



Spring

AIS Region 15

NEWSLETTER

Arizona and Southern California

Twelve Affiliate Iris Societies

April 2008



San Diego Iris Society team with President Leon Vogel, seated

2007 Region 15 Fall Meeting in San Diego, CA hosted by the San Diego Iris Society



Kathy Chilton, RVP



*Rich Richards
Afternoon Speaker*



Attendees at the Fall Meeting, October 12 & 13, 2007



*George Sutton,
Morning Speaker*



Some of the abundant raffle prizes



*Part of the
"Remarkable Rebloomers" iris exhibit*

2007 Region 15 Fall Meeting in San Diego, CA



Southern California Iris Hybridizers attend afternoon program presented by George Sutton

AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting October 12 - 13, 2007

By Carole Buchheim

The afternoon of Friday, October 12, 2007 was a beehive of activity as the San Diego Iris Society members put on the finishing touches of their well-planned event at the Seven Seas Lodge in San Diego. Tables lining two walls were topped with hot orange gift bags glued to black styrene trays. Each bag had a photo and name of a raffle iris. The bags were for placing the raffle tickets and the trays were for holding the bare root or potted irises.

Also gracing the tables was an exhibit of more than three dozen reblooming Tall Bearded iris cultivars. Most of these were brought in by Alex and Kitty Stanton of Escondido, CA and Paul and Carole Buchheim of Mystic Lake Gardens in Nuevo, CA. Though not a juried show the beautiful irises were an inspiration to all to include reblooming irises in their garden-

ing plans.

Right inside the door of the meeting room was the registration table with a beautiful arrangement of irises. Patricia Wurtele was there to greet you and give you your "goodie bag" which generously included TWO Reblooming Irises compliments of SDIS members. Also included were two key chains, a garden fertilizer measuring device, refrigerator magnet, stainless steel plant marker and brochure, Schreiner Garden mini catalog, discount post card coupon for the Iris Howse and Gardens, handy magnifier, informational guide to garden pests and safety, schedule of activities, and more.

The Friday evening welcome reception was well attended. It provided an occasion for Region 15 Irisarians to chat informally, enjoy the beautiful Reblooming Iris Exhibit, purchase raffle tickets and make their choices, and catch up on the latest iris news.



*Bill Molnar,
Program Chairperson
for the Fall Meeting*



*Part of the beautiful exhibit
of "Remarkable Rebloomers"*



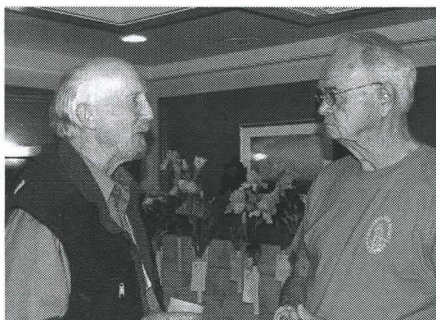
Gift bags full of goodies for each attendee

Saturday morning began with a continental breakfast and the Region 15 Board Meeting attended by Region 15 officers and affiliate presidents. Following this was a two-hour Judges Training session on Reblooming Irises by Mr. George Sutton of Sutton's Iris Gardens. George gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation and informative commentary on Reblooming Irises from his three-fold perspective as a hybridizer, grower, and AIS judge.

Following the Judges Training session was wonderful buffet dinner in the adjoining banquet room. Afterwards there was a Region 15 General Business Meeting. The biggest news item of the meeting was the vote in favor of Region 15 hosting the 2012 AIS National Convention.

Next on the agenda, Dr. Rich Richards gave a slide presentation on "Irises Around The Calendar" and showed many pictures of irises from many classes including species irises that rebloom.

Southern California could be known as the "Reblooming Iris Capital of the World" with potential bloom and rebloom every day of the year. Our Mediterranean climate and mostly frost-free weather encourages bloom.



Paul Buchheim and George Sutton discuss hybridizing

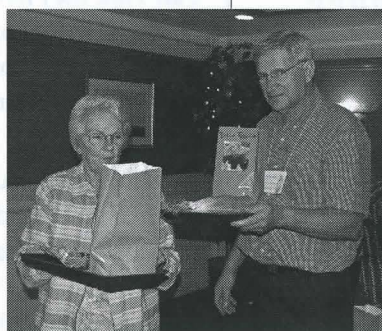
The full iris day was not over yet! The Southern California Iris Hybridizers enjoyed a special PowerPoint program by George Sutton on him and Michael's 2007 spring seedling bloom. George answered many questions and offered hybridizing information and suggestions.

We were delighted with the pleasure of attending such a well-planned and fun-filled event!



Incredible number of raffle prizes lined out for our "shopping pleasure"

Last but not least on the agenda was the iris raffle. Patricia Wurtele hosted the raffle with the assistance of Edith and James Schade. Some *Spurias* were sold at silent auction and *Louisianas* guest irises from the Region 15 Spring Trek were available for purchase.



Edith and James Schade assist with the raffle



Pat Wurtele, official greeter and announcer in the raffle



Judy and Stan Book speak with Kris Nelson. In the background are Joella Olsen and Alex Stanton.

Hi Desert Iris Society

presents

"Desert Delight"

2008 Region 15 Spring Trek

April 25 & 26, 2008

at the Antelope Valley Inn, Lancaster, California

Banquet Speaker: **Barry Blyth of Australia**

Region 15 NEWS



*"Happiness
held is the
seed; happiness
shared is the
flower"*

—Unknown

A Message From... **RVP Kathy Chilton**

Spring is upon us again! How wonderful to see that new iris open for the first time! Warmer than usual weather is speeding bloom here in Southern Arizona.

Please plan to join us at "Desert Delight," hosted by Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society in Lancaster/Palmdale, CA. It will be a delightful time, highlighted by a program from Australian hybridizer Barry Blyth. Barry definitely fits the "delightful" theme and his irises are amazing. Don't miss it!!

Many thanks to the newly re-named San Diego Iris Society! What a fabulous Fall Trek they hosted. Everyone was showered with reblooming iris rhizomes and got to hear Richard Richards and George Sutton speaking about all the irises that bloom around the calendar. It would be difficult to find two more knowledgeable and entertaining speakers! Thank you again, San Diego, for a wonderful and enjoyable time.

Having the AIS National Convention in the middle of April has jammed many club calendars this spring. We generally have the advantage of being able to attend National outside our own bloom season. Please enjoy all the iris activities you can this spring. It only comes once a year and never lasts long enough to fit in everything, plus find the time to truly enjoy the bloom in your own backyard.

Take time to smell the irises!! I look forward to seeing all of you in April!

—Kathy Chilton



Kathy Chilton of Tucson, AZ

REGION 15 TREK WHEEL

SPRING TREK

2008 Hi Desert Iris Society
2009 Sun Country Iris Society
2010 *To be Arranged*
2011 Inland Region Iris Society "mini"

FALL MEETING

2008 Prescott Area Iris Society
2009 Lompoc Valley Iris Society
2010 Orange Co. Iris & Daylily Club
2011 San Fernando Iris Society

Join the Reblooming Iris Society

Single Annual \$ 7.00
Single Triennial..... \$18.00
Family Annual..... \$ 8.00
Family Triennial \$21.00

Contact Charlie Brown, Membership
Chairperson, at broiris@cableone.net
or you can use PayPal to pay RIS dues
when paying for AIS Membership.

In Region 15 you can enjoy irises in bloom nearly all year!

Youth Report *By Cheryl Deaton*

I wish my report could be better. Currently there are just three youth members in our region, two in California, and one in Arizona. The Classroom Iris Project in Tucson has folded due to the resignation of the adult volunteer who was in charge of it. There were a total of 69 youth members in that CIP. We are hopeful that some of them will be encouraged by spring bloom to re-enter the AIS youth program.



Cheryl Deaton

If at any time you have the opportunity to mentor a young person's interest in gardening of ANY kind, you should do so. There are Scout troops looking for community projects, 4-H groups interested in horticulture, home schooled children and science teachers who would love to get involved with hybridizing. These are your clues to get these young people involved in AIS. The cost for yearly dues is just \$5 (without Bulletin), and the youth member receives a youth handbook about growing irises, two issues of the youth newsletter, *The Iris Fan*, and the chance to enter the annual Coloring Contest and the Ackerman Essay Contest. Both contests have cash prizes.

Contact me at region15kids@hotmail.com or (661) 252-6771 with any questions or suggestions about getting more youth members involved in our region.

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Region 15 Fall Trek 2008

Prescott, Arizona

Why spend the Columbus Day weekend at home? Wouldn't you rather enjoy a **Hassayampa Holiday** in historic mile high Prescott! Luxuriate at the restored, vintage 1927 Hassayampa Inn, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Revel in the Art Deco splendor of the conference center.

You *might* even be lucky enough to encounter the Inn's legendary resident apparition, "Faith"! Real or imagined, you will definitely want to enter our contest for the best "Encounter with Faith at the Hassayampa." The prize is a dozen raffle tickets.

You won't want to miss judges training on the essential topic of Arilbreds, presented by our charming RVP, Kathy Chilton. Missing the luncheon entertainment of the renowned irisarian and hybridizer Rick Tasco, co-owner of Superstition Iris Garden, is simply out of the question.

***Reserve October 10-11, 2008, for your
Unforgettable HASSAYAMPA HOLIDAY!***

Region 15 NEWS



Sara C. Holk

Sara Claire Plant Holk 1922-2007

By George Holk & Ernestine Williams

It was with heavy hearts that we learned of Sara Holk's passing on Sunday Morning, September 30, 2007. Just a few short weeks before she had attended the Inland Region Iris Society meeting on September 10. She greeted us with hugs and smiles and we were so delighted to see her. Though Sara looked and sounded happy, healthy, and fit we were all surprised to hear of her hospitalization and rapid decline in health a short time later.

Sara Claire Plant was born on January 10, 1922 in Bolling, Alabama. She was the sixth of eight children born to John and Mamie Plant. John was a farmer who also owned and operated a country general store. Mamie, a homemaker, was very busy with the care of their large family. Sara was a tomboy who loved to climb trees and play outdoors. She enjoyed gardening with her mother and older sister, Ernestine. The family was big on nicknames and middle names and called her Tiny or Claire. Farm life kept her busy but she took time for music and loved to sing and play the piano.

Sara attended Butler County High School in Greenville, Alabama where she was active in athletics and earned a "letter" in basketball. After High School she attended a business school where she learned typing, shorthand, and accounting. She moved to Selma, Alabama and became the secretary for the Catholic Church there.

During the summer months she was active as the State Activities Chairperson for the Alabama Methodist Youth Fellowship Conference at Huntingdon College. During one of the weekly swimming sessions there, she met a lifeguard who was also a student of veterinary medicine at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn. This was her husband-to-be, Herbert C. Holk of Foley, Alabama. They were married in the Plant family home at Bolling on August 29, 1943. After Herb's graduation the young family moved to Illinois where Herbert got a job with the U.S. Department of Agriculture tracking bovine tuberculosis and swine cholera. In late March of 1947 Herbert got a notice of a call for veterinary volunteers to help fight a large epidemic of Apthous Fever (Foot and Mouth Disease) in Mexico. Sara was just about to give birth to their first child George. He was born in April and the family left for Mexico at the end of the month. In February, 1950 they briefly returned to Alabama so that their daughter Sara Margaret could be born in the United States at Greenville, Alabama. The battle against "Aftosa" as it was called in Mexico, was finally won in 1953. So in April of that year the family returned to the United States.

Herb joined the Air Force as a Captain and began working for them as a veterinarian although his job had little to do with animals. His first assignment was Patrick AFB at Cape Canaveral and there, in January of 1954, their third child Robert Christian was born. After a year there, the Air Force decided they needed a Spanish speaking veterinarian in Panama so off they went for three years. In Panama, Sara attended the Canal Zone Junior College where she earned a degree in Business and Accounting. She held and possibly still holds the typing record for the College of 126 wpm for ten minutes with no errors on a manual typewriter.

This was the beginning of numerous travels and assignments which in order of occurrence thereafter were: Baltimore, Maryland (Johns Hopkins University); Cooke AFB (later Vandenberg AFB); Clark Air Base in the Philippines; Hamilton Field, California; Andrews AFB, Maryland; Travis AFB, California; and finally, Norton AFB, California. Wherever the family lived they always planted and grew flowers of many types. Sara first won a prize for her flowers at Lompoc, California where she took first place with a stunning gladiolus in 1960 and runner-up with her double Shasta daisies. While in the Philippines, Sara attended both the University of the Philippines and the University of Santo Tomas, earning her Bachelor of Arts degree and completing all of the academic requirements for her Master's Degree in Psychology and Counseling.

In 1970 and while at Andrews AFB, Maryland, Sara was diagnosed with breast cancer. After her radical mastectomy which included the loss of most of the muscles in her

right side down to the waist and in her upper right arm the doctors told her that she would probably never be able to use her right arm again. But Sara was right-handed and true to her form she was determined that that was not going to be the case. So soon after returning to her home in Clinton, Maryland she began by using the vacuum cleaner. After a little while longer she joined the Officer's Wives Club Bowling League. Sara was never one to apply the word "can't" to anything she tried or wanted to do. Sara's bout with breast cancer did impact their future military assignments. Herb would request assignments at bases which had hospitals having nuclear medical facilities with radioactive cobalt therapy.

In 1967 Herb and Sara spotted a large iris garden in Sebastopol, California and there began the story of the traveling irises. As the Holk family moved from one military assignment to another, their growing love for irises and many other plants moved along with them. However it was while at Norton AFB that Sara started collecting "unusual" iris and planting them in the very small garden behind their base housing. In between his frequent military travels Herb began to take an interest in these "strange looking iris" with spots and multiple colors and as they soon ran out of space to plant them, the idea of Cal-Dixie Iris was born.



Holk garden planning committee

In 1977 they bought and moved to the location they lived the rest of their lives at. After retirement from the military in 1978, Herb and Sara opened Cal-Dixie Iris Garden as a commercial venture. While Herb may have retired from the Air Force on February 28, 1978, he started working for the County of Riverside on March 1, 1978 as manager of the Occupational Health program. Every day he would come home and change clothes so that he and Sara could work in the irises until dark. He continued working full-time until 1994 when he had his second retirement. All of the time he was working, Sara worked full time with the irises and other flowers. They were both very active in the Inland Iris Society.

Cal-Dixie was in full production until 2004 when health issues forced both Sara and Herb to slow down. They grew approximately three thousand varieties of irises, mostly tall bearded, along with other bearded iris classes, a few Louisianas, Siberians, Spurias, Japanese, Arilbreds, PCN's, Species, and quite a few seedlings as well as Sara's collection of Day Lilies.

Herb passed away on January 31, 2005. Sara continued Cal-Dixie Iris Garden for the next two iris seasons in a limited capacity. Shortly after her September 10 visit to the I.R.I.S. club meeting she was admitted to the hospital with very low blood pressure and complaining of difficulty breathing. While there she suffered a mild stroke that left her paralyzed on her left side. At that time she discovered she had inoperable liver cancer. She returned home to convalesce in the care of close family members and passed away in the early Sunday morning hours three days later on September 30, 2007. Her three children have not yet decided the outcome of the family irises.

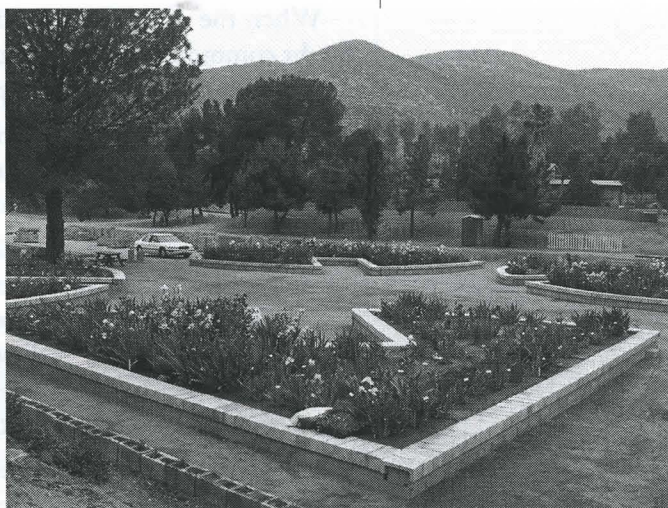
The Inland Region Iris Society wanted to honor the memory of Herb and Sara with a special garden at Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center. Plans began after Herb passed away and Sara was very much a part of that committee. She donated many Cal-Dixie irises including Holk introductions and several reblooming seedlings. The garden was featured on the 2007 Region 15 Spring Trek.

Sara is survived by her sister, Mamie Ernestine Williams of Decatur, GA, and her three children, George P. Holk (& wife Laurie) of Cathedral City, CA; Sara Margaret Lowe (& husband Michael) of San Antonio, TX; and Robert C. Holk (& wife Gail) of Riverside, CA. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

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Left: The Holk garden planning committee met at Sara's home on Nov. 3, 2005. 1 to r: John Reinschmidt, Carole Buchheim, Irene Benton, Carol Morgan, and Sara Holk. Naomi Hildreth took the photo.



The Herb & Sara Holk Memorial Iris Garden at Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center

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So. California Iris Hybridizers

So. California Iris Hybridizers Fall Meeting

By Carole Buchheim

On Saturday afternoon, October 13, 2007, the Southern California Iris Hybridizers group met after the close of the Fall Meeting at the Seven Seas Lodge in San Diego. We were favored with a PowerPoint presentation by George Sutton on him and Michael's 2007 seedlings. They have a wonderful selection of incredibly beautiful seedlings, many of which are rebloomers. Photo after photo of new colors/patterns really wetted our appetites for future introductions.

Because the meeting was informal we were able to ask many questions on hybridizing and details about the parentage of the flowers as they were shown. George shared with us some of their hybridizing goals. He also invited our group to visit Sutton's Iris Gardens for a special tour and perhaps, a Garden Judges Training on evaluating seedlings.

We were delighted to have George share his seedling program with us. Several have suggested the possibility of planning such programs in conjunction with the Region 15 Spring and Fall meetings. Both Arizona and southern California hybridizers could benefit from this with minimal extra expense. It would allow us to take advantage of the opportunity to get together with know hybridizers who are already taking part in the Regional meetings.

Fungal Leaf Spot, An Iris Plague to be Avoided

By Paul Buchhiem

When the rainy season arrives so do our concerns about avoiding the fungal blight commonly known as leaf spot.

In the March 2002 issue of *Tall Talk*, Richard Ernst of Cooley's Iris Gardens wrote an article entitled, **Basic Control of Disease**, in which he addressed four common iris diseases. I would like to reprint for you the portion dealing with leaf spot.



Advanced leaf spot damage

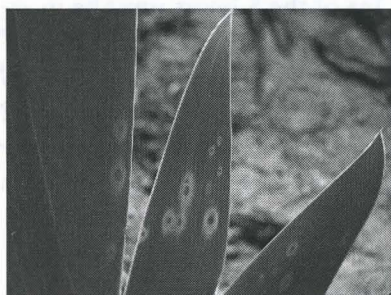
"Fungal Leaf Spot."... begins with spots on the foliage resembling wet dots, about 1/8 inch to 1/4th inch in diameter. As the spot ages, the cells die, and the spot turns yellow, then brown. At the same time, the spots spread. They are unsightly, and render leaf surfaces incapable of photosynthesis, so growth slows and the plant weakens.

Leaf Spot is almost never seen in arid climates both warm and cold, like Arizona and Colorado. But in the Northwest it can be a real headache, and the Eastern seaboard shares in this malady.

Treatment is preventative, not curative. Bayleton, Cleary 3336, Daconil and copper-based fungicides are all effective, but zinc-based fungicides, or others like Captan have not done what the manufacturer claimed. Spraying must begin early, before spots appear, for the best control.

Fungal Leaf Spot runs a two-year cycle, so if you had it last season, you'll have it this season. Start your spray program early with a copper, then rotate the Bayleton and Daconil about every two weeks, weather permitting, until the days are warm and dry. The sun is nature's cure, but if you live in an area with rainy summers, the leaf spot can persist. Clean your garden regularly, removing dried leaves and old bloomstalk parts, where spores can overwinter. Keep aphids,

thrips, and whitefly in check, because they can spread the spores. Spray in early morning so the morning sun dries the foliage. Divide your plants every three or four years. The denser the foliage, the worse the leaf spot. Allow good air circulation and always morning sun. . . ." (Reprinted with permission.)



Leaf spot, a closer look

That's leaf spot control in a nutshell. Especially note that "treatment is preventative, NOT curative" and also that it "runs a two year cycle". If you foresee leaf spot problems in your irises, plan now for a maintenance program that will prevent an epidemic this year and disrupt its cycle for next year. We all want strong, healthy, disease free plants. That old adage is true, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure".

Additional information can be found by a simple search on the internet for "iris leaf spot". Also, read pages 340-342 of *The World of Irises*, published by the American Iris Society.

Judges Report *By Cheryl Deaton, Assistant VP*

There seems to be a bit of confusion about the new requirements for judges in AIS and Region 15. In 2007, Region 15 voted to make our judging requirements the same as those of AIS, which had recently undergone some changes. Here are the new requirements.

STUDENT JUDGES

Application must be on file with the Region Judges Training Chair (Asst. RVP) prior to receiving credit for any training session. Must be a member in good standing of the American Iris Society. Possess a copy of the current edition of the AIS Handbook for Judges. Return the Region Activity Report on time each year or be dropped from the program.

Within 3 years from application successfully complete 10 hours of classroom training given by accredited judges, passing a written exam at all sessions, maintain membership in AIS (a break in AIS membership at any time while a student, apprentice or judge will cause you to be dropped from the program), pass an open book exam on the Handbook for Judges as provided by the Judges Training Chair, and obtain written recommendations that you be advanced to Apprentice Judge from 5 AIS Judges on file with the Region JT Chair.

APPRENTICE JUDGES

Maintain continuous AIS membership and return Region Activity Report on time each year or be dropped from the program. Within 3 years from advancing to Apprentice you must complete two 2-hour tutoring sessions (a total of 4 hours) in gardens on the following: Training must cover at least 4 different types of irises, one of which must be tall bearded. No more than 2 hours can be conducted by the same instructor. Complete 2 sessions as an Apprentice at an AIS sanctioned Show under the supervision of an accredited AIS judge (must have a different tutor at each session).

During the period as a Student or Apprentice you MUST complete a two hour course on Awards and Ballots.

GARDEN/EXHIBITION JUDGES

Maintain continuous AIS membership, return Region Activity Report on time each year or be dropped from the program, vote the Official AIS Ballot each year before deadline (failure to do so for two consecutive years results in automatic

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disqualification), complete 5 hours of training, two of which must be "in garden", every three (3) years, either by attending or instructing the class at approved training sessions, and/or tutoring apprentices. One of the 5 hours must be in attendance at an approved training session. At this time, AIS does not give "credit" for judging shows. ***COMPLETE 2 hours of "in garden" training every three (3) years by attending or instructing an approved session. Session must have at least 2 enrolled judges and one instructor with a test containing 10 questions for each hour of training.*** Tutoring an Apprentice does not count as "in garden" training as tutoring is 'one-on-one'.

MASTER JUDGES

A person who has served the Society as a judge for fifteen years is elevated to the status of Master Judge. These fifteen years are counted from the time the judge is first approved by the AIS Board of Directors as an Apprentice. If there is an interruption of service, the judge does not lose the years served before the interruption. Master judges are required to earn credit totaling three hours (one hour must be "in-garden" training) during each three year period. This credit **MUST** be earned by attending or teaching an approved judging school. When a Master Judge tutors an apprentice judge, the Apprentice receives training credit, the Master Judge does not.

Master Judges are required to submit an Activity Report each year to the region. Failure to return a timely Activity Report for two consecutive years will result in the judge being dropped from the official roster of accredited judges.

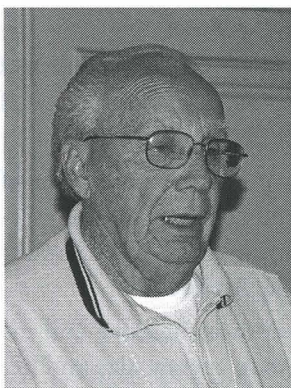
Requests for changes from Retired (R) judge to active Master judge are to be made through the RVP and/or regional Judges' Training Chair. The change in status will be approved if the applicant has met the requirements of three hours of training (one hour must be "in-garden" training) and has submitted a timely Activity Report.

EMERITUS JUDGES

Appointed by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the AIS Chair of Judges. Three-fourths (75%) approval by the Directors present and voting is required. Emeritus judges are fully accredited AIS judges but are not required to visit gardens, vote the ballot or complete an Activity Report. This honor is given to judges who have rendered outstanding service to the Society. Nominations for Emeritus judge may be made by the RVP or other AIS members. The nominating letter is sent to the Chair of Judges and must contain a full statement of the nominee's record of service to the AIS. The service must go far beyond the expected conscientious performance as an AIS judge.

RETIRED JUDGES

A Retired judge does not vote the AIS ballot, turn in a timely Activity Report, or any other activity associated with active judges. A Retired judge may not judge shows nor instruct any training. A Retired judge is just that, retired. A Retired judge may be an AIS member in good standing.



Avery Poling

Desert Sunset Iris Society *By President Avery Poling*

Many of the Desert Sunset Iris Society members have been experiencing varying degrees of illness and it has taken a toll on our normal attendance. Due to the situation it has been difficult to schedule regular meetings and we have had to make plans on a month-by-month basis.

Now that spring has arrived and the irises are unfurling their beautiful colors, I am sure it will be like medicine to our souls. May the beauty of flowers bring healing and joy!

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

By President Richard Jamison

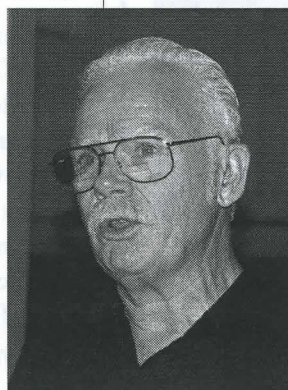
Spring has sprung in the high desert with the help of a 40-mile per hour wind and earlier rain. Wild flowers are abundant. Those of you who will be attending the Spring Trek, "Desert Delight" will want to take a drive into the poppy fields on the west side of Lancaster.

We are excited about the trek and hope you are too. The guest gardeners are working hard to make everything just right. The irises are in good shape and most of my guest irises have full clumps. The rhizomes should be plentiful when dug.

Please dress in layers. Mornings are very cool and afternoon may be cool or hot. You can count on blowing wind as well. Be Prepared.

The club is learning that Treks are very expensive to put on. That was also the topic at the last meeting of Region 15's officers. Memberships are down and so are treasuries. There was a very good discussion with many of the presidents and other officers thinking outside the box. Members need to take a more active role and consider the problem and share their ideas with their club presidents.

We are having our first event, "The Home and Garden Show" at the Antelope Valley Fair Grounds this weekend. We hope to fatten our treasury and take a little winter weight off at the same time, I guess that's it. I hope to see you at the trek.



Richard Jamison



Barbara Lauck

Inland Region Iris Society *By President Barbara Lauck*

2007 is just a memory now, and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to the coming events, on Local, Regional, and National levels.

I'll give you just a brief summary of Inland's past few months' accomplishments and our new year plans. It's always fun to reflect on the fun times we've had as a club and share them with the rest of the Region.

September brought our auction for the Region at the Sizzler in Riverside, we were so thrilled to see Sara

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Letters From Our Presidents

Lakeside Gardens

Winona Stevenson

8280 Entrada Blvd.
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

TB's • BB's • IB's • A's & AB's

lakesideiris@aol.com

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Letters From Our Presidents



Mystic Lake Gardens

Specializing in Tall Bearded Iris
and Rebloomers

Paul and Carole Buchheim

22177 Polley Street
Nuevo, CA 92567

(951) 746-9132

carole@mysticlakegardens.com

Holk there, bidding on several irises that caught her fancy. It was the very last time that many of us were to see her as she was hospitalized several days later and sadly, passed away on September 30, 2007. She was a wonderful person that had a passion for iris which she instilled in many of us. She will be greatly missed.

October brought a tremendous ray of sunshine to our meeting in the form of our RVP, Kathy Chilton. She shared with us a wonderful Judges Training presentation on Arilbreds. We had a relaxed and informative meeting with Kathy's interesting style, not to mention pages of notes and tips on Arilbreds.

In November Margie Valenzuela, delighted us with her introductions and informative PowerPoint program. Her flowers are no less than spectacular and her upcoming beauties seem to be on everyone's must-have list. We were very impressed with Margie, she is a warm and personable young lady that no doubt will leave a strong mark on the iris hybridizing community. December brought our annual Holiday Party and Gift Exchange. The evening was a time to reflect on the blessings and joys of the past year.

January 2008 began with a program by Paul and Carole Buchheim of Mystic Lake Gardens. We watched their PowerPoint presentation of new seedlings and were delighted by beauty of them; many of which are rebloomers. We are looking forward open house this spring at Mystic Lake Gardens. We hope to see many visitors there and at The Herb and Sara Holk Memorial Iris Garden at Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center. We're working very hard under the direction of Carol Morgan to make sure that the memory of Herb and Sara will be kept alive for many years to come. The garden is looking very beautiful with the addition of a number of trees, roses, and Louisiana irises.

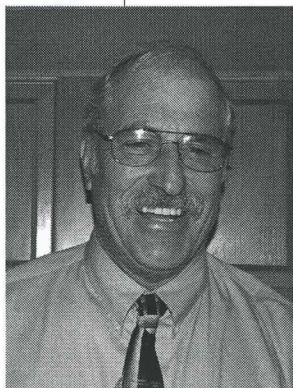
In February, Brad Kasperek presented a Judges Training program on "Exhibition Judging and Etiquette" as well as a mini show on his broken-color beauties including new introductions. In March we were favored with a program by Irene Benton on "Arrangement and Show Table Irises". Her innovative floral arrangements and tips on design were a benefit to all of us. April will bring our Spring Show and Sale at the Redlands Mall on April 12 and 13.

We look forward to seeing many of our Iris friends at the National Convention in Austin. I'm sure it will be great. The Hi-Desert Spring Trek will feature Barry Blyth, Oh Boy! I'll be there and I hope to see you there too.

We have such good times at our I.R.I.S. meetings; I look forward to them with a happy heart. I am extending a cordial invitation to you to join us at our monthly meeting. We meet at the Sizzler on Clay St. and Van Buren Blvd. on the second Monday of the month at 5:30 for dinner with a 6:30 meeting time, we always make room for more and we would love to see you there.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society

By President Ben Schleuning, President



Ben Schleuning

Greetings from **Lompoc Valley Iris Society**! April will be here in three days and I am still sitting around not doing much because of a total knee replacement on 18 February. Time flies! It seems as though I just replanted all our rhizomes (seven months ago) and now it is already time to fertilize for the second time. Bloom season is starting and the weeds are growing. Speaking of weeds, two of the members of our LVIS came and weeded all our iris beds on a Sunday afternoon two weeks ago; wonderful and generous

friends! LVIS is comprised of many such dedicated and caring iris growers. Our current membership is 21.

Things are starting to happen for our society; on the 30th of this month, Kathy Chilton will be here to give a presentation on preparing iris for judging. Jane Troutman will accompany her. Everyone seems to be excited about Kathy's presentation and expert training since a portion of our annual show will be judged this year; a "First"!!! We will have the pleasure of having Winona Stevenson from Lake Isabella, CA here as our judge. We have opened this forum to the general public in hopes of drawing in additional iris lovers. Our next regular meeting, on 6 April, will be devoted to finalizing details for our show which is scheduled for the first weekend in May. The meeting will include the usual discussion of "I sure hope we have some blooms left by then" and "I do hope that my ----- will be in bloom by then". What is gardening without weeds and worry??

Three of us will be meeting up with all of you at the Spring Trek. We are looking forward to seeing all the beautiful gardens as well as getting ideas on how to conduct a "Trek" since we are scheduled to host the 2009 Fall Trek (another "First" for LVIS).

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

By President Derry Gerald

I just returned home after being gone for two weeks. My garden had exploded into bloom. Fred Kerr's 2007 intro "Jane Troutman" was just unfurling into her full beauty. I have lots of stalks and a few other iris blooms.

OCI&DC's October meeting was given by Athena Homayouni, Past President of the Orange County Chrysanthemum Society. It was very informative. "Mums" are just the thing to put bloom into our gardens in the fall.

Our own member, Frank Cusenza, was on public television promoting daylilies and the L.A. Arboretum. He presented a copy of the show at the November meeting. December was our Christmas Party, potluck, and gift exchange. Loads of food, fun, and friendship was had by all.

We began the new year with our new board officers: President, Derry Gerald; 1st VP, Mike Monninger; 2nd VP Ramona Richardson; 3rd VP, Nancy Webb; Secretary, Peggy Sheldon; Hospitality, Glenn Erwin; Membership, Marilyn Pecoraro; and Editor/Treasurer/Librarian, Jeanie Moekle. Peggy Sheldon will be in charge of our yearly sale at Greenscene.

With bees being in the news and so precious to our gardens, we asked Lew West to give the January program on "Bee Keeping in Southern California". He gave a lot of tips on cooking with honey—yummy! It was a very informative talk and he graciously answered all of our many questions.

February brought Paul and Carole Buchheim of Mystic Lake Gardens. They gave a PowerPoint program of their garden and TB seedlings. Everyone was so impressed that we are planning a club trip to Mystic Lake Gardens during bloom season.

Also in February, many of our club members went to the L.A. Arboretum to hear Bill Maryott speak at the So. California Hemerocallis and Amaryllis Society

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Derry Gerald

Region 15



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meeting. No! Not iris, but daylilies. Boohoo! He has absolutely given up hybridizing iris. He really meant "That's All Folks". It was so nice to visit with Bill and Marilyn again. I think he was surprised to see so many of his iris friends. And, he is hybridizing beautiful daylilies.

March meeting was Norm Nakanishi, member and hybridizer of the Orange County Begonia Society. He gave us cultural advice and many ideas for the shady parts of our gardens.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you all to our meetings. They are the second Tuesday evening of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove, 11832 Euclid St., Garden Grove. See you at the Spring Trek!

I'd like to end with this thought, "An iris likes to sit on the ground the way a duck sits on the water: half in, half out". -Anne Raver, *Deep in the Green* (1995)

Prescott Area Iris Society

By President Vera Stewart

We know spring is coming – a couple inches of daffodil leaves standing "oh so perky" are evidence that bud stalks are soon to appear! The wildflowers are expected to be spectacular this spring due to a couple winter storms that dropped five inches of rain each time. Those of us who purchased rhizomes at the Region 15 Silent Auction on September 8th are monitoring closely for new growth, and are cautiously optimistic that the earlier dig and potting them right after receiving them will result in an improved success rate (previous years were a disappointing 10% staying alive due to inability to produce new root growth before winter).

In October of 2007 several Board members attended the Fall Trek in San Diego, observing and noting how the San Diego club put together a super Fall Meeting - knowing Prescott would be hosting in 2008. "Hassayampa Holiday" is the theme for the Region 15 Fall Trek - the historic Hassayampa Inn here in Prescott is the host hotel October 10 – 11th. We are repeating the Friday evening social gathering that San Diego initiated last fall, and will have early registration available that evening also. The Saturday Judges' Training will feature Kathy Chilton on Aril/Arilbreds, and the keynote luncheon speaker will be Rick Tasco of Superstition Gardens. Our club is motivated and enthusiastically preparing for our first hosting of a Region 15 event.

The Yavapai county area is divided by Mingus Mountain, with the Verde Valley area on the opposite side from Prescott, and a good hour's drive away. PAIS Cottonwood member Linda Smith has spearheaded creation of a new affiliate, called the Verde Area Iris Society, over there. As of early February VAIS had passed their By-Laws, elected officers, and opened a bank account. In order to encourage continued participation on both side of the mountain we have created a new membership category, that of Dual Club Member. Dual Club Member dues were deliberately kept low - \$5.00 a year - we are very hopeful that this will be a "win-win" venture for both affiliates!

Our community outreach activity at the Yavapai College Sculpture Garden currently involves maintaining the clumps of fifteen named iris varieties planted throughout the Garden. In June we will be presenting a proposal to increase our



Vera Stewart

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participation; we expect to have a dedicated area of Dykes Medal iris there at the Sculpture Garden.

The Annual Rhizome Sale, traditionally held at Sharlot Hall Museum on the first Saturday in August, grossed \$4,500 in 2007 – this included sales at the Farmers' Market on a couple Saturdays after the sale to take care of leftovers.

Our club had a special treat on February 16 when "Iris Bob" Van Liere, Coloradoan hybridizer, presented a powerpoint program for us. The April General Meeting was moved forward one week so speaker Linda Smith can speak on "Identifying Iris, Old and New" before she leaves for AIS National Convention. On April 12 several of us are planning to visit Sun Country in Phoenix to observe how a sanctioned show differs from an exhibit. Then May 10th is our annual Iris Exhibit for the public, and on May 17th our Third Annual Member Iris Tour is scheduled. It's decision-making time for the Board to decide whether or not to open the Iris Tour to the public this year, which could involve charging non-members for the tour.

We look forward to the April "Desert Delight" Spring Trek over in Lancaster, CA, and meeting new iris friends and renewing acquaintances.

San Diego Iris Society

By President Leon Vogel

We've been busy and active every month lately. The Region 15 Fall Meeting held at the Seven Seas Lodge in San Diego began a busy fall season for our society. The Friday evening reception was a huge success and gave us all a chance to sit around, talk iris, snack, and get acquainted. It also gave our local members, who were not going to attend the official proceedings of the Fall Meeting to meet and talk to Irisarians from the other Region 15 societies.

The drawings were innovative and many of us got some very nice rhizomes that were prized by us. Of course the presentations of George Sutton and Professor Richard Richards were superb and informative. Afterwards at the So. California Iris Hybridizers meeting George showed slides of many new seedlings from Sutton's Iris Gardens that will be coming onto the market.

Our Fall Rhizome Sale was a huge success and we enriched our treasury. We also got new members and talked about iris culture to many customers.

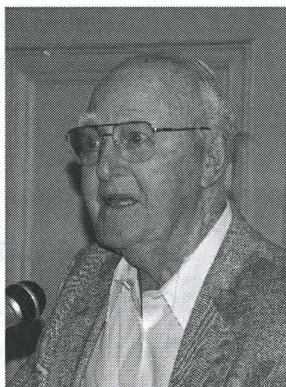
Our society adopted a total revision of our by-laws. We also voted to shorten our club name to the San Diego Iris Society.

Again, we participated in the Fall Garden and Plant Sale at Del Mar Fairgrounds. We sold lots of rhizomes, talked iris culture to many gardeners, and sold some memberships. We enriched our treasury.

We had lots of fun at our Members Only Auction with irises from the 2007 Spring Trek and sent the proceeds to Region 15.

At our December Holiday Party, Alex and Kitty Stanton brought a huge armful of iris blooms from their in Escondido.

For our January meeting, Professor Richard Richards presented a slide show of some of his seedlings and offered cultural advice for growing iris.



Leon Vogel

Region 15 NEWS



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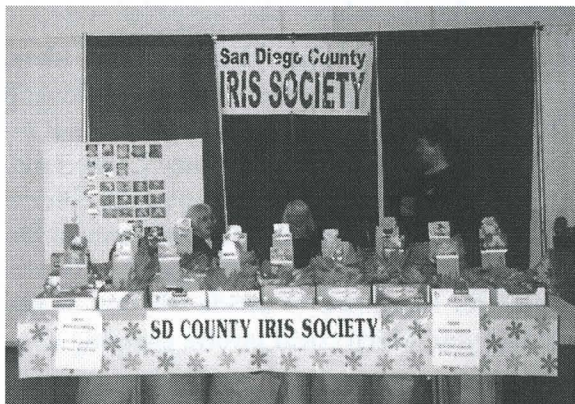


NEWS

Letters From Our Presidents

Scene at Del Mar Spring Flower Show and Plant Sale on February 29 to March 2, 2008. 1 to r: Norma Vogen, Pat Wurtele, and Benne Hanenburg

This year's February Birthday Party was a little special in that we brought in Bob Van Liere of Iris4U Iris Garden Denver, CO to be our speaker. He had a number of outstanding irises on our Spring Trek last year and won the "Best Out-of-Region Seedling Award for his iris #23 BT 22.



We participated in the Spring Flower and Plant Show and Sale at Del Mar Fairgrounds. We got some new members, sold lots of rhizomes, and handed out many iris culture sheets to gardeners and Irisarians.

An unusual site welcomed us at our March meeting. Alex and Kitty Stanton set up a tent for our meeting area

that overlooked their iris garden. Down a six-foot embankment, the garden was showing off some of its early spring blooms. Alex had a mobile barbecue pit and prepared some delicious tasting barbecue sandwiches at the end of the meeting.

Our April meeting will feature a presentation by Rose Howse on how to prepare an iris stalk and bloom for the show. Members will bring food for a potluck to precede the meeting. Ted sets up a tent by his barbecue and we enjoy the atmosphere and food.

Our Spring Iris Show is at Balboa Park May 3-4.

San Fernando Valley

Iris Society *By President Mary Anne Abrahms*

We ended this past year with a rousing Holiday Party featuring the singing and dancing trio from "Three for the Show", an abundance of delicious food, and a gathering of 63 members and guests. The David T. Ross Award was presented to Judith Gasser for her many years of service to our club.

This year we've scheduled a number of hybridizers: Terry Aitken spoke at our January meeting and Bob Van Liere was scheduled in February. After the Region Spring Trek in Lancaster, Barry Blyth is coming down to the San Fernando Valley to give a program at our club on May 1. He has assured us that he has many programs and this one will be different than the one he gives at the Region Banquet.

The theme for our Spring Show on April 12 and 13 will be "Irises Take Flight" with 8 artistic classes of different birds. Show Chair Jan Lauritzen always seems to come up with different themes at a moment's notice. This one occurred as she was looking out her kitchen window at the different colored birds on her bird feeders.

Our club is presently planning to visit Mystic Lake Gardens and the Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center in early May for our club garden trek. I think it will be a tantalizing look at what awaits us at the National Convention that our Region is hosting in 2012.



Mary Anne Abrahms

There seems to be a continuing series of exciting events we are looking forward to in the future.

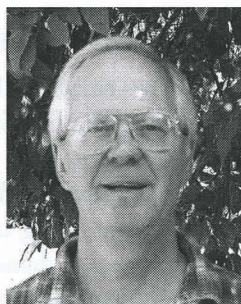
Sonoran Desert Iris Society

By President Darol Jurn

The past few months have provided an interesting program of speakers for the Sonoran Desert Iris Society. In August we had a speaker that addressed desert plants which provided interesting conversation and we learned of some potential cacti that may be suitable for planting in an Iris bed as companion plants. In October our guest speaker provided an interesting discussion on nature's natural hybridizer, bees. The discussion included "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly". The discussion included challenges that the honey bee is experiencing and also included many other types of bees.

The club made plans with the excess iris rhizomes from the 2007 Trek. During a weekend potting party, we potted the excess iris with the intent to provide the irises to residents of the Beatitudes Campus of Care in Phoenix during our spring show which is scheduled to be held at the Beatitudes Campus on April 19.

The December meeting included the annual holiday dinner at a local restaurant. Members exchanged gifts and had a wonderful time. The winter has provided abundant rain in Arizona. With the spring temperatures, most of our members are expecting a good spring bloom for our flower show.



Darol Jurn

Southern California Iris Society

By President Mike Monninger

It's that time of year when we look forward with great anticipation of the iris blooms to come. The hybridizers are really excited as their babies are going to bloom and show their stuff. I called Kim Ung the other day and his mother said, "he is making new flowers".

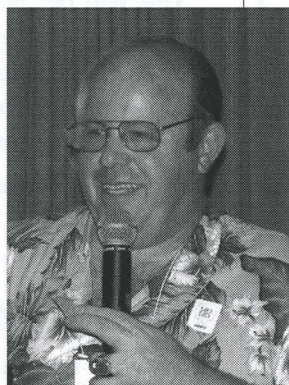
We finished our iris exhibit on Saturday, April 5 at the Los Angeles Arboretum and it was a huge success. The local daylily and amaryllis societies joined us for the one-day event. For the first time in many years the large room was full and was very inviting to the public. The members brought food for a potluck and it was sure delicious. Of course there was too much but that is the usual case. Both clubs are planning to have a joint event next year.

Members are making their lists of purchases. Our AIS show will be April 26 and 27. BOO HOO! Some of us will not be able to attend the Regional Trek hosted by Hi-Desert and hear Barry Blyth, the Wizard of Oz, give a program.

The bloom is late this year and by the spring trek it should be at or just past peak for most.

Summer is time for our usual club and region auctions, followed by the beardless auction in October.

Here is wishing everyone happy irising and may all your entries be Queens. Will Kim Ung get another "Best Specimen of Show" this year?



Mike Monninger

Region 15 NEWS



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NEWS

Letters From Our Presidents



KARY IRIS GARDENS

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

Sun Country Iris Society *By President Ardi Kary*

Our iris rhizomes have started sending up their spring growth so it's time for us to get ready for our Spring activities. Our Early Iris Exhibit will be March 29th at Baker Nursery. This year we'll be able to get in and set up on Friday night which will make entering the show much easier the next morning. This Exhibit gives the early blooming irises a chance to be seen on the Show Bench. It also gives our members a chance to practice their exhibition skills before the Spring Show in April. We call it an exhibit because it is not an official American Iris Society show. It is an exhibit that is judged by the public. And the public loves to get involved. Instead of just walking by the irises, they really stop and scrutinize each one to determine which are their favorites.

April 12th is the date for our Spring Iris Show. This show will also be held at Baker Nursery. It will be an official American Iris Society show and will be judged by AIS judges. Our theme this year is "A Carnival of Iris". In addition to the AIS Awards, we'll be giving Sun Country Iris Society Awards to the winners and exhibitors.

In April we'll carpool to see four or five of our members gardens. This tour will include visiting the gardens that will be on the Region 15 Spring Trek in 2009. We'll get a sneak preview of the guest irises that have been planted for the 2009 Trek. Members are encouraged to take lots of pictures while the irises are blooming and then enter some of the pictures in our Photo Contest in May. Winners will be chosen by the members.

Premium Awards of new or recently introduced rhizomes will be given to the winners of the Early Iris Exhibit, Spring Iris Show and Photo Contest. These awards make it very beneficial and exciting for our members to participate in our Spring activities.

This will be the 4th year our members can participate in our NIIP (New Iris Investment Program). Members will receive a NEW rhizome of their choice from the hybridizers that have been selected for this year. They are asked to grow the iris rhizome for 2 years and turn in all the increases except one that they will keep for themselves.

The 2009 Region 15 Spring Trek Committee is looking forward to hosting the 2009 Spring Trek. We're hoping everyone will attend.

Tucson Area Iris Society *by President Stephanie Lee*

So, what's up in Tucson? Well, the new year brought us three great programs. Larry Lauer was able to come and give a presentation in January. Kathy Chilton gave a presentation on Arilbreds in February, and Margie Valenzuela was our speaker in March with a presentation on her hybridizing efforts... and results.

Gordon Jensen took over our newsletter for Kathy Chilton and is currently working on his second edition.

We had some rain so far this year, and a few snowstorms that frosted the mountains surrounding Tucson – very picturesque. There is a good chance we won't have anymore rain until the monsoons start in July. The spring wildflowers were unusually spectacular this spring due to our rainier than normal November.

For now, its time to enjoy the fruits of our labor—watching our iris come into bud and then bloom—just like normal iris addicts do this time of year.

Region 15 Winter Board Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2008

Sim's Tree Learning Center, Pedley, CA

Attendees: Kathy Chilton, RVP, Barbara Lauck, John Reinschmidt, Carol Morgan, Mary Ann Abraham, John Huffman, Carol Huffman, Richard B. Jamison, Norma Jamison, Jill Bonino, Cheryl Deaton, and Vera Stewart.

OPENING BUSINESS:

- The meeting was called to order by RVP Kathy Chilton at 9:24 a.m. After welcoming everyone and expressing appreciation to the Sims family for hosting this meeting, those attending introduced themselves.
- The minutes from the 2007 Fall Board and General Meeting, recorded by the previous Secretary Cheryl Deaton, were distributed by incoming Secretary Vera Stewart. Cheryl verbally provided highlights; after a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed, the motion passed unanimously.
- Jill Bonino provided the Treasurer's Report, indicating that income in 2007 was a little under budget, but due to expenses being significantly under budget the Region ended the year with a net income of \$928.04. She indicated that the Region Auctions were successful, bringing in more money than budgeted. A motion to approve the report as printed was made and seconded; motion carried; the report will be filed for audit.
- Jill indicated that due to declining interest rates she will be renewing the big CD at maturity time in March'08 in the 3% range rather than the 5% previously earned.

Since she is also the AIS Treasurer she is responsible for informing affiliates in Region 15 regarding the new electronic IRS tax filing requirements. Jill stated she will be filing for the affiliates, but needs to receive all the nine points listed in the handout she provided, (also attached to these minutes) and requested timely response.

TREK FINANCING: A lengthy discussion was held regarding Trek financing. In 2007 Inland did not request the \$1500 Trek support funds from the Region. Barbara Lauck, Inland President stated that she hadn't completed the final accounting, and that she would like clarification of how the Region funds could be utilized. Kathy stated that Treks were not really supposed to make a profit, but clubs were not intended to lose money on them either. One prime use of the fund should be to get "better" speakers; a club is within their rights to utilize the fund. Kathy would like to see some parameters – inclusion of speaker fees for Judges Training, for instance.

During this discussion Richard Jamison of the Hi-Desert (host for 2009 Spring Trek) spoke of the difficulty with hotel location, changes in chefs, and lack of verbal contracts being honored. Possible use of Small Claims Court was mentioned as an option, as was a training class in negotiation skills. Getting everything in writing is a prime example. Jill stated we need to restructure the Trek plan.

TREK RESTRUCTURING: Brain storming session – these were ideas expressed

- Delete the big banquet and bus rental – *focus on gardens*
- Boutiques placed at gardens, not hotels
- Luncheon at Subway, not Hometown Buffet
- Less expensive Trek booklet

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- Ballot to be completed and dropped at last garden
- Winners' names given on website/e-mail
- Big issues are: Guest irises, cost of banquet, "big" speakers, transportation, losing money on last trek so refuse to schedule another one, hybridizer freebie, significant postage & packaging cost increases
- Potentials: Coordinate rose and iris tours, set control numbers on boutique items and iris planted, increase number of gift certificates from hybridizers

After this spirited discussion a motion was made for Inland to submit their actual shipping costs to the Region for reimbursement, seconded and received full approval. An associated motion was made and seconded - that beginning in 2009 the Regional subsidy for Spring Treks would be unrestricted as to cost category - this motion also passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

Judges Training - Cheryl Deaton provided current statistics on judges in Region 15. In the various categories there are: nine Master, 19 Garden, four Apprentice, two Student, and nine Retired. Possible use of Retired judges has been considered by AIS for certain situations. Mention was made of the AIS requirement for just one judge, but some clubs want to have nine judges - making it difficult to find sufficient judges during the show season.

Awards Report - Jane Troutman was not present - No report

Membership - Winona Stevenson was not present - It was noted that online member services now available were really beneficial

Newsletter - Carole Buchheim was not able to be present, but wanted members to know to expect the Region 15 Spring newsletter in mid-March.

Ways & Means - Kathy stated that Winona Stevenson will be assuming this post.

Youth - Cheryl Deaton reported there are just five members now; one is leaving for US Army service.

Budget - 2008: Jill Bonino

Jill reported that a particular member had requested information on Region finances and asked the Board for their consensus on website disclosure of financials. A motion was made and seconded that approved budget and financial report statistics will be provided only to the affiliate presidents and Region Board officers - Motion approved.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of electronic newsletter distribution - with printing and postage costs increasing the consensus of those present was to provide an opportunity for this to occur. It was requested that all of the Board e-mail the Editor Carole Buchheim and inform her that they would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail. Also it was suggested to mention this process in each issue; possibly telling members that they will receive their newsletters electronically unless requested otherwise. Those without e-mail capability would receive their newsletter by the postal service in black and white, not color. This is projected to begin with the 2008 Fall issue.

Regarding the contributions to maintaining Region website: the suggested \$50 per affiliate contribution is voluntary, not required - but very much appreciated.

The only change to the Estimated Budget was to insert \$500 for "Shipping"

under the EXPENSES category. It was noted that if there is a bumper iris crop the "hosting club" could pot up the excess rhizomes and use the income from selling them. Cheryl made a motion to stop giving 10% of auction funds to the Youth Fund, as it is fully funded. This motion was seconded and passed.

Jill then motioned that when the Region 15 \$10,000 CD matures on March 17, 2008 that \$3,000 of it would be moved to the Money Market, so the money would be readily available if needed. Motion seconded and approved. The final motion under the Budget discussion was to approve the proposed budget as amended; this was seconded and approved.

Trek Wheel:

	Spring	Fall
2008	Hi-Desert	Prescott
2009	Sun Country	Lompoc
2010	<i>To Be Determined</i>	Orange County
2011	Inland – "mini"	San Fernando

A *Mini* Spring Trek could be composed of Region Board & General Meetings, plus the Convention Board Meeting. Garden Tours to the "guest gardens" could be offered, with a continental breakfast and lunch provided, open to anyone with a potential donation of \$20-25.00 per person.

2012	National AIS in Region 15	TBD
2013	Perhaps Region 14-No. Cal?	TBD

Affiliate Reports: Due to lengthy agenda Kathy announced that oral reports from the affiliates were deferred; however, it was stressed to send a copy of the report to Secretary (Vera Stewart) for inclusion in the minutes for this date.

Old Business: The 2012 AIS Convention Committee Meeting will follow lunch this date, and will be held at the Sizzler in Riverside.

New Business: Vera encouraged all to attend the "Hassayampa Holiday" Fall Trek in Prescott, AZ October 10-11, 2008, and distributed promotional/tourist booklets. Additional information and registration flyer will be available at the Spring Trek in April.

Adjournment: Following another expression of appreciation to the Sims Learning Center for their hospitality in hosting the meeting, Kathy adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Several members enjoyed a ground and conservatory tour immediately afterward.

Respectfully submitted, Vera Stewart, Region 15 Secretary

Region 15 NEWS



IRISES ONLINE

American Iris Society

www.irises.org

*The following Region 15
Iris Clubs have iris websites:*

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

www.geocities.com/sfvis

Sun Country Iris Society

www.suncountryiris.org

Tucson Area Iris Society

www.tucsoniris.org

Region 15



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Carole Buchheim

...From the Editor

Mystic Lake Gardens is alive with the beauty of spring iris bloom. When I go to the garden it's difficult to decide what to do first—grab the gloves for weeding, the camera for photos, the notebook for the seedling bed, or the hybridizing kit for those future miracles of beauty.

Nearly equal demands have kept me at the computer. With my new position as the Editor of the Reblooming Iris Society *Recorder*, I have spent a great deal of time designing and producing the last two issues.

We in southern California should have a vested interest in reblooming irises because our environment allows for much more rebloom than in other parts of the country. The newer RE cultivars are making great strides in modern flower form, color patterns, and branching. My thanks to the San Diego Iris Society for focusing their October Fall Meeting on "Remarkable Rebloomers".

I wish to thank the Region 15 officers and affiliate presidents for their reports and responses to my urgent e-mails. Also thanks to George Holk and Ernestine Williams for their wonderful story on Sara Claire Holk. She was my dear friend and iris mentor. I hope that many of you can visit the Herb and Sara Holk Memorial Iris Garden at the Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center. It is truly a garden of beauty and remembrance.

—Carole Buchheim

COMMERCIAL GARDENS IN REGION 15

Golden's Iris Garden

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tedandrose1@cox.net
www.irishowseandgardens.com

Kary Iris Gardens

Ardi Kary
6201 East Calle Rosa
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 949-0253
ardikary@aol.com

Lakeside Gardens

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

Mystic Lake Gardens

Paul & Carole Buchheim
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Nuevo, CA 92567
(951) 746-9132
paulbuchheim@verizon.net
cbuchheim@verizon.net

Squires Iris Garden

Randy Squires
15906 Chase Street
North Hills, CA 91343-6306
(818) 892-1516
randysiris@juno.com

AIS 2007 CLASS & AM AWARDS

*Number of votes listed first
(TVC = Total Votes Cast)

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL (TVC = 469)
110 QUEEN'S CIRCLE (Frederick Kerr)

Runners-up:

- 46 STARWOMAN IB (Marky D. Smith)
- 37 GOLDEN PANTHER (Richard Tasco)

JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL (TB) (TVC = 1249)

- 75 STARRING (Joseph Ghio)
- 63 RING AROUND ROSIE (Richard Ernst)
- 54 DAUGHTER OF STARS (Donald Spoon)

Runners-up:

- 52 HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS (Roger Duncan)
- 49 ITALIAN ICE (Anna & David Cadd)
- 44 MY GINNY (Donald Spoon)

KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB) (TVC = 280)

101 GO FOR BOLD (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 66 TEAPOT TEMPEST (Lynn Markham)
- 59 CLASSIC NAVY (Carol Lankow)

HANS & JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB) (TVC = 335)

156 DELIRIUM (Marky D. Smith)

Runners-up:

- 73 MING (Marky D. Smith)
- 55 MISS MAUVE (Richard Tasco)

WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL (MTB) (TVC = 310)

96 MADAM PRESIDENT (Hugh Thurman)

Runners-up:

- 84 SOMEWHAT QUIRKY (Riley Probst)
- 60 YELLOW FLIRT (Kenneth Fisher)

COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB) (TVC = 300)

38 MUSIC (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

- 35 NEUTRON (Thomas Johnson)
- 34 JUST A CROC (Brad Kasperek)

CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL (MDB) (TVC = 206)

61 WISE (Thomas Johnson)

Runners-up:

- 60 YAK ATTACK (Brad Kasperek)
- 32 TINGLE (Paul Black)

CLARENCE G. WHITE MEDAL (TVC = 117)

(AR & AB) (Pure aril & arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

49 OMAR'S EYE (Carl Boswell)

Runner-up:

- 39 BYZANTINE ART (Lowell Baumunk)

WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL (AB) (TVC = 98)

(Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

50 HAKUNA MATATA (Anna & David Cadd)

Runner-up:

- 23 DESERT SURPRISE (Lin Flanagan)

FOUNDERS OF SIGNA MEDAL

(SPEC) (TVC = 109)

72 BAYOU BANDIT (Jeff Weeks by Farron Campbell)

Runner-up:

- 37 SYLVANSHINE (Clarence Mahan & Carol Warner)

RANDOLPH-PERRY MEDAL (SPEC-X) (TVC = 139)

67 SIBTOSA PRINCESS (Thomas Tamberg)

Runner-up:

- 58 ALPHA GNU (Brad Kasperek)

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL (CA) (TVC = 48)

8 PACIFIC MISS (Lois Belardi)

Runner-up:

- 7 MENDOCINO BLUE (Robert & Janet Canning)

DEBAILLON MEDAL (LA) (TVC = 166)

64 MY FRIEND DICK (Richard Butler by M.D. Faith)

Runners-up:

- 26 WHISTLING DIXIE (Mary Dunn)
- 22 JAZZ HOT (Heather Pryor)

MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB) (TVC = 295)

93 SHIPS ARE SAILING (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

Runners-up:

- 58 SOMEBODY LOVES ME (Robert Hollingworth)
- 50 CARMEN JEANNE (Calvin Hersley)

ERIC NIES MEDAL (SPU) (TVC = 155)

43 MISSOURI ORANGE (O.D. Niswonger)

Runners-up:

- 42 MISSOURI MOONLIGHT (O.D. Niswonger)
- 41 ELFIN SUNSHINE (B. Charles Jenkins)

PAYNE MEDAL (JI) (TVC = 121)

49 DIRIGO PINK MILESTONE (John White)

Runners-up:

- 32 LITTLE BOW PINK (Donald Delmez)
- 24 RASPBERRY CANDY (Robert Bauer & John Coble)

WALTHER CUP

(Most HM votes in any category)

145 FLORENTINE SILK TB (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

- 137 PLUM QUIRKY MTB (Riley Probst)
- 112 DIVIDING LINE MTB (Charles Bunnell)

AWARD OF MERIT

TALL BEARDED

197 PAUL BLACK (Thomas Johnson)

140 DRAMA QUEEN (Keith Keppel)

113 SLOVAK PRINCE (Anton Mego)

105 CRACKLING CALDERA (J. T. Aitken)

76 VENETIAN GLASS (Keith Keppel)

62 TELEPATHY (Keith Keppel)

59 FIRST WAVE (Richard Tasco)

57 ALPENVIEW (Keith Keppel)

49 SOLAR FIRE (Richard Tasco)

46 PARIS FASHION (Keith Keppel)

45 ABIQUA FALLS (Schreiner)

44 JUKE BOX HERO (Larry Lauer)

45 INSIDE TRACK (Keith Keppel)

44 PRESBY'S CROWN JEWEL (Schreiner)

44 SPICE LORD (Barry Blyth)

43 BADLANDS (Schreiner)

43 LADY OF LEONESS (Donald Spoon)

43 MIAH JANE (Tom Parkhill)

42 CRANBERRY SAUCE (Paul Black)

41 CODE RED (J. T. Aitken)

41 DOROTHY DEVENPORT (Hooker Nichols)

40 CARL AND SISSY (Paul Black)

40 DUNCAN'S SMILING EYES (Larry Lauer)

Runners-up:

- 38 BOLD ENCOUNTER (Paul Black)
- 38 FOREIGN LEGION (Keith Keppel)
- 37 DEVIL DAVID (Anna & David Cadd)

37 GAME PLAN (Keith Keppel)

37 LOVELY SENORITA (Schreiner)

37 SAMBUCA (Larry Johnson)

37 VAPOR (Joseph Ghio)

BORDER BEARDED

49 HEART OF AFRICA (Brad Kasperek)

46 CONGO BONGO (Brad Kasperek)

Runners-up:

- 45 BORDER GUARD (Joseph Ghio)
- 38 WAITING FOR OCTOBER (Larry Lauer)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

46 JUMP START (Keith Keppel)

44 DUDE (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

- 41 BOLD STATEMENT (Richard Tasco)
- 40 HARMONIUM (Marky D. Smith)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

81 DANCING LILACS (Stephanie Markham)

60 CONNECT THE DOTS (Lynda Miller)

Runners-up:

- 59 PUG (Eugene Kalkwarf)

57 LARRY'S GIRL (Stephanie Markham)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

67 FIRES OF FIJI (Paul Black)

64 ULTIMATE (Thomas Johnson)

39 BOURGEOIS (Paul Black)

35 DANCING BUNNIES (Paul Black)

33 BALLISTIC (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 29 NAVY RUFFLES (Thomas Johnson)
- 28 SABRINA'S SONG (A. & D Willott)
- 28 TICKETY BOO (O.D. Niswonger)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

43 WATERMARK (A. & D. Willott)

40 CHEMISTRY (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 37 CROWN OF SNOW (A. & D. Willott)
- 36 BLUE ASH (A. & D. Willott)

ARILBRED

(Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

16 KARAMEL PIZAZZ (D. L. Shepard)

14 ULALENA (George Sutton)

Runner-up:

- 13 FLAMBOYANT AFFAIR (Sharon McAllister)

ARIL AND ARILBRED

(Pure aril & arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

32 KALIFA'S CAPE (Robert Annand)

31 PINK SERAPH (Howard & Irene Shockey)

Runner-up:

- 30 MASADA'S GLORY (James Whitely)

SPECIES

64 VERSICLE (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

34 FOXCROFT FULL MOON (Katherine Steele)

Runner-up:

- 29 CROUCHING TIGER (Eric & Bob Tankesley-Clarke)

INTER-SPECIES CROSS

87 ALLY OOPS (Dana Borglum)

85 DOLCE (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 45 WILD PETTICOATS (Lynn Markham)
- 32 ROY'S LINES (J. T. Aitken)

CALIFORNICAE

12 STAR OF WONDER (Joseph Ghio)

8 MOCHA MELODY (Alphild Lind)

Runners-up:

- 7 DRIP DROP (Joseph Ghio)
- 6 MAGIC SEA (Lois Belardi)

LOUISIANA

41 HENRY ROWLAN (M. D. Faith)

21 ANN FAITH (M. D. Faith)

Runner-up:

- 25 RASPBERRY RILLA (Rilla Hickerson)

SIBERIAN

68 RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES (Robert Hollingworth)

64 BANISH MISFORTUNE (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

44 CHINA SPRING (R. Bauer & J. Coble)

Runners-up:

- 42 EMILY ANNE (Robert Hollingworth)
- 40 LAVENDER FAIR (Robert Hollingworth)

SPURIA

48 LACED SUNSHINE (D. L. Shepard)

44 BUTTER RIPPLES (B. Charles Jenkins)

Runners-up:

- 37 BLUEBERRY SUNDAE (O.D. Niswonger)

JAPANESE

19 BLUSHING SNOWMAIDEN (Chad Harris)

18 DIRIGO STAR (John White)

18 SLUMBERING DRAGON (R. Bauer & J. Coble)

Runners-up:

- 15 ANGEL MOUNTAIN (R. Bauer & J. Coble)
- 15 PEAK OF PINK (R. Bauer & J. Coble)

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