

Region 15

Spring 2021 Semi-Annual Report

Virtual SPRING TREK 2021 by Southern California Iris **Society**

www.region15ais.org

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VIRTUAL SPRING TREK 2021 BY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IRIS SOCIETY

SCIS 2021 Virtual Iris Show

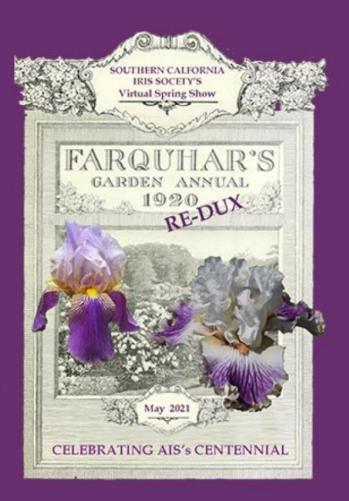
Open to the Public

Photos can be submitted March 26 to May 9, 2021

Enter an individual iris:

Fourteen categories available
- OR -

Enter the Iris Floral Arranging category



Please note: <u>two</u> photos per entry are required for all irises unless under 10" tall, one showing the entire stalk and one of a close-up of the best view of a bloom

The stalk can be in the garden or cut and displayed in a vase of any kind.

Submit (up to 15 total entries) to scis-irissociety@sbcglobal.net
Unaltered JPEG files only, with the correct cultivar followed by the category in the file name For more details and submission guidelines, visit SCIS on their Facebook page at:

https://www.facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety/

Winners will be announced on May 31st, 2021 No monetary or physical awards will be awarded, just virtual ones.



Note from the Editor

Hello fellow AIS region 15 members!

2020 was a challenging year for all of us, but hopefully you all had more time to spend in your gardens, especially those of you working from home. Those of you working not from home, stay safe out there and try to find time to enjoy your gardens or the outdoors. Since this is my first newsletter as your editor, I included a short bio.

I have been a member of the San Diego iris society since 2017 and AIS since 2018. I have served as secretary and I am currently our nominating committee chair and newsletter editor. I have put together several presentations for our club over the years. I also took over as editor of the SIGNA newsletter this year. My interests extend beyond irises to other plants that do well in San Diego. I am also a member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society. While not officially a member, I used to help out our local orchid society during their quarterly shows and sales. I play around with hybridizing irises and to a lesser extent orchids. I crossed my first aloe recently. My other hobbies include hiking, photography and an ever growing assortment of crafts. I am also a CERT San Diego academy graduate. I have lived in San Diego for over 20 years, after moving from New Jersey as a kid.

Professionally, I am a scientist. I received my bachelors and masters degrees from UCSD. I completed my masters in a plant biology lab at the Salk Institute led by Dr. Joanne Chory. I worked in various academic labs as an undergraduate and graduate student, including two plant labs and two oceanography labs. After graduation, I worked in plant biotech for 5 years before making the switch to the biopharma field, where I am currently working.

Hopefully 2021 will be a better year for all of us! Vaccines are making their way out to the general public. In the meantime, please follow all precautions to protect yourself, your loved ones and your neighbors. Wishing you a spring of many blooms, iris or otherwise. Hopefully you enjoy the photos in this newsletter of my above average 2020 and now 2021 bloom seasons.

Olga Batalov, Editor

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT www.region15ais.org



On the Cover: Tall bearded 'Paprika Fono's' (Iris Nelson, 1989) first TB to bloom in my garden, April 2020

AIS Region 15 **Local Chapter Presidents**

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Pat Simpson patsi5253@gmail.com **HDIDS Facebook**

Inland Region Iris Society

Mason Train inlandregionirissociety@gmail.com IRIS Facebook

Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Lucie George Irgeorge912@gmail.com LVIS Facebook

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Derry Gerald derryg5123@gmail.com 562-420-9190

Prescott Area Iris Society

Sherry Williams duckwalkdesigns@gmail.com PAIS website and Facebook

San Diego Iris Society

Mary Hanson maryehanson2016@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

Dale Liggett irisdale01@msn.com SCIS website

Tucson Area Iris Society

Kevin Kartchner kevink3141@gmail.com TAIS website and Facebook

American Iris Society Region 15 **Elected Officers**

Region 15 Vice President (RVP)

Janis Shackelford 9716 Red Pony Lane El Cajon, CA 92021 (619) 561-6323

region15rvp@gmail.com

Assistant RVP and Judges Chair

Beth Balaney Train bethtrain8@gmail.com

Region 15 Treasurer

Cheryl Deaton 27218 Walnut Springs Avenue Canyon Country, CA 91351 region15kids@hotmail.com

Region 15 Secretary

Lois Farr

loismalulani@pacbell.net

Committee Chairs

Awards: Claire Schneider itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com and Janis Shackelford

igshackelford@cox.net

Editor: Olga Batalov olga_batalov@yahoo.com

Historian: Sue Brown (in transition)

irisfor15w@gmail.com

Membership: Kyria Peavy Kyria.Peavy@am.ill.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
2021 Spring Trek	Southern California Iris Society	virtual
2021 Fall Meeting	Prescott Area Iris Society	Prescott, AZ
2022 Spring Trek	San Diego Iris Society	San Diego, CA
2022 Fall Meeting	High Desert Iris & Daylily Society	Lancaster, CA
2023 Spring Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society, i	n discussion
2023 Fall Meeting	Lompoc Valley Iris Society	
2024 Spring Trek	open	
2024 Fall Meeting	open	

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks from our website

www.region15ais.org

Visit us on Facebook





AIS Region 15 RVP Message

By Janis Shackelford, Region 15 RVP

Hello Irisarians.

I hope everyone is enjoying their gardens this spring. Due to Covid-19, we will not be able to hold a Spring Trek again this year. Let's hope that the Covid-19 pandemic is over and that we will be able to get together for the 2022 Spring Trek in San Diego. My garden as well as Claire Schneider's and Bill Molnar's will be on the tour and our gardens are in different micro-climates so the Trek irises will probably be in bloom in one of our gardens, if not in all. We will have bearded iris, spuria iris, and Louisiana iris (which are over growing their pots). We may have to divide the LAs this fall, but the TBs and spurias will go for another year.

Winona Stevenson has resigned as Historian. Thank you Winona for your years of service to the Region, both as aRVP and RVP as well as Historian. Sue Brown has volunteered to take over the Historian position and will be meeting with Winona to receive the files of the Region's records.

Debbie James has provided notice that she will be moving from the Region. Debbie has served as editor of the Region's newsletter for the last few years and we will miss you Debbie. I have asked Olga Batalov, San Diego Iris Society, to take over the position. She is figuring out the Publisher Program and will probably be publishing the Spring Report with Debbie's assistance.

The Southern California Iris Society will be holding a virtual Iris Show where you may take photos and enter them. The rules may be found on their website: https://www.facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety

Since I became RVP, our region has gained 12 new AIS members. I cannot tell whether the new members are already in a club, but I sent each one a welcome message and invited them to look at the Region's website for an affiliate near them.

Please save the date: The Prescott Area Iris Society is planning to hold the Region 15 Fall Trek the weekend of October 23, 2021. At this time it looks like the event will be possible so hope to see everyone there.

As I write this message, California is reducing Covid-19 restrictions and continuing to open up. However the Region 15 Spring meeting has already been scheduled for May 8, 2021, 9:00 AM and will be online.

Hope to see all of you online at the Region 15 Spring meeting on May 8th, Janis

Membership Update

By Kyria Peavy, Membership Chair

TOTAL MEMBERS: 288

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS: not available

TOTAL YOUTH: 5 (as of Feb 2021)

TOTAL AFFILIATES: 10 (No change)



AIS Judges Training

By Beth Balaney-Train, Region 15 Asst. RVP and Judges Training Chair

Hello to Region 15! I hope everyone is staying healthy and keeping safe. We are still in the midst of the Covid19 pandemic but with widespread vaccination we are having less restrictive mandates. This is welcome news to everyone, especially us iris lovers who enjoy visiting each other's gardens and going to iris conventions.

As with 2020, the AIS Board of Directors are waiving training hours requirements for 2021. Not every state in the country are doing well with their Covid19 control. Judges are still required to send in their activity reports, however. This year, judges will have to vote the AIS Awards, too.

The Board of Directors for the American Iris Society has appointed Cheryl Deaton as Emeritus Judge at its December 2020 meeting. This honor is given to judges who have given outstanding service to AIS. Congratulations Cheryl!

As of this writing, the Region has 18 G/E Judges, 7 Master Judges, 1 Emeritus Judge, 2 Apprentices, and 14 students. One of the students will be recommended for advancement in the Fall. She has completed the requirements and I have received letters of recommendation for her. We lost (Master Judge) Dr. Ed Murray, who passed last year. Another judge moved to OR and is now with Region 13.

I encourage Region 15 members to sign up in the Judge's Training Program. It is both fun and educational. Anyone may enter the Judge's Training Program by filling out an application form, which is at the Region 15 website: region15ais.org It is also in this Spring 2021 Region 15 Bulletin. Please make sure that you immediately become an AIS member, since membership is a requirement for all persons in the training program and all judges. When a student signs an application for the training program, the student will have three years to obtain the 10 hours of training. "The ten hours of required training must have been completed within the three year period immediately preceding recommendation for appointment as an Apprentice judge." (p 5, Handbook for Judges and Show Officials). I keep track of student hours and fill out advancement reports in the fall. While students are not required to submit activity reports, it is a good habit to develop as you will be required to report your training hours as a judge.

Are you currently an AIS member? Do you know when your membership lapses? Check your AIS membership on the website: www.aislookup.org Simply enter your last name, and your membership expiration date will be shown. I will occasionally remind students and even judges if their membership has expired, but it is good practice to know it yourself.

AIS Webinars offer Judges Training sessions periodically. As an AIS member, you should be getting email updates on this. I've recently approved several in-garden and classroom training sessions in CA and AZ. You may contact me to see when training sessions are available in your area.



Photos by Beth Train



THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

REGION 15

APPLICATION FOR ENTRANCE INTO THE JUDGES TRAINING PROGRAM

NAME			DATE	_
	SS			
DATE JOINED TH	E AMERICAN IRIS SOCIET			
		UESTIONS WITH A"YES" OR	'NO" ANSWER (Y / N)	
	ou have the latest copy of			
	ou visit at least 3 gardens t bloom season?	that displayed a substantia	number of recent iris introductions	
3. Have	you attended an annual co	nvention/meeting of the Ame	rican Iris Society?	
4. Did yo	u attend the last regional i	meeting/trek of Region 15?		
5. Have	you attended more than	half of the meetings of your	local iris society?	
6. Have	you been the announced	speaker on the subject of ir	is before an organized group?	
7. Have	you written an article for	publication on iris or relate	d subject?	
8. Have	you been an officer of yo	our local iris society?		
9. Have	you prepared an education	nal exhibit for a show?		
10. Did y	you enter three or more	specimens in an iris show du	ring the past bloom season?	
11. Have	you held a position of lea	dership in a local or regional a	ctivity?	
12. Have	e you held discharged the	duties of a local or regional	officer?	
13. Have	you assumed the respons	ibility for increasing the mem	bership of the American Iris Society?	
14. Have	you participated actively	in an iris robin?		
15. Have	you served as a classificat	tion chair or registration work	er at an iris show?	
16. Have	e you managed an iris sh	ow or iris specimen section o	of a show?	
17. Have	you participated actively	in a specialty iris group recog	nized by the American Iris Society?	
18. Have	e you raised seedlings fro	m your own iris crosses?		
19. Have	e you registered or introdu	ced an iris?		
20. Wou		e an iris show anywhere wit	hin your own region, knowing that th	is activity
	INDICATE THE TYPI	S OF IRIS PRESENTLY GROW	NG IN YOUR OWN GARDEN	
	Arilbreds	Median Bearded	Tall Bearded	
	Japanese	Pacific Coast	Spurias	
	Louisianas	Siberians	Others	
		Signature		

Upon completion of this form, please return it to your Regional Judges Training Chair: If you have any questions about the process of becoming an AIS Judge, you may email:

> **BETH TRAIN** BETHtrain8@gmail.com

Minutes of the Fall 2020 Region 15 Board Meeting

November 21, 2020 9:00 AM

Meeting was called to order by Sue Brown at 9:05 AM. Attendees included: Janis Shackelford, Mason and Beth Train, Mike Monninger, Debbie James, Cheryl Deaton, Claire Schneider, Andi Rivarola, Kevin Kartchner, Sue Brown, Kyria Peavy, Lois Farr

Spring Board Meeting Minutes: Provided by Kyria Peavy. Cheryl Deaton made a motion to accept as written, 2nd by Debbie James. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Provided by Cheryl Deaton - No changes since last newsletter. Janis Shackelford made a motion to accept as written, 2nd by Beth Train. Motion passed.

Judges Training: Provided by Janis Shackelford -

No training since the last AIS online training.

Currently 27 judges in total, 14 in California and 13 in Arizona. Two apprentices in AZ.

13 Students; 2 students in AZ dropped out

Judges training will eventually be online. Student will be able to check-in online, take the test and send test to the RVP.

Cheryl Deaton made a motion to accept report, 2nd by Adel. Motion passed.

Membership Report: Provided by Kyria Peavy. Debbie James made a motion to accept report, Cheryl Deaton 2nd, motion passed.

Awards Report: Per Claire Schneider, nothing new to report. Youth Report: Per Cheryl Deaton, nothing new to report.

Editor's report: Provided by Debbie James

People liked the new format.

To reduce mailing costs, 5 copies were mailed to each club president to distribute to members as needed. All others received newsletter via email.

Fall newsletter cost \$260 for printing, \$80 to mail to presidents and \$69 renewal fee for Publisher.

Newsletter was printed in black & white except for the cover.

San Fernando and Prescott said they do not need printed copies. Andi made motion to accept report, 2nd by Cheryl, motion passed.

Historian's Report: Please send hard copies to Winona Stevenson.

Ways and Means: Vacant

Affiliates' Reports:

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society - Elections held

Inland Region Iris Society - Elections held - new treasurer. Secretary position is vacant. Mason is still president. Fall iris sale held at Mountain Discovery center. Good outcome from sale.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society - Rhizome sale held in driveway. Held elections. Considering having a round table discussion via zoom. Region 15 will help, Cheryl, Janis and Andy volunteered. Currently scheduled for February 21. Will contact Prescott Society for assistance with public garden.

Orange County Iris Society – Lois said no new news.

Prescott Area Iris Society – Holding a meeting for fall region planning to finalize plans.

San Diego Iris Society - Started virtual meetings using Zoom in September. Claire and Andi have access to the AIS Zoom account and can set up zoom meeting for clubs.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society – Continuing to use Zoom for club and board meetings. Around 20 people join each meeting. Will not charge a membership fee for 2021 due to COVID 19. Program for free membership starts January 1.

Southern California Iris Society - Had a very successful fall rhizome sale. Jill has a zoom account for the club.

Continued on Page 9

Minutes of the Fall 2020 Region 15 Board Meeting

Affiliates' Reports (continued from page 8):

Sun Country Iris Society - Held election. Have a new president and secretary. Dale Liquett is new president.

Tucson Area Iris Society - Cancelled fall rhizome sales. Held virtual photo contest. Held October zoom meeting for elections. No change to the officers. Held potluck in October with about 12 people.

Old Business:

Preserving records: Kyria needs to continue working on it.

New Business:

Nomination of Officers for the next three years: Provided by Claire Schneider

RVP: Janis Shackelford Assist RVP: Beth Train Secretary: Lois Farr Treasurer: Cheryl Deaton

No other nominations.

Trek Wheel:

Spring 2021 is scheduled in San Diego.

San Diego proposed having 2021 Spring Trek in Southern California instead and have 2022 Spring Trek in San Diego. Southern California only has 1 garden.

Janis made a motion to have San Diego hold the 2022 Spring Trek and leave the option open for Southern California to hold the Spring Trek in 2021, 2nd by Lucy. Motion passed.

Mike will ask Southern California club and determine if they can hold trek in 2021.

Janis would like a list of guest irises planted in Southern California garden.

This will be discussed further in winter meeting potentially scheduled for February 20 at 9 am Pacific.

2021 Spring: Potentially Southern California

2021 Fall: Prescott Area Iris Society 2022 Spring: San Diego Iris Society 2022 Fall: Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society 2023 Spring: San Fernando Iris Society 2023 Fall: Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Budget Changes:

Cheryl would like to change an item on the proposed budget.

Since no National Convention should RVP travel fund be dropped to \$500 and possibly bump \$500 up to the newsletter? Decision was made to vote in February.

The board thanked Sue Brown for serving as RVP and welcomed Janis as new RVP.

Cheryl made motion to adjourn meeting at 10:50 am, Janis 2nd, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyria Deavy, Secretary

Minutes of Winter 2021 Region 15 Board Meeting

February 20, 2021 9:00 AM

Meeting was called to order by Janis Shackelford at 9:07 AM. Attendees (12) included: Olga Batalov, Sue Brown, Cheryl Deaton, Lois Farr, Debbie James, Kevin Kartchner, Dale Liggett, Kyria Peavy, Andi Rivarola, Claire Schneider, Janis Shackelford and Beth Train

Fall Board Meeting Minutes: Provided by Kyria Peavy. Sue Brown motioned to accept as written, motion seconded by Andi Rivarola. Motion passed - Minutes accepted as written.

Treasurer Report: Provided by Cheryl Deaton – The halving of newsletter costs complimented by Sue Brown. Dale Liggett motioned to accept as written, motion seconded by Andi Rivarola. Motion passed -Treasurer Report accepted for audit as provided.

Judges Training: Provided by Beth Train – 26 judges, 13 in California and 13 in Arizona.

2 Judges lost: Ed Murray passed and Carole Buchheim moved to Oregon.

13 Student Apprentices: Bonnie Nichols and Jerry Schneider.

Judges' Training posted to You-Tube is not valid for credit. Students must log into a live Judges' Training for credit.

Membership Report: Provided by Kyria Peavy. 290 Members are AIS members. 3 Youth and 25 Life Members. Non-AIS count requires Club Presidents' feedback and will be requested in next newsletter.

Awards Report: Per Claire Schneider, the number of awards will be doubled in 2021 due to missed awards in 2020.

Youth Report: Per Cheryl Deaton, 5 Youth Members

Editor's report: Incoming Editor: Olga Batalov.

Outgoing editor, Debbie James, admonishing all newsletter contributions to be handed in on time. 10 hard copy newsletter copies sent to each president. Advertising space is available.

Historian's Report: Winona Stevenson resigned as Historian. Sue Brown volunteered to accept Historian position. All future reports to se sent to 2 persons - 1 copy to Sue Brown at irisfor 15w@gmail.com and 1 copy to Janis Shackelford at jgshackelford@cox.net.

Ways and Means: Vacant. This job is basically shipping region iris, which Mike Monninger is doing.

Affiliates' Reports:

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society – No meetings. Iris giveaway and auction in August 2020 outdoors in 5 driveways. Facebook sales amounted to \$2800, some transactional problems need to be resolved.

Inland Region Iris Society (Beth Train) - February Zoom meeting, Spring sales are uncertain - TBD Lompoc Valley Iris Society (Sue Brown) - Zoom meeting at 2:00 today, Roundtable subject is iris care Orange County Iris Society (Lois Farr) - No meetings, no new information to report

Prescott Area Iris Society – November meeting held before COVID numbers increased. Spring and Fall Sale earned \$8000 to help with Yavapai Food Bank and scholarships. The Prescott club is preparing and anticipates hosting the Fall Region 15 Gathering on October 23, 2021

San Diego Iris Society (Mary) – virtual meetings: Feb - Genetics of Broken Color (Olga), Jan - Process of Naming an iris (Mary), Dec - Holiday themed iris names (Mary), Nov - Region 15 hybridizers (Olga), Oct - Plicatas (Olga), Sept - introduction and plans

San Fernando Valley Iris Society (Andi) – virtual meetings: presentation on arilbreds by Howie Dash, English kitchen gardens, scholarships - 2 AIS

Southern California Iris Society (Cheryl) – virtual trek and show, Lee Moon presentation on arrangements is open to all - more info after next weekend meeting

Sun Country Iris Society (Dale) – 3 driveway sales, open to members and the public, all within COVID quidelines of masks and distance, fall auction and sales, October - nurseries, programs on fertilizers, Widell in West Phoenix is starting a large common garden. Virtual photo contest, no spring show, early iris sale of potted iris.

Tucson Area Iris Society (Kevin) – April Show at a nursery or outdoor or backyard

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Minutes of Winter 2021 Region 15 Board Meeting

Continued from page 10

Old Business: none New Business: trek wheel

2021 Spring: Virtual (Southern California Iris Society) 2021 Fall: Prescott Area Iris Society - October 23, 2021 2022 Spring: San Diego Iris Society - consider carpools

2022 Fall: Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

2023 Spring: San Fernando Iris Society - Andi reported gardens no longer available, will be difficult

2023 Fall: Lompoc Valley Iris Society

2024 Spring: Open

Next Meeting: Spring 2021 - ZOOM - May 8th, 2021 at 9:00 AM PST

Meeting adjourned approx. 10:30 - Motion made by Cheryl Deaton, motion seconded by Sue Brown. Motion passed and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Farr, Secretary



Check AIS membership status:

www.aislookup.org

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

The American Iris Society

Membership Rates:

Annual Single \$30/Dual \$35 Triennial Single \$70/Dual \$85 Life Single \$1500/Dual \$2000 Life Senior (65+) 15% discount Youth (< 19 y/o) with Bulletin \$12 without Bulletin \$8

Annual E-membership \$15 (online Bulletin + Irisregister)

> Send payments to: Pam Messer P.O. Box 6 Huxley, IA 50124 Phone: (515) 597-4240

E-mail: aismemsec@irises.org



www.AISYouth.com

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report not provided at time of publication

REGION 15 BUDGET FOR 2021

EXPENSES

Website \$495 RVP Travel Fund a \$250

Officer expenses b \$1,000 (4 at \$250 each)

Spring Trek ^c \$250
Fall Trek \$400
Newsletter (2 issues) ^d \$1,000
Rhizome shipping \$400
Awards (engraving and postage) \$100
Miscellaneous \$200
TOTAL EXPENSES \$4.095

INCOME

Rhizome Sales \$3,850 Investment Interest \$245 TOTAL INCOME \$4,095

Postage and shipping expenses are guestimates.

- a. The RVP Travel Fund is meant to help pay for the RVP attendance at the National Convention
- b. The Officers expenses are meant to help pay for attendance at Regional events
- c. The Spring trek will be virtual but may have some expenses. I would rather propose expenses than have unknown costs show up.
- d. Since the newsletter is now an online issue except for less than 50 members of Region 15, this expense should be sufficient to cover its cost.



AIS Youth Program Report

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 and AIS Youth Chair

Report not provided at time of publication

AIS CONVENTIONS

2021 AIS Convention postposed to 2022 2022 April 11-16, Las Cruces, NM

aisregion23.com/2022-national-convention/

Iris Enchantment 2021 Video

2022 AIS Convention Co-Chair: Howie Dash 1534 Arco De Gova, Las Cruces, NM 88007 (575) 541-4438 • howiedash@aol.com

2022 Convention Co-Chair: Scarlett Ayres 5128 Hacienda, Las Cruces, NM 88011 Home: (575) 382-9613 • Cell: (575) 621-0717 • sdayres2@aol.com

2023 Convention

2023 April 10-15, Dallas, TX 2023 Convention Chair: Bonnie J. Nichols

(214) 676-9892 • bjnhtn@aol.com

2024 Convention 2024 June 17-22, Portland, OR

2024 Convention Co-Chair: Chad Harris PO Box 346, Washougal, WA 98671-0346

chadharris@prodigy.net

2024 Convention Co-Chair: John Ludi PO Box 956, Sandy, OR 97055-0956 kludi@juno.com

AIS FALL BOARD MEETING

2021 November 6, San Diego, California

Meeting Chair: Paul W. Gossett

3854 South Cincinnati Ave., Tulsa, OK 74105 (918) 853-6204 • pwgossett1@yahoo.com

FUTURE SECTION CONVENTIONS

Siberian/Species

2022: Seattle, WA

http://www.siberianirises.org/ssiconv.htm

Convention Chair: Patrick Spence

(425) 770-5984

patrick@cascadiairisgardens.com

2023 Louisiana & Spuria Iris Joint Mini-Convention

April 27-29, 2023: Dallas, TX

2023 Convention Chair: Bonnie J. Nichols

(214) 676-9892 • bjnhtn@aol.com

For most current additional information, visit irises.org/aismembers/conventions/

SAVE THE DATE



PRESCOTT IRIS ROUND-UP

AIS Region 15 2021 Fall Conference Saturday, October 23, 2021

Featuring guest speaker & Judges training

JIM HEDGECOCK

Hybridizer, owner of Comanche Acres Iris Gardens "Shootout at the Iris Corral-**Tall Bearded Verses Spuria**"

Find information at prescottirissociety.org. Registration information will also be sent to each club president.

REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

By Pat Simpson, President

At our last meeting of 2020 in November, we held our elections for 2021. The officers are:

Pat Simpson, President Debbie James, Treasurer

Ava Burns, Vice President Patty Nygaard, Secretary

To start off the year, at the end of February, we held a nursery clean up. It was great to see everyone after 3 months of no meetings.

Due to bad weather, we were unable to meet until April, as we were holding our meetings outside. We had a wonderful attendance of 33 members. Cheryl Deaton did the honors of the installation of officers. We then had a silent auction on items members brought from home.

May 1st found our club selling irises at the Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District Nursery where we had a booth. This nursery grows trees and plants that grow in the high desert. They have plant sales at least once a year at a discount and we usually sell there each year. Customers were glad to see us and sales were robust.

Our May meeting was held at Neal & Sharon Weisenbeger's home in the town of Acton. They have a mini ranch with llamas and beautiful gardens. As Neal is a agricultural college professor, we all wrote gardening questions on cards. The Q & A was very informative.

June will find us carpooling to another member's home in Techachapi. It's really nice to visit the different gardens, but it will be nice when/if we get back to our room at the college.



www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/



Inland Region Iris Society Report

By Mason Train, President

Hello to all our Irisarian friends! I hope you are doing well and are able to enjoy your gardens and the relaxing of most Covid19 pandemic safety protocols.

We had a nice Fall Iris Rhizome Sale last October 10-11, 2020 at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center. The sales area was at the Sunken Garden which was open air, shaded, and provided plenty of space for social distancing. There was a good and

steady stream of iris buyers on both days.

Inland Region Iris Society is planning an Iris Sale and Iris Display on April 24th and 25th at the JMDC. We, as well as our customers, liked the Sunken Garden sales area, so we are having the sale there again this spring. CDC, state and JMDC Covid19 pandemic safety mandates will be strictly observed. We hope to see our loyal customers as well as attract new iris lovers. The IRIS club garden will be in full bloom at that time so customers and JMDC visitors will enjoy free self-guided tours of the garden. An IRIS member or two will be around to answer questions about iris care and culture and hopefully inspire inquiring minds to buy and grow irises. We will also have a rhizome sale at the Yucaipa Music and Arts Festival on May 7-8. It will be a much smaller space but we do have a decent following in that area, too.

IRIS has been having Zoom meetings since June 2020. The last in-person meeting was in March 2020. As California gets more people vaccinated and the infection rate goes down, Riverside county and surrounding areas may be moved to the less restrictive tier. Hopefully, we can start in-person meetings late spring or early summer.

There was a very good participation among IRIS members at our Annual Reblooming Iris Display. We enjoyed the photo submissions as well as showing blooms at the Zoom meeting. It was great to know reliable rebloomers in our area, and there are many. Each entry earned a raffle ticket for a one year membership to the Reblooming Iris Society.

The Garden Committee and member volunteers continue with club garden upkeep.

Several IRIS members continue to attend and enjoy the AIS Webinars and our Zoom meetings. We had IRIS member Lori Rhodes of Crafton Hills Iris Farms present a virtual program on "From Iris Seeds to Blooms" at our February meeting. We got to see several of her beautiful seedlings in bloom! Sue Clark of TAIS presented a program last March via Zoom. This Zoom set up works well with guest speakers as they don't have to travel. We miss the in-person connection though, so we look forward to 2021 and beyond with a return to more normal activities while still keeping safe and staying healthy.

Stay well, Live long, love iris, and prosper.

Mason 3/21/2021



FALL 2020 Sale



www.facebook.com/Inland-Region-Iris-Society

Photos by Mason and Beth Train

Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

By Lucie George, President

The Lompoc Valley Iris Society is alive and well and staying active: on Jan 24th we had our first Zoom meeting, which presented a challenge to the membership but they rose to the occasion. The club is exploring ways and places to create a public iris garden in our community. We are currently working on a location and plan to plant it mostly with reblooming iris. A member in Solvang is already working with a

Charter School on a Student & Teacher garden which has about 125 iris and is blooming wonderfully.

On February 20th, we presented the first of our "Newbie" roundtable series, guest panelists Cheryl Deaton and Jill Bonino answered numerous questions and shared their expertise with the members. The discussion ranged from aphids and gophers to cross pollination and hybridizing and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. We plan on holding another roundtable in the summer months using the same Zoom format.

In March, we had another member meeting via Zoom and continued our public garden planning. Our scholarship committee reported on current applications. This year, we were blessed to be able to award 3 scholarships to graduating high school students continuing their education in the field of horticulture. We also formed the club's Iris Purchasing Committee, which met later in the month to compile a list of "Society Iris" purchases. We should receive the order late in July or early August. These rhizomes will be grown by members and increases are shared next year at the August social to "door prize" winners.

This month, in lieu of our annual Iris Show, which we traditionally hold the last weekend in April, we instead held Open Garden tours at 3 member gardens (on Alisal, Mercury and Aldebaran) on both Saturday and Sunday. We had a great turnout from the community on Saturday, less on Sunday as it drizzled all day in Lompoc. In total, we had about 60 visitors who signed in and many of them visited all 3 gardens, even driving the 25 miles to Solvang for the 3rd garden tour. Each guest was able to choose a complimentary 1-gallon iris and received literature on club background, events and iris planting and growing techniques. The club was able to distribute close to 100 iris rhizomes that weekend.

Upcoming activities: on July 31st, LVIS will hold a rhizome sale and the proceeds to be used for the scholarship fund.

Our next meeting will be an outdoor social at a member's home in Santa Ynez and then at our August get-together we will distribute the Society Irises to be raised by the membership. At this meeting, we will also exchange the prior year's Society Iris.

We hope that your gardens are blooming!

Lucíe George

facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety

LVIS Photos on page 17

top left: Charter School garden top right: society irises bottom left: Mercury garden

bottom right: Alisal garden

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

By Lois Farr, Vice President

Orange County continues to be on hold because our meeting place is not allowing meetings due to COVID guidelines. Members continue to enjoy irises in their private gardens, even more so throughout the pandemic and the many days spent at home. The beautiful weather continues to bring hope, cheer and consistency... All of which we cherish more than ever!

facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub







Society Iris - 'Garden Debutante,' 'Class Ring,' 'Countess' & 'Pearls for Girls'







Prescott Area Iris Society Report



By Sherry Williams, President

The Prescott Area Iris Society is moving forward with the hope that we will finally be back together soon. We did have a meeting in November, but then our numbers rose again and we will not be having a meeting again until April. We were able to hold our Spring Sale and our Summer Rhizome sale online and brought in over \$8000. with both sales. We were pleased as this allowed us to continue our scholarship and endowment to the Yavapai College Horticultural students and to make our donations to the Yavapai Food Bank and Region 15. It also makes sure we have sufficient funds for the Region 15 Fall Conference here on October 23rd. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to our amazing town and local area.

See everyone in October!

facebook.com/groups/1048378225226372/ www.prescottirissociety.org

San Diego Iris Society Report

By Mary Hanson, President

Welcome Spring!

My iris are growing and multiplying but so far no spring blooms. Due to the state of the pandemic and our color tier, The San Diego Iris Society has chosen to meet virtually. We have been meeting monthly via Zoom. About one third of our pre-pandemic members have been attending. Our programs have been provided by myself and by Olga Batalov. We have learned about the history of plicatas, Region 15 hybridizers, irises with holiday names, the individual process of registering and naming an iris, genetics of broken color iris, and iris fragrance. Since the advent of vaccines, and the change of the seasons, Covid-19 infection numbers have been decreasing. As a result, our board has tentatively planned an all outdoor members-only garden tour. I'm looking forward to see how irises are growing in other gardens.

The San Diego Iris Society was scheduled to host the Spring 2021 trek but due to the pandemic, it has been postponed until 2022. That means that our clumps will be three years old, and it will be delightful to see these large clumps in bloom next year. We are currently planning an in-person trek but for safety and comfort level of the participants and hosts, we are reconsidering some of the details.

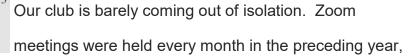
I had my college students conduct a ten week long experiment regarding iris growth, comparing performance in native soil and soil amended with peat moss, Epsom salts and mycorrhizae. They collected data on the number of leaves, length of leaves, number of increases, the length and width of the rhizome at the beginning and end of the experiment, as well as the number and length of the roots. In addition, students tested the control and experimental soils for pH, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium at the start and conclusion of the experiment. The control soil had a neutral to slightly alkaline pH and was deficient in nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. The experimental soil had a slightly acidic pH; nitrogen tested as sufficient, phosphorus was adequate and potassium was in surplus. At the conclusion of the experiment, nitrogen was depleted from the soil from the control, and phosphorus and potassium were deficient or depleted. For the experimental soil, nitrogen was depleted, and phosphorus and potassium were deficient. The pH value did not change. Students concluded that irises use substantial amounts of macronutrients in order to grow. Based on the results of this experiment, one can only conclude: fertilize your irises. For many of my students, this is the first time they have ever grown a plant since elementary school. In addition to allowing students to do science, I'm hoping that a few catch the iris bug and become irisarians. Iris rhizomes were provided by Janis Shackelford and myself for this project. Students will be able to keep their plant at the conclusion of the experiment. This is the second year I have conducted this experiment but last year variables were not well controlled due to the closure of school as a result of the pandemic.

Mary Hanson

facebook.com/SanDiegolrisSociety SanDiegolrisSociety.org

San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

By Andi Rivarola, President



with modest attendance by members. Some members report that they are not computer savvy enough to participate, and that they are waiting for our live events to resume.

2021 is a FREE membership year for those that sign up via our website. So far, it has produced between 40-50 new registrations. We hope that some of them will continue when paid dues resume in 2022.



We have not held any live events since February 2020. We had no shows in 2020, nor in 2021. With the current COVID vaccination program in full progress, members feel much more optimistic about upcoming activities in 2021. There's a scheduled sale at the Encino Farmers Market on June 13th, with a preceding marking party the week before where members plan on getting together to get rhizomes ready for the sale. We're also having a live auction in September for which orders to hybridizers have been made. Our club just completed a very successful garden trek with seven gardens participating; some pictures are below. Our upcoming elections are to be held in June. Our fiscal year starts in July 2021.



TB 'Another Woman' (left) and TB 'Easy Being Green' (middle)



facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety
www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org



IB 'Concertina' (top right0 and 'TB Celestial Explosion' (bottom right)





By Mike Monninger, President

The Los Angeles Arboretum is still closed to indoor meetings. Every member has gotten at least one Covid shot so we decided to have a small tour of three gardens. It was marvelous to see people face to face and also to view iris in bloom. Lynn Mcllwain, Sunny Meyer, Linda Meyer and Anne Michaelson shared their gardens with everyone. The club provided a lunch at Linda and Anne's garden including some wine for those so inclined.

The Winter 2021 issue of "IRISES" published the results of the 2020 AIS Photo Contest. Former SCIS member Kim Ung (remember he would show up at a region iris show and usually took the Best Specimen award) had a 1st place award for Schreiner's Iris Gardens. It was the wraparound front and back cover of "IRISES". A stunning photo and achievement!

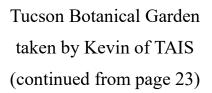
SCIS will host a digital online iris show. Some of the rules have changed. An exhibitor will be limited to a total of fifteen entries across all horticultural categories. The entries can be in one category like Tall Bearded or in several categories but the total must not exceed 15 entries. Two photos are required for each entry, a close-up and a stalk photo. Design is limited to one entry in each class. Entry deadline is May 9, 2021. Please review the show rules on our Facebook page.

facebook.com/SouthernCalifornialrisSociety

Sun Country Iris Society Report

By Dale Liggett, President

Sun Country Iris Society has been holding in-person regular monthly meetings this year, actually since August of last year, using social distancing and mask protocols. Attendance is down by 50% of normal, although participation of other members continues through submissions to newsletter and planning for coming events. Our April AIS Spring Show has been cancelled but we will be holding a small outdoor Early Exhibition and Potted Iris Sale in April at a nursery location. In April we will have Open Gardens in the Phoenix area, a Judges Training on seedlings, two additional Garden Tours in Sedona and Payson North of Phoenix in May as well as a Photo Contest during May so that members may show off their blooms virtually. Another Judges Training will be held in June on Awards and Ballots. The remainder of the year's activities will be dig parties, auctions and fall rhizomes sales. All these activities will be subject to restrictions and protocols of the pandemic. As of now on Valentine's Day, our temperatures have risen close to 70 if not above, our iris fans are starting to grow by inches weekly and we are hoping for a bountiful bloom this year despite a lack of rainfall.





www.suncountryiris.org

Tucson Area Iris Society Report

By Sue Clark, Secretary

A small and dedicated group have continued to meet monthly via Zoom and even hosted some in-person events. In November, we held an outdoor potluck on the back porch of one of our members who roasted a turkey to perfection for us. I presented a program in January titled "The Iris in Fine Art," featuring over 80 works by 18 artists as well as some unnamed ancient and Medieval ones. Kevin, our president, said that it was like touring an art museum without having to wear a mask. We learned to appreciate spurias during presentations by Jim Hedgecock and Darol Jurn in February and March. In April, TAIS held an iris show outdoors at a local nursery. Everyone enjoyed being able to be out and about again. The following Saturday, three members opened their gardens to everyone from our club. The iris garden at the Tucson Botanical Garden (photo on







page 22) was a bonus on this tour. Looking ahead, we'll have an auction, sale, photo contest, and potluck in the late summer through fall months.

> facebook.com/TucsonIris www.tucsonlris.org

AIS Region 15 2021 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
JUNE	1	Inland Region Iris Society Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	3	SFVIS Officer Elections	Canoga Park, CA
	8	OCIDC Meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	13	SDIS Meeting (ZOOM)	San Diego, CA
	19	HDIDS Meeting	Lancaster, CA
	26	Southern California Iris Society Meeting at the LA Arboretum	Arcadia, CA
JULY	6	Inland Region Iris Society Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
		Sun Country Iris Society Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	8	SFVIS Monthly Meeting (ZOOM)	Canoga Park, CA
	13	OCIDC Meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	17	HDIDS Meeting	Lancaster, CA
AUGUST	3	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
		SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	5	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	10	OCIDC Meeting	Garden Grove, CA
	21	HDIDS Meeting	Lancaster, CA

NOTE: Due to the ongoing pandemic, some events may be cancelled or taking place virtually

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 us on: www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/

Inland Region Iris Society (IRIS) meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 pm at the Janet Goeske Center, 5257 Sierra Street, Riverside, CA. Visit us on: 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. Visit us on: facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub

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. Visit us on: 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. <u>sanfernandovalleyirissociety.org</u> or <u>facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety</u>

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. Visit us on: facebook.com/ SouthernCalifornialrisSociety

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 olga batalov@yahoo.com

Ald Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

Hummingbird Iris Garden (928) 777-8110

Linda Rossman 5942 Old Black Canyon Hwy Prescott, AZ 86303

email: lindarae@cableone.net

Kary Iris Gardens (480) 949-0253

Ardi Kary 6201 East Calle Rosa Scottsdale, AZ 85251

email: ardikary@aol.com www.karyiris.com

Scott's Iris Gardens (805) 712-2439

Tracy Scott 14615 Chispa Rd Atascadero, CA 93422

email: scottsirisgardens@outlook.com

www.scottsirisgardens.com



Burgard Iris Farm (805) 835-3965

Catherine & Emil Burgard 840 Climbing Tree Ln Templeton, CA 93465

email: burgardfarms@yahoo.com

Crafton Hills Iris Farm (909) 492-0165 Mike and Lori Rhodes

Redlands, CA

email: craftonhillsirisfarm@gmail.com Facebook: Facebook/craftonhillsirisfarm www.craftonhillsirisfarm.com





Wild Oaks Farms (909) 307-4565

Tony & Cheryl Hicks 32036 Live Oak Canyon Rd Redlands, CA 92373

email: wildoakfarms.redlands@gmail.com



Waddell Iris Gardens LLC (602) 448-6309

J Scott Seely

6242 N 181st Ave, Waddell, AZ 85355 email: WaddellIrisGardens@gmail.com Waddell-Iris-Gardens.square.site

THE IRIS MARKETPLACE

For advertising information contact

olga batalov@yahoo.com

AIS Webinars

The American Iris Society has been hosting webinars via Zoom since the summer of 2020. Every AIS member should receive an email invitation to register for upcoming Zoom webinars the Friday before the presentation via News & Notes. After you register, you will receive the link to enter the webinar in an email. All the AIS webinars are **FREE of charge** to AIS members, AIS sections and local iris club members. For more information, send an email to aiswebinars@gmail.com

Upcoming webinars include:

Wednesday, June 9th (also a JT) at 5:30 p.m. PST - "Tall Bearded Iris Today and Tomorrow" by Jill Bonino Wednesday, June 16th at 5:30 p.m. PST - "Preview of the 2022 National Convention at Las Cruces, NM" by Howie Dash and Scarlett Ayres

Each webinar will last 60-90 minutes, with a Q&A session at the end.

For the most current information, visit: https://www.irises.org/news-events/

Most of the past webinars are now posted in YouTube, so you can watch them again. The newest ones are listed below. See The American Iris Society - YouTube for the complete list of available videos. If you subscribe to the AIS YouTube channel, you will be notified when new videos are uploaded.

AIS Webinar #6: "Growing Iris Basics, Part 1: Bearded Iris" By Bonnie Nichols

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D-ZPKfe256g

AIS Webinar #7: "Growing Iris Basics, Part 2: Beardless Iris" By Jody Nolin

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdIlvcYH4gs

AIS Webinar #8: "The Philosophy and Methods of Discovering and Naming New Species: an Example From the Irises of China," by Prof. Carol Wilson, Ph. D.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ER-_3fqbJlg

AIS Webinar #9: "Our desire for order: historical taxonomic understanding of Iris and current hypotheses of evolutionary relationships (phylogenies)," by Prof. Carol Wilson, Ph. D.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IH2qXKTciFU

AIS Webinar #10: "Growing Aril and Arilbred Iris" by Howie Dash

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1Utr-YMMVY

AIS Webinar #11: "Managing Pests and Weeds in the Iris Patch" by Bob Hollingworth

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxlJeL2 aSU

AIS Webinar #12: "Exploring the Iris Encyclopedia" by Bob Pries

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qf7L-ixEfR4

AIS Webinar #13: "Louisiana Irises: The Wild and the Tamed" by Patrick O'Connor

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZF_1NzfZDA

AIS Webinar #14: "Two Worlds – One Iris. A look at the Past, Present and Future of the Siberian Iris" by Patrick Spence AIS Webinar #15: "Spuria Irises for Every Garden; a Little History, a Lot of Beauty" by Anna Cadd

Sun Country Iris Society's Early Exhibition and Potted Iris Sale, April 2021



The Sun County Iris Society held a show and sale in April 2021 at a nursery location. Not an AIS event caliber, just an opportunity for members to display their iris for public viewing. They had 35 entries in the Exhibit horticulture portion and 12 arrangements in the Artistic portion. The potted iris sale was small with only about 100 pots.

All photos courtesy of Dale Liggett, SCIS President

Iríses blooming in editor's garden



TB 'Glitter Gulch' (Burseen 2009)

TB 'Clown Around'
(Christopherson 2003)

TB 'Heartbeat Away'
(Christopherson 2001)