



The American  
Iris Society

# Region 15

Fall 2010 Semi-annual Report

**AIS REGION 15 FALL TREK**  
**DISCOVER THE NEW - ENJOY THE OLD**  
HOSTED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY IRIS AND DAYLILY CLUB

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2010**

**8:00AM TO 3:00PM**

**AT THE HUNTINGTON**

1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO CA

*See page 15 for registration form and hotel info*

## SCHEDULE

Continental Breakfast  
Region 15 Board Meeting  
Region 15 General Meeting  
Special Guest Speaker: Fred Kerr of Rainbow Acres  
Lunch  
Judges Training  
Raffle!  
Enjoy the Huntington Gardens

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**The American Iris Society  
Region 15**

www.region15ais.org

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**Ways and Means Committee:**  
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**Youth Program:** Cheryl Deaton  
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*Letter from the Editor*  
*by Katharina Notarianni*

For those of you who do not know me, I am a member of the San Diego Iris Society and also the Inland Region Iris Society. I am editor for the San Diego Iris Society and have a publishing business, Healing Time Books, that promotes my book *The Beauty of Irises*. I accepted the invitation to take on the role of Editor for AIS Region 15 when Kathy Chilton said she was getting too busy with her business.

I started growing irises in my garden in Ramona CA about 6 years ago, after I was convinced to take home several rhizomes by Norma and Leon Vogel at one of the San Diego Iris Society sales at Balboa Park. After seeing all the blooms open the next Spring, I was hooked. I started photographing my irises and before I knew it, I had a book's worth of photos. My husband, John, also got involved in the photography. Being a computer tech, he took to digital photography like a duck to water. So that is how it all started for us. The most fun has been getting to know all the people who love irises as much as I do!

Thanks to the many Region 15 members who contributed to the content within this newsletter. The usual officer reports, minutes of recent Region 15 meetings and financial statements can be found on pages 4-9. I want to extend a personal thanks to Richard Richards who generously reported on both the Spuria Trek (pages 10-11) and the SPCNI Trek (page 12) and finishes on a humorous note regarding his Tiller (page 24).

The next trek is scheduled for October 2nd at the Huntington. The Orange County Iris and Daylily Club will be hosting this event, and the registration form is included on page 15. I wrote of my own experience of the Huntington Gardens on page 14 which I hope will inspire you to attend the Fall Trek.

The recent Spring Trek in Tucson which Kathy Chilton and the Tucson Area Iris Society organized is featured in this newsletter. Kathy writes about her novel approach to making the trek more accessible on page 21, and I wrote about some of the sensational irises we saw in the gardens on page 17 with lots of photos of irises from the trek. Thanks to Kathy for also contributing photos of the gardens we visited.

If you are hybridizing and wish to submit your irises for inclusion in the 2012 AIS National Convention gardens in Ontario, California, please see pages 33-34 for instructions, deadlines and forms. Also on page 14 is a separate invitation to hybridizers for the 2012 Region 13 Trek in Seattle, Washington.

Those of you who are receiving this newsletter by mail may wish to consider getting it by email -- it will be in full color with links to all the websites mentioned. Also, AIS Region 15 will save money on printing and postage which can be best be used for fun activities like the Spring and Fall Treks.

I welcome your comments on what you would like to read about in future newsletters. Also please email me photos and articles to AISregion15editor@gmail.com.

**Send your articles, ideas and iris photos for the next  
Region 15 newsletter to AISregion15editor@gmail.com**

# AIS REGION 15 UPDATE

*by Cheryl Deaton, Regional Vice President*

**“YES WE CAN!”** That should be the motto of Region 15. When we are handed a challenge, we always seem to find a solution. Our members are always thinking ‘outside the box’. This kind of thinking leads to interesting experiences. The latest example is the “Low Tech Trek” that some of us were fortunate enough to participate in down in Tucson. Kathy Chilton and her trusty crew from the Tucson Area Iris Society were very innovative in providing us with a new and unusual Spring Trek. There were a few minor glitches here and there, but for a first time effort, it was highly successful and very enjoyable. Let’s face it, when we can get together with some wonderful people to view our favorite flower in a variety of settings, success is almost guaranteed! Thanks to everyone who had a part in a fun filled weekend.

Our next interesting challenge will be the 2011 Spring Trek, hosted by yours truly. I took some notes from the Tucson experience, but this trek will be even MORE ‘low tech’. In many ways it will resemble a Fall meeting, but with a garden. Plans are still in the fluid stage right now, but I should have things ready by the Fall Trek October 2nd hosted by Orange County Iris & Daylily Club. Speaking of the Fall Trek, look for the registration form on page 15 of this newsletter. Don’t wait, sign up now if you haven’t already. Fred Kerr will be our guest speaker. I’m really looking forward to seeing many of you there.

A continuing challenge for our Region is the 2012 AIS National Convention. Many plans are in place, the gardens will be receiving the guest rhizomes in just a few months, and everyone involved is busy taking care of the 101 details necessary to host such a huge undertaking. We are very fortunate in Region 15 to have so many willing hands sharing the responsibilities. In talking with John Baker, convention chair for Madison, Wisconsin, the 2010 AIS Convention was accomplished with only 8 people on their committee. They did a wonderful job, but I’m amazed they kept their sanity! I learned quite a lot in talking to all of them, and I know we will avoid many of the problems they encountered because of all the hard-working members of Region 15.

One thing I’ve learned from attending conventions, regional meetings, section meetings and other iris related events is that you don’t have to have the most beautiful, manicured, perfect ‘showplace’ garden, nor do you need ten gardens to visit in just a few hours (Anyone remember the movie “If It’s Tuesday This Must Be Belgium?”). Irisarians enjoy gardens, whether it is a small postage stamp personal garden with 40 plants, or a HUGE botanical garden with thousands upon thousands of plants. We get ideas for our own gardens by seeing what others do in theirs, whether it is how plants relate to each other, what plants do well and which ones don’t, decorations that make the garden more interesting, or not, and we like getting to know other gardeners and sharing our knowledge and experiences. Our gardens are ever evolving, and so are we. I wouldn’t have it any other way! So, if you are asked to accept a ‘challenge’, don’t say no. Remember, YES WE CAN!

## **AIS Region 15 Trek Wheel**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
Fall 2010 Trek	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club	Oct 2	The Huntington
Spring 2011 Trek	Stanton Iris Gardens / Cheryl Deaton	Apr 30	Valley Center, CA
Fall 2011 Trek	Inland Region Iris Society	Nov 12-13	
Spring 2012 Trek	AIS National Convention	Apr 16-21	Ontario, CA
Fall 2012 Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society		
Spring 2013 Trek	San Diego Iris Society		
Fall 2013 Trek	Verde Valley Area Iris Society		
Spring 2014 Trek	Southern California Iris Society		

## *AIS Region 15 Officers to be elected on October 2, 2010*

Officers for AIS Region 15 will be voted on during the General Membership meeting on October 2, 2010. The slate of officers is presented as follows:

- RVP - Cheryl Deaton (term ending Fall 2011)
- Assistant RVP - Winona Stevenson (term ending Fall 2011)
- Treasurer - Barbara Lauck (new 3-year term)
- Secretary - Joyce Poling (new 3-year term)

## *Treasurer's Report for Region 15 (Year Ended 12-31-09) by Jill Bonino*

Operating income was above budget and expenses were below budget this year, leaving the Region with only a small operating loss of (\$97.52). Much better than expected. Region Auction Sales have not been received from Inland Region Iris Society, Orange County Iris & Daylily Club and Sonoran Desert Iris Society, so there is potential for added 2009 income. This also happened in 2009, with \$900 of operating income coming from 2008 Auction sales.

All of the Certificates of Deposit held at Edward Jones will mature in 2010, and it is likely that interest rates will be significantly lower on renewals than the 4% they are paying now. The Bank of America Checking account has more in it than necessary for paying bills in the first half of the year, so I recommend that some of this be put into the Edward Jones Money Market Account to be added to the Comerica Bank CD when it matures in May.

It is likely that some of the Convention 2012 checking account will be spent this year for advance costs such as garden tags and buttons among others. That will be reported on a separate Convention Financial Statement by Convention Treasurer Carol Huffman.

Please refer to the financial statements included on pages 8-9 for more detail.

## *Historian Report by Linda Smith*

For those of you who normally send me a hard copy of your newsletter, would you please also send me a pdf or word doc version by email to [irisgrower@cableone.net](mailto:irisgrower@cableone.net)

I hope to have all of 2009 Region 15 newsletters on a disk. I plan to do the same for 2010. If you have back further that's great too. Please call 928-567-7470 if you have any questions.

## *Ways and Means Report by Kathy Chilton*

The auction irises are coming! The bulk will be shipped on August 30th, giving plenty of time for them to arrive before the Labor Day holiday. Please visit our Region 15 website - [www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org) - for photos of all the auction irises and a complete description list. These are easily downloadable for printing or putting into a digital presentation for your auctions. Please encourage your members to visit the website to see the irises and photos from the trek. If your club has a digital projector available, it really makes the auctions more interesting when members can see photos of the irises they are bidding on.

After your auction is held, please send the check to our Region Treasurer, Jill Bonino, as soon as possible. This activity is our only fundraiser for our region and we appreciate your help. It is also a fun way for region members to obtain newer irises at (sometimes!) bargain prices. Have fun adding some new irises to your garden!



**AIS REGION 15 SPRING BOARD MEETING  
 MINUTES - APRIL 16, 2010  
 RAMADA INN & SUITES FOOTHILLS - TUCSON, ARIZONA**

Attendees: Cheryl Deaton, Hi-Desert & DS, So. Cal IS, SFVIS, and Region 15 VP; Winona Stevenson, Hi-Desert & DS, Region 15 Ass't VP and Membership Chr.; Vera Stewart, PAIS and Region 15 Secretary; Kathy Chilton, TAIS & SCIS; Jill Bonino, SFVIS and Region 15 Treasurer; Joyce Poling, Sun Country IS; Barbara Lauch, IRIS; Janis Shackelford, SDIS; Carolyn Alexander, PAIS; Linda Smith, VAIS; Katharina Notarianni, SDIS; Pauline Bessey, TAIS; Ardi Kary, Sun Country IS; Jack Weber, Sun Country IS; Karen Berganno, Region 23 and Judges Chair; Carol Morgan, IRIS; Bill Molnar, SDIS; Linda Rossman, PAIS; Jim and Edith Schade, SDIS.

Welcome and Introductions: Cheryl Deaton, RVP

Minutes of Winter Board Meeting: Vera Stewart read the minutes from the Winter Board Meeting held January 30, 2010 at the Doubletree, Ontario, CA; these minutes had been recorded by Judy Book. Janis Shackelford clarified that the new California requirement regarding non-profit organizations and raffle annual reports is for only those organizations that have a yearly profit of \$25,000 or more. Also door prizes and donated items are not considered to be a raffle. The motion by Kathy Chilton to approve the minutes as corrected was seconded by Janis; the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report - Jill Bonino: Jill reported that the Region 15 Treasury is in a better position for this time of year than in the past. The last two clubs to submit their auction receipts - Inland and Orange Country - contributed receipts for another \$1,000 to make a total of \$5,110. Only Sonoran Desert did not participate. Expenses for the Spring 2010 Region Newsletter came in significantly under budget - \$760 versus around \$1,000 - due to electronic distribution. The operating loss for the period from Jan. 1 - April 16, 2010 is \$1,456.78; total Region Assets are currently \$30,117.83.

Interest rates on Certificates of Deposit remain low, so the Region CD for \$6,000 will renew in May in the 1% range. Jill anticipates being on budget for the year. Winona Stevenson moved that the report be accepted; Kathy Chilton seconded; motion carried.

Fall Trek 2010: Jill Bonino spoke for Orange County and announced that the Fall Trek 2010 date is set for Saturday, October 2, at the Huntington Gardens. The host hotel and speaker are not final yet.

Affiliation Reports: Cheryl reported that all reports had been submitted. The strengths and weaknesses were similar - a core group of people doing the work, getting new people interested an ongoing challenge; the problem is nationwide.

Awards - Jane Troutman: Jane stated she has adequate supply of awards.

Historian - Linda Smith: Linda reported she is working on a system for collecting the information, the decision whether to use paper or disk, in Word or PDF. She requested that clubs provide materials from as far back as the society goes, for example newsletters, Show folders, etc. She was pleased that Judy Torigoe from the Village of Oak Creek in the Verde Valley, a piano teacher, had donated a large amount of file boxes to store paper items submitted to her. Cheryl added that four file boxes of records going back to the 1920s that were in LaVern Conrad's estate had been donated and that they could be scanned.

Newsletter Editor - Kathy Chilton: Kathy stated that her landscaping business has grown to the point where she cannot continue with being editor and requested a replacement. Katharina Notarianni from the San Diego affiliate agreed to assume this position. She asked that those clubs that have electronic newsletters e-mail them to the Region 15 website, including pictures and event schedules. There are 6-8 people coming to the Trek activities just from finding the information on the website.

Nominating Committee - Cheryl Deaton: Cheryl announced that the three year terms for Secretary and Treasurer will expire this fall and that nominations for their replacements will be needed for the October meeting. Linda Smith volunteered to assist with finding nominees. Joyce Poling stated that she would accept the Secretary position.

Membership - Winona Stevenson: Region 15 membership has increased over the last three months by four and is now at 314; this is still down from 2009 and she urged that affiliates encourage their members to join AIS.

Judges Training - Winona Stevenson: Winona stated she was pleased with the reports being submitted in advance of the shows and thanked the trainers and presidents for the advance notice.

AIS REGION 15 SPRING BOARD MEETING - MINUTES APRIL 16, 2010  
RAMADA INN & SUITES FOOTHILLS TUCSON, ARIZONA (CONTINUED)

Youth Program - Cheryl Deaton: There are currently just five members, and one will age-out soon. She encouraged affiliates to talk to Girl and Boy Scouts as there are merit badges available in the gardening area.

Ways & Means: Ardi Kary announced that everything went smoothly with the digs and mailing of rhizomes after Spring Trek 2009.; she described one successful incentive - Jack Weber gave out one free rhizome per hour of work. Kathy Chilton will assume this task now post Spring Trek 2010.

Region 15 Website - Cheryl for Tim: A request was made for affiliates to send the following: Updates for changes in officers, program information - especially Judges' Training and speakers and results/pictures of Shows or other special events.

Cheryl also reminded each affiliate to send their AIS Show reports to her (RVP) in addition to AIS and to send a copy of each newsletter to the other affiliate presidents as well as the website. She shared the information that Show ribbons will cost more money in 2011.

Affiliate Report/Comments:

- **San Diego:** President Janice Shackelford described the BBQ meeting at Iris Howse & Gardens and a trek to Stanton Iris Gardens as successful and well attended. The SDIS Spring Iris Show will be in May with election of officers in June with an ice cream social.
- **San Fernando Valley:** Jill Bonino spoke for Steve Fletcher. Free rhizomes are given when new members join their club. Kathy Chilton will present the Florence Italy program at their May meeting; they have 12 meetings a year. Their member garden trek will include five-six gardens.
- **Sonoran Desert:** Cheryl spoke for president Darol Jurn, who had communicated with her that they hold four meetings a year and do not want to disband at this time.
- **Southern California:** No report, but Cheryl spoke for president Mike Monninger that 'Jesse's Song' won Best of Show at their April 10th Show; there was a full gamut of iris classes represented.
- **Sun Country:** Ardi Kary reported on their monthly presidential rotation. Members had an opportunity to sign up for a month as 'President in Training'; they attend the Board meeting the month prior to their month as president. She is hopeful that they will have a viable presidential candidate next year. April 16th has been set for their 2011 AIS Show. On June 12, 2010 members will travel to Forest Lakes where 12 feet of snow blanketed the northern AZ area which is summer home to some members.
- **Verde Valley:** President Linda Smith reported on a popular program that featured a hands on activity on flower arranging. She also said there were many new wineries in the Verde Area, and she hoped to incorporate a wine tour for the Fall Trek in 2011 in the Verde area.
- **Hi-Desert & Day Lily:** Cheryl stated they are meeting in a new college location, and their AIS Show is mid April. They sold \$1600 of rhizomes in one-gallon pots at the Home Show; a popular option was the rainbow collection - six pots for \$10 - club's' choice.
- **Inland:** Barbara Lauck spoke for Carol Bucheim that they also are meeting in a new location - the Senior Center, and that there is a shortage of judges for the AIS Show due to many affiliates holding their shows on the same date.
- **Lompoc:** No report.
- **Orange County:** No report.
- **Prescott Area:** President Carolyn Alexander reported on their campaign to increase membership, and stated that their 2nd AIS sanctioned Show will be May 8th with nine judges. A new activity is Artists & Iris Day in Yarnell, a town approximately one hour from Prescott. The NIIP program is in its second year.
- **Tucson:** Kathy Chilton welcomed affiliates to Tucson for the initiation of the first "Low Tech Trek". She thanked Maxine Piper for the preparation of the Trek handout, and described how the caravan would work for the Saturday garden tours. She added that the Tucson Botanical Museum gardens had been replanted and were in top form, that Sunday a.m. would be a great time to visit the Desert Land Museum - a real jewel - and that Bert Detweiler had Louisiana iris available for view.

Trek Wheel:

2010 Fall Trek - October 2, Orange County Iris and Daylily Society at the Huntington in San Marino

2011 Spring Trek - (Date change) April 30 at Stanton Iris Gardens in Valley Center, this is 45-60 minutes from Balboa Park in San Diego

2011 Fall Trek - November 12, Inland Region Iris Society; the Reblooming Iris Society and TBIS will be invited as well

2012 Spring Trek - AIS National Convention - Ontario CA

Cheryl stated she would like to table further Trek Wheel decisions; she will confirm the assignments for Fall of 2012 and both Treks for 2013 and 2014, and request that the Editor print them in the next newsletter.

Old Business: California Raffle Requirements was discussed earlier.

New Business:

\* Billie Stone, longtime Region 15 member has died; there will be an opportunity for donations at the 2010 Fall Meeting.

\* AIS Convention Raffle - Possible fund-raising ideas were briefly discussed. One was to sell raffle tickets for registration to the 2012 National Convention - two registrations, five nights at the hotel, and entry to Buchheim Gardens, \$5.00 each or three for \$10.00, seven for \$20.00. This received very positive responses, but a problem with a Post Office regulation prohibiting mailing of ticket stubs in regular mail was raised. Could Fed Ex be used? The consensus was that this idea was a viable one, but due to the lateness of the hour and need for the Committee for the National Convention to meet, action was deferred.

Adjournment: The motion was made by Barbara Lauck and seconded by Carolyn Alexander; motion carried at 5:22 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Region 15 Secretary, Vera Stewart*

REGION 15 SPRING GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 17, 2010  
HOSTED BY THE TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY  
RAMADA INN & SUITES FOOTHILLS - TUCSON, ARIZONA

After tours to four different gardens in the Tucson area had been enjoyed by around 80 individuals there was a buffet dinner and meeting attended by approximately 70 irisarians at the Ramada host hotel. Kathy Chilton, TAIS president, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Kathy extended thanks to the garden owners who had generously opened their properties to the Region 15 members and guests. They were: Hermans, Fenwicks, Jensen, and Besseys. "In-Garden" Judges Training was provided at the Fenwick Garden by Gerry Snyder. Judges training on "Ethics" had been presented the previous evening by Karen Bergamo from Region 23. Kathy also expressed appreciation to Maxine Piper who had prepared the map and directions, plus assisted with registration. In addition she thanked the attendees that came to the first "lo-tech trek".

Before turning the microphone over to Jane Troutman, Kathy commented that there had been a wide scattering of votes for the deserving cultivars. Awards Chair Jane Troutman then presented the trophies as follows:

- Herb Holk Award (Best in Region Cultivar) a tie between: '**Birthday Magic**', (2009 Valenzuela) and '**Renegade Lady**' (2009 Deaton)
- Hamner Award (Best in Region Seedling) tie between: Deaton seedling **TBSYNC2**, a lavender/yellow spaceager she named 'Avery's Hugs' (in memory of the late Avery Poling) and Squires seedling **3-82**, a pink spaceager
- Clair Barr (Best Out of Region Cultivar) '**Black Magic Woman**' (2008 Tasco)
- Best Seedling (Out of Region) Van Liere sdlg. **23GW31**

Kathy then introduced speakers Hugh and Jennifer Stout from Dancing Tree Iris & Daylilies, Oklahoma City - who presented a digital tour entitled "What's New and What's Coming in Iris". Iris gardens included Keppel, Mid-America, Schreiners, Cooleys for prior 10-12 years, with emphasis on just the last two years.

Although there had not been the usual raffle and auction items each person attending the meeting was given a ticket, and lucky numbers were drawn for unexpected donors of iris, related items, and gift certificates - Richard Richards, Gary Pederson of Gardeners World, Stanton Iris Gardens, and the Stout Gardens.

The meeting closed with the role call of affiliate clubs, which included the guest speakers from Region 22 and JT speaker Karen Bergamo from Region 23. Dismissal occurred at 8:30 p.m., with a verbal reminder that the Fall Trek will occur October 2, 2010 at the Huntington Gardens in San Marino, California.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Region 15 Secretary, Vera Stewart*

## REGION 15 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12-31-09

<b>CHECKING BALANCE 10-08-09</b>		<b>\$ 1,826.14</b>
<b>DEPOSITS</b>		
10-13-09 Ad income	\$250.	
10-13-09 Auction Sales Hi Desert	\$500.	
10-13-09 Auction Sales PAIS	\$392.	\$1,142.
11-02-09 Auction Sales SoCalls		\$400.
11-16-09 Auction Sales SFVIS		\$807.
12-11-09 Auction Sales Sun Cntry	\$300.	
12-11-09 Newsletter Sub	\$5.	\$ 305.
12-30-09 Auction Sales SDIS	\$740.	
12-30-09 Auction Sales Verde Val	\$150.	\$890.
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>\$ 3,544.00</b>
<b>CHECKS</b>		
10-10-09 #175 Cheryl Deaton Officer Expense		\$13.43
#176 used in 2008		
11-17-09 #177 Ardi Kary Spring Trek Shipping		\$249.70
11-04-09 Service Charge--Retn cancelled check		\$3.00
<b>TOTAL WITHDRAWALS</b>		<b>(\$ 266.13)</b>
<b>CHECKING BALANCE 12-31-09</b>		<b>\$5,104.01</b>

### **BANK OF AMERICA CD--RVP CD**

Balance 10-08-09		\$8,891.08
Interest Oct 2009	\$ 6.48	
Interest Nov 2009	\$7.88	
Interest Dec 2009	\$6.72	\$21.08
<b>Balance 12-31-09</b>		<b>\$8,912.16</b>

## REGION 15 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY 2010 BUDGET

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>DRAFT</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>
Advertising Income	\$ 250.00	
Region Auctions	4,000.00	
CD Bank Interest	350.00	
Donations for Website	100.00	
Other	50.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 4,750.00</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Newsletter		\$ 2,000.00
RVP Travel		1,000.00
Officer Fund		1,000.00
Spring Trek		1,000.00
Fall Meeting		500.00
Memorials/Donations		200.00
Reg 15 Website		495.00
Other		100.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 6,295.00</b>
<b>BUDGETED NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>		<b>(\$1,545.00)</b>



# REGION 15 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT

## 2009 Income & Expenses FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12-31-09

	APPROVED BUDGET 2009	01-01-09 TO 10-08-09 ACTUAL	10-08-09 TO 12-31-09 ACTUAL	TOTAL YTD	OVER UNDER BUDGET 2009
<b>INCOME</b>					
Advertising Income	100.00	150.00	250.00	400.00	300.00
Region Auctions**	4,000.00	1,721.00 <sup>a</sup>	3,289.00	5,010.00 <sup>a</sup>	1,010.00
CD Bank Interest:	500.00			743.70	243.70
Bank of AM CD		208.11	21.08		
Ed Jones MM		2.21	.08		
ED Jones CD		290.96	221.26		
Donations for Website	0.00	100.00		100.00	100.00
Newsletter Subscription			5.00	5.00	5.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4,600.00</b>	<b>2,472.28</b>	<b>3,786.42</b>	<b>6,258.70</b>	<b>1,658.70</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Newsletter	2,000.00	1,937.91		1,937.91	(\$ 62.09)
RVP Travel	1,000.00				( 1,000.00)
Officer Fund	1,000.00	146.28	13.43	159.71	( 840.29)
Spring Trek	1,000.00	1,500.00		1,500.00	500.00
Spring Trek Shipping			249.70	249.70	249.70
Fall Meeting	500.00				( 500.00)
Awards/Spring	1,275.00	1,919.27		1,919.27	644.27
Region 15 Website	495.00	495.00		495.00	--
Miscellaneous	0.	82.00	12.00	94.00	94.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 7,270.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,080.46</b>	<b>\$ 275.13</b>	<b>\$6,355.59</b>	<b>(\$ 914.41)</b>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>(\$2,670.00)</b>	<b>(\$3,608.18)</b>	<b>\$ 3,511.29</b>	<b>(\$ 97.52)</b>	<b>\$2,573.11</b>

<sup>a</sup>- Includes \$900 of 2008 sales deposited in 2009.

### \*\*REGION AUCTION RECEIPTS 2009

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily	\$ 500.00
Inland Region IS	
Lompoc Valley IS	\$ 150.00
Orange County Iris & Daylily	
Prescott Area IS	\$ 392.00
San Diego IS	\$ 740.00
San Fernando Valley IS	\$ 807.00
Sonoran Desert IS	
So Calif IS	\$ 400.00
Sun Country IS	\$ 300.00
Tuscon Area IS	671.00
Verde Valley Area IS	\$ 150.00
<b>TOTAL 2009</b>	<b>\$ 4,110.00</b>

# 2010 Spuria Trek

by Richard C. Richards

Viewing irises in a rough and tumble real garden is quite a bit different from the fantasy world of the show bench. In the garden you take them as they are, half open, half wilted, or even half present. On the show bench they seem to be citizens of a vast eternal present-- perfect, unchanging, almost unreal. At least for a while.

Such was life at the combined garden trek of the Spuria Society and the Region 13 Spring Meeting, hosted very capably by the Greater Portland Iris Society in mid June, 2010. The considerable spring rains (and spring comes late around Portland) had produced some muddy going in places, and the recent emergence of the sun as a factor in bringing on bud opening left some blooms half open, some half wilted, and some truncated in unexpected ways. I love it this way. It's so real. Sometimes the wild life found on the flowers almost growls at you.

Four area gardens were amply planted with spurias for the extravaganza. Abbey Gardens of Dave Silverberg and Nancy Price, Chehalem Gardens of Tom and Ellen Abrego, Salmon Creek Gardens of Terry and Barbara Aitken, and Wildwood Gardens of Will and Tracy Plotner provided a good display of the latest in spurias as well as some of the oldies but goodies.

It was a chance for me, who has not been in contact with the spuria world for a decade or two, to catch up on some of the impressive new and recent introductions, and to savor the progress that has been made by the resolute hybridizers. Of course, there is never enough beauty in the world, and a chance to enjoy the poised, stately appeal of the spuria flower and stalk just howled to be taken. I took that chance.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and that is true, unless you are being paid by the word. I am not. So here are some pictures of spurias I thought were very attractive, as they demanded attention in the various gardens.



**Red War Cloud (photo above left)**, a 2010 introduction by Lee Walker, a resident of the greater Portland area if you can extend those boundaries out a hundred miles or two, certainly was an outstanding spuria seen in several gardens at peak, and was rewarded as the favorite of the trek. My picture does not capture the brilliance of the gold spot against the red background of the falls and standards. From a distance it appeared that there were beacons of light emanating from the sun-lit flowers. Will Plotner, the introducer, may have trouble keeping this one in stock.

**Speeding Star (photo above middle)**, from the Cadds in 2002, captured my attention over and over. I love the combination of blue and white, and I have never seen anything quite like this. It looks good in pictures, and great in person. I find blue and white combinations often appealing, but this is ridiculous. I think it is a potential showstopper, if you want to stop a show.

**Moonlight Sky (photo above right)**, again from the Cadds and introduced in the same year as Speeding Star, was not at peak, but I photographed it anyway. You can get some idea of the charm of the pastel yellow enhancing the basic chaste white of the

## 2010 Spuria Trek by Richard C. Richards (continued from page 10)

flower from the photograph I did manage to take. Those people accustomed to the typical bright yellow or gold spot on the falls of a spuria flower will find this delightfully subtle.

I'm a sucker for a blue iris. **Steely Eyes** from Lee Walker in 2006 balances the soft blue of the falls with the bright blue of the standards. A nice yellow spot on the falls keeps the bright blue standards from dominating the flower, and results in a wonderfully balanced color treat.

Speaking of blue spurias, and spurias can have delightful shades of blue, there was **Tiger Blues**, a relative oldie from McCown (1980), but certainly a beautiful iris. Basically similar in coloration to Steely Eyes, the yellow spot on the falls of Tiger Blues is broken up into rays of yellow, extending down the falls until they run out of gas part way down and simply disappear into the pale blue which characterizes the falls. This one was not in competition for any awards. Who cares? Appeal can appear in some of the most unexpected places.

If you like dark irises, with just a hint of a spot on the falls, the very dark **Mahogany Lord** from Barry Blyth (1994) is a combination of chocolate and purple. Does that sound strange? Go look at it yourself and see. My picture is not the best, but it shows enough for you to get the idea. It was also not in competition for any trek prize. That's a shame.

I could only find a half opened flower of **Wild at Heart** (Barry Blyth, 1999), and it captivated me with its outrageous dark standards and brilliant golden falls. "Flamboyant" fails to capture its spirit. It was another iris that was not an official entrant, but it kicked me in the shins and demanded attention. It got that attention. Part of the joy of this trek was seeing the quality spurias that were not in competition for any trek award, but were delights nevertheless.

And of course, one of the all-time greats, **Adriatic Blue** (Niswonger 1996) was putting on its own private show, which is a good thing since it can usually hold its own or better in any competition. So bright and cheerful. I wonder if it glows in the dark.

This is a very small listing of some of the spurias that caught my attention. Of course there were dozens of others I have not mentioned, but life is short, time is fleeting, and my feet hurt after four gardens worth of delight.

The plague of the iris world is that the vast majority of irises of all kinds come into bloom around the country in the spring, and this causes judges to miss sleep, iris lovers to pick and choose as wisely as they can, and then spend way too much money traveling to where they think they will find the most aesthetic rewards, week after week, until they shrivel up into a contented heap of delight, to dream of rebloom and what to see next spring. There are reports of repeat bloom among spurias, and that suggests that, in the very least, the bloom season of spurias can be extended through patient hybridizing. How many generations will it take to get dependable rebloom, or at least repeat bloom?

Those who missed the Spuria trek missed a tremendous lot. There is much more in the iris world than tall bearded irises.

\* \* \* \* \*

Richard Richards, a professor of philosophy, avid gardener and iris hybridizer, is on a quest for a true green iris preferably with reblooming qualities. Richard introduced TB 'Easy Being Green' in 2009, a very tall and vigorous iris available through Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden. Richard is also passionate about Pacific coast native irises and is currently hybridizing PCIs for tolerance of warmer daytime and cooler nighttime inland temperatures.



**Steely Eyes**



**Tiger Blues**



**Mahogany Lord**



**Wild At Heart**



**Adriatic Blue**



# SPCNI Trek (June 2010)

by Richard C. Richards

A van full of semi-euphoric people traveled the dirt roads of the Oregon coastal mountains in the middle of June, looking for stands of native Californicae species irises and their natural hybrids. They were more than richly rewarded for two days of seeking. Bloom was near peak.

While this may not be everyone's cup of frosted mocha lime fizz frappe, there is nothing quite like not seeing more than one other vehicle in eight or nine hours, getting black stares from the two Forest Service personnel we saw, and being overwhelmed by the beauty of the scenery and the irises. Native rhododendrons and pitcher plants provided comic relief.

The SPCNI (Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises) arranges one of the séances every few years, and if you like getting nose to nose with Mother Nature, accompanied by people of like mind and nose, you missed something special.

Attached are a few pictures of what we saw. Interesting variations in populations of irises occurred where two or more species had interbred. Variations in pure populations were evident. We saw three species and their hybrids: *I. tenax*, *I. chrysophylla*, and *I. innominata*. With expert commentary we were able to appreciate the differences and the finer points of understanding one of Ma Nature's finest yet subtle tricks.



*i. tenax*



*i. innominata*



*i. tenax-chrysophylla*



*i. chrysophylla*

# PROGRAMS! PROGRAMS! PROGRAMS!

by RVP Cheryl Deaton

Everyone has experienced an interesting program given at their local club meeting, and every club is always looking for new and interesting programs to have at their club meetings. I would like to start a list of speakers and program availability for Region 15, so that every club would have access to programs that others have enjoyed.

- Have you seen a program that you think others might enjoy?
- Did you give a program for your club that you would be willing to share with another club?
- Do you have an idea for a program that you think would be of interest to members of Region 15?

If you can answer yes to even one of these questions, then please fill out the form below and email / mail it to me at:

**Cheryl Deaton**  
**27218 Walnut Springs Ave.**  
**Canyon Country, CA 91351-3314**  
**Email: Region15kids@hotmail.com**

I hope to have the information available at the Fall meeting on October 2nd. Thanks for helping make Region 15 one of the best in AIS!

Cheryl Deaton, RVP

## SPEAKER & PROGRAM AVAILABILITY FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM TOPIC

RUNNING TIME

Judges Training?

EQUIPMENT NEEDS \_\_\_\_\_

FEE ? \_\_\_\_\_

AVAILABILITY \_\_\_\_\_

WILLING TO TRAVEL OUT OF STATE ? \_\_\_\_\_

I RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS

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**SAVE THE DATE! OCTOBER 2, 2010**

**AIS Region 15 Fall Trek at  
The Huntington Gardens  
by Katharina Notarianni**

If you have never visited the Huntington Gardens, this is a grand opportunity to get the full experience firsthand along with fellow iris loving friends. And for those of you who are longtime fans of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, like myself, it will be fun to see the gardens in their autumn glory. I usually visit in the Spring to see the wisteria in bloom in the Japanese garden, so seeing what's blooming in October will be a first for me. The Huntington gardens include 120 landscaped acres with over 14,000 different varieties of plants showcased in various garden areas. From the rose gardens to the Japanese garden to the new Chinese garden to the Desert gardens and more, if you love plants and gardening, this is the place to be on October 2nd for the AIS Region 15 Fall Trek.

Famous for its rose gardens, curated by well known rosarian Clair Martin, it is a great honor for the Huntington to agree to host a guest iris garden for the 2012 AIS National Convention (Good job, Carole Buchheim!). They have set aside beds specifically for the 2012 convention irises, and these will be planted in August and September with the rhizomes that commercial growers and individual hybridizers are sending in for evaluation -- see invitation and guest iris forms on pages 33-34. Although the irises will just be getting established for their 2-year growing period prior to the convention, we might see a few reblooming irises in bloom. In addition to the gardens, the Huntington is well known for its traditional English high tea service at The Rose Garden Tea Room. Reservations need to be made well in advance - just visit the Huntington's website at [www.huntington.org](http://www.huntington.org).

The weather should be marvelous, but if it gets too warm, we can spend time in the cool air conditioned art galleries for which the Huntington is famous. The Huntington Art Gallery houses the European art collection and includes one of the most distinguished collections of 18th- and 19th-century British paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts outside of London. The Huntington's American art collection includes exceptional works from the 1690s to the 1950s.

I hope you plan to join fellow Region 15 AIS members at the Huntington on October 2nd. The registration form for this event, hosted by the Orange County Iris and Daylily Club, is on page 15.



**2012 AIS REGION 13 CONVENTION - SEATTLE  
---Invitation to Bearded Iris Hybridizers ---**

The King County Iris Society will host the American Iris Society Region 13 Convention in Seattle, Washington in May 2012. Hybridizers of Bearded varieties of irises are invited to send recent introductions or seedlings under consideration for introduction.

Shipments will be accepted **August 1, 2010 through September 17, 2010**. Prior notification of the guest irises you plan to send will be greatly appreciated so the garden owners may be best prepared to receive them. Receipts will be sent to the contributors of guest plants.

Send guest plants, your questions and all related communications to:

**Dwayne Booth**  
**Guest Iris Chairman**  
**P.O. Box 6462**  
**Lynnwood, WA 98036**  
**Phone (425) 971-5607**  
**Email DBooAnn1@msn.com**



# **AIS REGION 15 FALL TREK**

## **"DISCOVER THE NEW -- ENJOY THE OLD"**

HOSTED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY IRIS AND DAYLILY CLUB

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2010**

**8:00AM TO 3:00PM**

**AT THE HUNTINGTON**

**LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS & BOTANICAL GARDENS**

**1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO CA 91108**

### **Speaker**

Fred Kerr, iris hybridizer, owner of Rainbow Acres in North Highlands, CA

### **Lodging**

Many hotels in nearby Pasadena  
OCIDC choice:  
Santa Anita Inn  
130 West Huntington Drive  
Arcadia CA 91007  
Tel. (626) 446-5211  
Rate of \$69 if you mention AIS

### **Schedule**

8:00am Complimentary continental breakfast  
8:30am Region 15 Board meeting  
10:00 am Region 15 General Meeting  
11:00 am Special Guest Speaker: Fred Kerr of Rainbow Acres  
12:00 pm Lunch  
1:00 pm Indoor Judges training... interesting to all  
2:00 pm Raffle!  
3:00 pm End of meeting. Enjoy the Huntington grounds until closing at 4:30pm

### **Contact**

Peggy Sheldon, Registrar      Email: [peg@socal.rr.com](mailto:peg@socal.rr.com)      Tel. (714) 962-7336

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### **Registration Form - AIS Region 15 Fall Trek - October 2, 2010**

Please return this form with a check for \$35.00 per person made out to OCIDC to:

**Peggy Sheldon, Registrar**  
**20151 Crown Reef Lane**  
**Huntington Beach CA 92646**

Name(s)

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Address

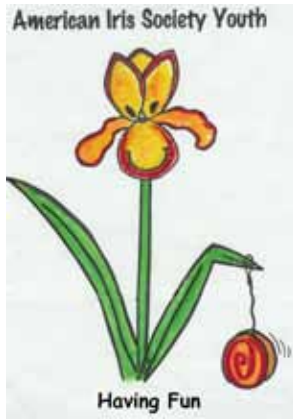
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Email

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# AIS Youth Program Opportunity for Region 15

by Cheryl Deaton



Our region has very few youth members, just over 1% of our total membership. One of the recurring topics I hear is how the American Iris Society is aging, which is why membership is declining. I got my interest in irises from my grandmother, and her love of gardening. Many of you have grandchildren, but they are NOT members of AIS. WHY??? It can't be the cost, because a youth membership is only \$5, and youth members receive their own newsletter, THE IRIS FAN, twice a year, plus they can participate in yearly contests for cash prizes. It can't be because you don't have any irises to share. We all have extras in our gardens. And it can't be that you don't want to spend time sharing one of your passions with your grandchildren, because they know just how much you love irises. So WHY?

My challenge to all of you is to sign up JUST ONE YOUTH MEMBER. It can be a grandchild, a neighbor, or another relative. Give them one of your extra rhizomes to plant – if they live in an apartment, plant it in a pot. Take them to one of your club meetings when you have an interesting program, so they can learn and be entertained. Give them a 2ft.square in your garden for their plants, and let them care for it. Let them choose an iris from a catalog for their very own. Let them get their hands dirty working alongside of you in your garden...all kids LOVE to play in the dirt! And they love to spend time with us. Get them infected with 'the iris virus'. Some of them will prove immune, but many of them will have wonderful memories and experiences that they can share with others. Encourage them to invite their friends to join. 4-H groups, Brownies, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts, and Horticulture classes in high schools can benefit from an iris experience. Offer to donate rhizomes, give a demonstration of planting, flower arranging, or landscaping possibilities. Everyone has busy lives, and working in a garden is a great stress reliever. Being with your family is priceless. Can you think of a better investment of \$5?

Send those AIS Youth dues to Tom Gormley, PO Box 177, DeLeon Springs, FL 32130 with the youth member's name, address, email if you have it, and birthdate. Multiple years can be done, so sign up your youth for a four year membership for only \$20! Let's see how many young people we can infect with a love of iris.

Please contact me at [region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com) or (661) 252-6771 with any questions and suggestions. Happy Irising!

Visit the AIS YOUTH WEBSITE  
[www.youth-iris.com](http://www.youth-iris.com)

**Send dues for new youth members to:**

**AIS Membership Secretary  
Tom Gormley  
PO Box 177  
DeLeon Springs FL 32130**

Please include your youth member's name, address, email if available, and birthdate. A youth is defined as a person under 19 years of age.

## Spring Trek 2010 Award Winners



**Deaton  
Seedling TBSYNC2**



**Van Liere  
Seedling 23GW31**



**Squires  
Seedling 3-82**

# Sensational Irises at the Tucson Spring Trek

by Katharina Notarianni

I traveled with several members of the San Diego Iris Society to Tucson to view the irises which had been growing for two years specifically for the AIS Region 15 Spring Trek. The first garden we visited was the Herman's garden. The irises were staged nicely in raised bed rows that made it easy to view each row. I noticed over the course of the day that several irises performed consistently well in all the gardens; this, in spite of the Tucson heat. Next we trekked over to the Fenwick's garden. What a sight to behold. The taller irises were planted in a rotunda with many multicolored violas and snapdragons planted among them. The irises were densely planted and, with so many in bloom at the same time, the effect was simply magnificent. Afterwards we moved on to view the irises planted around the Jensen's poolside garden. There were lots of blooms and I began to recognize some of the irises which we had seen earlier that morning. Finally after lunch we visited Dr. Bessey's garden. The irises here were also showcased among snapdragons and other companion plants. Most spectacular were the interesting double poppies that Dr. Bessey has growing in a sea of pinks and lavenders. I hope he will introduce them so I can add them to my garden! His shade garden was a welcome change after a warm afternoon in the sun. Each garden had its own style and charm and I came away with lots of inspiring ideas about how to improve my own iris garden, particularly with regards to interplanting other flowers among my irises.

**Show Stoppers:** The irises with orange beards stole the show and were some of my personal favorites. Tasco's 2008 introductions, 'White Hot' and 'Black Magic Woman' and also Lauer's 'Like a Rainbow' and 'Main Street' caught my attention right away with their strong contrasting colors. Randy Squire's 2008 introduction 'Hawaiian Rain' was also stunning. Everyone agreed that Tasco's 'Black Magic Woman' deserved the award for Best Out of Region iris. The Best In Region Iris winners were a tie between Margie Valenzuela's 2009 introduction, a beautiful plicata named 'Birthday Magic' and Cheryl Deaton's 2009 introduction 'Renegade Lady', a russet brown with bright yellow beards and interesting haft marks. Other show stoppers included Kerr's 'Kathy Chilton' and Blyth's 'About Town' which both bloomed well in all the gardens. Duncan's 'Arctic Burst' had wonderful colors. Keppel's 'Nouveau Riche' has a rich golden color with hints of peach in the standards and bright orange beards. Keppel's 2009 introduction, 'Teenybopper' had bright striped magenta falls, again with orange beards.

**Sensational Seedlings:** Cheryl Deaton's seedling, TBSYNC2, which she plans to introduce in 2011 as 'Avery's Hugs', bloomed beautifully in the trek gardens. This iris is a lovely blend of colors with lots of sparkle. Randy Squires' seedling 3-82, a beautiful pink space ager, tied with Deaton's TBSYNC2 for Best In Region Seedling. Bob Van Liere's seedling '23GW31' with its soft peach color and elegant pink beards won Best Out of Region Seedling. I also really liked Van Liere's seedling 24C33 with its gentle coloring and interesting beard.

**New Introductions:** It was wonderful to see so many of the new introductions growing well in the Tucson gardens. Several 2009 intros are on my wish list, including Lauer's colorful 'Like a Rainbow' and gentle blue streaked 'My Generation'. Keppel's 'Adriatic Waves' is a stunning ruffled blue. Richards' 'Easy Being Green' is easy on the eyes even in the bright sunlight thanks to its unusual greenish tinged color. Van Liere's 'Mighty Warrior' is a beautiful red color with undertones of peach. Sutton's 'Raspberry Swirl' has nice contrast with peach colored standards and red raspberry falls. Edwards' 2009 introduction 'Flight of Fairies' is sparkling pure white with a white beard tipped in orange. There were many others and I look forward to reviewing the photos of irises on the Region 15 website to start my shopping list for the upcoming auction at my local society. All in all, we had a fantastic time admiring beautiful irises and socializing with wonderful people all around. The meetings and garden tours went without a hitch thanks to Kathy and her team, and Hugh Stout's slideshow of his irises and those being introduced by other commercial growers was worth seeing. Some of us went home with prizes, and I with a bottle of magic fertilizer formulated by Tucson irisarian Gary Petterson. It is already working wonders with my orchids.

## Spring Trek 2010 Award Winners







'Like A Rainbow'



'My Generation'



'Main Street'



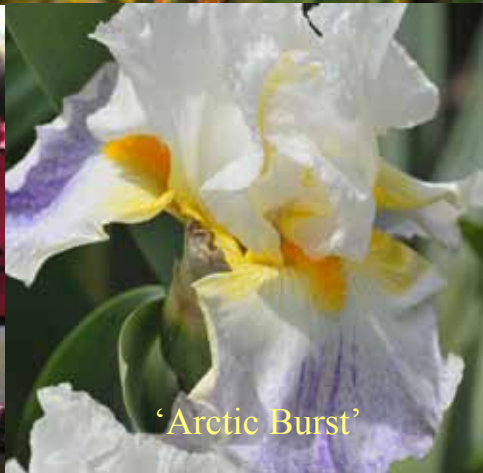
'Adriatic Waves'



'Orange King'



'Hawaiian Rain'



'Arctic Burst'



'Seedling LFDR27/B'



Spring Trek 2010  
Ben  
Herman's  
Garden



# AIS Region 15 Spring Trek 2010



**'Black Magic Woman'**

**'Like A Rainbow'**

**'Aleutian Island'**

*Spring Trek 2010  
Richard  
& Diane  
Fenwick's  
Garden*





Spring Trek 2010  
Dr. Paul  
Bessey's  
Garden



'Grand Classic'



Van Liere  
Seedling 24CA33



'Nouveau Riche'



'White Hot'



Spring Trek 2010  
Gordon  
Jensen's  
Garden



# Tucson “Low Tech Trek”

## AIS Region 15 Spring Trek 2010

by Kathy Chilton

Tucson Area Iris Society was, like many clubs around the country, reluctant to volunteer to host a trek. We are few and our funds are limited. The last trek we hosted in 2005 was a success, but ended up costing our treasury. So, we decided to experiment with a new strategy, one that reduced the cost to the club and effort on the part of members. Kathy Chilton agreed to chair the effort and handle the guest rhizomes. Our treasurer, Maxine Fifer, agreed to handle the registrations and booklet information. Four wonderful garden owners agreed to host the irises and various TAIS members helped in the gardens and at the meetings. Hybridizers sent wonderful irises. Karen Bergamo of New Mexico volunteered to give a one hour classroom JT on “Ethics.” **Gerry Snyder** (photo left) agreed to do In-The-Garden Judges Training.



Jennifer and **Hugh Stout** (photo right) of Dancing Tree Iris Garden in Oklahoma City agreed to come to Tucson and put on a program. The Stouts brought gift certificates and Richard Richards brought pots of *iris unguicularis* for door prizes.



This year’s Spring Trek was an experiment in simplifying putting on a spring trek, taking it to the bare bones. It was a deliberate effort to eliminate anything not absolutely necessary, but still carry on all the basic functions needed to accomplish a spring meeting. We had four wonderful gardens and wonderful gardeners who did the bulk of the work - planting and caring for the guest irises. We had a wonderful selection of newer irises sent to us from fabulous hybridizers in and out of our region. We had gardens to tour, speakers, judges’ trainings, awards and lots of fun. We held our board meeting and convention committee meeting. We awarded trophies to the hybridizers of the winning irises. What we didn’t have were expensive busses, hotel contracts, fancy booklets, keepsakes, boutiques, raffles or edible goodies in the gardens.

People planned and joined together to carpool to the gardens. We luckily found a well-located and reasonable priced hotel that did not demand a contract and provided a room for our meetings. Bottled water and porta-potties were provided at the gardens. Lunch was not provided - everyone was on their own for lunch - and no one starved!! We had one catered meal for the awards banquet, supplied by a cafe across the street from the hotel. The booklet was two large pieces of paper printed on both sides. There was a map of gardens, list of all the guest irises, schedule and ballot for awards. What else do you actually, truly need? The registration fee of \$40 covered the banquet meal, porta-potties, garden markers, printing and miscellaneous expenses. The region donation of \$1000 covered the transportation, lodging and expenses for our two speakers. We had about 70 attendees. When all was tallied at the end, we came out \$62 in the black. There is still all the work of digging the guest irises and shipping them to region affiliates for auction. These auctions will distribute newer irises to our member’s gardens and the funds derived will help fund the next spring trek. The challenges of putting on regional and national tours in an “all-out” fashion are daunting to many clubs. We have become spoiled! It is wonderful to enjoy busses, gifts, full meals, fancy refreshments, tons of door prizes and all the rest, but those things have a cost in money and effort. Not all clubs are capable of pulling off a full service trek, and attendees also have to pay for all those “freebies” one way or another. Tucson decided to give the bare bones style a try and we are proud of the results! We hope that others will be willing to try something different to make it possible to keep having treks to attend. This includes all of us who love to attend iris treks and conventions. We have to be willing to try new ways of doing things, and be willing to take more responsibility ourselves to keep these events going. Change is inevitable - let’s keep figuring out ways to adapt and keep doing what we love.



**Photos: Janis Shackelford and Carol Morgan admiring ‘Aleutian Island’. RVP Cheryl Deaton checks out her seedling. Margie Valenzuela and Jane Troutman in the trek gardens. Trek host Kathy Chilton awards Best In Region Cultivar Award to tie winners Cheryl Deaton and Margie Valenzuela. Congrats!**

# President's Report Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society

by Gail Lofdahl

The Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society has enjoyed an active spring, and anticipates an equally-active summer. We sold potted iris at the Antelope Valley Home Show on the third weekend of March, with increased revenues over last year—thanks to better weather and attendance.

We held our own annual show and sale on April 24-25 at our new location, Antelope Valley College. It was wonderful to have the college horticulture students help us with the loading and transport of pots during our sale, and we rewarded them with free irises of their choice. With club support, Antelope Valley College is planting a “Rainbow of Iris” demonstration garden to promote the use of irises as a drought-tolerant plant suitable for our so-called “High Desert” environment. In response to a local demand for daylilies, the club joined the college in purchasing daylilies, which we will grow in our club nursery.

On the first of May we held a garden tour and progressive dinner, visiting five club members' gardens. We ate soup and salad at the first garden, the main course at the third garden, and dessert and coffee at the fifth garden—with stops at two other gardens between courses. We hope to make this an annual club event. By advertising our upcoming “members only” garden tour and progressive dinner at the show and sale the week before, we attracted several new members—without the risk of opening our homes and gardens to the general public.

At our June meeting, we were treated to a presentation by Kathy Chilton about her 2009 trip to Italy, where she was a judge for the Florence Iris Festival's International Iris Competition. In July club members toured the Huntington Gardens as a reward for our hard work this spring.

We continue our support of the William J. “Pete” Knight Veterans Home in Lancaster. The home has installed water spigots, which will allow residents with limited mobility to water the five elevated planter boxes themselves. We are soliciting donations of patriotic-themed irises to plant in at least one of the planters (and on the grounds); other boxes will be used to grow vegetables for the residents' table, and possibly a cutting garden for flowers to decorate the facility.

## THE TOP FIFTEEN IRISES OF THE 2010 AIS CONVENTION - MADISON WI

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. TREE OF SONGS (Schafer/Sacks - Sib. - 2006)  | MY OH MY (Schreiners - TB - 2007)                      |
| 2. ORCHID DOVE (Spoon - TB - 2007)              | SILK ROAD (Keppel - TB - 2009)                         |
| 3. SASSY TART (Ernst - TB - 2007)               | 9. BLOWING KISSES (Keppel - TB - 2007)                 |
| 4. SUPER MODEL (T. Johnson - TB - 2007)         | MAIN STREET (Lauer - TB - 2009)                        |
| 5. BOLSHOI (Keppel - TB - 2009)                 | 10. RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES (Hollingworth - Sib - 2002) |
| 6. GUILT FREE SAMPLE (Black - TB - 2007)        | 11. FRENCH LILACS (Keppel - TB - 2008)                 |
| MISS APPLE (Schafer/Sacks - Sib. - 2009)        | 12. WONDERS NEVER CEASE (Black - TB - 2007)            |
| SORBONNE (Keppel - TB - 2009)                   | 13. BELLE DE PROVENCE (Baumunk - TB - 2006)            |
| 7. SWANS IN FLIGHT (Hollingworth - Sib. - 2005) | BORN TO PLEASE (R. Rogers - TB - 2006)                 |
| 8. BOLLYWOOD (Keppel - TB - 2007)               | 14. GYPSY LORD (Keppel - TB - 2006)                    |
|   | 15. STRUT YOUR STUFF (Black - TB - 2007)               |

# President's Report Inland Region Iris Society

by Carole Buchheim

We've had a very busy year thus far with promise of more wonderful programs to come. In January I gave a PowerPoint program on Tall Bearded reblooming irises that are known to rebloom in up to seven different USDA climate zones. In southern California we have the greatest opportunity for rebloom in all the United States.

In February we had the pleasure of a PowerPoint program by Katharina Notarianni featuring her 2009 trip to the iris center of the world: Oregon. What a feast of beautiful flowers from some of the most awesome iris gardens on planet earth.

March brought us to a very informative and pleasurable iris slide program by Riley Probst on Miniature Tall Bearded irises. His program is a MUST SEE! If you want to know anything about MTBs, Riley is a walking encyclopedia.

April is the queen of all months for fabulous spring iris bloom. This year it was especially nice with a little cooler weather. The iris colors were richer and the bloom time seemed to last longer. Irene Benton gave our spring show preparation program with a very talented demonstration on floral arrangement and design as well as the highlights for winning blue ribbons for show stalks. We had a booth at the Riverside Flower Show on April 10th and 11th at the Elks Club on Brocton Ave. in Riverside. Our "Golden Jubilee" iris show commemorating our 50-year club anniversary was held at the Inland Center Mall in San Bernardino on April 24th and 25th.

In May, iris activities didn't seem to slow down one bit. Alex Stanton gave a lovely PowerPoint program on reblooming Standard Dwarf Bearded irises. Year around he always has something in bloom in the SDBs at his Stanton Iris Garden ranch. Our I.R.I.S. club participated in two additional iris events, the Yucaipa Iris Festival and the Jurupa Mountain Cultural Center Green Faire.

We decided to slow down and rest a bit in the month of June. We chose to not have a club meeting in June because it conflicted with attendance of the AIS National Convention in Madison, WI. June is traditionally our club nominations month but that was postponed until July.

And here we are in July! We featured the "Great Iris Trade" with a record number of participants and a record number of iris rhizomes on the tables. Wheelers and dealers were having the time of their life. Everything from 2009s for sale at \$15 each to a whole big red garden tub full of FREE smaller iris rhizomes brought in by the Stantons. There must have been three or four dozen different varieties, all freebies, all neatly named and ready for the taking. We had a record number of new members and guests present. What more wonderful introduction to the Inland Region Iris Society than being given a shopping bag and invited to "load up". Our members were very generous in sharing.

A note about the "Great Iris Trade": the first two years were very slow with it being just a sideline to the main program. The third year we had a back-up program ready but there was truly no need. It was amazing! The tables were piled high with rhizomes and there was so much swapping and shopping going on that it was difficult to bring the club to order for a few minutes of business and the installation of our new club officers. Part of the transformation may have been that we published in the club newsletter lists of irises different members were bringing as well as their wish lists. The wish lists are especially nice because it sets up the opportunity for gifting. Thoughtfulness and generosity is always heartfelt and appreciated. This year was even bigger and better!

We meet at the Janet Goeske Senior Center at 5257 Sierra Street, Riverside, CA 92504 (across the street from the big Sears store) at 6:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month.

**The 2010 Dykes Medal Winner is... 'Paul Black'**  
**Congratulations to hybridizer Tom Johnson**  
**of Mid America Garden**





# I HATE my Tiller

by Richard C. Richards

I hate my tiller. We are not talking about mild dislike, but industrial-strength animosity. I hate every bolt of this mechanical monstrosity to the core of my being. Let me tell you how all this came about.

First, some background. The tiller came straight from the bowels of Hell. The Devil and his Administration, looking for a way to torture mankind while we are still above the sod, invented it in his vilest mood. He is still delighted with his fiendish cleverness.

Friends suggested that I buy one to avoid the backbreaking labor of spadework. I am reevaluating the question of who my friends really are.

Take my latest session with this spawn of Satan. It would not start. I tried every trick I knew. I tugged on the cord until my back was sore (just what I had bought a tiller to avoid, of course). The obvious solution was to consult the manual, and I usually follow manuals religiously, but I had lent the tiller to my grandson, along with the manual. Being a teen-ager, he was born knowing, in capsule form, every secret of the human race. Funny, I don't remember teaching them to him. So he had no need for the manual, and promptly misplaced it. He returned the tiller sans manual.

So I tugged and tugged on the cord, pulled the choke out, pushed the choke in, primed, tugged, and added a heavy sweat to my sore back. Suddenly the tiller sputtered to life...for an instant. This gave me renewed hope, exactly what Satan had planned for me. After several sessions of sputtering, the tiller came to life with a demonic bellow, and we were off.

It soon became evident that the torture had just begun. The sweat flowing down my forehead was running into my eyes, blurring my vision. I had nothing to wipe the sweat away, and I was also pursuing my galloping tiller with determination. I did not want to stop it for fear of another half hour session to get it started. So I charged on.

This bit of heroics on my part got me to thinking about the old country and western hit, "I've Got Tears in My Ears From Lying on My Back and Crying My Heart Out Over You." My version would be: "I've Got Tears from Using My Tiller," except that I had sweat in my eyes, not tears. But tears are more picturesque.

The torture continued. The sweat was now running down my nose, lubricating it, and causing my glasses to slide downward like an Olympic skier on the chute. Soon they would launch themselves skyward in a magnificent jump of probably sixty meters. I took my hand off one of the handles of the tiller long enough to take a wild swipe at my glasses.

The attempt to push them back up smudged them, and also sent them lower on my nose, causing the nosepiece to shut off my nostrils. Now I could only breath through my mouth, not terribly wise in the storm of fine dust particles the tiller was spewing behind it and all over me. But stopping was out of the question.

One thing would ultimately stop me, I knew. The tiller would run out of gas, and ideally it would be when I had tilled the whole bed. So I followed the tiller through a haze of sweat, smudge, and dust, occasionally glimpsing the level of gas in the translucent tank. Minutes went by, and it did not change. Then I realized that the tiller was probably manufacturing gas, and if I could just hook it up to my car, I would reduce my gasoline bill considerably. Maybe I could even open a filling station of my own.

Then the tiller sputtered, gasped, and died. I had completed the tilling task two times over, wanting to run the tiller out of gas because I remembered the advice in the misplaced manual to run it out of gas before storing it for any length of time.

So there I stood, sweating profusely, squinting through the glasses perched precariously on the end of my nose, back aching, arms aching, doing my own personal interpretation of the Abominable Dust Man. I thought about destroying the tiller in some sort of mystical rite, maybe calling up the Devil to take it back.

So now you know why I hate my tiller. But I'll keep on using it. I hate doing the work with a spade even more.



# President's Report Orange County Iris and Daylily Club

by Ramona Richardson

Hooray! Our club just finished our best plant sale in a long time at the Fullerton Arboretum's Greenscene. We had good weather, lots of buyers at \$5 each or \$20 for 5 named rhizomes and lots of stock. We didn't run out of stock to sell because of two new procedures we implemented and a generous donation from a daylily grower. Having a large bare root daylily display with a variety really caught the customers' attention.

Publicity Chair is still open. It has been 3 years without a mention in the newspaper garden events column.

We've had two daylily programs, one flower arranging using iris, and our April flower display program included a short commentary from the member about the iris or other blooms they brought.

Daylilies are the May event. Return of fans from previous years club purchases and special request orders filled for us to grow on for the club were handed out and catalogued.

We have a new feature that has been well received. It is a display table showing something of special interest from our home gardens to enjoy before our programs.

Summer brings our traditional potlucks and iris auctions in the patio.

Fall Trek is planned for October 2 at The Huntington Gardens in San Marino (sign up by filling out the Fall Trek registration form on page 14). We are trying to adjourn earlier to leave more time to enjoy the gardens. Dates and deadlines for the committees to work and complete before too long is now top priority.

# President's Report Tucson Area Iris Society

by Kathy Chilton

The Tucson Area Iris Society took some time off after the "Low Tech Trek." Thank you to everyone who attended and pitched in to make it a success. Special thanks to our garden owners, Ben Herman, Gordon Jensen, Paul Bessey and Richard & Diane Fenwick. Lessons were learned, a few things could have been done better, but overall, it worked!

Our June 26th meeting featured a photo recap of the trek and pictures of all the guest irises that will be available in the Region Auction. Digging schedules for the guest irises were set up for late August. The guest irises are growing and doing surprisingly well through the hot summer so far. We anticipate lots of nice rhizomes for the auctions.

Photos from the trek and pictures of the flowers are available on the TAIS website - [tucsoniris.org](http://tucsoniris.org) - and the Region 15 website at [www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org).

We are planning the Tucson auction for early September and a rhizome sale at Harlow Gardens in mid-September. Our October meeting will feature election of officers for 2011.

Visit the Tucson Area Iris Society Website at  
[www.TucsonIris.org](http://www.TucsonIris.org)

# President's Report Prescott Area Iris Society

by Carolyn Alexander

Summer is the busiest time of year for our club as so much has to get done in a short time before the freeze can set in during early September. We need to get all of our digging, dividing, marking iris, selling, transplanting & planting new ones 6 weeks before the date of the first freeze so the roots can get established here in high country. We asked and received our Tucson Spring Trek irises be sent early so that we could get them planted in time. Kathy Chilton was kind enough to get them dug for us over the July 4th weekend. The irises arrived in great shape and we are in process of getting photos off of the Region 15 website for our combined 'Ice Cream Social, Iris Photo Contest and Silent Auction' in July.

It seems like we just finished our local AIS Spring Iris Show and Iris Garden Tours when it is time to start all the summer activity. We were really worried about the success of our Spring Show and Open Gardens because of the unusual cold front that moved in twice on April 22 and again on April 28 through 30. We had considerable snow on the ground on April 23, which really set back our irises from blooming. Many of the SDBs and early TBs were already in bloom when the snow fell covering their buds and flowers (see photo of snow on irises). Other irises were in closed bud state and the freeze burned them to where they wouldn't ever open their flower. Our spring show was May 8th just a week after this last cold front. We were able to have a very beautiful show with over 80 iris exhibits but most of the irises showed some damage from the freeze. The irises that were growing in protected areas handled the cold much better and won the grand prizes.

Here are photos of the winner of Best of Show & Best Space Age 'Frosted Fantasy' (2000 Cadd - see photos left) and Best Tall Bearded 'Codicil' (1984 Innerst - see photos right). Both of these irises bloomed beautifully because of protected area along the stucco wall. They were both submitted by the President, Carolyn Alexander (lucky me!). If the weather had been normal these irises would probably have been overlooked to some newer gorgeous irises.

PAIS was well represented at the Spring Trek with 25% of our members attending the Tucson show. We all had a great time and are now looking forward to bidding on our favorite irises from the show. It is so wonderful to let everyone see the photos in advance of our auction on the Region 15 website. Thank you to Kathy Chilton and anyone that was involved in accomplishing this.



**Best of Show &  
Best Space Age Iris  
Cadd's 'Frosted Fantasy'**

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**Best Tall Bearded Iris  
Innerst 'Codicil'**



Visit the Prescott Area Iris Society Website at  
[http://www.region15ais.org/prescott\\_ais/](http://www.region15ais.org/prescott_ais/)



# President's Report San Diego Iris Society

by Bill Molnar

The San Diego Iris Society has had an enjoyable and eventful year. We are still enjoying our new meeting location in Lakeside, on the eastern edge of San Diego. Due to our permanent location, we are able to advertise and promote our meetings. After a major purge of "non-existent" members, we are rebuilding again with "real people" who enjoy learning about and growing iris. Growth is exciting, and we are loving it. Highlights for the year are as follows:

- In January, we enjoyed a slide presentation by Katharina Notarianni of her trip with her husband, John, up to the major iris gardens in Northern California and Oregon. You probably know Katharina for her color filled book, *The Beauty of Irises*.
- February brought us Fred Kerr as the speaker at our club's anniversary/birthday party. Great information, gorgeous slides, a delicious meal and lots of cake, made for an enjoyable celebration. Fred Kerr is a gifted hybridizer and from what I've seen in my garden, his plants look like they are raised on steroids, with injections of fertility drugs.
- March meeting was a roundtable discussion. Lots of questions came up including getting rid of gophers. One responder suggested burning them out, but doing it at DUSK to be able to see that all the fires in the holes are out. Richard Richard's then humorously added, "If you were burning out gophers in the vegetable garden, you could then go dig a potato for dinner and it would already be baked and ready to eat."
- April meeting was held at the commercial garden of Ted and Rose Howse in Bonita, just south of San Diego. Food, fellowship and iris viewing was the highlight of the day. One Saturday morning in April, our club caravanned to Alex and Kitty Stanton's commercial iris garden to enjoy the iris in all their glory.
- May was our Spring Iris Show. Kim Ung drove down early from Los Angeles with some gorgeous entries and won "Best Specimen Of Show" with plicata iris 'Rare Treat' (photo upper right) and other awards. Alex Stanton, whose garden is co-introducing Fred Kerr's new 2010 introductions, brought in 'Greatest Show on Earth', 'Kachina Dancer', and 'Judy Nunn' among others. I was drooling like a Saint Bernard. Benne Hanenburg was in charge of the show, and pulled it off beautifully. She makes running the show look effortless, only because she prepares so well ahead of time.
- June was awards month. Ted and Rose Howse of Iris Howse and Gardens (photo lower right) won the greatest number of trophies, but were in Portland, Oregon for their daughter's graduation the day of our meeting so our presentation meeting was short. You can view the Best of Show irises on our website. An ice cream social combined with loads of door prize re-blooming iris made for happy attendees. We are closed for summer.
- September starts off our year with our annual rhizome sale in Balboa Park. In the past we have sold one Sunday in the Park. The next week we spent 3 ½ days selling rhizomes at the home and garden show in Del Mar. Since we make more money in one day in the Park, than we do in 3 ½ days at the home show, our creative past President, Janis Shakelford, suggested that we spend two Sundays (September 12 and 19) selling in Balboa Park, and drop the home show. Will let you know how it turns out.
- October is the regional rhizome auction for the beauties that we saw in Tucson last spring.
- Our November meeting will be graced by the delightful Kathy Chilton. She will be speaking to our group on her prestigious trip to Florence to be one of the renowned international judges. How lucky are we?
- December will be our Christmas/Holiday Party which I can't even think about since it isn't even the 4th of July yet as I am writing this article.



Visit the San Diego Iris Society Website at  
[www.SanDiegoIrisSociety.org](http://www.SanDiegoIrisSociety.org)

# President's Report San Fernando Valley Iris Society

by Steve Fletcher

Since our last report, the San Fernando Valley Iris Society (SFVIS) membership meetings have hosted two guest speakers: master gardener Geri Miller talked on "Homegrown Edible Landscapes," and Kathy Chilton made a great presentation on her experience judging at the 2009 Florence competition. In July, we will hear Steve Hartman on "Flora and Fauna of the Sepulveda Basin" (a wildlife reserve near here).

Our Spring Show was early this year (April 10-11), and we weren't sure how much bloom we would have. Mary Anne Abrahms was Show Chair; Peggy Carpenter, Horticulture Chair; Jan Lauritzen, Artistic Chair; and Carol Huffman, Awards Chair. We had 13 entrants in Horticulture, with a total of 125 entries. The Silver Medal went to Harriet Uhl, the Bronze to Mary Anne Abrahms, and Queen of Show to Jan Lauritzen. Artistic awards included Best Design of Show (Debbie Babusco), Theme Award (Debbie Babusco), and Artistic Sweepstakes (Jan Lauritzen).

At our June potluck meeting, we elected officers: Steve Fletcher (President), Andi Riverola (Vice President); Debbie Babusco (Secretary); and Mary Anne Abrahms (Treasurer).

In June we had a booth at the Encino Farmers' Market for two Sundays and sold a good number of rhizomes, considering one those days was Father's Day. A trend we've noticed in the past couple of years, more people inquire about growing in pots. Harriet Uhl brings a whole demonstration for them. It helps them see how big those pots need to be to work.

Visit the San Fernando Valley Iris Society Website at  
[www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org](http://www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org)

# President's Report Sonoran Desert Iris Society

by Darol Jurn

This past spring the Sonoran Desert Iris Society held their non-sanctioned show at the Montecito Retirement Facility in Peoria on April 10. The show was well received by the guests that attended the presentation, the Montecito facility was very supportive by providing coffee, tea and other delights for the visitors. There were a total of 33 cultivars on display including Tall Bearded, a few Spuria and several Arils. Placing was based on popular vote by the visitors with first place going to 'Scoonchee' (L. Johnsen), second to 'Moreen's Delight' (L. Johnsen) and third to 'Be Mine' (D. Jurn).

The Sonoran Desert Iris Society held a potluck for their May meeting to share the awards from the show and discuss plans for a future Iris show in 2011. The club will take the summer off with the next meeting planned in September.

# President's Report Lompoc Valley Iris Society

by Ben Schleuning

No update for this newsletter.

# President's Report Southern California Iris Society

by Mike Monninger

The year is flying by, I know I just did a message for the region but that was last year. Another year of maturity and things are not getting easier!

April was its typically busy self. We added a twist this year finding out a week before our scheduled show that it was rescheduled by the host facility to the following weekend. The show chairperson and the Judges chairperson rose to the challenge and switched things to the following weekend. Perseverance of the members made the show a success and we sold a lot of iris to boot. Kim Ung took Best Specimen, Best T.B. and Best T.B. Plicata with 'Jesse's Song'. I've heard this song several times. (see photo top right)

A non-member entered the show and had the Best Space Age Iris with 'Thornbird' and Best Louisiana with 'Godzilla'. Some newbie named Lynn McIlwain won the silver medal, Best Median with 'This and That', and Best Arilbred with 'Desert Plum'. Brian Moon flying in from D.C. won Best PCI with 'Filly Fancy'. Our Show chair Leigh Nicolai-Moon had Best Species with 'Little Caillet' and Best Amoena with 'Heaven and Earth'. Angie Fierro did the Best Design with 'The Russian Blue Cat' (see photo bottom right). Elaine Monninger took the Artistic Sweepstakes.

Oops, almost thought I was done. Kim Ung won the Bronze Medal and had the Best Reverse Amoena 'Joyce Ragle'. I don't remember this category before but I guess someone took pity on Kim thinking he didn't win enough. You have to admit that his entries are well grown and groomed perfectly.

The highlight of the show for me was beating Kim Ung head to head with 'That's All Folks'. Yippee!!

Our big event is four days at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa on April 22 to 25. A tough event but we sell enough that we don't need additional sales. The best part is the last two years we have been in front of See's Candies. Location is everything.

Elections at the June meeting had a surprise. John Wight agreed to be Vice-President in charge of programs and we sweet talked his lovely wife Ellen into being Secretary. The other positions remained the same but due to term limits nominations were taken from the floor.

July is dark, the following three months have auctions, November is dark, and December is our Holiday luncheon and brief business meeting.

Mike Monninger  
President (again)



# President's Report Sun Country Iris Society

by Ardi Kary

We had an Early Iris Exhibit on March 5-7 at the University of Phoenix Stadium at their Southwest Flower and Garden Show. We were concerned that this would be too early to have any bloom stalks, but our members came through and we had a very nice display of irises. We had Tall Bearded, Medians and Arilbreds – some were early bloomers and some were Rebloomers. One of our members brought a tall bloom stalk of MESMERIZER and it got a lot of attention. The University of Phoenix is a huge building and we had thousands of people stop to admire our irises. We handed out ballots and the winners were determined by the People's Choice ballots.

Our Spring Iris Show on April 3 was also early as our peak bloom season is usually the middle of April. But, again, our members brought in their bloom stalks and we had a great show. It was held at Baker Nursery and they are extremely helpful in seeing that we have what we need for our Show and Sale. We sold potted irises at our Sales Table and we had a good turn out of people to come and enjoy both the Show and Sale. The same member, who brought MESMERIZER to the Early Iris Exhibit a month earlier, entered another MESMERIZER bloom stalk and, as before, it received lots of attention. The AIS judges did a great job of selecting our winners.

We have several members who are in training to become AIS judges. We will have more judges training sessions to help them along. We hope other members will come and learn from these sessions. Besides, it's a good time to get together and enjoy each other's company.

Our program for July will be "How to Grow and Care for Irises". We are inviting people who have shown an interest in learning more about irises to this meeting as visitors. We will have an Open Discussion with our members and visitors and, hopefully, everyone will learn more about irises. Our visitors will have the opportunity to become members, but if they prefer to be just visitors, that is fine. No strings attached.

Plans for our Rhizome Auctions for our members and the Fall Rhizomes Sales to the public are well underway. We are looking forward to a fun and active Fall season.

Visit the Sun Country Iris Society Website at  
[www.SunCountryIris.org](http://www.SunCountryIris.org)



Jack Weber talking to a customer at the Spring Iris Show



Judges Training in Ardi's driveway during Sun Country Iris Society's annual garden tours in April



# President's Report Verde Valley Area Iris Society

by Linda Smith

The heat is here and time for paper work. VAIS is coming up to our 3rd rhizome sale on Labor Day. If there is any affiliate that has unknowns/or knowns to contribute, we would welcome the support. This is still a new group and most of our buyers just want to grow an iris of something different than the purples. We will pay your postage.

We lucked out with weather for our second outside iris exhibit event. We even had good sale of potted iris, some in bloom. There was no wind or rain and perfect temperatures. We had 56 entries and photos of the winners are posted on the Region 15 website.

Our last meeting was just before the exhibit, so the DVD made by AIS on Flower Arranging was presented. For those of you who may not have seen it yet, it shows a technique that was presented at the Kansas Nationals. It is called the "Mama Bear, Papa Bear and Baby Bear" of line mass designing. It's simple, easy to do. We all had hands on with each group making an arrangement, as you can see by the photos.

Our next meetings will be held at a new venue. It is posted on our website.



Janice and Nancy



Velda and Susan



Yolán, Betty, Nancy and Janet



Visit the Verde Valley Area Iris Society Website at  
[http://www.region15ais.org/verde\\_ais/](http://www.region15ais.org/verde_ais/)

# AIS REGION 15 CALENDAR

Month	Day	Event	Location	Contact
<b>2010 Calendar</b>				
September	6	PAIS September Sale	Mount Hope Foods, Cottonwood	PAIS / Carolyn Alexander
	7	Sun Country Rhizome Sale	The Valley Garden Ctr, Phoenix	SCIS / Ardi Kary
	11	TAIS September Sale	Harlows Nursery, Tucson	TAIS / Kathy Chilton
	12	SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale	Balboa Park, San Diego	SDIS / Bill Molnar
	19	SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale (part 2)	Balboa Park, San Diego	SDIS / Bill Molnar
October	2	AIS Region 15 2010 Fall Trek hosted by Orange County Iris & Daylily Club	The Huntington Gardens	OCIDC / Peggy Sheldon peg@socal.rr.com
	2	AIS Region 15 Board Mtg & Election of Officers	The Huntington Gardens	RVP Cheryl Deaton
	5	Sun Country Rhizome Sale	The Valley Garden Ctr, Phoenix	SCIS / Ardi Kary
November	5-7	AIS 2010 Fall National Board Meeting	Portland OR	AIS / Terry Aitken
	14	SDIS Meeting - Kathy Chilton presents on international judging at Florence iris competition	SDIS Meeting - Lakeside CA	SDIS / Bill Molnar

## 2011 Calendar

April	30	Region 15 2011 Spring Trek at Stanton Iris Gardens	Valley Center, CA	RVP Cheryl Deaton region15kids@hotmail.com
May	29	AIS 2011 Nat'l Convention	Victoria BC Canada	Ted Baker, AIS
	to June 3	at the Fairmont Empress Hotel - Tel. (800) 441-1414		tedebaker@shaw.ca
November	4-6	AIS Fall National Board Meeting	Atlanta GA	Carolyn Hawkins
	12-13	AIS Region 15 2011 Fall Trek	Inland Region Iris Society	Carole Buchheim

## 2012 Calendar

April	16-21	AIS 2012 National Convention & AIS Region 15 2012 Spring Trek	Ontario California	Jill Bonino / Kathy Chilton
TBA		AIS Region 15 2012 Fall Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society	

Please email your local society's speaker events and other public events such as rhizome sales and Spring Shows to Katharina Notarianni at [AISregion15editor@gmail.com](mailto:AISregion15editor@gmail.com)

## Read the Region 15 newsletter ONLINE!

A FULL COLOR edition of this newsletter is available  
on the Region 15 website: [www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org)

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*Iris hybridizers in the Meadowbrook Gardens of Francis and Ruth Rogers at the AIS 2010 Convention in Madison, WI.*

*Join these and others in sending your guest introductions and seedlings for the 2012 AIS Convention, Ontario, CA.*

## **Attention Hybridizers!**

### **Guest Irises for the 2012 AIS National Convention**

Now is your chance to get your recent introductions and seedlings seen and evaluated in the mild climate of southern California. Don't miss this opportunity to "show your stuff"!

A PowerPoint program CD will be created highlighting all of the guest reblooming irises. "RE" will be designated in the AIS Convention booklet where applicable. A full report will be published in the *RIS Recorder*.

For your convenience a packing slip form is included on page 32. Please fill out the "Guest Iris Packing Slip" for each guest plant.

The following information was taken from page 22 of the April 2010 AIS Bulletin: Region 15 will host the American Iris Society Convention in April 2012. Hybridizers of bearded varieties are invited to send rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines

when sending guest irises as only officially submitted guest irises will appear in the convention booklet.

Up to three rhizomes of each variety will be accepted from August 16 through September 4, 2010. Please ship plants to: Mike Monninger, 4861 Brookhill Terrace, Riverside, CA 92509, USA. Contacts: Mike Monninger at [regomdm@yahoo.com](mailto:regomdm@yahoo.com) and Carol Morgan at [thedonks@att.net](mailto:thedonks@att.net).

The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, a separate packing list should accompany each plant.

The packing list should include the contributors e-mail address to receive an electronic receipt. Absent an e-mail address a receipt will be mailed to all contributors.

If a guest seedling is later named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris

Chairman by December 1, 2011.

Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instruction regarding the disposition of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2012 will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings, and distribute named varieties, one to the host garden and the rest to Region 15 for distribution to Region 15 societies and clubs. ***No rhizomes will be offered for sale on the internet or other means which compete with sales by the contributors.*** Guest iris returned will be sent freight paid, except for foreign addresses.

The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will strictly adhere to the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.

The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control.

***Guest Irises will be accepted from August 16 to September 4, 2010***  
*See packing slip on page 32*

# AIS NATIONAL CONVENTION 2012 - GUEST IRIS PACKING SLIP

Hybridizer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of variety or seedling number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of iris (TB, BB, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Bloom Season (EML): \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguishing features: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Year of Introduction: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Up to three (3) rhizomes of each variety will be accepted. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, *EACH PLANT SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SEPARATE PACKING SLIP* with all the information filled out. Arrange shipment of your plants so they are received at the following address between AUGUST 16-SEPTEMBER 4, 2010. Ship plants to: **Mike Monninger, 4861 Brookhill Terrace, Riverside, CA 92509 USA**

Contacts: Mike Monninger: regomdm@yahoo.com and Carol Morgan: thedonks@att.net

## AIS Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

### Cal-Dixie Iris Garden - (951) 780-0335

14115 Pear Street  
Riverside CA 92504  
email cal-dixie@aol.com

### Golden's Iris Garden - (928) 445-0503

Barry Golden  
4564 Robin Drive  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
email barrygolden@hotmail.com

### Hummingbird Iris Garden - (928) 777-8110

Linda Rossman  
5942 Old Black Canyon Hwy  
Prescott AZ 86303  
email lindarae@cableone.net

### Iris Howse and Gardens - (619) 479-3887

Ted and Rose Howse  
3915 Vista San Miguel  
Bonita, CA 91902  
www.irishowseandgardens.com  
email irishowseandgardens@cox.net

### Kary Iris Gardens - (480) 949-0253

Ardi Kary  
6201 East Calle Rosa  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
www.karyiris.com  
email ardikary@aol.com

### Lakeside Gardens - (760) 378-3841

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

### Mystic Lake Gardens - (951) 928-2337

Paul & Carole Buchheim  
22177 Polley Street  
Nuevo, CA 92567  
<http://stores.ebay.com/Mystic-Lake-Gardens>  
email cbuchheim@verizon.net

### Rainbow Vista Farms - (760) 723-2929

Al and Victoria Salsgiver  
4343 Rainbow Vista Drive  
Fallbrook, CA 92028  
email asalsgiver@msn.com

### Squires Iris Garden - (818) 892-1516

Randy Squires  
15906 Chase Street  
North Hills, CA 91343-6306  
email randysiris@juno.com

### Stanton Iris Gardens - (760) 415-3248

Alex and Kitty Stanton  
Lilac Vista Drive  
Valley Center CA  
www.stantonirisgardens.com  
email stantoniris@gmail.com

# THE IRIS MARKETPLACE



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## KARY IRIS GARDENS

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ArdiKary@aol.com  
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AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY  
REGION 15  
SPRING TREK 2010  
TUCSON

Photos by Katharina Notarianni



EASY BEING  
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ABOUT  
TOWN



ALEUTIAN  
ISLAND



THAT'S  
HOT



BLACK  
MAGIC  
WOMAN