablespoons is plenty.

RASPBERRY SAUCE

1 cup frozen, thawed raspberries  
1/2 cup sugar

Combine in blender, mix, strain and pour a little on each glass of mousse.



## INLAND IRIS SOCIETY

As most of you know, we at Inland Iris Society had our election of officers. The new officers are as follows:

President	Joe Daugherty
Vice President/ Programs	Dr. Herb Holk
Treasurer	Richard McCullough
Recording Secretary	Ollie Rust
Newsletter Editor/ Correspondance	Diana Kert
Elaine Monninger	
Show Chairman	Ralph Strane

Our advisors are Jay Conklin, Immediate Past President and Sara Holk, Past President.

As you can see, we have a strong staff of officers and we are all committed to excellence in providing leadership to the Inland Iris Society and to our friends and associates in Region 15.

Our programs for the coming year will knock your socks off!! We just reviewed plans for this coming year's activities and we would like for you to be a part of our activities. Howard Shockey of Arilbred fame has already agreed to join us and talk to us about his background in Arilbreds. We are all excited about Howard's visit. The date and time have not been set yet. We are also in the process of contacting and making arrangements for the other "out-of-town" iris authorities to pay us a visit and share with us their knowledge of growing and hybridizing irises. Their names and the time of their appearances will be made available to you as we firm up this information. We have set aside five meetings for out-of-town guest speakers, October, November, January, February and March. Although I am unable to give you the specifics, I will assure you that they will be of enormous interest to irisarians. I am looking forward to our programs and am looking forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Joe Daugherty

## ORANGE COUNTY IRIS AND DAYLILY SOCIETY

Orange County is a club of approximately 80 members. Like Hi-Desert it is a combination club of both Iris and Daylilies. This Summer they have had two potluck meetings with plant sales. They held their first Region auction and collected \$76.00 for the Region. Congratulations! We look forward to hearing more from you.



## SAN DIEGO - IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY

Our Spring Show was April 28 and 29. It was very successful, but the beauty of the Show was enhanced by blooms from the garden of the late Jack Fitzgerald.

July 15 we held our annual potluck luncheon and rhizome sale at Hazel Carsons. Ralph Strane and Bill Rinehart were our guests. We also had a sale of rhizomes from Jack Fitzgerald's garden.

August 19th was a successful rhizome sale at Balboa Park.

Our new officers' are:

President -	Bill Barr
Vice President -	Hazel Carson
Recording Sec. -	Pat Brendel
Treasurer -	Dena Daugherty
Corresponding Sec. -	Peg McCroskey

Bill Barr

In speaking with Bill, I am happy to report that he is recovering from his recent illness. Due to complications his recovery has been slower than he would like but he hopes he will soon be as good as new. Although he will not see us at the Fall meeting he sends us his best. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you recover.

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

JANUA.. or January.. Janus was an ancient Roman diety, regarded as presiding over doors and gates and a prerequisite to successful undertakings or beginnings. To start our year we turned to an old friend, inviting Bill Maryott as our first guest speaker for 1990. As usual, he didn't disappoint and our year was off to a running start!

Februrary brought us the inimitable and loquacious Joe Grant from Roris Gardens. If your club hasn't used him consider it! His enthusiasm is contagious.

In March we went back to the big city, Woodward, Oklahoma and Hooker Nichols! Few speakers are so in love with their subject and in his case it shows!

April of course brought us the combined Region 14 and 15 Joint Trek. As the Host Club it was a wonderful opportunity to see old friends and to join in the fellowship that unites the American Iris Society.

We were so pleased with ourselves in April that in May we had Irisarian Editor Jim Weinstock reprise the Trek with slides that not only revisited the garden but relived the fun!

June this year brought us our first mid-year change in officers, our semi-annual pot-luck dinner, show awards, gifts for the retiring President and entertainment by the best Barber Shop Quartet in the world - "Your Father's Moustache" in concert!

The Regional Auction raised \$215.00 at the July meeting but after a night of Iris Bingo the new Executive Committee raised the donation to \$400.00!

Forty of our members, some of them cross file, attended the National Convention in Omaha. In August Jeanne and Bob Plank brought it all home in one of the best slide shows of the year!

Ahead? September 29th the Club Auction; October 5th and 6th our Fall Rhizome Sale at Northridge Plaza; September meeting, Laura Parker and a weekend at the Schreiner and Cooley Gardens in Oregon and much more still in planning and negotiations.

Don Cunningham

## SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY

Greetings from Sun Country Iris Society! As with other iris societies, our months ahead are full ones. Our Arizona planting time is when the temperature falls below 100 degrees and stays there - ususally by mid-October! We normally have mild winters with a slight chance of "hard frost". Our bloom season extends from January to its peak during the second week of April and continues through May. During peak bloom 1991, April 12 through the 14th Arizona will host Region 15's Spring Trek, entitled "The Golden Fiftieth Anniversary Trek".

Our 1990 activies have included:

- Iris informational display at a local shopping mall;
- Hybridizing day held at a member's garden;
- Early bloom exhibit with a popular choice vote at the Valley Garden Center;
- An AIS sanctioned Spring Show at Maryvale Mall with Queen of Show honor going to Hall Bradshaw;
- Awards Banquet;
- Bearded Club Iris Auction;
- Region 15 Iris Auction; and
- Rhizome Sale at two Malls.

In addition to the above, we have had regularly scheduled meetings with a variety of programs.

Our schedule of activities for the balance of 1990 include:

- Beardless Club Auction;
- Program on Fire Safety;
- Program on Flowering Plants to compliment the April iris bloom; and
- the Christmas social.

Hope you all enjoy your programs and activities as much as we do here in the Valley of the Sun.

Peggy Morpew

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