



The  
American Iris  
Society

# Region 15

Fall 2016 Semi-annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED!

## FALL MEETING 2016

Hosted by the Lompoc Valley Iris Society

OCTOBER 14-15

LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA

[www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org)

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# *Region 15 Spring Trek 2016*



*Photos by Beth Balaney-Train*



## Letter from the Editor

*“There is a peculiar charm about the Iris that appeals irresistibly to those whose taste for the refined and delicately beautiful leads them to seek a close acquaintance with it. (To) him who stops to gaze into the depths of the Iris flower, and comes under the magic spell, a new world is opened. For an iris is a floral world in itself; and an Iris enthusiast may have full scope for his wildest fancies...”*

*Bertrand Farr catalog, 1st edition 1908*



It is almost autumn and my iris garden lies dormant. The garden, which is glorious in springtime, is pitiful in the summer heat. Several clumps of *Lantana* and red sage, a stand of sunflowers, and the towering *Buddleia* give color to the summer garden and keep the hummingbirds and finches occupied. Just don't venture over to the irises whose leaf blades look like hay (yes, dry leaves are pulled often and blanching ends cut off as needed) after a heat wave. Come winter with its nourishing rains and cooler temperatures, the garden perks up and gets ready for its spring show. It is always a surprise to see what survives as I seem to lose a few irises every summer. Each year, however, I could reliably count on 'Crimson King' (Barr 1893) to herald springtime. The fragrant purple blooms take me back to Presby Memorial Iris Gardens with its bed after bed of historic irises. Did you know that each year less historic irises are available to commerce? The Historic Iris Preservation Society and Prescott Area Iris Society have programs to keep these beautiful irises around for everyone to enjoy in more years to come (pages 15-16). Claire Schneider has a related article on page 14, while Claudia Anderson shares wonderful photos of her collection, page 17.

This issue highlights April's Garden Tours, with the Region 15 Officers' reports beginning on page 5. Debbie James recounts SFVIS's successful hosting of the trek, page 10. Photos of the Spring Trek 2016 are throughout the issue.

Don't forget to attend the region's Fall Meeting in Lompoc, CA. Information and registration form are on pages 12-13. Emil and Catherine Burgard of Templeton, CA are the guest speakers. They are young hybridizers and are looking forward to showing their lovely seedlings to us.

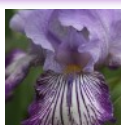
All of the affiliates have been busy these past months. SFVIS has a new set of officers. Andi Rivarola is the recently elected president. See his report and other affiliate presidents' reports starting on page 18. Minutes of the Board Meeting are on page 28. Dennis Luebkin gives updates on his club's projects, pages 29-30. Turn to pages 32-33, the Region 15 Calendar, to know what's in store for the rest of the year.

I am hoping that it cools down soon. I have several rhizomes to plant (and transplant). And like the others before me who have come under the magic spell of the irises of their time I, too, am smitten and look forward to adding historic irises to my collection.

See you at the gardens,

*Beth Balaney-Train*, Editor

**READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT**  
**[www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org)**



*On the Cover: 'Circus Circus' (M. Sutton 2009)*

Photo by B. Balaney-Train

### AIS Region 15

#### Local Chapter Presidents

#### Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Marilyn Kiger  
mwkiger@msn.com  
HDIDS Facebook

#### Inland Region Iris Society

Cathy Coache  
cathycoachemueck@gmail.com  
IRIS Facebook

#### Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Ben Schleuning  
benme2000@gmail.com  
LVIS Facebook

#### Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Lois Farr  
loismalulani@pacbell.net

#### Prescott Area Iris Society

Dennis Luebkin  
dluebkin@q.com  
PAIS website and Facebook

#### San Diego Iris Society

Claire Schneider  
itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com  
SDIS website

#### San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Andi Rivarola  
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SFVIS website and Facebook

#### Southern California Iris Society

Mike Monninger  
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SCIS Facebook

#### Sun Country Iris Society

Kyria Peavy  
SCIS.phoenix@gmail.com  
SCIS website

#### Tucson Area Iris Society

E. Kristee West  
irisgrowinaz@gmail.com  
TAIS website and Facebook

**American Iris Society  
Region 15  
Elected Officers**

**Region 15 Vice President (RVP)**

Debbie Babuscio-James  
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region15rvp@gmail.com

**Assistant RVP and Judges Chair**

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Palmdale, CA 93557  
(661)947-8659  
irisfor15w@gmail.com

**Region 15 Treasurer**

Carol Huffman  
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Atascadero, CA 93422  
cahuffy@gmail.com

**Region 15 Secretary**

Marge Larson  
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marlarson@outlook.com

**Committee Chairs**

**Awards:** Claire Schneider and  
Janis Shackelford  
itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com  
jgshackelford@cox.net

**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
2016 Fall Meeting	Lompoc Valley Iris Society October 14-15, 2016	Lompoc, CA
2017 Spring Trek	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society April 21-22, 2017	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	
2019 Spring Trek	NO SPRING TREK due to AIS NATIONAL CONVENTION in REGION 14	
2019 Fall Meeting	Inland Region Iris Society	

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks  
from our website

[www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org)

[Visit us on Facebook](#)







## AIS Region 15 RVP Message

*By Debbie Babuscio-James, Region 15 RVP*

Since the last newsletter, we had the 2016 Region 15 Spring Trek in Burbank, CA hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society and the AIS National Convention in Newark, NJ, both of which I attended. The Spring Trek was really nice as we had a comfortable bus, delicious lunch, great judges trainings and of course the irises. They were in full bloom in every garden not to mention the companion plantings found in each of the gardens we visited.

Since I have never been to New Jersey, I wanted to make the most of the time I was there. I researched nearby places, distance and how to get there and back on a subway train. My first experience was when you get below ground, your sense of direction is left on the street. It's amazing how much I rely on the sun for navigation. Strolling through Central Park was wonderful, the Bronx Zoo was even better and the Metropolitan Museum of Art was the best. I really do like zoos and I have visited one on almost every convention I've been to.

I also experienced the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island tours and visited the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. I had the best roommate, thank you Natalie. I met some new friends and reacquainted with a few old friends. Together we had some interesting and very enjoyable conversations and I look forward to continuing those conversations at the next AIS National Convention.

The Region 15 Basket we constructed and donated to the AIS Silent Auction brought in \$175.00. I want to thank every club in Region 15 for donating and making it a huge profit for AIS. The baskets with the most individual items in them seemed to bring in the most and highest bids. I would like to ask each club to do the same thing next year. If we start thinking and planning about it now, it might be bigger and better than this year's, which might be hard to do.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the fall meeting in Lompoc on October 14th and 15th. Until then, Happy Gardening.

*Debbie James*





## AIS Judges Training

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

Hello Region 15! The spring blooming season is behind us and now it is a hot summer with temperatures over 100 degrees almost everyday. It is almost time to dig and divide our iris clumps. However, I am in my house with the windows closed and the air conditioner running. For the last 3 days, there is a huge forest fire burning within 15 miles from my house. The sky is hazy and it is raining ashes. The bad air quality forced me to go indoors and to look over the pictures from the 2016 Region 15 Spring Trek and the 2016 AIS National Convention in New Jersey.

On a sunny April day, the bus traveled from Simi Valley to San Fernando Valley. We visited four beautiful gardens with about 100 guest irises. It was difficult to choose the Best In Region iris and the Best Out Of Region iris. Our speaker, Dell Perry was great. Her program on Aril and Arilbred Irises was informative. Her Judges Training gave me knowledge and confidence when I evaluate an Aril or an Arilbred.

After reviewing the bus schedules for the 2016 AIS National Convention, I said to myself, "I don't need two days at the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens." Oh, was I wrong! After two days, I did not finish all the beds. There were over 900 guest irises growing in seven beds. After I enjoyed the beautiful blooms of the guest irises, there were twenty-four more beds which contain Miniature, Dwarf, Intermediate, Border Bearded, Spuria, Siberian, Louisiana, and Species irises. I would like to go back and spend several hours with Bed #29 which contained irises introduced between 1940s to 1950s.

Our Judges Training program is progressing well. We have 16 students. Several students will advance to apprentice level in the coming year. Region 15 will have one more judge on the new list. We still need more judges. The application form is on the Region 15 website in the Spring 2013 newsletter or you can email me at [irisfor15w@gmail.com](mailto:irisfor15w@gmail.com) to request a copy. I am looking forward to new applications.

*Sue Brown*



## Membership Update

*By Patrick Orr, Membership Chair*

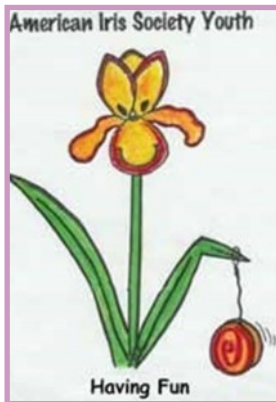
TOTAL MEMBERS 254, down from 265 in the spring

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS 222, down from 231 in the spring

TOTAL YOUTH 4, no change

TOTAL AFFILIATES 10, no change





## AIS Youth Program Report

*By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 and AIS Youth Chair*

Currently we have 6 Youth members in Region 15 — 3 in California and 3 in Arizona. They will each receive a newer rhizome from the AIS National Convention sometime in late August. I know there are groups out there that are working with young people, but they have not signed up to become members in the AIS. It only costs \$8 for a year's membership and they get a Youth Handbook full of information about irises and growing tips, a youth newsletter twice a year, and they have the opportunity to enter the annual Coloring Contest and the Ackerman Essay Contest for cash prizes.

Have you thought about reaching out to youth members by having a "Youth Meeting"? Inviting local youth groups (Scouts, neighbors, church or school clubs) to attend a special meeting just for them could be a good recruiting tool for you because their parents or other adults would need to bring them to the meeting! I have coloring pages and word search puzzles that I could send you, and ideas about what to talk about with them for a program, such as using the glossary of iris terms and old catalogs to explain the beautiful pictures. It doesn't have to be long - less than an hour is enough for a start. Growing tips is another thing you could add to the program. There are also CD programs showing irises that you could use as well. Irises are drought tolerant plants and we really need to get the message across that you can have beautiful flowers that are good to the environment. Who knows? You might get a few new members.

Contact me at [region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com) with any questions about the AIS Youth program and the possibilities that exist.

Happy Irising!

*Cheryl Deaton*



Check AIS membership status:

[www.aislookup.org](http://www.aislookup.org)

Renew membership  
(pay by check, Visa, or MasterCard)  
[www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)

### *The American Iris Society*

Membership Rates:

Annual Single \$30/Dual \$35  
Triennial Single \$70/Dual \$85  
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 \$12  
without Bulletin \$8

Send payments to:

Tom Gormley  
P.O. Box 177

DeLeon Springs, FL 32130  
Email: [AISMemsec@irises.org](mailto:AISMemsec@irises.org)



[www.AISYouth.com](http://www.AISYouth.com)

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

# AIS Region 15 Treasurer's Report

By Carol Huffman, Treasurer

January 1, 2016 to July 1, 2016

CHECKBOOK BEGINNING BALANCE		\$20,480.60
Income:		
Prescott Area Iris Society sales of Region 15 rhizomes	\$ 140.00	
PAIS return of advance for Fall Trek 2015	\$ 400.00	
Advertising Revenue Spring 2016 issue	\$ 15.00	
Total Income		\$ 555.00
Expenses:		
Postage, Envelopes for shipping rhizomes	\$ 33.93	
Envelopes and Postage	\$ 60.12	
Miscellaneous (Rolling Case)	\$ 26.15	
Spring Trek—San Fernando Valley Iris Society	\$ 600.00	
President's Expenses:		
Registration— AIS National Convention	\$ 299.00	
Airfare to New Jersey	\$ 341.00	
Registration— Region 15 Spring Trek	\$ 110.00	
Total President's Expense		\$ 750.00
Secretary Travel Expense	\$ 137.96	
Web Maintenance	\$ 495.00	
Spring 2016 Newsletter	\$ 615.79	
Total Expenses		\$ 3,318.95
CHECKBOOK ENDING BALANCE as of 7/1/2016		\$17,716.65
EDWARD JONES ACCOUNT		\$12,764.32
TOTAL ASSETS		\$30,480.97





# Spring Trek 2016 Award Winners

Photos by Jill Bonino and Beth Balaney-Train

## HERB HOLK AWARD

**Best Cultivar**

**In Region**

Midnight Kitty  
(Edwards 2011)



## CLAIRE BARR AWARD

**Best Cultivar Out of Region**

Grapenut BB ( Sutton 2013) Rare Coin (Ghio 2014)



## BEST LOUISIANA IRIS

Red Velvet Elvis (Vaughn 1997)

## BEST SPURIA IRIS

Chocolate Fudge (Niswonger '88)

## BERNARD HAMNER AWARD

**Best Seedling—In Region**

Sdlg 4-106 (R. Squires)

## BEST SEEDLING

**Out of Region**

Seedling 2227 (Lauer)



# REGION 15 SPRING TREK 2016

April 15-16, 2016

*Oh, What a Beautiful Day!*

*By Debbie James, SFVIS*

The Spring 2016 Trek was a big success and was hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society (SFVIS). Everything about the trek from the JT to the program and especially the gardens was absolutely beautiful. Dinner was nice and the judges training by Dell Perry on Aril and Arilbred irises was both informative and interesting. I also enjoyed her program on Saturday night. I can look at pictures of Irises for hours as they are just so delicate and intricate and they need to be looked at more than once. Which also helps if you're an AIS Judge. If you're not already an AIS Region 15 judge, I urge you to become one.

It was nice that the bus went to the farthest home first and worked its way back towards the hotel. The home of Renee Fraser was the first on the trek. Her yard, tucked back off the street, is very deceiving at first glance. Once you get past the entry gate and through the patio, the yard opens up to a heaven inspired landscape. Some beds were color coordinated palettes and merged into each other effortlessly. Everywhere you looked there was something interesting like the succulents tucked into a pathway, the fish hiding under the bridge or the obelisk trying to stay visible half under a rose bush.

The lunch was awesome at the home of Kathleen Lang and her family. The pool was inviting on the hot spring day. There were irises on all four sides of her home. The guest irises were in the front along the driveway and there was ample room for everyone to view them unobstructed by another trekker. Kathleen said we could swim after we dig the guest irises from her yard at the end of August. Every club should have their rhizomes before the end of the first week in September and the auctions should reap some nice dividends for the Region. This is really the only source of income for the Region so please keep that in mind when bidding on them.

After lunch we stopped at the home of Helen and Loren Zeldin. The Zeldins are just a handful of the remaining original members of the SFVIS which is going on its 41st year. They live on a ¼ acre rectangular city lot and every inch of it is planted with something that blooms. There were roses, poppies, *Alstroemeria*, California natives, fruit trees, and a nice green lawn winding up the middle of it all. The guest irises were putting on a display and I think it was peak bloom in his yard.

I really want to thank the garden owners, Renee, Kathleen, Loren, and Randy. Kathleen and her husband also provided lunch for the entire group which was a huge undertaking. Thank you again to the Langs. The garden of Loren and Helen Zeldin was spectacular as always and Randy Squires' yard was no exception. And lastly I want to thank Cheryl Deaton and Winona Stevenson for being great bus captains and everyone who came and helped with the set-up of the boutique, sold raffle tickets, and donated items for the silent auction and bus prizes.

Hosting the trek can be a learning experience. I am willing to share anything with the next hosting club. Before you book a bus, check with your city or county as some have free busses for non-profits. If we would have met at the Balboa Sports Complex here in Van Nuys, CA the bus would have been free. I think there was a prize for everyone on the bus. Sorry if some were dumb but you try and get 55 bus prizes for under \$100. A budget is a budget and garage sales can behold treasures if you look hard enough.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all again soon. The Fall Meeting in Lompoc is coming up this October and before long it will be next year's Spring Trek in Lancaster.





**Thank you San Fernando Valley Iris Society !  
Thank you Betty Piscitello, Claire Schneider & Mason Train for the photos.**



# LOMPOC VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

INVITES YOU TO THE

**AIS REGION 15**

**FALL MEETING**

**OCTOBER 14 AND 15, 2016**

**Embassy Suites by Hilton Lompoc Central Coast**

[embassysuites3.hilton.com](http://embassysuites3.hilton.com)

1117 N. H. St, Lompoc, CA 93436

(805)735-8311

**SPEAKERS: EMIL and CATHERINE BURGARD  
of BURGARD IRIS FARM, TEMPLETON, CA**

**"From Loving Iris to Selling Iris, A Commentary from a Beginner  
...or How to Do Everything Wrong and Still Survive!"**



## FRIDAY

4:00 to 8:30 p.m. Registration  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Social Gathering: Meet and Greet. A light snack, not dinner,  
and a 2 drink/guest will be available.  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Judges Training by Cheryl Deaton "Awards and Ballots"

## SATURDAY

7:00 to 10:30 a.m. Complementary Full Breakfast for Registered Guests  
8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Registration  
8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Region 15 Board Meeting  
9:45 to 10:30 a.m. Region 15 General Meeting  
10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Speakers: Emil and Catherine Burgard  
12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Lunch: Santa Maria Style BBQ  
1:15 to 2:15 p.m. Silent Auction, Opportunity Drawing, Discussion  
3:00 p.m. Concludes

## LOMPOC AREA SITES TO SEE

LA PURISSIMA STATE HISTORICAL PARK  
JALAMA BEACH PARK  
SURF BEACH PARK  
CLOS PEPE VINEYARDS  
LOMPOC WINE GHETTO  
SANFORD WINERY  
MELVILLE WINERY  
FOLEY ESTATES VINEYARD  
DIEERBERG VINEYARD  
BABCOCK WINERY

MONTEMAR WINERY  
TASTE OF SANTA RITA HILLS  
MORETTI WINES  
TURIYA WINES  
BREWER-CLIFTON  
FIDDLEHEAD CELLARS  
TRANSCENDENCE WINERY  
JALAMA WINES  
HUBER VINEYARD  
AMPELOS CELLARS



# REGION 15 FALL MEETING 2016

## REGISTRATION RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

FULL REGISTRATION # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

(includes LUNCH and MEET AND GREET SNACKS)

RECEIVED AFTER SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$75.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

MAKE CHECK OUT TO LOMPOC VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY (LVIS)

**LUNCH:** SANTA MARIA STYLE BBQ: SALAD, TRI-TIP/CHICKEN, BBQ BAKED BEANS, FRUIT

PLEASE NOTE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

HEADQUARTERS:

### Embassy Suites by Hilton Lompoc Central Coast

[embassysites3.hilton.com](http://embassysites3.hilton.com)

1117 N H St, Lompoc, CA 93436

(805)735-8311

Room Rate: \$129 plus taxes (includes free parking). All rooms have a king bed and a sofa bed. Includes a full breakfast. Please book by October 1, 2016 to guarantee room rate.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM AND YOUR REGISTRATION CHECK TO:

CAROL HUFFMAN  
3105 AVENIDA DEL SOL  
ATASCADERO, CA 93422

(805)464-2002  
jhuffy@charter.net

# A Gift Bag of Historic Iris

*By Claire Schneider, SDIS*

One of the passions of Prescott Area Iris Society (PAIS) is historic iris. All attendees at their Region 15 Fall Meeting on October 10, 2015 received a gift bag that contained among other things two historic iris, 'Othello' (Lémon 1848) and 'Crimson King' IB & RE (Barr 1893). According to some, Crimson King is one of the best increasers in the garden and is extremely vigorous. I have a few historic iris in my garden: 'Lady Friend' (Ghio 1981), 'Baby Blessed' SDB (Zurbrigg 1979), 'Burgundy Brown' (Gibson 1978), 'Joseph's Mantle' (Craig 1949) and 'Quaker Lady' (Farr 1909), but nothing as old as 1848 or 1893! Wow, think about it! Iris cultivars that have been around for over a hundred years. Now I'm curious, I need more information. From the AIS website at [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org): "A historic iris is one that was introduced 30 or more years ago. Those iris that have survived might be the toughest plants of their generation." They can be very reliable bloomers. Really? Who collects historic iris? AIS suggests that collectors might be people who want to decorate their garden with iris that match the time period of their historic home. Others might collect historic iris to support the preservation effort. And there's also the collector who is interested in tracing the evolution of the modern iris.



Othello  
(Lémon 1848)

*Photo: M. Unser*



Crimson King IB RE  
(Barr 1893)

*Photo: B. Train*



Quaker Lady  
(Farr 1909)

*Photo: C. Anderson*



Lady Friend  
(Ghio 1981)

*Photo: C. Anderson*

According to the official website of the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS), there are many rare historic irises that are in danger of being lost forever. "The vagaries of life or passing of time can often bring an end to a gardener's life of collecting iris." Rather than having these collections of historic iris destroyed or abandoned, HIPS will offer to rescue and redistribute these older varieties to ensure their survival. Visit the HIPS website at [www.historiciris.org](http://www.historiciris.org) and browse their resources. For example, there's the Guardian Gardens iris list where you can review a current list of rescued iris. And the addresses of Display Gardens where you can see historic iris growing in a garden (closest to San Diego is a trio of Display Gardens located east of Sacramento, in Somerset, Placerville and Mt Aukum). There's a photo gallery of historic iris (not that you can ever be sure what the name is of your unknown historic iris, but it might be fun to look through their photos). And a blog that goes on and on and on with interesting questions and answers. If you are interested in working with the Historic Iris Preservation Society to save a few historic, perhaps you'll become a member of HIPS.

How many varieties of historic iris are in your garden? Last weekend I added two more to my garden. In the future, I'm planning to give a second look at some of the other historic iris in my own garden. They might not be as exotic as 'Strawberry Shake' (Keppel 2012), 'Super Hero' (Ghio 2012) and 'Broome Sunset' (Blyth 2007/08), but they have history. Is it possible that my 'Othello' and 'Quaker Lady' are descendants of iris that once grew in the gardens of famous Americans? If so, these iris would be better than an autograph!

*First published in the SDIS Newsletter November 2015. Reprinted with author's permission.*



# For the Love of Historic Irises

*By Mike Unser, HIPS*

Like the rest of you, I love irises— all irises. But when it comes to what earns garden space, I have to pick favorites. For that reason, I've chosen to concentrate on growing historic bearded irises— those over 30 years of age, though the bulk of my collection is over 50 years old with most introduced from the 1920s to 1950s.

Modern bearded irises are fine, and I do grow a few, but my passion is for the old ones with their narrower petals, tailored edges and graceful forms. There is real charm and elegance to these antiques and heirlooms that is often missing in today's ruffled varieties. I liken it to the difference between Baroque and Art Deco, or a southern belle's frilled and bedecked ball gown and the eponymous "little black dress."

As a member of the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS), I've worked with the rest of our membership to raise awareness of the value of historic irises and the need to keep them around for future generations.

We preserve some varieties because of their important genetic contributions to the development of the bearded iris. One of the most interesting aspects of growing many historic irises from a wide variety of eras is getting to see how they have progressed in form, color and pattern over the decades as thousands of talented people contributed to the cause of their improvement. While most folks recognize the importance of preserving such luminaries as Dykes Medal winners, there are many varieties just as good, or better, that left a mark on iris history and deserve to be carried on for their merits. 'Snow Flurry' (Rees 1939) never attained the highest award, but who can deny that it is one of the most important varieties ever produced?



**SNOW FLURRY (Rees 1939)**

*Photo by Claudia Anderson*

Most historic irises have proven their value as good garden plants just by being survivors, an essential trait as we face extreme weather conditions with more predicted. Incorporating the genes for vigor from the hardiest of our old survivors could greatly strengthen new lines of breeding. Who knows what else our talented hybridizers will do as science continues to unlock the secrets of DNA? And who can say what old varieties may hold a clue in their genes that answers a question we have yet to even ask? If they are not here for future study, that genetic record will be lost, and perhaps a key gene arrangement with it.

There is also the sentimental aspect of preserving old irises. Many of us were first exposed to irises in our mothers' or grandmothers' gardens, or perhaps another beloved relative or friend. Growing irises, especially the varieties they loved and passed down to us, is a way to remember these special folks. I am fortunate to have several varieties that grew in my grandmothers' gardens and a few from a great aunt as well. Most are common varieties without a particularly special history, but they are the most special of all to me.

I'd like to encourage everyone to give a thought to iris preservation when you are discarding old varieties for new ones in your garden. If they are not commonly found in commerce anymore, please consider contacting HIPS to see if we can assist in distributing them to gardens that would welcome older varieties and make sure their beauty and potential remain around for future generations to enjoy.

# GUARDIAN GARDENS

## A Call to Action

### Participation Strengthens A Program

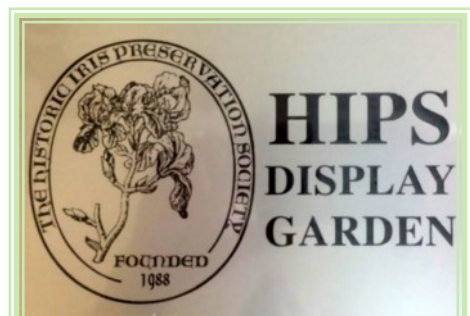
*By Dennis Luebkin, PAIS*

Greetings to All in Region 15!

The AIS Conventions are a wonderful time for learning, exploring, visiting gardens, renewing old friendships and making new ones. One of the important things that occurred during the Portland and New Jersey Conventions was not only a celebration of the new introductions and where AIS is going but also a call to action to save the historic irises of the past that we, our parents and previous generations loved and were the cutting edge of their time. They are disappearing at an alarming rate and it is our call to save as many as we can. It is the responsibility of all irises lovers to do this. As a member of AIS and the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) I have been receiving information on this critical issue in the world of iris and urge all Region 15 members to become active in some way in the protection of these endangered varieties. PAIS and its members had a visit from Cathy Egerer, President of HIPS, with information on this very important program. I and other members of PAIS will be joining this program to assist both HIPS and AIS in this program and we call upon other Region 15 members to also do so. I would like to reference two articles recently published which can give you a better understanding of the critical issues facing older iris varieties. The first article is entitled 'Turnaround' by Douglass Paschall of HIPS, Director of the Guardian Garden program. It was published in 'Roots' the Journal of The Historic Iris Preservation Society, Spring 2015 edition. The second article of importance is in the AIS Bulletin Spring 2015 edition by Charles Carver, Chair of the National Collections program, entitled 'An Introduction to National Collections'. If you are not a HIPS member I would encourage you to join. It is a very informative group within AIS. If you have these publications I encourage you to read these and take action. If you are not currently members I encourage you to go to both the HIPS website and AIS website to read these articles. If you are interested, please contact Doug Paschall at [gg@historicism.org](mailto:gg@historicism.org) for more information and on how to join the program.

Best Regards,

*Dennis Luebkin*



**W. R. Dykes**  
(William Rickatson  
Dykes 1929)

*Photo by B. Balaney-Train*



# HISTORIC IRISES

PHOTOS BY  
CLAUDIA  
ANDERSON



**Faustine**  
(Lemon 1859)



**Mady Carriere**  
(Millet et Fils 1905)



**Romeo**  
(Millet et Fils 1912)



**Demi Deuil**  
(Denis 1912)



**Acropolis**  
(Berry 1929)



**Mussolini**  
(K. Dykes 1932)



**China Maid**  
(Milliken 1935)



**Shannopin**  
(Pillow 1936)



**Minnie Colquitt**  
(Sass 1942)



**Confetti**  
(Schreiner 1948)



**Sable Night**  
(Cook 1952)



**Silver Peak**  
(DeForest 1962)



**Latin Lover**  
(Shoop 1969)



**Autumn Echo**  
(Gibson 1975)



**Golden Fantasy**  
(Schreiner 1981)

# REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



## Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

*By Marilyn Kiger, President*

Where does the thyme fly? So much has happened these past months with much more on the horizon to accomplish. Ours is a busy club, changing and growing! We've been fortunate to steadily add new members, either from our shows, various community sale venues, word of mouth and personal member invitations to our fun meetings. Most meetings we now average 30+ members/guests.

With our clubs gratitude, we've sent a "Thank You" IRIS BOUQUET to Gail Lofdahl for her many dedicated years as serving as our Membership Chair, and now welcome Pat Simpson to carry that heavy torch.

Our 2016 Spring Show, "Iris Watch Vintage TV" ran smoothly thanks to the much appreciated expertise of the lovely trio of ladies that have chaired our show event for many years Mary Escarcega, Mary Anesi, and Ellen O'Toole. A job well done ladies!!! Speaking of our show, green with envy was our club color as we congratulated our Queen of Show "horti winner", Wayne Nygaard showing, "Easy Being Green", and Pam Montelongo with Best Design of Show in the Artistic Division.

The annual Iris Show Sale chaired by Sue Brown was very successful this year depleting our nursery inventory with a SOLD OUT sign! Thankfully, it's "potting party thyme" so we can replenish inventory for our upcoming sales!

And, sometimes the only group therapy anyone needs...are friends that talk IRIS! With that said, "Save the Date-April 21-22, 2017 as HDIDS looks forward as hosts of the Region 15 ~ 2017 Spring Trek. Of course, we have to step it up after the outstanding 2016 Spring Trek hosted by our neighboring SFVIS this past spring!

Our Trek Committee has been planning and working hard to put together an incredible journey to our Antelope Valley next spring. The "Desert Rainbow" trek will include a side tour of the famous Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve. Not to be missed is the blanketing of our hillsides in a sea of orange, with fields of brilliant poppies bursting into bloom looking to be alive on fire, intertwined with a variety of wildflowers and Joshua trees. Expansive fields or a close-up of a single flower... cameras are required! Registration forms will be provided at Lompoc's Fall Region meeting.

Carpe Rutrum !! (seize the spade)

*Photos by M. Kiger*



Wayne Nygaard: Best Of Show winner



Pat Simpson preparing her Artistic Show Entry

[facebook.com/HiDesertIris&DaylilySociety-Region15AntelopeValley](https://www.facebook.com/HiDesertIris&DaylilySociety-Region15AntelopeValley)





## Inland Region Iris Society Report

*By Cathy Coache, President*

The Inland Region Iris Society had its first board meeting of the year a few weeks ago, basically to discuss our budget, future sales and programs for the upcoming year. We had all members of our current board stay again for another year, with one exception of a position that was voluntary. That position was filled rather quickly when brought before the group.

So far we are planning on pursuing selling at two new venues-one in Riverside and one in Ontario for the Home Show events. We were asked to join the Anaheim Home Show, but due to the long trek and low sales, we felt it just did not pay to do that venue again. So we shall try Ontario and Riverside and see if we can generate some enthusiastic buyers! There are several Farmer's Markets that the club will be selling at and our usual sales at Yucaipa and at the Western Municipal Water District in Riverside.

Our future programs will include speakers on creating a fairy garden, viewing slides from the AIS National Convention in New Jersey, Christmas Party and Gift Exchange, and our ever popular auctions-both Members Only and Region 15 just to name a few.

This will be my last year as President and am looking forward to having a great year!!



Members Only Auction



Iris Sale at Yucaipa



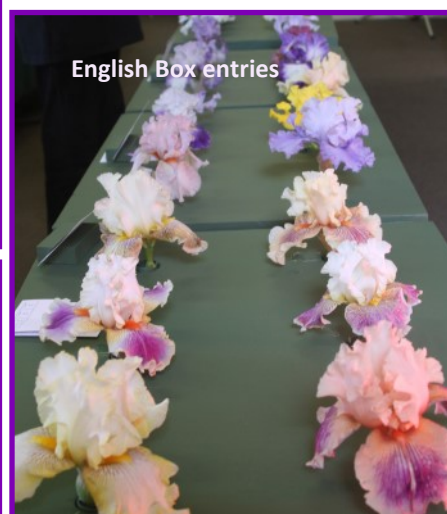
IRIS Booth at the Anaheim Convention Center



Artistic Division entries



Silver Medal Winner Barbara Brooker with husband Chuck



English Box entries



Iris Show Judges & Clerks



"Showers of Flowers"

[facebook.com/InlandRegionIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/InlandRegionIrisSociety)





## Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

*By Ben Schleuning, President*

All members of the LVIS are excited about hosting our Region 15 Fall Meeting and are looking forward to seeing ALL of you!

We have had a great year starting with our 3rd annual New Year's dinner on January 10 (in lieu of a Christmas dinner). Our annual show last April 23rd and 24th was small due to the odd growing season (can we blame EVERYTHING on the lack of rain?). We were blessed to have Cheryl Deaton here to officiate the judged portion of our show. An extra thank you to Cheryl for the increased size of our judged section; something about her "chicken" stickers (smile).

Our next newsworthy event was our annual rhizome sale. We did not sell out and we netted considerably less than in past years. Could it be that we have inundated our small populace (as suggested by one of our members)?? or was it due to our necessitated change of location? The weather was perfect and we had great publicity (thank you Kiki).

Our next event is on August 14, a BBQ with distribution of club iris to qualified growers. We received some beautiful rhizomes in our orders. We also received twenty four 2016 rhizomes from 8 hybridizers for auction at our Region 15 Fall Meeting!! The remainder of our time between then and October 14th will be spent preparing for your visit!

Until then.....

*Spring Trek 2016 photos by B. Train*



[facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety)





## Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

*By Lois Farr, President*

We, at the Orange County Iris and Day Lily Club are enjoying outdoor potlucks in this beautiful weather. July was simply food, but our August Club Meeting will be a pizza party with our ANNUAL MEMBERS ONLY IRIS AUCTION!!! Should be another exciting time as usual.

We are working on exchanging and receiving more information between club members, because we realize we have a wealth of information among us. A monthly question and answer time is included in our schedule, along with a club group email to exchange thoughts between meetings. I think our friendships are warming up, along with the good weather, and that is the best garden news ever.

Going forward, we constantly seek club members to take on more club responsibilities -- elected club responsibilities and such. The more vested interest and active participation our members contribute, the better our club will be. So we are working on it.

Orange County would be such a more lovely place if we made the iris the county flower, if every home or park grew a patch of irises -- orange irises along with the California poppy. Wouldn't that be the perfect way to counter the stress and brighten our little subsection? Maybe that will be a goal for us, to elect an Orange County Club Iris and send it throughout the county -- Our first elected Orange County Club IRIS in 2017. Something to talk about at our next question and answer time....

*Photos by B. Balaney-Train*



From Within BB (Sutton 2014)



Lunch at the Lang's





## Prescott Area Iris Society Report

*By Dennis Luebkin, President*

2016 has been an excellent year for PAIS. Our Spring Iris Exhibit on April 30 was a great success with wonderful bloom and arrangement displays despite the bad weather of rain, snow, high winds and freezing temperatures the week before the exhibit. The potted iris sale was financially, one of our best spring sales with hundreds of irises being sold out by noon. We conducted two iris care training sessions at the exhibit with 60 plus attending. More new PAIS members have become involved in activities and our publicity team is making our club more visible to the community. Our spring garden tour held April 26th was well attended and all the gardens were beautiful. The cooler weather had held much of the iris bloom back this year.

Our Summer Rhizome Sale on July 30 and 31 was a great success even being at a new location. We have had both increased membership and participation. Membership now stands at 79.

Our August 27 General meeting features Riley Probst on Rebloomers.

Our September 17th silent auction, ice cream social and photo contest should prove to be a most enjoyable event as usual.

October 22 we will have our annual potluck social event.

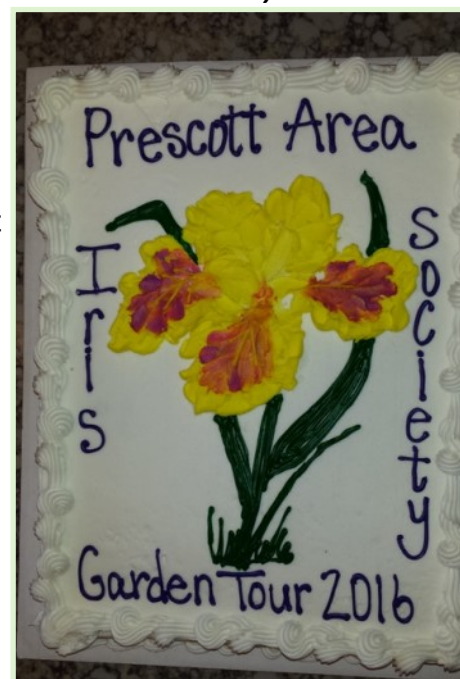
Our annual election will be held on November 19th. About half of our current board will be leaving the board and we will have several new board members for 2017. All of our community outreach programs will continue in 2017.

Our major events for 2017 will include:

1. Yavapai College Iris Classes April 21, 28, May 6.
2. Kaleidoscope of Color Festival of Irises (Spring Iris Exhibit, Potted Iris Sale and Judged Show) will be May 6.
3. Annual garden tour will be May 13th
4. Summer Iris Rhizome Sale July 29th and 30th
5. Community Iris Care Classes August 12th.
6. Ice Cream Social, Silent Auction, Photo Contest August 19th
7. November 18th, elections and pot luck.
8. Regular General meetings are held the third Saturday of the month
9. Community Outreach Project volunteer days are held as needed during the Year.

As I close out my tenure this year as President of PAIS, I wish to thank the members of Region 15 and PAIS for your kindness and support for the past 4 years. Sharon and I have made many friends in Region 15. Best regards to all!

*Photos by: D. Luebkin*



[facebook.com/PrescottAreaIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/PrescottAreaIrisSociety)

[prescottirissociety.org](http://prescottirissociety.org)





## San Diego Iris Society Report

*By Claire Schneider, President*

On February 13, San Diego Iris Society celebrated its 53rd birthday. The party was held at the Best Western Banquet room in Mission Valley with choice of prime rib, roast pork or California chicken. Delicious dinner! Andi Rivarola was the featured speaker on the topic of Spuria iris. By the end of his presentation most of us were prepared to replace half our tall bearded iris with spuria! Well done, Andi!!

In March the guest speaker was Carvill Veech who brought a truck load of flowers and vases to demonstrate how easy it is to create a fabulous arrangement. This year's Spring Show included the Floral Design section for the first time in several years and many of our new members and a few of the old needed some guidance on color, balance and themes. Carvill was an encyclopedia of creativity! A surprise at the March meeting was the visit by Carol Morgan and her family. We love seeing and hearing from them.

On April 10th members were invited to visit three iris gardens in Ramona. Hosts were Edith and Jim Schade, Pat and Richard Wurtele and Claire Schneider. In spite of the rain and wind, the flowers were open and members were able to amble through without losing their umbrellas. The good thing about inclement weather is the absence of rattlesnakes!

The Spring Show and Sale, April 30 & May 1, was bigger than ever. This included the number of entries as well as the height of the flower stalk that won Queen of show, 'Lucky Devil'! This spuria might have topped five feet but it was the quality of those dark purple flowers that mesmerized the judges and visitors. Janis Shackelford won the Silver Medal trophy for having the most blue ribbons. Katharina Notarianni & Suzanne Johnson tied for having the most blue ribbons in the Artistic Design section. Just for fun, we handed all visitors a ballot for The People's Choice award for an iris and for an arrangement. Tammy Priest's arrangement of El Nino won and the iris Greatest Show on Earth won for Claire Schneider. This was the second year of higher prices on the potted iris: reblooming iris for \$8 and \$5 for regular iris. We nearly sold out!

At the June 12 meeting officers were re-elected. For the 2016-2017 season, Claire Schneider as President, Katharina Notarianni as Vice President, Mary Hanson as Secretary and Janis Shackelford as Treasurer. Janis collects the annual dues at this meeting, \$5 per family. The program was awards and ice cream. Yes, in that order, awards from the Spring Show and ice cream.

SDIS doesn't meet in July or August. The Fall Rhizome sale will be September 11 & 18 in the patio of the Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. We are so lucky to have this venue! It is cool in the park and there is lots of foot traffic. October 9 will be the auction of rhizomes from the Region 15 Spring Trek. The program for November 13 is still in the planning stage.



[SanDiegoIrisSociety.org](http://SanDiegoIrisSociety.org)



## San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

*By Andi Rivarola, President*

We hope that everyone in Region 15 enjoyed the regional trek held in our area earlier in the spring. We had a great attendance and were delighted to have Dell Perry offer her wise words of knowledge in the area of Arils and Arilbreds.

May saw our club hold a mini-show where our club members brought their best beardless irises. This is usually a well attended event, and a great time to see spuria, Louisiana and species irises at their best. In June our club held our annual potluck dinner and we also celebrated the accomplishments of all award winners from our Spring Show in April.

Later in the spring some of us were able to attend the beautiful Presby Iris Gardens in Montclair, New Jersey for the National Convention of The American Iris Society. The irises in display were absolutely breathtaking. I was also happy to visit the New York Botanical Gardens and the Untermeyer Gardens in Yonkers, NY.

As usual, we will have a recap of the Regional and National Convention at our August general meeting, with our own Jill Bonino presenting. Then in September, we hold our Annual Iris Auction and in October is GAMES Night. The San Fernando Valley Men's Chorus will entertain the holiday crowds after our Holiday Dinner in December.

Lastly, we're happy to announce the election results for the upcoming fiscal year starting July 1st. Andi Rivarola- President, Loren Zeldin- VP, Mary Anne Abrahms- Treasurer and Christine Griego-Anderson- Secretary.



[facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety)

[SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org](https://SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org)





# Southern California Iris Society Report

*By Mike Monninger, President*

SCIS returned to the Spring Garden Show at South Coast Plaza the last 4 days of April. We grossed just over \$3,000 which is \$3,000 more than 2015. We used a charge card reader for the first time and I know we lost no sales.

Election of officers occurred in June with no changes, the result of doing too good a job. The members only bearded iris auction occurs August 27 and the beardless auction on September 23. Looking forward to cooler weather!!!!

*Photos by Jill Bonino*



*'Charmed I'm Sure'*

**Best Advanced and Best of Show  
by Mike Monninger**



**Award Winners: Horticulture, from left: Kim Ung, Marilyn Pecoraro, Leigh Nicolai Moon and Lynn McIlwain**



**So Cal Iris Society IRIS SHOW Horticulture on April 9, 2016**

[facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety)



## Sun Country Iris Society Report

*By Kyria Peavy, President*

We had a busy and very successful first half of 2016. Nancy Evans, our VP, did an absolutely wonderful job lining up programs. We had the honor of having Rick Tasco and Bob Van Liere attend our February meeting and we were thankful that Rick agreed to speak. Nancy also lined up classes on water gardening for our Louisiana Iris lovers, guest speaker Josh Dopp, a glass blower, who makes glass irises and a floral arrangement class while still ensuring our members were provided with the information they need to grow irises.

A great deal of focus this year was placed on providing our society members with opportunities for Judges Training. Many thanks goes out to Ardi Kary for overseeing this effort. We now have several students who are on track to move up to apprentice level.

We continued our tradition of holding an AIS sanctioned Spring Iris Show where we had more members participate than in recently past years. Additionally, we held an early and a late iris exhibit, increased our potted iris sales from 3 to 5 and had the opportunity to provide Arizona State University with irises for their West Campus.

For the remainder of 2016 we're looking forward to our member auctions, digs, rhizome sales and end of year party.

We have the pleasure of holding the 2018 Region 15 Spring Trek in the Phoenix area on April 19 & 20. (Mark your calendars!). In 2017 we'll be hitting our Trek planning hard along with continuing to provide informational programs, holding our early and late iris exhibits, our spring iris show and multiple sales. Please plan to attend one of our meetings when you're in Phoenix!

**Photos clockwise: Early Iris Exhibit at Summerwinds Nursery; Josh Dopp's glass irises; Judges Training at Hall Bradshaw's house; Dee Wilson, Clemence Newcomb and Christine Smith at the Late Iris Exhibit.**



[SunCountryIrisSociety.org](http://SunCountryIrisSociety.org)





## Tucson Area Iris Society Report

*By E. Kristee West, President*

I learned so much at last year's Fall Region 15 Meeting in Prescott! Thank you so much! We are going to apply several of the concepts that I learned at that meeting and several concepts from my former iris club, Mesilla Valley Iris Society in Las Cruces, NM (Region 23). TAIS spent too much last year, so our bank account is down to about \$4400. Ouch!

We have new members and new contacts from various activities this year. We were invited to participate in the Tucson Home Show at no charge in January and obtained over 30 new contacts and 1 new member. We coordinated with Mesilla Valley Iris Society to have Jean Richter come speak to us about Space Age Irises in February on Saturday and then she spoke at MVIS in Las Cruces on Sunday.

We have obtained a new contract with Tucson Botanical Gardens where we maintain an iris garden. They gave us additional publicity, additional meeting rooms and additional space in the iris garden in exchange for additional iris garden maintenance and 4 classes (1 for docents training and 3 for the public). We will renegotiate this contract each year. Their new pavilion may be an ideal place for shows and sales in the future. Time will tell.

Our Region 15 Auction and the first Test Iris Program using newer introductions from Mid-America Gardens will happen August 20, 2016.

Our annual sale will happen September 24, 2016 at Harlow Gardens Nursery.

Our elections will take place in October at a meeting at Tucson Botanical Gardens where we will hear Steven Buchmann speak on his book, "The Reason for Flowers". I will contact Region 15 at that time to give you the information about the new officers.

The new officers will assume their responsibilities in November and make plans for next year's meeting schedule. At least 4 of our meetings will be held at Tucson Botanical Gardens. See [www.tucsoniris.org](http://www.tucsoniris.org).

I would like to again thank The Country Club of La Cholla senior living facility for giving us a complementary Brunch for our meeting last January. We will be donating iris rhizomes to them for their garden club this fall.



*Brunch at the Country Club  
of La Cholla*



*Tucson Botanical Gardens  
Photo by Steven Gitner*

[facebook.com/TucsonArealIrisSociety](https://www.facebook.com/TucsonArealIrisSociety)

[TucsonIris.org](http://TucsonIris.org)

# Minutes of the AIS Region 15 Spring Board Meeting

April 15, 2016  
Burbank, CA

Welcome and Introductions – Debbie James, RVP

17 members/guests present

Minutes from the Winter meeting were read and approved

Treasurer's report – Carol was absent and the 2016 budget is attached

Judges Training – Sue Brown reported 23 current and 15 student judges

They should be listed in the Region Newsletter/website

Membership – no report

Awards – Claire Schneider brought a sample

Youth – Cheryl Deaton – 5 current members/ need more

Editor – Beth Balaney-Train - Everyone LOVED her recent "pink" edition

The deadline for reports for the Fall Newsletter is July 31st

Historian – Position is still vacant/open

Michelle Snyder – current secretary for AIS and insurance chairperson

She invited all to the AIS Fall Meeting in Sedona, AZ Nov 4 & 5, 2016

## Affiliates Reports:

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society– they have had 2 'SOLD OUT' sales and a show. They brought flyers to announce their April 21-22, 2017 Spring Trek, "Desert Rainbows" with speaker Bonnie Nichols.

Inland Region Iris Society – Their show was titled "Showers of Flowers" and will be stunning at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society – Busy planning the Fall Meeting for Oct. 14-15. Details to follow.

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club– Has had steady member growth and working on tech connections.

Prescott Area Iris Society – currently has 67 members, 5 outreach programs, and a spring popularity show as well as a garden tour.

San Diego Iris Society – sent their report by e-mail as well as at the meeting to explain their green scene week-end, floral design program, show, and tour.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society –They produced this EXCELLENT trek, and the May meeting will feature Andi Rivarola speaking on Spuria. The May mini Spuria trek will be May 5-7, 2017.

Southern California Iris Society – Last week was their show.

Sun Country Iris Society – They had an early and late popularity show at local nurseries, as well as an AIS show at Spectrum Mall in Phoenix.

Tucson Iris Society – is now on Facebook and the schedules of their meetings are on their website.

Old Business: Many items were donated from each club for the AIS basket which Debbie will take to New Jersey.

New Business: \$ 600 was authorized to be sent to the AIS meeting to be held in Sedona, AZ this fall. The trek wheel is full until 2018, and will be dark in Spring 2019 due to the AIS National in Region 14. Please send club newsletters via e-mail to Region 15 RVP at region15rvp@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marge Larson, Secretary*



# Focus on PAIS Community Outreach Projects

*By Dennis Luebkin*

When an organization is focused outwardly on community outreach and not inwardly on just the club itself it is successful and accomplishes much. That success in Prescott, Arizona is due mainly to the willingness and focus of PAIS members to go outside the box to bring to fruition the mission statement of PAIS to teach iris horticulture and the beauty of growing irises to the public.

We have been successful in those endeavors from the Marcusen Sculpture Garden at Yavapai College, the Memorial Garden at Embry Riddle University and the Sharlot Hall Museum. At each of these locations the public and staff of each venue enjoy the beauty that PAIS has helped to create in a public and private cooperative effort with the community. We have recently been asked by both Yavapai Community College and Embry Riddle University to expand the gardens which we have implemented in those locations. The expansion of these gardens will begin in the fall of this year and continue over the next several years. The spring bloom at these two locations and at Sharlot Hall was beautiful this year. We have received comments from staff and visitors concerning the beauty at each location. The Marcusen Sculpture Garden at Yavapai College was awarded two certifications this year receiving a designation as an AIS National Display Garden due to its unique combination of contemporary sculpture, irises and native companion plant material along with the HIPS designation as a Historic Iris Display Garden. The Designations were presented to PAIS at the 2016 National Convention in May.

Our work at the Citizens Cemetery restoration project, teaching about irises in the local elementary schools (Growing Irisarians) and Yavapai College classes on irises for the Olli Group has been very successful and we have been asked to continue these programs this year and into the future. I want to thank the members of PAIS for their dedication to our community outreach projects.

*Photos by: Dennis Luebkin*



*Editor's Note: See "Richard Marcusen Sculpture Garden", AIS Bulletin Vol. 97, No. 2, Spring 2016, pp. 63-66 for a related article.*

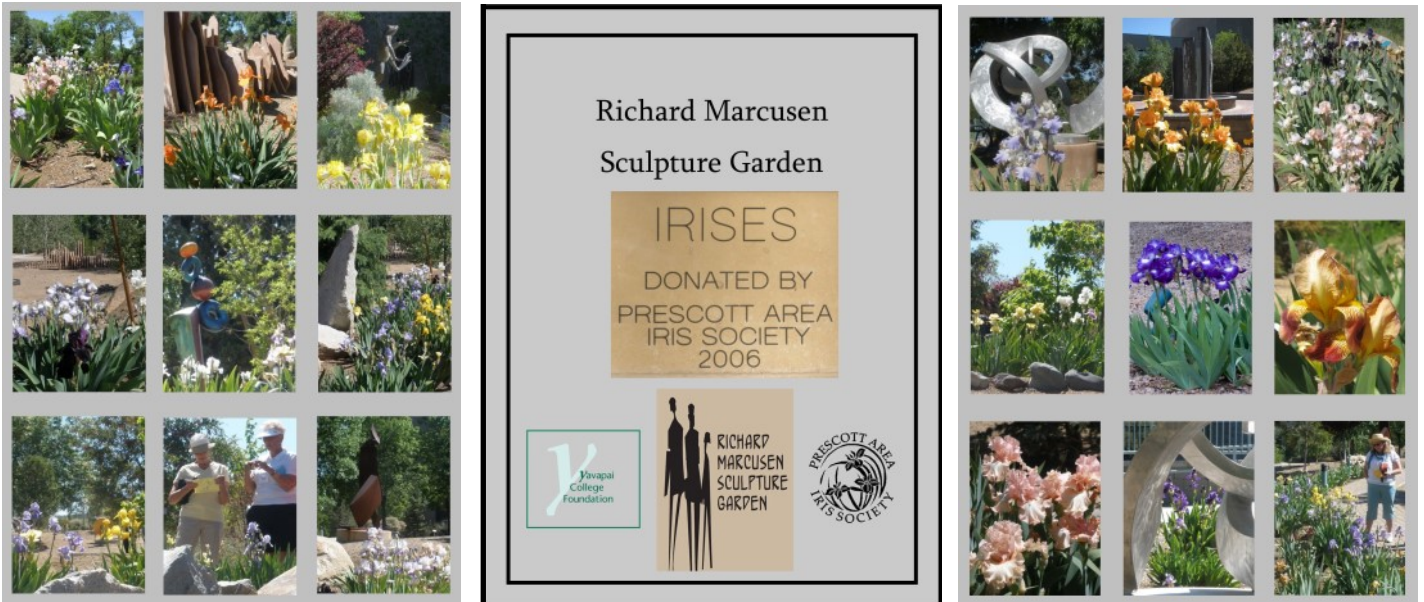


# Richard Marcusen Sculpture Garden Receives Prestigious AIS Designation

*By Dennis Luebkin*

*Photos by Dennis Luebkin, Judy Book and Marilyn McCarthy*

The Richard Marcusen Sculpture Garden, at Yavapai College in Prescott, has just received two prestigious designations by the national American Iris Society (AIS). The first designation by the American Iris Society is that of an AIS National Display Garden for the sculpture garden's combination of low water use iris plantings provided by the Prescott Area Iris Society in conjunction with the display of sculptures of local and nationally recognized artists. The garden has been designated as a national Historic Iris Preservation Display Garden for its collection of the William R. Dykes Medal Irises. The William R. Dykes Medal is the highest award that can be achieved by iris hybridizers for the development of a new and unique iris variety.



Along with plantings including the children's Story Book Garden, the Black Iris Garden and the Francelle Edwards iris collection, the sculpture garden provides a unique blend of native and naturalized plant materials, walkways, seating areas and mountain vistas. The Yavapai College Foundation, the Friends of Yavapai College Art and the Prescott Area Iris Society, a combination of public and private cooperation, have contributed to creating a place of beauty and enjoyment for the college community and the public. These prestigious designations were formally announced by the President of the American Iris Society at their 2016 National Convention in Newark, New Jersey in May. The gardens peak bloom season is during mid-May to the end of May.





# ALS Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

## Hummingbird Iris Garden

(928)777-8110

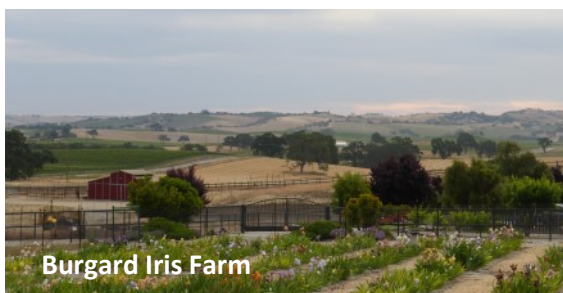
Linda Rossman  
5942 Old Black Canyon Hwy  
Prescott, AZ 86303  
lindarae@cableone.net

## Squires Iris Garden (818)892-1516

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

## Stanton Iris Garden (760)415-3248

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



Burgard Iris Farm

## Mystic Lake Gardens

(951)928-2337

Paul & Carole Buchheim  
22177 Polley Street  
Nuevo, CA 92567  
www.mysticlakegardens.com  
cbuchheim@gmail.com



Mystic Lake Gardens



Wild Oak Farms

## Wild Oak Farms

(909)307-4565

Tony & Cheryl Hicks  
32036 Live Oak Canyon Rd  
Redlands, CA 92373  
wildoakfarms.redlands@gmail.com

# ALS Dykes Medal WINNER 2016

*Congratulations!*

## SWANS IN FLIGHT SIB (R. HOLLINGWORTH 2006)

33" (84 cm), Late to very late bloom. White self, very large flowers. Honorable Mention 2009; Award of Merit 2011; Morgan-Wood Medal 2013; Franklin Cook Cup 2015; American Dykes Medal 2016.



# AIS Region 15 2016-2017 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
SEPTEMBER	1	SFVIS Annual Iris Auction	Canoga Park, CA
	6	IRIS Region 15 Rhizomes Auction/Sale	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	10-11	SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale at Casa del Prado, Balboa Park	San Diego, CA
	13	OCIDC Beardless Iris Auction	Garden Grove, CA
	17	PAIS Ice Cream Social, Silent Auction and Photo Contest	Prescott, AZ
		HDIDS Members Only Rubles Auction	Lancaster, CA
	17-18	IRIS Annual Fall Rhizome Sale at the Western Municipal Water District's Landscapes Southern California Style	Riverside, CA
	18	SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale at Casa del Prado, Balboa Park	San Diego, CA
	24	SCIS Meeting at the Bamboo Room, LA Arboretum: Beardless Iris Auction TAIS Annual Sale at Harlow Gardens Nursery	Arcadia, CA Tucson, AZ
OCTOBER	4	IRIS meeting: "AIS National Convention, New Jersey" slide presentation by Carole Buchheim	Riverside, CA
	6	SFVIS meeting: GAMES night	Canoga Park, CA
	9	SDIS Auction of Region 15 rhizomes	San Diego, CA
	11	OCIDC meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	14-15	<b>AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting hosted by the Lompoc Valley Iris Society</b> <b>Guest Speakers: Emil and Catherine Burgard of Burgard Iris Farm in Templeton, CA</b> <b>Judges Training on "Awards and Ballots" with Cheryl Deaton</b> <b>Headquarters: Embassy Suites by Hilton Lompoc Central Coast</b>	<b>Lompoc, CA</b>
	22	PAIS Annual Potluck social event	Prescott, CA
23	SCIS meeting	Arcadia, CA	
NOVEMBER	1	IRIS "How to Create Your Own Fairy Garden" demonstration by Joyce Dean of RHIS	Riverside, CA
	4	SFVIS meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	8	OCIDC meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	13	SDIS meeting	San Diego, CA
	19	HDIDS Election of officers and "Iris and Places Seen This Year" program by Jill Bonino PAIS Election of officers	Lancaster, CA Phoenix, AZ
	DECEMBER	1	SFVIS Holiday Dinner
6		IRIS Christmas Party and Gift Exchange	Riverside, CA
10		HDIDS Installation of officers and Annual Holiday Feast and Gift Exchange	Lancaster, CA
13		OCIDC Potluck Social and Gift Exchange	Garden Grove, CA



Month	Day	Event	Location
JANUARY 2017	5	SFVIS meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	10	OCIDC meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	14	SDIS meeting	San Diego, CA
	21	HDIDS meeting	Lancaster, CA
	28	PAIS meeting	Prescott, AZ
		SCIS meeting	Arcadia, CA
FEBRUARY	2	SFVIS meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS meeting	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	18	PAIS meeting	Prescott, AZ
MARCH	2	SFVIS meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS meeting	Riverside, CA
	18	HDIDS meeting	Lancaster, CA
	25	SCIS meeting	Arcadia, CA
APRIL	4	IRIS meeting	Riverside, CA
	8-9	IRIS Rhizome Sale at the Riverside Flower Show	Riverside, CA
	15	IRIS Flower Show and Rhizome Sale at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
	21-22	<b>AIS Region 15 Spring Trek 2017 “ Desert Rainbows” hosted by the Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society</b>	<b>Lancaster, CA</b>

### AIS REGION 15 AFFILIATE SOCIETY MEETINGS

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society (HDIDS) meetings : : 1-3 pm on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Antelope Valley College Agriculture Bldg. TE-3, 3041 West Avenue K, Lancaster, CA unless otherwise stated. HDIDS, P.O. Box 3014, Quartz Hill, CA 93586 Visit on facebook/Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society-Region 15 Antelope Valley

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/Inland Region Iris Society

For Lompoc Valley Iris Society meetings contact the LVIS president or visit facebook.com/Lompoc Valley Iris Society

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) at Yavapai Title, 1235 E. Gurley at Sheldon intersection Prescott, AZ. For calendar of events go to PAIS website at www.prescottirissociety.org or facebook.

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.sandiegoirissociety.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/San Fernando Valley Iris Society

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/Southern California Iris Society

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): Visit on facebook. Calendar of events posted to the TAIS website at www.tucsoniris.org

Please send updates and corrections to [aisregion15editor@gmail.com](mailto:aisregion15editor@gmail.com)

# THE IRIS MARKETPLACE



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# *Region 15 Spring Trek 2016*



*Photos by Beth Balaney-Train*



# Sweet 16 in 2016 Irises

*Photos by Beth Balaney-Train*



Blondie's Blush  
(M. Sutton 2013)



Seedling 08-28  
(Moorhead)



Butter Rum IB  
(M. Sutton 2013)



Age of Miracles  
(Hedgecock 2012)



Meerkat Manor BB  
(Kasperek 2009)



Sweet Child of Mine  
(Lauer 2015)



Going Big Time  
(Ghio 2014)



TIFF  
(Lauer 2014)



Peach Pearl  
(Tasco 2014)



Spiral Galaxy  
(Ghio 2014)



Drunk Skunk  
(Kasperek 2013)



Sheer Excitement BB  
(Tasco 2011)



Sdlg. Pink for Feye  
(Price)



Red Velvet Nights RE  
(Edwards 2012)



Go West  
(Duncan 2011)



Not A Clue  
(Sutton 2014)