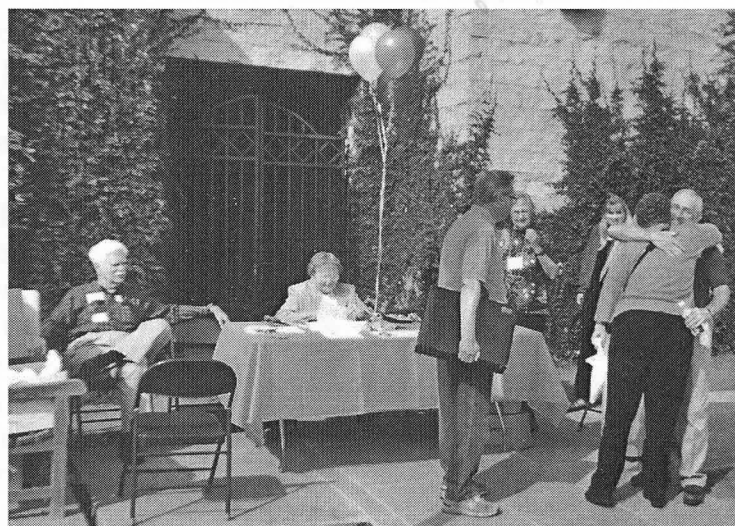


AIS REGION 15 2004 SPRING NEWSLETTER

ARIZONA & SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
MARCH 2004

2003 Region 15 Fall Meeting The Huntington, San Marino, CA



SCIS Hosts Region 15 Fall Meeting

By Kim Ung

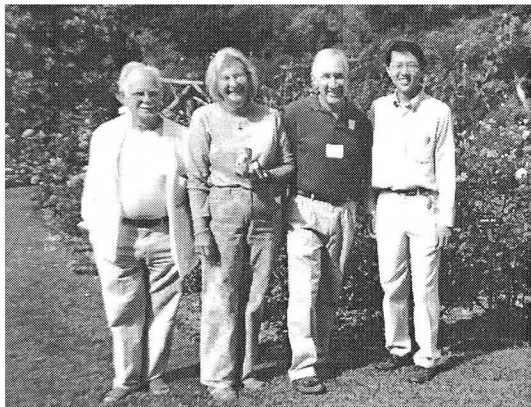
The sun came out today October 4, 2003. It's a spring like day. The time to beat is 8:30 A.M. That's when we were allowed in to the Huntington grounds. (For those who stayed at the Santa Anita Inn, we hoped you had a pleasant dream.)

We got to park in covered staff parking. **Brian Moon** and **Leigh Nicolai-Moon's** professional signs directed everyone to the right location; the Huntington staff was helpful, too. The meeting area would be in the Botanical Center complex.

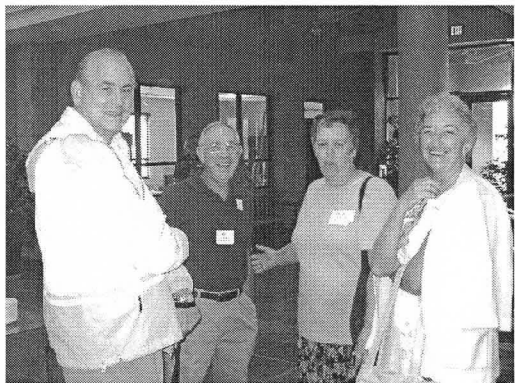
Ruth Woodworth, Elaine Monninger, Laura Ellen Speck, Faith Nixon and others checked you in. You're tagged with a Huntington entrance sticker and a name badge generated by **Shirlee Lewis**. We hoped everyone enjoyed your large white envelope. It has a strip of orange and green ribbon, a green stamp of an iris stalk, and a hand written name of the attendee in green. Inside, you found the following: the Meeting schedule, the Huntington guide, an iris bookmark handcrafted by **Shirlee Lewis**, a Sav-on camera, a note pad, Jolly Rancher candies, a Trilogy Mortgage pencil, a Kinko's pen, an Auto Expert paper clip, a Riverside County's Credit Union retractable meter key chain, a small calendar and a pen from Taylor's Appliance, and a Sav-on weekly pill box filled with Viactiv (chocolate calcium) and Starburst candies and which can be used as storage container for iris seeds and pollens. A number of these items were donated by the businesses and were obtained for us by great solicitors - **Mike and Elaine Monninger's** daughter **Lori Monninger** and her friend **Charles Lewis**---thanks. Ruth, George and Laura Ellen had the joy of stuffing the package.

There were plenty of calories to fuel the attendees --- keep you going, going and going. You could have second, third, etc., servings of muffins, donuts, grapes, bananas and melons and wash them down with hot coffee, juice and bottled water. Once you were energized, non-Region Board members explored the

Fall Meeting...Continued



Doug Davis, Derry Gerald, Paul Black & Kim Ung



Jim Giles, Paul Black, Cheryl Deaton & Winona Stevenson



Debbie Babuscio, Bob & Jeanne Plank



Jimmy Jones, Ralph and LaVerne Conrad

gardens, art exhibits, or socialized; Board members had the Board meeting. **Paul Black, Doug Davis, Derry Gerald, Shirlee Lewis and I(Kim Ung)** had a quick 45 minutes *exercise*: passed the Scott Gallery, skirted the Shakespeare Garden, walked underneath the climbing rose trellis, admired the koi in the Japanese Garden, looked at the Japanese house, climbed to the Zen Garden, examined the bonsai in the Bonsai Court, made a bee line back through the Rose Garden to the Huntington Gallery (British and Continental Art)---where we viewed the original paintings of the Blue Boy, Pinkie, etc, headed back through the Shakespeare Garden, zoomed through the Scott Gallery (American Art) and made it back for the General Meeting at 11 A.M. Whew!

Region 15 RVP **Jim Giles** called the Region 15 Fall Meeting to order. Members were representatives of all the Region 15 affiliates, except one, and **Bob and Jeanne Clay Plank** of Region 14. Various officers gave their reports. Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society will host next year's fall meeting and Orange County Iris and Daylily Club, the year after that. An election was held. Congratulations to the new Region 15 Board: RVP: **Jim Giles**, Assistant RVP: **Jane Parks**, Secretary: **Jeannie Comeaux**, and Treasurer: **Cheryl Deaton**. Luckily, no one started a petition drive for a recall election. A number of clubs made the announcement of their upcoming judges training. **Jeanne Clay Plank** will look into what specific tasks that Region 14 will need help with next year during the AIS National Convention in Fresno. Those who will be going are urged to help. The General Meeting was adjourned.

Surprise! A luminous bag of purple eyes and orange "BOO", a black cat, a lavender flying witch, or an orange Jack-O-Lantern was passed out to each attendee. Each Trick-Or-Trick bag was filled with an iris rhizome (*Blatant, Busy Being Blue, Cantina, Cascade Azure, Credible Justification, Dreaming Lilac, Dream of You, Flight To Mars, Frequent Flyer, Halloween Halo, His Royal Highness, Joy Junction, Lena Baker, Millennium Sunrise, Opening Act, Penny Lane, Recurring Dream, Sharpshooter, Victoria Falls, or Wings of Gold*—all from Marilyn P. and my gardens and a donation from the Inland Region Iris Society), candies, and a red ticket for the door prize drawings. The bag was sealed with an address size label that

Fall Meeting...Continued

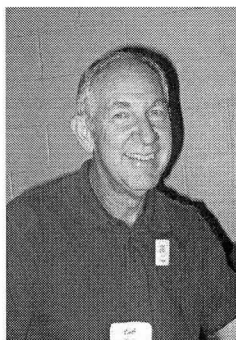
included the words "Trick-Or-Treat!!!" and "Region 15 Fall Meeting – 2003 Hosted by SCIS". With an assembly line of **Derry Gerald, Doug and Muriel Davis, Angie Fierro** and I (**Kim Ung**), we got the stuffing done this morning in a flash. A thank you is extended to **Beth** and **Kate Rocha**, non-members, for helping to distribute the treats. (Please don't make me go shopping with **Marilyn Pecoraro** again. She knows why. ☺)

Lunchtime was in the open court. Attendees at a few tables got 100% exposure to the sun. Some might have gotten some suntan and thank God that no one got a heat stroke. We had seasoned rolls, salad with thin slices of beef, vegetable/fruit salad, fruit and desert. I hope I wasn't the only one asking, "Where's the beef?" **Angie Fierro** arranged the fall cornucopias for the table centerpieces. At the end, the person numbered 4 from each table got to take it home.

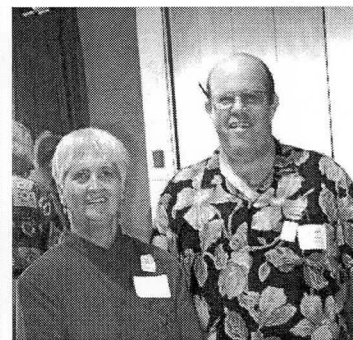
The door prizes were drawn. **Mike Monninger** emceed. **Marilyn Pecoraro, Angie Fierro** and I got to hand them out. A number of you got one of these to take home: 2 different gift certificates, an iris toothbrush holder and a soap dish, a ceiling fan, a garden tool chest, 2 different iris mugs, a set of coasters, an iris clock, and 2003 introductions from **Paul Black** and **Tom Johnson** – *Ballroom, Chinook Winds, Country Dawn, Disco Eclipse, and Don't Touch*. Some items were donated by businesses, some were donated by our members (**Angie Fierro** and **Doug and Muriel Davis**), and some were store bought.

Our guest speaker, **Paul Black** of **Mid-America Gardens**, did an informative and entertaining slide presentation. History: how he got interested in iris and how he was glad, including his dog, to leave Oklahoma on an approximately 100 degree day. Living in Salem, Oregon, is heaven. Everything seems to grow and grow bigger. Being a hybridizer, there are always more multiple projects that are going on and to be done than the time allows in a day. His major works are focusing on tall beardeds and dwarfs. I like his line of white standards with yellow or gold rims and different, solid color falls, eg. *Definitely Different* (2002). You should wear walking shoes if you get a chance to visit his place. How about going there during the AIS National Convention in 2006?

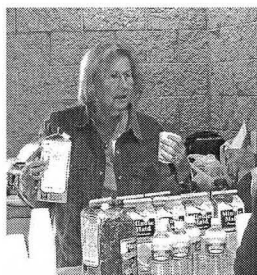
We had carrot and almond cakes during the break. One cake was for the San Fernando Valley Iris Society's 30th anniversary and the other one was for the San Diego-Imperial Country Iris Society's belated 40th anniversary. (The AIS Region 15 History 1939-1999 printed that SDICIS was formed in 1963.) Yummy.



Paul Black



Joyce Poling & SoCal President
Mike Monninger



Members provided abundant refreshments
& lovely seasonal decorations.



Steve & Sharlyn Rocha enjoy the meeting, along with their daughters, Youth members Beth and Kate Rocha.

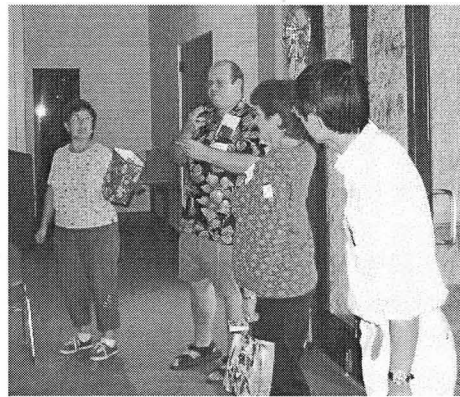


Kathy Chilton, Paul Black & Eileen Fiumara

Fall Meeting ... Continued



Patrick Orr *really* wanted this raffle prize.



The drawings for the opportunity (raffle) table were exciting. Tickets were bought (\$1 each or 6 for \$5) and placed in the cups corresponding to the following items: an iris table runner, a 2003 edition of "Little John" T-shirt signed by the artist Bonnie Fernandez, an antique carnival glass iris patterned platter, an iris patterned door mat, a pair of garden urns, a garden apron, a garden tool chest, a 75-foot coil hose, a 7-piece nozzle set, and 2003 introductions from **Paul Black** and **Tom Johnson**- *Blush Of Color*, *Bridal Icing*, *Chuckwagon* and *Diversion*. Again, some items were donated by members (**Angie Fierro**, **Doug and Muriel Davis**, **Marilyn Pecoraro**, and **Ruth Woodward**.) and others were bought. Mike M. emceed again. Marilyn P., Angie F. and I just passed the prizes to the winners. Angie F.'s and my numbers were never called. **Ardi Kary** seemed to have won the most. We couldn't seem to give the carnival glass platter away, because no one claimed to have the winning ticket. It was decided to give it to the lady who thought she lost her tickets, logically. Later, she found them; however, she didn't have the winning number either. A redraw was done. Finally, **Leigh Nicolai-Moon** won it and gave it to **Marilyn Pecoraro**., who really, really, really wanted it. I think the person with the winning ticket was in the restroom – an Oscar's classic moment. Marilyn P. was in charge of the door and opportunity table prizes. A thank you is extended to her daughter, **Jody**, for she wrapped all those gifts exceptionally well.

The last leg of the day would be judges training by **Paul Black**. For those who did not attend the training, they could go home or tour the gardens. Judges training was on medians and dwarfs. Again, it was educational and interesting. (One of these days, some one must invent a microphone that really, really works. It interrupts the flow of things when it doesn't work.) Medians and dwarfs have their own beauties and followers. One of his popular ones is *Puddy Tat* (2002), white with inky blue black spot on the falls. Mr. Black's take home message is to grow them so you can judge them. Everyone passed the test. Class dismissed! Thank you.

Roll Call --- Present!: Debbie Babuscio, Peggy Baille, Irene & Richard Benton, Paul Black, Dolores Bock, Pat & Walt Brendel, Elaine Cass, Kathy Chilton, LaVerne & Ralph Conrad, Lorna Corlett, Dough & Muriel Davis, Cheryl Deaton, Pete DeSantis, Angie Fierro, Eileen Fiumara, Derry Gerald, Janet & Jim Giles, Jimmy Jones, Ardi Kary, Audrey Kenyon, Barbara Lauck, Jan & Mike Lauritzen, Shirlee Lewis, Grace Martin, Lynn Alison Martin, Elaine & Mike Monninger, Brian Moon & Leigh Nicolai-Moon, Doris Moran, Faith Nixon, Joella Olson, Patrick Orr, George Palmer, Marilyn Pecoraro, Christine & Ken Pier-son, Bob & Jeanne Clay Plank, Avery & Joyce Poling, John Reinschmidt, Bill Rinehart, Beth, Kate, Shar-lyn & Steve Rocha, Kevin & Susan Sims, Gerry & Michelle Snyder, George & Laura Ellen Speck, Wi- nona Stevenson, Jane Troutman, Lou Warren, Julie Welch, Ruth Woodworth, and me, myself, & I. ☺

Editor's Note: Special thanks to SCIS for a wonderful Fall Meeting, and to Kim Ung for writing a great article & sending pictures to add to mine.



REGION 15 NEWS

A Message from RVP Jim Giles

I was told that, as you get into those senior citizen years, your life takes on a slower, more leisurely pace. So what age do you have to be for this to happen? It seems like when I reached 60, someone kicked in the afterburners. I guess with all the medical miracles technology has provided us, our "Golden Years" are starting a little later in life. Anyway, Janet and I were able to get out into the iris beds this weekend and start the war on the spring weeds and bugs. Now, I wish I had used a pre-emergent last fall. Where do all these weed seeds come from and why did all the seeds slated for Grand Terrace end up in our iris bed? We also have some of the biggest ladybugs I have ever seen in our garden. After looking closely at our iris, I can see why - they are feasting on the aphid hordes in our irises.

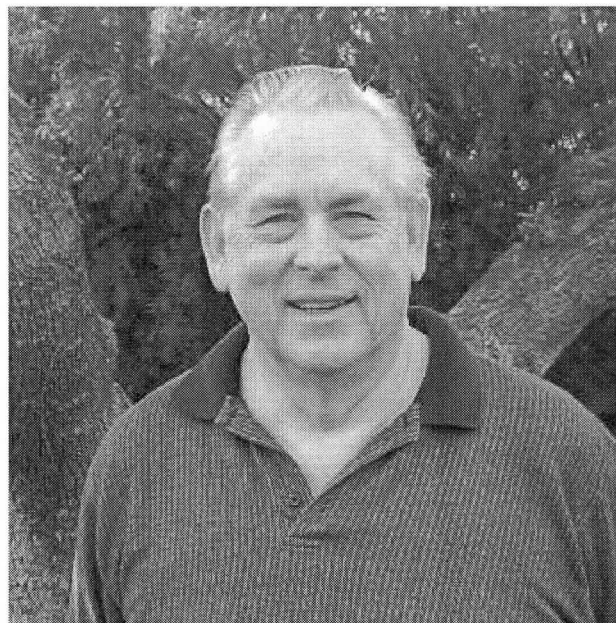
Janet and I have not been able to enter an iris show in the last three years because I have been judging other shows, but we are determined to have some iris to enter in Inlands show this year. I don't think we have even been able to attend our local iris show the last three years, so this is the year that Janet will be indoctrinated in the art of show entry.

I wish you all a grand bloom season and I hope that all of you enter as many shows as you can. This is one of the best ways to let the public know about the world of irises, but no club can put on a great show without irises being entered into the show. So, if you have one or a hundred and one irises, enter your local show. You just might have the "Best of Show" growing in your garden right now; enter it so the world can see it.

Region 15 will not be having a Spring Trek this year because of the AIS National being held in Fresno. I encourage everyone to attend the National. They have some great gardens on tour, a lot of Judges Training, old friends, friends you have not met yet and a side trip planned to Yosemite National Park. So, if you have never attended a National, this would be a great one to start with. If you have been before, I should not need to convince you of the fun you will have. Just make sure you bring your camera and lots of film.

Our By-laws require that we have a spring board meeting and general meeting. These will be held during the National Convention on Tuesday, April 20th, and you are all encouraged to attend these meetings.

It looks like there are going to be some great programs provided throughout Region 15 this coming year and I would encourage everyone to attend as many as



you can. I would also encourage you to attend any and all Judges Training that is being offered. Judges Training is open to everyone - not just judges. This type of program will improve your knowledge of irises, give you some great growing and culture tips, improve your skill at preparing irises for shows and maybe even give you an idea of what the judges are looking for when they evaluate an iris in the garden and on the show bench. You may even decide to join the ranks of AIS accredited judges, but that is not a requirement to join in on the training.

I hope to see you all at the National in Fresno April 19-24. If you want more information on the convention check your January AIS bulletin or go to the AIS Website.

<http://www.irises.org/>





REGION 15 NEWS

Membership Report

Winona Stevenson

Affiliates - 11; Single - 233; Single life - 24; Dual - 68 (136 dual memberships); dual life 5 (10 members); youth - 14 members; for a total region membership of 417. We lost 68 members, but I'm sure some of them will reinstate.

We need to keep encouraging our members to join AIS as they are missing a great part of iris society membership. There is so much information in the bulletins that often never gets to the local membership unless they are members.

See page 25 for AIS Membership information.

☆☆

WAYS AND MEANS

Joyce Poling

We still have half of the items left from the Marion Walker estate to be put in a silent auction, but with our Spring Trek joined with the National, it is not possible to hold our auction until later.

I took some of the older books to the Fall AIS Board meeting Tucson and we made \$306.00 to be added to the money made at the Region 15 Fall Auctions.

This year, we will have no guest Irises for the Fall Auction, so the board has decided to spend \$1200 to order the irises to be used.

Letters have been sent out to twenty-four hybridizers and, at this point, it is too early for any of the responses to be back in. At the meeting in Fresno, I should have some answers to the letters, so you will know where the irises are coming from. I've requested that shipments arrive on August 26th - that is the last Thursday in August. Over the weekend, I'll divide them up into 10 parts and ship them out Monday. I've asked the commercial growers to send pictures or catalogs again this year, so we'll have photos of the irises for the auctions. Let's hope they respond with some good pictures.

☆☆

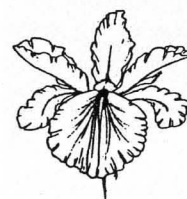
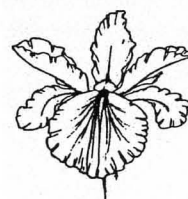
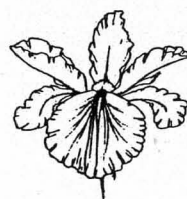
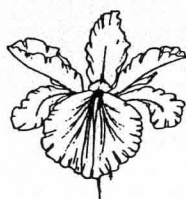
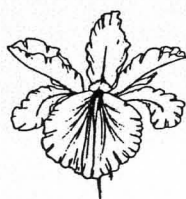
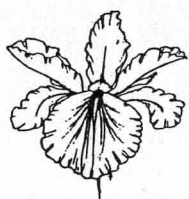
REGION 15 TREK WHEEL

SPRING

2004 (AIS Nat'l Fresno)
2005 Tucson AZ
2006 San Fernando CA

FALL

Orange County CA 2004
Hi Desert CA 2005
Southern California CA 2006



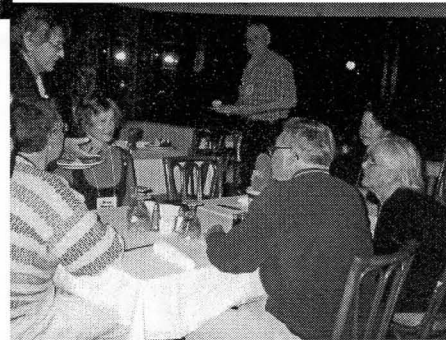
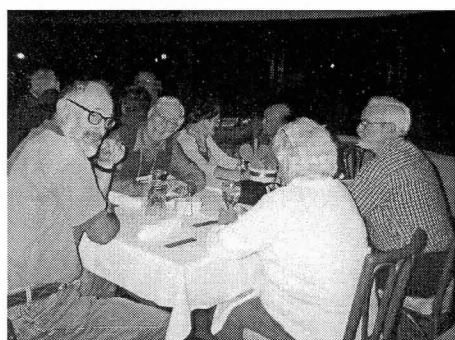
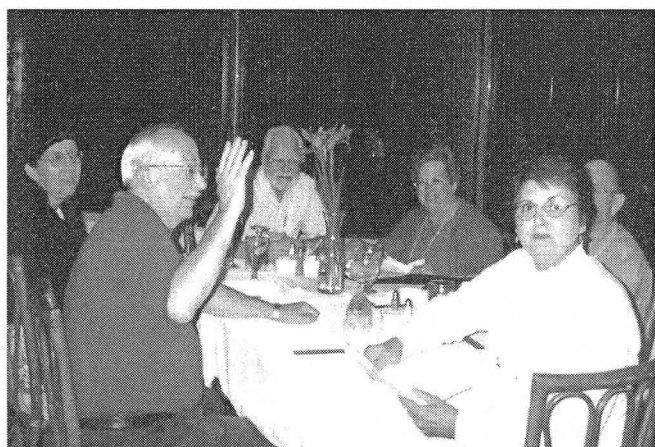


American Iris Society Fall Board Meeting ***November 2003—Tucson, AZ***

Early in November, Region 15 had the pleasure of hosting the Fall Board Meeting of the American Iris Society. Board members and their guests were accommodated at the Best Western Airport Inn in Tucson, with the intensive meetings beginning Friday evening and continuing through Saturday night. The Board broke from their meetings long enough to enjoy a luncheon and dinner on Saturday, as guests of Region 15. The Inn's food service was excellent, although the food hit of the weekend seemed to be the three dozen Krispy Kremes that appeared and disappeared Saturday morning.

Kudos to the Best Western for the exceptional attention to the special needs of the Board Meeting and for the extra touches, such as bouquets of irises throughout their lobby and on the front desk.

The Tucson Area Iris Society, ably led by Chairperson Lucille Skerston, was responsible for meeting arrangements. She had the excellent help of members Greta Dunnigan, Perri Larson, Jane Parks, Bert Detwiler, Ben Herman, Carolyn Cowan and Carol Morgan. Several of the guests were escorted to Tucson tourist sites by Jane, Carolyn and Carol.





Region 15 Youth News

E-mail: region15kids@hotmail.com

REGION 15 YOUTH NEWS

By Cheryl Deaton

Are you going to the AIS National Convention in Fresno? I am, and I am so excited to be attending my first convention. I hope that any youth member who can come will join in the youth activities and I will get to meet some of you – get to put a face with a name.

Our younger irisarians are doing well in Region 15. **Kate Rocha** had a picture of one of her seedlings published in “The Iris Fan”, the youth newsletter. Tucson Area Iris Society has a CIP (that’s Classroom Iris Project) with their Brownie/Girl Scout Troop, sponsored by **Kathy Chilton**. The girls are busy planning their educational exhibit for the TAIS Spring Show. This year they are growing *Fanfaron* and *Catalyst*, donated by **Perri Larson**. I hope they enter the horticulture portion of the show with some of their bloomstalks. They have made the iris their “troop flower”.

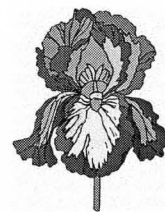
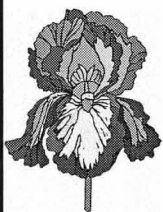
Many of our youth members participated in spring shows last year, but there have been a few young people entering our shows who are not members of AIS. I encourage every affiliate to sponsor an interested youth with an AIS membership. Youth rates are only \$7 per year with the Bulletin, or \$4 without the Bulletin. It’s not a lot, but it could be very important to a young irisarian. There are activities for youth members throughout the year, such as the coloring contest, the essay contest, and last year there was a poetry contest. Sometimes the prizes are rhizomes, and sometimes the young winners get a cash award. There is also a Pen Pal program so that kids all over the country can get acquainted with someone else who has been infected with the “IRIS VIRUS”.

Congratulations go out to **Beth Rocha** on becoming a Garden Judge. That’s a wonderful accomplishment. Our region is very lucky to have a young person as a judge.

Once again, there were no nominations received for the LaVerne Conrad Youth Achievement Award. Region 15 is one of the few regions that has a youth award, and I think it is very sad that no one was interested enough to nominate a deserving youth. The program depends on ADULT involvement and interest.

I was fortunate to speak about irises at a meeting of young ladies who are home schooled. Their ages ranged from 4 to 11 years old, and we had a pleasant afternoon. We had a craft project, and each girl received a potted iris donated by Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society. I am hoping this group decides to become a Classroom Iris Project.

If you know a teacher or group leader who might be interested in starting a CIP, let me know. There are monthly activities available, and long-term projects also, suitable for a 4H group or scout troop. All aspects of education are involved, such as English, math, science, and biology. You can reach me at (661)252-6771 or region15kids@hotmail.com. Hope to see you in Fresno!





LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Cheryl Deaton, President

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society began the year with a wonderful slide presentation of last year's Spring Trek and AIS National Convention, given by **Jill Bonino**. I have been acting as Region 15's liaison with **Betty Coyle**, Chair of this year's National in Fresno. Our members are so excited about (for many of us) attending our first AIS Convention. HDI&DS members have volunteered to help with many Convention activities, including being bus captains! Seeing the beautiful gardens from last year just made us want to hurry along spring.

This year, we are having quite a few Judges Training sessions, beginning with one on Arils and Arilbreds given by **Ardi Kary** in February. In March we will have a JT on Floral Design given by **Eileen Fiumara**. This will be a "hands on" clinic, and we will take our beautiful creations home with us. We are the hosts of this year's Region 15 Fall Meeting on October 9th. Our guest speaker will be **George Sutton**, who will be conducting a judge's training session on Space Age Iris. We are also hoping to have **Jim Hedgecock**, of **Comanche Acres**, conduct a JT later on.

Big events for us as always are the Home & Garden Show March 19th-21st, our Spring Show on May 1st, and the Palmdale Water Faire on May 15th and 16th. This year's theme for the Spring Show is "The Wide World of Iris", with the 7 continents as categories. It looks to be a very creative artistic show. This winter has been so cold, that having the show in May looks like it will be at peak.

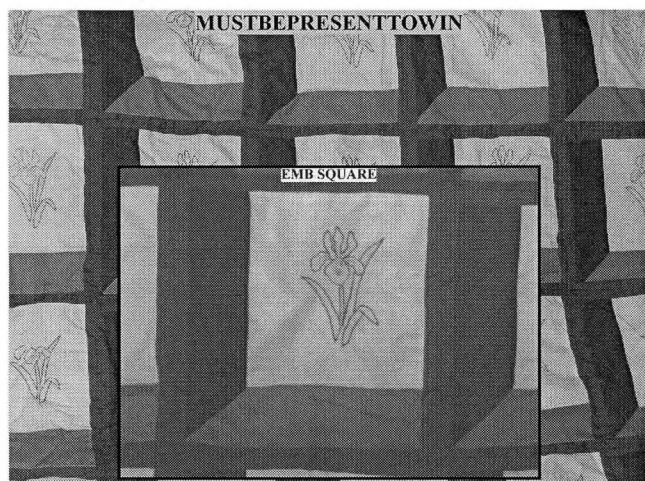
We were very pleased and honored to be awarded second place in the AIS Affiliate Contest. We have planted the rhizome introductions we won at **Lakeside Gardens** in Lake Isabella, so that we can have increases to share with the club come September.

On a sad note, longtime member, **Billie Stone**, lost her husband **Bill** in early February. They were in the process of moving from their home in Ridgecrest, CA, to be nearer their daughter in Colorado. If you'd like to keep in touch with Billie, her daughter's address is: 1513 Brentford Lane, Fort Collins, CO 80525. Hi Desert will be making a donation to AIS in Bill's memory.

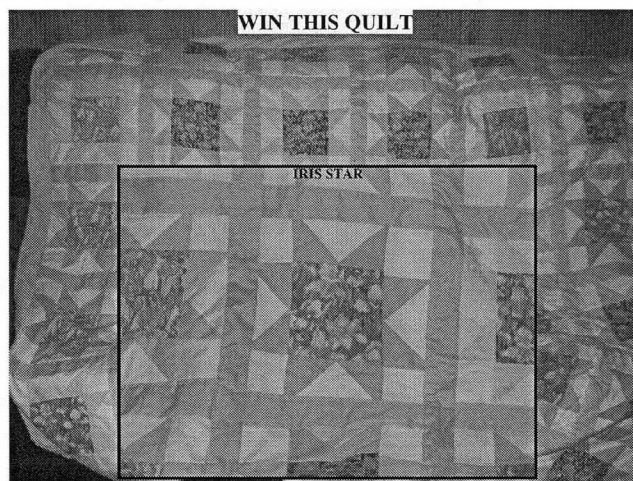
Join us at the Fall Meeting! We have a wonderful day planned. See the flyer for registration information.

Happy Irising!

(Green, Brown & Black on White)



(Yellow & Lavender on White)



HDI&DS has two beautiful iris quilts we will be raffling at the Fall meeting in October, 2004. The "star" quilt can be won by anyone buying a ticket, and if the winner is not in attendance, it will be sent to them after the meeting. The "embroidered" window pane quilt has each square hand embroidered and no two squares are alike. The winner must be present to win the embroidered quilt. Tickets are \$3 each or 2 for \$5 for either quilt, but cannot be combined. The tickets are being kept separate so there will be 2 raffles. Tickets may be purchased in advance.

Checks should be made payable to HDI&DS and sent to: **Al Escarcega**, 41844 Shain Lane, Quartz Hill, CA 93536.

Be sure to note which quilt raffle you are buying tickets for.



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Desert Sunset Iris Society

President Joyce Poling

Desert Sunset has a steady 17 members in attendance, who are all eager to learn and are surprised sometimes by how much they have learned in the past 3 years. We have had our first Rhizome Sale, which was a huge success when you realize there was no market in the area for irises. Future sales will do nothing but get better and everyone will be more comfortable working a sale. We want to thank **Cal-Dixie** for their support in helping us get rhizomes for the sale.

We had a slide show from AIS on the Iris Family. It showed all the different types of Irises in the Iris Family, some of which we can't grow in the desert, but are still fun to see.

Our publicity for the meetings continues and is raising more interest. With all our snowbirds coming back, we hope to pick up a couple of new members.

We placed a club order with **Sutton's**, and now our members are growing named irises and starting to trade among themselves. Next, we want to get them entering shows and winning prizes.

I was so proud of them on the day of Avery's heart attack/by-pass surgery. It was the morning of the meeting, and they picked up and went on with a program without us. We've come a long way in a short time.



Sonoran Desert Iris Society

President Kathy Cameron

The Sonoran Desert Iris Society begins 2004 with new officers: President, **Kathy Cameron**; Vice President, **Don Shepard**; Secretary, **Betty Howard**; and Treasurer, **Darol Jurn**. Darol is one of our newer members and we appreciate him volunteering for this position. **Darlene Kaiser**, who held the position of President in 2002 and 2003, is now our Hospitality Chair.

The priority at our January meeting was to discuss topics for future meetings. So far, we've decided that we're going to share our gardening secrets with each other, continue to learn grow, groom and show iris, and become container gardeners.

Speaking of grooming and showing iris, we will hold an AIS-judged iris show on Saturday, April 3rd. This will be a horticulture show that will include five iris varieties: Tall Bearded, Louisiana, Aril - Arilbred, Spuria and Median.

Since we were looking at calendars, we set aside Saturday, April 9th, 2005 for next year's judged show.

And, because we all love to eat and have fun, we've planned an evening of Bingo and a potluck for our July meeting. This was so successful last year.

We are a nice group of gardeners and we would welcome visitors and new members with open arms. SDIS meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the home of **Don and Bobbie Shepard** in Phoenix.

Below is a photo of our new officers - from left to right:

Darol Jurn -

Treasurer;

Betty Howard -

Secretary;

Darlene Kaiser -

Hospitality Chair;

Kathy Cameron -

President;

Don Shepard -

Vice President.





LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

President Derry Gerald

A big hello from Orange County! After serving as VP for several years, Marilyn Pecoraro talked me into moving up to President. She has done such a superb job that I can only hope to fill her shoes. Marilyn's husband, Joe, has been seriously ill in the hospital since Christmas. We hope he will be home soon.

On a sadder note, we have lost one of our charter members, Jean Ulrich. She will be missed. Many of us were lucky enough to enjoy her famous 'Wisteria' ice cream.

We ended our year with a great Christmas Party. It was a potluck, and can our members cook! Wow! Then came our gift "exchange" (steal, steal, steal!)

In January, we started with our new slate of officers: President: Derry Gerald; Vice Presidents: Marilyn Pecoraro, Peggy Sheldon, and Mike Boess, Treasurer: Herman Ulrich, Advisor: Nancy Webb, Editor: Gerald Dobbins, Membership: Sue Boess, and Refreshments: Carole Petrie. Our program was given by Geri Cibellis, M.G. It was "How to Plan and Maintain a Perennial Garden Organically." We all took home a perennial and seed packets.

In February, John Schoustra will speak on "Landscaping with Daylilies." March will be Brad Kasperek from Zebra Gardens.

Many of our members have expressed interest in having an iris show. OCI&DC has never had an AIS show. We are hoping to have an "amateur" show as a learning experience.

OCH&DC is sponsoring the American Hermerocallis Society Regional Meeting. It will be July 9, 10, & 11, in the new conservatory at The Huntington.

We would like to send a special invitation to all of you to come to our meetings. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm, First Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid St., Garden Grove.

So long for now. I must finish my roses & get to work on those never-ending weeds.

Southern California Iris Society

President Mike Monninger

2003 was a very good year, capped off by SCIS hosting the **Region 15 Fall Meeting** at The Huntington. The SCIS members did an outstanding job on this event and I'm very proud of all their work. SCIS hosts the 2006 Fall meeting and if you would like to go back to The Huntington, please let us know.

SCIS recently lost 2 life members: **Virginia Adams** in October, and **Ralph Conrad** (Ralph was also an SCIS founding member) on November 30. Our condolences to **LaVerne Conrad** and surviving family members, and to the family of **Virginia Adams**.

The January meeting featured **Richard Richards** speaking on "Pacific Coast Native Iris" and how he grows them in Southern California. Richard waters his PCI about twice a week in the summer. He is hybridizing and selecting for vigorous PCIs that can take the Southern California heat and summer watering.

The February and March meetings will feature **Bob Denman** speaking about tools and SCIS's own **Kim Ung** revealing how to find, prep, and mount the elusive 'Best Specimen' for exhibition.

Our main fundraiser, '*The Spring Garden Show*', hosted by South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa, is four days long this year: Thursday, April 1 through Sunday, April 4. Our traditional iris show at the Los Angeles Botanical Gardens on the first weekend of April conflicts with '*The Spring Garden Show*'. We don't have enough members to do both concurrently and there aren't alternate dates available at the L.A. Botanic Gardens, so we are planning to have the iris show at '*The Spring Garden Show*'.



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Welcome to Our New Affiliate!!

Prescott Area Iris Society

President Judy Book

Hurray!! We survived our first year of being on our own and have grown to a society of 23 members. We especially want to thank **Ardi Kary, Francelle Edwards, and Al and Kathy Sturgeon** for beginning our group and for encouraging us to become an AIS affiliate.

Our Spring Exhibit in May at Sharlot Hall Museum was well attended, and our members from Verde Valley saved the day by bringing bushels of iris for exhibit. Due to the coolness of the weather, the Prescott residents had very little to show at the exhibit. The winning iris were: 1st

place - *Proud Tradition*, Schreiner, 1990 TB; 2nd place - *Cabaret Royale*, Schreiner, 1986, TB RE; and 3rd place was a tie between *Classic Look*, Schreiner, 1992, TB; and *Edna's Wish*, J. Gibson, 1982, TB. The Museum docents encouraged visitors to stop by the building where the iris exhibit was held, and as a result, in addition to local residents, we had visitors from Casa Grande, Scottsdale, Phoenix, Mesa, Surprise, Sun City, Bullhead City, Tucson, Florida, Massachusetts, California, New Mexico and even Denmark.

Our meeting in June was a lovely slide presentation of the Region 15 Spring Trek by **Eloise and Gene Koonce**. This gave our members a chance to enjoy the fantastic gardens and beautiful iris which made this trek so special.

The August rhizome sale was a big success for our little group. With the rhizome donations of our members, Sun Country and Desert Sunset Iris Societies, and the hard work of volunteers from our club and from Desert Sunset, we were able to double our receipts over the previous year.

The October meeting was a slide presentations of The Dykes Memorial Medal Winners From 1928-2001, which was a great educational experience and a chance to see how iris have changed over the years. In November, **Francelle Edwards** regaled us with a reprise of her visit to the AIS 2000 meeting and garden visits in Dallas, inspiring us to grow even more iris.

2004 will bring election of officers, including new president **Stan Book**, a vote on the by-laws revision and an invitation to you all to get away from it all and come enjoy beautiful, relaxing Prescott and our Spring Exhibit in May.



The Prescott Area Iris Society Rhizome Sale



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

San Fernando Valley Iris Society **President Jan Lauritzen**

We had a busy fall here in the SF Valley. Our September sale was excellent and everyone enjoyed our October Games Night meeting, where they won bags of leftover irises. Mr. Fertilizer presented a very interesting program in November. Our December Holiday Potluck was great, as usual. We have such wonderful cooks in the SFVIS. At the potluck each year, we award our *David T. Ross Service Award* to a member who has contributed greatly to our club. Congratulations to this year's recipient: **Mary Anne Abrahms**. In January, **Jane Troutman**, an SFVIS member, presented a very interesting program on butterfly species and the plants which attract them to our gardens.



Mary Anne Abrams

We began a new community project this year. When our members dig their yards for our club sales, each of us seem to have some irises which just don't match up to their names (Blue Boy blooms pink) or have just wandered off from their identities. We can't sell them, but most of us can't bear to throw them away. So, we developed an Iris Angel Project to collect and donate these irises. We carefully prepared about 25 bags of irises and then put out a call to the schools in our area, which are trying to beautify their campuses. We were in shock when we received requests from almost 60 schools! **Randy Squires** came through with about 400 rhizomes to combine with those we were able to quickly collect from other members. We were able to deliver the requested number of Angel Bags, each with a sheet of Iris Care Instructions. **Sonny Klamerus**, the Iris Angel Project chair, will have to start campaigning early next fall as new schools are already putting in requests for next year.

SFVIS is already making plans for the Region 15 Trek we will be hosting in 2006. There is so much preparation which must be done even this early. We have selected seven wonderful gardens for the trek. We continue our usual spring activities, however. Our Show will be April 17 and 18th at the Westfield Promenade Mall in Woodland Hills. The theme this year is "*Through Time with Irises*". The Artistic Division is using the concept of historical periods, from the Stone Age to the Future, around which competitors must design their entries. The combination of about fifty Artistic entries and three to four hundred iris stalks entered in the Horticultural Division will produce a great show!



Here is a picture from our Holiday party. The trees were our "Decorate your own Centerpiece" activity for each table. The man in the left is **Steve Fletcher**, the editor of our *Irisarian*. In the center, wearing the necklace, is **Mary Anne Abrahms** who received our Service Award. On the right is **John Huffman**; he and his wife **Carol** are our Membership chairs.



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Sun Country Iris Society **President LynnAlison Martin**

Happy 2004! It seems like yesterday was just the beginning of 2003. We have had a very successful year at Sun Country Iris Society. The beginning of our year was spent preparing for Region 15's Spring Trek. What a great experience that was. We was the wonderful group of people in Region 15 that it made the Trek so special. We also want to thank **Hooker** and **Bonnie Nichols** for joining us. It is true what Sun Country members have said of Region 15.... They are like an extended family.

We also had a successful Spring Iris Show at the Trek thanks to all of our members and other guests that participated. We had a marvelous trip up to the rim country of Arizona to visit some of our members' gardens. It was a tremendous success and we are planning another trip for this June. Join us if you are able.

Our Fall Rhizome Sales, all five of them, were a grand success as well as the Region 15 Auction. We have as many planned at our regular monthly meetings for the upcoming year. Our slogan for this year is: "There's More in 2004!!!

On February 3rd, we have **Vicki Craig** coming to show is slides and talk about Medians.

March 2nd, we have Eileen Fiumara from California coming to show us Design and Arranging Iris and/or other flowers. This will also be a Judges Training! So, if you need some hours, join us!

April 6th, **Lowell Baumunk** from Littleton, CO. will be here to show us slides and give us valuable information on Arilbred iris.

May 4th, will be our annual SCIS Spring Show Award Banquet.

June 1st, we are having a slide show of the National Convention Gardens, our own show winners, and slides provided by **Jeffrey Kurtzeman**.

July 6th, **Terrell Taylor**, from Safford, AZ is our guest speaker. Mr. Taylor is well on the road to becoming a well known hybridizer since his ARIZONA SANDSTONE has won so many accolades.

August 3rd, **Vincent Christopherson** from Arlington, Texas will be our guest speaking about his hybridizing efforts.

Sept. 7th is our Annual Region 15 Rhizome Auction.

October 5th is our Annual Member's Rhizome Sale.

November 2nd our program is titled "Things I am Thankful For."

December 7th is our annual Christmas Party and we will be having live music this year. It should be quite a celebration.

Please try to join us for any of our programs..... **Jeannie Comeaux** has certainly put together a fabulous and interesting group of people that will be sharing with us this year. We all here in Sun Country hope that your bloom season is superb. Happy Blooming!!!



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Tucson Area Iris Society

President Perri Larson

Hello from TAIS!

I am the new president from Tucson, **Perri Larson**. Actually, I live three hours away from Tucson in rural Morenci, Arizona. Because I live so far away, I am really counting on our wonderful group in Tucson to help me through this next year. It is all new to me, so thank goodness everyone else came with experience. The other new officers are: VP, **Jane Parks**; Secretary, **Carol Morgan**; and Treasurer, **Doug Larson**. Our new board members are **Carolyn Cowan**, **Melania Kutz**, **Bert Detwiler**, and **Joyce Slekar**. Already seated on the board were **Lucille Skerston**, and **Ben Herman**.

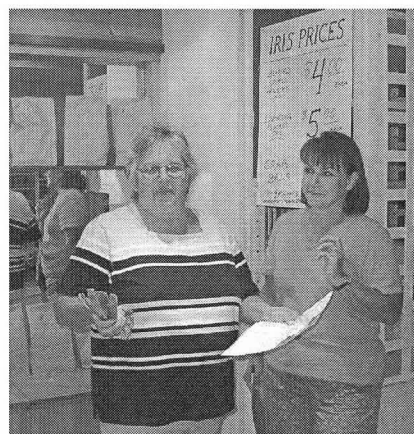
We are starting our new year with a huge loss to Tucson. We lost a dear friend and irisarian, **Earl Fifer**. Earl served on the board for years. He and his wife Maxine have been long time supporters of our group. In his honor, a memorial fund has been started to help further his great love of the annual TAIS Spring show. This effort has been well received. We invite all to take advantage of this tax deductible opportunity.

In November, we hosted the **AIS Fall Board Meeting**. It was so much fun! **Lucille Skerston** made all the accommodations with the Best Western at the Airport, and they were so nice. **Greta Dunnigan** helped with registration packets. **Jane Parks**, **Carol Morgan**, **Carolyn Cowan**, and I helped direct traffic, run errands, give mini tours, and took complements, of which there were many. **Ben Herman** delivered some beautifully engraved bookmark souvenirs, while **Bert Detwiler** made the wonderful table arrangements. The food was great, the weather was perfect (guests commented on their way to the pool), and the icing on the cake was the magnificent sunset and total lunar eclipse on our way to dinner. Well, Ben will tell you it was the Arizona Wildcat's big win, but I think that was just a fluke. The really big fluke is that the meeting ended on time! Great Work! And we'd love to have you all back again in Tucson, Irisona!

Our January 2004 meeting was on Floral Arranging and Design, presented by one of our new members, **Carol Mossholder**. She judged design in our show last year, and decided to join our group. I'm so excited that she has stepped right in to help out with this presentation. (OK, we bribed her with the promise of a new iris award.) In February we will have a Valentine's Party with everyone writing and sharing an iris poem, all in fun, and all for the love of iris. In April, we will all be so busy. There will be a mini pre-tour of some of the gardens that will be on tour for the 2005 Trek, our Spring show, the AIS Convention in Fresno, the LA convention in Dallas, and the Median Convention in Portland.

We have lots of work ahead of us this next year. We are anxious to get to know all the new members that signed on at the Fall sale, and get them involved in the fun we have together. We are working towards hosting the **2005 Region 15 Spring Trek and Louisiana Convention** on April 21-23, 2005. We will be bringing **John Taylor** from Australia to be our speaker, and he is bringing **Graeme Grosvenor**, too! We are raising funds to support this expense, and have received a couple of very nice donations towards that effort. We would be happy to take your tax deductible donations, if you would like to help.

We hope you will all join us in Tucson in April 2005.



Carol Morgan & Perri Larson at the TAIS Fall Sale



Ruth Over, Melania Kutz,
Joyce Slekar & Bert Detwiler



TAIS was thrilled at the return of longtime member, Myrleen Hunt. She lived in Peru several years & recently moved to Silver City, NM.



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

San Diego & Imperial Counties Iris Society

Pat Brendel, President

September's rhizome sale started our year off with a bang. **Richard Richards**, **Paul Potter**, and the **Vogels**, the **Croys** and so many of the rest of us took in so many for the sale that we ran out of room. That kept the worker bees constantly refilling the slots on the tables as the selling was fast and furious. We made more money than any of us ever dreamed we could. What a club! I am so honored to be a part of it.

October's meeting was highlighted by a judges training program presented by **Mike Howard**. He instructed us on the methods of awarding the AIS medals and awards.

We were anxiously looking forward to the annual region and club auction in November at **Roz** and **Ed Hill's** home in El Cajon (always a fun party), when disaster struck! The Southern California fires began their devastation of San Diego county. Roz and Ed were in the path and had to be evacuated, but their home survived! A little farther to the east—**Paul** and **Debbie Potter's** home was completely encircled by the flames, but amazingly, the home was left standing with only burnt trees and bushes showing how intense the heat was. Neighbors all around lost the fight.

The Ramona portion of the fire took hundreds of homes all around **Sharlyn** and **Steve Rocha's** home but, fortunately, their house survived even though the garden and out-buildings did not.

Then came the devastating news that **Ken** and **Christie Pierson** had lost everything! Their beautiful and tranquil Julian home and garden all gone!!! It's hard to comprehend the impact that this horrible event has had on them and on all of us that love them. They are doing okay, though, and are planning to rebuild. When they do, we shall be there with all the irises they could possibly want to replant their hillside garden.

Needless to say, our November meeting was cancelled and the auction postponed. We potted the rhizomes to hold them until January.

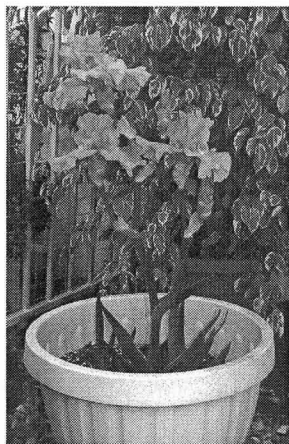
By December, the smoky air had cleared and the **Potters** entertained the club at their home for our annual Christmas party. We all gave thanks for the blessings that we were all there together, hale and hearty, despite the tragedies of the past autumn. Even though many in the club had been threatened, and loss had occurred, no lives were lost and for that we thank God!

Sorry to report that in December we did lose long-time member **Ralph Conrad**. He was one hour short of his 90th birthday. He was such an iris (and rose) enthusiast! We shall miss him.

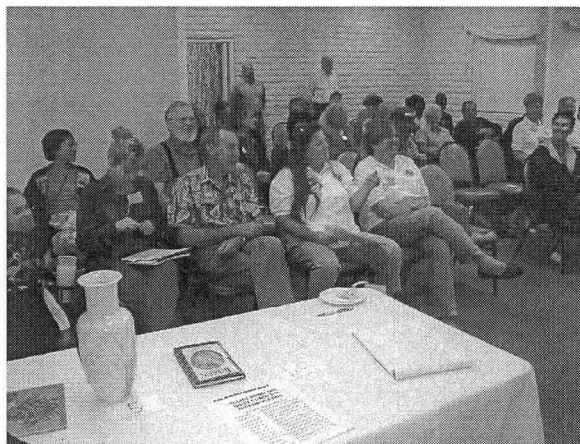
January brought our delayed auction. The potted iris had flourished and some were blooming. All had lots of pups. We had fun and made money besides. Now, we are looking forward to our 41st Birthday party luncheon on Valentines Day, where we will have the privilege to honor **Archie Owen's 100th birthday**, which was on Jan.16. What an inspiration this lady has been to all of us that have had the good fortune to know her. **Ardi Kary** will be our guest, speaking on Arilbred Iris.

Larry Lauer comes in March, then the Flower Show takes over and Wow—another year will be gone. Doesn't seem possible.

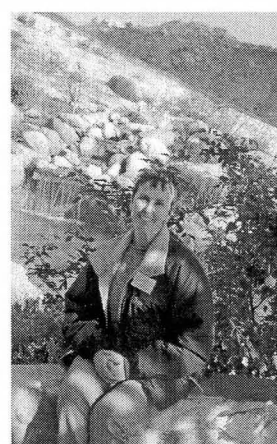
On a personal note, Walt and I moved from our longtime home in Fallbrook to a much smaller place in Ocean Hills in November. One iris that we dug and potted was FT. BRAGG. As the accompanying picture shows, moving didn't bother it a bit. It started blooming on Dec. 18 and is still blooming a month later with two more buds to go! All the blossoms have been 6- 7 inches across and the branching and the perfume are just marvelous. Not bad for an off-season, recently moved plant!



'Fort Bragg' RE



San Diego members at the Region Auction



Iris Strom @ Potter's



LETTERS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

Spring 2004

Inland Region Iris Society **President John Reinschmidt**

Inland Region Iris Society is going great guns! Since the Fall Meeting, we have had some very good programs. November, we had **John Schoustra** presenting "Landscaping with Iris and Daylilies." December, we had our annual Holiday Party with 32 attending. We had a gift exchange and a food collection that was donated to a local charity. January was very special. We had **Terry Aitken**, AIS President, with three hours of judges training. There were over 40 in attendance. It was almost like a Region 15 Meeting, as we had guests from Southern California, SFVIS, Hi Desert, Orange Co., and Sun Country, AZ. Our program chair, **Carole Buchheim**, did a fantastic job. Everyone in attendance received a silver bag full of goodies. There were two prizes awarded at every lunch table, plus raffle and door prizes.

In February, **Rick Tasco** was our guest speaker, with a program featuring "The History and Growing Techniques at **Superstition Iris Gardens**." We were pleased to have 32 people in attendance, despite rainy weather and a new meeting location.

March will bring us **Brad Kasperek**, telling us about "Iris of a Different Stripe." April will be our busiest month. On the 5th, **Eileen Fiumara** will help us the "Judges Training in Iris Floral Design." The 17th and 18th is our Spring Iris Show, which will be held in Redlands this year. Then, there is the AIS National Convention in Fresno. May 3rd, **Ralph Strane**, Show Chairman, will present the show results and awards. **Dr. Paul Buchheim** will give a slide presentation featuring the AIS National Convention Gardens. June 7th will feature election of officers and a program TBA. July 5th is installation of officers and "The Great Iris Trade." We have a great group of willing workers, which always makes any job twice as easy.

JUDGES TRAINING REPORT

By Jane Parks

CONGRATULATIONS to AIS Region 15 new Garden Judges!! You have all shown your love of iris by your time and dedication to becoming Judges. Some of you advanced from Apprentice Judges to Garden Judges in one year, two of you overcoming giant obstacles. The Region 15 new Garden Judges are: **Cheryl Deaton, Perri Larson, Marilyn Pecararo, Avery Poling, and Winona Stevenson**. I am especially proud of our wonderful youth member **Beth Rocha**, now a Garden Judge. She is our shining star!!

Another big congratulations to **Joella Olson** and **Jim Puckett** for their many, many years of service. They have both advanced from Garden Judges to Active Master Judges.

Two Student Judges advanced to Apprentice Judges. **Francelle Edwards** and **Patrick Orr** will both need to apprentice judge two shows and get several hours of one-on-one in the garden training. Please help these two individuals if you are able. I know lots of you are great teachers.

We just recently lost long time-member and Retired Master Judge, **Ralph Conrad**. I was fortunate to sit at several banquet tables with Ralph and his wife and got to know them that way. He will be missed.

Please remember to get approval for any judges training sessions your club is planning on having. Just a simple email to me will do with the information. After the judges training is complete, I need the sign in sheet, a blank copy of the test along with all of the completed tests.

Hoping to see all of you at the AIS convention in Fresno in April. Remember our apprentice judges needing tutoring. Write letters for our Student Judges so they can advance. Take that note pad along in the gardens to take notes so you can vote the ballot!!



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS

By Margie Valenzuela

By invitation I sit here writing this article, and as I do, I am both amazed and honored that anyone would ask me to write and share whatever tips I may have. I hope these tips I share will prove helpful and beneficial to all those who wish to take better photos of our much-loved flower – the iris.

A few years ago, I began my photo adventure with irises. The first thing I noticed was that irises (just like us) have "bad hair days" too. So, here are a few tips on how to photograph irises at their best:

1. When taking a photo of a particular variety of iris - search for the loveliest specimen available. The lovelier the specimen, the lovelier your photo will be. (If no flower lives up to its beauty – wait for another day.)
2. Walk slowly around the chosen iris, looking for its best side. You always want to capture its best side.
3. Be aware of how shadows and light play on or behind your chosen specimen. Look at it from all angles. Sometimes light streaming in from the side or behind the iris will cause the iris to look more luminescent. Shadows can create a dramatic look. Early morning shots, or evening shots, tend to soften the look of the iris being photographed. With every shot, one needs to work with nature.
4. Be aware of the background. What textures are available to accent the iris, or to cause the iris to stand out? Most of the time you just need to work with what's there. However, if you have irises in pots, you can move them to different locations, creating a more suitable background that will tend to enhance the flower.

Learning to work with your digital camera is the next major area of importance. Here are a few tips I learned over the last several years. (I currently use a 2 and a half-year-old Sony DSC-S70 digital that came with a Carl Zeiss MTF lens, which does a top notch job in reproducing the subject for clarity and contrast. The camera is also equipped with a precision 6x zoom, and has 3.3 Mega Pixels.)

1. Digital zooming deteriorates the picture quality. So..... it's best not to use digital zooming, but if you choose to, do so only slightly in conjunction with the use of a higher resolution.



Aura Light



Wild Vision

2. I find the best photos are taken when I use a higher Image size/Resolution (like 1280x960 or higher). It does take up more space on the memory stick or card and the size is quite large, but it's worth the clarity. Investing in a larger memory stick or card is definitely worth the investment.

3. Using the Sharpness Level and/or Focus Level option in conjunction with the higher resolution - - makes for great computer photos, reproduced photos on photo paper, as well as poster size print-

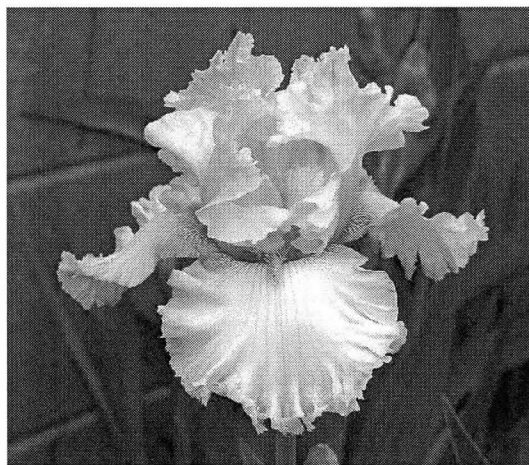
outs. If your camera is similar to mine - (after the camera is turned on for still pictures), there is a menu at the bottom of the screen. If you click on the word "camera" - it'll bring up a new menu consisting of six or more items. (white balance, flash level, sharpness, among others.) Move to the word "sharpness" and/or "Focus" and click on it. It'll bring up an additional side menu with the number zero and up/down arrows. To sharpen/focus more - click the up arrow to +1, or +2, etc. until you reach the desired setting. That should work for correcting any deficiency in sharpness.

4. Rarely do I use the focus and AE options, but when I do - - that can make a difference in the photo as well.
5. Many digital cameras also have a built in microphone - so you are able to record the name of the iris (or subject) as you are taking the photo. (That comes in very handy!)
6. Later, on the computer I can cut away the excess, without cutting away the size of the desired subject or reducing the quality of the photo. If I do reduce the total size of the photo it's still better quality than beginning with a lower resolution/Image size - such as 640x480.

An important step for finishing up one's digital photos is using a computer program (such as Paint Shop Pro) to help with cropping, additional sharpening or softening if needed, etc. Other programs which work well are Adobe Photo Shop, MGI Photosuite, and Microsoft Photo Editor.

Note: Photo quality IS compromised a little when an image is compressed for displaying on the internet, so expect some deterioration.

In conclusion, there is still a lot I don't understand about photography, but if anything I shared here enables you to take better photos - then this article has done its job. Personally, I find the longer I have my camera and experiment with it, the more I find my skills improve. So shall it be with you. And like you, I am still learning tips along the way with every photograph I take.



Lady Jane



Region 15 Board Meeting

Minutes

Region 15 Fall Board Meeting **October 4, 2003, San Marino, California**

Attendees: RVP Jim Giles, Secretary Cheryl Deaton, Joyce Poling, Ardi Kary, Winona Stevenson, Kathy Chilton, LynnAlison Martin, Patrick Orr, Gerry Snyder, Mike Monninger, Jimmy Jones, Jan Lauritzen.

Meeting was called to order at 8:55am by RVP Jim Giles. Since the minutes of the last meeting had been published in the Region 15 Newsletter, it was moved by Kathy Chilton and seconded by Winona Stevenson that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion carried.

Our Treasurer, Avery Poling, is recovering slowly from quintuple bypass surgery, and was not present at the meeting. The treasurer's report will be mailed to all affiliates at a later date. Joyce Poling reported that as of now, 5 affiliates had sent in money from the Region auctions for a total of \$3422.80.

Jane Parks is ill and unable to attend, therefore a report on the judging program was not available.

Patrick Orr, Awards Chair, reported that we now have plenty of awards. Tempe Trophy engraved all the plaques for the Spring Trek awards and did not charge the Region.

There was no report from Historian, Jimmy Jones.

Editor, Kathy Chilton, encouraged everyone to send articles and pictures to be used in the Region Newsletter, either via e-mail or snail mail.

Membership Chair, Winona Stevenson, reported that we now have 464 AIS members. She would like to participate at the Bakersfield Fair with a booth to hopefully gather new members interested in a Bakersfield affiliate...there are quite a few AIS members in the area. It was felt that this would be a good idea. The Prescott Area Iris Society is a recognized affiliate now.

Nominating Chair, Ardi Kary, presented the slate of officers as follows:

RVP - Jim Giles

Asst RVP - Jane Parks

Treasurer - Cheryl Deaton

Secretary - Jeannie Comeaux

She will present the slate for approval at the General Membership Meeting later today.

Joyce Poling, Ways & Means Chair, reported that sales this year of the auction rhizomes seemed to be lower than in previous years. Some of it was due to the poor condition of the rhizomes, and some to the selection. She has requested that members suggest which hybridizers to contact for a better "bang for our bucks". Also, Joyce reported that since we will not be having a Spring Trek in 2004 due to the National AIS Convention in Fresno, more money be allotted to purchase rhizomes for the Regional Auction. Winona Stevenson moved that we allow \$1200 for the purchase of rhizomes for the Regional Auction in 2004. It was seconded by LynnAlison Martin, and the motion carried.

Youth Chair, Cheryl Deaton, reminded everyone that nominations for the LaVerne Conrad Youth Achievement Award were due by December 31, 2003, and could be given or sent to any Region 15 board member. At this time we have 14 youth members and one active CIP project. Two other CIP projects were in the planning stages.

The affiliate reports followed. SFVIS is celebrating their 30th Anniversary and currently has 143 members. Desert Sunset is doing well. LynnAlison and Ardi of Sun Country Iris Society handed out booklets offering guidelines for hosting a Spring or Fall Trek. They have done some revisions to the former booklet, and would appreciate feedback from everyone prior to the Winter Meeting in January 2004.

The National AIS Convention will have a side trip to Yosemite with lunch at the Ahwahnee Hotel on April 20th. Space is limited, so get your reservations in quickly. Contact Betty Coyle of Region 14.

Cheryl Deaton, President of Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society, gave a report on the club's "Rhizome Rubles". These are like monopoly money, to be used to buy rhizomes at the yearly Region Auction. Club members can "earn" rubles by participating in various club activities, such as potting and digging parties, club sales, and other functions. Rubles are also available for purchase at 2 for \$1 prior to the auction and during intermission. There is no limit to the amount of rubles that can be purchased or earned. Rubles cannot be redeemed for cash. Cheryl thought up the idea after a disappointing auction one year. In this way, members who may not have a lot of cash can get at least one or two of the newer introductions for their garden. The club has a lot of fun with the rubles, and bidding can get fast and furious for the rhizomes. The club voted to donate \$500 to the Region months prior to the auction, so there was no pressure to "raise money". Jim Giles and Gerry Snyder requested copies of her report, and Gerry suggested that Cheryl send a copy to Bruce Vilardi, AIS Bulletin Editor, for a possible article. It was also suggested that Cheryl check with Bob Plank, AIS legal advisor, to make sure the "Rhizome Rubles" followed the IRS rules for non-profits.

Kathy Chilton reported that not all of the AIS Region 15 affiliates had contributed to the Fall AIS National Meeting being hosted by Tucson Area Iris Society November 7-9, 2003. Please mail your contributions to Avery Poling, 17210 N. Calico Dr., Sun City, AZ 85373.

All affiliates were asked to check with Winona to see if AIS members listed on the "Missing Persons List" were past members of their affiliates.

New Business - Patrick requested that a list of new iris/guest iris be given to his as Awards Chair to ease the tallying for awards at the Spring Trek. This could be just a list in alphabetical order of the irises in the gardens.

TAIS is experiencing last minute challenges for the joint Spring Trek/Louisiana Iris Convention in 2005. The Louisiana Iris Society has backed out of some of the tentative agreements that were made with TAIS when a joint Trek was suggested.

There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 10:20am.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Deaton, Secretary



Region 15 General Membership Meeting Minutes

Region 15 General Membership Meeting October 4, 2003, San Marino, California

The meeting was called to order at 11:10am by RVP Jim Giles. He introduced Mike Monninger, President of Southern California Iris Society, our hosts.

Mike welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. He reminded them that flash cameras cannot be used inside the buildings at The Huntington Gardens. San Fernando Valley Iris Society will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary and there will be a cake after lunch.

Jim announced that there will be a Judge's Training and Luncheon on January 11, 2004 at the Ontario Hilton given by AIS President, Terry Aitken, hosted by Inland Region Iris Society. Training on tall bearded iris will be from 10am to 12pm, and training on rebloomers will be from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. Cost of the luncheon is \$25. Deadline to sign up is January 5, 2004.

Judge's Training for Awards and Ballots will be hosted by San Diego & Imperial Counties Iris Society on Sunday, October 12th, at the Escondido Country Club. Mike Howard, Master Judge, will be conducting the session.

Jim encouraged everyone to give a big hand to SCIS for hosting the Fall meeting so successfully.

Secretary Cheryl Deaton read the minutes from the Spring Trek meetings. Winona Stevenson moved to accept the minutes as read, LynnAlison Martin seconded and the motion carried.

Avery Poling, our Treasurer, is recovering slowly from quintuple bypass surgery last month, so the Treasurer's report will be mailed to each affiliate president.

Nominating Chair, Ardi Kary, presented the slate of officers as follows:

Jim Giles - RVP

Jane Parks - Asst RVP

Cheryl Deaton - Treasurer

Jeannie Comeaux - Secretary

A motion was made by LynnAlison Martin to close the nominations and accept the slate of officers presented. It was seconded by Joyce Poling and the motion carried. There was a unanimous vote of approval for the slate of officers.

There was no further old business.

New business: A clarification was made as to the Judge's Training being hosted by IRIS on Jan. 11th. The charge is for the luncheon only. The Judge's Training is free.

A discussion was held regarding the AIS National Convention in Spring 2004. Debbie Babuscio has been acting as liaison between Region 14 and Region 15, but has not been told of any need. Jeanne Plank said that Convention Chair, Betty Coyle, is in need of quite a bit of help, especially with the Silent Auction, as the couple who generally handles it will be unable to attend the Convention. Also, anyone wishing to share a room to help cut down expenses is asked to contact Betty. They are trying to match up people.

Bill Rinehart stated that we as a Region are required to hold a meeting during the spring and that we will need a room. Could we arrange with Region 14 to get a room for our meeting, possibly in exchange for volunteering or payment in cash?

Ken Pierson asked if Region 14 had been specific in their request for volunteer? John Reinschmidt asked if it would be possible for Region 14 to send us a "wish list" of jobs they need help with. Jeanne Plank said that she will get one.

It was suggested by Jim that you get together with Cheryl Deaton to sign up as interested in serving on a committee to help Region 14 at the National Convention. There will be a trip to Yosemite on April 20th that includes lunch at the Ahwahnee Hotel for \$90 per person. Names need to be submitted for reservations at the AIS website as soon as possible because the bus is filling up fast.

Cheryl Deaton gave a report on Hi Desert's "Rhizome Rubles". This is a fun way to encourage new members to participate in club activities and "earn" rubles used to bid on the Region Auction rhizomes. It also helps long time members get newer rhizomes for their gardens without spending a lot of money. And since Hi Desert voted to donate money to the Region prior to holding the auction, the Region wins too.

As Youth Chair, Cheryl showed everyone a picture of Kate Rocha with one of her seedlings that appeared in the AIS Youth Newsletter, The Iris Fan.

No date has been set for the Region 15 Spring Meeting. The Fall Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 9th, 2004, hosted by Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society.

Debbie Babuscio moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:35am, it was seconded by Winona Stevenson. All were in favor and the motion carried.

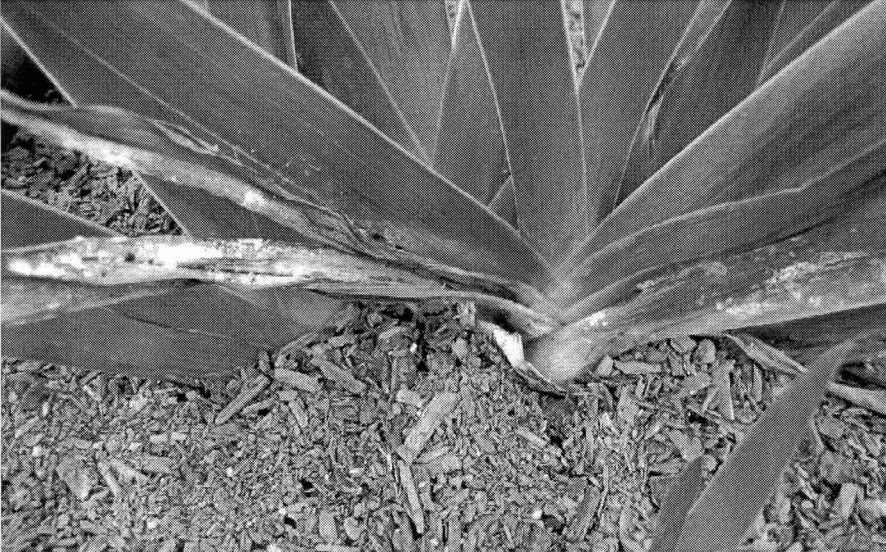
Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Deaton, Secretary



Mealy Bugs

by Patrick Orr

For the first time in all the years I have grown irises, this past year was the first year I have seen mealy bugs on my irises.



I had received a rhizome the previous fall that had mealy bugs on it and I watched as they spread throughout my garden. I did not know what they were at first and I freaked when I saw them take over. The bleach water soak I do on all irises I receive apparently had no effect.

I tried using regular pesticides and it did not get rid of them. I tried soapy water, and that did not get rid of them. The reason being is they live between the leaves

and they lay lots of eggs.

Mealy bugs are pinkish white in color, oval shaped, get to about 1/4 of an inch long and they produce a cotton-like substance. They suck the juice out of the leaves, just like aphids, so there is always plenty of food for them to flourish. During the heat of the summer, I watched the irises that were infested the most rot away and realized the mealy bugs could very well have contributed to their demise. Each time they suck on a leaf they open the plant up for infection and they drain the plant of its life giving juices.

A good iris friend told me they had used alcohol on them with very good results, because the alcohol kills them on contact. Isopropyl Alcohol has that effect on most small bugs, so it made sense. Alcohol is cheap, and can be put in a spray bottle to apply to the iris leaves. The first application worked well, but soon the mealies were back. The eggs must have hatched, so I then realized this will become a never ending battle.

RIGHT NOW is the best time to attack any mealies that may be on your irises. Since the weather has gotten cold, they have slowed down their reproduction and have not spread much from one iris to another. I have been spraying them with alcohol recently to try to eliminate them completely and have reduced the signs of their existence by 95% so far.





Mealie Bugs Continued.....

I understand there are eggs between the leaves the alcohol may not get to, so I have been going out every weekend and spraying them down, so as soon as they hatch, I'll get them before they can reproduce.

You may not think you have mealy bugs in your garden, but I encourage all of you to check. Pull off a couple dead leaves and see if there is any evidence of mealies between them where they separate from the plant. If any of you have exchanged irises with any-one local, or planted irises from the rhizome sales in your garden from the last couple years, you probably have mealies running around.

We want to ELIMINATE theses pests as soon as possible. They spread fast and we don't want to be selling the irises at the fall rhizome sale with critters attached.

I have included a couple of pictures I had taken of mealy bugs on the iris leaves for you to see what they look like.

If anyone has dealt with these bugs before and have experience ridding the irises of them completely, please let me know. My email address is irisdude@msn.com.

Also from Patrick Orr:

The following article appeared in the 12 Feb '91 issue of the Wall Street Journal and has been tested with success.

Dish Detergent and Oil Clean Out Plant Pests.

"Garden pests can be easily controlled with a cheap, nontoxic, homemade insecticide, says the US Agriculture Department.

The recipe was developed after entomologists at the Agriculture Research Service's lab in Phoenix, Arizona, found that a spray of soybean oil protected cotton from aphids and whiteflies. They said home gardeners should mix one tablespoon of dishwashing detergent with one cup of cooking oil. When pests strike, mix one to two-and-a-half teaspoons of the detergent-oil mixture with each cup of water. The detergent causes the oil to emulsify in the water. It can be sprayed on plants every 10 days with a pump sprayer, the researchers suggested.

Besides aphids and whiteflies, the mixture works against spider, mites and beet army worms. It's been used successfully on egg-plants, carrots, lettuce, celery, watermelon, pepper and cucumbers, but it tends to burn the leaves of squash, cauliflower and red cabbage. Thirty cents worth of homemade stuff is as effective as a dollar's worth of store-bought insecticide."

Also, I've had good luck with regular applications of pesticides whose active ingredient, neem oil, either concentrated or the ready to spray versions. You may have to use it every 2 weeks to get an infestation under control, then every 3 months or so.



Region 15 News

IRIS HYBRIDIZERS OF ARIZONA

By Margie Valenzuela

The IRIS HYBRIDIZERS OF ARIZONA conducted its last meeting on November 8th, 2003, beginning at 10:00 am. We met at the Casa Grande Library in Casa Grande. The 11 attendees from around the state were: Ardi Kary, Francelle Edwards and her husband Marvin, Carol Crosswhite, Margie Valenzuela, Tony and Melania Kutz, Marcos Crosswhite, Patrick Orr, and Hall Bradshaw (who introduced the iris NEON COWBOY).

The first order of business was a discussion on possible ways and means for helping to defer costs and/or bring in guest speakers. After much discussion, it was voted to have a "Donation Bowl," where attendees could donate whatever amount they feel most comfortable giving. The "Donation Bowl" will continue to be a part of all our future IHA meetings. Naturally, we saw an instant need for a Treasurer. My congratulations to Ardi Kary - who was voted as our IHA Treasurer. I have no doubt she will do a great job!

We spent the majority of the time sharing seedling photos/slides, and sharing hybridizing stories, both good and bad. What a treat to see and hear about these new creations. It was so good I was tempted for about 24 hours to grow Spurias. This meeting was a shot in the arm to all of us there.

Carol Crosswhite showed us photos of her many new Arilbred seedlings. Stunning creations too - one with red striations, and one with a huge brown spot encircled maroon! This particular one also had a black signal and beard, with golden standards infused purple (If I remember correctly). Many of hers were simply superb! And what a treat to see Charles Jenkins' slides of his new Spuria seedlings. Breathtaking! He had photos of some gorgeous seedlings that are genetically cutting edge/innovative material! Others of us showed off our new TB seedlings. They were equally captivating and fascinating - as some of us are working with luminatas and other desirable crosses. Some really stunning iris may be introduced within the next 3 years or so!

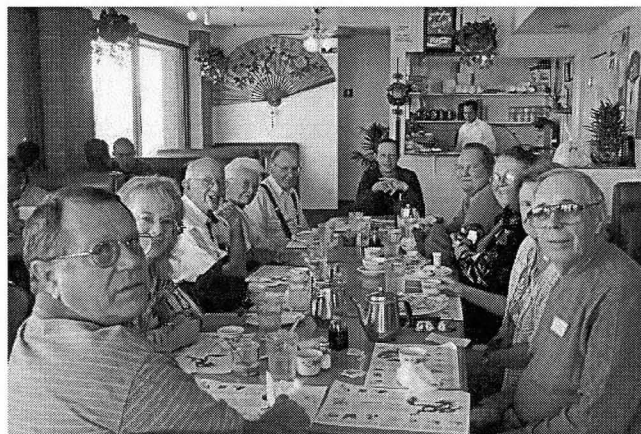
Halfway through these wonderful presentations, we broke for lunch and had great food at a Chinese restaurant near by. (See photo) In addition, door prizes were given throughout the day. These included arilbred rhizomes, hollyhock seeds, potted iris plants, an iris trinket dish and a Crinum bulb. What an enjoyable and memorable time we had. Our meeting concluded at approximately 4:00 pm.

We will hold our next meeting on May 6th, 2004 at 12:30pm. It will be held at the Casa Grande Library, 449 N. Dry Lake Street, Casa Grande, AZ. When lunch information develops and becomes available - it shall be posted on the TAIS website: Tucsoniris.org.

These meetings, as always, are open and free to the public. Please join us!



Francelle Edwards, Margie Valenzuela & Hall Bradshaw



Iris Hybridizers of Arizona



Announcements

From the

American Iris Society

AIS INSURANCE COVERAGE

By Michelle Snyder, Insurance Chair

As many of you may already know, the AIS has a new insurance carrier. I have broken out the most important changes and have provided a brief explanation. If anyone has a specific question that is not answered below please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 818/352-7018, or via email at, sammygiz@aol.com

INSURED

The named insured is The American Iris Society. However, the policy lists as additional insured's, All Regions, Sections, Affiliates and all members thereof. This means that everyone who is a member of a Region, Section or Affiliate is covered under the policy, even if they are not members of AIS.

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY COVERAGE

The policy has primary coverage of \$1,000,000 and an additional \$4,000,000 under what is known as an Umbrella policy.

This \$5,000,000 in coverage should meet the needs of the clubs in New York and California where various venues are now demanding this amount of coverage.

WHAT IS COVERED

As respects liability, the policy automatically covers all general meetings and board meetings. Local one and two day shows and sales are also automatically covered and need certificates of insurance only when the venue requests to be named as an additional insured on the policy. JT's, if held during a regular business meeting are automatically covered. JT's at an outside garden would not need a certificate, since only "insured's" attend the JT, unless the venue asks to be named as an additional insured.

WHO CAN MAKE A LIABILITY CLAIM UNDER THE POLICY

This question comes up all the time. The policy IS NOT for the benefit of any insured. It protects the insured against a claim brought by a third party. Examples of a third party would be a guest at one of the meetings who falls and injures themselves and brings a claim against the club, or a shopper at a mall who falls during a show/sale.

CERTIFICATES OF INSURANCE

Whenever a venue asks to be named as an additional insured or for proof of insurance, these are the steps that need to be taken:

Call 1-800-457-2379. You will get a recorded message giving you various options. Press #3, insured, 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 72SBAB0649. 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.

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE. Again, if anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Join the AIS

Membership Office address is:

Mary E. Brown
Membership Secretary,
The American Iris Society
PO Box 2968
Baltimore MD 21229 USA
aismemsec@earthlink.net

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.

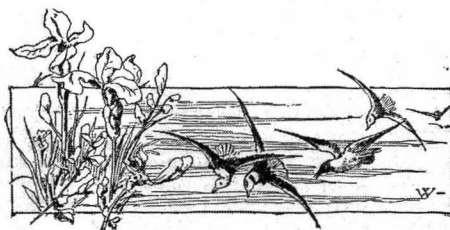




Region 15 Commercial Gardens

FORTE'S IRIS GARDEN

12312 So. Wilson Rd.
Los Banos, CA 93635
(209)826-4850



GOLDEN'S IRIS GARDEN

4564 Robin Dr.
Prescott, AZ 86301
barrygolden@hotmail.com

LAKESIDE GARDENS

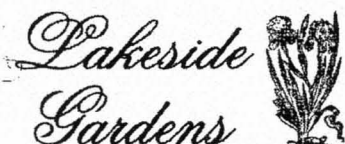
8280 Entrada Blvd.
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
lakesideiris@aol.com

KARY'S IRIS GARDEN

6201 East Calle Rosa
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
ArdiKary@aol.com

SHEPARD IRIS GARDEN

3342 W. Orangewood
Phoenix, AZ 85051-7453
shepardiris@cox.net



is pleased to offer the introductions of Peter DeSantis.

Winona Stevenson
8280 Entrada Blvd.
Lake Isabella, CA 93240-9371
email: lakesideiris@aol.com
(760) 378-3841

WHIPPERSNAPPER, Del Judge by P.D.,
R'97 - Sdlg 79-1R, TB, 40" (102cm), Em.
S. Wisteria blue, dark violet centerline; style
arms wisteria blue; F. velvety plum purple to
brown markings on white ground; beards
yellow, tipped purple; slight fragrance; well
branched, large blossoms with wide velvet falls;
8-10 bud count, very vigorous.

RESEDA MOON, P.D. '03 - Sdlg 90-6, TB,
38" (97cm), E.
S. Light Cream, base darker, faint light yellow
rim; style arms light yellow, dark yellow stripe;
F. off - white, hafts light yellow, faint light yellow
rim, reverse with light green stripe; beards
orange; laced; slight fragrance; well branched,
medium blossoms, 5-7 bud count & very
vigorous.

Above Irises are \$40. each, includes postage.
Checks payable to Winona Stevenson



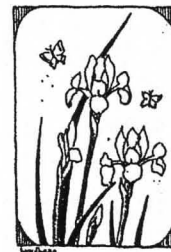
KARY IRIS GARDENS

6201 East Calle Rosa
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
ardikary@aol.com
Tall Bearded-Arilibred-Median



Shepard's Iris Garden
3342 W. Orangewood Phoenix, AZ 85051-7435
(602)841-1231

<http://thegardensite.com/irises/shepardirsgarden/>



Presents:
2004 INTRODUCTIONS by DON SHEPARD

ARILBREDS

ARIZONA DOVE - AB-32"-EM Very outstanding dove white arilbred with a purple whisker signal under yellow beards. A garden favorite!
(English Eyes X 98006-9602 (Swing and Sway x Stairway to Heaven))\$30.00

COOL KISSES - AB-29"-E Pink self heavily brushed with lavender. Dark purple signal with rootbeer beard. Very attractive and lots of bloom.
Grows vigorously! (Fluff Stuff X Heart Stealer).....\$15.00

DROP OF GOLD - AB-32"-EM This cultivar has been a big favorite with customers. Stands are pure white, midribs are yellow gold, styles are creamy yellow. Falls are pure white with a large drop of bright gold as a signal. Beards are gold. Lightly ruffled. (English Eyes X Chosen One)...\$25.00

TALL BEARDED

BERRY TWIST - TB-38"-EM Soft pastel violet with deeper midrib and purple veins radiating from the gold beards.
((Swing and Sway x Stairway to Heaven) X Grape Champagne).....\$15.00

BOBBIE'S PEACH - TB-42"-M This has been my favorite seedling for several seasons. It has beautiful branching, is wide and ruffled. A luscious shade of peach-rosy-pink with a blaze of white on most of the falls and a burnt orange beard. (Bubbling Along X Chief Redskin).....\$30.00

BURSTING VIOLET - TB-42"-ML Stands violet with large white midrib area front and reverse, Styles arms violet; Falls, violet with white blaze in whisker style under an old gold beard ending in violet. (Exactitude X (City Lights x Black Flag)).....\$30.00

DIZZY LOVE - TB-40"-ML Stands are soft copper, flecked burgundy, Styles mauve gold; Falls, copper ground, heavy burgundy blaze, root beer beards, hairs tipped white. Heavily ruffled. (Swing N' Sway x Stairway to Heaven) X Epicenter).....\$30.00

EASTER MORNING - TB-38"-ML Stands are creamy yellow, edged darker, purple midrib, stylearms yellow. Falls are violet purple with lavender underside, shoulders veined, beards gold. (Swing and Sway x Stairway to Heaven) X Grape Champagne.....\$25.00

FLAMBOYANT - TB-32"-ML Very ruffled burgundy stands and stylearms, Falls, slightly darker burgundy. Beards are orange gold. Grows very fast.
(Miss Piggy X Battle Royal).....\$25.00

GRAPE DESIRE - TB-42"-M Heavily ruffled dark violet purple self, styles are dark violet, Beards root beer gold, ending in violet lavender.
((Dances with Wolves x Lake Park) X 98013-9602: (Swing N' Sway x Stairway to Heaven))\$25.00

HOT DIVA - TB-38"-EM Heavily ruffled dark burgundy chocolate. Falls have bright purple blaze surrounding reddish orange beard; styles are burgundy chocolate. ((Swing and Sway x Stairway to Heaven) X Epicenter).....\$35.00

LACY HALO - TB-40"-M Stands and styles are butter yellow, Falls cream white, butter yellow shoulders and slight edge, gold veins. Gold beards. Heavily laced and ruffled. (Skating Party X Epicenter).....\$20.00

NANCY'S LACE - TB-40"-M Heavily ruffled purple with darker purple black falls. All petals edged silver; root beer-gold beards with whisker white blaze. Beautiful like our daughter! Epicenter X (Swing and Sway x Stairway to Heaven).....\$25.00

ROMAN LADY - TB-36"-EML Dark grape purple to black stands with thin silver edge. Falls, slightly deeper; beards old gold.
(Epicenter X (Swing and Sway x Stairway to Heaven))\$25.00

LOUISIANAS

SARAH ANN - LA-36"/38"-M We have the privilege to name this cultivar in honor of a young daughter & granddaughter who was loved very much. This rich gold has matching styles and standards. The falls are rich gold with darker gold veins down the middle. Both stands and falls are crimped around the out side edges. Excellent bud placement & branching. (Charjoy's Anne X Chenoweth 79-5B (Parentage unknown)).....\$30.00

STARLIT SCARLET - LA-30"-E This burgundy-red has falls darker than the stands. The stands and falls have a thin gold edge. The attractive signals are deep gold in a spear shape. Wide style arms are burgundy-red with a darker rib on the sides. All petals are flat. Three way bud placement with very good branching. ((President Hedley X 82U:Delta King x Unknown)).....\$30.00



Region 15 Directory

Elected Officers

Region 15 Vice President

Jim Giles (909) 370-0213
22807 Vista Grande Way
Grand Terrace CA 92313
Irisarian@aol.com

Asst. Region 15 RVP

Jane C. Parks (520) 293-1072
1007 W. Prince Road #67
Tucson AZ 85705
growiris@aol.com

Region 15 Treasurer

Cheryl Deaton (661) 252-6771
27218 Walnut Springs
Canyon Country CA 91351
deatons@earthlink.net

Region 15 Secretary

Jeanne Comeaux (602) 862-1135
14021 North 48th Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85306

Committee Chairs

Awards

Patrick Orr (623) 925-9615
PO Box 5423
Goodyear AZ 85338
Irisdude@msn.com

Editor & Circulation

Kathy Chilton (520) 822-1497
14333 S. Stagecoach Road
Tucson AZ 85736
Ranchiris@aol.com
Fax: (520) 822-2784

Membership

Winona Stevenson (760) 378-3841
8280 Entrada Blvd.
Lake Isabella CA 93240
lakesideiris@aol.com

Historian

Jimmy Jones (562) 634-5596
2113 Sparrow Hill Lane
Lakewood CA 90712

Committee Chairs Continued...

Nominating

Jeanne C. Plank (818) 767-5512
8426 Vinevalley Drive
Sun Valley CA 91352
plankmail@aol.com

Youth

Cheryl Deaton (661) 252-6771
27218 Walnut Springs
Canyon Country CA 91351
deatons@earthlink.net

Ways & Means

Joyce Poling (633) 815-3503
17210 N. Calico Drive
Sun City AZ 85373
suncitymom@aol.com

Affiliate Presidents

Desert Sunset Iris Society

Joyce Poling (633) 815-3503
17210 N. Calico Drive
Sun City AZ 85373
suncitymom@aol.com

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Cheryl Deaton (661) 252-6771
27218 Walnut Springs
Canyon Country CA 91351
deatons@earthlink.net

Inland Region Iris Society

John Reinschmidt (909) 822-6191
16606 Barbee
Fontana CA 92336
ussstardust@tstonramp.com

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Marilyn Pecararo (562) 697-8141
1917 Tumin Road
La Habra Hills CA 90631
Joemarilynpecararo@msn.com

Affiliate Presidents Continued...



NEW AFFILIATE!!!

Prescott Area Iris Society

Stan Book
2175 Aspen Acres Drive
Prescott, AZ 86303
jbook@cableone.net

San Diego & Imperial County Iris Society

Pat Brendel (760) 806-7865
4703 Cordoba Way
Ocean Hills, CA 92056
quailshire@juno.com

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Jan Lauritzen (818) 341-4506
11000 Farralone Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311-1331
jlauri1@lausd.k12.ca.us

Sonoran Desert Iris Society

Kathy Cameron (623) 412-1939
7437 W. Bloomfield Rd.
Peoria, AZ 85381
kathycameron1@cox.net

Southern California Iris Society

Mike Monninger (909) 361-3177
4861 Brookhill Terrace
Riverside CA 92509
monninmd@sce.com

Sun Country Iris Society

LynnAlison Martin
12855 W Orange Drive
Litchfield Park AZ 85350
LAMcM@aol.com

Tucson Area Iris Society

Jane C. Parks (520) 293-1072
1007 W. Prince Road #67
Tucson AZ 85705
growiris@aol.com



Irises On Line

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.suncountryiris.org>

Events, club information & more.

ATTENTION YOUTH MEMBERS

Stay in touch by e-mail
at: Region15kids@hotmail.com

"It is good to love flowers... they have been with us from the very beginning."

.....Vincent Van Gogh

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
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EDITOR

KATHY CHILTON

14333 S. Stagecoach Road

Tucson AZ 85736

Ranchiris@aol.com

Ph: (520) 822-1497

Fax: (520) 822-2784

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

SPRING ISSUE

Deadline 2/1

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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 \$5.00 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. The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Permission is granted to non profit organizations to reprint original material appearing in this Bulletin, on the condition that both the author and the publication are credited, and a copy of your publication is sent to the editor.



Registration Form for the AIS National Convention
Fresno, California, April 19-24, 2004



Please contact the Radisson Hotel, Fresno directly (not thru a travel agent) at (800) 333-3333 and ask for the "Region 14 of the American Iris Society" discount rate.

Please print clearly. Please use additional forms for more than two registrants.

Registrant 1	_____	Registrant 2	_____
First	Last	First	Last
Street	_____	City	_____
State/Province	_____	Zip/Postal Code	_____ AIS Region _____
Country	_____	Phone ()	_____ E-Mail _____

Full Registration: includes Welcome and Awards Banquets (with buffet dinners), and Garden Tours (does not include Yosemite Tour)		If postmarked by Mar 1, '04	If postmarked by Apr 5, '04	If postmarked after Apr 5, '04	Amount	
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$210	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$241	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$261
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$210	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$241	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$261

Youth 18 and under (includes same as full registration)	Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$160	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$191	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$211	_____
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Garden Tours Only: (Includes morning snacks and drinks, lunch, bus tickets, and convention booklet. Excludes banquet dinners and Yosemite Tour)					Amount		
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$181	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$201	_____
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$181	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$201	_____

Banquets Only		Welcome Banquet	Awards Banquet	Amount	
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35	_____
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35	_____

Bus trip to Yosemite Valley with lunch at the famous Ahwahnee Hotel. Yosemite National Park embraces a spectacular tract of mountain-and-valley scenery in the Sierra Nevada. The park harbors a grand collection of waterfalls, meadows, and forests that includes groves of giant sequoias, the world's largest living things. The tours will be conducted in small (21 person), comfortable busses so as to be able to go to the various points of interest in the park such as the valley floor, Glacier Point, Bridal Veil Falls and other areas that are restricted from normal sized busses. Actual tour itinerary will depend on weather and road conditions. The tours are Tuesday and Wednesday April 20 & 21, 2004. \$90.00 per person.

Registrations for the Yosemite Tour must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2004

Yosemite tour:		Tuesday April 20	Wednesday April 21	Amount	
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$90	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$90	_____
Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$90	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$90	_____

Judges Training on seedlings will be held in Sutton's Iris Gardens seedling beds during the garden tours at no charge. Please indicate your intent to attend below. (Other Judges Training sessions at the hotel are open on a walk-in basis.)

Registration for Judges Training at Sutton's. Name(s): _____

Special Needs: Region 14 of the American Iris Society is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodations must be received in writing by the AIS Convention Registrar, Joanne Prass-Jones, at the address below, no later than March 1, 2004.

Mail completed registration forms to:

Joanne Prass-Jones
35572 Linda Dr.,
Fremont, CA 94536

Registrations received after April 17, 2004 will be accepted at the discretion of the registrar.

Total Amount Enclosed: _____
Make Checks payable to: AIS Region 14