



The American
Iris Society

Region 15

Fall 2012 Semi-annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED!
REGION 15 FALL MEETING
HOSTED BY SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY
OCTOBER 13, 2012
8:00AM TO 4:00PM
CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA

REGISTRATION DUE BY SEPTEMBER 30TH.
GET THE REGISTRATION FORM ONLINE AT
[HTTP://REGION15AIS.ORG/UPCOMING%20TREKS/](http://region15ais.org/upcoming%20treks/)

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2012 Convention Award Winners

From Cali-Zona Gold 2012 AIS National Convention



Franklin Cook Cup Winner
'Greatest Show On Earth' (Kerr)



President's Cup Winner
'Easy Being Green' (Richards)



Ben Hager Memorial Cup Winner
'Man's Best Friend' (Black)



Franklin Cook Cup Runner Up
'Beauty Becomes Her' (Black)



President's Cup Runner Up
'Calizona Gold' (Valenzuela)



Ben Hager Memorial Cup
Runner Up 'Soleil' (Smith)



Franklin Cook Cup Runner Up 2
'Dr. Who' (Sutton)



President's Cup Runner Up 2
'Desert Sonata' (Edwards)



Ben Hager Memorial Cup
Runner Up 2 'Rimaround' (Aitken)



Franklin Cook Cup Runner Up 3
'Sweeter Than Honey' (Van Liere)



President's Cup Runner Up 3
'Coral Dancer' (Edwards)



Ben Hager Memorial Cup
Runner Up 3 'Tic Tac Toe' (Johnson)

Letter from the Editor

by Katharina Notarianni



Welcome back after a nice hot Summer! I certainly am looking forward to cooling off and shopping for a few select irises at my local club's iris sales and auction. As you probably heard, the Convention was a fantastic success. Everyone I spoke with enjoyed themselves and couldn't get enough of the irises in four gorgeous settings. It was my first convention so it was especially fun to be part of the Convention Committee. One thing that became clear is that timing is everything. It was interesting to me that the Region 15 hybridizers all had flowers in bloom, but some hybridizers from outside our region were not as lucky. If only we had had a few more days to allow some more of their flowers to open up... so it is with every event.

This issue brings us updates from our Board of Directors - see RVP Winona Stevenson's Region 15 Update and Membership Report on page 5, followed by reports from other officers on page 6.

I was sad to learn that AIS life and SDIS founding member Mrs. Thelma Carrington passed away in May. Though I never met her, she has left her mark on the iris world. Read more about this remarkable lady and her accomplishments on page 4.

Page 8-9 bring you registration details of our Fall Meeting on Saturday, October 13th, which is being hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society. Fred Kerr, iris hybridizer will give a presentation on what is new in his Rainbow Acre iris patch and he will lead the Judges' Training. Both will be a real treat and we hope you will be able to take time out of your busy schedule to attend. Remember to send in your payment by September 30th.

When Dr. Richard Richards mentioned he is looking for someone to take on his Green Iris project, it made sense to get the word out as broadly as possible. I interviewed him over lunch about his hybridizing projects - read all about it on page 10 and contact him directly if you are interested in taking over jousting green windmills!

On pages 12-15 I shared my personal experience growing irises from Hugh Stout and Bruce Filardi, along with some interesting background on International Iris, the organization Bruce has formed to support hybridizers from around the globe.

The local chapter President reports start on page 17 and give us a glimpse into iris activities at the local level outside of our own individual club.

And for those of you who didn't attend the Convention, this newsletter is filled with photos of beautiful irises we saw in the four convention gardens, so you can share in the excitement. Congratulations to winners of the Franklin Cook Cup for best out-of-region iris, the President's Cup for best in-region iris, and the Ben Hager Memorial Cup for best Median iris. The back cover features the Top 10 favorite irises chosen from the convention gardens. In addition, you can read Jill Bonino's Convention Reflections on pages 27-29 and see more photos on pages 30-31.

The Region 15 calendar on pages 31-32 attempts to capture the meetings and events planned throughout the Region. I look forward to seeing you at the Region 15 Fall Meeting.

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT
www.region15ais.org

Cover Iris: TB 'Greatest Show On Earth' (Fred Kerr, 2010).
Photo taken during the 2012 Convention at Stanton Iris Gardens by
K. Notarianni

AIS Region 15 Local Chapter Presidents

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glofmobr@qnet.com
661-722-5833

Inland Region Iris Society

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Lompoc Valley Iris Society

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Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

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PAIS Website
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SCIS Website
602-339-6269

Tucson Area Iris Society

Gordon Jensen
redheadclan@cox.net
TAIS Website
520-203-8259

Verde Valley Area Iris Society

Betty Gaudy
VAIS Website

**American Iris Society
Region 15**

Elected Officers

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

Assistant RVP & Judge's Chair

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Lake Balboa, CA 91406
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dbabski1962@yahoo.com

Region 15 Treasurer

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27218 Walnut Springs
Canyon Country, CA 91351
(661) 252-6771
region15kids@hotmail.com

Region 15 Secretary

Janis Shackelford
9716 Red Pony Lane
El Cajon, CA 92021
(619) 561-6323
jgshackelford@cox.net

Committee Chairs

Awards: Jane Troutman
irisjane@roadrunner.com

Editor: Katharina Notarianni
aisregion15editor@gmail.com

Historian: Linda Smith:
irisgrower@cableone.net

Membership: Winona Stevenson
lakesideiris@aol.com

Nominating Committee: open

Ways and Means Committee: open

Youth Program: Cheryl Deaton
region15kids@hotmail.com

In Memoriam

Thelma H. Carrington (1917-2012)

Sadly we learned of the recent passing of Mrs. Thelma Carrington, AIS Life Member and founding member of the San Diego Iris Society.

She hybridized 'Flat River', a flat iris, in 1970, which was recently added to the iris wiki (link: <http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/TbFthruJ/TbFlatRiver>). If you have this iris growing in your garden, please let us know. The iris register description reads 'Flat River' (T. Carrington, R. 1970). Seedling 6-542. TB, height 18" (46 cm), Mid to late bloom season. Standards none; falls creamy white with yellow signal; gold beard; opens flat and resembles Japanese. 'White Ruffles' X 179A: ('Fantasy' x 'Pink Lace').

Thelma Carrington frequently showed her award winning irises and seemed to have particular success with white irises. She won The Lawson Trophy for Best White Tall Bearded Iris multiple times: for 'Winter Olympics' in 1973 and 1991, and for 'Happy Bride' in 1990 and 'Bridal Fashion' in 1994.

And finally, The Carrington Trophy for Best Seedling, was named in her honor and is awarded each year when the San Diego Iris Society holds its AIS accredited and judged show.

Save The Date!

**AIS REGION 15
2013 SPRING TREK**
HOSTED BY THE
SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY

VIEW IRISES FROM NOTABLE HYBRIDIZERS
GROWN FOR TWO YEARS IN SDIS MEMBERS' GARDENS

APRIL 26-27, 2013

THE HOLIDAY INN - MISSION VALLEY STADIUM

LOOK FOR DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORM
IN THE NEXT REGION 15 NEWSLETTER

AIS Region 15 Update

by Winona Stevenson, Region 15 RVP



Well now, the three years of planning, working, frustrations and small and large problems are over. The convention was a success and I've heard good things about it. Although attendance was not as expected, those who did attend were happy.

Now comes the frustration of digging all those irises. Many, many thanks to all of our members who participated in the digging, trimming, marking and shipping of several thousand rhizomes. I'm reluctant to mention names, but there are a few people who have given so many hours/days of their lives to accomplish this phenomenal task. A most sincere special thanks to them! Jurupa, Stantons and Mystic Lake are already dug. The Huntington will be dug shortly

I had the privilege to train a young lady on show bench judging to finish her requirements for G/E. Claire Harding is a bright young lady who, I'm sure, knows more about the show bench than I do. I look forward to hearing more about this teenager in the future since I understand we will see the results of her hybridizing at the 2013 Convention..

I did miss some of the meetings I wanted to attend since I was at the Registration Desk a lot of the time. But, what a wonderful way to meet people! Now I can put a face to many of the names I know.

As a bus co-captain, I got to meet even more of our guests. We even had a ball toss and a 'ball signing' game on the bus. Our youth members can come up with some fun and crazy ideas. Guess that's why we love them so much! And, I got to give away many prizes!

A great big THANK YOU To Jill Bonino and Kathy Chilton for their perseverance in putting together a great AIS National Convention.

Now it's time to look forward to our Region 15 Fall Meeting! Look for the registration form in this issue as well as on the Region 15 website (www.region15ais.org).

Membership Update

E-memberships are picking up. We now have 25, and our total region membership is at 299. That's down from the Spring report. It seems the younger generations have too many other things that take precedence over gardening. But with the baby boomers coming onto the scene, perhaps that will change. Yet, many of our older members are moving into facilities that do not have the space to garden and perhaps no room to plant anything.

We really need to increase our membership and get new people interested in growing irises. If anyone has any ideas about how we can do this, please let me know. Presidents, bring any ideas to the Fall meeting on October 13th and let's discuss them.

Winona Stevenson



find us on
Facebook

follow us on
twitter

Blog with us on
World of Irises
BLOG

Judges Training

by Debbie Babuscio-James, Region 15 Asst. RVP & Judges Training Chair

After a successful Iris season hopefully you all took advantage of the Judges Training offered at The National Convention, your home Iris Society or a visiting Society. I sent the Judges Reports out and was so glad they were all returned on time.

If your club is planning a Judges Training Class, please contact me and let me know the specifics. Remember to send me a copy of the test with the answers and the attendance sign-in-sheet afterwards.

If you need more JT hours, plan on attending the Region 15 Fall Meeting in October. In November The San Fernando Valley will have a Judges Training Class that you can take advantage of. Will Plotner will give a 1 hr. JT on Species and in addition to that, in March 2013 Lowell Baumunk will give a 1 hr. JT on Tall Bearded Irises.

This year I am please to recommend to the AIS Board the following Apprentice Judges be moved up to Exhibition/Garden Judges:



Dan Dourney
Andi Rivarola
Janis Shackelford
Vera Steward

Congratulations and thank you!

If you have been thinking about becoming a judge, but just haven't done it yet, I ask... What's holding you back? It really is a great service to not only your Iris Group, but all Groups within the Region as well as the AIS. If you not sure of what is required, please refer to Chapter One of the AIS Judges Handbook, or simply call me at (818) 922-9153.

Region 15 Treasurer's Report August 2012

by Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

The Region 15 Checking account currently has a balance of \$4069.07. Due to the mingling of the Convention account and the Region account, a full disclosure of the Region's financials is not possible at this time. We are still getting reimbursement requests for the Convention expenses. The monies from the sale of Convention rhizomes have yet to be realized. I hope to have a more comprehensive report at the Region 15 Fall Board Meeting.

AIS Youth Report

by Cheryl Deaton, AIS Youth Chair

There are two youth members in Region 15, Logan and Makayla Felix (my grandchildren). They are members of Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society and San Fernando Valley Iris Society. They have potted their current new irises and are looking forward to getting a few more. I am re-doing my iris beds to make room for their own little plots. Logan especially likes to look through catalogs for his new stuff. Makayla tends to pick hers out by the names (Fashion Diva is a new one for her - perfect match!). Both are looking forward to returning to school in mid August. Logan is in 4th grade and Makayla is in 5th grade. Makayla's Girl Scout troop is thinking about becoming a CIP, and I will gladly give them irises to grow in their own gardens.

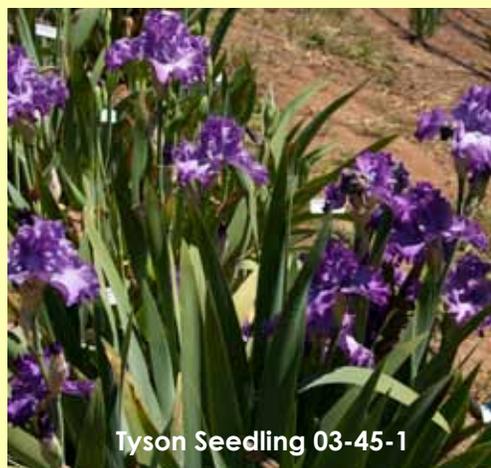
I hope many of you will recruit Youth members to become members of your local club, or just share some of your bounty of irises with a young person in your neighborhood. Start a 'themed' garden at a local school, park or church. Young people are the future of our organization and irises are an easy and drought tolerant plant to grow. So get out there and infect some kids with the 'Iris Virus'.

AIS Region 15 Trek Wheel

Event	Trek Host	Dates	Location
2012 Fall Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society at The Canoga Park Women's Club	October 13, 2012	Canoga Park, CA
2013 Spring Trek	San Diego Iris Society	April 26-27, 2013	San Diego, CA
2013 Fall Trek	Verde Valley Area Iris Society		
2014 Spring Trek	Southern California Iris Society		
2014 Fall Trek	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club		
2015 Spring Trek	Prescott Area Iris Society		
2015 Fall Trek	TBD		



Voted Best Seedlings at Cali-Zona Gold 2012 AIS National Convention



Tyson Seedling 03-45-1



Moorhead Seedling 06-115



Annand Seedling 99-16A

Attention Region 15 Hybridizers! REQUEST FOR GUEST IRISES FOR 2014 Trek - Due September 30th -

Southern California Iris Society is hosting the 2014 Region 15 Spring Trek, April 11-13, 2014. There will be 3 home gardens on tour. Region 15 hybridizers are asked to send no more than 2 each of a maximum 6 bearded cultivars (named varieties or seedlings) to the Guest Iris Chair no later than September 30, 2012. Please mark all rhizomes with the name or seedling number and enclose a packing list with your contact information. If you are sending beardless cultivars you may send 4 of each as they will only be 2 year clumps, but the total shall not exceed 6 cultivars, bearded and beardless combined. You will be contacted at a later date as to the disposition of your irises. Thank you for your participation.

Mail to: Cheryl Deaton, 2014 Guest Iris Chair Region 15
27218 Walnut Springs Avenue, Canyon Country, CA 91351-3314



AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting Registration Form

*San Fernando Valley Iris Society
invites you to attend*

**AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting
Saturday, October 13, 2012
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

*Featuring Guest Speaker & Judges Training with
Iris Hybridizer Fred Kerr
at The Canoga Park Women's Club
7401 Jordan Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91305
(Click for directions)*



*Greatest Show On Earth
(Kerr, 2010)*

Come and join us for the Fall Meeting of Region 15 of The American Iris Society, for an awesome program, and find out all the latest information about what's keeping this region so busy with iris activities. We hope to see you there. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the entire day.

Andi Rivarola

President, San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Schedule of Events

- 8:00 a.m. Board Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Guest speaker program: Fred Kerr of Rainbow Acres
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Judges Training with Fred Kerr
- 2:00 p.m. General Membership Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Raffle
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

Note: Fred Kerr's Judges Training Program will be a slightly expanded version of his standard tall bearded training to include space age, rebloomers, etc. The morning program, "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: The View from Rainbow Acres," will be on Fred Kerr's further adventures in hybridizing and will feature "new" things in his seedling patch in the last few seasons. The Board Meeting will include a Convention Committee Meeting. The afternoon raffle will include some special and unusual irises.

Registration Fee of Adults \$40, Youth \$20 includes:

Full Program, including Featured Presenter and Judges Training and meals.

Morning refreshments: Pastries, tea, coffee and other goodies

Lunch: Lemon Chicken with brown rice and mixed veggies, salad, drinks (soda, juice or coffee) and dessert.

Please note: If you have a dietary requirement that requires a change to the menu please let Debbie James, our lunch specialist, know as soon as possible: Email dbabski1962@yahoo.com, Phone: 1-818-922-9153.

(continued next page)

AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting
Saturday, October 13, 2012
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

hosted by The San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Featuring Guest Speaker & Judges Training with
Iris Hybridizer Fred Kerr
at The Canoga Park Women's Club
7401 Jordan Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91305
(Click for directions)

Hotel Recommendations:

Under \$100 per night

Ramada Inn Canoga Park Warner Center

7126 DeSoto Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91303 Phone: 1-866-599-6674

Comfort Inn Near Warner Center (CA796)

20157 Ventura Boulevard, Woodland Hills, CA 91364 Phone: 1-818-347-8080

A little over \$100 / night

Hilton Woodland Hills

6360 Canoga Avenue, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 Phone: 1-818-595-1000

Note: Bob Hope (Burbank) Airport is closer to the meeting than LAX. Also, all major rental car companies operate near Bob Hope Airport.

Region 15 Fall Meeting Registration Fee: Adults - \$40, Youth - \$20

Name(s) of Attendees: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Local Iris Society Affiliation: _____

Judge's Training: YES _____ / NO _____ Please indicate if you plan to participate in Judges Training

Amount of enclosed check: _____

Please make checks payable to **San Fernando Valley Iris Society** to be received no later than September 30th, 2012 with copy of this registration form to:

Mary Anne Abrahms
5922 Jumilla Avenue
Woodland Hills, CA 91367-5606

Contact Mary Anne with questions at Phone: 1-818-346-8679 or Email nabrahms@socal.rr.com

Take Over Jousting Green Windmills

– An Invitation from Dr. Richard Richards –

By Katharina Notarianni

“The pods forming now are probably the last TB pods I will set”, Richard Richards, iris hybridizer and winner of the President’s Cup at the recent National Convention said to me in a recent conversation. “Physical and mental degradation have set in at industrial strength. I would like to keep going forever, but that’s not likely. My body is mutinying. Is someone as silly as I willing to get involved with The Green Iris Project? I’m ready to share it with someone, and pass along seedlings plus the things I have learned about green irises.”

People have had the vision of a green iris for a long time. Over twenty years ago, Joe Ghio tried to produce a green and failed. He told Richards it can’t be done, and “ I immediately thought, ‘I have my project!’”

Lura Roach was breeding for green in the 1960s. She and her husband George had a backyard garden on the Los Angeles River. Roach bred ‘Clancy’ (1963), which has a yellow-greenish tint, and ‘Song of Erin’ (1969), which is oyster white with a greenish tint. Lura Roach was Richards’ mentor, and passed along an interest in greenish irises as well as much of what she had learned from years of growing and hybridizing TBs.

A group of people in the 1930’s and 1940’s were interested in green, including Lloyd Austin of Placerville. He discovered the space ager irises and pursued this abnormality also. Austin put out a catalogue with shamrock green irises depicted on the cover, but when people grew them, they bloomed as a dirty brown or filthy yellow.

Herb Holk of Cal-Dixie Iris Gardens a decade or so ago gave Richards a seedling with “good branching, but form from the 17th century. “ Herb Holk’s seedling (#85-12) helped Richards a great deal with its really nice branching, but the form needed to be brought into the 21st century. Everything else about it is good. Richards has advanced generations of crosses from Holk’s seedling and has improved on it. The problem, as Holk warned him, is overcoming the yellow pigment. It is hard to eliminate, but it can perhaps be neutralized.

Other greenish irises have appeared over time in many hybridizers’ gardens, but usually at random and not as the result of a planned cross. One exception may be the Schreiners, who have from time to time Introduced greenish irises.

Richard has had other iris projects than the green one in the past. He decided ‘Feedback’ (B. Hager, 1983), a strong rebloomer, needed better form, so he crossed it with ‘Star Master’ (R. Dunn, 1987), also a rebloomer, to produce purple reblooming irises ‘Amethyst Winter’ and ‘Marty Richards.’ The goal was improvement of ‘Feedback.’ Richards also was interested in breeding red irises and started working with Bernice Miller. He eventually introduced a Miller reblooming iris seedling as ‘Bernice’s Legacy’ after her passing. He believes there is room for improvement in red rebloomers.

Richards decided more than two decades ago that green was to be his focus for the rest of his hybridizing career. He has gotten seedlings with wonderful colors other than green while trying for green, including recently a bicolor, yellow standards with lavender blue falls, that is a vigorous rebloomer so far.

In 2009, Richards introduced ‘Easy Being Green’ (a cross of Blyth’s ‘Green and Gifted’ and Dunn’s ‘Tanqueray’) through Aitken’s Salmon Creek Gardens and won the President’s Cup Award at the 2012 AIS National Convention In Ontario. He said he was the last person to expect winning the President’s Cup, but each day of the



Reblooming Iris
‘Amethyst Winter’ (Richards)



Richards Seedling 33501



Reblooming Iris
‘Bernice’s Legacy’ (Miller/Richards)

convention, fellow hybridizers and friends Rick Tasco and Roger Duncan said Richards was definitely going to win the award for 'Easy Being Green', which grew an outstanding clump of irises in all of the convention gardens.

Improving the breed has been Richard's goal for years. But which color class? With blue irises, Schreiner or Keppel will produce great blue irises from the thousands of seedlings they produce and evaluate each year. A backyard hybridizer trying to produce a good blue is at a severe numerical disadvantage. But green does not seem to be a commercially appealing color, and that opens the field for a "rank amateur with a big back yard and more enthusiasm than sense."

With green, it is often a question of sheer luck because there is so little breeding stock, and most hybridizers just stare blankly if asked how to produce a green iris. Richards believes someone can get something good out of his breeding line now that there are good greenish seedlings, most of which he has produced. He also has a collection of elderly green introduced varieties for historical and comparison purposes that would be useful.

People who know pigments in paints think we can produce green irises when crossing bright blue irises with bright yellow irises, but the resulting crosses produce mostly dirty brown irises, or lots of purple irises, and "we already have a few purple irises." Out of his many attempts, talking with other hybridizers and reading iris publications for any hints, he finally surmised there are four possible approaches that might actually produce a greenish iris.

1. Combine a pastel yellow with a pastel blue overlay to get the illusion of green. Pale blue pigment in the outer layer of cells on the flower will give that illusion.
2. Watch for color breaks consisting of the presence of more chlorophyll in the flower parts. Chlorophyll is genuinely green. This could happen tomorrow or not at all.
3. Take greenish SDB irises and keep crossing to TBs to bring the green up to TB size. There are some nice greenish SDBs. Prepare to spend a decade or two on this approach.
4. Dumb luck. Greenish seedlings show up on rare occasions no matter what the hybridizer is striving for. They are usually destroyed since green is a mostly unappreciated color.

"Green has had bad PR so far, but some aesthetically sensitive people have always appreciated it," Richards claims.

Richards proceeded with the pastel approach and got results right away. That is why there is a bluish influence in 'Easy Being Green'. The challenge was finding enough breeding stock for any approach. He had to mostly create his own greenish irises. At conventions, he only looks for greenish irises

He has further generations of his 'Easy Being Green' line that are doing well. "The irises are not giving out, I am!" said Richards. "I don't mind growing old. I just don't want to do it now." It will take someone who likes working alone to take over this quixotic quest since there are very few people who will appreciate the goal or the effort. It requires someone who takes "You can't do that" as a beginning rather than a limit.

Richards believes his seedlings are getting better and better. He has three lines that he is crossing. He is striving for a greenish rebloomer. 'Easy Being Green' reblooms a bit. He now has two or three pretty good seedlings that have rebloomed somewhat more reliably.

Richard would love to see a really green iris, whether he produces it or not. He reflected, "'Easy Being Green' has been fun. When I saw it bloom for the first time, I just stood and stared. I knew it was good. Working with irises year in, year out, is an ongoing pleasure. The President's Cup is pleasing and a wonderful recognition of my efforts, but making improvements is the goal. Most awards are the result of a great deal of luck. I lucked into a combination at Ontario of superbly prepared gardens, having 'Easy Being Green' at peak bloom, and thin cloud cover to show off the color to best advantage."

'Easy Being Green' may represent the first step in the next phase of breeding for green irises. If you are willing to accept the invitation to further The Green Iris Project, please contact Dr. Richard Richards at email mongo2u@cox.net or by phone at (619) 464-2180.



2012 President's Cup Winner
'Easy Being Green' (Richards)

Stout Irises Thrive in San Diego Climate

by Katharina Notarianni

Have you ever seen a photo of an iris and said, "I just have to have that one for my garden!" That's how I felt when I saw Hugh Stout present his iris introductions and seedlings at a Tall Bearded Iris Society meeting. As a result I am pleased to be growing a few of his irises in my Ramona (San Diego area) garden. Since Hugh hybridizes and grows irises in Oklahoma, I wasn't sure how well they would tolerate my warmer climate with its mild, shorter winter chill. Like much of Southern California, Ramona winters are generally a lovely 70 degrees during the day and drop to around 40 degrees at night. Sometimes we will get a cold spell where the temperatures drop to 28 degrees at night, although never for more than a few days at a time. We might even get a dusting of snow that melts by the next day. Although my neighbors grow their irises in the ground and get much bigger clumps, I have lost many beloved plants to gophers and other critters and so hesitate to put my prized new irises directly into the ground. Therefore I plant my new favorite irises in 20" Italian clay pots. The other old favorites get planted in 5 gallon plastic pots waiting for the day I have a chance to landscape my yard and plant them. Featured here are photos of Hugh Stout's 'Back Draft', 'Purple Essence', and 'Ron Mullin' thriving in my potted iris garden.

'Backdraft'
(Stout, 2010)



"The standards and style arms are a warm peachy pink iris infused red with a tight gold edge. Sitting on rich, wide garnet red falls with a pink edge, the extremely bright orange beards scream "fire"! Well-spaced branches make for showy stalks. Rapid, healthy increases allow it to quickly make an awesome clump. Two to three branches with plenty of buds and stalks guarantee weeks of enjoyment."

'Purple Essence'
(Stout, 2010)



"The smoky violet-purple standards of this bi-tone iris are what really make this one catch your eye. Combined with its wide, royal purple and glowing orange red beard, it truly stands out in the garden! Well-branched stalks, great form and a vigorous grower!"

Stout Irises Thrive in San Diego Climate (continued)

The first year I planted them, the irises settled in nicely but I didn't get any blooms. It might be because I waited until Fall to plant them, long after the Summer heat subsided. It may also be that the irises took time to acclimate to the milder climate. The second year they all bloomed, with 'Purple Essence' being the most prolific. 'Ron Mullin', a very pretty light lavender with sunset orange beards, started blooming on April 18. 'Back Draft' and 'Purple Essence' started blooming a few days later and all continued blooming into early May. What a delight! The colors were as remarkable as his website claimed. They were hardy, had many flower spikes and good branching. I recommend Stout irises for any Region 15 garden.



'Ron Mullin' (Stout, 2010)

“Named for my dear friend and mentor, this seedling is one that Ron has particularly admired. With cool white ruffled standards and style arms, the falls transform over a three day period from a shiny lavender to near white, without losing their substance. It's flaring falls and gold radiating beyond the hafts show its 'Goldkist' parentage. The bright orange beards complete a very showy picture with tall, graceful stalks. Easily seven to eight buds. We only hope this iris can live up to it's namesake's reputation!”



'Ron Mullin'

Hugh Stout Irises

www.stoutgardens.com

Photos by K. Notarianni



'Ron Mullin', 'Backdraft' and
'Purple Essence'

ABOUT STOUT GARDENS AT DANCINGTREE: Hugh and Jennifer Stout have been growing, showing and hybridizing both daylilies and iris for over twelve years. Hugh is both an exhibition/garden judge with the American Iris Society as well as a past garden judge for the American Hemerocallis Society. He is also past president of the Oklahoma Horticultural Society and Oklahoma Iris Society. Hugh currently is the RVP for AIS Region 22 and sits on the executive board of Oklahoma City Beautiful, the board of the Oklahoma Horticultural Society and is president of the Tall Bearded Iris Society.

Bruce Filardi and his International Iris Effort

by Katharina Notarianni

I first came upon Bruce Filardi's irises when I researched international hybridizers and came upon his website (www.internationaliris.com). I liked what I saw and Bruce kindly shared his story. It turns out that in addition to giving the international hybridizers a way to market their irises in the U.S.A., Bruce also hybridizes and has some beauties of his own. Around the same time I received irises from Hugh Stout (see article on page 12), Bruce sent me some of his irises which I cultivated in the same way, in large 20" clay pots. I grew Filardi's 'Banana Cream Pie', 'Enchanted Circle', 'Queen Empress', 'Twilight Tear', as well as space age irises 'Some Enchanted Evening' and 'Roses In May'. They started blooming towards the end of April and continued until the middle of May in my Ramona, CA garden. I was rewarded with very nice irises. In the first year of blooms, 'Queen Empress' and 'Enchanted Circle' were the most impressive. I look forward to an even bigger display next year when the increases come into bloom.

About International Irises

Bruce Filardi started hybridizing in 1996. As soon as he fell in love with irises, he fell in love with hybridizing. His first inspiration was when he had a day off from work one day in May of '95, saw an ad for Schreiner's, and hopped in the car to drive an hour South from Portland to Salem. Instead of the casual half-hour visit he expected to make, he spent several hours there with his camera, first in the display gardens and later wandering through the seedling fields. The range of colors and patterns was mesmerizing, and the first thing he wanted to breed was a green iris.

As years went on, Bruce became friends with many of the "big names" in the Portland/Salem area, but he never had the confidence to name and register any of his seedlings. He finally registered some in 2005, and Barbara & Terry Aitken introduced his 'Some Enchanted Evening' and 'Pewter and Gold' in 2006, and four more in 2007: 'Banana Cream Pie', 'Queen Empress', 'Enchanted Circle', and 'Twilight Tear'. Terry Aitken told Bruce that if he really wanted to introduce more than four in a year, then he should put out his own catalogue, and this is when Bruce started thinking about International Iris, which he originally planned to call Swordlily Gardens ("Swordlily" is a literal translation of the German word for "iris": Schwertlilie).

Bruce had been in close contact with Michèle Bersillon in France and Manfred Beer in Germany for several years via e-mail and letter. Michèle is actually American-born, so they were able to communicate in English; and, luckily, Bruce speaks German so was able to communicate with Manfred, who speaks no English. Bruce had gotten in touch with Michèle after reading about her elegant reverse amoena 'Coeur d'Hiver' [which means "Heart of Winter"], and he had contacted Manfred after reading about 'Mandy G.' and 'Blacky', cited in an article in the AIS Bulletin as the blackest irises ever hybridized. Over time, these correspondences developed into real friendships. He finally had the opportunity to meet Manfred and friend Margitta ["Gitta"] Herrn, along with German hybridizer Günter Diedrich and his wife Rosi, at the National Convention in Portland a few years ago. Two years later, Bruce was the guest of Manfred & Gitta in Germany, where he got to see the Diedrichs again, and also met Wolfgang & Barbara Landgraf. An inveterate traveler, Bruce had also met and visited Anton Mego and his wife Viktoria on a trip to Slovakia; and when he was invited to judge at the International Iris Competition in Florence, Italy, he met Lorena Montanari and her husband Giorgio. On all these occasions, as happens when fanatic hybridizers get together, seedling photos were shared and discussed. Bruce saw many striking and worthwhile irises which he knew would never be seen in America.

International Iris slowly came into being as a way to distribute Bruce's own work, and more importantly as an outlet for the work of Europe's great hybridizers who really had no distribution process. Today, International Iris features iris introductions of hybridizers Cynthia Bauer, Manfred Beer, Guenter Diedrich, Bruce Filardi, Wolfgang Landgraf, Anton Mego, Lorena Montanari, Steve Rocha, Leonardo Urbinati, and John Van Hook. Also, they have one of the world's most important collections of historic irises. Visit www.internationaliris.com to peruse and order new iris introductions.





'Queen Empress'



'Some Enchanted Evening'

Bruce Filardi Irises
www.internationaliris.com

Photos by K. Notarianni



'Roses In May'



'Banana Cream Pie'



'Twilight Tear'



The American Iris Society

Annual Membership:
Single \$25 / Dual \$30

Triennial Rate:
Single \$60 / Dual \$75

Life Membership:
Single \$450 / Dual: \$545
Senior Life (65+):
15% discount

Youth (<19) Membership:
\$5 (w/o bulletin) or
\$9 with AIS Irises Bulletin

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AIS Membership Status:**
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Tom Gormley
AIS Membership Secretary
P. O. Box 177
De Leon Springs, FL 32130-0177
E-mail: AISMemsec@irises.org
Phone: (386) 277-2057

American Iris Society Youth



www.youth-iris.com

When enrolling a youth into the American Iris Society Please include your youth member's name, address, email and birthdate.
A youth is defined as a person under 19 years of age.

AIS Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

Burgard Iris Farm - (805) 835-3965
Catherine & Emil Burgard
840 Climbing Tree Ln
Templeton, CA 93465
email burgardfarms@yahoo.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
www.mysticlakegardens.com
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.stantonirisdgards.com
email stantoniris@gmail.com

Region 15

Presidents' Reports

President's Report *Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society* *by Gail Lofdahl*

As of August 1, 2012, our club membership has increased to 65 (including two youth members), 15 of which are also American Iris Society members. Each time we have an event open to the public, we seem to attract a few more members.

HDI&DS participated in the annual Antelope Valley Home Show at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds from March 16-18. Cheryl Deaton gave her annual presentations on "Drought-Tolerant Irises" to encourage propagation of irises. For the past several years, iris sales at this show have been our secondary fundraiser. Despite cold, wet weather (and a power outage in our building for several hours), our plant sales were still strong.

Our club participated in the Huntington Botanical Gardens spring plant sale on April 28 and 29, thanks to Jill Bonino's help for arranging our involvement.

May was a busy month for the club. Our annual Show and Sale was held on Saturday and Sunday, May 5-6. We enjoyed record iris sales, thanks to good coverage in our local newspaper, the Antelope Valley Press, and the fact that the general public now realizes that we've permanently moved our sale location to Antelope Valley College (AVC). A notice on the AVC website generated additional post-show sales from college employees and instructors. Horticulture students helped us set up our irises for sale, and carried irises to customers' cars. Thanks to Neal Weisenberger (the Horticulture Department Chair) for sponsoring us and assisting us with the Show and Sale.

On the 12th of May, 35 members participated in our annual progressive dinner and garden tour, visiting five gardens and eating at three of them (soup/salad at the first, the main course at the third, and dessert at the fifth). This has proved to be one of our club's most popular events. It is always a pleasure to see our club members' gardens, large and small.

Our July meeting was our annual "Salad Spectacular," when our club members bring their favorite salads, breads, and desserts for club enjoyment. This year, we had the added bonus of distributing the iris rhizomes from Stanton's iris dig. Over thirty club members participated.



Congratulations Keith Keppel! Awarded the Dykes Medal in 2012 for TB 'Florentine Silk'

'Florentine Silk' (Keith Keppel, R. 2004). Seedling 99-116A. TB, height 40" (102 cm), Mid-Late bloomseason. Standards peach (M&P 9-A-4), slight orchid (41-E-5) basal infusion; style arms peach, orchid midrib; falls medium violet (41-J-9), narrow pinkish buff (42-D-3) edge; beards light blue at end, base lavender white, carrot red (10-C-10) in throat. 96-45E, 'Crystal Gazer' sibling X 'Poem Of Ecstasy'. Keppel 2005. Honorable Mention 2007; Franklin Cook Cup 2007; Award of Merit 2009; Wister Medal 2011; Dykes Medal 2012.

President's Report Inland Region Iris Society

by Carol Morgan

April was a very busy month for us with the AIS Convention here, the region being the Hosts and Our club as one of the Tour Gardens about 10 of our members were very busy for about 3 weeks. The shortage of people from around the U.S. that didn't attend was matched by our club, we had a very poor turn out and the ones that did help were too busy to ride the bus for the tour. Too bad but money is still tight and we have more of a social club than those that want to get involved in iris functions. Enough of the boo-hoos.

The Club garden was full of bloom many varieties of iris were blooming. The Louisiana's were in full bloom - so glad, they were great. The Guest hybridizers that showed up were a real treat, I won't name them cause I will surely miss a few. The weather was too hot, but we bought lots of ice and bottled water and tried to have lots of shade.

Elections:

We only had to replace one board member, Scott Snethen 1st.V.P.

The Board is -- Carol Morgan President, 1st. V.P. is Mary Hanson, programs, 2nd V.P. Cathy Coache, Ways & Means, Rec. Sec. Patty Movius, Treasurer Claudia Dean, Corresponding Sec., Newsletter, Kitty Stanton.

Rhizome Sales:

We had 2 Rhizome Sales one in April and other in May and are starting to get ready for our Fall Sale Sept. 15 &16, 2012

More Work:

Mike Monninger of our Club and others was/is in charge of Receiving and Returning Guest Iris for the National Convention and sending them to our Affiliates. Club members helped him when they could. What a job! when he gets done I bet he goes into hibernation for a couple of months.

Meetings:

We had our August Members Only Auction this past meeting - what a treat all had fun, we e-cooped the money we had in the Iris, plus a little extra, Special prizes for our raffles and door prize. I dug bulbs and had rhizomes both in grab bags which were gone quickly!

The Potluck was good--- too much good food ----too much Fun!!!

SEPTEMBER will bring our Region 15 Auction. Oh dear, more digging at the club garden.

OCTOBER Abram Feuerstein will come and do an Iris talk for us. The Fall meeting is in San Fernando - we hope to see all of you there.

NOVEMBER Fruit tree trimming talk by a local man Robert Montgomery.

DECEMBER Christmas Party and the a New Year!!!!!!

Last of all we are having our Spring Iris Show April 13 &14, 2013 at the Inland Center Mall, San Bernardino, Ca. Please Come !!!





Lompoc Valley
Iris Society

President's Report Lompoc Valley Iris Society

by Ben Schleuning

The Lompoc Valley Iris Society will hold an extra, bonus sale of iris rhizomes (root-stock) on Saturday, September 8 in the Texas Cattle Company parking lot, 936 North H Street, Lompoc. Usually the Society has only one sale of home-grown iris rhizomes in July each year to raise funds for their scholarship fund, but this year has been different. President Ben will spend the next weekend at Lakeside Gardens, Lake Isabella, helping Winona get some of her iris beds resized, and the Society will get the surplus rhizomes, making this bonus sale possible.

This will be an economy sale with the familiar low Lompoc prices -- a couple of dollars each, probably three dollars max. The sale hours are 10 am to 1 pm, or until the supply runs out. For

more information call President Ben Schleuning, 733-4081.



President's Report Orange County Iris and Daylily Club

by Co-President Derry Gerald

Hello from Orange County. We are trying something different this year. It's working great. Bobby Hogancamp is the other Co-President. She is taking care of the daylily portion and half of the meetings. I'm doing the iris.

We have been fortunate in acquiring new members and our weekly sale at Greenscene was a success.

So far this year we have had programs on camellias by Bradford King; underwater gardens by Bobby and Frank Hogancamp; powerpoint presentation by Dick Foster of Fullerton Arboretum on their past, present and future; a marking party for our sale; Iris 101, a basics and Q&A by Derry Gerald; plumeria by Mike Monninger, and pot luck social and giant plant table.

This month is our members only iris auction; daylily procurement and potluck.

September will be a potluck and region auction. The public is invited and we are encouraging our members to bring a friend.

October Cliff Meng will present on succulents, November Colum Riley presents on composting, and in December we have our Potluck Dinner and gift exchange.

We meet the second Tuesday of every month, 6:30pm for Potlucks, and 7:00pm otherwise. We meet at The Garden Grove First Presbyterian Church at 1832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove CA. Please come anytime.

President's Report Prescott Area Iris Society

by President Daniel Schroeder

Pictured here are former President Roger Osgood and Steve Ginter enjoying the AIS Convention irises at the Huntington.

Since the convention, PAIS has elected a new president, Dan Schroeder. Other officers include Vice president Patrick Beatty, Treasurer & Membership Sharon Phelps, and Secretary Vera Stewart.



Visit the Prescott Area Iris Society Website at
<http://prescottirissociety.org>

President's Report San Diego Iris Society

by Janis Shackelford

We are coming out of our summer break with two rhizome sales to be held at Balboa Park in September. The rhizomes are dug from member's gardens and excess rhizomes will be potted for a sale in May 2013. Because our members-only auction of convention rhizomes will not be held until October, we have potted all of the AIS Convention rhizomes we have received. Our November meeting will feature a presentation by David Ross, Walter Anderson Nursery, on Soil Conditioning and Pest Management. December we have our annual potluck Christmas Party, which will be held at one of the 2013 Region 15 Trek host gardens. January will be a program by one of our members, subject to be determined. February is our Birthday party luncheon, celebrating the establishment of the SDIS, and iris hybridizer Terry Aitken will be our guest speaker. An iris roundtable discussion is scheduled for the March meeting. And in April, everyone in the Region is invited to attend the Region 15 Spring Trek on April 26-27, which we are hosting.

The 2013 Region 15 Spring Trek will be a 'low tech trek' similar to Tucson's. One of our host gardens cannot accommodate large buses, so we will be carpooling around San Diego County. Our three host gardens are in different climates ranging from the coast, to an inland valley without frost, to an upland valley with occasional snow. Thus we are assured of bloom despite the weird turns our weather is taking now. The guest gardens are the Iris Howse and Garden, a commercial garden owned by Ted and Rose Howse, located in Bonita, California. We hold an annual barbecue at Ted and Rose's garden for everyone to enjoy their extensive iris beds in a park-like setting. The second garden belongs to Pat and Richard Wurtele. Located in Ramona, their fairly flat property has acres of iris as well as the guest garden. Finally, the third garden is my own, located between Bonita and Ramona in the Community of Lakeside. I don't have acres of iris, but I do have what I call an eclectic garden with a little bit of everything: if it grows and blooms and adapts to warm, dry conditions you may see it in my garden. So save the date, April 26th and 27th, for Arcos de San Diego! (please read Bill Molnar's article on page 24).



SDIS members at Iris Howse & Gardens



SDIS Board Members



SDIS Spring Show at
Balboa Park



SDIS Members at Convention Iris Dig
at Stanton Iris Gardens

Visit the San Diego Iris Society Website at
www.SanDiegoIrisSociety.org

President's Report

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

by Andi Rívarola

facebook



San Fernando Valley
Iris Society

It's hard to believe that the Ontario, CA National Convention of the American Iris Society has come and gone already. I and several other San Fernando Valley Iris Society members were looking forward to attending the Ontario, California National Convention, and were glad to meet many of you there.

As I write this, we're putting together the final details of the Region 15 Fall Meeting. It will be held on Saturday, October 13th, at our regular meeting location, the Canoga Park Women's Club. We're so happy that Fred Kerr will be providing us with one of his insightful presentations, and a Judges Training Program to top it off. A registration form, with more details about the entire meeting is located on pages 8-9 of this newsletter.

We are also preparing for a third Iris Auction to be held at our September meeting, which will include irises from the Ontario Convention. We know many in our Region are doing the same.

In November we've invited Will Plotner from Oregon's Wildwood Iris Gardens to give a presentation, and are happy that he has agreed to join us.



On the left is a photo of iris pseudata 'Yukiyanagi,' which bloomed for the first time this year in my garden. I planted several others, but they did not bloom, hopefully in 2013.

I am also happy to report that I completed all judges training, and as of January 1st I should become a full-fledged judge, if the AIS Board approves at their November meeting.

WELCOME TO THE REGION 15 FALL MEETING
HOSTED BY SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

OCTOBER 13, 2012

8:00AM - 4:00PM

See Details on pages 8-9 or visit www.region15ais.org
to print out the Registration form

Registration payment of \$40 per person is due by September 30th.



Pictured left is 'Wizzard of Odds' grown by Kim Ung, who won Best in Show at our Spring Show.

Description: 'Wizzard of Odds' (Paul Black). Seedling K89A. TB, height 34" (86 cm), early to mid season bloom. Standards bright gold, extremely variable ruby wash; style arms bright gold, variable ruby streaks; falls bright gold, random ruby red streaks and splashes, sometimes half streaked, half solid ruby red on same petal; beards bright yellow-gold; ruffled; extremely variable broken color from petal to petal and flower to flower; slight spicy fragrance. 'Pure As Gold' X 'Infernal Fire'. Mid-America Garden 2009. Honorable Mention 2011.

Visit the San Fernando Valley Iris Society Website at
www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org

President's Report Southern California Iris Society

by Mike Monninger

Southern California Iris Society (SCIS) enjoyed a successful April 1 iris show at the Los Angeles Arboretum followed by the four day sale at South Coast Plaza April 26 – 29. To prevent boredom the AIS National Convention in Ontario gave members something to do after the iris show and before the 4 day sale. Eleven SCIS members attended the convention. Several others were hosts in The Holk Memorial Garden at Jurupa.

Our members only iris auction is just ahead. Kim usually uses his script gained from 'Best Specimen' and other high awards in the iris show to purchase his auction selections. Alas this year the show awards were spread among many members for the first time in years eliminating Kim's usual windfall. He still won the 'Best Plicata'. He will have to dip into his reserves this year to do much bidding. I'm sure he will be back with a vengeance next year.

The room rental rates at the Arboretum will increase significantly next year. We have had a smoking deal (\$25 a room) for years and now it increases 5 fold to \$125 a room. The only smoking here is to the bank account.

We have no editor so little information is getting out. This needs to be a high priority for us.

I want to wish everyone 'Happy Irising'!



Best Design Arranged by
John Wight

**Congratulations
to
SCIS
Spring
Show
Winners**



Best Specimen 'That's All Folks'
by Marilyn Pecaro

President's Report Sun Country Iris Society

by Gary Miller

Sun Country is all excited planning auctions and scheduling rhizome sales. We have received a generous amount of rhizomes from region 15 convention gardens and we are all looking forward to the auctions and sales. We have 12 to 15 locations to have our rhizome sales. Right now we are experiencing excessive heat days with temperatures hitting 115 degrees with many days 110 or higher. We hope the irises in our gardens will hold up during these hot days. I hope everyone in the region does well with the irises they are growing, make room for some new ones, and promote new members. Pictured right, Sharon Petterson with Queen of Show 'Easy Being Green'.



Visit the Sun Country Iris Society Website at
www.SunCountryIris.org

IT'S ALMOST HERE by Bill Molnar

No, I'm not talking about Halloween. Nor am I making reference to Thanksgiving, even though it seems as though it is coming twice a year as I get older. Now you probably think I'm talking about the arrival of Christmas, but you are wrong again. It's even bigger, better and more fun than Christmas. It's the 2013 Spring Trek in San Diego where you can view hundreds and hundreds of blooming iris and spend time with friends from Region 15.

San Diego will be your host city and we are excited about it. We have selected 3 of our top iris growers located in 3 distinct climatic parts of the county (mild coastal, moderate central, & extreme winter cold inland). One experienced grower provides the hundreds of bearded iris varieties for our fall sale, another is a commercial grower in a park-like setting, and the third grower is a consistent trophy winner. I have seen the gardens. The iris clumps are already thick, full and gorgeous. We enjoyed a nice display of first year blooms, so they will be ready for a dramatic display next Spring. In addition, there will be hundreds of varieties in bloom in the homeowners' private collections.

Now is the time to save April 26, 27 & 28, 2013 on your calendar to be in San Diego. More details will come in the Region 15 Winter newsletter. We will be staying at a first class, impressive Holiday Inn. If you will get a big container and start throwing your loose change into it each night, you will have practically paid for an enjoyable trip by the time April gets here. So start thinking Spring, blooming iris, and a trip to San Diego, because... "It's Almost Here!"



President's Report Tucson Area Iris Society

by Gordon Jensen

No report.

PHOTOS OF 2012 TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY SHOW HELD AT THE TUCSON BOTANICAL GARDENS APRIL 15, 2012



Visit the Tucson Area Iris Society Website at
www.TucsonIris.org

President's Report Verde Valley Area Iris Society

by Betty Gaudy

The Verde Valley Iris Society had a successful Spring. The business meeting and a program by Nora Graf was held March 28th in Cottonwood.

The Spring Show was held in Cottonwood at Dead Horse State Park in April. The show was in conjunction with the Birding Festival. There were 58 individual iris and four arrangements, and the unusual category had 37 individual iris/arrangements. The theme was Centennial.

May 2-6 the members exhibited at the Verde Valley Fair in Cottonwood. One member went to the conference in Ontario, California.

This was a busy Spring for the members. Now we are readying for the annual iris sale in September.



Visit the Verde Valley Area Iris Society Website at
http://www.region15ais.org/verde_ais/



2012 Convention Reflections

By Jill Bonino, Convention Co-Chair (Photos by K. Notarianni)

The 2012 AIS Convention “Calizona Gold” was a tremendous Region 15 accomplishment. The weather was a bit warm but no rain. The buses got everyone there. The food was great. And the iris bloom was magnificent. We met all of those goals we hoped to achieve when we had our first Convention Committee meeting on February 7, 2009!

All Region 15 affiliate clubs helped in some way either through “butts in seats” at meetings and at the Convention or much appreciated financial donations. Registration was not what we hoped for, but for the 330+ who came, they got more than their monies worth. The amount we were contracted to pay the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario not only covered the Welcome & Closing Banquets and all audio visual requirements, but appetizers for both of those banquets, extra food and beverages at the book signing for Kelly Norris’ Book and for the Geek Dinner, a buffet dinner for the AIS Board, a boxed breakfast for those who went on the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris tour on Sunday April 23, and an extra special Youth reception complete with ice cream sundaes. Thanks also go to Tracy Guthrie and her team at the Hotel for the great service.

Thanks especially go to Mike Monninger from Southern California Iris Society and Inland Region Iris Society (and I think 3 other Region 15 affiliates) as Guest Iris Chair who is about at the end of the grueling job of digging up all of the thousands of guest iris from the 4 Guest Gardens...And Brian and Leigh Moon for staying up almost all night on April 20 to recopy the CDs of guest iris pictures so they could be run on the buses the last day of the Convention. Thanks also to the members of the Prescott Iris Society for “captioning” hundreds of those pictures on the CDs.

(continued next page)

2012 Convention Reflections (continued)

Thanks also go to Carolyn Alexander and her helpers from Prescott Area Iris Society who did table arrangements with Kathy Chilton for the Welcome and Closing banquets among all of their other Convention activities.

Kathy Chilton (Tucson Area Iris Society) also took charge of the Simulated Iris Show in the Hotel on Wednesday April 18 from beginning to end. That was the "Day That Was". And Paul Gossett was the ever patient coordinator of all of the meetings, audio visual needs, and hotel arrangements.

Other "Back Stage" help we couldn't have done without were Carol and John Huffman who kept track of all of the attendees (their menu and excursion choices and all the Special Meals) for months before and during the Convention at Registration. Also much thanks to members of Hi Desert Iris Society, including Region 15 RVP Winona Stevenson, who often "manned" the Registration Table when members of San Fernando Valley Iris Society needed a break.

Roger Osgood and Steve Ginter from Prescott Area Iris Society dived right into planning, gathering items and organizing a very efficient and varied Raffle Fundraiser for the Region. Generous visitors to this room left the Region Treasury over \$2,000 happier. Debbie Babuscio-James and Iris Larson from San Fernando Valley Iris Society kept the Boutique open, made some new friends, and made some money too.

The 2012 Convention Book was perfect in every way. Katharina Notarianni, Region 15 Newsletter Editor, book publisher, and member of the San Diego Iris Society compiled a colorful and easy to follow essential resource to use throughout the week. I think it will be a standard for future conventions. Although I never got to meet him, kudos to Tim Valenzuela for setting up and updating the Convention Website throughout the three years plus of planning. He was always there when I needed him.

And we couldn't have had the Convention without the massive donation of time and money from Carol and Paul Buchheim, Alex and Kitty Stanton, Carol Morgan and Steve McCullough from Inland Region Iris Society, and Jim Folsom and his crew from the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens for planting and caring for the nearly 3000 guest iris (1,000 different varieties) we received for the Convention in our Guest Iris Gardens. And for the food and support for all attendees during their visits to the gardens.

Bus Captains Janis Shackelford, Bill Molnar, Riley Probst, Shirley Trio, Derry Gerald, John Reinschmidt, Cheryl Deaton, Susan Boyce, Joyce Poling, Winona Stevenson, and Brian and Leigh Moon entertained everyone for three days. Cheryl Deaton gathered enough bus prizes from Region affiliates and hybridizers to give nearly everybody at least one.

There are many, many other people who gave of their volunteer time to help make the Convention a success, and it continues through the digging of guest iris. We have had digs at Stanton Iris Garden (June 29 - July 1), Mystic Lake Gardens (July 22-23), and Huntington Part I on August 12 along with Part II on August 26-27, and the Jurupa/Holk Garden will be dug in early October.

Iris plants are being shipped back to hybridizers and to Region 15 affiliates for their Fall fundraising and auctions. Receipts for plants sales are just beginning to be received and more financial details from the Convention will be available at the Region 15 Fall Mtg on October 13, 2012. That will also be the last 2012 Convention Committee Mtg - exactly 1,345 days after the first.

Thank you all so much. I simply wouldn't have survived Convention Week without Kathy Chilton, Paul Gossett, Cheryl Deaton and Jan Lauritzen. You are my friends for life.



Jurupa Discovery Center



'Calling Cadence' (Van Liere)



Spuria SPU-350 (Kasperek)



Huntington Gardens



Franklin Cook Cup Winner
'Greatest Show On Earth' (Kerr)



Annard Seedling



Carol Morgan with Paul Black
at Holk Garden



President's Cup Winner
'Easy Being Green' (Richards)



Hybridizers at Stanton Iris Gardens -
Cali-Zona Gold 2012 AIS Convention



'Shining Times' LA (Morgan)



Mystic Lake Gardens

2012 Convention Irises

Photos by Katharina Notarianni

REGION 15 HYBRIDIZERS' IRISES

Congratulations to all the Region 15 hybridizers who submitted irises to be grown for the national convention. Your irises bloomed beautifully in all of the convention gardens. It was quite a show. Many, many seedlings and newly introduced varieties bloomed right on schedule. Well done!



Deaton
'Feeling Spicy Tonite'



Deaton
'Winona's Choice'



Edwards Seedling
63-75-D



'Lilac Morning'
Edwards



Himmelberger
Seedling 36-2



Jenkins Spuria
'Line Dancing'



Moorhead Seedling
00-114



Moorhead Seedling
02-23



Richards
'Classical Brass'



Squires Seedling
05-29



Stanton Seedling RE
ST08-150



Stanton Seedling RE
ST07-284



Stanton
'Star Kisses' RE



Ung Seedling
01-01-01



Valenzuela Seedling
KDSG-06-01

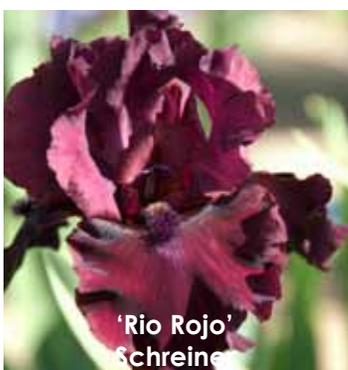


Valenzuela Seedling
SSG-08-10

2012 Convention Irises (continued)

OUT OF REGION HYBRIDIZERS' IRISES

As many irises as were in bloom, there were many yet to come... it would have been ideal to visit the gardens over another 2-3 week period! Here are blooms from various hybridizers that caught my eye in the convention gardens. I love the vibrancy in 'Bottle Rocket', a rebloomer (RE). The watercolor wash on 'Dancing Blue Koi' is lovely and looks great en mass. "Mad World" had a wonderful bold belly stripe - not sure if this shows up in all the blooms, but if so, this is a winner. The diamond dust on 'Oh Carol' was really beautiful in the morning sunlight. 'Rio Rojo' was very rich, and 'Private Eye' was like velvet. You may be able to pick up some of these beauties at your local club's auction of the convention rhizomes.



AIS Region 15 2012-2013 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location	Contact
2012				
September	3	Verde Valley Area Iris Society Iris Sale	Cottonwood, AZ	Betty Gaudy
	4	Sun Country Iris Rhizome Auction & Sale	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	6	SFVIS Auction Night	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	8	Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at Christown Spectrum Mall - 1703 W. Bethany Home Rd	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	8	Lompoc Valley Iris Society Sale	Lompoc, CA	Ben Schleuning
	9 & 16	SDIS Annual Rhizome Sale at Balboa Park	San Diego, CA	Janis Shackelford
	11	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club Iris Auction	Garden Grove, CA	Derry Gerald
	15	Prescott Area Iris Society scheduled program: Louisiana Iris and Other Aquatics in a Pond Setting	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood
	15	Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at Harper's Nurseries - 2528 N. Hayden Rd, Scottsdale / 1830 E. McKellips Rd, Mesa	Scottsdale & Mesa, AZ	Gary Miller
	15-16	Inland Region Iris Society Annual Fall Rhizome Sale - Landscapes Southern California Style, Water Conservation Educ Garden	Riverside, CA	Carol Morgan
	22	Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at The Farmer's Market - 222 N. Ash Street	Gilbert, AZ	Gary Miller
	29	Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale 3414 N. 40th Street	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	29	Tucson Area Iris Society Iris Dig	Tucson, AZ	Gordon Jensen
	October	2	Sun Country Iris Rhizome Auction & Sale	Phoenix, AZ
2		Inland Region Guest Speaker Abram Feuerstein	Riverside, CA	Carol Morgan
4		SFVIS Annual Games Night	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
6		Tucson Area Iris Society Iris Re-plant	Tucson, AZ	Gordon Jensen
6		Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at Baker Nursery - 3414 N. 40th Street	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
7		Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at The Stock Shop - 6615 W. Thunderbird	Glendale, AZ	Gary Miller
9		Orange County Iris & Daylily Club Guest Speaker Cliff Meng on Succulents	Garden Grove, CA	Derry Gerald
13		Region 15 Fall Trek hosted by San Fernando Valley Iris Society with Guest Speaker Iris Hybridizer Fred Kerr & Judges Training		Andi Rivarola



AIS REGION 15 FALL MEETING

Registration Form available online at www.region15ais.org

San Fernando Valley Iris Society invites you to attend

AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting

Saturday, October 13, 2012

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Featuring Guest Speaker & Judges Training with

Iris Hybridizer Fred Kerr

at The Canoga Park Women's Club - 7401 Jordan Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91305

Month	Day	Event	Location	Contact
October (continued)	13	Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at Gardener's World Nursery - 3401 E. Baseline Rd	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	14	SDIS Members Only Auction	Lakeside, CA	Janis Shackelford
	20 or 27	Sun Country Iris Society Fall Sale at Metro Tech High School - 1900 W. Thomas Rd	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	31	Verde Valley Area Iris Society General Meeting Speaker Nora Graf	Cottonwood, AZ	Betty Gaudy
November	1	SFVIS Meeting with Guest Speaker Will Plotner of Oregon's Wildwood Iris Gardens	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	2-4	AIS Fall Board Meeting	Columbus, OH	Jody Nolin
	6	Sun Country Meeting with Guest Speaker TBA	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	6	Inland Region Guest Speaker Robert Montgomery on Fruit Tree Trimming	Riverside, CA	Carol Morgan
	11	SDIS Meeting with Guest Speaker David Ross of Walter Anderson's Nursery re Soil Building and Pest Management	Lakeside, CA	Janis Shackelford
	13	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club Guest Speaker Colum Riley of Malibu Compost	Garden Grove, CA	Derry Gerald
	17	Prescott Area Iris Society scheduled program: Making Your Own Fertilizers	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood
December	4	Sun Country Iris Society Holiday Party	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	4	Inland Region Holiday Party	Riverside, CA	Carol Morgan
	6	SFVIS Holiday Potluck and Christmas Entertainment	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	9	SDIS Holiday Party at The Wurtele's	Ramona, CA	Janis Shackelford
	11	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club Potluck Social and Garden Gift Exchange	Garden Grove, CA	Derry Gerald
2013				
January	13	SDIS - Speaker to be determined	Lakeside, CA	Janis Shackelford
February	9	SDIS Birthday Celebration with Guest Speaker Terry Aitken of Salmon Creek Gardens	Seven Seas Best Western San Diego, CA	Janis Shackelford
March	10	SDIS Meeting & Iris Roundtable	Lakeside, CA	Janis Shackelford
April	13-14	Inland Region Spring Iris Show at Inland Center Mall, San Bernardino, CA		Carol Morgan
	15-20	AIS National Convention	Dallas, TX	Bonnie Nichols
	26-27	Region 15 Spring Trek hosted by San Diego Iris Society Visit 3 San Diego Gardens / Judges Training - details TBA		Bill Molnar
May	5	SDIS Spring Show & Potted Iris Sale at Balboa Park	San Diego, CA	Janis Shackelford
June	9	SDIS Officer Elections & Ice Cream Social	Lakeside, CA	Janis Shackelford
November	1-2	AIS Fall Board Meeting	New Orleans, LA	Paul Gossett

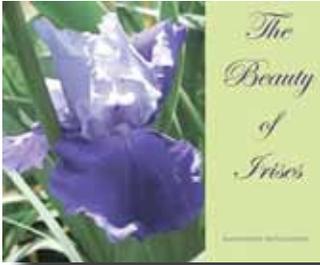
Local Chapter Monthly Meetings:

- Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society meetings held from 1-3 p.m. on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Antelope Valley College Agriculture building TE-3, 3041 West Avenue K, Lancaster, CA unless otherwise stated.
- Inland Region Iris Society meetings held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm at the Janet Goeske Center, 5257 Sierra Street, Riverside, CA.
- For Lompoc Valley Iris Society meetings see above calendar and visit their facebook page.
- Orange County Iris & Daylily Club meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday every month at 7:30pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove, CA
- Prescott Area Iris Society meetings are held from 1:30-3:30 PM at Yavapai Title, 1235 E. Gurley at Sheldon intersection in Prescott, AZ.
- San Diego Iris Society meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of every month at 1:00pm (unless special event is planned) at 9906 Maine Avenue, Lakeside, CA.
- San Fernando Valley Iris Society meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Canoga Park Women's Club, 7401 Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park, CA.
- Southern California Iris Society meetings TBD.
- Sun Country Iris Society meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm at The Valley Garden Center, 1809 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ
- Verde Valley Area Iris Society meetings are held at the County Building, Verde Room, Second Floor, 10 South 6th Street, Cottonwood, AZ.

THE IRIS MARKETPLACE

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BY KATHARINA NOTARIANNI



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Top 10

*Favorite Irises As Voted
At the 2012 Cali-Zona Gold
AIS National Convention
Photos by Katharina Notarianni*



1 'Beauty Becomes Her' (Black)



2 'Easy Being Green' (Richards)



2 'Greatest Show On Earth' (Kerr)



4 'Dr. Who' (G. Sutton)



5 'Pacific Fire' (T. Johnson)



6 'Nessun Dorma' (Kerr)



6 'Oh Carol' (Lauer)



8 'Genealogy' (T. Johnson)



8 'Xerxes' (Baumunk)



10 'Strawberry Frosting' (M. Sutton)



10 'Tuscan Summer' (Keppel)