



AIS REGION 15
2002
SUMMER NEWSLETTER

ARIZONA & SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 2002

2002 Region 15 Spring Trek
Ontario, CA





2002 Region 15 **Spring Trek**

Spring Trek 2002, Ontario, California

By Kathy Chilton

The 2002 Region 15 Spring Trek was blessed with beautiful weather, great bloom, interesting gardens and wonderful fellowship in the name of our favorite flower, the iris. We tip our hats to Irene Benton and all the members of IRIS, the Inland Region Iris Society, for an outstanding trek and a job well done.

This trek was an example of the vitality and enthusiasm of Region 15 at its best. The gardens were all beautiful expressions of the different owners' visions, all with unique and interesting things to see. Besides beautiful and well-grown irises, we were treated to antique vehicles, fabulous roses, rare specimen trees, magnificent Percheron horses, prize birds, plus beautiful Art Nouveau furniture and Lalique glass.

It was invigorating to see youth members actively participating and being recognized for their achievements, apprentice judges being tutored, hybridizers hurrying to find their seedlings at each garden, Jeanne Plank filling in to do the program for injured Marky Smith, Ardi Kary's excellent Judges Training, volunteers and tempting goodies at each garden, and lots of oohs, aahs, smiles and laughter. All these things are examples of the vitality of Region 15 and added up to an outstanding experience for us all.

Congratulations to the winners! Beth Rocha was presented with the first Laverne Conrad Youth Award for Region 15. Pete DeSantis collected two hybridizing trophies! The irrepressible SCOONCHEE was voted the Best In-Region Introduced Cultivar, and Richard Winter's AMETHYST WINTER was a close second. Pete's Seedling 83-11-B was voted the Bernard Hamner Award for Best In-Region Seedling.

The Claire Barr Award for Best Out-of-Region Cultivar was awarded to the stunning BAY CITY by Bob Dunn, and Joe Ghio's DOUBLE DRIBBLE was runner-up.



**Youth Chair Cheryl Deaton and
Laverne Conrad Youth Award
Winner Beth Rocha**



**Jim Giles looks on as Jimmy Jones presents
Pete DeSantis with the Bernard Hamner Award**

Schreiner's Seedling # HH 146-A, a flawless, ruffled sky-blue confection, was voted Best out of Region Seedling, with their # FF 109-1 as runner-up. We owe a big thank you to all the hybridizers who shared their creations with us, and to all the garden owners who tended them so lovingly for our enjoyment.

Now, we can all look forward to an exciting Fall Meeting in October and the 2003 Spring Trek in Phoenix, Arizona! See you there!



2002 Region 15

Spring Trek



Admiring the Tabebuia tree in bloom.

The Bastiaans Garden

“Under the Tabebuia Trees”

by J. Lee Miller

Pat Bastiaans has been playing in the garden for most of her life. With the help of her husband, she has developed planting areas that change as you wander down a red brick road that leads under Tabebuia trees, indigenous to her childhood Mexico. The breathtaking purple of Jacaranda trees competed with the temple red bougainvillea.

Peacocks tried to show up a clump of white spurias, but didn't stand a chance. The flowers strutted through wildflowers, waiving their leaves in the breeze. Pseudacorus irises thrived in all their yellow glory on the water from the deep well.

Pat's garden even had its own wildlife. A large swarm of bees was an object of curiosity and observation. It was a pleasure to explore this unusual and unique garden.

The Sims Garden

by Perri Larson

When we first unloaded the bus at the Sims' Garden, I thought we had made a wrong turn. I could see the barn and horses and stuff galore, but couldn't see the iris. The “stuff” was great! One adventure after another. There were the antique cars and tractors, which Kevin could hardly pull away from. The Pride of Madera round the first corner of the barn really caught my attention, and a whole lot of hummingbirds as well. Past the stables, and statuary, and the artichokes-a-plenty, came the heart of the place, the homestead and the iris.

The iris were at peak! The garden was beautifully laid out completely surrounding the home, and stretching out into the hillside and “stuff”. I was moving as fast as I could possibly go trying to take it all in. I was so worried that our bus driver (Carol) would have to chase me down. I did see some exceptionally clean, well grown iris, BAY CITY, DOUBLE DRIBBLE, CORAL POINT, MARIPOSA AUTUMN, MARIPOSA SKY and all the SCOONCHEE sibs got my attention with huge clumps. The Dykes bed was also really nice.

As I swiftly ran down a few paths here and there, I found a little SWERTE blooming down by a bridge, and a wonderful fountain out by the teal palm. Wondering how they did it all themselves, I spotted the kid size John Deere tractor, and realized the Simms loved this place, (and they had help from the Wizard).



Gerry Snyder tutoring Jane Parks at Simms Garden.



2002 Region 15 **Spring Trek**



Sara & Herb Holk



Enjoying lunch at Cal-Dixie

Cal-Dixie Iris Garden

by Jim Giles

If you have ever been the Cal-Dixie, then the garden does not need description. I am going to do something different and tell you a little about how Cal-Dixie became the garden that it is.

Herb and Sara Holk moved to their current location in 1978, when the land was bare and the house was just being built. It has grown into the current 2 acres of iris and daylilies known as Cal-Dixie Iris Garden. It is now the largest commercial iris garden in Southern California. The Inland Empire climate is very conducive to growing iris, as is evident in their garden. Because of the size of their garden, you will have a difficult time finding a favorite because you will go from row to row and change your mind as to which is your favorite at each row.

Herb and Sara became interested in iris in 1968 when Herb was a Veterinarian for the US Air Force. They were living in Sebastopol, CA. As Herb drove to the AF Base each day he went past a house that had an iris garden that caught his eye. He and Sara visited the garden and asked the lady of the house if she would consider selling them some of her iris. She did and thus began their odyssey and a love of iris.

When the Air Force moved Herb to Clinton, Maryland, they dug up their small iris garden and moved the iris to Maryland with them. A few years later, the Air Force again moved Herb (very common in the military), this time back to California to Travis AFB. The iris garden moved back with them. A few years later, Herb was moved again, this time to Norton AFB, in San Bernardino, and the iris garden moved with them again.

When they got to San Bernardino, they visited the Valley End Iris Garden owned by Audrey Hein. They got interested in Arils and bought some from her. When the iris went dormant, they thought they had died and called Mrs. Hein, only to find out that she had passed away. Her husband informed Herb that arils, unlike TBs, go dormant and he told him how to care for them. In the conversation he mentioned that he was selling the iris and the land they were on and would he be interested in buying. Herb, still being in the Air Force, did not feel that he could afford the deal but was interested. Mr. Hein called a few weeks later and asked again if he would be interested. Herb and Sara talked to some friends and they decided that together they could buy only the irises if Mr. Hein would sell them. So Herb and Sara went into the iris business in the summer of 1977. Three couples (Jerry and Ruth Wheaton, Corrine and Fritz Bromberger and Herb and Sara) dug, separated and marked the irises from that field and divided them equally. Herb and Sara were living in Base Quarters at the time and their yard was already filled with iris, so Herb rented his next-door neighbors' backyard, roto-tilled and filled it with iris. In 1978 Herb retired from Active Duty, they moved to their current home, and the two backyards of irises have grown into the Cal-Dixie Iris Gardens we saw on this year's trek. After he got the irises planted in their new home, Herb began making some crosses and found that he liked making new irises. He began hybridizing in 1978 and introduced his first iris in 1983.

Herb and Sara are stalwarts of the iris world. They are both Master Judges for AIS, they have both held numerous offices for Inland Region Iris Society and Region 15; Herb is a past Region 15 RVP. They have made irises available to many local societies and Region 15 for sales and auctions and their generosity has aided many local societies.

Thank you, Dr. and Mrs. Holk, for adding to our enjoyment and sharing your wonderful garden with the world of Iris-lovers.



2002 Region 15

Spring Trek



The Kennedy Garden

by Christie Pierson

The first thing I noticed when we pulled up to the Kennedy Garden, were all the oohs! and aahs! heard all over the bus. We were treated to a beautiful view of a Victorian home known as "Kennedy Keep", built in 1902. There were well established plantings, including a climbing red rose growing up from among huge clumps of stunning and well-grown irises, then cascading down to the sidewalk. This was just the view from the street!

This is a garden in every sense of the word. Along with beautifully grown irises (no leaf spot anywhere!), there were roses of many varieties. "Brigadoon" was a standout. There were huge (just apply "huge" to everything I mention as everything was very well established!) delphiniums, trailing lavender lantana, red Japanese maples and much more.

Flanking the stairway leading to the front porch were jade plants. At the top of the stairs were topiaries in Victorian urns. The children, Alex and Claire, were sitting at the top of the stairs, sharing their pet Cockatoo and baby possums with us, a scene right out of the Victorian Era. We had refreshments under the gazebo, including fresh strawberries and a special homemade lemon/raspberry punch? (I would love the recipe!)

Some of the outstanding irises included a Louisiana, PROFESSOR NEIL, maroon with a bright yellow signal (tetraploid), that made a stunning clump. THORNBIRD was acting like the Dykes Medal winner that it is – a strangely beautiful iris. Another standout was RIVER RUNNER, a beautiful ruffled mid-blue from Ernst of Cooley's. Last but not least, was Bob Dunn's BAY CITY, a huge ruffled purplish/navy with a gold beard tipped purple. It turned out to be the big winner that night, as Best Out of Region Introduced Iris!

It was a perfect day and a privilege to see such a lovely Victorian home and garden. The hallmarks of this garden are the extremely well-grown cultivars seen everywhere.



2002 Region 15 Spring Trek



Strane's 1908 Sears and Roebucks House

The Strane Garden

By Jane Troutman

Recalling past visits to the Strane's home, I found a larger rose garden with wonderful roses that overwhelmed me with their beauty. The iris garden was a pleasant addition. Rick Tasco's MARIPOSA SKIES and ROYAL STORM, and George Sutton's CORAL POINT were beautiful. Aitken's TRILLION and BLACK CURRANT (IB) by Marky Smith were outstanding. Lauer's SURELY WHITE was surely a winner. Then, hidden in back with all the alstromerias (a huge collection), was a very nice Region 15 Seedling, #83-12 by Pete DeSantis.

Visiting the house moved us back in time. The 1908 Sears and Roebucks vintage home was carefully decorated to complement its heritage. I especially enjoyed the collection of Carnival Glass. My interview with Ralph explained the large pens in the backyard. They currently house four varieties of fancy pheasants, however, I was astounded to hear that this year Ralph had won First Place Nationally out of 12,000 entries with his Aracuana Chicken. He has given up the chickens, so they were not to be seen, but the irises, his 235 rose bushes in full bloom, and all the blooming alstromerias made our visit truly special.

The Bromberger Garden

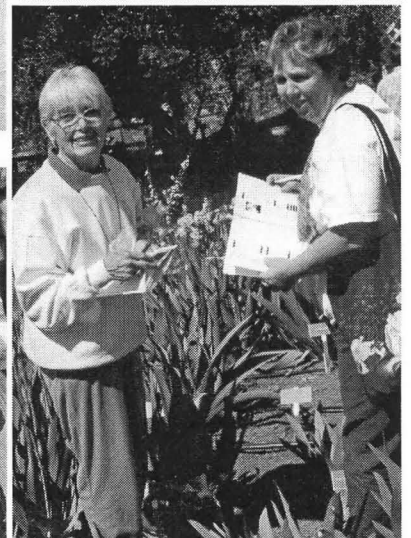
By Kevin Sims

The Bromberger's Garden is a very extraordinary place. It is relatively small, but is packed the irises and other plants and trees. When we first drove up, the first thing you noticed was the tabebuia impetiginosa (common name is the Purple or Pink Trumpet Tree) with purple pinkish flowers on the branches. The Bromberger's put pictures next to the irises, if they were not in bloom. My personal favorite was The Talking Bench. If you stood at the correct spot and talked to the bench, it would "talk" back. But, time was up before we could thoroughly look at everything. So, as we boarded the bus, we all took a last look and waved goodbye.





2002 Region 15 Spring Trek Fun!





REGION 15 NEWS

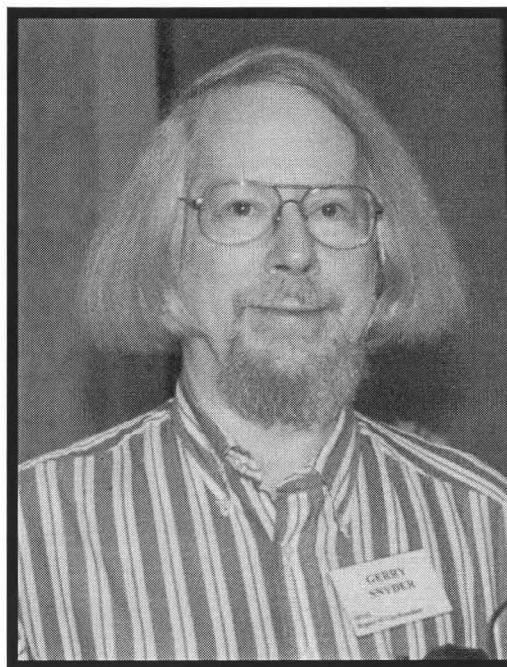
A Message from RVP Gerry Snyder

This is my last message as RVP of Region 15. As many of you know, I will not be running for a third term. I expect to be taking over as the new AIS Affiliates Chairman when Shirley Pope retires from that job this fall, and that plus the Symposium just won't leave enough time for being RVP. Assistant RVP Jim Giles has agreed to accept the nomination for RVP, so I know the region will be in good hands.

The weather has been rough this year. Los Angeles got the least amount of rainfall since they started keeping records. Frequent watering was needed in months when none is normally. Temperatures in winter and spring were erratic, as usual. Despite all that, it was a pretty good iris season - a long one, too. Peak at my place was not as intense as some years, but we seemed to have a good amount of bloom for an extra two or three weeks. My favorite, MESMERIZER, bloomed from mid-December into mid-June. I am really pleased that this beauty won the Dykes Medal.

The Inland Region Iris Society put on a very enjoyable spring trek, with several beautiful gardens. Of course, getting together with fellow irisarians is always a pleasure. I am looking forward to the fall regional in Phoenix.

Speaking of Arizona, The Tucson Area Iris Society is going to be hosting the fall national in 2003. At the time the club offered to do the work, the region agreed to foot the bill. At a later regional board meeting, when cost numbers were clearer, the presidents of other clubs who were there agreed that their societies would contribute



\$300 each to the cause. So far, only Hi-Desert has done so. Please understand--this is not a tax. The region does not have that kind of power or authority. There are a couple clubs for which that kind of outlay would cause real hardship. They should not feel bad about not contributing at that level. But if your club can, please send Avery a check as soon as convenient. Thank you.

I have really enjoyed being RVP, and I look forward to continue associating with you for many years to come.

Gerry

Spring

AIS REGION 15 TREK WHEEL

Fall

Inland	CA	2002		Sonoran Desert	AZ	2002
Sun Country	AZ	2003		Southern California	CA	2003
XX	CA	2004	With Louisiana Society Conv.	Orange County	CA	2004
Tucson	AZ	2005		Hi Desert	CA	2005
San Fernando	CA	2006		Southern California	CA	2006
Sonoran Desert	AZ	2007		Orange County	CA	2007
Inland	CA	2008		San Fernando	CA	2008
Sun Country	AZ	2009		Southern California	CA	2009
Hi Desert	CA	2010		Orange County	CA	2010



Region 15 Youth News

E-mail: region15kids@hotmail.com

REGION 15 YOUTH NEWS

By Cheryl Deaton

Hello, everyone! Wonderful things are happening with our youth members. TAIS had a great exhibit of "container-grown" SCOONCHEE from their CIP Brownie troop. All the girls were awarded blue ribbons for their special exhibit. Christine Branch, (Pete DeSantis' granddaughter) won first place in the youth division for artistic design at the SFVIS show held April 13th and 14th. She had taken advantage of a workshop on artistic design given by Eileen Fiumara and Jan Lauritzen a few weeks prior to the show, and put what she learned to good use.

Her sister, Taylor Branch, took 3rd, and a new member, Erika Guzman, took second place.

At the HDI&DS show on April 27th, youth member Joyce Yates took the overall Artistic Design award with her interpretation of "Mulan", an oriental arrangement. On the Spring Trek in Ontario, Elizabeth Rocha received the first LaVerne Conrad Award for youth achievement in Region 15 along with a check for \$100. The certificate was presented in the gardens of Cal Dixie during a lunch break.

The following article is copied from the Region 14 Bulletin of April 2002:

CALIFORNIA YOUTH WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Elizabeth Rocha of Ramona, California (Region 15) has won the First Runner-Up Award in the Clark Cosgrove

Memorial Award for Youth Achievement Contest offered by the American Iris Society (AIS). This award which

consists of a certificate and a cash prize, will be presented at the AIS National Convention on April 29th in Memphis, Tennessee.

Beth, who is fifteen years old, grows a beautiful iris garden of many cultivars and has donated hundreds of iris rhizomes to schools and to the iris sales of the San Diego Iris society where she is a member. She participates in the San Diego iris shows and won Best Youth Specimen in 2000 with a miniature tall bearded iris, BELLA VEE. Hybridizing irises to create new, improved varieties is an activity Beth pursues. Her seedlings were viewed

last year at the Region 15 Trek. Beth is also interested in preserving the species irises and grows several given to her by a local botanist who collects them in their native habitat.

Beth participates in the AIS Judges Training program and was promoted to Apprentice Judge last fall. She attends regional iris meetings and treks and is now serving as "Youth Ambassador" to the Region 15 Board of Directors.

San Diego Iris Society members count on Beth to successfully and cheerfully complete any project or task assigned to her. In the words of one member, "Beth is a delightful young lady, imbued with grace and charm, who has seriously pursued her interest in irises in a manner that would serve as a model for adult irisarians, let alone other youths."

Her parents, Steve and Sharlyn Rocha, have fostered Beth's iris interests over the years and her Great Aunt, Lorraine Nicholson of Modesto, California, also encourages Beth. Iris Society members add their congratulations and best wishes to this young lady who has accomplished a great deal in the iris world."

Submitted by: Jean E. Morris
Chairman, Youth Committee
American Iris Society

WAY TO GO BETH!

If anyone has any other news about youths in our region, please tell me so I can pass it on to the rest of our members. And if any of our youth members have questions or comments, they can contact me via email or snail mail, and I'll see that their concerns are answered. Just use region15kids@hotmail.com, or my home address of



Region 15 Youth News

E-mail: region15kids@hotmail.com

BROWNIE IRIS PROJECT

By Kathy Chilton

On Oct. 2, 2001, Brownie Troop # 463 in Three Points, AZ embarked on an AIS Classroom Iris Project, sponsored by TAIS member Kathy Chilton.

Each girl planted a rhizome of SCOONCHEE (Pete DeSantis '97) in a 3 gal. container, after a lesson on the needs of plants and the many benefits they provide. They especially enjoyed the story of how hybridizer Pete DeSantis named the flower after his granddaughter, and that the name meant "Little Pest" in Italian. Each received a flyer with a photo of Scoonchee and care and watering instructions. Their AIS Youth Membership dues was paid by their sponsor and project leader, Kathy Chilton.

Throughout the fall, winter, and spring, with the help of Troop Leader Tracy Smith, the young irisarians colored pictures of irises, learned the parts of an iris flower, and cared for their plants.

AIS Youth Chair Jean Morris and Region 15 Youth Chair Cheryl Deaton contributed ideas and materials, and each girl received copies of "The Iris Fan", the youth publication of the American Iris Society. The troop voted the Iris their official Troop Flower.

To complete the project, the girls exhibited their plants (in the containers) and artwork in a display at the Tucson Area Iris Society Spring Show on April 13 & 14, 2001. The AIS show judges were very impressed with the display of the Brownies' efforts and awarded each of the plants exhibited a blue ribbon.

Troop # 463 enjoyed growing their Troop Flower so much that they have voted to do another Iris Project next year.

Congratulations to Troop #463 members: Katelynn Smith, Lanee Wood, Sabrina Anderson, Kayla Kleimola, Kayla Powell, Jody VonCollen, Zoe Bradley, Chelsey Denee, Claudia Pena, Heidi Jessup, Faith Gowin, Natasha Bezaholni, and Leader Tracy Smith.



Brownie Katelynn Smith and Troop Leader Tracy Smith with the Troop #463 Exhibit at the Tucson Show



Brownie Scout Troop #463
Three Points, Arizona
2001 Classroom Iris Project



Proud Brownies Katelynn Smith and Lanee Wood with SCOONCHEE



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Summer 2002

Desert Sunset Iris Society

President Joyce Poling

Desert Sunset is in slow gear right now with our snowbirds gone – some till October. We met each month, January through June to learn about Irises.

The January program was about fertilizing. In February, we introduced our members to the wide range of the Median Class with the AIS slides of Medians. The topic in March was Hybridizing. In April, we planned the Garden Tour and Plant Sale. The April garden tour and plant sale was a success which helped both our treasury and membership. We hope to do another one next year on a larger scale. May's program was devoted to Louisianas and Siberians, and June's topic was the wonderful world of Historic Irises.

This is the second year we have placed a club order for Irises with Sutton's, who are very generous with bonuses. They should be here before the next meeting. We'll have fun sharing and swapping Irises – kind of like Christmas in July.

Sonoran Desert Iris Society

President Darlene Kaiser

Great! That's how I feel about year 2002 for our Iris Club. I am thrilled to announce our Fall Trek on October 12th.2002 in Phoenix. We are very lucky to have Don and Ginny Spoon from Winterberry Iris Garden in Virginia speaking at our meeting. I want to extend an invitation to all of you to join us in Phoenix...

We have many Phoenicians who do not believe that one of the most beautiful flowers in the world grows right here in Arizona. Our plan is to educate the public and continuing encouraging our youth program.

Other activities planned for this year will be monthly speakers, a summer Bar-B-Q which will include making stepping stones for our yards, and ending our year with a gift exchange and pot luck.

San Fernando Valley

Iris Society

President Debbie Babuscio

With the arrival of spring comes the iris shows. We had a beautiful show at the Westfield Shoppingtown Promenade Mall on April 13th and 14th. The top winners of the show in the Horticulture Section are as follows: Pete DeSantis won the Bronze medal and he also won Best of Section for Intermediate Iris (Snow Blink) and Best of Section for Border Bearded Iris (Whoop Em Up). Randy Squires won Silver and Best Seedling (#98-31). Queen of Show was won by Kim Ung with a nice stalk of Rare Treat. John Reed won Best of Section for Space Ager (Bye Bye Blues).

In the Artistic Division: Eileen Fiumara won Artistic Sweepstakes for the most blue ribbons and also "Best of Section" in the Advance Division. Jill Bonino won the "Best of Section" for Intermediate Artistic Arrangements and Mike Lauritzen won "Best of Section" for the Novice.

This year we had three youths enter in the "Youth Division" The "Best Design" was won by Christine Branch. Erika Guzman and Christine Branch tied for Youth Artistic Sweepstakes, it was decided both would win the award.

We had a total of 44 Arrangements entered this year in eight different classes.

The year started off great, as we have had some well known hybridizers out to give programs at our meetings. Paul Black, Larry Lauer and Fred Kerr were our guests for the first three months of this year and Eileen Fiumara gave an excellent Judges Training on Flower Arranging in April. May brought us Mr. William Shear and the list of speakers continues for the SFVIS.

Our changing of the officers took place in June and I have elected to serve another one-year term along with Randy Squires as my V.P. and Program Chair.



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Summer 2002

Tucson Area Iris Society

President Jane Parks

The Tucson Area Iris Society members have had a very busy year. In January, we had Rick Tasco of Superstition Iris Gardens as our guest speaker. We had 45 people attend that meeting which is a big meeting for us. I am pleased that Rick Tasco will join us again next January to do a presentation on historic irises.

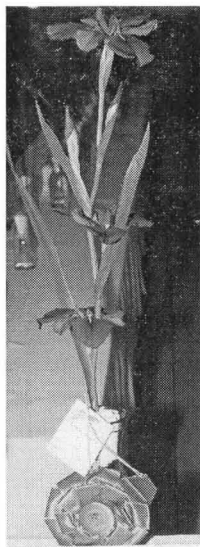
Our February meeting was to be a slide show presentation on reblooming irises. Several members brought their list of what reblooms in their garden to share with the rest of the members. Unfortunately, the slides never arrived, so we had to "wing it"!! Kathy Chilton helped save the day by doing a very informative presentation on reblooming irises along with a compiled list of reblooming irises from various members. Perri Larson brought a handout we had received at a Region 16 Fall Trek, and part of that was read as well. Lastly, I had brought slides from the AIS Denver, CO convention and we had enough time to show a lot of those. It was fun remembering the snow in June!!

Bobbie Shepard of Shepard's Iris Gardens was our guest speaker at our March meeting. Bobbie talked about how to win ribbons at the show. Bert Detwiler hurried home and cut his only bloom stalk for an example - you'll never guess what it was!! SCOOONCHEE, of course!! What Region 15 garden doesn't have one of these?! We all enjoyed having Bobbie here.

Members Bert Detwiler and Ben Herman were co-chairs of the TAIS show this year. Even though this year's show was smaller than some in years past, it was quite spectacular!! There were 139 horticulture entries and 20 artistic entries. Best Specimen of Show was a Louisiana iris, CREOLE FLAME and Best TB was ZIGGY, both exhibited by Kathy Chilton.

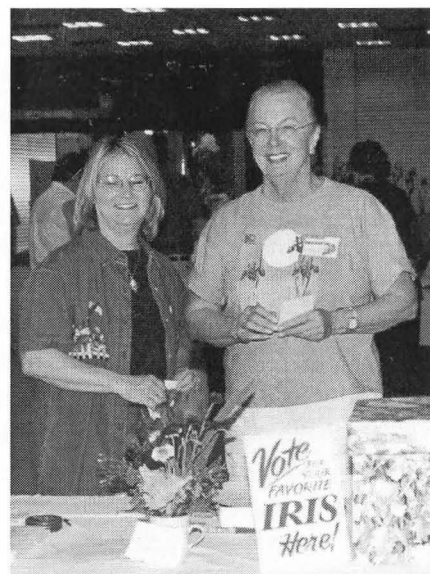
Marian LeCompte won Best Artistic in the "Zeus" category. There were other flower shows going on in same mall, together called The Fiesta de los Flores, and their overall artistic award went to Marian LeCompte for the same arrangement! Kathy Chilton won the Silver Medal (31 Blues), and Perri Larson the Bronze Medal (13 Blues). Bert Detwiler won the Artistic Sweepstakes with three blue ribbons. Bert also gave his iris program on Saturday and Sunday. He always gets a good turnout for these. QUEEN'S CIRCLE was the favorite iris of the general public. Our judges expressed to me that the grooming at our show was the best they had seen at any of the shows that they have judged. I am very proud of all of our members for their dedication to TAIS. So many people pitched in and helped to make our show outstanding. We had over 400 container grown irises for sale at our show. Several of the members plant and babysit rhizomes left over from the Fall sale.

Continued on p.13



Best Specimen of Show

CREOLE FLAME
Best Specimen of Show



Susan Ayres and Lucille Skerston
welcome the public to the Tucson Show



Jim Ayres & Fred Thorpe selling irises at the show



Bernard Pryor, Kathy Chilton, Heather Pryor, Kevin Vaughn and Bert Detwiler at the 2002 Louisiana Convention, Little Rock, AR. SLI is coming to Tucson in 2005!



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Summer 2002

TAIS Report Continued

Several of our members traveled to Ontario, CA for the Spring trek. We all had a great time visiting other Region 15 members and visiting all of the gardens. Kathy Chilton, Perri Larson and I attended the AIS national convention in Memphis, Tennessee. It sure was green!! Wish we could get some of their rain. Many of the gardens we visited there were very spacious; some had their own lake! The next weekend, Kathy Chilton and Bert Detwiler attended the Society for Louisiana Iris Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas. Bert reported the bloom was superb. That same weekend, Perri Larson and I attended the Region 14 Spring meeting in Sacramento, California, along with a few other Region 15 members. Kathy Chilton, Joanne Miller and Ben Herman were off to Iris Heaven (Oregon) in May. It was the first time there for Kathy and Joanne. I don't believe that any description could have prepared them for the absolute beauty they saw!! Also in May, Perri Larson and I attended the Tall Bearded Iris Society meeting in Springfield, Missouri, held in conjunction with their regional meeting. We had a two hour in- the-garden judges training on tall bearded iris taught by Phil Williams. I was able to complete my own one-on-one judges training while we were there.

Now the travels are over since the iris are no longer blooming!! We had a meeting in June, instead of our normal May meeting, with a slide presentation from the American Iris Society on the several species of iris. Several of those we can't/don't grow here in the desert, so it was especially fun to see those slides. Our July program was given by Ardi Kary on aril and arilbred iris. It was a very educational program and we enjoyed having her. We have no meeting in August. Perri Larson and Earl Fifer are co-chairs of the Fall sale to be held in September. Also, in September we will have our annual potluck and Region 15 rhizome auction at member Sandy Britain's home. October will be the last general meeting for 2002. I will be giving a program with slides taken in all of the gardens I visited this Spring. TAIS has a New Iris Program, and those new rhizomes will be handed out to door prize and show winners. We will also have election of 2003 officers. A board meeting will be in November.

I certainly look forward to seeing some of you at the Region 15 Fall Trek in Phoenix, Arizona. If I don't see you there, maybe our paths will cross at the 2003 Spring Trek to be held in Phoenix next Spring!

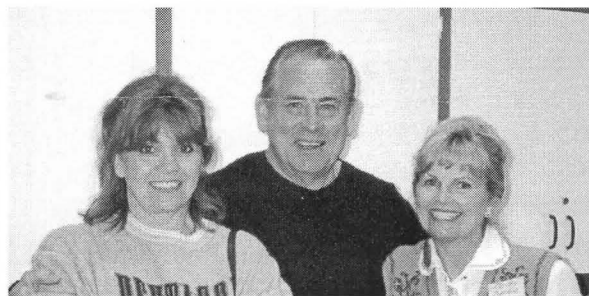
San Diego Show



Hostess Roz Hill wins a ribbon



Best Median Trophy goes to Beth Rocha



Judge Jim Giles with wife Janet and Christie Pierson



Kate Rocha wins Best Youth Trophy



Novice designer Marylou Gibson wins Artistic Sweepstakes!



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Summer 2002

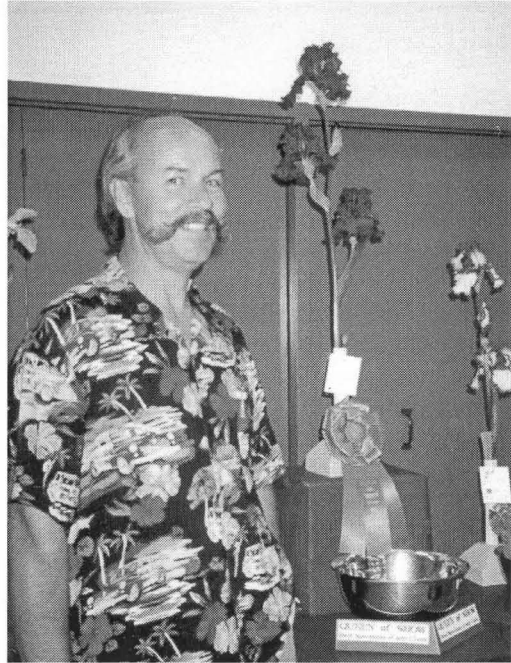
San Diego & Imperial Counties Iris Society

Ken Pierson, President

What's doing in San Diego? Well, we just had a great Iris show in May. Steve Rocha again won Queen of the show. This has to be a record, an incredible 6-7 ? years in a row! I don't think any iris stalk, in any other show anywhere, could have beaten his stunning SWINGTOWN!! We had 19 seedling entries (our seedling won an EC – had to brag) and several other seedlings were given EC votes - Walt McNeel's and Steve Rocha's. Those votes are hard to come by, which makes everyone doubly proud! Our society seems to be headed in the direction of hybridizing. We have the Royal Horticultural Color Charts and paperwork for registering irises from Keith Keppel (AIS Registrar) available for our members to use.

We tried something new this year at the show, selling potted irises!! We have sold some before but only 2 people (Rocha & Range) brought them all. This time we had a potting project, which consisted of passing out the leftover irises from our Sept. rhizome sale to members. These wonderful people took home at least 15 to pot up and "babysit" over the winter for our sale at the show (Some took home many more than 15!). We supplied PREMIUM potting soil for each member and made a profit of \$75.00 PER BAG. It was worth it, as the plants were large and vigorous with lots of blooms. The best thing about this project was that it took the burden off of a few people and really made it a "club" project! Prevent burnout - share the jobs, and it's fun for everyone!!

Our June meeting included lunch, election of new officers and an Awards Presentation by George Range. The program was an A.I.S. slide show "The Family of Irises" presented by Vice-President Walt Brendel, followed by door prizes. We finished with a garden tour, coffee and dessert at new members Paul and Carol Croy's home and garden, 2 miles away!!



Steve Rocha and SWINGTOWN

We are taking July and August off this year (after the June meeting, we needed it!!).

September brings our Rhizome sale to the public and this is so much fun. We "hang out" all day and talk iris, eat, and everyone shops from all of the available irises. (My wife may have missed one!)

October is the fall meeting in Arizona, we may or may not have a meeting (to be announced).

November is our Auction meeting featuring a potluck and great new irises up for grabs (meeting place to be announced).

December is our wonderful Christmas Party featuring George Bange cooking the turkey and the rest of us bringing the trimmings. This is always a very special occasion – time to talk and just visit. This year we are invited to have the party at Paul and Debbie Potter's beautiful home and garden. Remember it from the trek in San Diego? The home with the custom designed pool and waterfall feature, which they designed themselves). They also have a beautiful rose collection and plants from around the world!!

We are having a great time in the San Diego Iris Society, and we hope you are, too! Hope to see you all at the Fall meeting!



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Summer 2002

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Winona Stevenson, President

March brought us Rick & Roger from Superstition Gardens and they gave us a presentation on their gardens, horticultural efforts and hybridizing efforts. It was very interesting and I decided to try their solarizing plan. So with hubby's help, we have solarized 2500 sq. ft for planting in July. Hope mine works as well as theirs! We also had our first plant sale at the end of March at the Antelope Valley Home & Garden show. We had approximately 10 members help out and we sold 869 potted iris. It was a lot of work, but also fun.

April brought us the Region 15 Spring Trek which several of our members attended. Our Show/Sale at the end of the month had nine exhibitors, seven in horticulture and six in artistic. Best of Show was awarded to Cindy Wood for Dusky Challenger. Cindy is a first time exhibitor and you can imagine her excitement! Our theme this year was 'Iris in Animation', a tribute to Walt Disney's 100th birthday. Joyce Yates won Best of Show for her "Mulan" arrangement. Artistic Sweepstakes went to Joyce Bertram. Cheryl Deaton won the Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons and Richard Stretz the bronze for the second most blue ribbons. Our sale at the show dispersed another 800 potted irises.

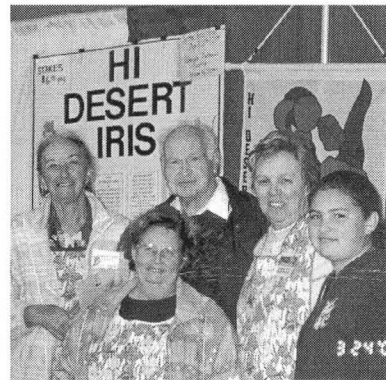
Also in April, Cheryl and I attended the Region 14 Spring Trek. This gave us a chance to see gardens in the northern part of the state and we saw many more irises in bloom. Also, in April, I was honored by the Bakersfield Californian with a lovely in-depth, feature article on the my garden and irises in general. I almost feel like a celebrity!

May brought us Richard Richards speaking on Pacific Coast Native Irises. We especially enjoyed the gifts of potted PCN's that Richard brought to us. THANK YOU, RICHARD! It was so very nice of you! At our May meeting, we were introduced to seven new members as a result of our recent show and sales. We welcome these members with open arms and encourage them to become active in all our functions.

June brought us the Planks and pictures of



First time exhibitor Cindy Wood with
DUSKY CHALLENGER



2002 Show workers Winona Stevenson, Norma Jamison, Norm Miller, Cheryl Deaton and Youth member Joyce Yates.

the national convention. Our program chairman, Cheryl Deaton, arranged a salad potluck just prior to the meeting. We are pleased to be back in the Cultural Center in Palmdale, which is easy to find and yet in the center of town. The library is just next door, and often programs are held at the center which may attract new people. The facilities are most accommodating to any of our needs.

Al Escarsega is our Ways and Means chairman and really takes his job seriously. Therefore, we always encourage our members to bring items for the raffle table.

In August we will have our "pot" parties to pot up the donated rhizomes for next year's sales. We are also planning a fall sale in early October of rhizomes and more potted plants.

In all, Hi Desert is very much alive and doing very well!



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2002

Inland Region Iris Society

President Jim Giles

My tour as president of Inland is just about over. I have served in that capacity for the past three years and it is time to let someone else have the fun that goes with the position. I would like to thank the members for allowing me to serve as their president; their support made that job a much easier one. We had our elections last month and have some new faces providing the leadership of I.R.I.S. this coming year. The following individuals have been elected for the 2002-2003 year:

President: John Reinschmidt

1st VP: Arthur Strong

2nd VP: Steve McCullough

Recording Secretary: Mike Burdelas

Corresponding Secretary: Naomi Heildreth

Treasurer: Sheron Garcia-Burdelas

Inland has been busy, just like the rest of you. As you might remember, we put on a little Trek in April that was well attended by Region 15 iris lovers. Irene Benton and her staff did an exceptional job of coordinating the event and gardens. It was a great trek. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make this an excellent event.

Because we hosted the Trek this year, we did not have a Spring Show.

In May, we did a wrap up of the trek and had a thank you session for all those who helped put the trek together.

In June, we had our elections and an AIS slide show of popular iris. It also provided pictures that gave our members a look at some of the irises that we do not normally grow in the hot desert Inland area.

Our July meeting will be the installation of officers and, in August, we will have our members-only iris auction.

Hope to see everyone at the Fall Trek. May your iris grow so plentiful that they choke the weeds out of your garden!

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

President Mike Boess

Greetings from the Orange County Iris and Daylily Club. Iris bloom here this year was not that great, at least not in my area of the county. Those irises that did bloom were quite late. Many in my own garden did not bloom at all. Let's hope we see some of those rebloomers doing their thing soon and that 2003 will be a better bloom year.

Our club treasury got a great boost in April as we experienced our second best Green Scene ever. As usual, hordes of iris lovers crowded our booth from the instant the gates opened. Needless to say, our iris procurement program will benefit from the funds. In addition, our club gave something back to the Fullerton Arboretum (holder of the annual event). We donated \$1,000 to the "Arboretum Adventures Camp 2002", a summer program for children 6-12 years of age. The week-long session allows kids to explore plant and animal habitats of the world without ever leaving the arboretum. With our donation, we sponsored ten children of low-income families, children who would otherwise not have been able to attend the camp. A very worthy cause and a great use of club funds.

We've had a variety of speakers at our club meetings this year. Dustin Gimbel of Heard's Country Gardens showed us a variety of his favorite perennials for Southern California. Marty Hammond told us how we could have blooms in our garden every day of the year with a mixture of roses, camellias, fuschias and bulbs. Just this past month, we learned all there is to know about growing cymbidiums from Fred Springe. We also had a talk from Jim Francisco of Orange County Vector Control who explained to us how we can keep our gardens (and homes) safe from varmints such as rats, mosquitoes, fire ants and Africanized honey bees. We also devoted one meeting to a Round Table discussion. The Round Table is useful for new members as it is basically a question and answer session where newcomers can ask the club's "experts" all kinds of questions about irises and daylilies. Our July and August meetings will be pot luck dinners and will include procurement and other donated plants for sale.

Unfortunately, due to work commitments, I was unable to attend the Spring Trek, but our club was ably represented by Vice Presidents Marilyn Pecoraro and Derry Gerald. Hopefully, I will be able to join in at other regional events in the future.



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Summer 2002

Sun Country Iris Society

President Ardi Kary

We're having a wonderful year. Our January meeting fell on January 1st, so we cancelled the meeting. We started out the year in February with a Friendship Meeting where we all got to know our fellow members a little better. Joyce and Avery Poling were in charge of that meeting. It was a lot of fun. In March we had our Early Iris Exhibit and Seminar at the Valley Garden Center. This gives us a chance to show off the earlier blooming varieties. In April, we had our Spring Iris Show at Arizona Mills Mall. Avery was chairman and Patrick Orr was the co-chairman. They did a great job. In May, we had our 3rd annual Prescott Iris Exhibit on Mothers Day at Sharlott Hall. We had a good turnout. Now we are talking about doing a Fall Reblooming Exhibit at the Arizona Mills Mall. It will be our first. Then, in December, we will have a reblooming exhibit at our Christmas Party. All these exhibits and shows keep us busy.

In April, we rented a bus for a progressive dinner and garden tour. We visited the 6 gardens that will be on the 2003 Spring Trek. The food was great and the irises were blooming. Joyce Poling did a super job with this event.

We'll be busy in the fall with our Rhizome Sales. We're planning on 3 locations. We'll include an iris slide show and seminar with one of the sales. We have been encouraging our members to grow other types of irises in addition to tall bearded. Arilbreds, medians, spurias and Louisianas will add interest to our shows and sales as well as educate the public about the different types of irises that are available for their gardens.

Our main priority is getting ready for the Region 15 Spring Trek in 2003. We have 6 gardens all planted with the guest irises. We have 295 varieties (over 900 rhizomes) planted and they will be beautiful in April of 2003. We hope everyone will be able to attend. A registration form is included with this newsletter!

Southern California Iris Society

President Mike Monninger

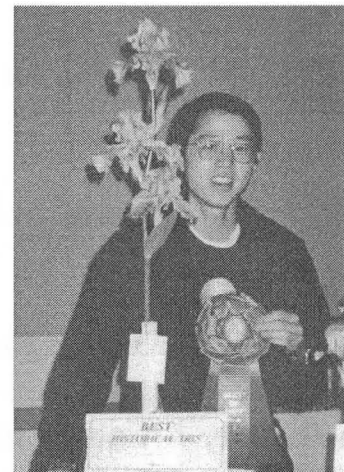
The Southern California Iris Society (SCIS) has completed another rewarding year. Our iris show was the largest and best in many years. Several exhibitors were award winners:

Horticulture

Best Specimen	Babbling Brook	Kim Ung
Silver Medal	13 first place	Lynn McIllwain
Bronze Medal	7 first place	Joe Daugherty
Best Tall Bearded	Old Time Religion	Leigh Nicolai Moon
Best Tall Bearded Plicata	Epicenter	John Reeds
Best Tall Bearded Self	Lady Friend	Lynn McIllwain
Best Median and Dwarf	His	Lynn McIllwain
Best Space Age	Pagan Pink	John Reeds
Best Historic	Babbling Brook	Kim Ung
Best Aril and Arilbred	Pink Betterment	Lynn McIllwain
Best Louisiana	Godzilla	Joe Daugherty
Best Specie	I. Innominata	Debbie Babuscio
Best Seedling	- TB 98-107	Jerry Moorehead

Artistic Design

Best Design	'ALCOA'	Derry Gerald
Sweepstakes		Mike Monninger



Kim Ung & BABBLING BROOK

Our major fundraiser at "the Southern California Garden Show" was a huge success again.

SCIS is looking forward to another year of iris enjoyment and education in 2002/2003 including several guest speakers at our meetings.



Region 15 News



2002 FALL MEETING EXPLORING THE NEW WORLD OF IRISES

As you make your plans for this fall, we, at **Sonoran Desert Iris Society**, hope that on Saturday, October 12, 2002, you will include The Red Lion Hotel, in Phoenix, as a destination. There, our club will host a one day, Region 15, Fall Meeting, beginning at 8:00 a.m with a continental breakfast and ending at 5:00 p.m. We have planned catered breaks during the day and a catered lunch at noon. The speaker and judges training teachers will be **Dr. Donald Spoon and his wife, Virginia**, from Cross Junction, Virginia. We have **many great** door prizes and raffle items and have planned an exciting auction during lunch. Do come and join us for a day that we will try to make interesting, informative and FUN.

Be sure to take advantage of the Couple Discount by registering with a friend.

Registration:

Before September 20, 2002.....\$60.00 Single \$100.00 Couple \$44.00 Youth

After September 20, 2002..... Everyone \$65.00-No Couple Discount

None accepted after October 5, 2002

Rates at the Red Lion Hotel

\$73.00 Single/Double, Breakfast Included

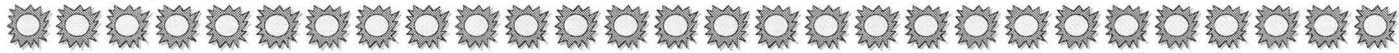
Shuttle from Airport to Hotel \$15.00 Per Person

Free Shuttle from Hotel to Metro-Center Mall

For more information contact: Bobbie Shepard at shepardiris@aol.com (602) 841-1231 or Betty Howard at

bhoward1@cox.net (602) 996-9004. **Form on-line at** <http://www.srocha.com/fallregistration.html>

SEE
REGISTRATION FORM
INCLUDED WITH
THIS
NEWSLETTER !



2003 SPRING TREK

Sun Country Iris Society

Presents

A WALK IN THE SUN

Region 15 Spring Trek - April 11, 12 & 13, 2003

Crowne Plaza Hotel and Resort

2532 W. Peoria Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85029

(602)943-2341

Guest Speakers and Judges Trainings

HOOKER & BONNIE NICHOLS

See Registration Form in this Newsletter!





Region 15 News

CHANGE IN AIS INSURANCE

By Michelle Snyder

I have been getting a number of emails from various clubs that are having upcoming sales wanting to know how to go about getting insurance. I would appreciate it if you could provide your respective clubs with the following information.

Our new carrier, found by Debbie Babuscio, is Hartford Insurance. The policy is in the name of The American Iris Society. The additional insured endorsement covers all Regions, Sections, Affiliates and all members thereof, whether or not they are members of AIS. This will be very important to clubs that currently carry a separate policy to cover members that do not belong to AIS. The basic liability coverage is \$1,000,000 but we have a \$4,000,000 umbrella bringing the total amount of liability insurance to \$5,000,000. This is the amount of insurance that most venues in New York and California are requesting be carried.

Hartford DOES NOT charge for the certificates of insurance. As some of you may recall, Travelers was charging \$50 per day. This will be a blessing to the smaller clubs because, I know, a charge of \$50 per day for their event was a burden on many of the clubs.

As far as the National Convention is concerned, the gardens that will be on tour are automatically covered under the policy. As far as I know, the individual gardens will not have to be named, but I will look into this and have an answer before I send my article to Bruce for publication in the October Bulletin. It has taken a long time, but I have finally gotten the policy I want. Interestingly, the premium AIS is being charged for the entire policy, including the umbrella, is less than what we were paying at Travelers.

Here is the information a club needs to get a certificate of insurance:

Call 1-800-457-2379. You will get a recorded message giving you various options. Press #3, insureds, and then you will hear another message. Press #1 and you will be transferred to a representative who will help you. You will need to identify yourself as the insured, The American Iris Society, and provide them with the insurance policy number of 72SBAAA7414. You will then need to give them the name and address of the venue where your event is being held, the date(s) of the event and where you want the certificate sent. If you want it faxed directly to the venue you will need to provide the name of the individual and their fax number. AGAIN, THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE.

If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me, Michelle Snyder, at SAMMYGIZ@aol.com.

Arizona Hybridizers Meeting Scheduled

By Margie Valenzuela

The next AZ Hybridizer's meeting is just around the corner. It is scheduled for Saturday, August 17th, 10:30 PM in Casa Grande, AZ at the Casa Grande Library, located at 449 N. Dry Lake Street. Driving directions are available on the TAIS website. (www.tucsoniris.org) or you may call Margie Valenzuela at (520) 219-9518.

Agenda (not necessarily in this order):

- 1.) Discuss iris *pedigrees* and their importance;
- 2.) Discuss *seedling selection*. (Which ones to keep for hybridizing further; criteria to follow for culling, and criteria for introducing an iris).
- 3.) Vote on a group name.
- 4.) Discuss if future dues or fees are desired (in case we wish to bring in future guest speakers/key hybridizers).
- 5.) Test Garden Information will be presented
- 6.) Photos & Slides of our iris seedlings will be shared
- 7.) Seedling information learned this year will be shared
- 8.) A Presentation on Genetics
- 9.) Door prizes - TB's (1999 and later), a species that originates in Brazil, and other iris prizes.

Half way through the program we will be breaking for lunch (for approximately 45 minutes). The meeting should conclude around 2-2:30pm. We hope any of you who are interested in iris hybridizing will join us. If you do come, and have pictures of seedlings, please bring them (even if they are pictures of someone else's' seedlings). This meeting should be interesting, fun, as well as educational.



Region 15 Board Notes

**REGION 15 HIGHLIGHTS EDITED FOR NEWSLETTER
From Secretary Cheryl Deaton's Original Minutes on File**

AIS Region 15 Board Meeting Ontario, CA, April 19, 2002

Attendees RVP Gerry Snyder called the meeting to order. Ardi Kary, Jim Giles, Jimmy Jones, Pete DeSantis, Ken Pierson, Jeanne Plank, Perri Larson, Winona Stevenson, Jane Parks, Joyce and Avery Poling, Kathy Chilton, Christie Pierson, and Cheryl Deaton were in attendance.

Minutes Secretary Cheryl Deaton's minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer Avery Poling reported a Beginning balance of \$12521.27 Ending balance of \$9297.84. General CD \$11884.47. RVP CD \$8020.40.

Awards Chair Jimmy Jones announced that he now has 11 Best Out of Region Seedling Awards, 11 Best Spuria Awards, 2 old and 2 new Bernard Hamner Awards, 5 Best Guest Iris Awards and 7 AIS Region Hybridizer Awards. Since he only ordered 2 new Hammers, he will order 8 more new ones, as was budgeted at the last board meeting.

Membership Copies of the membership list for Region 15 were distributed.

Nominations Chair Jeanne C. Plank, chair of the Nominating Committee, announced that Gerry Snyder has accepted a position with AIS, so he will be stepping down as RVP. Jim Giles has agreed to place his name in nomination for RVP in October. The other officers have agreed to continue for their third year, so that leaves the position of Assistant RVP open. The only requirement for this position is that the person be an AIS judge. Please contact Jeanne Plank with suggestions.

Ways & Means Chair Pete DeSantis announced that he sold another banner for \$10 which leaves 22 in stock. For the upcoming auction, he has contacted 12 hybridizers @\$50 apiece to get a better variety of rhizomes for the RVP auction. This is his last year as Ways and Means Chair. Joyce Poling is considering taking over the position. Pete requested all the clubs to give him the dates for their auctions.

Newsletter Editor Kathy Chilton said 501(C)(3) status would save quite a bit on postage. Booklet form will be easier to mail also. She will need a copy of the tax exempt form for the Post Office which Bob Plank will get to her. It was moved, seconded and carried to have color pages and booklet form for the next newsletter, and to allow Kathy to over budget if necessary. Kathy would like to sell ads for the newsletter to generate some income. She proposed charging commercial gardens for business card size ads at \$10/ea or \$20/year. Prices can go down for other ads. It was moved, seconded and carried to let Kathy handle the selling of ads at this time.

Youth Chair Cheryl Deaton reported Beth Rocha has been selected as the first recipient of the LaVerne Conrad Award for Youth Achievement in Region 15. She was also first runner up for the Clark Cosgrove Award. Her award will be presented to her during the lunch break at Cal Dixie Iris Gardens. She will also receive a check for \$100. Cheryl urged everyone to start thinking about a youth member in their club that they can nominate next year.

AIS Fall Board Meeting 2003 At the January Board meeting it was voted that each affiliate would donate \$300 to TAIS if their treasuries allowed it, in order to help offset the cost of the AIS Fall Meeting being hosted by TAIS in 2003. **Please send the checks to Avery, so that he can keep track of it and then write one check from region funds to TAIS. (Thank you!!!)**

Fall Trek 2002 Flyers with registration information were distributed by the Sonoran Desert Iris Society in Phoenix.

Affiliate Reports The meeting was temporarily adjourned and then reconvened at the General Membership Meeting, where the Affiliate Reports were given to the general membership, after which, the Board Meeting was officially adjourned.



Region 15 Notes

WEBSITES

Looking for when the next meeting will take place? What's the schedule at the National Convention? Need growing tips for your area? Do you just want to look at some beautiful iris photos, or see what happened at the last Spring Trek or Fall Meeting? You'll find what you're looking for on the internet! Check out these fabulous sites!

American Iris Society

<http://www.Irises.org>

Lots of info & links to clubs, gardens, etc.

Region 15 Website

<http://www.srocha.com/region15.html>

Lots of pictures & event information.

Tucson Area Iris Society

<http://www.TucsonIris.org>

Iris photos, local hybridizers, events & more!

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

<http://www.sanfernandoiris.org>

Meeting and membership information.

San Diego Iris Society

<http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/7679/>

Photos from the Spring Trek, club info & more.

Sun Country Iris Society

<http://www.suncountry.org>

Events, club information & more.

Shopping, anyone??

<http://www.AISGiftShop.com>

100's of Iris Motif items!

ATTENTION YOUTH MEMBERS

Stay in touch by e-mail at:

Region15kids@hotmail.com

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

☆ Message from the Editor ☆

☆ Thank you to all those who contributed to this issue. I appreciate the efforts of the Trek Garden reporters and all the affiliate presidents who got sent in their reports. Special thanks go to those who sent photos, as well! The irises are the reason, but it is the people of Region 15 who make it special!

☆ Kathy Chilton, Editor

☆ AIS Region 15 Newsletter

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☆ Tucson AZ 85736

☆ Ph: (520)822-1497

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Tucson Area Iris Society Website Facts by Margie Valenzuela

a.) In the month of April, 2002, we had a total of 7001 hits.

b.) The top 3 DAYS for those hits were:
April 11th with 468 hits,
April 15th with 640 hits, (day after our show) and
April 16th with 558 hits. (two days after our show).

c.) The busiest HOUR when the most viewers were looking at our website was two days after our show - April 16th at 2:00 in the afternoon.

d.) Known Hits by Other Countries: 8 - Canada, 1 - Poland, 63 - Belgium, 1 - Argentina, 95 - Denmark, 62 - France, 663 - United States, 50 - Military Bases, the rest unresolved - surfing network.

e.) The AVERAGE Hits per DAY - 233.

f.) The MAXIMUM Hits per DAY - 640 - on April 15th.

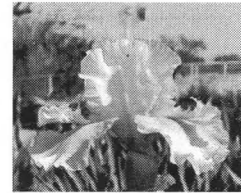
Interesting huh?



Breaking News



2002 AIS AWARDS



Dykes Memorial Medal
MESMERIZER (Monty Byers '90)

John C. Wister Medal (TB)
LOCAL COLOR (Keith Keppel)
JURASSIC PARK (Larry Lauer)
GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiner)

Knowlton Medal (BB)
BABOON BOTTOM (Brad Kasperek)

Hans and Jacob Sass Medal (IB)
PROTOCOL (Keith Keppel)

Williamson-White Medal (MTB)
REMINISCENCE (Clarence Mahan)

Cook-Douglas Medal (SDB)
LITTLE BLUE EYES (John Weiler)

Caparne-Welch Medal (MDB)
SCRUPLES (Lynda Miller)

Clarence G. White Medal (AR & AB)
LANCER (Howard Shockey)

William Mohr Medal (AB)
OMAR'S GOLD (Carl Boswell)

Founders of Signa Medal (SPEC)
CANDYSTRIPER (Bee Warburton)

Randolph-Perry Medal (SPEC-X)
AQUATIC ALLIANCE (Lorena Reid)

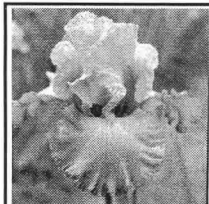
Sydney B. Mitchell Medal (CA)
SEA GAL (Lois Belardi)

Mary Swords DeBaillon Medal (LA)
EXTRAORDINAIRE (Mary Dunn)

Morgan-Wood Medal (SIB)
LAKE KEUKA (Dana Borglum)

Eric Nies Medal (SPU)
SUNRISE IN MISSOURI (O.D. Niswonger)

Walther Cup Most HM votes in any category.
HAPPENSTANCE (Keith Keppel)

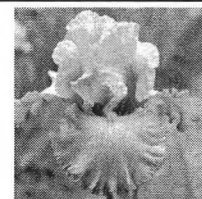


DUDE RANCH

2002 FLORENCE AWARDS

- 1st = DUDE RANCH (Paul Black, USA)
- 2nd = HAUT LES VOILES (R. Cayeux, France)
- 3rd = ANVIL OF DARKNESS (S. Innerst, USA)
- 4th = HIGH STAKES (Schreiner's, USA)
- 5th = LARK RISE (C.E.C. Bartlett, UK)
- 6th = HABIT (Black, USA)
- 7th = CLEARWATER RIVER (R. Ernst, USA)
- 8th = TWILIGHT CLOUD (Chuck Chapman, Canada)
- 9th = SHARE THE SPIRIT (G. Grosvenor, Australia)
- 10th = BRAZENBERRY (S. Innerst, USA)

- Best Red = MERLOT (Schreiner's, USA)
- Best commercial = HAUT LES VOILES, (Cayeux, France)
- Best Italian = I SEEK YOU (A. Bianco, Italy)
- Best branched = HIGH STAKES (Schreiner's, USA)
- Original color = #91-427-1 (Artist's Palette)(yellow/purple blend) (Chapman, Canada)
- Best scented = SHARE THE SPIRIT (G. Grosvenor, Australia)
- Best blue = RIVER RUNNER (R. Ernst, USA)



DUDE RANCH



Announcements

REQUEST FOR GUEST BEARDLESS IRISES (Louisianas & Spurias)

Region 15 Spring Trek Society for Louisiana Irises Convention Tucson, AZ 2005

The Tucson Area Iris Society of Tucson, AZ in Region 15 and the Society for Louisiana Irises will host a joint Region 15 Spring Trek and Society for Louisiana Irises Convention in the year 2005. Hybridizers are invited to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when sending guest irises:

1. Up to six rhizomes of each variety may be shipped.
2. Guest Irises from the U.S.A. will be accepted from Sept. 1 – Oct. 15, 2002. Australian irises will be accepted at their normal shipping time for North American orders.
3. All official guest irises must be shipped to:
Kathy Chilton, Guest Iris Chair
14333 S. Stagecoach Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85736
(520)822-1497
ranchiris@aol.com
4. The name of the variety or seedling number must be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information must be clearly marked for each plant on a *Separate Packing List*.
 - a. Hybridizer's name, address, phone number and email (if available).
 - b. Name or seedling number of the variety
 - c. Type of iris (LA or SPU).
 - d. Height, color, and bloom season (E,M,L).
 - e. Year of introduction (if introduced).
5. If a guest seedling is named, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairperson not later than December 1, 2004.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2005 will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and distribute named varieties, one to the garden owner, and the rest to the Region 15 Auction.
7. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
8. The Trek/Convention Committee and owners of tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
9. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairperson will be listed in the convention booklet.





Announcements

From the

American Iris Society

Join the AIS

**Until August 1, 2002,
the Membership Office address is:**

Anner M. Whitehead
Membership Secretary, The American Iris Society
PO Box 14750
Richmond VA 23221-4750 USA
aismemsec@aol.com

**After September 1, 2002,
the address will be:**

Mary E. Brown
Membership Secretary,
The American Iris Society
PO Box 2968
Baltimore MD 21229 USA
meb@toadmail.com

AIS Membership Rates

Annual	Single:	\$20.00
	Dual:	\$25.00
Triennial	Single:	\$43.00
	Dual:	\$54.00
Life	Single:	\$360.00
	Dual:	\$435.00

Senior Life (age 65+): 15% discount, single or Dual.
Both members must be 65 or older for discount to apply under Dual.

Youth Rates

Youth, without Bulletin:	\$ 4.00
Youth, with Bulletin:	\$ 7.00

Overseas Rates

Annual	Single:	\$25.00
	Dual:	\$28.00
Triennial	Single:	\$54.00
	Dual:	\$65.00

Calendar year memberships. May be paid by check, VISA, or Mastercard.

Overseas memberships include first class postage, and are payable in U.S. currency.

AIS Slide Show Set Menu:

Reliable Iris of the 1970s
Reliable Iris of the 1980s
Reliable Iris of the 1990s
Reliable Iris of the 2000s
Dykes Medal Winners
Beardless Irises
Beautiful but Little Known Iris
Median Bearded Iris (MTB, SDB, BB, IB, and others)
Reblooming Iris
Japanese Iris
Louisiana Iris
Siberian Iris
Spuria Iris
Subgenus scorpilis - (juno)

Iris Trivia: This is a small set with questions that can be used for fun and informative meetings. It takes about an hour (per set average), using the slides, asking the questions and getting the audience response. E-mail for further details.

The Iris Family: This set is an introduction to the world of iris. It shows the different classes of bearded iris and the different species of iris. It can be used for all levels of viewers, new to experienced iris growers. Great for garden club programs.

AIS Conventions:

Denver, Colorado - AIS 1999 Convention
Dallas, Texas - AIS 2000 Convention
York, Pennsylvania/Hunt Valley, Maryland - AIS 2001 Convention

TO ORDER:

Please e-mail: Bill Mull aisslides@aol.com

Requests for slide shows should be made well in advance, preferably 4 - 6 weeks, for specific sets that you want. If you have an emergency situation, call and see what is available. Only one set per request date, and slides are to be returned one or two days after viewing by Priority Mail. Affiliates are entitled to one rent-free set per year.

Rental fee is \$10 payable to AIS and sent to:

Bill Mull - AIS Slide Chairman
7112 Fox's Lair Ct.
Norfolk, VA 23518-4435;
phone (757) 858-8085; Fax (757) 858-5529;
e-mail: aisslides@aol.com



Region 15 Directory

Elected Officers

Region 15 Vice President

Gerry Snyder (818) 352-7018
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gerrysnyder@mediaone.net

Asst. Region 15 RVP

Jim Giles (909) 370-0213
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suncitymom@aol.com

Region 15 Secretary

Cheryl Deaton (661) 252-6771
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deatons@earthlink.net

Committee Chairs

Awards

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1007 W. Prince Road #67
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The American Iris Society Region 15 Newsletter is published in the spring and summer of each year.

This publication is distributed to all members of AIS residing within the boundaries of Region 15. All others may subscribe to this publication at the annual subscription rate of \$3.00 per year. Checks or money orders should be made out to Region 15 AIS and sent to the circulation manager.

The editor welcomes all correspondence for the newsletter. Any letters or articles submitted may be published if space is available and content is appropriate.

Region 15 Commercial Gardens

Buena Creek Gardens
418 Buena Creek Road
San Marcos, CA 92069

Cal -Dixie Iris Gardens
14115 Pear Street
Riverside, CA 92508

Forte's Iris Garden
12312 So. Wilson Rd.
Los Banos, CA 93635

Golden's Iris Garden
4564 Robin Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86301

Iris Hill Farm
7280 Tassajara Creek Road
Santa Margarita, CA 93553

Kary Iris Garden
6201 East Calle Rosa
Scottsdale, AZ 85251



Lakeside Gardens
8280 Entrada Blvd.
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Mrs. M's Garden
6057 Shop Ave.
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Rancho De Los Flores
8000 Balcom Canyon Rd.
Somis, CA 93066

Scott's Iris Gardens
14605 Chispa Road
Atascadero, CA 93422

Shepard Iris Garden
3342 W. Orangewood
Phoenix, AZ 85051

GARDEN OWNERS
PLEASE NOTE!!
NEW ADVERTISING
RATES!

As of the next issue,
Region 15 will charge
\$10 per issue to list
Commercial Gardens in
the Directory.
Additional lines may be
added for \$5 each.

The American Iris Society
Region 15 Newsletter
is published twice a year
and is available to commercial gardens.
Advertising should be
submitted copy ready.
Make checks payable to Region 15 AIS.

ADVERTISING RATES

<u>Size</u>	<u>Cost per Issue</u>
Full Page (8 x 11")	\$50.00
Half Page (4 x 5")	\$25.00
Business Card (3 x 2")	\$15.00
Directory Listing (3 lines)	\$10.00
Additional lines (ea)	\$5.00

EDITOR

KATHY CHILTON
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PUBLICATION DEADLINES

<u>SPRING ISSUE</u>	
<u>Deadline</u>	2/1
<u>Issue Date</u>	3/1
<u>SUMMER ISSUE</u>	
<u>Deadline</u>	7/1
<u>Issue Date</u>	8/1

2002 REGION 15 FALL MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2002

EXPLORING THE NEW WORLD OF IRISES

Guest Speaker and Judges Training Teachers

Don and Ginny Spoon of Virginia

Red Lion Hotel

12027 North 28th Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85029

(South West corner of Cactus Rd.off I-17)

Reservations - 602-866-7000

Ask for "Iris Society" room rates of \$73.00 Single/Double

Full breakfast is included.

Super Shuttle from Airport to Hotel \$15.00 Per Person

Free Shuttle from Hotel to Metro Center Mall

Hotel Room Rates Good Until September 20, 2002

FALL MEETING, ONE DAY ONLY,

Begins with Catered, Continental Breakfast for all the meeting registrants

8:00 AM-----Board meeting for Region officers, presidents, & all interested

9:30 AM-----Judges training by Don Spoon

11:00 AM-----General Business meeting

12:00 Noon----Luncheon will be served & Spoons program

2:30 PM-----Judges training by Ginny Spoon

5:00 PM-----Meeting adjourns

Time on schedules may vary slightly. There will be catered breaks during the day.

REGISTRATION

Before September 20th, a single is \$60.00, a youth is \$44.00,

A couple is \$100.00 (Any two people can register together for the couple rate)

After September 20th, everyone will be \$65.00 - No couple discount

Fill out the following form. Make checks payable to Sonoran Desert Iris Society. Mail to

Bobbie Shepard, Registrar

3342 West Orangewood Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85051-7543

Telephone (602) 841-1231 E-mail: Shepardiris@aol.com

Questions? Contact: Bobbie Shepard or Betty Howard (602) 996-9004, E-mail: bhoward1@cox.net

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____ E-MAIL: _____

(As you wish it to appear on your name badge) (E-mail will be used for confirmation.)

ADDITIONAL NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Luncheon Preference: Beef _____ Chicken _____ Vegetable _____

Enclosed is my / our registration fee in the amount of _____ Check # _____



Sun Country Iris Society
presents

A Walk in the Sun
Region 15 Spring Trek
April 11 - 12 - 13, 2003

Guest Speakers and Judges Training Sessions

Hooker and Bonnie Nichols

Crowne Plaza Hotel and Resort
2532 W. Peoria Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85029-4709

*Northeast
corner of
I-17 & Peoria*

Reservations: **602-943-2341 Ask for Iris Society Rates**

Single or Double Rate: \$85.00 - until March 11, 2003

**Friday, April 11 - check-in starts 2 PM,
Board Meeting 5-7 PM, Judges Training- 8- 10 PM**
**Saturday, April 12 - Garden Tours - AM,
Judges Training 7-9 PM**
**Sunday, April 13 - Garden Tours - AM,
Luncheon and Keynote Speakers**

REGISTRATION FORM

Before March 11, 2003 - \$75.00

After March 11, 2003 - \$85.00

Fill out form, make checks to Sun Country Iris Society & mail to:

Al Sturgeon, Registrar
2940 West Hartford Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85053-2011
Telephone (602) 993-9253 E-mail: alskath@aol.com

Name _____ Telephone _____ E-mail _____
(As you wish it to appear on your name badge.) (E-mail will be used for confirmation.)

Additional Names _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Place Initials by Luncheon Preference: _____ Pasta Santa Fe (vegetarian)
_____ Mango Pork Loin _____ California Chicken

Enclosed is my/our registration fee in the amount of _____

Check # _____