



The American
Iris Society

Region 15

Spring 2012 Semi-annual Report

American Iris Society



AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION

HOSTED BY AIS REGION 15

APRIL 16-21, 2012
ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

REGISTER ONLINE AT

WWW.REGION15AIS.ORG/CONVENTION

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Reblooming Beauties

A Selection of Irises Proven to Rebloom in Region 15 - Photos by Carole Buchheim



'Again and Again'
Innerst



'Anxious'
Hager



'Barn Dance'
Byers



'Berry Ripple'
Sutton



'Braggadocio'
Keppel



'Champagne Elegance'
Niswonger



'City Lights'
Dunn



'Clarence'
Zurbrigg



'Classic Suede'
Lauer



'Dashing'
Byers



'Daughter of Stars'
Spoon



'Double Shot'
Sutton



'Double Vision'
Ghio



'Ziggy'
Keyser



'Floorshow'
Byers



'Golden Immortal'
Sutton

See more photos of rebloomers and read about the 2011 Fall Trek on pages 28-30

Letter from the Editor

by Katharina Notarianni



Rebloom season is coming to an end but it's never too late to add some rebloomers to be planted among your once blooming irises. Carole Buchheim has contributed dozens of photos of irises that rebloom well in Region 15 along with her report on the Miracle of Rebloom at Mystic Lake Gardens, last year's Fall Trek.

In this issue you can read minutes from the Fall and Winter Region 15 meetings as well as get caught up on local activities reported by each of the local chapter presidents. We have some new faces to welcome to our Board of Directors: Debbie Babuscio-James as Asst RVP and Judges Chair and Janis Shackelford as Secretary. Winona has stepped up as RVP, replacing Cheryl Deaton who has returned as Region 15 Treasurer. Read more about our new officers for Region 15 on pages 5-6. We'd also like to welcome new local chapter presidents: Carol Morgan of Inland Region Iris Society, Andi Rivarola of San Fernando Valley Iris Society, Gordon Jensen of Tucson Area Iris Society, Roger Osgood of Prescott Area Iris Society, Derry Gerald of Orange County Iris & Daylily Society, and Gary Miller of Sun Country Iris Society. Reports from local chapter presidents, new and "old", are featured on pages 17-27.

Sadly we lost a valuable member of Region 15 and the San Diego Iris Society. Norma Vogel was very dear to many of us and we will miss her. Her daughter Vicki wrote a memorial article that is included with photos of Norma's lovely garden on pages 12-13.

Are you ready for the National Convention? There's still time to get registered and book your hotel. Convention co-chairs Jill Bonino and Kathy Chilton have arranged a great rate at the convention hotel, the DoubleTree Hilton at Ontario, where all the convention action will take place. Spring bloom should be magnificent this year with the recent rains and warm weather. There is also time to volunteer and be part of all the activity. As you may have noticed, we won't be having our usual Spring Trek this year. Instead, we have a chance to meet irisarians from all AIS regions at the convention. Doesn't that sound like fun? After having a look at the schedule Jill and Kathy have planned for us (posted on the convention website at www.region15ais.org/convention), there are many iris activities, society meetings, dinners and more to keep us entertained. Read about the convention in Jill Bonino's article on page 15.

After the convention it will be time to plan for our next Fall Trek. San Fernando Valley Iris Society will be hosting the next Region 15 Trek on October 13th and has lined up Bob Sussman, president for the Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises as guest speaker. We'll have more information for you in the next newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you at the convention!

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT

www.region15ais.org

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

AIS Region 15 Local Chapter Presidents

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Gail Lofdahl
glofmobr@qnet.com
661-722-5833

Inland Region Iris Society

Carol Morgan
thedonks@att.net
951-682-9071

Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Ben Schleuning
ben.floppyjo@comcast.net
LVIS Facebook
805-733-4081

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Derry Gerald
derryg@verizon.net
562-420-9190

Prescott Area Iris Society

Roger Osgood
rogerosgood2005@yahoo.com
PAIS Website
928-442-2498

San Diego Iris Society

Bill Molnar
bmolnar7@cox.net
SDIS Website
619-229-9220

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Andi Rivarola
andinsky@gmail.com
SFVIS Facebook & SFVIS Website
818-802-4188

Southern California Iris Society

Mike Monninger
regomdm@yahoo.com
951-361-3177

Sun Country Iris Society

Gary Miller
garmillpgn@aol.com
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

Cover Iris: TB 'Calizona Gold' (2012 Valenzuela)

**American Iris Society
Region 15**

Elected Officers

Region 15 Vice President (RVP)

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

Assistant RVP & Judge's Chair

Debbie Babuscio-James
6634 Gaviota Street
Lake Balboa, CA 91406
(818) 922-9153
dbabski1962@yahoo.com

Region 15 Treasurer

Cheryl Deaton
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
irisjt@sbcglobal.net

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

AIS 2012 National Convention

Co-Chair: Jill Bonino - jillbon@earthlink.net
Co-Chair: Kathy Chilton - ranchiris@aol.com
Registrar: John Huffman
jhuffy@charter.net
Treasurer: Carol Huffman
cahuffy@gmail.com

AIS Region 15 Update

by Winona Stevenson, Region 15 RVP

The AIS National Convention hosted by Region 15 is coming up quickly! We're looking forward to a great week of judges training, seeing who will get the awards, meeting new friends and catching up with old friends, and oh yes, not the least of which are the gardens we will visit. These gardens, with two master plantings, have been cared for and growing for two years and will give us a chance to see some of the newer irises coming on the market.

Most importantly, I hope that by now you will have volunteered--individually, by twos, or by club affiliate--to jump on the bandwagon and participate in heading up a committee or helping out in one way or another. There have been, and probably still are, openings available for bus captains, garden hosts, etc. I'll be doing both--I like to keep busy, and they're fun jobs. You get to meet a lot of new people and talk about your favorite flower!

I'm really looking forward to the convention and all the activities. But most of all, I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there!

My vision for Region 15 is to maintain the Affiliates we now have and to increase membership in AIS. We will be discussing ways to do this at our next meeting.

Any member who has suggestions may call me or email me at Tel. 760-378-3841 or by email at lakesideiris@aol.com. I will be pleased to hear from you.

Winona

Save The Date!

AIS REGION 15 2012 FALL MEETING

HOSTED BY THE
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

LOCATION: CANOGA PARK WOMEN'S CLUB AT
7401 JORDAN AVE., CANOGA PARK, CA

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2012

TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

SPEAKER: SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRIS
PRESIDENT BOB SUSSMAN

Region 15 Elected Officers



Regional Vice President
Winona Stevenson



Asst. RVP & Judges Chair
Debbie Babuscio-James



Treasurer
Cheryl Deaton



Secretary
Janis Shackelford

Winona Stevenson, Region 15 RVP

It all started with Rancho Rose and Coffeehouse. Then came some work I did for a lady who gave me everything I dug up for her. There were lots of irises (no names, of course). I later paid a visit to Bluebird Haven while it was in full bloom and from that time on, I was hooked. After two years of buying, I knew I had to sell some so I could buy more. The garden grew from the first two plants to over 2400 varieties. The buying hasn't stopped yet but after 17 years of having Lakeside Gardens, a commercial garden, I am now downsizing.

I joined AIS in 1997, then the local chapter which was a 2-hour drive from home, where I served as president for 2-1/2 years. For the next 2 years, I attended every event, meeting, potting party, regional, etc., taking my mom and/or sister with me. Now that we have many more members, I've slowed down considerably.

I became a judge for the Society in 2005; served as Region 15 membership chairman for 7 years, and as Region 15, Asst. RVP for 3 years.

Education wise, I have a Bachelors degree in Administrative Sciences from Pepperdine U. I'm a licensed pilot (single engine land, of course), and enjoy organizing large dinners. I'm also very active with my church functions.

My work career has covered the gamut from small parts assembly to executive secretary, CPS (Certified Professional Secretary), retiring as purchasing agent for a software/manufacturing firm.

I look forward to serving you as Region 15 RVP.

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

While visiting a plant sale at a local public garden, I met several members of the San Fernando Valley Iris Society and purchased a few rhizomes. A few months later, I saw them again at the local Farmers Market, and of course I bought a few more rhizomes.

It was at one of the plant sales, when I learned of an Iris Show at the local mall. The morning of the show, I saw two bloom stalks that looked nice to me. As much as I didn't want to, I cut them off and went to the mall on my way to work. When I walked into the set-up room, I was given pointers and directions from so many club members, my feelings of being lost quickly subsided. I filled out the tags, thanked everyone for the help and went off to work. I stopped by the mall on my way home from work and was shocked to find I had won two Red Ribbons. I didn't care if they weren't blue ribbons, I had won! When I inquired as when I could collect my ribbons, I was informed I would have to wait attend the club's Annual Show Awards and Potluck Meeting in June. I attended that meeting, got my ribbons and became a member. Over the years I have been Secretary, President and am currently Vice President for the San Fernando Valley Iris Society, and I have won many blue ribbons at shows over the years.

Region 15 Elected Officers (continued)

Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

I think this is my third go round as Region 15 Treasurer. I've always loved math, which was very "un-cool" for a girl. But my parents encouraged me to be myself, so I had the youthful ambition to become a mathematician. Meeting my husband the night after I graduated high school kinda derailed that plan, and 3 kids later I decided to entertain the career of a tax specialist. I've been with H&R Block for 11 years and it keeps my brain active. Truthfully, the position of Region 15 Treasurer is one of the easiest jobs I have!

Janis Shackelford, Region 15 Secretary

I am a native San Diegan, growing up near San Diego's Balboa Park. I attended San Diego State University, earning B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biology. I remained at SDSU for the next thirty years performing biochemical research in various laboratories.

I contracted the iris virus after visiting Cal-Dixie Iris Gardens in the 1980s and started buying 5 to 20 cultivars from them each year. In 1994 the Holks offered free iris if you joined AIS. I joined and have been an AIS member since. After reading about hybridizing in an AIS Bulletin and a 1999 article by George Sutton on his method for germinating seeds, I tried it, and had my first hybrids in 2001.

My home is in a warm inland valley of San Diego County where I grow Bearded Iris, Spurias, Louisianas and PCNIs. My worst problems are limited accessible space for growing iris and gophers. My vegetable and strawberry beds now host iris, and all my beds are raised and under-wired to keep gophers out. My garden will be on display during the 2013 Region 15 Spring Trek hosted by the San Diego Iris Society. I recently served as President and am currently Vice President of the San Diego Iris Society. I look forward to serving as Secretary for the Region.



To order, please send your check to:
Spuria Iris Society
c/o Debbie Babuscio-James
6634 Gaviota, Lake Balboa CA 91406

Choose any **two** Spuria
irises **for \$35**, or we
hope you will select all
four for \$70 (shipping
included; U.S. only)

Region 15 Treasurer's Report

REGION 15 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY INCOME & EXPENSES

November 1, 2011 thru February 1, 2012

CHECKING

Beginning Balance \$15,551.79

DEPOSITS

12/14/11 Reg.15 Fall Silent Auction \$160.00

01/14/12 Sonoran Desert Proceeds \$687.79

TOTAL INCOME \$847.79

EXPENSES

11/11/11 I.R.I.S. Fall Meeting \$400.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$400.00

Ending Balance \$15,999.58
(includes RVP account value \$9030.72)

EDWARD JONES MONEY MARKET

Beginning Balance \$12,761.70

Interest earned (Oct., Nov., Dec.) 0.22

Ending Balance \$12,761.92

TOTAL REGION 15 ASSETS

(Does not include Convention Acct.) \$28,761.50

AIS Region 15 Trek Wheel

Event	Trek Host	Dates	Location
2012 Spring	Spring Trek replaced by AIS 2012 National Convention	April 16-21, 2012	Ontario, CA
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		



Region 15 Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE AIS REGION 15 FALL BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2011 - ONTARIO, CA

Meeting was called to order at 4:15pm by RVP Cheryl Deaton.

Minutes of the Spring Board meeting were published in the Region 15 newsletter. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as published. Approved.

Treasurer's report was presented by Cheryl (on file)

- Beginning checking account balance on Jan. 1, 2011 was \$7,385.31
- Deposits (which included a matured CD) were \$18,229.18
- Total Withdrawals (which included transfer to Convention Acct.) \$10,062.70
- Ending checking account balance on Nov. 1, 2011 was \$15,551.79
- The bill for the bus for the Spring Trek has not been received @\$1100.
- The bank of America RVP CD beginning balance on 1-1-11 was \$8,989.32
- Interest earned through 9-22-11 was \$41.40
- Ending balance was \$9,032.72. RVP CD matured on 9-22-11 and the balance was transferred into checking.

It was moved and seconded that the treasurer's report be filed for audit. Approved

It is estimated that up to \$14,400 will be needed for the buses prior to the Convention.

JT report: We have 3 new apprentices and 3 new applicants. We could still use more judges.

Membership is holding steady. We now have the ability to get "eMembership" for only \$15. All member priviledges apply except the AIS Bulletin, "IRISES" is online, not hard copy.

Ways & Means - no activity

Youth - we have 2 members

Reports from Region 15 Affiliates:

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society - President Gail Lofdahl stated the progressive dinner was successful. Looking for ways to reduce the club excess of potted irises, having a yard sale to reduce inventory and will participate in the Fall Sale at the Huntington.

Inland Region Iris Society President Carol Morgan stated they sponsored a child to day camp and have their scholarships. Their board has new members and they are enthusiastic. A successful fall sale brought in \$2700, and they have potted plants for spring sales and they hosted this Fall Trek.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society - no report

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club - Mike Monninger stated that some of the newer members are active but many of the members are primarily daylily growers. Rick Taxso presented a program that was very well received and they only had one spring sale, but it was successful.

Prescott Area Iris Society - New President Roger Osgood stated that they had a successful fall sale that brought in \$4300. They have started a new iris program for members where they will get to grow newer irises and share the increases. It has generated quite a bit of interest.

San Diego Iris Society - President Bill Molnar stated that they earned less than usual at their fall sale. They are hosting the 2013

Region 15 Fall Meeting Minutes - November 2011 (continued)

Region 15 Spring Trek with 3 gardens that have 3 different climates. Everything is growing well at this time. The hotel has not been decided yet, but details will be forthcoming.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society - They are using Facebook to advertise their sales with some success. They had a booth at the farmer's market for 2 Sundays and earned more than \$1200.

Sonoran Desert Iris Society - President Darol Jurn reported that he will be retiring and that unless someone steps up the club will be folding at the end of the year.

Southern California Iris Society - President Mike Monninger stated that their sale cleared \$5000 and that they sold the newer rhizomes for \$10 each without any problems.

Sun Country Iris Society - there was no report except that they will be providing 100 bus prizes for the Convention.

Tucson Area Iris Society has a new president - Gordon Jensen. Report submitted.

Verde Valley Area Iris Society - Betty Gaudy is the president. Report submitted.

There was no old business.

New business: Affiliate reports are now due November 30th. All affiliates will pay a \$25 fee and there will be no need to verify AIS membership except for the Officers.

The AIS ballot now has one due date - August 1st. This change was made to accomodate those areas that have later bloom and to include the Japanese Iris ballot. It is still available to vote online.

The AIS Silent Auction Committee has requested that each region create a basket of goodies from their affiliate clubs to be auctioned at the 2012 AIS Convention Silent Auction.

AIS Calendars are now available for the club price of 10 for \$50 plus \$5 shipping.

The following slate of officers was presented:

President - Winona Stevenson

Asst. RVP - Debbie Babuscio-James

Treasurer - Cheryl Deaton

Secretary - Janis Shackelford

There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved and seconded that the slate of officers be accepted. Approved.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

MINUTES OF THE AIS REGION 15 FALL GENERAL MEETING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2011 - ONTARIO, CA

Meeting was called to order at 3:45pm by Cheryl Deaton, RVP.

It was moved by Winona Stevenson, seconded by Mike Monninger to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as published.

Jill Bonino gave the Treasurer's Report. It was moved and seconded to approve the report for audit.

The roll call acknowledged those members of the affiliates in attendance.

Region 15 Fall Meeting Minutes - November 2011 (continued)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society will host the Fall 2012 Trek.

The AIS ballot now has a date of August 1st for voting all classes of irises.

A request was made for donated items to be used in the "goody basket" for the Region 15 contribution to the 2012 AIS Silent Auction. Send them to Jill Bonino.

The slate of officers was presented as follows:

President - Winona Stevenson

Asst. RVP - Debbie Babuscio-James

Treasurer - Cheryl Deaton

Secretary - Janis Shackelford

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate of officers was elected by affirmation.

Cheryl Deaton presented the Region 15 gavel to new RVP Winona Stevenson. The first job Winona had was presenting the RVP pin to outgoing RVP Cheryl Deaton with thanks.

There was no new business. The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Derry Gerald

Acting Secretary

MINUTES OF THE AIS REGION 15 WINTER BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 4, 2012 AT THE DOUBLE TREE ONTARIO - ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

Meeting called to order at 10:08 AM by RVP Winona Stevenson.

Attendees: Bill Molnar, SDIS; Katharina Notariani, SDIS; Roger Osgood, PAIS; Derry Gerald, OCIDS; Gail Lofdahl, HDIDS; Steve Ginter, PAIS; Mike Monninger, SCIS; Jill Bonino, SFVIS; Winona Stevenson, HDIDS; Cheryl Deaton, HDIDS; Kathy Chilton, TAIS.

Welcome and Introductions.

Minutes of the November 11, 2011 Region 15 Fall Meeting were distributed. A few spelling corrections were made and one major correction- San Fernando will host the Fall 2012 Trek, not Verde Valley. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by R. Osgood, second by G. Lofdahl. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report by C. Deaton: The beginning balance on Nov. 1, 2011 was \$15,551.79. Total income through Feb 1, 2012 was \$847.79, total expenses were \$400. Ending balance was \$15,999.58. Edward Jones Money Market- \$12,761.92.

Total assets \$28,761.50.

The Sonoran Desert Iris Society has dissolved and their treasury was forwarded to Region 15. Interest on the money market account is negligible, possibly a CD should be considered in the future, after the convention. Motion to accept the report and file for audit by J. Bonino, second by G. Lofdahl. The motion was approved.

Cheryl Deaton submitted the proposed 2012 budget. There is some guesswork due to the Convention. Discussion: two line items under income (convention raffle and boutique) should be kept with the Convention budget, not the Region's. There will be an excess of rhizomes for affiliate auctions. How much of the auction money should come back to the Region vs staying in the affiliate? There will be restrictions on how the rhizomes can be sold. They cannot be sold on the internet and must be sold for a reasonable price. We cannot undercut the hybridizer's sales. The Convention Board will decide the percentage to remain with the affiliate. The proposed

Region 15 Winter Board Meeting Minutes - February 2012 (continued)

budget is in the red but income will possibly be much higher than projected. Total Expenses- \$7200, Total Income- \$5200. The proposed budget was amended and accepted.

Committee Reports:

Judges' Training - There are three apprentice judges and three more coming into the program.

Membership - Membership is holding steady. Need to encourage membership in AIS and promote the new \$15 e-membership. Clubs can give memberships as door prizes. A suggestion was made to reward new AIS memberships with recent introductions, especially since we will have an excess of rhizomes this year.

C. Deaton made a motion that the clubs be allowed to reward members who join AIS with recent introductions, equivalent value to the cost of the membership. The motion was seconded by D. Gerald. The motion was approved. It will be up to the clubs whether this is for current members or new members.

Historian - The historian's records were brought by R. Osgood, will be given to C. Deaton.

Ways & Means - J. Bonino: Will finalize the percentage of the auction sales to stay with the affiliates at the convention meeting.

Convention Website - Tim Valenzuela did a great job getting the convention website up and running.

Youth Report - C. Deaton: Members are being lost due to age with few new members. The target should be recent retirees. Notices in local newspapers inviting people to a meeting have been successful. We need to encourage youth groups, church groups, girl scouts, schools, and grandchildren to plant iris. Theme gardens provide interest.

Affiliate Reports:

- Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society - G. Lofdahl: 57 members, 2 youth, same meeting location. Water district will be giving waterwise gardening classes, including iris in plantings. They will try to gather people from the classes.
- Inland Region Iris Society - C. Morgan: The Holk garden is coming along nicely for the convention. They are buying pots for annual color. Because of problems getting volunteers, they are paying a worker.
- Orange County Iris and Daylily Club - D. Gerald: The Orange County Register will publish garden meetings for free. They have found using a local paper to advertise meetings generates new members.
- Prescott Area Iris Society - R. Osgood: 57 member, 6 AIS. Their dilemma is attracting people to meeting. They will have a garden tour in May and have a photographer show how to take quality pictures of iris. At their sale if a person joins they immediately get a coupon for an iris. All new members are given an iris 101program.
- San Diego Iris Society - B. Molnar: Provided an update on club events. February meeting will have hybridizer D. Kanarowski, at his first speaking engagement. He will give an advanced hybridizers class afterwards.
- San Fernando Valley Iris Society - J. Bonino: Their show will be April 14-15.
- Southern California Iris Society - M. Monniger: They will have an early show this year, March 31-April 1st.
- Tucson Area Iris Society - No report.
- Verde Valley Area Iris Society - Betty Gaudy's update read by W. Stevenson.

Old Business:

D. Gerald - Requested all new president's addresses. Reminds everyone to obtain permission prior to holding judge's training sessions.

New Business: Trek wheel:

- Fall 2012- Host is San Fernando, to be held second weekend in October.
- Spring 2013 - San Diego
- Fall 2013 -Verde Valley
- Spring 2014 – Southern California
- Fall 2014- Possibly Orange County. D. Gerald will check.
- Spring 2015- Possibly Prescott. R. Osgood will check.
- Fall 2015- TBD.

(Winter Board Meeting Minutes continue on page 16)

A Celebration of Life: Norma Jane Vogel

by Vicki Vogel



We knew her as “Maude”, a nickname playfully given to her by her daughter after the Queen of Sweden. It just seemed to fit her.....Maude..... an active, fun loving, hard-working, creative and spirited woman. She grew up in Mendota, Illinois, the daughter of Mable and James, and sister to Kathryn and Robert . The family had ties to the legendary Wild Bill Hickok which was just fine with her as she loved the drama of being related to such a character. Adventure called her and she toured the Midwest by motorcycle and played third base on a semi pro fast pitch softball team. She was somewhat opinionated about the umpire calls in the games which may have been what attracted the new guy in town to her as he watched from the stands. Leon and Norma....what a team....bright, energized and so much fun to be with. They shared many hobbies, from a basement full of tropical fish to tending over 300 varieties of violets. Achievements in training and showing horses brought invitations to lead the opening of the

Indy 500 and an invitation to the Rose Parade. Many of the beautiful riding outfits were designed and hand sewn by Maude. She was the “neighborhood mom” and devoted many years to working at the kids’ schools. She taught P.E. and coached volleyball, basketball, swimming and dance. Maude fell in love with irises first, moving them from house to house until they both passionately began to devote their California garden to hundreds of varieties. Norma’s husband Leon Vogel became Editor and President of the San Diego Iris Society and the two of them transformed it into a lively and fun society. She might play a little golf in a morning then return home and begin knitting sweaters and Christmas stockings for family. This eventually led to her greatest craft--quilting. Family and friends were gifted with beautiful quilts over the years and she graciously donated many more to charity fund raisers and right to life programs.

She wandered afar on many trips with Vicki throughout Europe and she wandered near, to family parties, and grandsons’ games and graduations. In 2009 Leon passed away after 68 years of marriage. Her church attendance at Calvary Murrieta Church and Bible studies continued to sustain her and bring her joy.

Maude, your children and grandchildren and in laws, niece and nephews and great grandchildren will miss you dearly. But we are comforted knowing that you have just traveled from your garden to His Garden. We look forward to being together with you some day and glorifying the Lord forever. Amen.



Norma’s garden in Murrieta, CA

In Memory of Norma

"Norma was a wonderful lady, committing tremendous time and effort to many interests, including our club. She could describe an iris in such glowing terms that you just had to buy it. I know Leon was waiting for her with a bouquet of irises in hand."

Janis Shackelford

"If Norma Vogel is the enthusiastic lady I recall helping out every year at the annual rhizome sale in September at the Casa del Prado, I'm very sad to hear of her passing. I have not been able to attend the sale for a year or two, but it's been an annual event I've eagerly attended for several years past. And in recent years when I did attend, I came to know that I wanted to go straight to find Norma, because she was ever lively and gracious, helpful and diligent in trying to help me locate the best rhizomes in the colors and types of iris I wanted to add to my garden. If this was Norma, then I know she will be missed by many. And whenever I attend the annual sale in September, I will always picture her there, and recall her kindness and passion for our shared pursuit of the beautiful iris. She was a joy!"

Sharon Davis

"My introduction to irises came during a leisurely stroll through Balboa Park. I was growing many plants in my Ramona garden looking for ones that could tolerate very hot summers and cold winters and was not aware that bearded irises fit the bill. That day, I met Norma for the first time. After enthusiastically and lovingly describing many irises she had donated to the SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale, she convinced me to go home with only fifty different iris rhizomes. So began my own fateful journey into the world of irises that produced my book *The Beauty of Irises*. I will forever be grateful to Norma and will miss her adventurous and passionate spirit."

Katharina Notarianni



'Bruneau Jasper' (Pinkston)



'Amethyst Winter' (Richards)



'Bowled Over' Ghio

Region 15 Proudly Hosts
AIS National Convention
Cali-Zona Gold 2012

Featuring Guest Irises at Four Fabulous Gardens in Southern California



*Mystic Lake Gardens
Nuevo CA*



*Huntington Gardens
San Marino CA*



*Herb & Sara Holk
Memorial Garden Jurupa CA*



*Stanton Iris Gardens
Valley Center CA*

Register early for discounted registration.

Let the Bloom Begin - Come to California in April 2012

By Jill Bonino, Convention Committee Co-Chair

It is time to make your Convention plans for 2012. Along with this newsletter is a NEW AND IMPROVED Registration Form for CALI-ZONA GOLD 2012 in Ontario, California April 16 - 21, 2012. SEE THE CONVENTION WEBSITE AT www.region15ais.org for further info.

NEW REGISTRATION INFO

Hopefully you were able to take advantage of the Early Bird Price of \$299 through March 1, 2012. If your registration is received either in the mail or through the online registration (www.region15ais.org) by March 1, 2012, you will pay the prices for all events listed in the October issue of IRISES as due by February 1, 2012. You can still save \$50 if you register by April 1st at the discounted rate of \$349. The \$399 Full Registration Price will be effective AFTER April 1, 2012. The 2012 AIS Convention accepts Visa or Mastercard. On the mail-in Registration Form, please note that we have added a space for your credit card # and expiration date information. Refunds for cancellations requested on or after April 1, 2012 will be made at the discretion of the Convention Committee.

NEW DOUBLETREE HOTEL INFO

Char Holte at cholte@wi.rr.com will be helping to find roommates for those of you who would like to share a room to save some money. The Group Rate at the Convention Hotel, the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario, CA, is \$125 plus tax per night for UP TO 4 PEOPLE.

NEW AIRLINE AND SHUTTLE INFO

We have learned that ticket prices into the Ontario International Airport are running higher than those flying into LAX (Los Angeles International Airport), Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, and John Wayne Airport in Orange County. While there is a free shuttle to the Hotel from the Ontario Airport, it may be cheaper for you to fly into one of the other airports and pay for a shuttle to/from the DoubleTree Hotel. Below is information on various shuttle companies that operate out of the Los Angeles Area airports listed above. www.PrimeTimeShuttle.com - 1-800-733-8267; www.supershuttle.com - 1-800-258-3826; www.shuttlefare.com - 1-877-300-4826.

SPECIAL GARDEN EXCURSION TUESDAY APRIL 17, 2012

Please join us for an all-day trip to three San Fernando Valley iris gardens on Tuesday April 17, 2012. Each one has something a little different from the others. Two of the three are personal residence gardens and one is a local commercial iris garden. Included on this tour you will see **Jill and Joe Bonino's Garden**. The front yard is planted in Tall Bearded and median iris of recent introduction including several reblooming iris. In the back yard, Jill has a few spuria iris and Louisiana iris which may be in bloom during the Convention, in addition to some iris species in pots...Also there is Domino, the garden cat, to see along with a succulent garden, roses and daylilies. **Randy Squires** runs a local commercial iris garden and is also an iris hybridizer. He has a large front yard area full of Tall Bearded iris and a back area full of his iris seedlings. Randy constructed his own fountain and water garden a few year ago that holds pseudacorus and other water plants. He also grows many Louisiana iris in pots in small swimming pools. **Loren Zeldin** has one of the best "hidden treasure" gardens you have ever seen. The garden is behind the house and holds a large collection of roses (bushes and climbers), Tall Bearded iris, spuria, abutilons, larkspur, daylilies and many more plants all growing together. Grass pathways take you around corners to see many horticultural wonders. You have to see it to believe it. This tour includes round trip bus transportation from the Convention Hotel and lunch for \$50. Please select **Special Garden Excursion** when you fill out the AIS Convention Registration Form.

SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRIS TOUR SUNDAY APRIL 22, 2012

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris is having a tour to Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden and a couple of area nurseries on Sunday April 22, 2012. **Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden** is in Claremont, California and has several large fields of Pacific Coast Native Iris that will be blooming during Convention time. This garden is dedicated exclusively to California native plants. It is a one of a kind tour that you don't want to miss. This tour includes round trip bus transportation from the Convention Hotel and lunch for \$65. Please select **Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris Tour** when you fill out the AIS Convention Registration Form.



Region 15 Proudly Hosts

AIS National Convention
Cali-Zona Gold 2012
APRIL 16 - 21, 2012

'Cali-Zona Gold' 2012 iris by Margie Valenzuela



Region 15 Winter Board Meeting Minutes - February 2012 (continued)

R. Osgood would like to receive all affiliate's newsletters. He believes all affiliate officers should receive newsletters from other affiliates.

Speaker programs: There is a national speaker list in AIS Bulletin. Affiliates should pay hotel, airfare, a per diem and some extra.
R. Osgood- He is looking for some early Dykes iris. Winona has all of them available.

Membership: Affiliates need to report membership by December 31st and confirm the new officers are AIS members.

Insurance: The AIS insurance covers all club activities, including treks, garden tours, meetings, etc. It does not cover officer malfeasance.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 PM was made by C. Deaton, motion seconded by D. Gerald. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis Shackelford
Secretary



Volunteers and Bus Captains Needed For Cali-Zona Gold 2012 April 16 - 21, 2012

Please Contact Cheryl Deaton at Region15kids@hotmail.com

AIS Judges Training

by Asst. RVP Debbie Babuscio-James

Well, it's almost that time of year again, the Iris are beginning to grow and will soon be sending up flower stalks. When this occurs the Iris shows are going to start and if it weren't for the Judges at each show, we would have no "Queen" or "Best of Shows" to place on the Awards Table. Not to mention the Silver and Bronze Certificates that would not be given. So I am calling on all Students... The Region needs you to become a Judge. It really is a fun thing to do and it benefits a lot of different people every time you judge an Iris Show.

If you are considering becoming a Judge, please do. If you need to find out more about the "duties" of a Judge, go to your local meeting and find out which members of your club are Judges and ask them what it is like.

Since I am new in this position, I am not sure who is ready to move from Student to Apprentice Judge and from Apprentice to Garden/Exhibition status. I do know that we need Judges. Our Region is low on Judges and we can't stress enough the importance of a Judge. Voting the Official Ballot is one of the most important functions a judge performs. So if you have been thinking about becoming a judge, now is the time.

Remember to send in your activity reports by the end of June. Thanks and Happy Gardening!

Region 15

Presidents' Reports

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

As of January 21, 2012, our club has 57 members, including two youth members. Of that total, 14 are members of the American Iris Society.

We continue to meet in the Horticulture Building at Antelope Valley College (AVC) in Lancaster, California, in return for a donation to the Antelope Valley College Foundation for use by the Horticulture Department—a beneficial arrangement for both the college and our club.

Starting in February, our local water district will offer xeriscape gardening classes at the college, to teach Antelope Valley residents about water-wise gardening. The classes will be held in the same facility we use, on the morning of the same day we hold our meetings. It is hoped that some participants in those classes can be encouraged to stay for our club meeting in the afternoon (since iris are a drought-tolerant plant).

Our 8 x 8 club garden shed, which was built by AVC agriculture students as a project in the landscape construction class, is complete and has been moved to the club garden. It will give us storage for tools and supplies for potting parties and shows. We are very grateful to Neal Weisenberger (the Horticulture Department Chair) and the students who helped with the construction—and to Yvette McClung for painting it a lovely pale green with white trim.

The patriotic iris garden at the William J. "Pete" Knight Veterans Home in Lancaster had at least one rebloomer this year, and good increases on the irises we planted. The veterans maintain the elevated planter boxes by themselves with a little weeding help from the club every few months.

The theme for our 2012 show and sale on May 5-6, 2012, has been selected: "Surf's Up!" The categories are as follows:

1. The Big Kahuna—must be at least 36" tall
2. Hang Ten—a low design less than 12 inches tall
3. Totally Tubular—a line design
4. Dude!—arranger's choice
5. Goofy Foot—two designs, back to back, in one container
6. Wipeout—a mass display
7. Shoot the Curl—an Oriental style design—water must be seen



President's Report Inland Region Iris Society

by Carol Morgan

The year has just flown by with many activities. November we were presented a program by Irene Benton on flower design for the Home. It was well received with many techniques using various flowers not only Iris. (Just a note to Irene's many friends in Region 15) IRENE has moved to Northern California to be much closer to her daughter, Bonnie and family she has said to share her address so I'm sure she would like to hear for you: Irene Benton at 625 Eskaton Circle #325, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Our Club hosted the AIS REGION 15 FALL MEETING November 11 and 12, 2011. Rebloomers were the subject and we had a good time. See page 25-27 for Carole Buchheim's report and photos.

December was our Christmas Party put on by Claudia Dean we of course had a great time, Potluck, Gift Exchange, and Chances of opportunity. Great Desserts. We also gave to the Lutheran Ministries for their Food Pantry and a cash donation.

So here we are 2012 is the year of CALI-ZONA GOLD, the American Iris Society National Convention. After many hours of hard work from The Clubs in Region 15 it's almost time to Knock Their Socks Off !!!!! with the Spring Bloom in April it should be the best in several years. We will not have a Spring Show with all our energy going to the Convention. We will have four Rhizome Sales to maintain our Treasury for next year. Hope to see you all in April at the national convention.



Holk Memorial Garden at Jurupa hosted by Inland Region Iris Society



Lompoc Valley
Iris Society

President's Report Lompoc Valley Iris Society

by Ben Schleuning

We kicked off the year with a bang, we were lucky to have back Rick Tasco from Superstition Iris Gardens.

Rick gave a wonderful talk on hybridizing as well as great information on cover crops, watering, etc. He also showed us beautiful slides of their iris and the seedlings that may make the cut and get named and introduced. We were pleased to be able to have him back.

We had a great time at our Christmas dinner/party.

At the recent meeting we talked about the upcoming show in April and want to review our video Kathy Chilton talked about and showed us how to properly display and cut iris stalks.

We look forward to a year of beautiful iris both at the show and in our gardens.

Our iris show will be April 28th and the 29th, as always we have a beautiful selection of iris, usually over 200 flowers. We really try to make the public a part of it, drawings ever 1/2 hour for an iris in a pot to take home, it is fun when someone's name is called, the smiles and squeals make you smile. We sell iris at the show as well, people really love to be able to take them home that day. The two day event really draws a great crowd, people year after year love to come and see what beauties there are this year.

We will have two iris sales this year, one July 21st and September 8th.



Lompoc Valley Iris Society members enjoy a talk by Rick Tasco of Superstition Gardens

President's Report Orange County Iris and Daylily Club

by Derry Gerald

New officers for the Orange County Iris and Daylily Club include myself as president, Julie Kline as 1st VP, Herb Mauner as 2nd VP, and Marilyn Pecararo as 3rd VP and Advisor. Peggy Sheldon is Secretary and Green Scene Chairman. Jeanie Moeckel is Treasurer and Editor. Fran Gionett and Julie Kline will provide Hospitality and Ralph Gidley is our Librarian.

We are looking forward to a great National Convention. Our club, like many, had shrunk to a mighty few. We started putting notices in the OC Register and have had a very good response.

This year we thought we would try to lighten the load of the President. Bobby Hogancamp is in charge of all things Daylily and I am in charge of all things iris.

We are currently reviewing our bylaws and planning our meetings for the year. January we had a camellia hybridizer speak to us. In February, Bobby Hogancamp will present Underwater Gardens. Future programs include Plumeria and Irises 101. we have a once a year sale at Green Scene, a plant table most every month, 2-3 iris auctions (members only bearded, Region 15 and members only beardless iris), 3-4 potlucks, great fun and fellowship.

We meet the 2nd Tuesday every month at 7:30pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church at 11832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove CA. Please come to visit or join us!

April 14-15, 2012 at Fullerton Arboretum

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President's Report Prescott Area Iris Society

by Roger Osgood

Prescott Area Iris Society is alive and well with 57 members at year's end. We have a new slate of officers for 2012, and a new year of activities in our north-central area of Arizona.

May kicks off our Garden Tour and the 13th Annual Spring Iris Exhibit. In this mile-high town, we have a late spring, with the possibility of snow even at the end of April.

In June, we'll get as many volunteers as we can muster, to help dig rhizomes at Stanton Iris Gardens.

July brings a marking party and the beginning of three rhizome sales in our quad city community.

Summer is BBQ time and a respite for our club after all the sales activity. We pot all the leftovers we can, and find pot sitters for our treasures. August is our Ice Cream Social and a special sale for "members only" at the Silent Auction. We generally have a photo contest highlighting all the glorious blooms we enjoyed during the spring.

September and November general meetings bring our years' events to a close.

PAIS is proud to be a part of Region 15 and we want to be "active" in all that pertains to our district. As incoming president, I was sent to the Region 15 meeting in November, and as a consequence, the Convention Meeting as well. Something happened, though I can't recall the events, and I was elected to the chair position of the Cali-Zona raffle for the convention. Was I out of the room when that happened?

We have received some great raffle donations. Wait until you arrive at the convention to see what we have assembled so far! Bring your checkbook, because you will certainly want some of these great items.

Support our convention if you can. You have the benefit of meeting other iris lovers and seeing some stunning gardens. Making new friends is a great benefit. Give a nod to the great leadership in our region. They have worked so hard on our behalf.



Sharon preparing irises for the PAIS Spring Show



Roger and Linda



Carolyn presents Audrey with her award

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

President's Report San Diego Iris Society

by Bill Molnar

After a summer recess, we resumed our year with the September rhizome sale in Balboa Park. Unfortunately, none of us equated September 11 as being the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attack on New York. The park was deserted and sales were lower than expected.

For our October meeting, Janis Shackelford gave us a slide presentation of the gardens at the 2011 AIS Conference. She captured the glorious beauty of the Pacific Northwest in spring and had us drooling over the gorgeous iris. In November Janis Shackelford gave an informative presentation on how to classify the shorter and smaller bearded iris. In December, our members showed everyone at the potluck Christmas party that they can cook even better than they can grow iris.

January was a fun filled meeting with Cheryl Deaton teaching us how to have "sex in the garden". If you haven't had Cheryl speak on this topic, it is well worth your time. She educated the group, while keeping them laughing and having a great time.

Our February meeting will be our club's annual Birthday Party with the featured guest speaker being iris hybridizer Douglas Kanarowski of Mariposa Iris. You may have read about him in the April 2011 AIS IRISES magazine on pages 34-36. He is actively breeding iris for light transparency, quadruple terminal buds held in three planes, root beer brown color iris, watercolor-like pigment application, and continuous rebloomers. We are anxiously looking forward to hearing about his successes.

The balance of the year will unfold with a roundtable iris discussion, a day in the breathtaking commercial iris garden of Ted and Rose Howse (Iris Howse & Gardens), an iris show, awards and homemade ice cream.

And of course there will be a National Convention from April 16-21, squeezed in among all of this in Ontario for us to attend.

Next year we invite you to attend the Spring Trek, hosted by the San Diego Iris Society. Four members' gardens have been planted with guest irises that we expect will put on a good show.



SDIS Annual Rhizome Sale at
Balboa Park



Douglas Kanarowski of Mariposa Iris gives talk
at the February birthday party



Cheryl Deaton gives her
'Sex in the Garden' talk

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

President's Report

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

by Andi Rivarola

facebook



San Fernando Valley
Iris Society

It's hard to believe that we're so close to yet another National Convention of the American Iris Society. It seems only a couple of months ago we attended the one in Victoria, British Columbia. I and several other San Fernando Valley Iris Society members are looking forward to attending the Ontario, California National Convention, and hope to meet many of you there. Our club is helping the event by getting goodies for the convention bag, and we could definitely use your help. If you have any ideas that you'd like to share with us be sure to let us know.

As I write this, rain is finally falling in Los Angeles, and I can almost hear the plants rejoicing, as well as we, the gardeners, are rejoicing too. It's been a very dry fall and winter in our area, and I'm starting to wonder what can kind of a bloom season we will have.

Just this fall I ordered and planted two Japanese irises, four species, and three pseudatas for the first time. I think they will need more water than that which I'm able to provide, but I look forward to the experiment and will report on their status on my next report.

The Japanese came from Wildwood Gardens, and are 'Sing the Blues' and 'Ruffled Dmitry.' I saw them online and could not resist them. In my spare time last year I also looked over and over the Iris City Gardens online catalog, and decided to order four species irises that I thought would do well in our climate. They are: iris laevigata albopurpurea colchestenensis, iris laevigata albopurpurea monstrosa, iris laevigata 'Shiracagi,' and Spec-X 'Tsukiyono.' Somehow I also managed to order Louisiana irises, which I shouldn't have because they do require extra water, but oh well; I went ahead and could not refuse 'Red Velvet Elvis,' and 'Creole Rhapsody.' I also received a couple of Louisianas as gifts, 'Honey Jumble' and 'Sydney Harbor,' originally from Australia and yes, you guessed it right, hybridized by Heather Pryor.

Here are the pseudatas I'm looking forward to see blooming in the spring: 'Kinshikou,' 'Hanazukiyo,' 'Yukiyanagi,' and 'Takamagahara' as a gift. I hope you have a chance to look these up on the online Ensata Gardens online catalog. They are just so beautiful. I do grow other pseudacorus crosses and I hope these will do well too. As I mentioned to my fellow SFVIS members, I promise to share my experience with these new and unique irises in my garden, but if I don't succeed I will probably not even mention it next time. It's that a deal?

Looking forward to the next presentation to be held on Thursday, February 2. Hugh Stout from Stout Gardens at Dancingtree will be giving a presentation and JT on median irises. I believe it's the first time Hugh comes to our club.

On other news, our Spring Show will be held on Saturday and Sunday, April 14-15, 2012 at the Westfield Mall Topanga Promenade. It's the same location we have used for years.



'Curious Yellow'



'Sugar Blues'

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

President's Report Southern California Iris Society

by Mike Monninger

SCIS held its members only auctions in August (bearded) and September (beardless). Many new and newer cultivars replaced those removed for sales in the spring. In 2012 the Beardless will move back to October and the auction of region iris will occur in September.

The membership will probably donate funds to the L.A. Arboretum to help replace the hundreds of trees blown down and damaged in December.

The program for the January meeting featured slides of Marilyn Pecoraro's yard. She has extensive iris plantings incorporating roses, fruit trees and avocado trees.

Our AIS sanctioned show will be on March 31 and April 1, very early for us. The show will be in Ayer's Hall and be held in conjunction with the Southern California Hemerocallis and Amaryllis Society.

The big 4-day iris sale and exhibit at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa will start 5 days after the AIS Convention in Ontario ends on April 21.

Still willing to take more punishment SCIS will have an information table at the Arboretum's Spring Garden Show beginning Friday May 4 at 5 pm through Sunday May 6.

June brings the culmination of our year. Show awards and officer elections are on the docket.



Garden Show May 4-6, 2012 at Los Angeles Arboretum

President's Report Sun Country Iris Society

by Gary Miller

We have been very busy since we have a new slate of officers. They are as follows:

Gary Miller - President, Ardi Kary - Vice President, Kyria Peavey - Secretary, Deborah Nolan - Treasurer, and our Directors are Francelle Edwards, Barbara Andresen and Vi Zepeda.

This year is Arizona's Centennial year and at our Spring Show Committee meeting we chose that as our theme.

For the AIS Convention we are in the process of gathering items for bus prizes. In Arizona, or at least in the Phoenix valley, five iris types do well and we are trying to promote them more this year than in the past. Everyone knows the tall bearded, but the medians, aril/arilbreds, spurias and louisianas do well here as well.

Our membership is growing and we now have quite a few novice irisarians.

Besides our AIS spring show we are planning an early Iris exhibit and a late iris exhibit where the public votes on their favorite iris on exhibit.



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

President's Report Tucson Area Iris Society

by Gordon Jensen

Last month we had an excellent presentation by Alex Stanton on reblooming iris. We had a dozen in attendance. Today, I'm making a presentation on Landscaping with irises in Tucson. The attached picture is of a part of my landscape.

Next month Kathy Chilton is demonstrating preparing irises for show in anticipation of our April 15th show at Tucson Botanical Gardens.

I'm looking forward to the national convention.



Jensen Garden



Gordon Jensen Seedling



Ben Herman arilbred iris seedling



Margie Valenzuela's 2009 intro 'Got Spots'

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 (VAIS) met Jan. 25, 2012, at Yavapai County Building in Cottonwood, AZ.

At the meeting we discussed the storage of the club's display items. We will be in attendance at the Backyard Garden display in April. We will also display in April at Dead Horse State Park in conjunction with the Birding Festival. This is a better location and more people will see the irises on display. They will vote for their choice in each category.

Two people from Prescott explained the Northern Arizona Daylily Society and their show in July.

The program by Nora Graf showed a video of beautiful photos of different irises. The care, fertilizing, location of planting was discussed.

Our next meeting will take place at the end of March.



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

2011 Region 15 Fall Meeting "The Miracle of Rebloom"

By Carole Buchheim

Guests and board members began arriving at the Ayres Suites Hotel at Ontario Mills Mall on Friday afternoon, November 11, 2011. The event was our annual Region 15 Fall Meeting. Traditionally, the Region 15 Fall Meeting is a one-day program held on the first or second Saturday of October. However, things were very different this time around.

The focus of the Inland Region Iris Society sponsored event was "The Miracle of Rebloom" and delaying the meeting to the second weekend of November allowed for more reblooming bearded irises to unfurl their lovely colors. An additional bonus was the opportunity to get a sneak peak at Mystic Lake Gardens, one of the four guest gardens for the 2012 American Iris Society National Convention. About one tenth (nearly 100) of the bearded guest irises for the National Convention were designated as rebloomers.

Activities began with a Region 15 Board Meeting at 4:00 p.m. followed by dinner at local restaurants. At 7:30 p.m. we were favored with a 1½ hour Reblooming Iris Judges Training presentation by Riley Probst of Fleur De Lis Iris Garden in Modesto, CA. Riley is the Southwestern Director of the Reblooming Iris Society (Regions 14 and 15) and the founder/administrator of the Reblooming Iris Society site on Facebook. He is also a hybridizer with a particular interest in working with Miniature Tall Bearded irises.

Judges Training exercises are an important part of spring and fall Regional activities. Not only is it important for accreditation of AIS judges and students training to become judges, it is an educational opportunity for all to learn more about irises. One of Mr. Probst's main points regarding Tall Bearded rebloomers is what he describes as his 22 day rule: "The AIS Judges Handbook states that a TB iris must have at least 7 buds on a stalk. It also states that each blossom should last for at least 3 days. Thus, a TB stalk with good sequential opening of blooms could last for 21 days. The 22 DAY RULE for TB rebloomers is that in order for a plant to rebloom for 22 or more days an iris must have one of the following: blooms that last longer than 3 days, more than 7 buds per stalk and/or more than one reblooming stalk. Any of these three traits are outstanding traits." In southern California reblooming irises can extend our springtime pleasure throughout the year and crescendo their beauty right into the following spring.

More than 30 attendees had to rise early on Saturday morning to have breakfast and catch the bus for a fieldtrip to Mystic Lake Gardens owned by Paul and Carole Buchheim and located in Nuevo, CA. Dr. Rich Richards, esteemed bus captain, had the privilege of entertaining the travelers and Carol Morgan provided bus prizes. Coffee, hot chocolate and lots of delicious goodies awaited the stalwart irisarians who chose to brave the shadow of rain for the pleasure of seeing nearly a hundred different varieties of reblooming irises. Umbrellas went up for about a half hour of very light, misty rain and then to our joy we beheld a lovely rainbow encircling the valley.

On that bright note Chuck Chapman of Chapman Iris Garden in Guelph, Ontario, Canada began a 2-hour Garden Judges Training session. Chuck is the science advisor for the Reblooming Iris Society, commercial garden owner and a hybridizer with over a hundred iris introductions, the majority of which are SDBs. As the group meandered through the garden with nearly 70 varieties of bearded irises in bloom, Mr. Chapman shared with us the nuances of evaluating remontant irises in the garden coupled with his personal experience in the cultivation of remarkable rebloomers. The two most important agricultural practices to encourage good rebloom are to fertilize after spring bloom and to water regularly throughout the heat of summer. After the training session was completed garden visitors ventured to the fenced area to see the guest irises.

Of the 92 designated remontant guest irises 26 were in full bloom with an additional 8 sending up bud stalks. It is a rare opportunity to visit a guest garden during the fall or winter and see the wonderful rebloomers in their full glory. At a National Convention a rebloomer is "just another iris" but when the majority of cultivars are sleeping, rebloomers are stars that shine!

At noon it was time to board the bus and return to the hotel for a delicious buffet luncheon. Upon arrival the tables were set and lunch was ready. The menu included rigatoni with fresh tomato basil sauce, pollo parmesan, sautéed vegetables, salad, bread and butter and cake for dessert. The drinks included coffee, iced tea, soda and water. At each place setting there was a gift remontant iris provided by Mystic Lake Gardens and prepared in stylish gift bags by Inland Region Iris Society president Carol Morgan.

Following lunch was a Region 15 General Meeting. Old and new business was discussed and new officers were elected. The afternoon program featured a PowerPoint presentation by Chuck Chapman entitled "How to Grow Rebloomers for Maximum Rebloom". Chuck's Canadian garden north of Lake Erie is the weather equivalent of USDA Zone 4 and certainly a remontant iris challenge compared to our fair weather conditions of southern California, USDA Zone 9. His presentation began with photos of his commercial garden followed by remontant irises of particular interest as well as seedlings. Then Chuck led us step by step through many significant and well illustrated points regarding reblooming iris genetics, plant maturity, increase, bud set, rebloom types and behavior, growing conditions, water, fertilizer, and tried-and-true pointers for increasing rebloom potential.

Last but not least was the distribution of raffle and door prizes. Among these were gift certificates from Schreiners' Iris Gardens and Napa Country Iris Gardens in handmade tote bags by Cathy Coache, a large glass platter with a red cardinal design, a juice canister/dispenser with grape vine motif, and many other items. Region 15 had silent auction items including several AIS 10-year Iris Check Lists and an assortment of other iris books. Potted irises were offered for sale and five new introductions of "Opposites" (Shirley Trio 2012), see photo on prior page, were auctioned with the proceeds donated to the Region.

Thanks to all of you who planned and participated in making this 2011 Region 15 Fall Meeting a memorable occasion.



"Opposites" (Shirley Trio 2012)

AIS Region 15 Fall Trek 2011 at Mystic Lake Gardens



AIS Judge Riley Probst



Rainbow over Mystic Lake Gardens



Guest Speaker Chuck and Heather Chapman from Chapman Iris Garden



In garden Judges Training

Reblooming Beauties (continued from page 2)

A Selection of Irises Proven to Rebloom in Region 15 - Photos by Carole Buchheim



'Jennifer Rebecca'
Zurbrigg



'Joan's Pleasure'
Zurbrigg



'Lest We Forget'
Sutton



'Love Is All Around'
Aitken



'Lunar Whitewash'
Innerst



'Maiden'
Byers



'Violet Turner'
Lauer



'Mighty Cool'
Blyth



'Oasis Red'
Chadwick



'October Sky'
Lauer



'Ozark Rebounder'
Nicodemus



'Spiced Tiger'
Kasperek



'Racy Red'
Gibson



'Recurring Dream'
Hager



'Rosalie Figge'
McKnew



'Welcome Discovery'
Brendel



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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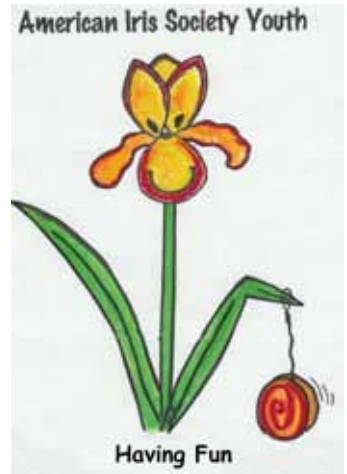
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E-mail: AISMemsec@irises.org
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www.youth-iris.com

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
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840 Climbing Tree Ln
Templeton, CA 93465
email burgardfarms@yahoo.com

Cal-Dixie Iris Garden - (951) 780-0335
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Riverside CA 92504
email cal-dixie@aol.com

Golden's Iris Garden - (928) 445-0503
Barry Golden
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email barrygolden@hotmail.com

Hummingbird Iris Garden - (928) 777-8110
Linda Rossman
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Kary Iris Gardens - (480) 949-0253
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Mystic Lake Gardens - (951) 928-2337
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email asalsgiver@msn.com

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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

AIS Region 15 2012 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location	Contact	
March	1	San Fernando Valley Iris Society: Camille Van Ast on Floral Arrangements with hands-on demonstration	SFVIS	Andi Rivarola	
	6	Sun Country Iris Society guest speaker - Eileen Fuimara on Artistic Arrangements including a one hour judges training.	Valley Garden Center, Phoenix	Gary Miller	
	11	San Diego Iris Society Iris Roundtable Discussion	Lakeside, CA	Bill Molnar	
	13	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club	Garden Grove, CA	Derry Gerald	
	16-18	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society potted iris sale at the Home Show	Antelope Valley Fairgrounds	Gail Lofdahl	
	17	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society speaker John Schoustra of Greenwood Nursery to speak about daylilies	Antelope Valley College	Gail Lofdahl	
	24	Sun Country Iris Society Early Iris Exhibit	Baker Nursery, Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller	
	24	Tucson Area Iris Society - Kathy Chilton presents on Preparing Iris	Dusenberry River Branch Library River Center, Tucson, AZ	Gordon Jensen	
	28	Verde Valley Area Iris Society General Meeting	Cottonwood, AZ	Betty Gaudy	
	31- April 1	Southern California Iris Society AIS-sanctioned Iris Show and Sale	Los Angeles Arboretum at Ayers Hall	Mike Monninger	
	April	5	San Fernando Valley Iris Society: Show demo for horticulture and finalization of show preparations	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
		14	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society: Speaker Joyce Bertram to present on grooming and arranging irises for show	Antelope Valley College	Gail Lofdahl
		14	Sun Country Iris Society Spring Iris Show Theme "Arizona Centennial"	Christown Spectrum Mall, Phoenix	Gary Miller
14-15		Inland Region Iris Society potted iris sale at Riverside Elks Club at 6166 Brockton Avenue	Riverside City Flower Show Riverside, CA	Carol Morgan	
14-15		Orange County Iris & Daylily Club at Green Scene	Fullerton Arboretum	Derry Gerald	
14-15		San Fernando Valley Iris Society Iris Show	Woodland Hills Promenade Mall	Andi Rivarola	
15		San Diego Iris Society Visit to Iris Howse & Gardens	in Bonita, CA	Bill Molnar	
15		Sun Country Iris Society Garden Tour	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller	
15		Tucson Area Iris Society Spring Show & Sale	Tucson Botanical Gardens, Tucson AZ	Gordon Jensen	
16-21		AIS 2012 National Convention	Ontario California	Jill Bonino / Kathy Chilton	
17		Special Excursion to San Fernando Valley Iris Gardens and nursery		Jill Bonino / AIS Convention	
22		Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises Excursion	Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden	Jill Bonino / AIS Convention	
26-29		Southern California Iris Society 4-day Iris Sale and Exhibit	South Coast Plaza In Costa Mesa	Mike Monninger	
26-29		Valley Verde Area Iris Society Iris Display at the Birding & Nature Festival	Dead Horse Ranch State Park Verde River Valley, AZ	Betty Gaudy	
28		Prescott Area Iris Society scheduled program: Planning Your Stalks for Iris Exhibit	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood	
28-29		Lompoc Valley Iris Society Spring Show & Sale	Lompoc, CA	Ben Schleuning	
May		1	Sun Country Iris Society Photo Contest	Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller
	3	San Fernando Valley Iris Society: Program on Spurias and non-AIS beardless iris show	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola	
	4-6	Southern California Iris Society Information Table	LA Arboretum Spring Garden Show	Mike Monninger	
	5	San Fernando Valley Iris Society member garden trek	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola	
	5	Sun Country Iris Society Late Iris Exhibit - (new) Favorite iris voted by public	Gardener's World Nursery Phoenix, AZ	Gary Miller	
	5-6	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society Annual Show & Sale; Theme "Surf's Up!"	Antelope Valley College Agriculture Building	Mary Escarcega (661) 943-1335	

May (continued)	6	San Diego Iris Society Iris Show (non-judged) & Potted Iris Sale at Balboa Park	Casa del Prado - Balboa Park Room 101	Bill Molnar
	12	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society Progressive Dinner and Garden Tour		Marilyn Kiger (661) 305-8585
	12	Prescott Area Iris Society Garden Tour & Photo Workshop	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood
	18-19	Inland Region Iris Society Rhizome Sale at Green Faire, Jurupa Mts. Discovery Center	Jurupa Valley, CA	Carol Morgan
	19	Prescott Area Iris Society Spring Exhibit - Kaleidoscope of Color		Roger Osgood
	18-20	Inland Region Iris Society Rhizome and Potted Iris Sale at Yucaipa Iris Festival	Yucaipa City Park Yucaipa, CA	Carol Morgan
June	7	SFVIS Show Awards Potluck and Election of Officers	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	9	Sun Country Iris Society Garden Tours	Forest Lakes, AZ	Gary Miller
	10	SDIS Show Awards, Election of Officers & Ice Cream Social	Lakeside, CA	Bill Molnar
July	21	Lompoc Valley Iris Society Sale	Lompoc, CA	Ben Schleuning
	21-22	Prescott Area Iris Society Rhizome Sale	Sharlot Hall Museum	Roger Osgood
	27	Prescott Area Iris Society Rhizome Sale	Lavender Tea House	Roger Osgood
	28	Prescott Area Iris Society Rhizome Sale	Dan's Garden, Yarnell, AZ	Roger Osgood
August	2	SFVIS - Jill Bonino presents slides on AIS National Convention and local trek	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	11	Prescott Area Iris Society scheduled program: Region 15 Silent Auction and Ice Cream Social	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood
	29	Verde Valley Area Iris Society General Meeting	Cottonwood, AZ	Betty Gaudy
September	3	Verde Valley Area Iris Society Iris Sale	Cottonwood, AZ	Betty Gaudy
	6	SFVIS Auction Night	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	8	Lompoc Valley Iris Society Sale	Lompoc, CA	Ben Schleuning
	15	Prescott Area Iris Society scheduled program: Louisiana Iris and Other Aquatics in a Pond Setting	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood
	15-16	Inland Region Iris Society Annual Fall Rhizome Sale - Landscapes Southern California Style, Water Conservation Educ Garden	Riverside, CA	Carol Morgan
	29	Tucson Area Iris Society Iris Dig	Tucson, AZ	Gordon Jensen
October	4	SFVIS Annual Games Night	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola
	6	Tucson Area Iris Society Iris Re-plant	Tucson, AZ	Gordon Jensen
	13	Region 15 Fall Trek hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society Speaker Bob Sussman, Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises		Andi Rivarola
	31	Verde Valley Area Iris Society General Meeting Speaker Nora Graf	Cottonwood, AZ	Betty Gaudy
November	17	Prescott Area Iris Society scheduled program: Making Your Own Fertilizers	Prescott, AZ	Roger Osgood
December	6	SFVIS Holiday Potluck and Christmas Entertainment	Canoga Park, CA	Andi Rivarola

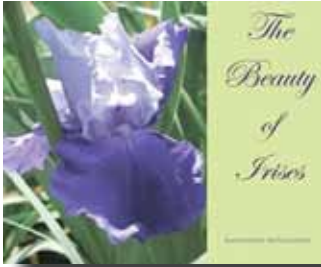
Local Chapter Monthly Meetings:

- 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.
- See above calendar for Southern California Iris Society meetings.
- 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.

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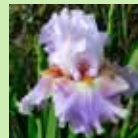
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Golden Panther (2000 Tasco)



Stairway to Heaven (1993 Lauer)



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Florentine Silk (2004 Keppel)