

The  
American Iris  
Society

# Region 15

Spring 2016 Semi-annual Report

## YOU'RE INVITED! SPRING TREK 2016

Hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society

APRIL 15-16

BURBANK, CALIFORNIA

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

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# Many Shades of Pink



Falling In Love (Hager 1988)



Vanity (Hager 1974)



Lovely Kay (Hamblen 1980)



Pretty Kitty (Keppel 2011)



I Pink I Can (Schreiner 2013)



Augustine (Schick 2005)



Fantasy in Pink (Black 2014)



Star Turn (Ghio 2014)



Femme Fatale (Gatty 1988)



Pink Matters  
(Valenzuela 2013)



Cherub's Smile  
(Schreiner 1983)



Sunrise at Dawn  
(Valenzuela 2013)

*Photos by Beth Balaney-Train and Dawn Mumford*

*Photos of Valenzuela's intros from the AIS website*

## Letter from the Editor

*"It's spring fever. That is what the name of it is.  
And when you've got it, you want it —  
Oh, you don't quite know what it is you do want.  
But it just fairly makes your heart ache,  
You want it so!"*

*Mark Twain*



Aah, spring is just around the corner. The recent Santa Ana winds and unseasonably warm temperatures however make it feel like we fast forwarded to summer. The garden greened up almost overnight. I even noticed a few iris bloom stalks!

In this issue, beginning on page 5, are updates from our Region Officers. New this year is the section "Judges' Corner" where the Region's AIS judges share their experiences in both the training classes and the iris show circuit.

It was nice to meet most of you at the Fall Meeting in Prescott. I had a lovely time with such a friendly and hospitable group of people. The program was very informative. Sharon Luebkin called the event a "rooten tooten" success, page 10.

The San Fernando Valley Iris Society is hosting this year's Spring Trek. One of the gardens on the tour is Renee Fraser's in Simi Valley. On page 11, Renee leads us on her journey in growing guest irises. I'm looking forward to visiting all the gardens. Likewise, I'm excited to hear Dell Perry speak on aril and arilbred irises. I added a few arilbreds to my garden in 2014 and had a beautiful bloom last spring (photos on page 9). It would be great to learn more about these irises as I'd like to add more to my collection. See pages 12 and 13 for the registration form and information on the trek.

I'm in a "pink" mood this spring and asked Dawn Mumford of the AIS Blogspot fame to write about her favorite pink irises, pages 14-15. She and her husband Neal grow close to 500 iris cultivars (not for sale) on their Utah property. Read more about the Mumfords on page 30.

Affiliate societies' reports start on page 16, the minutes of the Region 15 meeting in Prescott on page 28, and the local affiliates' event calendar on page 32. Plan ahead, save October 14th and 15th for the 2016 Fall Meeting in Lompoc, CA.

The Region welcomes Marilyn Kiger— the newly elected president of Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society. We will likely see more new faces next season. Several affiliates are having elections this year.

Good news to the social media-savvy! Region 15 is now on Facebook.

On a personal note, many thanks to Jill Bonino for keeping her word on making the Fall 2015 issue. She did a wonderful job.

Once again, there are a lot of iris introductions to make any iris lover's heart beat a little faster. I get tachycardic just thinking about these new irises, page 35.

This spring, what makes you step livelier, sing louder or just dream?

See you at the gardens,

*Beth Balaney-Train*, Editor

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



On the Cover: 'June Krausse' (M. Sutton 2009)

Photo by B. Balaney-Train

### AIS Region 15

#### Local Chapter Presidents

#### Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Marlyn Kiger  
mwkiger@msn.com  
HDIDS Facebook

#### Inland Region Iris Society

Cathy Coache  
cathycoachemueck@gmail.com  
IRIS Facebook

#### Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Ben Schleuning  
bennme2000@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

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  
irisgrowinaz@gmail.com  
TAIS website and Facebook

**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:** Janis Shackelford and  
Claire Schneider  
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 Spring Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society	Burbank, CA
2016 Fall Meeting	Lompoc Valley Iris Society October 14-15, 2016	Lompoc, CA
2017 Spring Trek	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society April 21-23, 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	

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks  
from our website

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





## **AIS Region 15 RVP Message**

*By Debbie Babuscio-James, Region 15 RVP*

The winter rains have come right on schedule and the Region 15 Spring Trek is also on track to be on April 15 and 16, 2016. This year it will be hosted by the San Fernando Valley Iris Society with the trek hotel located in Burbank, CA. The speaker is Dell Perry of Seandel Iris Gardens in Plano, TX. She is a member of the Aril Society International. Her garden was one of the guest gardens at the A.I.S. 2013 and 2014 National Conventions. Dell is also a Garden/Exhibition Judge and she will be giving a judges training on Aril and Arilbred Irises. Aril irises grow just about anywhere in Region 15 and thrive in our dry arid conditions.

In addition to the guest irises, two of the home yards on the Spring Trek are exquisitely planted with roses, daylilies, poppies and other annuals and perennials. If you've been looking for ideas on what and how you can plant your garden, you're sure to get a boat load of ideas from these two gardens. There will also be a one hour JT in each of these two gardens.

The fall trek in Prescott, AZ was a fun filled weekend. Dennis and Sharon Luebkin and the Prescott Area Iris Society did a super job hosting the trek. Kelly Norris, the guest speaker, was very informative, knowledgeable and inspiring. I cannot wait to get his newly released book. The hotel was beautiful and historic and the area beautiful.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in the spring.

*Debbie James*



## **Membership Update**

*By Patrick Orr, Membership Chair*

TOTAL MEMBERS 265

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS 231

TOTAL YOUTH 4

TOTAL AFFILIATES 10



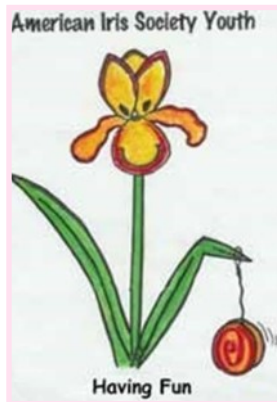
## AIS Judges Training

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

It was truly wonderful meeting many of the members at the Fall Meeting hosted by Prescott Area Iris Society. Our speaker, Kelly D Norris, was fabulous. He is very knowledgeable and his program was most informative. I learned so much about Intermediate and Border Bearded irises. I am planning to go to Iowa for the 2017 National Convention to see what Mr. Norris had planted at the Des Moines Botanical Garden.

It is still winter and there was some rain in the Antelope Valley. I see some new growths on the rhizomes that were planted last September. Hopefully, the nine aril and arilbred irises will bloom in the spring. Everyone, let's make plans to attend the Region 15 Spring Trek 2016 in Burbank, CA. Our speaker Dell Perry will present a program on aril and arilbred irises. I had the pleasure to visit her garden with the most beautiful aril and arilbred irises in bloom. There will be in-garden judges' training at the Spring Trek.

Currently, Region 15 has 23 judges on the 2015 list. Since the 2015 Fall Report, two students dropped out of the program. However, two new applications were received. There are 15 students. Region 15 needs more judges. The application form is on the website. If you have any questions, just send an e-mail to irisfor15w@gmail.com. See you at the Spring Trek.



## AIS Youth Program Report

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

Currently we have 31 youth members in our region. We should have so much more. At the Regional Fall meeting, hosted by Prescott Area Iris Society, 2 young men from the Classroom Iris Program who are members of Pack 13 Scout troop performed a flag ceremony to start off the event. Youth member Victoria Van Klompenburg attended the meeting and it was nice meeting her. She is the granddaughter of PAIS's President, Dennis Luebkin and Sharon Luebkin. Victoria was the recipient of some new irises for her garden. I hope they bloom this spring so she can enter them in the PAIS show.

Youth members Makayla Felix and Victoria entered the annual AIS Coloring Contest and won cash prizes. I hope all our youth members will enter the Ackerman Essay Contest. This year's topic is "My most interesting or exciting iris experience" and the essay should be 500 words or less. Deadline is April 1, 2016.

I urge all of you to mentor a young person to enjoy irises as much as we do. We need young people to gain an interest because they are the future of AIS. Without them, we will have a dwindling society and our favorite flowers will not thrive. Membership is only \$8 per year without the Bulletin. It's a great way to get kids interested in gardening and learning about irises as a drought tolerant plant for their gardens. Enroll a young person today!

# JUDGES' CORNER

## ON BEING A JUDGE...

Many times when I saw a stalk of iris on a show bench, I wondered what did the judges see because the stalk next to it looked superior to the one with the blue ribbon. Then I remember a lesson I learned when I was an apprentice judge.

All apprentice judges are required to have two different exhibition trainings, one to one tutorship, with two different accredited AIS judges. I was lucky. One of my tutors was a master judge. He was patient with my ignorance. It was a beautiful and warm Saturday morning. The panel of judges took two hours to finish the judging. Then we went to lunch. Afterward, my tutor wanted to go back to the show bench and he wanted my opinion on some of the entries. There were two stalks of iris of the same cultivar. In the morning on stalk #1, all the flowers were in bloom. The flower below the terminal flower was not fully opened on stalk #2. The panel of judges awarded the blue ribbon to stalk #1. Now, it is the afternoon about two hours after completion of the judging. The temperature in the room had risen. The terminal flower of stalk #1 showed signs of aging and all the flowers of stalk #2 were in full bloom. If the judging were in the afternoon, stalk #2 would have received the blue ribbon.

The lesson of the day is: NEVER, NEVER, NEVER second guess the opinion of the panel of judges.

I was not there when the judging was done. I have no idea what had occurred since judging. A stalk of cut flower is a living organism. It changes with time and circumstances. Whatever the panel of judges had decided was correct at the time of judging. I shall always accept their decision since I do not have the ability to go back in time.

*Sue Brown*

I enjoy being an AIS Garden/Exhibition Judge. I have been able to judge shows, gardens, tutor apprentice judges, give judges' training, and meet many interesting people from all over the country who are also judges. I can remember being in Superstition Iris Gardens with a friend who is also a judge. She was oohing and aahing about a certain flower two rows over and she urged me to "come and look". (It wasn't one of Rick's or Roger's). Well, I came over and then had to look at my friend like she was loco! It was the ugliest flower, had lousy form, the colors were muddy, and I could not understand what in the world she was talking about! She thought the color was "distinctive" and it had 3 blooms open at once (it was bunchy) and she felt it would do well on the show bench. Here was an example of "different strokes for different folks" and also "do not let your personal preferences influence your judging"! That is one of the hardest requirements for me, but thank goodness when judging on the show bench you are judging how well the specimen was grown by the exhibitor, and "miracles" can happen. A stalk of 'Circus Stripes' (Plough 1976) that is straight is a true accomplishment and deserves a blue ribbon!

Judging also allows me to view many different irises that I just don't have room for in my garden. And visiting the many different gardens shows the changes that weather, soil and growing conditions can happen to make a flower just slightly different in hue, taller, bigger, etc. If I ever get 2 acres and a gardener, I have a whole list of irises that I would love to grow! Unfortunately I must be very selective in those I grow for my personal pleasure since I run out of room every year and must remove some old favorites. I hope you consider becoming a judge. I think you will enjoy it.

*Cheryl Deaton*

# AIS Region 15 Treasurer's Report

*By Carol Huffman, Treasurer*

## 2015 INCOME AND EXPENSES

CHECKBOOK BEGINNING BALANCE		\$20,699.17
Income from Region Iris Rhizomes and Donations:		
Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society	\$ 500.00	
San Diego Iris Society	\$ 231.00	
Lompoc Valley Iris Society	\$ 200.00	
Southern California Iris Society	\$ 500.00	
Sun Country Iris Society	\$ 250.00	
Inland Region Iris Society	\$ 186.00	
San Fernando Valley Iris Society	\$ 187.00	
Orange County Iris & Daylily Club	\$ 300.00	
Tucson Area Iris Society	\$ 384.00	
San Diego Iris Society	\$ 182.00	
Total from Affiliates	\$ 2,920.00	
AD Revenue	\$ 130.00	
Total Income		\$ 3,050.00
Expenses:		
Board Meeting Canoga Park Women's Club Rental	\$ 60.00	
Board Meeting Refreshments	\$ 69.91	
Printing	\$ 5.50	
Travel Expense - Region Secretary	\$ 154.41	
Regional Vice President Expense	\$ 663.74	
Web Site	\$ 495.00	
Spring 2015 Newsletter	\$ 673.36	
Bank Fees/Checks and Deposit Slips	\$ 40.00	
Rhizome Purchases	\$1,000.00	
Postage	\$ 106.65	
Total Expenses		\$ 3,268.57
CHECKBOOK ENDING BALANCE as of 12/31/2015		\$20,480.60
EDWARD JONES ACCOUNT		
Beginning Balance	\$12,763.62	
Interest	\$ 0.40	
Ending Balance as of 9/25/2015	\$12,764.02	



## Calling all REGION 15 HYBRIDIZERS !

Sun Country Iris Society in Phoenix, AZ is hosting the 2018 Spring Trek. We would love to showcase your Tall Bearded, Louisianas, Medians and Arilbred irises at the event. The rhizomes will be needed by no later than end of August 2016 and can be sent to Kyria Peavy at 672 E. Linda Lane, Gilbert, AZ 85234. We will have 4 gardens on tour, so no more than 4 rhizomes of each variety would be appreciated.

We are really looking forward to meeting and greeting everyone who loves the iris as much as we do and we are working hard to make it a special event.

Please email Kyria Peavy at [scis.phoenix@gmail.com](mailto:scis.phoenix@gmail.com) or call Kyria at 480.577.0991 for more information.



*Left: 'Parable' AB (OGB-)  
(Johnson 2011)*



*Right: 'Engraved' AB (OB-)  
(Craig 1952)*

*Photos by B. Train*



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: [AIMemsec@irises.org](mailto:AIMemsec@irises.org)



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

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

# REGION 15 FALL CONFERENCE

## A “Rooten Tooten” Success

*By Sharon Luebkin, PAIS*

PAIS hosted the annual American Iris Society Region 15 Fall Conference October 9th and 10th which includes clubs from all of Arizona and Southern California. Our keynote speaker was Kelly Norris, author, director of the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens, horticulturalist and owner of Rainbow Iris Gardens in Iowa. He spoke about planning smaller gardens for the future with smaller available space and smaller varieties of irises.

Our Conference started with a “Meet and Greet” book signing with our speaker with an opportunity to purchase his book “A Guide to Bearded Irises” and have it autographed. The Hassayampa Inn lobby was the perfect venue. Attendees were treated to hors d’oeuvres and a birthday cake celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Tucson Iris Society (TAIS). It was a wonderful opportunity for our members to visit, relax and socialize with members of other affiliate clubs from around Arizona and Southern California. We all deserved this fun time together. Our iris friends from Arizona and California came in slowly during the evening, tired and hungry after their long drives from California of up to 8 to 10 hours . That’s dedication!!! They were tired and didn’t stay with us long so Friday was truly our party. A big thank you, to all who were there.

Saturday found many members there at 6:30 a.m. ready to setup for the Conference, Raffle, Silent Auction, Boutique and the Region 15 Board meeting. Everything was setup on time thanks to all who came and helped. We have been told that Prescott has set the bar high for future Fall Conferences.

Our Fall Conference Committee met for 2 years planning this and their hard work showed. These members, Sharon Luebkin, Kathleen Shaffer, Judy Book, Sue Crabtree, Sharon Sundvall, Jean Cole, Marge Larson, Vera Stewart, Leigh Skellenger, Dede Erceg, Carolyn Alexander, Linda Rossman and Dennis Luebkin all added their time and talents to make this a success.

A special thank you to all our members who dug, cleaned and helped sell iris rhizomes which raised the money to pay for our conference. PAIS has the most dedicated and hard working members imaginable.

Thanks a 1,000,000!



# GROWING THE GUEST IRISES

## AIS Region 15

*By Renee Fraser, SFVIS*

On the spring of 2016, the American Iris Society Region 15 Garden Tour will come to my area, and for the first time I volunteered to grow guest irises in hopes that they will survive my gardening skills long enough to put on at least one show of blooms for the attendees.

In case you are unfamiliar with these tours, each year hybridizers of new irises send dozens of rhizomes of their newest creations out across the country to live in "guest gardens" two to three years before national or regional garden tours. Volunteers grow the irises and record their performance, and iris lovers sign up, load onto buses or into car caravans, and tour all of the gardens during the treks. Iris judges take notes about the new plants and evaluate their health, vigor, and blooms.

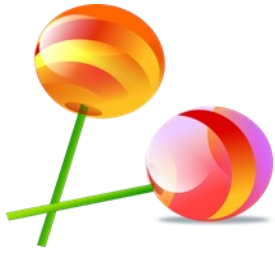
My original intent in volunteering to grow these irises was to have an excuse for expanding my garden beds at the expense of my husband's lawn. Mikey and I are like two feudal lords, jealously guarding the borders of our domains and expanding into neighboring lands when our opponent is occupied on other fronts. My latest strategy is a row of unmortared bricks lining my beds. Using a half-moon edger, I can slice out three to four inches of unprotected St. Augustine grass in under an hour, move the bricks out, and pretend like I have just "edged" the lawn for my husband. The request from the San Fernando Valley Iris Society to grow guest irises was the perfect excuse for demanding a huge island bed in the center of the lawn, where the sun is best, since the big coast redwoods shade the rest of the yard. My bid was foiled, however, when Mikey offered to fell the ailing and dehydrated coast redwoods, letting sun stream into one of my existing beds instead. This I allowed, since his other offer was to add an arbor so he could hang himself.

It turned out that the 44 guest irises would not fit into the existing bed, so I claimed imminent domain over about two feet of grass in the borderlands. A treaty was agreed to, and I began my expansion. I quickly realized that Mikey had taken me in: this area of the lawn was infested with Bermuda grass! This required double-digging, and much screening of dirt. I wanted the irises to be in raised beds, but to look naturally planted, so I carted in wheelbarrows full of dirt from a neighbor. Three bags of vermiculite, four bags of soil amendments, and a few wheelbarrows of composted chicken manure from the girls were dug into the soil as well. (I generally just stick irises straight into the ground and ignore them and they give me a great show, so this preparation is due to unreasonable anxiety, not to any special needs of irises.)

The next challenge to growing irises in my garden is me. I want lush, green, flower-filled English gardens and I live in a drought-stricken, hot inland Southern California valley. I know, I know, I should accept the natural order of things and go native, and I have eliminated some of my favorites because they are so thirsty. Even with these changes, weekly irrigation is still a necessity, and that can cause irises to rot, especially when beds are irregularly shaped and lawn sprinkler water reaches them. I left two patches of Japanese Blood Grass, which appreciates a good swim now and then, at a lower elevation in the bed in the vain hope that water will drain through the raised irises and into the gully of blood grass. An old plowshare blocks the back spray from the worst offending Rainbird, I shall hand-water the new plants when they get dry, and avoid watering in the heat of summer, which should help prevent rot.

After growing in pots in the shade through the hottest part of the summer, I planted the irises in the new bed in September. The plants had healthy looking roots and seem to be adapting well to their new home. I organized them according to color and height, with the area near my red rose in front of the tuteur for the red irises, the corals, oranges, peaches and pinks next, then warm orchid and red-violets, to purples in the back, over across the blood grass to coppers, tans, yellows and whites, and finally in the far back a few blues. I stretched plastic bird-netting over the soil and cut holes for the irises to foil the excavations of squirrels, raccoons, opossums and Pogo the One-Eyed Cat. There is one Arilbred iris I am obsessing over, and one IB, since I have never grown them successfully in the past, but otherwise I have high hopes for the show in the spring. I may plant color-coordinated violas between the irises for the trek. What do you think? Bare dirt, or a few violas, violets, and gazanias for ground cover?

*First appeared on November 24, 2014 in: [theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com](http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com)  
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THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO THE  
AIS REGION 15

# Spring Trek

IT'S SWEET SIXTEEN IN 2016

**APRIL 15 & 16, 2016**

**HOLIDAY INN, BURBANK MEDIA CENTER**

150 EAST ANGELENO AVE.

BURBANK, CA 91502

Speaker: **Dell Perry** of Seandel Irises in Plano, Texas

Topic and Judges Training on: **ARIL and ARILBRED IRISES**

Friday: Registration 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Judges Training 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saturday: Registration 7:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Buses Load at 7:30am  
Garden Tours 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Return to Hotel 4:30 pm  
Social Gathering 5:30 to 6:00 (Cash Bar)  
Awards Banquet 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Speaker 7:00 pm  
Silent Auction and Raffle after speaker  
Concludes at 10:00 pm



*Left: 'Chocolate Mint' AB (OGB)  
(Tasco 1998)*

*Right: 'Sweetness and Light' AB (OGB)  
(McAllister 1992)*



# REGION 15 SPRING TREK 2016

REGISTRATION RECEIVED BY APRIL 1, 2016

FULL REGISTRATION : # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$110.00 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

(Includes Awards Banquet and Garden Tour with Lunch)

Received After April 1, 2016 # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$125.00

YOUTH: (19 AND UNDER): # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

GARDEN TOUR ONLY: # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$60.00 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

(Includes: Bus, Garden Tour with Lunch)

Received After April 1, 2016 # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$75.00

AWARDS BANQUET ONLY: # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## DINNER CHOICES *(includes Caesar Salad and Dessert):*

Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Beef Filet \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any diet restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

## Trek Headquarters:

### HOLIDAY INN BURBANK MEDIA CENTER

150 East Angeleno Ave., Burbank, CA

Phone: 818-841-4770

Room Rate: \$139 plus taxes (includes free parking). Please book by March 15<sup>th</sup> to guarantee room rate.

Free Airport Shuttle from Bob Hope Burbank Airport

Registrant #1

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

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

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant #2

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form and your check to:

Mary Anne Abrahms

5922 Jumillia Avenue

Woodland Hills, CA 91367-5606

Alternatively, you may pay your registration fee via PayPal at: <http://www.sanfernandovalleyirissociety.org/events.html>

# My Favorite PINK Irises

By Dawn Mumford

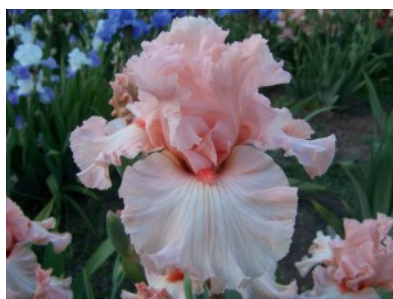
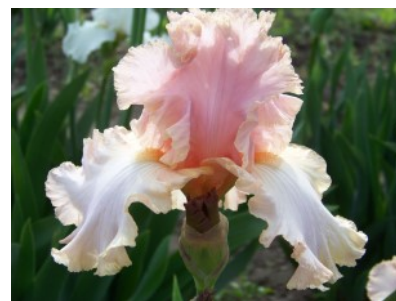
The color **PINK** has different meanings to a lot of people. The color represents compassion, nurturing and love. It relates to unconditional love and understanding. Pink is feminine and romantic, affectionate and intimate, thoughtful and caring. It tones down the physical passion of red by mixing it with white and changing it to gentle loving energy. Pink is intuitive and insightful, showing tenderness and kindness. In color psychology, pink is a sign of hope. It is a positive color inspiring warm and comforting feelings.

A lot of people are drawn to pink flowers. I am no exception. I have a lot of favorite pink irises. Keep in mind that after moving to our more spacious home and grounds we were able to keep all our old irises plus order and plant more. The total now is 467 irises with all but 3 or 4 being tall bearded. We plant 4 of each cultivar so we really have at least 1868 plants. It covers about ½ acre. We discovered other fine vendors besides Schreiner's like Superstition Iris Gardens, Zebra Gardens, Mid American Gardens, Country Delights, Rocky Top Iris, and C & T gardens but alas Cooley's is now out of business. There are dozens of shades of pink from a light delicate pink to one that is almost hot pink.

All the irises vary in color. Some are a delicate pink and others are rich and rosy and others have a shrimp hue included in the pink. Pinks are a lovely addition to any garden. They can be planted with whites, blues, and yellows. You can plant lots of different pinks together for a bigger splash of pink in your garden.

My long-time favorite pink irises include:

**'Designer Gown'** (Joseph Ghio 1984). This beauty has a fine gilt edge on it. You don't see it until the sun hits it and then it is an eyelash wide line of gold on the edges of both the falls and the standards. It is hard to capture the gilt in a photograph so I recommend you plant it to see it.



**'Dream Cake'** (Richard Ernst 2002). The hot coral beard and the veining make this one a tour stopper. It grows very well and increases well in our garden.

**'Extravagant'** (Melba Hamblen 1983). This iris has always bloomed very late in the season for us. It has been situated near some 80 to 100-foot-tall trees and so gets shade from 4 pm on. We have relocated it to a sunnier spot and I hope that encourages it to bloom earlier next season. If it blooms when it is too hot it won't last very long.



**'Geniality'** (Opal Brown 1981). This has long been in my top 25 irises. It is rather short at 31 inches. I wish it were taller. It also doesn't increase as well as lots of others but the colors are worth it. It has both ruffling and lacing.

Photo credits pp. 14-15: Dawn Mumford



**'Magical'** (Joseph Ghio 2007). This was so aptly named. This bloomed for the first time for us in 2014 and it stopped me in my tracks and I couldn't move on down the row for a while. It simple took my breath away. It has extravagant ruffling and beautiful form.



**'Kitty Kay'** (Keith Keppel 2002). I hesitate to mention this one because I get howls of protests but I love this bloom. The shape, the color, the size, the ruffling is stunning. I can put up with the green part of the plant not being tip top just to get this dreamy flower.

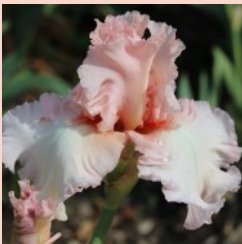
Here are more recent blooming irises that I would like to add to this year's favorite list:



**'Fantasy In Pink'** (Black 2014)  
This one was new to our garden and first bloomed in 2015. I took many pictures of it because it had a blend of such pretty pink, peach and warm white. Lots of ruffles too.



**'Happenstance'** (Keppel 2000)  
There is a lot to like about this iris. Its color is clearly pink and I love the white dripping down out of the beard.



**'Picture Book'** (Ghio 2006)  
This lovely iris could also be named Perfect Pink. I love everything about it and even love my photo that has a perfect drop of rain that almost looks like a jewel.



**'Lacy Day'** (Ernst 2000)  
This one has beautiful white to pink to coral coloring. The rhizome was given to me by a dear friend so it means more.

It is always fun to talk about and look at irises. I especially needed the boost of looking at iris pictures now because here in Utah we still have snow on the ground and it barely warms up to 40 degrees. Spring around here is usually mid-April or May. I can't wait for spring. I look forward to seeing my newly planted pink irises. My iris pen pal on Facebook from Maryland teases me by saying I talk about the iris like they are my long lost friends. They sort of are. I am always so glad when we go out in the spring to find that they have miraculously survived another freezing Utah winter.

This May/June I look forward to meeting new friends for the first time in our garden. We should see maiden blooms of **'Bubble Dancer'**, **'Eye For Style'**, **'Gladys Austell'**, **'In Love Again'**, **'Peekaboo Zebu'**, **'Just An Elusion'**, **'Okapi Poppy'**, **'Pinkness'**, **'Plum Pretty Whiskers'**, **'Stiletto's'**, **'Strawberry Shake'**, and **'Sweetly Sung'**. Next year I will probably have new favorite pinks to add to my already bulging list.

*Dawn has been writing a blog for AIS since June of 2014. Here are the links to two of the blogs that she wrote about pink irises:*

<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/2014/10/tall-bearded-iris-my-favorite-pinks.html>

<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/2014/09/my-favorite-pinks-and-shrimp-colored.html>

# Region 15 Presidents' Reports



## Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

*By Marilyn Kiger, President*

This past October, a swarm of busy bees descended upon the gardens of an old friend of HDIDS, Pat Girl, our last club "Founding Member" that we have been able to locate. Mrs. Girl contacted club member Pat Cohen and requested a digging party for her iris garden and we were more than thrilled to oblige. On a rather cool morning a few "diggers", Pam Montelongo, Sue Brown, Betsy Haslett, Yvette McClung, Kate and myself, happily cleaned her out of iris, which she donated to the club. A special "thank you" to Kate, Yvette's sis for spending vacation time trimming fans with us and, to recoup she left for Hawaii the next day! An invitation was extended to Pat to join us at our Christmas Potluck/Installation meeting in December, and our members had the opportunity to meet this lovely young lady that was involved in bringing us all together so many years ago. A few of her beautiful donated iris additions to our club inventory include: Rustler, Star Wars, Beverly Sills, Berry Sherbet, Rain Cloud and Madame Serouge.

The last meeting of the year was our annual Christmas potluck, with Cheryl Deaton installing our 2016 Board: Marilyn Kiger-President, Pam Montelongo-Vice President, Ann Marie Wren-Treasurer and Chris Kreutel-Secretary.

A lesson learned, don't miss the November meeting! I did and was elected the 2016 President! Seriously, I'm honored to have been elected president and will work hard to earn the confidence my club has placed in me. A special Iris bouquet to Dan Dourney for his past three years serving as Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society's President, and leaving me in the hands of such a competent board.

I'm filled with excitement as HDIDS has a fun & busy year planned for 2016! We have much work ahead of us with iris sales, meetings, potting parties, digs, more meetings, our extraordinary Spring Iris Show & Sale and most importantly, preparing as hosts for the 2017 Region Trek, more meetings! We are certainly in capable hands with Richard Jamison, our trek chairman. Richard runs a tight garden and his hardworking guest gardeners and organized trek committee are preparing to welcome all to our lovely desert. **SAVE OUR DATE, April 21-23, 2017!**

We are looking forward to seeing old and new iris, as well as, old friends and meeting new at the Spring Trek in April! Carpe Rutrum !! (seize the spade)

*Photos by M. Kiger*



Outgoing President Dan Dourney



Christmas Potluck: Norma Jamison, Marilyn Kiger, founding member Pat Girl

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





## Inland Region Iris Society Report

*By DeDe Utter, 1st VP and Acting President*

2016 is going to be a great year for your gardens if the rains come as promised. The past week's sunny days and warmer temperatures have given all of us a good case of spring fever and we are anxiously awaiting our iris blooms at our own gardens as well as our club garden at Jurupa

Mountain Discovery Center.

We have an eventful year planned- Rick Tasco is our featured speaker for March, and we have Master Gardener and member designed presentations for our monthly meetings. We meet at the Janet Goeske Center in Riverside the 1st Tuesday each month from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We enjoy potlucks with each meeting and welcome guests. Stop in and visit if you are in the area!

We are very fortunate to have our club garden at the Jurupa Mountain Discovery Center, which is open to the public Tuesday – Sunday from 7am to 5pm. Please feel free to come by the garden and enjoy our blooms! Our garden committee members work very hard to maintain the gardens and enjoy talking with visitors who stroll thru as they explore the Center. We have been certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat as well, the birds love our trees, birdbaths and feeders, and we have a new area of plants to attract butterflies. We also have two great commercial iris gardens in our area - Mystic Lakes Garden in Nuevo, CA (Paul and Carol Buchheim) and Wild Oak Farms in Redlands, CA (Tony and Cheryl Hicks). It's a very worthwhile road trip if you want to see all three this spring! Give us a call if you are coming– my contact number is 303-503-5141, Carol Buchheim's 951-764-0016 and Wild Oak Farms' 909-307-4565.

Our upcoming meeting schedule:

- Mar. 1, 2016 Featured Guest speaker Rick Tasco from Superstition Iris Garden
- Apr. 5, 2016 Program presentation "Choosing and Prepping you Iris for Show"
- May 3, 2016 Meeting at Jurupa Garden) "Wine and Cheese in the Garden"
- June 7, 2016 Election of Officers and Slide Show of the 2016 National Convention
- July 5, 2016 Installation of Officers and our "Great Iris Trade"
- Aug 2, 2016 Members Only Auction
- Sept.6, 2016 Region 15 Rhizome Auction

On April 23, we will have our Annual Iris Show and Sale. "Showers of Flowers" is our theme this year. This event is open to the public, sale starts at 10:00 and show will open for viewing from noon to 5:00pm. NOTE: Location this year is Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center. Other sale dates are on May 13-15 at the Music and Arts Festival in Yucaipa and the IRIS Fall Sale at the Western Municipal Water District Riverside in September.

We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Trek this year! Happy Gardening!

*Photos by B. Train*



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



## Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

*By Ben Schleuning, President*

Our Lompoc Valley Iris Society started 2016 with our 4th annual New Years dinner.

Our board meeting and member's meeting are being held on Sunday, 21 February. Following the board meeting, we will have a calendar of events for 2016 to report.

The event that will include all of Region 15 is the **Fall Meeting** which will be held **Friday, 14th of October and Saturday, 15th of October.**

SAVE THE DATE !!

We do not have the registration forms ready for this mailing but.....next best plan is to bring them to the spring board meeting.

We had election of officers at our November 2015 meeting and there are no changes to report.

President: Ben Schleuning

Vice President: Marie Jacobsen

Secretary: Pat Dunn

Treasurer: Carol Huffman

Membership: Florence Schleuning



Florence, Dennis, and Ben at the Meet & Greet Reception, Region 15 Fall Meeting, Prescott, AZ.



And the table centerpiece goes to.... Florence!



*Photos taken by B. Train at the Hassayampa Inn, October 2015*

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



## Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

*By Lois Farr, President*

The Orange County Iris and Day Lily Club enjoyed another year as a club. We added a few new members and grew in garden knowledge, job functions, and personal relationships.

Looking forward, our goal is to continue working as a team to increase our knowledge and enjoyment of iris gardens. Irises will continue to hold the valued garden spot, filled next with daylilies, then finally with as many pants and animals to compliment the overall effect. This will require very intentional selection of speakers, activities, time management, events and friendships. It is not so easy a task.

The results of our elections are:

President - Lois Farr

Vice President 1 - Esteban Wu/Harry Penn

Vice President 2 - Derry Gerald

Secretary - Peggy Sheldon

Treasurer, Editor - Jeanie Moeckel

Advisor - Mike Monninger

A very important appointed position for Refreshments remains open. After serving tirelessly and superiorly for many years, Fran and Joe Gionet deserved a rest. No one person volunteered to replace them, so now the Refreshment spot belongs to ALL of us.

Improved and increased communication will help us meet our goals and keep problems low. So much depends on clear communication. Thank goodness for internet and cell phones.

Here is our tentative Schedule of Events. In addition, we anticipate the upcoming Spring Trek and National Convention in New Jersey.

February - Master Gardener - Soil

March - Master Gardener - Innovative Tomato Growing

April - Work Party Prepping Iris for Green Scene

July - Patio Potluck Dinner

August - Patio Potluck Dinner and Members Only Tall Bearded Iris Auction

September - Beardless Iris Auction

December - Potluck Social and Gift Exchange

*Photos by Lois Farr*





## Prescott Area Iris Society Report

*By Judy Book, Newsletter Editor*

2015 was an excellent year for our club in spite of changes in leadership halfway through the year. Our rhizome sale was financially, the best one yet, more members have become involved in activities and our publicity team is making our club more visible to the community.

Our September silent auction and photo contest had more member participation than ever and proved to be a most enjoyable event. October's Region 15 Fall Meeting pretty well exhausted everyone, but by November members were raring to go. The food contributed to our potluck was fantastic and we were then awed by a photo presentation on species iris by our own treasurer, Eugene Zielinski.

Our governing board will remain the same for 2016 and the program committee has procured some outstanding speakers for the year including, Janice Chesnik, a former iris garden owner, Janis Shackelford of SDIS and Region 15 fame, local experts speaking on monarch butterflies and drought tolerant companion plants, and reblooming iris with Riley Probst.

Current officers are:

Dennis Luebkin, President

Barb McCurry, Vice President

Joella Cheek, Secretary

Eugene Zielinski, Treasurer

We are looking forward to an exceptional year.

*Photos by Judy Book*

Photos (clockwise): September Silent Auction, Photo Contest, Photo Contest entries, Rhizome sale, iris lovers at the sale.



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

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

# AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting

October 9-10, 2015

Photos by Beth Balaney-Train



**Thank you Prescott Area Iris Society !**



## San Diego Iris Society Report

*By Claire Schneider, President*

Hi Everyone: Here's what's been happening since September 2015. At our Fall Rhizome Sales (September 13 and 20) we sold about 500 rhizomes. After the sale we planted about 250 of the left-over rhizomes in pots which will be used as door prizes at our meetings and sold at the Spring Show in May. For the October meeting, we had the members only auction of the Region 15 iris. There were only 17 rhizomes so the auction went quickly and left enough time for Carol Morgan of Inland Region Iris Society to make a presentation about their club garden of iris in Jurupa. At our November meeting, Richard Richards gave us an update on his hybridizing program for creating a green iris flower. In December we had the 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 questions about iris and gardening were answered by the experienced members of the club.

Future programs for SDIS include the annual Birthday Celebration (February 13) with a presentation by Andi Rivarola on spuria iris. On March 13, Carvill Veech will present a program on floral design. On April 10 we're planning a progressive luncheon that will take place at three gardens in Ramona. Our Spring Show and Sale in Balboa Park will be on April 30 and May 1. The last meeting of the season will be June 12 at the Lakeside Historical Building for a program of awards, elections of the 2016-2017 officers and an ice cream social. SDIS has a summer hiatus with no meetings in July and August.

The 2016-2017 season will begin with the Fall Rhizome Sales in Balboa Park (September 10 & 11 and September 17 & 18) 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/>



Janis and Claire at the Region 15 Fall Meeting 2015



Christmas Party

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



## San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

*By Debbie Babuscio-James, President*

Since the last newsletter the SVFIS finished off 2015 with our annual Holiday Party featuring “Glennhalf the Comedian Magician” as the evening’s entertainment which was quite entertaining and a bit comical.

We started off the year having Rick Tasco and Roger Duncan as our guest speakers and in February we will have speaker Bob Van Liere. Both gave excellent talks on tall bearded irises, with Rick’s emphasizing on hybridizing. In March club member Leigh Nicolai Moon will give us her techniques for entering horticulture specimens at the spring 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 artistic tips and techniques. We will have a National Flower Show Judge give us her insights on floral arranging.

The second week in April is the Spring Region 15 Trek on April 15th and 16th which the San Fernando Valley Iris Society is hosting this year. Our Spring Show on the 23rd of April at the Green Thumb Nursery and Garden Center. They were a great venue last year and they help with publicity not to mention the customers and foot traffic.

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 2016-2017 term, and if I’m not mistaken, my term as President is up.

*Photos by Mary Ann Abrahms*



Rick Tasco, Roger Duncan, and Debbie James

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

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



## Southern California Iris Society Report

*By Mike Monninger, President*

Both the iris auctions for members only and the region were held on the same Saturday in July. The members only auction raised enough to pay for the auction iris and SCIS donated \$500 to the region for the region iris.

The beardless auction was held in September and the auction paid for the iris. The members who wanted new beardless iris got some and went home happy.

Some brave and dedicated members tried selling at the Rosebowl in October. Revenues exceeded costs but overall the Rosebowl was disappointing and future participation will not be considered.

October also brought great news as the South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa was going back to the large 4 day event in 2016 and we are invited to participate. Every one was almost giddy with this news. I expect sales to be between \$2000 and \$2500, a far cry from the \$4 to \$5 K we enjoyed for many years.

November SCIS is dark and our traditional year end meeting was held at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Duarte. 20 members attended a brief business meeting before enjoying a good meal followed by a gift exchange. The gift exchange involved stealing a gift from another member. A gift was frozen when it was stolen for the second time by the third owner. A festive time was had by all.

Our Iris show and sale will be April 9 - 10 at the Los Angeles Arboretum. The Southern California Hemerocallis and Amaryllis Society decided not to participate this year so we have a large space to fill.

*Photos taken by Beth Train at the Region 15 Fall Meeting*



Sharon (PAIS) and Lois (OCIDC)



'Meet and Greet' Reception



Board Meeting



Judges Training

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





## Sun Country Iris Society Report

*By Kyria Peavy, President*

2015 was a very successful year for Sun Country Iris Society and we are anxiously awaiting our 2016 Spring show, exhibits and potted iris sales. Our members were very generous with their rhizomes last fall and therefore we have more potted iris to sell this spring than in previous years. Thankfully we have built our relationship with valley nurseries who gladly welcome us in to sell. This will be the first year we are able to hit all sections of the valley!

Sun Country Iris has a diverse line up of programs scheduled for this year. Our Vice President, Nancy Evans, has worked hard to schedule programs to continuously maintain the interest of our members. If you're in the valley on the first Tuesday of the month, please join our monthly meeting!

On the schedule are: January – New Irrigation Ideas; February – Rick Tasco “Hybridizing Iris – My Way”; March – Iris Arrangements; April – Preparation for Spring Iris Show; May – Joshua Dopp “Glass Blown Irises”; June – Using Water in Landscaping; and July - Darol Jurn – “Hummingbird Migration.”

Our 2016 list of officers include:

President – Kyria Peavy

Vice President – Nancy Evans

Treasurer – Bob Buchwald

Secretary – Jenine Cook

Directors– Gary Miller, Vi Zepeda, and Ardi Kary

*Photos by K. Peavy*

*Photo on left:* Clemence Newcomb, Vi Zepeda and Bob Buchwald marking rhizomes in beautiful Forest Lakes

*Middle photo:* Gary Miller digging at Lyn DeHaven's house in Forest Lakes

*Photo on right:* Jenine Cook having fun during our Fall Rhizome sale at Christown Spectrum Mall



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



## Tucson Area Iris Society Report

*By E. Kristee West, President*

The Member Potluck/**Region 15 Auction** in August was well attended. We were able to send a nice check to help support the Region 15 budget. I expect that we will be able to increase the number of rhizomes sent to us in 2016 to at least 30 rhizomes.

The sale in September was a real learning experience for me. We had purchased too many commercial rhizomes, but managed to make a small profit at our **fall iris sale at Harlow Gardens**. We donated a large bag of early and mid-blooming iris to the Master Gardeners in Green Valley and some mid and late blooming iris to the Region 15 meeting in Prescott. The remaining rhizomes were potted and are being used as door prizes at our meetings. Education! Education! Education!

We will be **adopting the concept of Club iris** where members who have participated in our activities will grow and evaluate the commercial iris for 2-3 years and then keep the mother rhizome and one increase and donate the other increases to the sale. Thanks, Cheryl Deaton, for sending us your test iris form. This program will allow us to assure non-member buyers at our September sale that the rhizomes they are purchasing actually thrive in our climate. It will also allow the commercial growers the opportunity to have more feedback (and perhaps more votes) for their iris introductions in the future.

Dr. Jacqueline Soule presented "**Wild Irises I Have Known**" a PowerPoint presentation of her European trip viewing wild irises at the October meeting. I had to miss it to attend the Region 15 Fall Trek in Prescott but it was well received by our local members.

I have started a **Facebook page** for our group and am learning how to use it to boost our presence in the community.

Our struggle to find someone to take over the office of Secretary has been resolved because Roger Osgood has moved from Yuma to Tucson and is willing to be **Secretary and Newsletter Editor** for at least the next 6 months.

At the **Tucson Botanic Garden**, the iris garden that we maintain will be a high priority for 2016. Several of the clumps in that garden will need to be divided this fall and will provide more rhizomes for this year's sale.

Another priority will be to attempt to add younger members to the group. We were given a new opportunity in January to have a free booth at the **Home Show** at the Convention Center. Four of us were able to speak to many people about growing iris in our area. We **added 30 new contacts** who gave us their email addresses and one of them became a member.

Eleven members, mostly board members, attended a Membership Brunch at the Country Club of La Cholla (an MBK Senior Community in northwest Tucson) for our January meeting. It was the fourth time that I had eaten there and the food was yummy. We will be donating some iris rhizomes to The Country Club of La Cholla after our fall sale.

At our next meeting, at Dusenberry-River Library on Saturday, February 20th, at 1pm, Jean Richter is coming to speak to our group about Novelty Iris, especially space agers. She will go to Mesilla Valley Iris Society in Las Cruces, NM on the next day. I am hoping that this will work as well this year as it did last year when both groups heard from Riley Probst about Reblooming Irises.

I am finding that the Mesilla Valley Iris Society in Las Cruces, NM in Region 23 (my previous AIS affiliate) is close enough that I plan to maintain my membership with them. Last year they offered to send the recent introductions remaining from their sale to us for \$2 each. I didn't have enough budget dollars remaining, so I had to turn them down. Their sale is one week before our sale in September and their climate is very similar to ours, so our Board of Directors has OK'd that transaction for this year. I am really excited about the changes that the Board is allowing me to accomplish.

Visit <http://tucsoniris.org> to see our schedule, pictures and activities.

*Photo credits: E. Kristee West*



September rhizome sale



TAIS member Gordon educating buyers about LA iris



Celia, Susan, Lucille, Diane & Shirley: Nov. meeting



Kevin, TAIS VP, choosing a door prize item he won

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

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

# Minutes of the AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting

October 10, 2015

Hassayampa Inn, Prescott, AZ

Welcome and Introductions by Debbie James

The minutes from the Winter (February 7, 2015) Board meeting were approved as sent.

The Treasurer's Report by Carol Huffman is attached:

Beginning checkbook balance \$18,576.75

Ending checkbook balance \$19,559.87

Edward Jones Account \$12,763.76

Jill Bonino has completed the taxes and an audit.

Judges Training report by Sue Brown– 23 current judges, 2 new master judges, and 15 student judges

Membership report sent by Patrick Orr– 395 members, 30 youth

Awards– Janice Shackelford and Claire Schneider are the new co-chairpersons.

Youth report by Cheryl Deaton– an awesome newsletter was sent, AIS Youth membership dues are now \$8 per year without the Bulletin, or \$12 per year with the Bulletin– still a great bargain! The youth website is [www.AISYouth.com](http://www.AISYouth.com). You may contact Cheryl at [region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com).

Editor– Thanks to Jill and Beth for great newsletter. Send your reports to Beth Train in a timely manner.

Historian– position is still vacant/open.

## Affiliate Reports:

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society– Dan Dourney sent a report to the Fall Region Newsletter

Lompoc Valley Iris Society– 22 members, with 10 active members. They are looking forward to next Fall's Trek– no date set as yet.

Prescott Area Iris Society– a slide show of the club's activities will be shown during the luncheon. President Dennis Luebkin welcomed all Fall Trek attendees.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society– have started a mentoring buddy system to encourage new members. The rhizome sales in September proceeds and donations were not what were expected. The August program by Jill Bonino on her judging at the International Competition in France was interesting. They are hosting next year's Spring Trek in Burbank on April 15 and 6.

Sun Country Iris Society– 7 sales scheduled in the Phoenix area. Technology is being updated as they prepare for the 2018 Spring Trek.

Inland Region Iris Society– the IRIS Flower Show was a success. Members had a busy time with iris auctions. The September Fall rhizome sale at the water district brought in decent revenue. Looking forward to the Christmas Party this December.

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club– As president, Lois Farr’s focus is on education.

San Diego Iris Society– the 2 tier system is in effect. Unlike, the other affiliate clubs, SDIS has an increase in new members.

Southern California Iris Society– The officers and activities continue.

Tucson Area Iris Society– The club is celebrating 50 years and is going strong. E. Kristee West’s new email address is [irisgrowinaz@gmail.com](mailto:irisgrowinaz@gmail.com).

Old Business: none

New Business: Our Edward Jones Account CD is at 1.6% interest until 2018.

Other Announcements: Show forms were received from SDIS and LVIS. Many clubs are choosing to have a popularity vote instead of AIS Judged shows.

The Trek Wheel is full until 2018.

The 2016 Spring trek will be hosted by the SFVIS. It will be held on April 15-16, 2016 in Burbank, CA at the Holiday Inn (Bob Hope Airport). Dell Perry will be the guest speaker.

Please send affiliate newsletters to [region15rvp@gmail.com](mailto:region15rvp@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

*Marge Larson*, Secretary

*Photo Collage by Dawn Mumford*



## Meet Our Guest Contributor: Dawn Mumford



Dawn & Neal  
(married since 1968)

My husband and I have been growing tall bearded irises in our garden almost ever since we married in 1968. The exception was the first year and a half that we rented. But we didn't become obsessed until about the early 1980's. Like chocolate we have found it enjoyable and addicting. Until 2005 we lived in a small town in Utah and had a small lot in a subdivision and we tried to squeeze 300 plus irises onto the lot. Each summer we ordered 7-10 iris rhizomes. They were mostly purchased from Schreiner's but I also bought a few from Cooley's. I simply didn't know about all the other growers. In 2000 Neal and I bought 5 1/2 acres of property in an even smaller adjacent town south of us about seven miles away. Lots of spacious room for irises plus an orchard and room to build a house if we tore down a few trees. We started moving the iris as soon as we had the new property even though we didn't have a house on the property yet. In the orchard we grow apples, cherries, peaches and plums. We did the ultimate do it yourself project by building our own house. We were too naive to know what an undertaking that would be. Neal, a PhD organic chemist, had retired from being a rocket scientist and the nest was empty so we had the time to nail, paint, lay tile, cut black walnut for wood floors and thousands of other things. We worked 8-10 hours per day six days a week for 18 months before we moved in. On January 4, 2005 we moved into our new home even though it just had Tyvek on the outside. The next spring and summer Neal did the stucco and rock work on the outside. We love our home and are glad we did it but wouldn't have the energy or courage to do it again.



Our iris garden is in the southwest back corner of our property. It has about 24 rows each 75 feet long. We plant four of each cultivar. Two together and then 3 feet away 2 more of the same. We think of that as insurance. We water with irrigation every 8 days from about May until the end of September. Our irises bloom about Memorial Day every year depending on weather. Our elevation is 4,341 ft. There are three mountain peaks just a few blocks away. They are part of the Rocky Mountains and the peaks are called Inspiration Peak, Willard Peak, and Ben Lomond Peak. They make a dramatic back drop for the iris garden. We are in zone 6b which is cold winters and hot summers and we are a desert. For more explanation about our iris garden please go to this link <http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/2013/07/mumford-tall-bearded-iris-garden-love.html>. This was written by my good friend and photographer and fellow AIS blogger Susanne Spicker. This article is about our iris patch and tells more about our favorite irises, how we divide and fertilize them and a little more about the area and conditions we grow them in.

# AIS 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

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

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



Wild Oak Farms

## **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

## **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



Mystic Lake Gardens

## **Wild Oaks Farms**

**(909)307-4565**

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

# AIS NATIONAL CONVENTION



The American Iris Society, Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, and Essex County, New Jersey, host for The American Iris Society's 2016 Convention, invite all iris friends to Newark, New Jersey for

**"Going East in 2016"**

**May 23-28, 2016**

Attendees will have the opportunity to tour 3 beautiful gardens for three days. The 2016 Guest Plant Committee has received 1800+ guest plants, 888 varieties, sent by 99 hybridizers.

[ais2016convention.com](http://ais2016convention.com)

# AIS Region 15 - 2016 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
MARCH	1	IRIS meeting Iris Hybridizing-My Way with Rick Tasco of Superstition Iris Gardens	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Iris Arrangements	Phoenix, AZ
	3	SFVIS Horticulture Specimens: Techniques for the Iris Show by Leigh Nicolai Moon	Canoga Park, CA
	8	OCIDC Master Gardener on Innovative Tomato Growing	Garden Grove, CA
	12	TAIS Ron Coleman on "The Wild Orchids of AZ and NM"	Tucson, AZ
	13	SDIS Floral Design Demonstration by Carvill Veech	San Diego, CA
	19	HDIDS Iris Show Grooming & Design by Sharon Weisenberger	Lancaster, CA
		PAIS Iris Color Patterns with Janis Shackelford	Prescott, AZ
	26	SCIS Meeting at the Bamboo Room, LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
	APRIL	5	IRIS "What Makes Queen of the Show" demonstration and guest Joyce Dean on Floral Arrangement techniques
		Sun Country Iris Society Preparation for the Spring Show	Phoenix, AZ
7		SFVIS Horticulture Tips and Techniques	Canoga Park, CA
9		TAIS Iris Exhibit at the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library	Tucson, AZ
9-10		SCIS Iris Show and Sale at the LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
		HDIDS Iris Show and Sale "Iris Watch Vintage TV" at the Antelope Valley College	Lancaster, CA
10		SDIS Progressive Luncheon and Garden Tour	Ramona, CA
12		OCIDC Work Party- prep for Green Scene	Garden Grove, CA
<b>15-16</b>		<b>AIS Region 15 Spring Trek 2016 hosted by the SFVIS</b>	<b>Burbank, CA</b>
16-17		IRIS Rhizome and Potted Iris Sale at the 69th Riverside Flower Show and Garden Tour at Elks Lodge	Riverside, CA
		OCIDC Rhizome Sale: Green Scene at Fullerton Arboretum	Fullerton, CA
23		IRIS Spring Show "Showers of Flowers" and Sale at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
		PAIS Garden Tour	Prescott, AZ
	SFVIS Iris Show at Green Thumb Nursery	Canoga Park, CA	
28	SCIS Rhizome Sale at the South Coast Plaza (thru May 1)	Costa Mesa, CA	
30	SDIS Spring Show and Sale at Balboa Park	San Diego, CA	
	PAIS Iris Exhibit "Kaleidoscope of Color" at Mortimer Nursery	Prescott, AZ	
MAY	1	SDIS Spring Show and Sale at Balboa Park	San Diego, CA
	3	IRIS Wine and Cheese in the Garden at the club's Holk Memorial Iris Garden in Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Joshua Dopp Glass Blown Irises	Phoenix, AZ
	5	SFVIS Judges Training on Spuria Irises by Andi Rivarola	Canoga Park, CA
	13-15	IRIS Sale at the Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival	Yucaipa, CA
	21	HDIDS Meeting and Club Garden Tour	Lancaster, CA
	<b>23-28</b>	<b>AIS National Convention "GOING EAST IN 2016"</b>	<b>Newark, NJ</b>
	28	TAIS Stephen Buchmann on "The Reason for Flowers"	Tucson, AZ
JUNE	2	SFVIS Awards Potluck and Election of Officers	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS meeting with Dr. Richard Richards on PCIs	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Using Water in Landscaping	Phoenix, AZ
	12	SDIS Awards, Elections and Ice Cream Social	San Diego, CA



Month	Day	Event	Location
JUNE	18	HDIDS General Meeting	Lancaster, CA
		PAIS Creating A Monarch Way Station by Gail Morris	Prescott, AZ
JULY	25	SCIS General Meeting	Arcadia, CA
	5	IRIS The Great Iris Trade and Joyce Dean on Fairy Gardens	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Hummingbird Migration by D. Jurn	Phoenix, AZ
	12	OCIDC Patio Potluck Dinner	Garden Grove, CA
	16	HDIDS Meeting and Soup/Salad Spectacular	Lancaster, CA
AUGUST	30-31	PAIS Rhizome Sale	Prescott, AZ
	2	IRIS Members Only Iris Auction	Riverside, CA
	9	OCIDC Members Only TB Iris Auction	Garden Grove, CA
	20	HDIDS Club Rhizome Give Away	Lancaster, CA
		PAIS Iris Care Class/New Member Training- Linda's Garden	Prescott, AZ
		TAIS Potluck, Club Iris Awards and Region 15 Auction	Tucson, AZ
	27	PAIS Guest Speaker Riley Probst on Rebloomers	Prescott, AZ
SEPTEMBER	6	IRIS Region 15 Rhizome Auction/Sale	Riverside, CA
	10-11	SDIS Fall Rhizome Sale at Casa del Prado, Balboa Park	San Diego, CA
	13	OCIDC Beardless Iris Auction	Garden Grove, CA
	17	HDIDS Ruble Auction	Lancaster, CA
		PAIS Ice Cream Social, Silent Auction & Photo Contest	Prescott, AZ
	17-18	IRIS Annual Fall Rhizome Sale at WMWD	Riverside, CA
	24	SCIS Meeting at the Bamboo Room, LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
		TAIS Rhizome Sale at Harlow Gardens	Tucson, AZ
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>14-15</b>	<b>AIS Region 15 Fall Meeting 2016 hosted by the Lompoc Valley Iris Society</b>	<b>Lompoc, 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.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/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

## THE LAWNLESS YARD

Debbie James

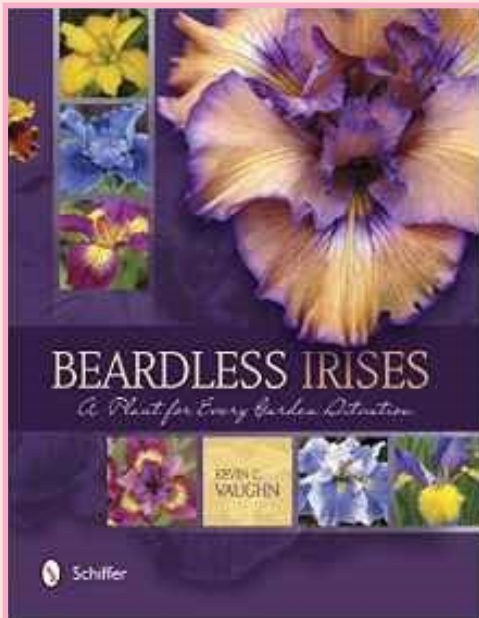
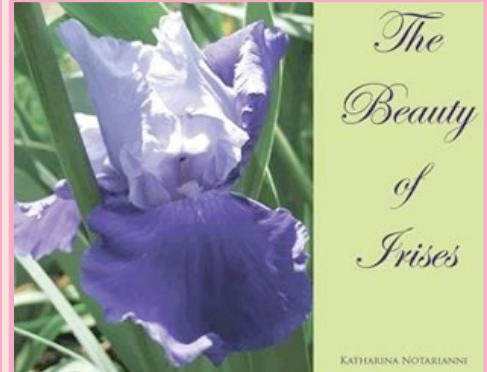
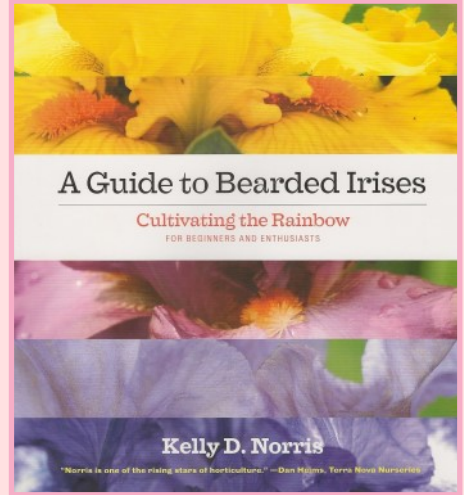
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Mid violet self, lightly laced; iridescent falls with gold haft marks; fuzzy gold beards in throat with long, thin elongated skinny "whiskers" that extend beyond the falls. Fragrant.

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# 2016 Iris Introductions



Kyla Rose (Sutton)



Another Suggestion (Keppel)



Girl in Paris BB (Black)



Cindy Rivera AB (Baumunk)



Bold Awakening AB (Tasco)



Signal Butte AM (Tasco)



Whimsey SDB (G. Spoon)



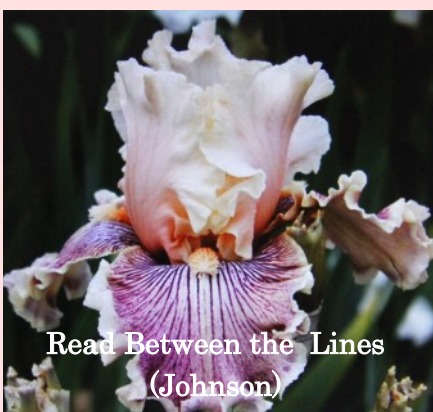
Black Lipstick (Keppel)



Huckleberries SDB (D. Spoon)



Caramel Macchiato (Sutton)



Read Between the Lines  
(Johnson)



Hippy Chick MTB (L. Miller)

# REGION 15 SPRING TREK 2016

## ON THE GARDEN TOUR

