



The
American Iris
Society

Region 15

Spring 2017 Semi-annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED! SPRING TREK 2017

Hosted by the
Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society

APRIL 21-22

LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA

www.region15ais.org

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2017 Iris Introductions



Point of Interest (A. Mego)



Firefly Frenzy AB (R. Tasco)



Face Lift (T. Burseen)



Get Western (T. Burseen)



Visual Pleasure IB (R. Tasco)



Amelia (G. Spoon)



Little Miss Magic SDB
(Schreiner)



Calypso Dancer AB (R. Tasco)



Floating Feather (A. Mego)

Letter from the Editor

*"Spring has come again.
The earth is like a child
who knows poems by heart."*

*-Rainer Maria Rilke,
Sonnets to Orpheus*



Rain, rain, go away... by the time you are reading this, the winter rains have come and gone and we are in the midst of a promising spring bloom season. Irises are blooming in just about every member's garden I know. More iris bloomstalks are coming up each day of warmer weather.

Wildflowers seem to be popping up everywhere, too —blue lupines, purple phacelias, yellow goldfields, red paintbrushes — from interstates to state and national parks. Death Valley National Park did not get its share of rain like it did in 2015; nearby Anza Borrego Desert State Park did however and is the place to go. If fields of California poppies are more to your liking, be sure to sign up for this year's Spring Trek hosted by Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society. A trip to the spectacular Antelope Valley Poppy Preserve is included. Information and registration form are on pages 10-11. Bonnie Nichols of the Novelty Iris Society is the guest speaker. Space agers and broken color irises are popular and feature in this year's introductions from several hybridizers (pages 2 and 35).

In this issue, the RVP message is on page 5, the judges training report on page 6, the treasurer's report on page 8, followed by the affiliate presidents' reports beginning on page 17. Region 15 welcomes Kevin Kartchner, the new president of TAIS. There will be more new faces come autumn as several affiliates are having elections this summer. Minutes of the board meetings are on pages 27-29.

Thank you Lompoc Valley Iris Society for the wonderful meeting and warm hospitality extended to the attendees of the Fall Trek 2016! Photos are on page 9 and throughout this issue.

Featured articles this spring are: Irene Benton's tips on artistic floral design on pages 12-13, Claire Schneider's on labeling irises, page 16 and Dennis Luebkin's on PAIS's scholarship program, page 29.

If you have time this May, check out the Spuria Iris Society's convention in the LA area. Information and registration form are on pages 14-15. Then head off to Des Moines, Iowa for the AIS National Convention later in the month, information on page 31.

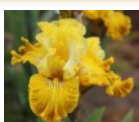
Spring is a busy time for us gardeners and iris lovers. Schedules of the various meetings and activities of the affiliate societies are on pages 32-33.

Lastly, thinking of ordering irises this year? Visit this year's advertisers' websites or browse through their catalogs, you'll surely find several that you'd love to add to your collection.

See you at the gardens,

Beth Balaney-Train

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT
www.region15ais.org



On the Cover: 'Bright Sunshiny Day' (Johnson 2014)

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

Derry Gerald
barbkk@sbcglobal.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
andinsky@gmail.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

Kevin Kartchner
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: Claire Schneider and
Janis Shackelford
itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com
jgshackelford@cox.net

Editor: Beth Balaney-Train
aisregion15editor@gmail.com

Historian: Winona Stevenson

Membership: Patrick Orr
irisdude@msn.com

Nominating Committee:
Claire Schneider
itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com

Ways and Means Committee: open

Webmaster: Tim Valenzuela
webdev@region15ais.org

Youth Program: Cheryl Deaton
region15kids@hotmail.com

AIS Region 15 Trek Wheel

Event	Trek Host	Location
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	
2020 Spring Trek	Tucson Area Iris Society (tentative)	

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks
from our website

www.region15ais.org

Visit us on Facebook





AIS Region 15 RVP Message

By Debbie Babuscio-James, Region 15 RVP

The rains have come early this year and it has been a very wet winter so far. Where I live the rain doesn't seem to be stopping. Today as I write this it was raining when I woke up this morning, it's been raining all day and now its dark outside and it's still raining. Last summer I worried about losing some of my Irises to the drought and now I am worried they are going to drown.

I want to bring something to the forefront of your mind. We are all experiencing a reduction of members in our clubs as well as the AIS. We need to get some younger members who will carry on traditions of each club. Not an easy task these day with younger people not interested in gardening like our forefathers and mothers did. Bringing your club into the Social Media platform will get your club noticed more by the younger generation which is who we need to attract.

The Region 15 Spring Trek is quickly approaching and I don't think the registrations are coming in as expected. I hope you all plan on attending as Hi Desert has a nice bus trip planned for this spring. With all of the rain, the Poppy Reserve would be spectacular this year. The bus will be driving there on the Spring Trek. If you have never seen the Poppy Fields, it is a sight to be seen.

Lastly, we also need to get a few clubs to step up and volunteer to host the Spring Trek in 2020, 2021 and 2022. In 2020, it will be the 100th Anniversary of the AIS which is a huge milestone. Since the Region 15 Fall Trek with Speaker Kelly Norris I have been watching what he has been doing at the Des Moines Botanical Garden. This is the one of the Gardens on the 2017 AIS National Convention Tour and I can't wait to see what it looks like in person. The AIS National Conventions are a great way to see old friends, meet new ones and put faces to names you have heard or read an article or blog by. I hope many of you are planning on attending this year, the AIS needs your support.

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

Debbie James



Membership Update

By Patrick Orr, Membership Chair

TOTAL MEMBERS 256

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS 224

TOTAL YOUTH 4, no change

TOTAL AFFILIATES 10, no change



AIS Judges Training

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

Hello rain and more rain. As I am writing this report, it is raining outside and more rain is forecasted for the day after tomorrow. I checked my iris beds this morning, there were many new growths. It is a hopeful sign that we will have a great blooming season.

The Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society will host the 2017 Spring Trek for Region 15. I visited several of the gardens and they are doing just fine. There were many recently introduced irises and novelty irises. The guest speaker will be Bonnie Nichols who will educate us on novelty irises. I am excited to see Bonnie and looking forward to her program.

I am sad to report that two of our judges decided to retire due to health issues. So, as of today Region 15 has 21 judges for 10 clubs. We need more judges. When the list of 2017 AIS judges is posted, we will have 22 judges because an apprentice is advanced to garden/exhibition judge status. Six of our students are now apprentices. Judges, please help with the advancements of these apprentices. The application form for judges training is on the Region 15 website in the Spring 2013 Semi-annual Report or you can email me at irisfor15w@gmail.com to request a copy. I am looking forward to more new students.

Sue Brown

Attention AIS Region 15 members,

We need you to become AIS Judges. You don't have to be experts, but have the desire to learn more about growing irises and perhaps to be an iris expert in the future. As an AIS Judge you get to meet tons of people from your own region, and if invited also from other regions. You get to participate in judges training with some exceptionally talented gardeners and normally be invited to eat. Not bad for participating in a hobby that you love. Judges learn to judge in iris shows and also in the garden. The difference in judging an established cultivar or a seedling. And lastly, as an accredited AIS Judge you get to vote for irises that ultimately win AIS Awards and Medals.

Each year the AIS Board of Directors approve serving judges.

See the list of all AIS Judges by each Region of The American Iris Society at:

<http://www.irises.org/pdf/2016AISjudgeslist.pdf>

As the numbers of judges dwindle, we appreciate every one of our judges and their kind disposition to travel and be available to the Region's iris clubs.

Join us by applying to be a judge via our Region's current Judges Training Chair: **Sue Brown**.

If you have any questions about being a judge don't hesitate to contact me.

Andi Rivarola



AIS Youth Program Report

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 and AIS Youth Chair

Currently there are 7 AIS Youth members in Region 15, 4 in California and 3 in Arizona. I wish we had 5 times as many youth involved in growing irises! One of our youth members, McKenna Falk, won 1st place in the 7 to 9 year old group in the recent AIS Coloring Contest and also was awarded a creativity award.

Congratulations McKenna! All the AIS youth members received an iris from the AIS National Convention garden of George Hildenbrandt.

Right now our youth members can enter the Ackerman Essay Contest. The theme for this year is "My 2017 Iris Introduction". Wow! Their imagination can soar with this topic. Deadline for entries is March 15th. Please encourage our youth members to enter!

There are currently 2 youth groups that are being mentored by AIS members in Southern California that have not joined AIS. While it is not necessary for kids to join AIS in order to grow a garden with irises, enter shows, or learn about irises, being a member of a national group has many advantages such as the youth newsletter twice a year, the ability to enter various contests and win prizes, and receiving free irises.

Growing irises is a wonderful activity for young people because they are so easy to grow and take very little care to produce beautiful flowers. Kids love to garden, whether it is growing radishes or flowers. Won't you consider giving a grandchild, nephew or neighbor an iris or two and mentoring them on growing our favorite flower.

If you know of a young person who would benefit from membership in AIS, it is only \$8 per year without the Bulletin, \$12 per year with the Bulletin. It's a great deal and lasts all year! Contact me for more information at region15kids@hotmail.com. Until we meet in a garden somewhere, Happy Irising!



Check AIS membership status:

www.aislookup.org

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

The American Iris Society

Membership Rates:

Annual Single \$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



www.AISYouth.com

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

AIS Region 15 Treasurer's Report

By Carol Huffman, Treasurer
2016 Income and Expenses

CHECKBOOK BEGINNING BALANCE		\$20,480.60
Income:		
PAIS return of advance for Fall Trek 2015	\$ 400.00	
Advertising Revenue Spring 2016 issue	\$ 15.00	
Sales of Region Rhizomes		
Prescott	\$ 140.00	
Lompoc Valley	\$ 400.00	
San Fernando Valley	\$ 581.00	
Orange County	\$ 300.00	
Inland Region	\$ 274.00	
San Diego	\$ 307.00	
So. Cal. Iris	\$ 500.00	
Prescott	\$ 380.00	
Total Sales of Region Rhizomes	\$ 2,882.50	
Total Income		\$ 3,297.00
Expenses:		
Postage, Envelopes for shipping rhizomes	\$ 33.93	
Envelopes and Postage—Mailing	\$ 136.15	
Miscellaneous (Rolling Crate)	\$ 26.15	
Spring Trek—San Fernando Valley Iris Society	\$ 600.00	
Regional Vice President's Expenses:		
Registration— AIS National Convention	\$ 299.00	
Airfare to New Jersey	\$ 341.00	
Registration— Region 15 Spring Trek	\$ 110.00	
Hotel—Fall Meeting	\$ 72.37	
Total President's Expense	\$ 822.37	
Secretary Travel Expense	\$ 137.96	
AIS Board Meeting in Sedona, AZ	\$ 600.00	
Web Maintenance	\$ 495.00	
Spring 2016 Newsletter	\$ 615.79	
Shipping Rhizomes	\$ 148.98	
AIS—Help defray 2016 AIS Convention Expense	\$ 500.00	
Awards	\$ 136.41	
Total Expenses		\$ 4,325.48
CHECKBOOK ENDING BALANCE 12/31/2016		\$19,452.62
EDWARD JONES ACCOUNT		\$12,764.87
TOTAL ASSETS		\$32,217.49



REGION 15 FALL MEETING
October 14-15, 2016
Thank you Lompoc Valley Iris Society !
Photos by Mason and Beth Train

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society
invites you to *Trek* through our...

DESERT RAINBOW
AIS REGION 15-SPRING TREK
APRIL 21-22, 2017

FEATURED SPEAKER — BONNIE NICHOLS
PRESIDENT OF THE NOVELTY IRIS SOCIETY



'Naughty Goddess'
2007

LOCATION: *Embassy Suites @ 39375 Fifth Street West/Palmdale CA 93551*

FRIDAY, APRIL 21ST

4:00 PM to 8:30 PM Registration
4:30 PM to 5:30 PM Region 15 Board Meeting
5:30 PM to 6:30 PM Personal Time for Trek Attendees
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Judge's Training

SATURDAY, April 22nd

6:00 AM to 7:30 AM Registration
7:30 AM to 8:00 AM Bus Loading
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Garden Tours, In Garden Judge's Training, Lunch, & Poppy
Fields Tour
5:00 PM to 5:30 PM Gather & Greet
5:30 PM to 7:00 PM Awards Dinner & General Meeting
7:00 PM to 10:00 PM Speaker — Bonnie Nichols
Silent Auction & Raffle

2017 SPRING TREK CHAIR
RICHARD JAMISON



TREK HEADQUARTERS:

Embassy Suites by Hilton (661) 266-3756

39375 5th Street West

Palmdale CA 93551

Room Rates: DOUBLE or SINGLE @ \$159.00 plus tax

Please book by March 21, 2017 to guarantee room rate.

These rates include spacious suites with a living room area, and a separate private bedroom area; full American Cooked-To-Order breakfast, and our nightly *Evening Reception*; complimentary high speed wireless internet access.



'Men Like Me'
2007

Trek Registration — DEADLINE / April 5, 2017

PLEASE PRINT – Registrant #1

Name to appear on badge:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Sat. Dinner choice: Chicken Marsala _____

Grilled Filet Mignon _____

Grilled Filet of Salmon _____

PLEASE PRINT – Registrant #2

Name to appear on badge:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Sat. Dinner choice: Chicken Marsala _____

Grilled Filet Mignon _____

Grilled Filet of Salmon _____

"Please notify in advance of any dietary restrictions."

FULL REGISTRATION: # persons _____ x \$85.00 Total: \$ _____

Includes: Bus, 6 Garden Tours with lunch

and Awards Banquet, Judge's Training, gift bag, and poppy tour

GARDEN TOUR ONLY: # persons _____ x \$40.00 Total: \$ _____

Includes: Bus, 6 Garden Tours with lunch, gift bag, and poppy tour

BANQUET ONLY: # persons _____ x \$45.00 Total: \$ _____

**Attending the Saturday
Judge's Training?**

Registrant # 1

Registrant # 2

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please send completed form and your check payable to HDIDS by April 5, 2017

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society-ATTN: TREK REGISTRATION

P.O. Box 3014

Quartz Hill, CA 93536

TREK REGISTRAR—Mary Anesi (661) 943-6612

Pat Simpson patsi5253@gmail.com



Theme: The Iris Forecast
 Class: Frosty Morning
 Design incorporating white and/or icy pastels
 First Place



Theme: The Iris Forecast
 Class: El Nino - Design featuring water
 First Place, Best Design of Show



Theme: Irises and Artist
 Class: Monet - Design featuring water
 First Place



Theme: Days Gone By
 Class: Historic
 Design using at least 1 historic iris in a table setting
 First Place



Theme: The Iris Forecast
 Class: Happy Gardening (Youth category)
 Design using a watering can
 Second, First, and Third Places

THE ART OF DESIGNING WITH PLANT MATERIAL

By Irene Benton, IRIS

- ◆ Flower arranging is the art of organizing plant material for beauty, harmony, distinction and expression.
- ◆ Principles of design are dominance, proportion, balance, rhythm, scale, and contrast.
- ◆ Elements of design are light, space, form, color, texture, pattern, and size.
- ◆ Measure length of container and have the first line of foliage at least one and a half times the length plus depth of the container. The second piece should be about 3/4 the height of the first, and the third stem about 1/2. This has its origins in the basic Japanese Heaven (shin), Man (soe), and Earth (hikai).
- ◆ The three basic types of arrangements are line, mass-line, and mass. Line uses a minimum of material. Mass-line are those in which additional materials enhance and strengthen the line. Mass designs are characterized by the use of a large quantity of plant material.
- ◆ Use lighter colors at the top and outside edges of an arrangement. Use darker colors at the center or base to give visual weight.
- ◆ Use smaller forms at the outer edges, and larger ones at the base or focal point. Turning a flower to a different angle may make it appear to have less weight.
- ◆ Generally, the largest flower should be approximately one-third the size of the container.
- ◆ Group colors together. Do not sandwich or put in layers.
- ◆ Repeat color of container in plant material. Always include some white plant material when using an all white container.
- ◆ Never separate the container from the flowers.
- ◆ Finish the back of an arrangement for it gives depth.
- ◆ Flowers of various stages of maturity are more interesting than fully mature ones.
- ◆ To help anchor an arrangement due to weight, place another kenzan (pin holder) on a side of it.
- ◆ Cut stems under water. This prevents air from entering the stem.
- ◆ Accessories are something extra added, helping in a secondary way. They are used for a purpose.
 - 1) To establish a mood or feeling.
 - 2) To interpret a theme.
 - 3) To add balance to a design or contribute to a design.
- ◆ A shiny container appears larger than a slightly textured one of the same size.
- ◆ Some mechanics needed are: kenzan "mountain of needles", oasis or floral foam, floral tape, clay, chicken wire, cup holder, and clippers.
- ◆ ENJOY creating your own piece of ART.



IRENE BENTON started Ikebana Flower Arranging while living in Hawaii when her husband was stationed there. She continued her love for flowers and design when she moved to California and in nine years became a Master Flower Show Judge.

The Goodrick's invited Irene to judge the Iris Shows' Artistic Division. She later signed up as AIS Apprentice Judge; continued to take judges training classes in various locations and eventually became an AIS Master Judge.

During her career, she judged standard flower shows, Iris shows, and national flower shows. She still has a love for design and continues to make flower arrangements. She lives in Northern California near her daughter Bonnie with whom she has shared not only iris rhizomes but also the love of iris.

First published in the IRIS Newsletter April 2015. Reprinted with author's permission.

L.A. Spuria Fest 2017

Here's a cordial invitation to join us for a wonderful spuria iris weekend in Los Angeles – **Friday, May 5th** and **Saturday, May 6th**. It will be an unforgettable event, focused on the one iris type we love and appreciate.

All activities will be in-garden: meetings, judges training, lunch, dinner, etc. There will be no indoor programs at the hotel.

- Several of the most influential spuria iris hybridizers and knowledgeable individuals of today will be present to give us the most up to date information.
- **Extended Stay America Hotel Burbank** is one of the closest to the Bob Hope Burbank Airport. We don't have a contract with the hotel to provide special room rates because normally their rates are low. The hotel's current rate for that period of time starts at \$125/per night. The hotel doesn't have a shuttle service to Bob Hope Airport, but it's only 1.7 miles away. Taxis, Uber and other services are available right outside the terminal. We recommend ride sharing if you know of others' arrival times. Make your hotel reservation by calling the hotel at (800) 804-3724. There's FREE parking and FREE Internet service. Senior and AAA discounts are available. All rooms have a full kitchen.
- Air conditioned busses will pick us up at the hotel, and boarding will start promptly at 8:30 a.m. both mornings, departing at 9:00 a.m. They will take us to two gorgeous gardens: **The Huntington Library and Gardens** on Friday, May 5th and **Descanso Gardens** on Saturday, May 6th. Even though our daily schedule is full, the convention price includes complete access to both gardens.
- These two gardens are renowned worldwide and our program will feature activities you would never experience otherwise.
- **On Friday:** view of all spuria iris submitted by iris hybridizers from around the country and abroad; an inspiring in-garden spuria iris talk by Hybridizer Lee Walker, followed by a Judges Training session; then "Under the Microscope," a live look at spuria iris cells, put together at the Huntington Lab especially for us; and a Chinese dinner buffet accompanied by live Chinese folk music in the Chinese Garden Pavilion (an experience for one in a million people) followed by a talk by Spuria Iris President, Jim Hedgecock.
- **On Saturday:** view of all spuria iris submitted by iris hybridizers from around the country and abroad; Judges Training session surrounded by spuria iris, roses and lots of California Native plants; lunch in the picnic area; then a dinner buffet in the Van De Kamp Hall served by the famous Patina Group Catering (plus a no-host bar), and a closing program by Eric Nies' granddaughter, Nancy Nies who will delight us with a slide show of family portraits and by sharing personal mementos of life in the Nies household.
- For those driving, please note that no cars will be allowed to drive to the gardens on tour days. All attendees must arrive with the convention busses.
- After receiving your registration we will email you a List of Gardens in the L.A. area that you may visit on your own after the convention.
- To register please fill out the registration form and mail to the Registrar listed on the form. You may also pay via PayPal by visiting our website: <http://www.spuriairissociety.org>

We look forward to seeing you at the L.A. Spuria Fest 2017!

Andi Rivarola, Vice President, Spuria Iris Society

May 5 - 6 LA Spuria Iris Fest 2017

Convention Hotel
 Extended Stay America - Los Angeles - Burbank Airport
<http://www.extendedstayamerica.com/>
 2200 Empire Ave., Burbank, CA 91504
 Tel: (818) 567-0952 | (800) 804-3724 |

Organized by the Spuria Iris Society and the San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Full Registration Includes

Friday at The Huntington Library & Gardens – Transportation from hotel to garden and back, snacks, afternoon presentation (including JT), garden entrance fee, dinner and Evening Program, plus Convention Book. Lunch on Friday is on your own at the Huntington Library Cafe (many choices and many prices). **Dinner buffet description:** A variety of Chinese food choices including veggies, chicken, pork, accompanied by chow mein, rice, fried rice. Dinner at the Chinese garden, accompanied by Chinese folk music player.

Saturday at Descanso Gardens – Transportation from hotel to garden and back, snacks, lunch by Subway/Panera Bread on picnic tables outside Descanso entrance, Afternoon Presentation (including JT) garden entrance fee, dinner, and Evening/Closing Program. **Dinner Buffet description:** grilled breast of chicken, caramelized garlic, lemon, light rosemary jus; Fresh Atlantic salmon, mustard and apple wood-smoked bacon crust; baby mixed green salad soft herbs and blossoms, lime, virgin oil dressing; basil-scented saffron jasmine rice; ratatouille; brownies, lemon bars and raspberry streusel bars.

Note: Hotel Bus Boarding starts at 8:30 a.m. both days (busses leave hotel at 9:00 a.m.). No cars will be allowed to drive to the gardens on tour days. All convention activities in garden!

Hotel: Make your hotel reservation by calling the hotel listed above. No convention rate – rates are normally low. Currently at approx. \$125. Kitchen in every room. FREE parking and FREE Internet service. Senior and AAA discounts available. 1.7 miles from Bob Hope Airport, Burbank.

Full Registration before March 31, 2017: Number of people _____ x \$180 = \$ _____

Full Registration after March 31, 2017: Number of people _____ x \$200 = \$ _____

One Day Only — Friday or Saturday before March 31, 2017 _____ x \$90 = \$ _____

One Day Only — Friday or Saturday after March 31, 2017 _____ x \$100 = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ Cell Number: _____

Send this form and your check made payable to **Spuria Iris Society** to the Registrar:

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

(Registrations received after April 30, 2017 will be accepted at the discretion of the registrar.)

For PayPal payment please visit our website:

<http://www.spuriairissociety.org/>

It's All in the Name: Labeling those Irises!

By Claire Schneider, SDIS

At a recent club meeting, we answered several questions about names and labels for garden iris. Perhaps some of this information might be useful for you, too.

QUESTION: Where do you get those metal stakes for labeling iris in the garden?

- Janis Shackelford recommended using the metal labels from Paw Paw Everlast Label Company. She uses the 21 inch double wire, Style F: Tall Display Label. You have to assemble them; that is you have to slide the nameplate onto the wires. Easy to do. Thirty for \$33.75, One hundred for \$54.00 or five hundred for \$234.50.
- For my SDB and MTB iris I use Style C: Cap Style Label. These are short, only 10.5 inches, and are already assembled. Thirty for \$24.50, one hundred for \$39.00 and five hundred for \$168.50.
- See more descriptions and prices of Paw Paw metal tags at <https://everlastlabel.com>
- Instead of metal, you could use plastic tags. A wide selection of sizes and quantities are available from Amazon.com

QUESTION: What do you use for writing the names on the labels?

- Bill Molnar recommended writing on plastic tags with pencil. The ink of regular permanent black marking pens will fade in sunlight after a few months.
- For the metal tags Pat Wurtele recommended a Brother P-Touch label maker to create laminate labels whose print is sun-resistant. It's like a miniature typewriter (approximately 7" by 7") with a QWERTY keyboard. It can be powered by AC or batteries, so you can make labels in the house or out in the field. Search Amazon.com for Brother Label Makers. Prices range from about \$30 to \$80.
- The label makers print with cartridges of laminate tape. Be sure to get the TZ or TZe tape for outdoor use, sun-resistant. By mistake one time I bought the green tape with black print and used it anyway. The print never faded, but every time I look at one of those green tags I drool for a piece of chocolate mint. The more common choice would be white tape with black print. I use 3/4 inch width tape to fit on the Paw Paw metal tags. Brother also offers a red tape with black print. Mercy, how sexy are red labels in the garden? A cartridge of the laminated TZe tape costs about \$12 from Amazon.com

QUESTION: That sounds like a lot of money to spend on labels. Is there another way?

- Of course. Our dear Jerry Kuck used the white slats from vinyl window blinds for labeling his iris. He cut the slats with scissors and wrote the identification of iris with pencil or black marker. He told me he obtained the slats free from Home Depot by asking the clerk for the discards.
- I could never get pencil to show up on those slats so I used an outdoor marking pen, DP Industries Clip Strip Garden Marker Pen. Xylene free and marks on wood, plastic, vinyl, glass and metal. About \$9 from Amazon.com.



FINAL WORD. It is important to identify your iris with accurate labels. Something that won't be lost or fade with time. As a back up, you might consider drawing a map of your garden plantings so if a label is lost or fades, you can still figure out which variety of iris it is.

Good gardening to you,

Claire

REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

By Marilyn Kiger, President

We're thinking spring, are you?

We've been blessed with a WET winter and are ready to meet ya'll with warm breezes as we host this year's Region 15 Spring Trek, "**Desert Rainbow**" on April 21-22, 2017. Abnormal is now the new normal and our "novelty iris" theme features Bonnie Nichols, President of the Novelty Iris Society, the most recently added section to the American Iris Society. In addition to growing irises as long as she can remember, Bonnie owns a commercial iris & daylily garden with her husband, Hooker, as well as her hybridizing endeavors. She has held many positions as past RVP of Region 17, Treasurer of the American Iris Society, a member of the Iris Society of Dallas for 30+ years, an Emeritus Judge for the American Iris Society and lastly, an Exhibition/Garden Judge for the American Hemerocallis Society.

Lancaster boasts one of California's most abundant crops of vibrant poppies and we hope to include a short side trip to a display of poppy bloom blanketing our hillsides in a sea of orange just for you! If you're in need of some JT we'll have that also. Two Judge's Training classes are being offered during the trek, on Friday evening and an in-garden will take place on Saturday. Everyone is invited to participate.

Our membership continues to grow to 84 members, including 5 youth & 28 AIS. One of our Youth Members, Mckenna Falk was a first time winner in this year's AIS Youth Coloring Contest (proud grandma here). It was exciting and has sparked her iris and gardening interest even more.

December's Installation of Officers & Annual Holiday Party was enjoyed by all and included a chance to socialize with friends, enjoy great food, exchange garden gifts, and laugh a lot at the highly participated in Wacky/Tacky Christmas Sweater Contest, with Lynn McCurdy our winner! (*See photos on page 26- Editor.*) The 2017 Officers of Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society are, Marilyn Kiger-President, Melissa Zimmerman-Vice President, Pam Montelongo-Secretary and Ann Wren-Treasurer sworn into office by long time member, Cheryl Deaton. To Melissa ~ Welcome Aboard!

Sadly this year, due to personal reasons we lost our Secretary & Newsletter Editor, Chris Kruetel. As our new Editor, Melissa Zimmerman so eloquently stated in her inaugural Editor's Message, "I do want to take this opportunity to thank the previous newsletter editor, Chris Kreutel, for the amazing work on previous newsletters, with countless hours putting together a truly enjoyable publication." I would like to add to Melissa's comments, HDIDS received a wonderful present each month when Chris cranked out our prized publication, *The Rhizome. Iris Bouquets to Chris and THANK YOU!*

In closing, we've worked hard planning and working to make our gardens and your visit memorable for this spring trek. Now is the time, during these quiet winter days to plan your iris vacations so be sure to send in your registrations soon and at your next meeting let your members know we look forward to making new friends at "**Desert Rainbow**"!

Now back to the garden, it's time to weed!

[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 has been dormant for a month- like our irises!! We are all just starting to come alive and many of us are trying desperately to get our hands back into our flower beds. As much as we love the rain, it's been hit or miss for those of us who work to get out and revive the gardens! I keep hoping to get more than a day or two and one with some decent temperatures!!

That being said, our group will be needing almost all new officers coming in July -jobs that few members want!! So those of you in I.R.I.S. reading this, start thinking of which you would like to undertake!!!

Last year proved to be a fairly good year for iris sales. We tried several new venues and discarded the ones that didn't pan out. We have another couple of places to try this year. And last, but not least, everyone is getting ready for April and our flower show on April 15th featuring this year's theme "IRIS GEMS". Another couple of weeks, and we will be seeing iris bloomstalks shooting up and then we can dream and hope we have some great ones to show!!

Happy Gardening!

Photos by B. Balaney-Train



facebook.com/InlandRegionIrisSociety



Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

By Ben Schleuning, President

I am quite certain that it is not necessary for me to begin in January of last year so I will skip to June when we travelled to Atascadero to the home of John and Carol Huffman for a potluck gathering. We welcomed two new members- Emil and Cathy Burgard of Burgard Iris Farm.

July heralded our annual rhizome sale. Out of necessity, our sale location changed but with good signage and great publicity, most of our loyal customers found us. An unexpected gust of wind took our nearly empty boxes off of the risers and sent our EZ UP shade sailing. A very successful sale in spite of all negatives.

August found us at one of our favorite pastimes, eating; the second of our two potluck gatherings. Qualifying members received new rhizomes to grow for our society and all received their promised and long awaited door prize rhizomes.

September meeting consisted of reports from the various committees for the Region 15 Fall Meeting.

All efforts came together as we set up for the big event on Friday afternoon, October 14. A sincere thanks to all members for a job well done! We enjoyed the camaraderie and enthusiastic participation of the 38 registered irisarians in attendance. We had wonderful contributions for the opportunity drawing tables and ticket sales were generous. A heartfelt thanks to all who contributed items for the silent auction. We had twenty five 2016 introduction iris rhizomes donated by Aitken's, Bay View, Keppel, Lauer's, Mid America, Superstition, Sutton's and Winterberry. Their generosity certainly added to the financial success of our event. Such a short event with limited time to visit with everyone. We are looking forward to seeing you all again at the spring trek in Lancaster.

November meeting was election of officers. NO changes. President: Ben Schleuning, Vice President: Marie Jacobsen, Treasurer: Carol Huffman, and Secretary: Pat Dunn. Appointed positions: Publicity, Kiki Shappell and Membership, Florence Schleuning.

We are kicking off 2017 with a post-holiday dinner at Cool Hand Luke's on January 7.

Looking forward to another year of fun and flowers!!

Fall Meeting 2016 photos by B. Train



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



Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

By Derry Gerald, President

Wow! It's raining— and my garden loves it. What a way to start the new year.

Our new slate of officers are as follows: President— Derry Gerald
Vice President- Lois Farr
Treasurer—Jeanie Moeckel
Secretary— Peggy Sheldon
Advisor— Mike Monninger

We are looking forward to a great year. We will be having our usual sale at GreenScene, summer potlucks, iris and daylily auctions, and Christmas party.

However, since our sale last year was less than usual, we have found ways in which to save finances. Our programs will be CD's from AIS, the Master Gardeners, and the wealth of knowledge of our own members.

Our club meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church located at 11832 E. Euclid Street, Garden Grove, CA. We would love to have you come visit and/or join our club. I would suggest to call first (562) 420-9190.

Hope to see you there.

Photos taken at the Fall Meeting 2016





Prescott Area Iris Society Report

By Dennis Luebkin, President

2016 has been an excellent year for PAIS. 2017 looks to be an excellent year also. PAIS membership has remained steady and new members have volunteered for Board, Chairperson and Coordinator positions this year to make PAIS a success in the community. Our public outreach programs have been very successful and are expanding this year. We have been asked to expand the Gardens at both Yavapai College Sculpture Garden and Embry Riddle University Memorial Gardens which we will begin the spring of this year.

We have had several very financially successful sales years with visitors coming from around the southwest to buy irises and see our spectacular spring show the Kaleidoscope of Color. For 2017 PAIS has initiated a \$1,000.00 Scholarship for a student in the horticultural program at Yavapai College along with financial support for the Citizens Cemetery Restoration, Sharlot Hall Museum, the AIS Youth Program, and the Yavapai Food Bank. Our adult and youth education programs will continue this year.

Our major events for 2017 will include:

Yavapai College Iris Classes April 21, 28, May 6.

Kaleidoscope of Color Festival of Irises (Spring Iris Exhibit, AIS Judged Show, Potted Iris Sale) will be May 6.

Annual garden tour will be May 13th

Summer Iris Rhizome Sale July 29th

Community Iris Care Classes August 12th

Ice Cream Social, Silent Auction, Photo Contest August 19th

November 18th, elections and pot luck

Regular General meetings are held the third Saturday of the month

Community Outreach Project volunteer days are held as needed during the Year

Well I tried my best not to be PAIS President this year but no one else wanted the position so I am doing one more year.

Best Regards to All.

Photos taken at the Fall Meeting 2016



facebook.com/PrescottAreaIrisSociety

prescottirissociety.org



San Diego Iris Society Report

By Claire Schneider, President

Hi everyone!

Like many garden clubs, San Diego Iris Society (SDIS) income has declined over the years. A possible solution is to expand sales events. Our usual sales schedule is two Sundays in September and the Spring Show in May. This year we sold rhizomes on one of the September Saturdays and discovered that our proceeds increased by a lot! WAHOO!! Next year we're holding two Saturday-Sunday sales events in September instead of just Sundays. Last May we were invited to host a booth at the Balboa Park Garden Party and were pleasantly surprised by the income from that rhizome sale. We plan to sponsor a booth at future Garden Parties. With these extra days of sales our bank balance has tripled in one year! The only inconvenience we foresee is finding enough rhizomes to sell!

What else have we been doing? We auctioned off the guest garden iris at our Oct 9th meeting and sent the proceeds to Region 15. On November 13, we heard a presentation on Louisiana Iris by Janis Shackelford and Bill Molnar. They described the history of Louisiana hybridization and ended with culture advice. Very interesting! On December 11, we had a holiday party and potluck banquet. On January 7, Andi Rivarola showed beautiful slides of last year's AIS convention and once again invited us to become members of the Spuria Iris Society. Again, very interesting!

What's next on the schedule? On February 11 the San Diego Iris Society will celebrate its 54th birthday with a party at the Best Western in Mission Valley, San Diego. The guest speaker will be Virginia (Ginny) Spoon of Winterberry Gardens. Following the party Ginny will give a judge's training on miniature tall bearded iris (MTBs). On March 12, Lucy Warren, a San Diego Master Gardener, will present "Balboa Gardens & California Natives." On April 9 from 1 to 3 PM will be the SDIS Garden Tour. Three members have volunteered to open their gardens for visitors. The Spring Show and Sale will be May 6 & 7 with the theme of Cinco de Mayo. Tammy and Janis are working on the program, judges and other details. The final meeting of the 2016-2017 season will be June 11 where winners from the Spring Show will receive their awards. We'll also hold elections of officers and end with an old-fashioned ice cream social. The San Diego Iris Society doesn't meet in July or August. For all the latest information about our programs, check our website www.sandiegoirissociety.org

My term as president will end in June. I can't believe that it's been three years. The time has flown by which is strong evidence that this job has been interesting and enjoyable. The SDIS Board members have made my job easy. And it has been a real pleasure to have met so many enthusiastic gardeners at the AIS Region 15 events. I look forward to seeing you all on future spring treks and fall meetings.

Photos by K. Notarianni



Tammy, Kitty, Claire, and Janis

Judges Training

Richard, Bill, and Carole

Ginny Spoon

SanDiegoIrisSociety.org



San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

By Andi Rivarola, President

We had a busy year in 2016 and expect to have another busy one in 2017. Our Spring Show has changed dramatically since we moved from the Westfield Mall to the Green Thumb Nursery in Canoga Park. Such a success. We can't recommend enough what a change of venue could do for your show. We also had a fantastic Christmas Party that included the San Fernando Valley Men's Chorus to end the year.

Here's a list of our events for this year:

February 2, Spuria Iris Digital Program and How-to-Grow Information by President Andi Rivarola and VP Loren Zeldin.

March 2, Spring Show Flower Arrangement Tips and Other information, by Hetti Shurtleff

April 1, Spring Garden Trek

April 6, Spring Show Horticulture How-to Presentation by several local club members

April 15, Spring Show at Green Thumb - Canoga Park, California

May 4, AIS President Gary White will give a presentation on Historic Irises

May 5-6, Spuria Iris Mini-Convention, L.A. Spuria Fest (visit spuriairissociety.org for more information). One JT training each day on Spuria irises.

June 8, Pot Luck, Presentation of Spring Show Awards, and General Club Elections

Photos taken at the Fall Meeting 2016



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

SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org



Southern California Iris Society Report

By Mike Monninger, President

Our Christmas Meeting and Luncheon was well attended at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Duarte. The attendees enjoyed a festive time with the gift exchange and social time.

The January meeting involved planning for the Region 15 Fall Meeting, the iris show April 8 and 9 and the four day iris sale at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa April 27 - 30.

March meeting will include show prep for horticulture and design tips and suggestions for the iris show. April will be very busy as usual with our iris show at the Los Angeles Arboretum April 8 and 9 and the four day sale at South Coast Plaza April 27 - 30.

That's all folks.



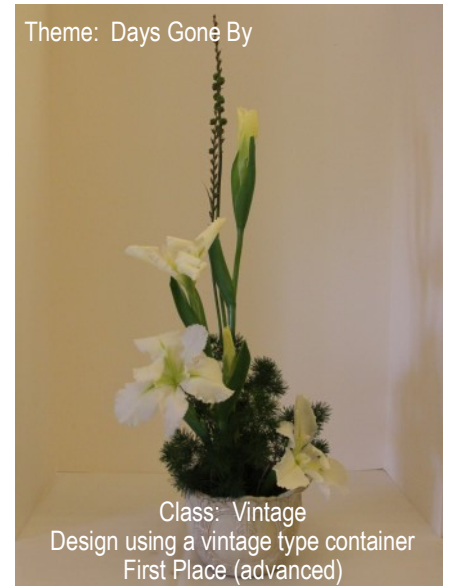
Theme: The Iris Forecast

Class: Here Comes the Sun
Design featuring motion
First Place



Theme: Irises Watch Vintage TV

Class: Ozzie and Harriet
Design using 2 containers
First Place



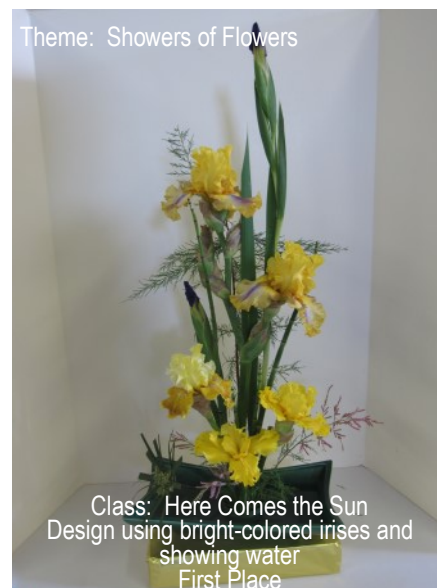
Theme: Days Gone By

Class: Vintage
Design using a vintage type container
First Place (advanced)



Theme: Days Gone By

Class: Grandma's Garden
Mass Design using old-fashioned flowers
First Place



Theme: Showers of Flowers

Class: Here Comes the Sun
Design using bright-colored irises and
showing water
First Place



Theme: Days Gone By

Class: Vintage
Design using a vintage type container
First Place, Best Design of Show

facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety



Sun Country Iris Society Report

By Kyria Peavy, President

Those of us who live in the Phoenix area are so thankful to have members living in the northern areas of Arizona who are willing to share their gardens with us. In the summer we can escape the valley heat and in the winter we can enjoy their snowy gardens via photos without driving in the snow or freezing our fingers and toes. I couldn't wait to share Darol Jum's photo of his garden in Sedona, Arizona with the rest of Region 15. It's beautiful. Living in Arizona we really do have the best of both worlds, warmer winters and the nearby mountains for quick get-a-ways in the summer.

We've had a wetter than normal winter here in AZ, which hopefully will make for beautiful gardens in the spring. Even in the last few warmer days I've seen my irises take off. We would love to have our Region 15 members join us for a meeting, upcoming show and/or garden tour. In 2018 we will be hosting the Region 15 Spring Trek "The Magic of Irises". If you can't visit us this year, please plan to visit us next year on April 20-21, 2018 for the Region 15 Trek!

Although spring is not here yet, we started working long ago on our AIS sanctioned Iris Show which is scheduled for April 8. We also are hosting an Early Iris Exhibit on March 18 and a late Iris Exhibit on April 29. In between our shows we have multiple garden tours planned in Sedona, Forest Lakes and a special tour of the gardens that will be included on the 2018 Trek. Ardi Kary is keeping all the student and apprentice judges on track, so both the Sedona and Forest Lakes tours will include an In Garden Training.

We're looking forward to our 2017 programs as well. Gary Miller is our new Vice President and he is working hard to keep interesting programs scheduled for our monthly meetings.

January – Speaker – Sharon Petterson on her trip to Australia

February – Speaker - Jim Day, Owner of the Stained Glass Shop

March – Speaker Jim Hedgecock & Judges Training on Spuria Irises

April – Show Review & Preparation

Thankfully, we were able to maintain the majority of our officers for 2018. 2018 Officers are as follows: President – Kyria Peavy; Vice President – Gary Miller; Treasurer – Bob Buchwald; Secretary – Jenine Cook; and Directors, Ardi Kary, Vi Zepeda & Nancy Evans

Sun Country Iris Society wishes everyone a happy 2017!



Photos above: Officers (left), End of Year Celebration (center), Talented Musicians (right).

Photos below: Darol's garden in winter (left), Kyria with Debbie James at the Fall Meeting in Lompoc (right).



Tucson Area Iris Society Report

By Kevin Kartchner, President

We in the Tucson Area Iris Society, TAIS, have been enjoying the best winter rains in several years. Our rhizomes are growing well as we look forward to our spring bloom peaking in April. Stop by when you're in the vicinity.

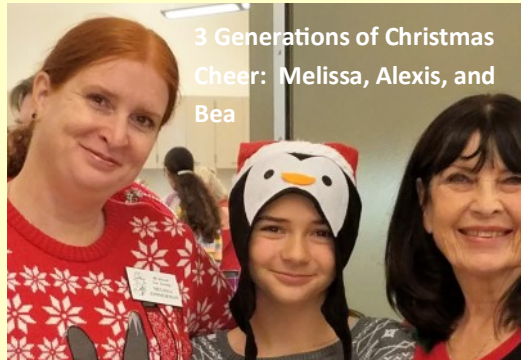
We recently had our elections. The 2017 TAIS officers are:

- President: Kevin Kartchner
- Secretary: Janet Gardner
- Membership Secretary: Carol Peterson
- Treasurer: E. Kristee West

Calendar:

- February 11, Wild Orchids of Arizona
- March 11, Iris Judging in France
- April 8, Iris Flower Show at the Bear Canyon Library, 8:30 am setup, 9am -4 pm show
- May 13th, AIS slide show
- August 12th, Region 15 Auction at Tucson Botanical Gardens
- September 16th, Annual Rhizome Sale
- October 14th, Election of Officers

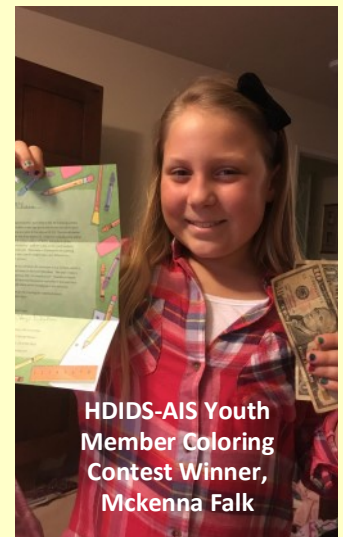
For all things current for TAIS see our website: <http://www.tucsoniris.org/>



3 Generations of Christmas Cheer: Melissa, Alexis, and Bea



A Tale of Two AIs (Escarcega and Anesi)



HDIDS-AIS Youth Member Coloring Contest Winner, Mckenna Falk



Happy Elves - Pat, Sherry & Ava



Sherry & winner Lynn McCurdy: Tacky-est, Wacky-est Christmas Sweater Contest

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society

photos by M. Kiger

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

TucsonIris.org

Minutes of the AIS Region 15 Fall Board and General Meeting

October 15, 2016
Lompoc, CA

The meeting was called to order by RVP Debbie James at 8:30 am.

The minutes of the 2016 Spring Board Meeting were read by Acting Secretary Kathy Chilton and approved.

Treasurer Carol Huffman reported that the region auctions have brought in over \$2,000.00 to date. The Treasurer's Report was approved to be filed for audit.

Jill Bonino requested that Region 15 contribute to a fund to help cover the AIS 2016 National Convention cost overrun. The board approved a \$500 donation to AIS.

Judges Training Chair Sue Brown reported 22 Active Judges, 9 Apprentice Judges and 8 Student Judges. Report submitted.

Awards Chair Claire Schneider reported an ample number of awards for next year's trek, except that 2 Claire Barr Awards are needed. More awards need to be ordered. She displayed samples of different styles. The Board voted to table the decision on new awards until the Winter Board Meeting. She also presented a request for shipping costs for sending awards to out-of-state hybridizers. The board approved \$210 for mailing awards. Report submitted.

Membership: no report

Youth Chair Cheryl Deaton reported a total of 7 youth members and passed out copies of the Youth Newsletter with samples of the coloring contest. Report submitted.

Editor Beth Balaney-Train asked for Spuria photos and requested that Affiliate Reports be submitted by January 29th, 2017 for the Spring 2017 Newsletter. Report submitted.

Historian: Winona Stevenson volunteered to be Region historian. She requests that affiliates send copies of their newsletter and any other relevant items to her by U.S. Mail.

Affiliate Reports:

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society: Marilyn Kiger discussed some information about the Spring Trek in 2017, report submitted.

Inland Region Iris Society: Mason Train reported that IRIS had a successful Fall sale and that their Spring Iris Show will be on April 15, 2017, report submitted.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society: Ben Schleuning thanked members for their efforts hosting this Fall Region Meeting. All present expressed congratulations on a job well done!

Orange County Iris & Daylily Society: Lois Farr, report submitted.

Prescott Area Iris Society: No representative, report submitted.

San Diego Iris Society: Claire Schneider, report submitted.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society: Debbie James reported that their work on hosting the May 5-6, 2017 Spuria Iris Society Mini-Convention.

Southern California Iris Society: Mike Monninger, report submitted.

Sun Country Iris Society: Kyria Peavy announced that their Iris Show is on April 8, 2017, report to be emailed.

Tucson Area Iris Society: Kathy Chilton, report submitted.

New Business:

A motion was submitted to change the bylaws to change the required number of Region 15 Board Meetings from 3 to 2 per year. After much discussion, it was decided that an overhaul of the entire bylaws was needed, due to many requirements being outdated, including the method for amendment. Claire Schneider was appointed to head a committee to review the bylaws and make recommendations for changes to be submitted to the membership. The motion was tabled until the Winter Board meeting.

Minutes of the Fall Meeting (continued):

RVP Debbie James expressed the need for attendance at the Winter Board Meeting, as this is the Budget Meeting.

Debbie also stressed the importance of club member participation in the AIS Symposium.

Flyers for the Spring 2017 Trek were distributed by Hi Desert.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chilton, Acting Secretary

Minutes of the AIS Region 15 Winter Board Meeting **February 4, 2017** **ZOOM (videoconference)**

The meeting began at 10:30 a.m. with most members on video and everyone participating.

RVP Debbie James called the meeting to order and read the minutes from the Fall meeting and they were approved.

Treasurer Carol Huffman sent the report (included) and it was approved.

Roll Call:

SFVIS Debbie James

Inland - Beth Train (for Cathy Coache)

Sun Country – Kyria Peavy

PAIS – Dennis Luebkin

Tucson – E. Kristee West

Lompoc – Ben and Florence Schleuning

High Desert - Sue Brown (for Marilyn Kiger)

New Business:

Club donations for the Region basket to the AIS National Convention may be brought to the Spring trek for Debbie to take to Des Moines.

Sue asked that apprentices for Judges Training check the club reports in the bulletin and arrange with others to car-pool to any show (not just the sanctioned shows) to get their hours recorded and that the tutors obtain the necessary forms from her.

The clubs that need an early mailing of rhizomes from the trek should let Marilyn Kiger know so that the digging will be done on time. Perhaps we need to up the minimum bid so that the clubs' income donation (ideally \$500 per club) can be met.

ALL of the affiliates reports were received on time and will be published in the Spring Bulletin!!

The reservations for the Spring Trek are slow to come in – with all this rain the poppies should be beautiful. PLEASE send yours in to:

Mary Anesi

P.O Box 3014 Quartz Hill, CA 93536

Phone: (661) 943-6612

Minutes of the Winter Board Meeting (continued):

NO membership report or awards report at this time.

Send photos of Spuria and Floral/Artistic Design entries to Beth Balaney-Train !

Trek Wheel is full until 2020.

Fall 2017	Southern Calif Iris Society	Spring 2018	Sun Country Iris Society/Phoenix
Fall 2018	San Diego Iris Society	Spring 2019	dark due to AIS National/Region 14
Fall 2019	Inland Region Iris Society	Spring 2020	Tucson Area Iris Society (tentative)

Sue Brown made a motion for adjournment at 12:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Larson, Secretary

PAIS Scholarship Program

By Dennis Luebkin, PAIS

Beginning in the fall of 2017, two scholarships for horticulture students have been established at Yavapai College by PAIS. The Agricultural/Horticultural department has never had a scholarship program and is very excited that our club has created these scholarships for horticulture students, a first at the college. The Prescott Area Iris Society (PAIS) greatly appreciates the public private partnership that has been achieved between Yavapai Community College and PAIS in the development of the scholarships to assist their education program.



The Production Horticulture Certificate program is designed to prepare students for potential careers in the horticulture and greenhouse industry including grower, nursery technician, integrated pest management, greenhouse management and entrepreneur.

The programs in Agriculture Technology are highly specialized for those seeking technical employment in the agriculture industry. Students enrolled in our programs have access to a large greenhouse, fish hatchery, equestrian arena, computer lab, science lab and carpentry/construction shop.

PAIS has had a longstanding relationship with Yavapai College beginning with the development of the nationally recognized iris display gardens in the Richard Marcusen Sculpture Garden at the college.

Remembering Friends

Ruth Miles Bryce (1936-2016)

A tribute from her sister and fellow "iris nut," Dorothy Driscoll

Ruth was raised in a small farming community in Draper, Utah. She liked to help with the large family garden and learned how to can fruits and vegetables for winter storage at an early age. She even won a few blue ribbons at the County Fair for her canned peaches and pears.

Ruth developed a love for growing flowers and plants of all kinds, but especially irises. She ordinarily had an iris bed wherever she lived over the years. Her husband was a Navy Chief, so they moved around quite a bit. After her husband's death, Ruth settled here in San Diego and worked for the County Probation Office until her retirement.

Ruth loved to travel. Her favorite place was Yosemite with many visits, and she always looked forward to attending different iris treks and AIS conventions. She enjoyed seeing old friends and being able to meet the various hybridizers at these events. Of course, she had a special fondness for Salem, Oregon, also known as "iris heaven."



Ruth was active in the San Diego Iris Society and served as Treasurer for several years. She usually participated in the annual iris shows and won Queen of Show and the Lawson Trophy for Best White Tall Bearded Iris in 1995 for 'White Lightning' (photo by Jan Lauritzen). In addition, Ruth was awarded the Runde Trophy for Best Pink Iris 'Vision in Pink' in 1993, and the Gorrell Trophy for Best Blue Tall Bearded Iris in 1991 for 'Good Morning America,' in 1997 for 'Blue Luster' and again 1999 for 'Millrace'.

The photo above of Ruth was taken while attending the 1996 Region 15 Fall Meeting held in Las Vegas. We met Brad and Kathy Kasperek for the first time and always enjoyed seeing them again over the years. Bill Maryott, one of our favorite hybridizers, gave the judges training session, so we had a great time.



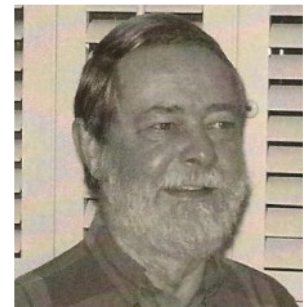
Steve Fletcher, in memoriam

Sadly, on January 4, 2017 our club lost one of our most active members. Steve Fletcher passed away after a year-long battle with cancer.

Steve joined in 1998 and from beginning took an active role in helping to run our club. He was publicity chair from 1999 - 2000 and secretary in 2001. He then took on the key job of Irisarian editor from 2002 - 2008. In 2006 he received the David T. Ross Service Award. In July 2008, Steve began his 3 years as president of the SFVIS. Upon leaving that office, he became refreshments chair, holding that position until his illness forced him to withdraw.

For many years he was a fixture at our rhizome marking parties and at the Encino Farmers Market sales in June and September. He was always assisting customers to find the right iris cultivar. A commercial artist by trade, Steve was responsible for the SFVIS logo that has graced our publications and shirts since 2008. His artistic flair could be seen at our shows as well, in the arrangements he created. Finally, for many years, he cooked and carved the turkey at our holiday party and was known for the neatly labeled and delicious food items he would bring to the table.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family at the difficult time. Our club will truly miss the quiet dignity and stalwart efforts of Steve Fletcher.



AIS Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

Hummingbird Iris Garden

(928)777-8110

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

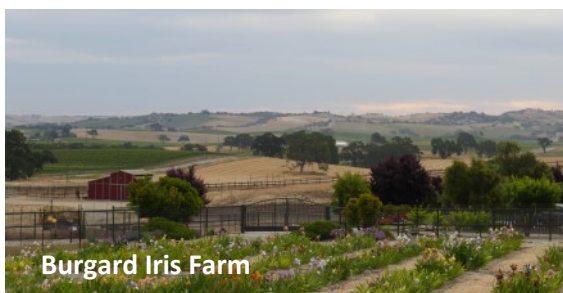
Kary Iris Gardens

(480)949-0253

Ardi Kary
 6201 E. Calle Rosa
 Scottsdale, AZ 85251
 ArdiKary@aol.com

Squires Iris Garden (818)892-1516

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



Burgard Iris Farm

Burgard Iris Farm (805)835-3965

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

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

AIS 2017 National Convention

RHYTHM OF THE PRAIRIE DES MOINES, IOWA MAY 23-27, 2017

The AIS Region 21 group, host for the 2017 AIS Convention, invite all iris friends to Des Moines, Iowa. Convention attendees will tour at six Des Moines area gardens, including two public gardens one of which is the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden.
 ais2017.wordpress.com
 irises.org/Member_Services/2017_Convention.html



AIS Region 15 2017 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
MARCH	2	SFVIS: Flower Arranging Techniques by Heitti Shurtleff	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS: 2017 Iris Introductions Slideshow by DeDe Utter	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	11	TAIS: Judging Iris in a French Garden by Jill Bonino	Tucson, AZ
	12	SDIS: The Drought Tolerant Garden– California Native Plants by Master Gardener Lucy Warren	San Diego, CA
	14	OCIDC meeting: Program on Daylilies	Garden Grove, CA
	18	HDIDS meeting	Lancaster, CA
		Sun Country: Early Spring Iris Exhibit and Sale	Phoenix, AZ
	25	SCIS: Show Preparation and Design Tips	Arcadia, CA
	APRIL	1	TAIS Master Gardens Home Garden Tour
4		IRIS: Artistic Floral Design Tips by Kimberly Heard and Tips On Preparing Iris for the Show by Carol Morgan	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country meeting	Phoenix, AZ
6		SFVIS: Horticultural Preparation for the Show by Leigh Nicolai-Moon	Canoga Park, CA
8		Sun Country Spring Show and Sale, Summerwinds Nursery	Phoenix, AZ
		SCIS Spring Show at the LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
		TAIS Annual Iris Show at Kirk-Bear Canyon Library	Tucson, AZ
8-9		IRIS Potted Iris Sale at the Riverside Flower Show-Elks Lodge	Riverside, CA
9		SDIS Garden Visits	San Diego, CA
15		IRIS Spring Show “ IRIS GEMS ” and Potted Iris and Rhizome Sale at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
		SFVIS Spring Show at Green Thumbs Nursery	Canoga Park, CA
21		PAIS Yavapai College Iris Classes	Prescott, AZ
21-22		AIS Region 15 Spring Trek “DESERT RAINBOW” hosted by Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society with guest speaker Bonnie Nichols, President of the Novelty Iris Society	Lancaster, CA
27-30		SCIS Iris Sale at South Coast Plaza	Costa Mesa, CA
29		LVIS Iris Show	Lompoc, CA
	PAIS Spring Show Preparation	Prescott, AZ	
	Sun Country Late Iris Exhibit and Sale at Harper’s Nursery	Scottsdale, AZ	
MAY	3	IRIS meeting: Wine and Cheese at the Club Garden	Riverside, CA
	4	SFVIS meeting: Historic Irises by Gary White, AIS President	Canoga Park, CA
	5-6	Spuria Iris Society Mini-Convention co-hosted by SFVIS	Burbank, CA
	5-7	IRIS Spring Iris Sale at Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival	Yucaipa, CA
	6	PAIS Spring Iris Exhibit “ KALEIDOSCOPE OF COLORS ”	Prescott, AZ
	6-7	SDIS Spring Show and Sale at Balboa Park Casa del Prado	San Diego, CA
	9	OCIDC: Master Gardener Series– Tool Time	Garden Grove, CA
	13	PAIS Annual Garden Tour	Prescott, AZ
		TAIS: AIS Slide Show on Color Patterns in Irises	Tucson, AZ
	20	SDIS Iris Sale	La Jolla, CA
	23-27	AIS National Convention “RHYTHM OF THE PRAIRIE” Hosted by Region 21	Des Moines, Iowa

Month	Day	Event	Location
JUNE	1	SFVIS: Potluck, Spring Show Awards and General Election	Canoga Park, CA
	6	IRIS: Nomination of Officers	Riverside, CA
	10	PAIS: Native Garden by Steve Miller	Prescott, AZ
	11	SDIS: Awards, Elections and Ice Cream Social	Lakeside, CA
	13	OCIDC: Daylily 101 by Bobbie Hogancamp	Garden Grove, CA
JULY	6	SFVIS meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	11	OCIDC: Outdoor Potluck	Garden Grove, CA
	16-21	PAIS Public Gardens Iris Day	Prescott, AZ
	29	PAIS Rhizome Sale at Yavapai Title	Prescott, AZ
AUGUST	1	IRIS: Members Only Iris Auction and the Great Iris Trade Sun Country Iris Society meeting	Riverside, CA Phoenix, AZ
	8	OCIDC: TB- Members Only Auction and Iris Slide Show	Garden Grove, CA
	12	TAIS: Region 15 Rhizome Auction at Tucson Botanical Gdn	Tucson, AZ
	19	PAIS Iris Photo Contest, Silent Auction & Ice Cream Social HDIDS meeting	Prescott, AZ Lancaster, CA
	SEPTEMBER	5	IRIS: Region 15 Rhizome Sale
	9-10	SDIS Rhizome Sale at Balboa Park	San Diego, CA
	12	OCIDC: Beardless Iris Auction & Beardless Iris Slide Show	Garden Grove, CA
	16	PAIS: Birds in the Garden by Eric Moore TAIS Annual Iris Plant and Rhizome Sale at Harlow Gardens	Prescott, AZ Tucson, AZ
	16-17	IRIS Annual Fall Iris Rhizome Sale at Western Municipal Water District's Landscapes Southern California Style SDIS Iris Rhizome Sale at Balboa Park	Riverside, CA San Diego, CA

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

THE IRIS MARKETPLACE

Tall Bearded—Arilbred—Median



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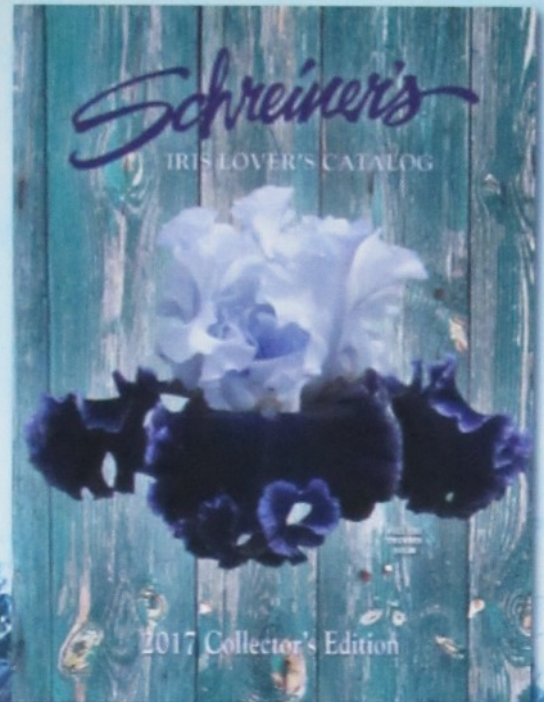


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2017 Iris Introductions



Dark Moon Rising (T. Burseen)



Big Break (P. Black)



Zebra Butter (D. Kanarowski)



Mind Changer (L. Miller)



Scarab AB (M. Smith)



Entitled (Schreiner)



Electric (M. Sutton)



Kewlopolis SDB (H. Stout)



Good Prospects (M. Sutton)

Spuria Irises



Vintage Wine SPU
(W. Vallette 1974)
Photo by A. Stanton



Highline Amethyst SPU
(E. McCown 1973)
Photo by B. Train



Hocka Hoona SPU
(P. deSantis 2000)
Photo by C. Buchheim



Honey Mocha Lotta SPU
(L. Walker 2006)
Photo by A. Rivarola



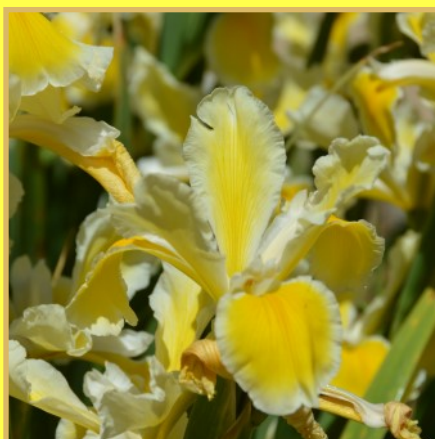
Imperial Bronze SPU
(E. McCown 1971)
Photo by B. Train



Salmon Sunset SPU
(L. Walker 2007)
Photo by A. Rivarola



Hasarya SPU
(P. deSantis 2000)
Photo by C. Buchheim



Oregon Cream SPU
(L. Walker 2008)
Photo by A. Rivarola



Betty Cooper SPU
(E. McCown 1982)
Photo by B. Train