



The
American Iris
Society

Region 15

Spring 2015 Semi-annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED!

AIS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Hosted by the Greater Portland Iris Society

MAY 18-23

PORTLAND, OREGON

www.ais2015portlandconvention.com

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TBIS and Region 13 Spring 2014 Tours

Photos by Beth-Balaney Train



Larry Lauer seedling



Lauer's Flowers



Kevin Vaughn's Garden



Keith Keppel's Garden



Mid-America Garden



Schreiner's Iris Gardens



Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm



Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

Letter from the Editor

“What greater pleasure could there be for garden enthusiasts than to spend a day visiting the gardens of others?” Richard G. Turner, Jr.



As winter turns to spring, I'm sure that you, as I am, are looking forward to a wonderful bloom season. In the coming months, iris lovers will be busy with flower shows, rhizome sales and garden tours. Speaking of garden tours, Region 15 will not have a Spring Trek this year. A lot of our members are planning to go to the AIS National Convention in Portland instead.

This issue brings us updates from our new RVP Debbie James on page 5. The Judges Training Report by Sue Brown is on page 6. Reports from other officers are on the following pages.

Have you heard about the Novelty Iris Society? Novelty irises include broken colors, variegated foliage, space agers, etc. Read about space agers on pages 10-11.

Last spring I had the chance to preview four of the host gardens when I joined the TBIS and Region 13 Spring Tours. The Pacific Northwest is truly iris haven. Extra time (hardly enough) was spent touring Larry Lauer's garden in Independence as well as other Salem and Portland attractions. If you are attending this year's convention, don't miss the Columbia River Gorge area. You could go hiking and chasing waterfalls in the morning, then ski in the afternoon on Mt. Hood. Spend a night or two at the Timberline Lodge (bring your swimsuit). I've shared some photos from my trip on pages 2, 13, and 43.

The busy garden tour schedule can be overwhelming as Claire Schneider notes on page 12. Read on how she found calm amidst the flurry of activities and masses of blooms.

On page 14, Lois Farr recounts her experience when the OCIDC hosted the region's Fall 2014 Meeting. Find out what the PAIS has in store for us this autumn; registration form and information are on pages 16-17.

Affiliate reports begin on page 21, followed by the meeting minutes on pages 31-34. There are new officers this year. Newly elected presidents are Dan Schroeder of PAIS, Kyria Peavy of Sun Country Iris Society and E. Kristee West of TAIS. Welcome! Check out the calendar on pages 36-37 for a list of local affiliate activities.

Dennis Luebkin has updates on two PAIS projects. On page 38, read the latest on the Firefighters Memorial Gardens. The Sharlot Hall Museum project is nearing completion, see page 39.

This spring may make you crave for more irises for your garden. If you like spuria irises, now is a good time to join the Spuria Iris Society, page 19. Recent iris introductions that caught my eye are on pages 40-41. Don't forget to order from our advertisers (page 42): Fleur De Lis Garden, Schreiner's Iris Gardens, and Stout Gardens at Dancing Tree.

Lastly, do you grow MDB's? On the back cover are photos sent in by Terry Laurin of Ontario Iris Society and Aurora Borealis Iris Garden in Canada. He asks you to share your MDB photos on the AIS TWIKI website (page 20).

See you at the gardens,

Beth Balaney-Train, Editor

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT

www.region15ais.org



On the Cover: **Bright and Blue SDB** (M. Sutton 2009)

Photo by M. Sutton

AIS Region 15

Local Chapter Presidents

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Dan Dourney
dourney64@hotmail.com

Inland Region Iris Society

Cathy Coache
cathycoachemueck@gmail.com
Claudia Dean
claudiadean@cybernet.net
IRIS Facebook

Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Ben Schleunig
bennme2000@gmail.com
LVIS Facebook

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Lois Farr
loismalulani@pacbell.net

Prescott Area Iris Society

Dan Schroeder
dan@mccoyetc.com
PAIS website and Facebook

San Diego Iris Society

Claire Schneider
itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com
SDIS website

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Debbie-Babuscio-James
dbabski1962@yahoo.com
SFVIS website and Facebook

Southern California Iris Society

Mike Monninger
regomdm@yahoo.com
SCIS Facebook

Sun Country Iris Society

Kyria Peavy
SCIS.phoenix@gmail.com
SCIS website

Tucson Area Iris Society

E. Kristee West
ekristeewest@hotmail.com
TAIS website

**American Iris Society
Region 15
Elected Officers**

Region 15 Vice President (RVP)

Debbie Babuscio-James
6634 Gaviota Street
Lake Balboa, CA 91406
(818)922-9153
region15rvp@gmail.com

Assistant RVP and Judges Chair

Sue Brown
40756 15th Street West
Palmdale, CA 93557
(661)947-8659
irisfor15w@gmail.com

Region 15 Treasurer

Carol Huffman
3105 Avenida del Sol
Atascadero, CA 93422
cahuffy@gmail.com

Region 15 Secretary

Marge Larson
265 Merry Go Round Rock Road
Sedona, AZ 86351
marlarson@outlook.com

Committee Chairs

Awards: open

Editor: Beth Balaney-Train
aisregion15editor@gmail.com

Historian: open

Membership: Patrick Orr
irisdude@msn.com

Nominating Committee:

Claire Schneider
itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com

Ways and Means Committee: open

Youth Program: Cheryl Deaton
region15kids@hotmail.com

AIS Region 15 Trek Wheel

Event	Trek Host	Location
2015 Spring Trek	No Spring Trek due to AIS National Convention in OR	
2015 Fall Meeting	Prescott Area Iris Society	Prescott, AZ
2016 Spring Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society	Burbank, CA
2016 Fall Meeting	Lompoc Valley Iris Society	Lompoc, CA
2017 Spring Trek	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society	Lancaster, CA
2017 Fall Meeting	Southern California Iris Society	
2018 Spring Trek	Sun Country Iris Society	Phoenix, AZ
2018 Fall Meeting	San Diego Iris Society	

**Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks
from our website
www.region15ais.org**





AIS Region 15 RVP Message

By Debbie Babuscio-James, Region 15 RVP

Since the Fall Region 15 Meeting I have jumped into the position of RVP head first. First thing having the honor of presenting Winona with the outgoing RVP award and then planning, coordinating and running the Winter Board Meeting which occurred on February 7th.

I know you're all aware that there will be no spring regional trek this year due to the AIS National Convention in Portland so I hope to see many of the Region 15 members up in Portland this May. I am so looking forward to the convention and seeing the gardens, the irises and most of all the people.

If you've never been to an AIS National Convention then let Portland be your first. I can promise you you'll never forget it, the irises alone will just be outstanding and exceptional.

The Region was still in need of an Editor for the Region 15 Newsletter as of the Winter Board Meeting. Beth Balaney-Train has stepped up and agreed to do the Spring 2015 issue and Jill Bonino agreed to produce the Fall 2015 issue. Recently, Beth agreed to take the position of Region 15 Editor for the next three years. I want to thank Beth for taking this position, which I know can be difficult at times. I also know she will do a superb job and I can hardly wait for the next issue to arrive.

In addition, I'm asking if each club could please forward their newsletters to region15rvp@gmail.com, it would be appreciated.

I hope you all had a great winter and let's all continue to pray for rain. See you all in Portland.

Happy gardening,

Debbie James



Membership Update

By Patrick Orr, Membership Chair

Region 15 currently has 319 members. That is up from 278 last year. The single most increase we saw this year is in youth memberships, from 4 to 30! That is fantastic! The region is definitely growing, with modest increases in regular memberships and e-memberships in spite of losing one affiliate.



AIS Judges Training

By Sue Brown, Region 15 Asst. RVP and Judges Training Chair

Hello Region 15! My name is Sue Brown, the new Region 15 Asst. RVP & Judges Training Chair. I am learning this job. We have 25 judges, 1 apprentice and a few students. We need more judges.

It is fun to learn more about the flower we love, iris. Become a student, attend judges training (JT) held at your local club or another club nearby. Soon, a student becomes an apprentice and on the way to be a judge.

The application form is on the Region 15 website. My e-mail address is irisfor15w@gmail.com. I hope to see some applications soon.



AIS Youth Program Report

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 and AIS Youth Chair

Currently we have 30 AIS youth members in Region 15, 27 of them in a scout troop in Prescott, Arizona. Most of the scouts entered the Coloring Contest, and Josh Foreman won first place in his age division. Makayla Felix won 3rd place in her age division. She lives in California. All entrants were given a participation award. Congratulations!

The scouts are busy working to complete the requirements for the AIS Youth Patch. Entering the Coloring Contest is just one of the 12 activities that must be done within a year to earn the patch. Growing irises is another requirement, and the Prescott Area Iris Society has helped by donating irises to the scouts. They have also been working with them to help identify historic irises at a cemetery that was horribly overgrown with weeds. Thanks to their efforts, it is a much prettier place to visit. Sharon Luebkin has been giving iris talks at local elementary schools and hopes to get some of the children enrolled in PAIS.

Do you know about the Youth Program in the American Iris Society? I think it is one of the better bargains out there for young people at \$5 per year. There are contests and 2 newsletters each year just for kids that contain puzzles and information. Youth members receive the AIS Youth Handbook which contains lots of information about all the different classes of irises, tips on hybridizing and what to look for in an iris. Plus, youth can enter the annual AIS Photo Contest, local iris shows and they can join local clubs and enjoy the fellowship of other iris lovers. Since irises are a drought tolerant plant, take little care, and are suitable for smaller gardens, the American Iris Society is a great organization to join. If the kids are a little older, they can join the "e membership" at \$15 per year and get all their information online, with the online publication, IRISES, 4 times a year as well.

My grandmother got me started loving irises when I was about 12. My mother grew standard dwarf irises, but grandma loved this one iris named “China Maid”, which was introduced in 1936. Every spring she got so excited when it bloomed that her enthusiasm was contagious. She had other irises, yellow and white ones, and of course the purple ones that everyone calls ‘flags’, but China Maid (Milliken 1936) was her favorite. I still have it in my garden, and it blooms anytime after November, many times reblooming again in April.

Can you think of a young person who would enjoy growing a lovely iris in their garden? Why not give them the gift of a rhizome or two from your garden and perhaps paying for their membership in the AIS Youth program, beginning their journey into the world of irises? Young kids love growing things and playing in the dirt, older ones get interested in hybridizing and creating something, and all ages get the satisfaction of seeing the result of their efforts. If you know of a scout troop, classroom, 4H group or any other youth group (after school program, church youth group, etc.), get them signed up in AIS. When you register a ‘Classroom Iris Project’ (the name for a group of kids with an adult leader) AIS pays the leader’s dues. It is a terrific program and one way to get kids outdoors and away from all those video games. Contact me for more information at region15kids@hotmail.com.

Happy Irising!

Cheryl Deaton

Scouts-PAIS at the Citizens Cemetery

Photos by Dennis Luebkin



AIS Region 15 Treasurer's Report

By Cheryl Deaton, Treasurer, 2014

2014 INCOME AND EXPENSES

CHECKBOOK BEGINNING BALANCE		\$23,012.73
(includes \$8,355.88 RVP Account funds)		
DEPOSITS		
1/24/2014		\$325.00
OCI&DC Auction	\$300.00	
SO CAL Basket donation	\$ 25.00	
2/15/2014	AIS Convention Basket Donations	\$245.00
	Lompoc, Hi Desert, SFVIS, Sun Country, San Diego, Prescott	
4/21/2014	Ad Revenue	\$ 15.00
6/25/2014	PAIS Region Sales (2013)	\$221.50
8/8/2014	Ad Revenues & SoCal Region Donation	\$550.00
9/26/2014	Region Auction	\$457.00
	OC \$300/Sun Country \$157	
10/3/2014		\$345.00
	Ads \$80	
	Region Sales: Lompoc \$200/TAIS \$65	
10/23/2014	SFVIS Region Auction Sales	\$325.00
11/18/2014	INLAND Region Auction Sales	\$200.00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 2,683.50
WITHDRAWALS		
2/15/2014	Winter Meeting Expense (#216)	\$ 75.67
2/20/2014	Secretary Expense (#217)	\$ 61.88
4/12/2014	Mystic Lake Gift Certificate (#218)	\$ 50.00
4/12/2014	Squires Gardens Gift Certificate (#219)	\$ 50.00
4/12/2014	Hummingbird Iris Gift Certificate (#220)	\$ 50.00
4/12/2014	Lakeside Gardens Gift Certificate (#221)	\$ 50.00
4/12/2014	Lakeside Gardens Irises (#222)	\$ 75.00
4/18/2014	PAIS Fall Trek 2015 Advance (#223)	\$400.00
4/19/2014	Newsletter Expenses (#224)	\$546.72
4/21/2014	Region 15 Basket Gift Cards (#225)	\$125.00
4/21/2014	Voided Check (#226)	

4/24/2014	RVP Travel & Expenses (#227)	\$ 823.50
4/30/2014	Website (#228)	\$ 495.00
6/ 5/2014	Awards & Mailing Expense (#229)	\$ 25.88
6/ 9/2014	SEANDEL Gardens-Region iris (#230)	\$1000.00
7/24/2014	SEANDEL Gardens Mailing Expense (#231)	\$ 61.17
7/28/2014	UPS Region Mailing (#232)	\$ 87.00
8/ 7/2014	JT Expense (#233)	\$ 26.67
8/ 7/2014	Newsletter Advance (#234)	\$ 450.00
8/21/201	AIS Storefront RVP Pin (#235)	\$ 35.00
8/23/2014	OCI&DS Fall 2014 Meeting Expense (#236)	\$ 400.00
9/27/2014	Newsletter Balance (#237)	\$ 66.19
9/27/2014	Trek rhizome shipping (#238)	\$ 42.38

TOTAL WITHDRAWALS

\$ 4,997.06

ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE

\$20,699.17

Includes \$7532.38 RVP Account Funds

EDWARD JONES ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$12,763.06
Interest as of 09/26/2014	\$ 0.39
Ending Balance as of 9/26/2014	\$12,763.45



Check AIS membership status:

www.aislookup.org

Renew membership
(pay by check, Visa, or Mastercard)
www.irises.org

The American Iris Society

Membership Rates:

Annual Single \$25/Dual \$30
Triennial Single \$60/Dual \$75
Life Single \$1000/Dual \$1500
Annual E-membership \$15
(online Bulletin, no printed copy)
Life Senior (65+) 15% discount

Youth (< 19 y/o)
with Bulletin \$9
without Bulletin \$5

Send payments to:

Tom Gormley
P.O. Box 177

DeLeon Springs, FL 32130
Email: AIMemsec@irises.org



www.youth-iris.com

Please include youth's name,
address, email, and birthdate.



Gentle Reminder (Keppel 2013)



Stiletto (Johnson 2009)



What's New (Black 2011)

Nice Beard! *By Beth Balaney-Train, IRIS*

Photos taken by Beth Balaney-Train at the TBIS and Region 13 Spring 2014 Tours in Oregon and Washington.

“ I is for the Iris, Some think it’s kind of weird: Our State Flower has no hair, but yet it has a beard! ”

V is for Volunteer, A Tennessee Alphabet

The iris is Tennessee's State Flower, purple being the most commonly accepted color. It was designated as such by Legislature in 1933. The beard has come a long way since then.

Beards come in different colors. Some have tips of a different color from the base (SEVEN OF NINE Filardi 2010: red in throat, beard white tipped red in middle, sl. more blue than falls at end) while others with a different color at the end of the beard (GENTLE REMINDER Keppel 2013: beards light yellow in throat, lavender-white at end). There are beards that sport three different colors from the throat to the end such as SEVEN OF NINE and WHAT'S NEW (Black 2011: beard orange red in throat, palest lavender tipped orange in middle, light lavender at end). And then there are the beard protrusions. Beards can come raised and separated from the falls, with appendages in the form of horns, spoons, or flounces. The beard can extend beyond the usual position in the fall and form a short to long pointed spear or horn (I'M SO CONFUSED Deaton 2014), usually also bearded. It can form a filamentous projection that expands into a spoon-like feature. Slender horns can broaden throughout their length into petal-like or plumed appendages (WINGS AT DAWN Schreiner 2014).



Conjuration (Byers 1989)

First noted in the 1940's in some of the Sass and Mitchell seedlings, iris with odd protrusions from the end of the beards were considered deformed and were discarded. In May 1944, Lloyd Austin of Placerville, CA visited the garden of Sydney Mitchell. In this Berkeley, CA garden, Austin observed the beginnings of a horn on a ruffled plicata seedling (later introduced by Mitchell in 1945 as ADVANCE GUARD). Mitchell had no interest in such “monstrosities” and gave Austin several seedlings to use in his hybridizing experiments. After years of self and cross hybridizing, Austin introduced the first horned iris UNICORN in 1954 and by 1961, had introduced 38 of these three new “races” of horned, spooned, or flounced iris. He gave them the name “Space Age” iris presumably because of the popularity of the space program and Soviet Sputnik at that time.

Several hybridizers followed suit: Craig, Lohman, Mahoney, Osborne, Maryott, Byers, Hager, Zurbrigg, Hedgecock, G. Sutton, Lauer, Christopherson, D. Spoon, and Burseen to name a few. Improvements not only in form and substance but also in color patterns have been made. Some even rebloom. The appendages not only add beauty to the iris but also enhance the appearance of the bloom. The American Iris Society has recognized space age irises and has given the Dyke's Medal Award to THORNBIRD (Byers 1989) in 1997, CONJURATION (Byers 1989) in 1998, and MESMERIZER (Byers 1991) in 2002.

These days, the space age iris, once regarded a “monstrosity” and discarded, has become well loved by irisarians. It is now more popular and widely grown.

References: AIS, World of Irises (Warburton & Hamblen)



I'm So Confused (Deaton 2014)



Wings At Dawn (Schreiner 2014)



Thornbird (Byers 1989)



Seven of Nine (Filardi 2010)



While Sitting On A Bench at Schreiner's Iris Gardens

By Claire Schneider, SDIS

First published in Tall Talk Fall 2014. Reprinted with permission.

I was sitting on a wooden bench at Schreiner's Iris Gardens, completely overloaded with visions of iris. My jaw felt permanently stretched out of shape after a day of "Oooooohs" and "Ahhhhhs." The memory chip in my camera was full, my feet ached and I was yearning for a hot cup of coffee. So there I was, parked on that bench, eyes half closed. Not that I was tired of seeing iris. But my brain just couldn't process any more ruffles or colors or socket and branch counts.

Then, staring out over the planted beds, a sudden feeling of calmness swept over. I had been half-gazing at flowers and trees and shrubs through the interference of people wandering around. Yet despite my brain overload, I was suddenly feeling quiet and peaceful. Has this ever happened to you? You're sitting somewhere, body resting with brain in neutral gear and suddenly it's like being in a comfortable dream. You're smiling for no reason. Do you know what I mean? This sounds so weird but feels true. Even within the swirl and energy of visitors, sitting on that bench, feet and brain throbbing, I felt a calmness and serenity flow over. What features of nature causes that, I wondered? And is there a way to recreate this bench-induced-feeling in my own garden?

This is my big takeaway from the 2014 TBIS tours of the Vaughn, Keppel, Mid-America and Schreiner gardens. I want to create a space in my garden that will offer up a cloak of peacefulness. There probably are endless catalogs and gift shops devoted to this topic, but sitting on that bench in Schreiner's Garden, I wondered what elements I was seeing today that I could introduce into my own gardens.

Here's my starting list. Support and security, gaiety and smiles, motion and animation. A dark, solid backdrop can set a scene of support and security. Maybe a gracefully curving rock wall like the waterfall of succulents at Vaughn's Garden. At Mid-America it was the pathways lined with lush conifers and other shrubs. A gaiety of spirit can be inspired by random islands of rainbow colors. Circles and blocks of flowers like those at Schreiner's Garden where the iris were sprinkled with larkspur, columbine, pansy and violets. The exotic and erotic rhododendrons and azaleas like those at Mid-America can inspire smiles. A sense of freedom comes from watching the motion and movement of hummingbirds, butterflies and rabbits. Water features and seed feeders plus plenty of perching and nesting sites can invite the motions of animals. Last but not least, comfortable benches like those scattered through the Schreiner Gardens. Remember? That's how this whole idea began. Parked on one of those inviting benches in a beautiful setting I was swept over by a moment of serene relaxation and contentment.

Always, I will adore my iris and work hard to keep them happy and healthy. But after my visit to the gardens on the TBIS Spring Tour 2014, my intention is to "plant" two or three benches, each in just the right spot, so when seated, there is the opportunity for a sweet calmness. After all the work we do to create beautiful gardens wouldn't it be nice to include a beautiful place for our head and heart to flourish, too?



Photo credits:

above, Janis Shackelford

left, Beth Balaney-Train



2015 AIS National Convention

Iris in Wonderland

Portland, Oregon

May 18-23

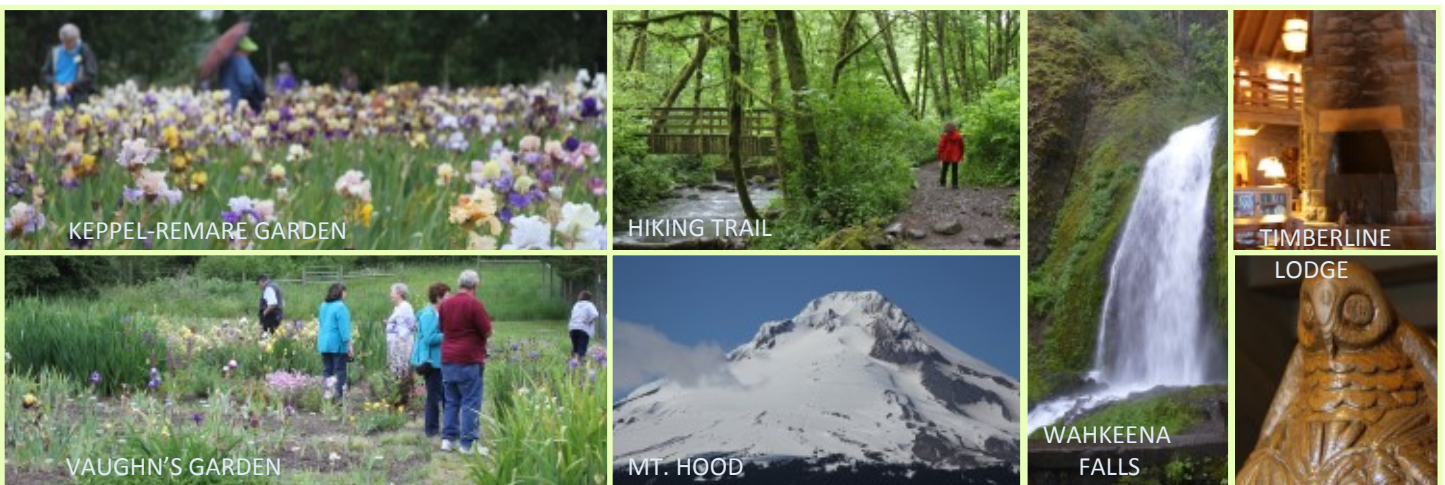
The Greater Portland Iris Society is the host for the 2015 American Iris Society Convention this spring.

Visit the convention website www.ais2015portlandconvention.com for the registration form, event schedule, information about the tour gardens, optional tours, and all the latest updates.

The Pacific Northwest and Portland have been referred to as “Iris Paradise”, “Iris Mecca”, and “Iris Haven”. With acres of irises, the area has been host to AIS conventions five times in the past. The highlight of the 2015 National Convention will be the tours of six host gardens on May 21-23. Convention attendees will go to two different gardens each day spending about 1.5 to 2 hours in each garden. The host gardens in Oregon are Mid-America Garden (Brooks), Miller’s Manor Gardens (Canby), Schreiner’s Iris Gardens (Salem) and Wildwood Gardens (Mollala). Aitken’s Salmon Creek Garden (Vancouver) and Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm (Washougal) are across the Columbia River in Washington.



There are two optional tours offered this year. One features The Oregon Garden (Silverton) and the iris gardens of Keppel and Vaughn (both in Salem). The other is a tour of the Columbia River Gorge along the Columbia River Highway. This area is famous for its hiking trails and accessible scenic waterfalls. This tour also stops at the Bonneville Dam and Fish Hatchery on Bradford Island. A great way to end the day is a visit to Timberline Lodge, a National Historic Landmark nestled at the foot of the iconic Mt. Hood.



AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting September 27, 2014



THANK YOU

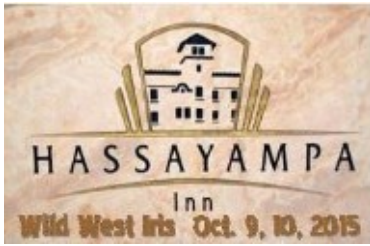
ORANGE COUNTY
IRIS and DAYLILY
CLUB

and



Huntington Library,
Art Collections and
Botanical Gardens





Prescott Area Iris Society

welcomes you to

WILD WEST IRIS

AIS Region 15, 2015 Fall Meeting

Friday Oct.9 & Saturday Oct.10

Oct 9, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Early Registration, Meet & Greet plus Book Signing with Kelly Norris

Oct. 10, 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Featuring Guest Speaker & Judges Training

Kelly D. Norris



"Intermediates and Border Bearded Irises"

How to Sort them Out

At the Hassayampa Inn, Marina Room, 122 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ
(Limited parking on the East side of Marina across from the hotel)

Re-bloomer Celebration Display: October is re-bloomer season. Let's celebrate our second bloom by bringing your rebloomers to the Fall Meeting. Attach Iris names to stalk.

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Fee: Adults-\$45, Youth-\$20. Registration includes: Friday evening snack; Saturday Continental Breakfast, and Buffet Lunch.

Name (s) of Attendees: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Local Iris Society Affiliation: _____

Judge's Training: YES () NO () Please indicate if you plan to participate in judges training.

I will be staying at a local hotel (name): _____

Amount of enclosed check: \$ _____. Number attending: _____. Please make checks payable to **Prescott Area Iris Society**; registration must be received by, September 30, 2015. Please mail check and a copy of this registration form to: **Sharon Luebkin, 10 Cienega Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301**

Questions contact Sharon Luebkin (623)-628-4860 (Cell), or Dennis Luebkin (623)-980-6627 (Cell);

E-mail: dlobkin@q.com . Visit our Website at <http://prescottirissociety.org> for more information.

Recommended Hotels:

Hassayampa Inn: Historic hotel (Special rates available for AIS/PAIS Fall Meeting attendees, must book before 9/19/15)
122 E Gurley Street Prescott, AZ 86301, (1-866-599-6675); <http://www.hassayampainn.com/default-en.html>

Spring Hill Suites Prescott: (best for handicapped accessibility, ½ mile from Hassayampa Inn) 200 East Sheldon Street,
Prescott, AZ 86301, (1-866-699-9805); <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-deals/prcsh-springhill-suites-prescott/>

Hotel St. Michaels: Historic hotel (Three Blocks from Hassayampa Inn along Whiskey Row) 205 W. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ
86301, (1-866-281-6817); <http://www.stmichaelhotel.com/> Other accommodations are available in the area.

Closest Airport: Phoenix-Sky Harbor International Airport

Shuttle service: From Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport to Prescott is available via **ARIZONA SHUTTLE** (928)-442-1000 option 31.
www.ArizonaShuttle.com .

The **Prescott Area Iris Society** welcomes you to the **AIS Region 15 2015 Fall Meeting** in beautiful and historic Prescott, Arizona. Located in the central mountains of Arizona 90 miles north of Phoenix, Prescott has a diverse climate variation based on altitude from approximately 4,000 ft. to 8,000 ft. within a radius of 40 miles making for a very diverse environment for growing Irises. Prescott founded in 1864 along with historic Fort Whipple has a rich history of mining and ranching. Whether you will be here for our Fall Meeting or will extend your stay over the longer weekend, there is much to see and do in the Prescott area and the surrounding country of Northern Arizona. Below are some suggested activities which might interest you during your stay with us. We look forward to seeing many of our AIS Region 15 friends from around Arizona and California. Join us for a weekend of fun, learning, and friendship.

Our guest speaker **Kelly D. Norris** is an author on iris horticulture, hybridizer, the former editor of "Irises, The Bulletin of the American Iris Society" and the current Horticultural Manager, Des Moines Botanical Garden in addition to growing his own iris gardens. He will be speaking on Intermediate and Border Bearded Irises and how to sort them out. Kelly will also be doing our judges training session. Our judges training is open to all whether you are in judges training or just want some valuable information on intermediate and border bearded irises.

Schedule of Events

Friday October 9th, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Hassayampa Inn Main Lobby

5:00-8:00 p.m. Early registration: Visit our registration table located in the side Parlor off the lobby.

6:00-8:00 p.m. Meet and Greet: A light snacks, not dinner, and bar will be available in the lobby.

6:00-8:00 p.m. Book Signing: Kelly Norris will be available to talk with us and to sign his book "*A Guide to Bearded Iris*".

Saturday, October 10th, 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Marina Room (adjacent to the hotel)

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration, Complimentary Continental Breakfast, Boutique open

8:30-9:30 a.m. Region 15 Board Meeting

9:30-10:30 a.m. General Meeting

10:30-12:00 p.m. Speaker: Kelly D. Norris, Intermediate and Border Bearded irises 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Buffet Lunch

1:00-2:30 p.m. Indoor Judges Training: Intermediate and Border Bearded Irises

2:30-3:30 p.m. Raffle and Silent Auction

3:30 p.m. End of meeting! Boutique Closes. Enjoy your weekend!!!

Prescott area sites to see

Courthouse Square, Whiskey Row, Downtown Historic District Shops, Galleries, Antique Shops and Eateries "Fall Fest in the Park" Arts & Crafts Festival, Court House Square (Saturday, Oct. 10th and Sunday Oct. 11th), Sharlot Hall Museum

Phippen Western Arts Museum

Highlands Center for Natural History, Prescott National Forest, Lynx Lake

Smoki Museum

Sculpture Garden and Iris Gardens at Yavapai College

Northern Arizona sites to see

Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon and the Red Rock Country

Verde Valley Scenic Rail Road, Clarkdale, AZ

Grand Canyon Rail Road, Williams, AZ (1-800-THE TRAIN)

Grand Canyon National Park

Tuzigoot National Monument Indian Ruins, Clarkdale, AZ

Flagstaff, Arizona Snow Bowl and San Francisco Peaks

Painted Desert and Petrified Forest National Monuments, Holbrook, AZ

Phoenix area sites to see

The Desert Botanical Gardens and Heard Museum

Spuria Irises *By Jim Hedgecock, President, Spuria Iris Society*

I wonder how many iris lovers even know what a spuria iris is. To go a little further, I am certain that very few people who profess to know what an iris is have even heard the term spuria irises. So I want to try to enlighten you, as iris lovers, about some of the truly wonderful traits of this family of irises.

First, spurias look different than the bearded irises. They don't have beards. The tall stately foliage resembles cattails. Here comes the first wonderful trait, they don't go over in the wind. They are fantastic as cut flowers. When cut in bud stage, the florets will open in perfect sequence. In some parts of the US, florists are starting to use them in arrangements.

The basic culture for spurias is dry ground or no wet feet except in rainy periods. Spurias will grow just about everywhere in the US. They will grow from the deep south to the farther reaches of Canada. They also will certainly grow on the west coast and east coast. In the cooler climates, they will bloom after the tall bearded irises. In the warmer states like southern Texas, Arizona, and California they will often bloom with the tall bearded irises.

Spurias love fertilizer. The only blends that they don't like are very heavy nitrogen blends like lawn fertilizer. They love a dressing of well rotted manure. I shutter [sic] to think what will happen if that is tried on bearded irises.

Now for the best culture topic of all. Spurias do not need to be split for years. Just leave them in place for 10, even 15 years. Take that, you tall bearded irises.

Spurias are shipped or divided in the fall months. Cold climates should plant in August. Warmer climates will be shipped in September or even October. Spuria rhizomes should never dry out. Most shippers will place rhizomes in a moist paper towel and ship them in plastic baggies. If you are transplanting, put the plants in a bucket of water with a few inches of water in it until you can plant them. They should be planted as soon as possible.

Landscapers are slowly discovering spurias, but the problem here, is just finding enough stock for large projects. There is not a better landscape iris on earth. Period.

OK, I have told you about spuria irises. If you do not grow them at all, hurry you need to try some this year. If you have some now, you need more. Finally, please join the Spuria Iris Society to keep up with what's going on in the world of spurias.

Source: <http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/2011/04/spuria-irises/html>



Hasarya SPU (Pete DeSantis 2000)

Photo by: Carole Buchheim



Vintage Wine SPU (Vallette 1974)

Photo by: Alex Stanton



Hocka Hoona SPU (P. DeSantis 2000)

Photo by: Carole Buchheim

Here's a personal invitation from all of us: Become a NEW member of the Spuria Iris Society, and as a token of our appreciation a recently introduced spuria iris (2010 or newer) will be mailed to you FREE (U.S. only). Free Spurias will be by David Niswonger, Lee Walker, Nancy Price, and Terry Aitken. Offer deadline is October 1, 2015 and while supplies last.



Jim Hedgecock
President



Andi Rivarola
VP



Debbie James
Treasurer



Kate Brewitt
Secretary

<http://www.spuriairissociety.org>

2015

Spuria Iris Society



Spuria iris 'Remembering Vic' by Lee Walker (2004)

Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) Irises – In Search of the ‘Little Ones’

by Terry Laurin, TWIKI Photo Manager

As Lewis Carroll’s Alice once pondered in ‘Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland’, “What is the use of a book without pictures or conversations?”

This sentiment now holds true for websites, in particular the AIS Iris Encyclopedia, also known as the AIS TWIKI or TWIKI. If you have been on the TWIKI you will know that descriptions and photographs are provided for as many iris cultivars as possible. These descriptions have a greater impact if accompanied by a picture. However last year it was determined that 85% of the MDB cultivars had only one or no picture at all. At this point the Dwarf Iris Society (DIS) would like to make an appeal for pictures to anyone who grows MDBs...or ‘the little ones’.

Do you have pictures of MDBs in a photo album, or in an old shoebox, taken when Kodachrome was the medium of the day? Do you have pictures of MDBs taken in your garden that just sit on a SD card or computer? If you answered ‘yes’ to either of these questions you should read on.

A list of the MDB cultivars which require pictures has been added to the Ontario Iris Society website, <https://sites.google.com/site/ontarioirissociety/>, under Miniature Dwarf Iris Picture Project. You don’t have to limit yourself to the irises on the list. If you have any pictures of MDB irises you can upload them to the TWIKI. Single flower or clump shots are acceptable.

If you have digital photographs you can add them to the AIS TWIKI yourself. Simply register for a user ID and password and you will be allowed to add pictures. To do this, find the cultivar and click on the ‘attach’ button. You will be guided through the process. Please ensure the picture you are uploading matches the description given.

If you have paper photographs and you have a scanner, you can scan them to your computer as JPGs and upload them to the TWIKI as above.

If you have slides, and you know someone with a slide scanner, you can have them converted to JPGs and added to the TWIKI. According to Janet Smith, AIS Coordinator of Digital Programs/Slides, try different dpi (dots per inch) settings. “Some slides don’t like 600 dpi or above. Some work better at 300 dpi. If you only want the photo for computer work you can go lower than 300 dpi. Take one slide and see what it looks like at different settings.”

A word of caution, please do not upload pictures that are not your own without the owner’s permission. This is against TWIKI policy.

If you don’t have the time to upload but want to share your pictures you can send your JPGs to me via email (tlaurin@rogers.com). If you want a copyright on the picture you can do this yourself or let me know what copyright you want and I will enter it for you. JPGs should be 500 to 1000 pixels in size.

Your assistance with this project will go a long way towards raising the profile of MDBs on the AIS TWIKI. If you have any questions, please contact me at tlaurin@rogers.com.

Region 15 Presidents' Reports

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

By Dan Dourney, President

Hi!

In December, we swore in new officers Vice President Pam Montelongo, Secretary Chris Kreutel and Treasurer Annmarie Wren then we had our Christmas party.

In January, Master Gardener Susan Bowman talked about vegetable gardening in the high desert.

In February, I talked about potting iris for our sales.

On March 27th to the 29th, we will be selling iris at the Home Show at the Antelope Valley Fair Grounds. At our meeting Sharan Wiesenberger will do a "hands on" talk about floral arrangement.

April will be our show and sale.



Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society members at the AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting 9/27/2014.

Photo by: Beth Balaney-Train



Inland Region Iris Society Report

By Cathy Coache, President

This time of year, the INLAND REGION IRIS SOCIETY starts to come alive after a few months of having hardly anything to do other than taking care of the club garden and trying to scrounge help!!

Our February meeting starts with having Hugh Stout as a guest speaker. March will be spent researching ideas for arrangements for our very own Flower Show on April 18th at the Goeske Center in Riverside. The next weekend, April 25th and 26th will be spent selling rhizomes and helping at the Riverside Flower Show and Garden Tour at the Elks Lodge. TWO days of fun selling and showing and trying to win raffles!!

Our last hooray during the spring was in Yucaipa. This venue was our biggest money maker for the year. However, if you noticed my use of past tense, you are correct in assuming that this year the event has been cancelled. So we shall see if we can recoup some of our monies by working the Lavender Festival and at a Farmers' Market in Yucaipa.



Visit the Inland Region Iris Society on





Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

By Ben Schleuning, President

LVIS board met in December to set the schedule of meetings/activities for 2015. Our focus is on increasing membership and participation. We have a meeting/event scheduled for eleven months with December being our only silent month. We have 23 members with 8 of them being AIS members.

We started 2015 with our 3rd annual New Year's dinner at AJ Spurs in Buelton. Our meeting on the 19th of January was a business meeting. Today, February 15th, we followed our meeting with a video presentation by Kathy Chilton on prepping iris for judging. We are planning varied special programs throughout the year, tentatively:

22 March, 1:30 @ Texas Cattle Co., Lunch, program Katharina Notarianni: Photographing Iris

25 April, 11:00-4:00 & 26 April, 12:00-4:00 Annual Iris Show @ Lompoc Library's Grossman Gallery

17-23 May, AIS Convention, Portland, OR

7 June, 1:00 @ 517 Mercury Ave., Potluck Social

25 July, 10:00-1:00 @ Texas Cattle Co., Annual Rhizome Sale

16 August, 1:00 @ 517 Mercury Ave., BBQ and distribution of new rhizomes and door prizes

20 September, 1:30 @ Texas Cattle Co., Lunch, program by Bonne Scott (program TBA)

18 October, 1:30 @ Texas Cattle Co., Lunch, election of officers

15 November, 1:30 @ Texas Cattle Co., Lunch, program by Julie Davies: slide show of Russia

We are starting to make preparations for hosting the Region 15 Fall Meeting in 2016.



Visit the Lompoc Valley Iris Society on



Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

By Lois Farr, President

We enjoy our monthly meetings. Our traditions add a nice predictability, such as our Annual Christmas Potluck and Gift Exchange.

January started our new year with a much needed business meeting to elect officers, update by-laws, and appoint new job positions. We discussed various items of concern and we look forward to 2015 as a year to grow, strengthen, and deepen our club activities and relationships.

This month, February, we shared a speaker with our other clubs – thank you for the opportunity. Hugh Stout, from Stout Gardens at Dancing Tree in Oklahoma visited our club and shared iris and daylily from a southern perspective. Four first time visitors were in attendance, so it was a perfect way to wow them into membership. We very much enjoyed Hugh’s presentation.

Master Gardeners will provide speakers for two of the upcoming months. We may walk into the meeting feeling like drop outs, but when we walk out, it’s like being in college! Those Master Gardeners truly do live up to their titles, in a wide range of all things garden.

Then of course, in April Here comes Green Scene! Our moment of fame, as we represent ourselves among an epic gathering of gardeners, commercial and non-profit growers. It is an exciting time and rigorous too, but well worth the effort. Many other vendors watch us as we carry dainty rhizomes and daylilies, while they are hauling heavy pots of dirt to keep their plants alive. Haha! Aren’t we the lucky ones, both coming and going.

This year it’s all about growth in everything we do. Wishing you the same.



Lois Farr (center) with Katharina Notarianni (SDIS, left) and Jan Lauritzen (SFVIS, right) at the AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting last September 2014.

Photo by: Beth Balaney-Train



Prescott Area Iris Society Report

By Dan Schroeder, President

Our plans for a very informative, fun and exciting Western Fall Trek in historic Prescott continues. The Trek will occur October 9th and 10th. In this issue, you will find information on the Fall Trek and Registration. Our current membership as of January 2015 now stands at 76 adults, 2 regular youth and 27 youth Scout members, for a total of 105 members. Our new PAIS Executive Board for 2015 consists of: President- Dan Schroeder, Vice President-Barb McCurry, Secretary-Joella Cheek, Treasure-Eugene Zielinski. Dennis Luebkin remains on the Board as Past President in an advisory capacity.

Our goal to create a learning experience educating our members and the public on iris culture continues. Our society has remained very active in our public service projects along with our events and fund raising activities which not only support the society but also support our community outreach programs in the Prescott Quad City Area. Our programs in the Prescott area strengthen our ties and partnership with other organizations and the community which allows PAIS to provide information on Iris horticulture and help in the beautification of our community. These programs consist of the following:

1. **Yavapai College Sculpture Garden:** Continue with the maintenance and improvements to the Dykes Medal Iris Garden and other garden areas.
2. **Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Gardens:** Continue maintenance and expansion of the historic iris plantings.
3. **Citizens Cemetery Restoration and Iris Reclamation Project:** Continuation of support for this restoration project in the removal, replanting, and sale of the irises to support the restoration.
4. **Growing Irisarians Youth Education Program:** Our PAIS youth membership program continues to be successful both in the schools and with Scouting groups.
5. **Guest Lecture Series:** We are again presenting a three part iris lecture series at Yavapai College for the OLLI continuing education group in April and May.
6. **Garden Tour:** Independent home garden tours will be offered this year in April and May.
7. **Kaleidoscope of Color:** The Kaleidoscope of Color Festival of Iris and Potted Iris Sale will be held May 2nd.
Iris care classes will be held during the exhibit.
8. **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Memorial Gardens:** The New Fire Fighters Memorial Gardens to the 19 Prescott fire fighters killed in the Yarnell Fire began in October of 2014 will be dedicated this Spring. Additional irises will be added this spring to complete the memorial.
9. **Our schedule of other events include:**
Marking Party will be held on July 18.
Sharlot Hall Rhizome Sale will be July 25 and 26
Yarnell Rhizome sale will be August 1.
Iris care class and new members training will be August 15.
Ice Cream Social, Silent Auction and Photo Contest will be September 19.
Fall Rebloomer's Potluck will be November 7
Several planting and cleanup days will be held at the Sculpture Garden, Sharlot Hall Museum, and the Citizens Cemetery during the year.

Visit the Prescott Area Iris Society on

and at prescottirissociety.org





San Diego Iris Society Report

By Claire Schneider, President

Hi Everyone: Here's what's been happening since September 2014. We auctioned off the Region 15 guest iris at the October meeting. Because there were so few rhizomes this year, we made the event a silent auction. It was a smooth operation, all the iris were sold. At our November meeting, we heard Jill Bonino's program about her adventure judging iris in Italy last year. Her slides of Italy and flowers were great. After her presentation, Jill conducted a classroom judges training on tall bearded iris. In December we had our annual Holiday party at the home of Pat and Richard Wurtele, a massive potluck headed by roast turkey and ham. The January program was a Roundtable Discussion where members asked questions about iris and garden. The program began with a 15 minute infomercial about SDB iris including the demonstration of how to divide and repot an overgrown pot of SDBs.

Future programs for SDIS include the annual Birthday Celebration (February 14), presentation on Louisiana Iris by Janis Shackelford and Bill Molnar (March 8), tour of member gardens (April TBA), Spring Show and Sale in Balboa Park (May 2 & 3) and Awards program (June 14). SDIS has a summer hiatus with no meetings in July and August. Our Fall Rhizome Sale will be in Balboa Park (September 13 & 20) using the rhizomes we dig and clean during the first week of September.

If you have any questions about the events of the San Diego Iris Society, check out our website at <http://www.sandiegoirissociety.org/>

Photos by Katharina Notarianni



Visit the San Diego Iris Society website at

SanDiegoIrisSociety.org



San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

By Debbie Babuscio-James, President

Since the last newsletter the SFVIS finished off 2014 with a Holiday Party featuring “The Other Reindeer” Singers as the evening’s entertainment. They even re-wrote a Christmas carol and made it all about Irises, which was quite entertaining and a bit comical.

We started off the year having to reschedule the January meeting since it fell on the 1st. Which then resulted in a huge mix-up at the club where we meet. To make a long story short, we all hung out in the parking lot and then went home as it was 7:00 pm and the square dancers were going to be in there until 9:00 pm. So I apologized and thanked everyone and rescheduled the speaker for July. In March we will have an instructional demonstration on floral arranging and hopefully encourage a few new members to enter the show.

April is the busy month for all Iris Clubs and ours is no exception. The first Thursday of the month is our club meeting which will feature horticulture display tips and techniques. We will have each member place a stalk in the display tubes to simulate an iris show. Then three of the clubs AIS judges will judge the show and explain to the group the whys and why nots of winning a blue ribbon.

Our Spring Show is on the second week of April, the 11th and 12th. The mall where we have held the show for several years has declined and the main anchor store has closed. We have decided to leave the mall and go to a Nursery and Garden Center. They will help with publicity not to mention the customers and foot traffic, I think we would be seen by more people and hopefully increase our membership.

In May we will have our potted iris sale at the Farmer’s Market and possibly a second one in July. The May meeting will be club member and AIS judge Andi Rivarola who will give a program on Spuria which will include a one hour judges training. June brings us to our Awards potluck and Election of Officers for the 2015/2016 term.



Holiday Party



Games Night



Region 15 iris auction at Renee Fraser's

Photos by Mary Ann Abrahms

Visit the San Fernando Valley Iris Society on
and at SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org





Southern California Iris Society Report

By Mike Monninger, President

Southern California Iris Society (SCIS) held our annual bearded and beardless auctions in August and October, respectively. Both auctions exceeded the amount paid for the iris.

All good things come to an end and SCIS was notified that we were not invited to the 2015 Spring Garden Show at South Coast Plaza. There went our big sale for the year so we will have to increase sales at our Iris Show and investigate other potential sale venues. We had a great 14 year run at South Coast Plaza and I hope change invigorates us.

Our Holiday party was held at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Duarte. A short business meeting was held prior to the meal and a gift exchange followed after the meal. A lot of fun occurred with stealing of gifts until they are frozen with the third owner.

Bill Gerald donated another of his stunning computer enhanced iris photos for a door prize. His new software gives the photo the look of brush strokes.

The January meeting was all about potential new sales venues to replace South Coast Plaza. Lots of ideas to investigate in the months ahead. We definitely need to push sales at our show by having enough stock to generate upwards of \$2000 in sales. This might be a dream but you can't sell without product.

SCIS's Iris Show will be April 11-12 at the Los Angeles Arboretum. The daylily and bulb society will join us making the show more attractive to the public.

Sadly we lost a life member, but more importantly he was an active member. George Speck passed on October 3, 2014. He was a tireless worker and always willing to do whatever was needed. We miss George and will miss him even more in the future.



Visit the Southern California Iris Society on





Sun Country Iris Society Report

By Kyria Peavy, President

The weather has been wonderful so far this year in Phoenix. As the warmer temperatures approach, anticipation of seeing our first spring blooms increases. We're looking very forward to the bloom season and all the events planned for 2015.

One of the areas of focus this year for Sun Country Iris Society is increasing interest and involvement in the judges training program. Our first meeting of the year included a judges training on "Organizing and Presenting an Iris Show" and our March program will include a judges training on Tall Bearded Iris. We're also hoping to add two "in garden" training opportunities in April. Our members have responded positively and 10 members so far have entered the program!

We have several events planned for this bloom season. Please accept this invitation to attend our meetings and events listed below. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at the Valley Garden Center, 1809 N. 15th Avenue in Phoenix.

March 29 – Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Home Tour and Street Fair

April 4 - Early Iris Exhibit at Summerwinds Nursery in Phoenix

April 7 – General Meeting: Preparing for Spring Show

April 18 – Annual Iris Show at Spectrum Mall (Formerly known as Christown Mall)

April 25 – Tour of Darol Jurn's garden in Sedona

May 2 – Late Iris Exhibit at Harper's Nursery in Scottsdale

May 5 – Awards celebration and Photo Contest

June 6 & 13 – Forest Lakes Garden Tour

Photos by K. Peavy



Visit the Sun Country Iris Society website at

SunCountryIrisSociety.org



Tucson Area Iris Society Report

By E. Kristee West, President

Our theme this year is "50 years and Growing Strong". Riley Probst of Fleur De Lis Gardens gave a program on "Rebloom in Every Garden" last February. We have an exhibit in April and a sale in September.

Elected officers for 2015 are: E. Kristee West– President and Secretary, Kevin Kartchner– Vice President, and Fred Thorpe– Treasurer.

Both Sandy Britain and Bert Detwiler passed away late last year.

Photos by Tony Kutz & E. Kristee West



Visit the Tucson Area Iris Society website at

TucsonIris.org

Minutes of the AIS Region 15 Winter Board Meeting

February 7, 2015

Canoga Park Women's Club, Canoga Park, CA

Meeting called to order at 10:35 by RVP Debbie James. She welcomed everyone and introduced the members of the executive committee. Attendees signing in were:

From SFVIS, Jane Troutman and RVP Debbie James; from High Desert Iris & Daylily Society, Sue Brown, Ellen O'Toole, Ann Marie Wier, Pamela Montenlongo, Dan Dourney, Chris Kreutel; from Lompoc Valley, Carol Huffman; from Inland Region Iris Society, Claudia Dean and Cathy Coache; from Southern California Iris Society, Mike Monninger; from Prescott Area Iris Society, Marge Larson, Dan Schroeder; from San Diego Iris Society, Claire Schneider and from Sun Country Iris Society, Kyria Peavy. There were no members from OCIDC and Tucson in attendance.

The minutes from the Fall Board Meeting of 9/27/14 were read and approved.

The proposed budget for 2015 was discussed, then accepted and passed. The audit was completed by Jill, who also sent the taxes. We are very grateful to her.

Sue Brown reported that there are 26 judges, but more are still needed, and several clubs are offering some training.

The newsletter editor will be Jill Bonino for the Fall 2015 issue, then Beth Balaney-Train will take over.

The historian and awards positions are vacant/open.

Many of the affiliate reports can be seen on the AIS Region 15 website, following are some of the highlights as reported: Several shows are scheduled for April and may need to be changed if there are not enough judges.

INLAND – Hugh Stout will speak in Feb, and a flower arrangement presentation will occur in March.

SAN DIEGO – successful auction, Hugh Stout will speak, Show on May 2nd and 3rd at Balboa Park.

SOUTHERN CA – auctions went well, looking for new sales venue, Bill Gerald donated a computer enhanced iris photo as a door prize with the look of brush strokes, show will be April 11-12 at the LA Arboretum.

HI DESERT- show is scheduled as well as master gardening program.

LOMPOC – small club, but a horticulture display is scheduled.

PRESCOTT –many activities with the sculpture garden, historic planting at the museum, and a cemetery project. A popularity show will be held the first week-end in May.

SAN FERNANDO – a one day show, and May 7th Spuria training

SUN COUNTRY – show on April 18, and a judges training in March.

ORANGE COUNTY and TUCSON did not send representatives.

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There is NO Region 15 Spring Trek – most will be attending the AIS National Convention in Portland.

The trek wheel is full until 2018, and next year San Fernando Valley Iris Society will be hosting the spring trek. Randy Squires' garden and several others are planted and will be ready.

This year's Fall Trek will be held in Prescott, AZ at the Hassayampa Inn – an information sheet and application was distributed to be taken back to the affiliates. Kelly Norris will be the speaker.

Please send newsletters via email to region15rvp@gmail.com

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. followed by lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Larson, Secretary

Minutes of the AIS Region 15 Fall Board Meeting

September 27, 2014

Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am by RVP Winona Stevenson. Attendees signing in were:

From Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society – Winona Stevenson RVP, Cheryl Deaton Treasurer, Sue Brown, Barbara Janssen, Ellen O’Toole, Pamela Montelongo; from SFVIS – Debbie James Asst. RVP, Jan Lauritzen, Jill Bonino, Jane Troutman; from So Cal Iris – Elaine Monninger, Mike Monninger; from IRIS – Beth Train, Mason Train, DeDe Utter, Carol Morgan, Claudia Dean, Cathy Coache, Chuck Brooker, Barbara Brooker, Ann Hernandez; from San Diego Iris – Claire Schneider; from Prescott Area Iris – Sharon Luebkin; from Lompoc Iris Society – Ben Schleuning, Flo Schleuning; from Orange County Iris & Daylily Club – Lois Farr, Peggy Sheldon, Jeannie Moeckel; there were no members from Sun Country or Tucson in attendance.

RVP Winona welcomed everyone and introduced the members of the executive committee. Secretary Janis Shackelford could not attend and Cheryl Deaton was filling in as Secretary.

Minutes from the Spring 2014 meeting were published in the Fall issue of the Region newsletter. Ben Schleuning motioned to approve the minutes as published, 2nd by Sue Brown. Motion approved.

Treasurer’s report was read by Cheryl Deaton. Motion to approve the report for audit was made by Debbie James, seconded by Ben Schleuning. Motion approved.

Judges’ Training report was given by Debbie James. We have lost 5 judges and gained 2 new judges. Anyone interested in becoming a judge, see Debbie. We need more judges.

Patrick Orr provided a report from Arizona. We have 280 AIS members.

Jane Troutman reported that we have plenty of awards for the next few years.

Cheryl Deaton reported that currently there are 4 youth members with the potential of gaining 28 cub scouts from Prescott.

Temporary editor Debbie James did a wonderful job on the Fall issue of the Region Newsletter. She suggests that each affiliate volunteer to do one issue until a new Editor is found. Beth Balaney-Train volunteered to do the Spring (April) issue and Jill Bonino has volunteered to do the Fall 2015 issue.

The position of Historian is still vacant.

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society – the report is the same as published in the newsletter.

Inland (IRIS) – Cathy Coache, co-president, reported that they had a successful sale last weekend and netted @ \$2500 for their club.

Lompoc- President Ben Schleuning's wife gave his report.

Prescott – Sharon Luebkin reported that they are “this close” to enrolling a cub scout troop with 24 members as a CIP. She provided a written report from President Dennis Luebkin, and passed out flyers inviting everyone to the 2015 Fall Meeting in Prescott, AZ.

San Diego – President Claire Schneider stated that the club earned @\$1899 in a 2 day sale and their membership is growing.

OCI&DC – President Lois Farr acknowledged Winona for all her hard work, welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. Club membership is holding steady. Lots of good speakers on variety of topics keep interest alive. The Green Scene was okay – deemed a success. Goals are to grow members and gardens, and to maybe get an AP Biology group as a CIP.

SFVIS- President Debbie James requested that anyone who had Pete DeSantis' irises contact her. Pete's granddaughter is trying to gather at least one each of his introductions. Unfortunately when Pete died his home was sold and the irises were not retained.

SoCal – same as in newsletter.

Sun Country – in newsletter. No members were present at the meeting.

Tucson – no report. Not sure what is happening with this affiliate. They seem to be doing okay but do not communicate with the Region in any way.

Old Business – none

New Business – Please send your club membership roster to Region 15 Membership Chair, Patrick Orr at irisdude@msn.com.

The purchase of irises from the Dallas Convention was not considered very successful as a fund raiser for the Region. The condition of the irises was very poor and it was decided not to order from Dallas for the 2015 fundraising. It was felt that we should purchase irises from the growers that have been generous in the past with club orders.

Ben Schleuning moved that we purchase \$1000 worth of irises from 4 gardens (\$250 each); Mystic Lake, Superstition, Mid America and Larry Lauer. Motion seconded by Mike Monninger. The motion was approved.

Nominations chair, Claire Schneider, presented the slate of officers:

RVP - Debbie James; Asst. RVP – Sue Brown; Treasurer – Carol Huffman; Secretary – Marge Larson. Voting on the new officers will take place at the General meeting.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Deaton, Acting Secretary

AIS Region 15 Fall General Meeting

September 27, 2014

Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA

RVP Winona Stevenson called the General Membership meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Roll call of those present – Hi Desert 7 members, IRIS – 14 members, Lompoc – 2 members, Prescott – 3 members, San Diego – 2 members, SFVIS – 5 members, SoCal – 7 members, Orange County – 7 members, Sun Country – 0 , Tucson – 0, Region 14 guest speakers Riley Probst and Shirley Trio-Probst

Winona thanked our hosts, Orange County Iris & Daylily Club for holding the event. The Trek wheel was presented as follows:

Spring 2015 – no trek due to AIS National Convention in Oregon

Fall 2015 – Prescott Area Iris Society Prescott, AZ

Spring 2016 – San Fernando Valley Iris Society Burbank, CA (?)

Fall 2016 – Lompoc Valley Iris Society Lompoc, CA

Spring 2017 – Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society Lancaster, CA

Fall 2017 – Southern California Iris Society TBD

Spring 2018 – Sun Country Iris Society Phoenix, AZ

Fall 2018 – San Diego Iris Society TBD

Jill Bonino volunteered to audit the books

Claire Schneider presented the slate of officers: RVP Debbie James, Asst. RVP Sue Brown, Treasurer Carole Huffman, Secretary Marge Larson.

Claire asked for nominations from the floor. John Wight moved to accept and elect the slate as presented. Jill Bonino seconded. All in favor. The slate was elected.

Debbie James presented Winona with an RVP pin with our thanks and appreciation for all the hard work she had done in her 3 years as RVP.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Deaton, Acting Secretary

Happy
50th year
to

Tucson Area Iris Society!



SLEW OF GOLD (Schreiner 2013)

Photo by: Beth Balaney-Train

AIIS Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

Burgard Iris Farm (805)835-3965

Catherine & Emil Burgard
840 Climbing Tree Ln
Templeton, CA 93465
burgardfarms@yahoo.com

Hummingbird Iris Garden

(928)777-8110
Linda Rossman
5942 Old Black Canyon Hwy
Prescott, AZ 86303
lindarae@cableone.net

Kary Iris Gardens (480)949-0253

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

Lakeside Gardens (760)378-3841

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

Mystic Lake Gardens

(951)928-2337
Paul & Carole Buchheim
22177 Polley Street
Nuevo, CA 92567
www.mysticlakegardens.com
cbuchheim@verizon.net

Squires Iris Garden (818)892-1516

Randy Squires
15906 Chase Street
North Hills, CA 91343
randyisiris@juno.com

Stanton Iris Garden (760)415-3248

Alex & Kitty Stanton
Lilac Vista Drive
Valley Center, CA
stantoniris@gmail.com

Wild Oaks Farms

(909)307-4565
Tony & Cheryl Hicks
32036 Live Oak Canyon Rd
Redlands, CA 92373
wildoakfarms.redlands@gmail.com

AIS Region 15 - 2015 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
MARCH	3	IRIS Design and Horticulture Show Preparation by K. Heard	Riverside, CA
	5	SFVIS Instructional Demo on Floral Arranging	Canoga Park, CA
	8	SDIS Louisiana Iris by Janis Shackelford & Bill Molnar	Lakeside, CA
	10	OCIDC Meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	14	TAIS Advice on Displaying Iris at a Show by E. Kristee West	Tucson, AZ
	21	HDIDS "Hands On" Talk on Floral Arrangement	Lancaster, CA
	22	LVIS Photographing Iris by Katharina Notarianni	Lompoc, CA
	27-29	HDIDS Iris Sale at the Home Show, AV Fairgrounds	Lancaster, CA
	28	SCIS Meeting at the Bamboo Room, LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
	29	Sun Country Iris Society Encanto-Palmcroft Home Tour	Phoenix, AZ
APRIL	2	SFVIS Horticulture Display Tips & Techniques	Canoga Park, CA
	4	Sun Country Iris Society Early Iris Exhibit at Summerwinds Nursery	Phoenix, AZ
	7	IRIS Meeting	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Preparing for Spring Show	Phoenix, AZ
	9	PAIS Sculpture Garden workday	Prescott, AZ
	11	PAIS General Meeting 2:30 pm	Prescott, AZ
		TAIS "50 Years & Growing Strong" Iris Exhibition	Tucson, AZ
	11-12	SCIS Iris Show at the LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
		SFVIS Spring Show (Green Thumb Nursery)	Canoga Park
	12	SDIS Garden Tour, potluck luncheon, and "It's Show Time"-preparing iris for spring show	San Diego, CA
	14	OCIDC Meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	17	PAIS: OLLI Class #1 Yavapai College	Prescott, AZ
	18	HDIDS Meeting	Lancaster, CA
		IRIS "Days Gone By" Iris Show and Sale	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Annual Iris Show	Phoenix, AZ
	18-19	OCIDC Iris Sale at the Green Scene, Fullerton Arboretum	Fullerton, CA
	19	IRIS In-Garden Judges Training by Paul and Carole Buchheim at Mystic Lake Gardens	Nuevo, CA
	24	PAIS: OLLI Class #2 Yavapai College	Prescott, AZ
25	Sun Country Iris Society Darol Jurn's Garden Tour	Sedona, AZ	
25-26	IRIS Annual Rhizome and Potted Iris Sale at the Riverside Flower Show (Elks Lodge)	Riverside, CA	
	LVIS Annual Iris Show	Lompoc, CA	
MAY	1-3	SDIS Spring Show and Sale at Casa del Prado	San Diego, CA
	2	PAIS Iris Exhibit and Potted Iris Sale at Mortimer Nursery	Prescott, AZ
		PAIS OLLI Class #3 Mortimer Nursery	Prescott, AZ
		Sun Country Iris Society Late Iris Exhibit at Harper's Nursery	Scottsdale, AZ
	5	IRIS Meeting	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Soc. Awards Celebration & Photo Contest	Phoenix, AZ
	7	SFVIS Judges Training on Spuria Irises by Andi Rivarola	Canoga Park, CA
	9	SDIS "Garden Party of the Century" Vendors Booth	San Diego, CA
		TAIS Meeting	Tucson, AZ
12	OCIDC Meeting	Garden Grove, CA	

Month	Day	Event	Location
MAY	18-23	AIS National Convention "IRIS IN WONDERLAND"	Portland, OR
JUNE	2	IRIS Election of Officers	Riverside, CA
	4	SFVIS Awards & Election of Officers	Canoga Park, CA
	6 & 13	Sun Country Iris Society Forest Lakes Garden Tour	Forest Lakes, AZ
	7	LVIS Potluck Social	Lompoc, CA
	9	PAIS Embry Riddle workday	Prescott, AZ
	14	SDIS Awards, Elections and Ice Cream Social	San Diego, CA
	27	SCIS Meeting at the Bamboo Room, LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
JULY	7	IRIS Installation of Officers	Riverside, CA
	25	LVIS Annual Rhizome Sale	Lompoc, CA
AUGUST	25-26	PAIS Rhizome Sale at the Sharlot Hall Museum	Prescott, AZ
	2	PAIS Yarnell Rhizome Sale	Prescott, AZ
	4	IRIS Members Only Iris Auction	Riverside, CA
	8	TAIS Region 15 Iris Auction	Tucson, AZ
SEPTEMBER	16	LVIS BBQ, distribution of new rhizomes & door prizes	Lompoc, CA
	1	IRIS Region 15 Rhizome Sale	Riverside, CA
	13 & 20	SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale at Casa del Prado, Balboa Park	San Diego, CA
	19	PAIS Ice Cream Social, Silent Auction & Photo Contest	Prescott, AZ
	19-20	IRIS Annual Fall Rhizome Sale at WMWD	Riverside, CA
	20	LVIS Program by Bonne Scott	Lompoc, CA
OCTOBER	26	SCIS Meeting at the Bamboo Room, LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
	9-10	AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting hosted by the Prescott Area Society at Hassayampa Inn	Prescott, AZ

AIS REGION 15 AFFILIATE SOCIETY MEETINGS

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society (HDIDS) meetings : 1-3 pm 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 (IRIS) meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 pm at the Janet Goeske Center, 5257 Sierra Street, Riverside, CA. [facebook.com/InlandRegionIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/InlandRegionIrisSociety) or www.inlandiris.org

For Lompoc Valley Iris Society meetings see above calendar and visit [facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety)

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club (OCIDC) meetings: 2nd Tuesday every month at 7:30 pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove, CA.

Prescott Area Iris Society (PAIS) meetings are held from 1:30-3:30 pm (except as noted above) at Yavapai Title, 1235 E. Gurley at Sheldon intersection Prescott, AZ. Calendar of events posted to PAIS website at www.prescottirissociety.org Visit their facebook page.

San Diego Iris Society (SDIS) meetings: 2nd Sunday of most months of the year at 1 pm (unless a special event is planned) at 9906 Maine Avenue, Lakeside, CA. No meetings in July and August. www.sandigoirissociety.org

San Fernando Valley Iris Society (SFVIS) meetings: 1st Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Canoga Park Women's Club, 7401 Jordan Avenue, Canoga Park, CA. sanfernandovalleyirissociety.org or [facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety)

Southern California Iris Society (SCIS), holds regularly scheduled meetings at the Los Angeles Arboretum in the Lecture Hall (known as the Bamboo Room) at 10 am. Meetings are on the 4th Saturday in the months of January, February, March, June, September and October. The Los Angeles Arboretum is located at 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA. See [facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety)

Sun Country Iris Society meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at the Valley Garden Center, 1809 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ. www.suncountryiris.org

Tucson Area Iris Society (TAIS): See schedule above. Calendar of events posted to the TAIS website at www.tucsoniris.org

Please send updates and corrections to aisregion15editor@gmail.com

Firefighters Memorial Gardens Update

By Dennis Luebkin, PAIS

The Prescott Area Iris Society in participation with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, AZ, initiated in 2014 the Firefighters Memorial Gardens, dedicated to the 19 firefighters who were killed fighting the Yarnell Hill Fire 2013. The Memorial which is a tribute to honor the fallen and one survivor consists of walkways, benches, lighting and gardens containing Iris, daffodils and daylilies to extend the bloom season. The gardens are located at the entrance to the Hass Interfaith Memorial Chapel on the campus. Iris have been chosen and planted which have the names of the traits of first responders for each of the 19 men such as Rare Quality, Role Model, Valor, to name a few. Other irises which will be scattered throughout the area will have the names of fire related items such as Fire Breather, Blazing, Beacon, Spark, and Molten Embers. Other irises with spiritual names will also be used such as Immortality, Heavenly Encore, and Stairway to Heaven. Combinations of both historic and contemporary irises are being used. Irises from across the United States were donated for the memorial. PAIS has been invited by the university to create other memorial garden areas in the future.



Embry Riddle University Memorial Garden site before construction (above) and after with partial planting (below).

Photos by: Dennis Luebkin

Sharlot Hall Historic Iris Gardens

By Dennis Luebkin, PAIS

Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Gardens, initiated by the Prescott Area Iris Society in cooperation with the Sharlot Hall Museum, will showcase historic iris from the early settlement period of Arizona with iris from the years 1497 to 1943 which was the year that the Arizona historian Sharlot Hall died. These gardens will show the progression of the collection and early hybridization of iris from the early 16th century to the mid 20th centuries. The Sharlot Hall Museum offers the historical and cultural emphasis which matches the time frames of the historic irises to be displayed and preserved there. It is also a venue where the iris can be displayed appropriately by time period along with the architecture and culture of that period. The location of this venue is in the heart of the historic downtown tourist district. The museum's location both suits a place to display these gardens and the iris provide an additional draw for the museum during the bloom season. The project was initiated in late 2013 into 2014 and will resume again in the spring of 2015 with plantings of Victorian Period Irises. Historic Irises have been donated from Region 15 members and HIPS members across the US and Canada. This Historic Iris Garden will be the only public historic iris garden located in the Southwest US.



PAIS members at work at Sharlot Hall Historic Garden



PAIS members at Sharlot Hall School House Iris Garden



Sharlot Hall School House partial planting



Sharlot Hall Fort Misery after planting

Photos by: Dennis Luebkin

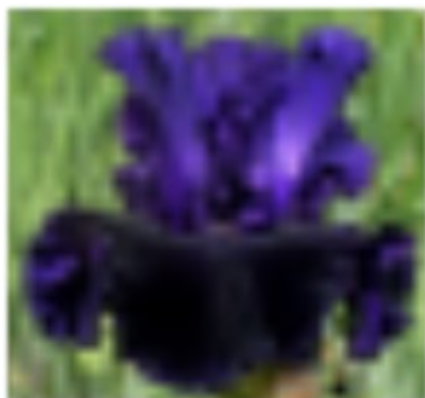
**2015
IRIS
INTRODUCTIONS**



Destination Fabulous (Schreiner)



For Veronica (Schreiner)



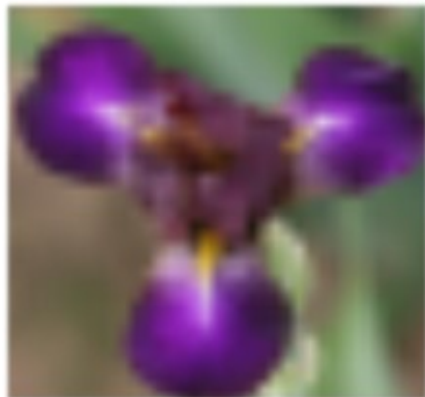
Island Nights (G. Sutton)



Huckleberry Pie (M. Sutton)



Rare Blend (A. Mego)



Chocolate Fountain MTB (Fisher)



At Last My Blue MTB (Fisher)



Royal Coat SPU (Aitken)



Splendid Spring (L. Painter)



Cameo Keepsake SDB (L. Miller)



Sweet Child of Mine (Lauer)



Anasazi (Filardi)



Canoodling (Filardi)



Pink Perception (Filardi)



Capodimonte (Filardi)



Stormy Sunrise (Edwards)



Benedictine BB (M. Smith)



Heart of Hearts AB (Black)



Magical Times IB (Black)



Quite Content (B. Nicodemus)



Marrying Kind (Keppel)



Forever My Love (Van Liere)

**2015
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TBIS SPRING TOUR 2014
Photo by B. Train

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Things to See and Do Around Salem and Portland

Photos by Beth-Balaney Train and Mason Train



Oregon State Capitol in Salem



Willamette Valley Vineyards



Multnomah Falls



Adelman Peony Gardens



PCI along Columbia River Gorge trail



Vista House on Crown Point



Bonneville Lock and Dam



Timberline Lodge

Miniature Dwarf Bearded Iris



Compact Buddy (Miller 1997)



Quip (D. Sindt 1978)



Lemon Puff (Dunbar 1967)



Forever Violet (Chapman 2002)



Snuggles (L. Miller 1987)



Stripling (M. Smith 2004)



Pokemon (G. Sutton 2003)



Royal Bee (Willott 1972)



Tooth Fairy (B. Jones 1992)