



Region 15

Fall 2022 Semi-Annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED!

FALL MEETING 2022

**Hosted by the Hi Desert Iris & Daylily
Society at The Huntington Botanical
Gardens in San Marino, CA**

Saturday, October 22, 2022

www.region15ais.org

Contents

Region 15 Spring Trek photos (part 1)	2
Note from the Editor	3
Affiliate Presidents' Contact Info	3
Region 15 Trek Wheel 2022-2024	4
Region 15 Officers & Committees	4
Membership Update by Mason Train	4
RVP Message by Janis Shackelford	5
Youth Program Report	5
Judges Training by Beth Train	6-7
Treasurer's Report by Cheryl Deaton	8
AIS Webinar Info	8
AIS Membership Info	9
Upcoming conventions	9
Fall Meeting registration form	10-11
Sun Country Iris Society JT flyers	12-14
Articles on Prescott iris gardens	15-17
Report from AIS Convention 2022	18-21
Remembering Don Maurizio	22
Remembering Richard C. Richards	22-23

Affiliate Presidents' Reports

-Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society	24
-Inland Region Iris Society	25
-Lompoc Valley Iris Society	26-27
-Orange County Iris & Daylily Club	28
-Southern California Iris Society	28
-San Diego Iris Society	29
-San Fernando Valley Iris Society	30
-Tucson Area Iris Society	31
-Prescott Area Iris Society	32-33
-Sun Country Iris Society	34-35
Region 15 Calendar	36-37
Region 15 Commercial Iris Growers	38
Region 15 Spring Trek photos (part 2)	39

Region 15 Spring Trek 2022



Top left: Bill Molnar's front yard, one of the trek gardens; top right: some of the irises growing in Janis Shackelford's trek garden, with SDIS member Jim Hanson in the background helping out as docent; bottom left and right: Jill Bonino leading an in-garden judges training at Claire Schneider's garden



Thank you San Diego Iris Society!

Photo Credits: top - Olga Batalov; bottom - Mary Hanson of SDIS



Note from the Editor

Hello fellow AIS region 15 members!

What a crazy whirlwind spring and summer it has been! As I write this, we are in the midst of our fairly typical late summer to early fall heat wave, supposedly with Santa Ana conditions, although the weather has been warm and atypically humid for most of the summer already. Hopefully the extreme weather, especially the

flash flooding, has not directly affected any of you or your loved ones.

The San Diego Iris Society hosted the Region 15 Spring Trek this year. We had a good turnout, with attendees from almost all of the Region 15 clubs, even the Arizona ones. This was the first Region 15 trek or meeting that I had ever attended, even though we had hosted the fall meeting here in San Diego since I became a member. As such, it was my first time meeting most of the Region 15 officers (besides those already part of SDIS) and club presidents in person. I hope you all had a good time and saw some beautiful flowers, while reminiscing with old friends and making some new ones. I had never actually been to Bill Molnar's garden before, so seeing his roses and orchids was an added bonus for me. Janis' and Claire's gardens were outstanding as per usual. For once, I actually went on a complete tour of Claire's garden, even though I had visited several times during our holiday parties and summer board meetings - having a map helped a lot!

I hope to see all of you at the fall meeting hosted by HDIDS at the Huntington. If you have never been to the Huntington, it is an amazing place with something for everyone. The registration fee is more than worth it because you can explore the gardens, library and ever-changing art exhibitions in your free time. Something is always in season in the gardens, granted I have never been in the fall. I imagine the fall color is going to look especially stunning in the Japanese Garden. There seems to be construction or renovation of some kind going on every time I have visited, so the gardens keep changing. If the commute is an obstacle for you like it is for me, perhaps you can work out a carpool with your fellow society members like some of us are planning to do here in San Diego.

Have a safe fall and winter. Fingers crossed for lots of rain, just not all at once.

Olga Batalov, Editor

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT
www.region15ais.org



On the Cover: TB 'Heartbeat Away' (Vincent Christopherson 2001), a novelty space ager iris with flounces that I purchased from Blue J Iris

AIS Region 15

Local Chapter Presidents

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Sue Brown

irisfor15w@gmail.com

[HDIDS Facebook](#)

Inland Region Iris Society

Beth Train

inlandregionirissociety@gmail.com

[IRIS Facebook](#)

Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Lucie George

lv93436@yahoo.com

[LVIS Facebook](#)

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Bobbie Hogancamp

bobbie@hogancamp.com

or loismalulani@pacbell.net

[OCIDC Facebook](#)

Prescott Area Iris Society

Dennis Luebin

dluebin@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

Dale Liggett

irisdale01@msn.com

[SCIS website](#)

Tucson Area Iris Society

Kevin Kartchner

kevink3141@gmail.com

or taisnewsletter@yahoo.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
jgshackelford@cox.net

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
jgshackelford@cox.net

Editor: Olga Batalov
olga_batalov@yahoo.com

Historian: Sue Brown
irisfor15w@gmail.com

Membership: Mason Train
inlandregionirissociety@gmail.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
2022 Fall Meeting	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society	San Marino, CA
2023 Spring Trek	San Fernando Valley Iris Society	Canoga Park, CA
2023 Fall Meeting	Lompoc Valley Iris Society	TBA
2024 Spring Trek	Inland Region Iris Society	Riverside, CA
2024 Fall Meeting	open	

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks
from our website

www.region15ais.org

Visit us on Facebook

Membership Update



By Mason Train, Membership Chair

TOTAL MEMBERS: 240 (227 adults)
TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS: Incomplete (see below)
TOTAL YOUTH: 1
TOTAL AFFILIATES: 10 (No change)

AFFILIATE CLUB MEMBERSHIPS:

IRIS 50 total members with 1 youth and 17 AIS members

SDIS 62 families with 22 AIS members

TAIS 67 members, 0 youth and 5 AIS members

No report as of August 1st from LVIS, HDIDS, OCIDC, PAIS, SoCalIS, SFVIS and SCIS

AZ total = 81 (Adults 78, Affiliates 3)

CA total = 159 (Adults 149, Youth 1, Affiliates 7, Libraries 2)



AIS Region 15 RVP Message

By Janis Shackelford, Region 15 RVP

Hello Irisarians,

HOT, HOT, DRY AND HOT!!

I only have one iris blooming right now, 'Grape Escape' by Burseen. Everything else is just trying to hunker down to escape the heat. I did put ice and ice water on 'Lady Jean' just to see if I could encourage it to bloom. Will let you know in the next report.

The last week in July, I dug, trimmed, washed and labeled the Spring Trek iris. Claire Schneider and Bill Molnar also did the same. We got together on July 24th, along with Olga Batalov, to distribute the rhizomes

to each club. I mailed the boxes off to Arizona and Lompoc, and Claire delivered the remaining bags of rhizomes to the clubs in the Los Angeles area. WHEW! We had three gardens and almost three years of growth and packing them was a CHORE, but it is done, and you probably have already auctioned them off. Please send the proceeds to Cheryl Deaton; the Region needs the funds.

The AIS special membership, if you join a club or section, has generated 40 new memberships for our Region. I have sent them a welcome, the latest Region Report, and invited them to look at the Region's website for a club near them (of course most of the new members were reported by various clubs in our Region). I have reviewed a message by the AIS membership chair, which reports AIS gained over 750 new members.

Hopefully all of you were able to attend the webinars this July. But if not, they are available on the AIS YouTube, which can be accessed under Resources on the [irises.org](https://www.irises.org) website.

Next year's AIS Convention will be hosted by the Iris Society of Dallas, April 12-16, 2023. It will be in a historic town, Grapevine, Texas, and will be occurring before our next Spring Trek. Please look on the AIS website, under [Conventions](#), for more information.

This year's Fall Trek will be at the Huntington Library in Los Angeles hosted by the Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society. It will be on Saturday, October 22, 2022. Registration will be from 8:30 – 9:30 am, and the Region 15 Board meeting will start at 9:30 am. The registration form is in the Fall Report and on [our website](#). The guest speaker will be David Toth, owner of Indian Creek Iris, and there will be a judge's training on "Ethics."

See you in LA,

Janis



AIS Youth Program Report

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 and AIS Youth Chair

We currently have only 1 youth member on the roster, but he is turning 19 so it is his last year.



AIS Judges Training

By Beth Balaney-Train, Region 15 Asst. RVP

and Judges Training Chair

Hello Region 15! I hope you had a beautiful bloom season. The weather hasn't been the most cooperative...what with late freezes this past spring and lack of rain (or too much rain) and an onslaught of heat waves this summer.

Thank you AIS judges for voting for the AIS Awards this year. Lynda Miller's "Football Hero" won the AIS Dyke's Medal. The list of awards is available to view at irises.org.

As of this writing, the Region has 18 G/E Judges, 7 Master Judges, 1 Emeritus Judge, 3 Apprentices, and 10 students. Two apprentices and two students were recommended for advancement. One of these students moved to TX recently.

Judges and students, please do take advantage of training sessions offered in your area, during the regional treks and meetings, and at the national conventions. Online JT opportunities are also available. AIS Webinars offer Judges Training sessions periodically. As an AIS member, you should be getting email updates on this. All AIS JT Webinars are available for free on the AIS You Tube Channel. It is convenient and user-friendly. As of this writing, I have approved the following JT sessions: "How to Put on an Iris Show" on October 1, 2022 in Scottsdale, AZ for 2.0 hrs credit; "No Show-worthy Iris Bloomstalks? No Worries! - a JT on Artistic Design, Container-Grown Iris and Single Blossom Entries" on November 1, 2022 in Riverside, CA for 1.5 hrs credit; and "How to Create and Judge Artistic Design" lecture and practical application on November 5, 2022 in Scottsdale, AZ for 2.0 hrs credit each (up to 4.0 hrs total). See flyers on the Region 15 website and/or emailed to you for details.

The updated 8th edition of the AIS Handbook for Judges and Show Officials is available online both as a colored edition and a black and white edition. Download the pdf copy to your smart devices for ease of reference. You can even download just specific chapters as you need them. Another option is to purchase the 8 ½ x 11 printed paper copy from the AIS storefront. There are several changes, especially the addition of container-grown iris and single bloom entries to the iris show. Judges, please familiarize yourself with the additions and changes.

Please take note of your AIS membership expiry dates. All judges, accredited or in training, are required to be current AIS members. You will be dropped as judge/trainee if your membership expires. Check your AIS membership on the website: www.irises.org/web-based-lookup/.

Region 15 is in need more judges! 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 on the Region 15 website: region15ais.org 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.

Check out the Judges Training page at the Region 15 website. JT Application Forms, Activity Report Forms, and Evaluation Forms are available to view and download. Judges' requirements and other information are available, too.

Thank you SDIS for hosting the Region 15 Spring Trek last April. I had a wonderful time and enjoyed good company, lovely gardens, and delicious food. I am looking forward to attending the Fall Meeting hosted by the HDIDS this October. I hope to see most of you at the Huntington Botanical Gardens.



Judges Training in Payson, AZ



JT at the AIS National Convention in Las Cruces, NM



Judges Training at the Region 15 Spring Trek in San Diego, led by Jill Bonino (front)



Judges Training in Sedona, AZ (above two photos)



Judges Training at the Region 15 Spring Trek in San Diego, led by Gerry Snyder (center in plaid shirt)



Judges Training in Forest Lakes, AZ



Judges Training in Payson, AZ

TREASURER'S REPORT

REGION 15 TREASURER'S REPORT

JULY 27, 2022

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

BEGINNING BALANCE (as of 01-01-2021)	\$11,918.86
INCOME (SFVIS)	\$ 25.00
EXPENSES	(\$ 1,095.00)
Website	\$ 495
Spring Subsidy	\$ 600
ENDING BALANCE (as of 12/31/2021)	\$10,848.86
INVESTMENT ACCOUNT (Edward Jones)	
Ending balance as of 12/31/2021	\$15,807.91

AIS Webinars

The American Iris Society has been hosting webinars via Zoom since the summer of 2020. All the AIS webinars are **FREE of charge** to AIS members, AIS sections and local iris club members. For the most current information, visit: <https://www.irises.org/news-events/>

2022 Summer Webinar Series

Wednesday, September 14th 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Pacific, 8:30 p.m. Eastern

Duration: about 1 hour Via: ZOOM

"Exotic Arils, Autumn Bloomers, and the Age of Space: The Iris Legacy of Lloyd Austin" by Jean Richter
This webinar will explore the varied legacy of iris visionary Lloyd Austin. Though now known primarily for his introduction of "space age" novelty iris, Dr. Austin had a profound effect on other types of iris as well, including arilbreds and reblooming iris. Come learn about this fascinating man and the iris he created and popularized.

All of the past webinars are now posted in YouTube, so you can watch them again. 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. For more information, send an email to aiswebinars@gmail.com

The American Iris Society



Check AIS membership status:

www.aislookup.org

Renew membership

(pay by check, Visa, or MasterCard)

www.irises.org/aismembers/

Membership Rates (Print):

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

Youth (< 19 y/o) without Bulletin \$8

Annual E-membership: \$15

(online Bulletin + Irisregister)

Full Membership (Print + E-member)

Annual Single \$45 / Dual \$50

Triennial Single \$115 / Dual \$130

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.

AIS CONVENTIONS

2023 AIS Convention

2023 April 12-16, Dallas, TX

2023 Convention Chair: Bonnie J. Nichols

(214) 676-9892 • bjnhtn@aol.com

www.irises-dallas.org/isd-events/2023-ais-convention/

2024 AIS/Japanese Convention

2024 June 24-29, 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

2025 Convention

Early June, Billings, MT

2025 Convention Co-Chair: Delane H. Langton

eagleridgeiris@gmail.com

2025 Convention Co-Chair: Jane Tibbs

eagleridgeiris@gmail.com

2025 Convention Co-Chair: Tina Muller

tirisgarden@gmail.com

FUTURE SECTION CONVENTIONS

2024 Louisiana & Spuria Iris Joint Mini-Convention

April 25-27, 2024: Dallas, TX

2023 Convention Chair: Bonnie J. Nichols

(214) 676-9892 • bjnhtn@aol.com

For most current additional information, visit

irises.org/aismembers/conventions/

FUTURE REGION 15 TREKS

2023 Spring Trek

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

April 21 and 22, 2023: Canoga Park, CA

2024 Spring Trek

Inland Region Iris Society

April 20, 2024: Riverside, CA

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Region 15 2022 Fall Trek

October 22, 2022

Saturday 9:00 am

The Huntington Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA 91108

A Class Act



Novelties

Featuring guest speaker

David Toth, Hybridizer and owner of Indian Creek Iris



Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Saturday, October 22, 2022 @ 9:00 am

“A Class Act...Novelties”

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ CLUB: _____

NAME: _____ CLUB: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-Mail _____ Phone: _____

Judge's Training YES (___) NO (___)

Registration received by October 8, 2022 \$50 pp

Registration received after October 8, 2022 \$60 pp

Includes: Continental breakfast, beverages, snacks and Panera Bread lunch.

Free entrance and parking to the Huntington Library, Art Museum & Botanical Gardens

Registration payable to: Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Mail to: HDIDS/Marilyn Kiger PO Box 4572, Lancaster, CA 93539

8:30 – 9:30 am: Registration – Continental breakfast – Raffle/Silent Auction Opens

9:30 – 10:30 am: Region 15 Board Meeting, RVP Janis Shackelford (all members welcome)

10:45 – 11:45 am: Guest speaker, David Toth, Indian Creek Iris

12:00 – 1 pm: Panera Bread lunch

1:10 – 1:45pm: Region 15 General Meeting

2:00 – 3:00 pm: Raffles & Silent Auction!!

3:10 – 4:10 pm: Judges Training on “Ethics” with Famous Author, “Iris”

For information/questions, contact Cheryl Deaton: (661) 252-6771 region15kids@hotmail.com



All members welcome!

How to put on an Iris Show



Saturday
October 1, 2022
1pm - 3pm

8217 E. Del Camino Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ

This training will review
SECTION C - THE IRIS SHOW
in the book:

Handbook For Judges and Show Officials
(Edition 8.0 July 2021)

This book is available at www.irises.org
as a free PDF download
or as a book purchase from AIS

To register for this free training, please contact
Ardi Kary 480-226-5270 or ardikary@aol.com.

Judges will receive 2 hours credit



All members welcome!

How to Create and Judge
Artistic Design

by Dawn Boyer, AIS Master Judge

Saturday
November 5, 2022
10 am - 2:30 pm

8217 E. Del Camino Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ

\$20 per person
(includes lunch, iris & some supplies)

Judges will receive 4 hours credit

This training will review
CHAPTER 27 - ARTISTIC DESIGN
in the book:

Handbook for Judges and Show Officials
(Edition 8.0 July 2021)

This book is available at www.irises.org
as a free PDF download
or as a book purchase from AIS

Please see registration form for
payment information and
lunch choices.

Register by October 26, 2022

Questions: please contact
Nancy Evans at n.evans850@gmail.com



REGISTRATION FORM
How to Create and Judge
Artistic Design
by Dawn Boyer, AIS Master Judge
8217 E. Del Camino Dr. Scottsdale AZ

Saturday, November 5, 2022
10:00 am - Noon: Judges Training
Noon - 2:30 pm: Hands On Artistic Design

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Are you attending Judges Training (no charge) (2 hours credit) ? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you attending Hands On (\$20 lunch/supplies) (2 hours credit) ? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If attending Hands On, make check or money order to:

SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY

or provide credit card details:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

Please mail this registration form and payment to:

Nancy Evans c /o SCIS, 11002 N. 40th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85029

All box lunches include: fruit, chips, drink and choose one of the following:

☐ Full Sandwich ☐ Full Salad ☐ Half Sandwich with Half Salad

Please mark your sandwich and/or salad choice:

- ☐ Sandwich: Roasted Sweet Potato on herb focaccia bread
- ☐ Sandwich: BLT on toasted sourdough bread
- ☐ Sandwich: Chicken Salad on nine grain bread
- ☐ Sandwich: Turkey & Brie on sourdough bread
- ☐ Salad: Summer Crunch with lemon ricotta dressing
- ☐ Salad: Asian with Thai peanut dressing
- ☐ Salad: Kale Romaine Caesar with Caesar dressing

Questions: please contact Nancy Evans at n.evans850@gmail.com

SCIS can accommodate a limited number of overnight stays with committee members.
Register by October 26, 2022. Please keep a copy of this registration form for your records.

Crown of Spring

The Prescott Area Iris Society Brings Us 3,000 years of Beauty

by Abby Brill of 5senses Magazine

I love to write pieces about things more people should know about and enjoy. About five years ago, my husband and I discovered the stunning and extensive iris plantings at the Yavapai College Sculpture Garden, next to the Performing Arts Center. These gorgeous and fragrant flowers bloom for about a month every spring, and we now make a point to visit as often as possible every year during that time. To my amazement there are many Prescott folks who have lived here much longer than we who are as yet unaware of this luscious experience, so easily accessible and cost-free, and we have brought many friends to walk through the garden with us.

I reached out to the Prescott Area Iris Society and its president, Dennis Luebkin. He, his wife Sharon and Judy Book, a longtime member, met me at the garden for an informative walkthrough.

Iris people are very passionate about them. We all like tulips and daffodils, but for some reason the iris evokes a swoon from just about everyone I know. Egyptian pharaohs had the iris carved into their scepters, and the French *fleur de lis* is actually an iris. We can thank the PAIS for the three public iris gardens in Prescott: the Yavapai College garden, the Interfaith Meditation Walkway and Gardens honoring the 19 fallen Hotshots and all firefighters at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and the Historical Iris garden at Sharlot Hall Museum.

Founded in 2002, PAIS now has about 100 members who help maintain these sites, create new beds and hold iris sales twice annually. The society publishes a very informative newsletter and hosts expert iris speakers on a regular basis. Dennis pointed out that the main focus of PAIS has been these public gardens. "The best way to encourage people to plant iris is not by having meetings, but by having a public garden where they can see how beautiful iris are."

The iris plant originated in the Middle East and coastal Mediterranean. Around 3,000 years ago, a pharaoh traveled to what is now Syria and brought some iris rhizomes back to Egypt, and the Egyptians incorporated the flower into their imagery. Because the rhizomes are dry and can survive out of soil for some time, they were carried to distant lands, where they adapted and thrived.

In the 1500s, botanists began cataloguing them in Europe and the Middle East. The irises we see today are crosses between the Mediterranean/Asiatic and German varieties. Irises are very hardy and drought-tolerant, as we who have them in our yards but largely neglect them know. Javelinas will devour tulip bulbs, but do not care for the taste of the iris. Dennis shares the useful tip that you can plant tulips with iris and those diggy-piggies won't bother them.

The place to see the most iris here in town is the YC Sculpture Garden in May. The four-acre garden is expanding, so we can look forward to even more iris joy! There are many beds dedicated to irises created by Arizona hybridizers like Francelle Edwards, Margie Valenzuela and Don Shephard. There is a Western-themed iris bed, a black-iris bed, and a Children's Storybook bed, among others. The largest bed features American Iris Society award winning irises going back to 1927.

At times PAIS comes up with a new theme and acquires new rhizomes to fit the theme from among the over 60,000 registered iris varieties. It must be fun to search for irises with names that fit a specific theme. The irises planted at Embry-Riddle all have names that point to fire, firefighting or heroism.

Also very interesting to explore is the Historic Iris Garden at Sharlot Hall Museum. The earliest iris type there dates from 1493, and all the pedigrees date from before Sharlot Hall died in 1943. The site also has many from early hybridizer Grace Sturtevant, a contemporary of Sharlot Hall and one of the earliest women in the field.

Beyond working in the gardens, amending the soil and dividing the rhizomes, PAIS members hold two sales each year. In early May, they offer potted irises, an event held online last year due to Covid and will be online again this year. At the end of July, there will be a rhizome sale at the Stoneridge Community Center. Dennis said this sale is very well attended and interested buyers should arrive early. Proceeds from these sales go toward scholarships for the Yavapai College horticulture programs in Chino Valley and Cottonwood. PAIS also pays students to work in the gardens.

Visiting these public iris gardens could become a high point in your enjoyment of spring. Both the YC and Embry-Riddle gardens are free to visit; Sharlot Hall Museum charges a small fee to access the entire property, including the iris garden, which is next to the Fremont House.

For information about the Prescott Area Iris Society, or to learn more about irises or upcoming iris sales, visit prescottirissociety.org.

Prescott's Public Iris Gardens

A work in progress

Part of the mission of the Prescott Area Iris Society (PAIS) is to stimulate an interest in irises not only for its members but also the public throughout the Prescott Area and State of Arizona. What better way to achieve this mission than to create public iris gardens for the community to view and enjoy! We have three public gardens: The Marcusen Sculpture Garden at Yavapai College, Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Garden, and the Fire Fighters Memorial Garden at Embry-Riddle University dedicated to the Granite Mountain Hot Shots. Our success with these gardens is due to the dedication of our volunteer members who work each year to groom, fertilize, divide, and replant the iris in these gardens.

Our main and largest garden is in the Marcusen Sculpture Garden at Yavapai College. A total garden area of six acres offers a place of tranquility, peace, and beauty. It includes a diverse collection of contemporary sculpture, native plants, and irises.



The Sculpture Garden is one of the few gardens of its type in the nation. A joint effort of Yavapai College and the Prescott Area Iris Society is a treasure in the Prescott Area. In 2016, the Sculpture Garden was honored with the distinction of becoming an American Iris Society National Display Garden, which was also designated a Historic Iris Display Garden by The Historic Iris Preservation Society. PAIS and Yavapai College were honored to receive these national designations for the garden. The Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Gardens also holds both national distinctions.

The Sculpture Garden iris plantings began in 2006 with the creation of the William R. Dykes Medal Iris Garden and the beginning of the Francelle Edwards Honor Garden to honor one of Arizona's premier iris hybridizers. The garden was expanded in 2014 to include the Children's Storybook Garden, a Western Themed Iris Garden, and the Black Iris Garden, along with additional plantings of irises donated by the Verde Valley Iris Society prior to its closing.

Additional expansion began in 2016 when Yavapai College requested we expand the iris plantings to other areas of the Sculpture Garden. We began this expansion with the hopes of creating new Honor Gardens dedicated to the hybridization work of other Arizona hybridizers.

These Honor Garden areas were dedicated to the hybridization work of Francelle Edwards, Margie Valenzuela, Don Shepard, Larry Johnsen, Floyd Wickenkamp, and Dr. B. Charles Jenkins. Additional Garden areas were dedicated to the historic work of Agnes Whiting, a mid-20th century hybridizer.

Since the Garden is located adjacent to the theater, fine arts and music complex, new irises have been obtained that have themed names for music, show tunes, art, dance and literature. Iris have also been obtained which complement the themes of the individual sculptures in the garden. These new irises will be planted and scattered throughout the garden area beginning in the fall of 2022 and continuing through 2024.

To enhance the total garden experience, Yavapai College recently created a new nature-hiking trail that extends into, along, and across the wooded wash that runs through the sculpture garden and campus. The College has asked if we would enhance portions of this trail with additional plantings. PAIS agreed to create a new garden area along the upper portion of this new Creekside Trail. This new area will be dedicated to the hybridization work of Rick Tasco and the late Roger Duncan of Superstition Iris Gardens. They began their hybridization work in Arizona near the Superstition Mountains prior to moving to California. They have won

numerous national American Iris Society awards for their work. Rick has graciously donated their entire collections to PAIS for the new garden area, which will be a welcome addition to the Sculpture Garden.

Volunteering in our gardens is no doubt work. But, when we all join in as a team to help sustain the garden, work becomes a social event. Many of us working in our public gardens have experienced the joy of the thank-yous and appreciative comments from the community, staff, students, and visitors that are drawn to and enjoy our PAIS gardens each year.

Our thanks to all our members past and present who volunteered to keep our gardens beautiful. The Yavapai College, The Sharlot Hall Museum, Embry-Riddle University, the Prescott community, and the American Iris Society appreciate what we do. Our gardens are truly a work in progress and a national example of what can be accomplished with iris.

Best to All,

Dennis Luebkin

PAIS President



Photos by Dennis Luebkin. Top left and bottom row: Yavapai College Sculpture and Iris Gardens. Top right: Fire Fighters Memorial Garden.

REPORT FROM LAS CRUCES, AIS CONVENTION 2022

Article and photos by Claire Schneider, adapted from articles in SDIS June newsletter and Summer 2022 IRISES bulletin

The American Iris Society was finally able to hold a national convention in 2022. Postponed since 2020 due to the pandemic, this event was held in Las Cruces, New Mexico, April 11 to 18, with more than 250 people in attendance. Janis Shackelford and I drove to the convention because both of us were packing extra suitcases of AIS material and equipment for the meeting. There were three days of garden tours where SOME of the irises were blooming. Yes, only some. Like us in San Diego, they have had an odd bloom season. Is this just natural variation in weather patterns or another example of climate change? No matter, we enjoyed those flowers that were open. My favorites were the arilbred iris at the Wilson Garden. But the prize for the most amazing garden went to Scarlett Ayers. She has turned her small backyard into a fairyland of whimsical glass and ceramic works interspersed with her iris and other plants. A really wonderful place to relax and breathe!

Besides flowers, what else is there to see and do at a national convention? Lots!! Tom Johnson and Hugh Stout gave interesting presentations, focusing on their latest hybridizing goals. Lots of oohs and ahhs for each photo of their gorgeous irises. Janis and I attended the Geek Dinner, where we both won auctions for irises. Because, of course, both of us need more iris! At the Awards Banquet, we saw the national garden awards being given. 'Daring Deception' by Tom Johnson and 'Reckless Abandon' by Keith Keppel won the Dykes Medals. It was a wonderful evening.

Overall, this was one of the most fun conventions for me! Next year, the AIS convention will be in Dallas, TX. Perhaps you'll consider attending?



Janis & I dressed for the Centennial Celebration of the AIS



The whimsical garden of Scarlett Ayres won the Gerald Richardson Award, an award for the best privately maintained host garden that displays iris in a landscape.



Top left: AB OGB ‘Chihuahua Night’ (H Dash 2019), top right: AB OGB- ‘Sun and Snow’ (Tasco 2018), middle right: IB ‘Man’s Best Friend’ (P Black 2008) at Blue J Iris, bottom left: huge clumps at Blue J Iris but sadly most without bloom stalks, bottom right: iris growing in deep shade for half the day yet still produced bloom stalks - something to think about





Yes, most of the gardens at this convention were planted with tall bearded iris. A special treat was seeing over 100 arilbred iris at the private Wilson Garden. Top left: AB OGB 'Bagdad's Folly' (L Rich 1992), top right: AB OGB 'Refiner's Fire' (P McGrath 2007), bottom: AB OB- 'Jewel of Omar' (C Boswell 1986)



MORE PHOTOS FROM LAS CRUCES, AIS CONVENTION 2022



Convention celebrities! Left photo: Gary White (past AIS president), Andi Rivarola (current AIS president) and Paul Black (winner of more than 25 medals, cups & other hybridizing honors). Right photo: Howie Dash, the Convention co-chair, and Andi Rivarola.



To create a more complete history of AIS, Neil Houghton interviewed people such as Jody Nolin, a past AIS president. I think his first question to everyone was, "How did you get started growing irises?" More than once, I overheard the response begin with, "My grandmother had iris...." (left photo)
There were so many opportunities to take photos that sometimes you had to wait in line. (right photo)

REMEMBERING DON MAURIZIO

Republished from SDIS June newsletter, written by Bill Molnar, photo taken by Claire Schneider at SDIS Spring Show 2022



It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that our group lost one of the longest members of the San Diego Iris Society. Don Maurizio passed away suddenly on May 5 from a brain aneurysm. Don was always active at the February SDIS Birthday Party, the Spring Show & Sale, and the Fall Rhizome Sale. We could always count on him for his willingness to help, his vast knowledge of irises, and his kind-hearted attitude. Don leaves behind his sister, Debra Medel and his mother, Irene Maurizio who many of you know from their having attended the February SDIS Birthday party and various iris events. I am sure that Don would ask all of us to let our families, friends, pets and everyone around us know TODAY how much they are appreciated, since our lives can end so suddenly and unexpectedly. Don will be missed by many.

REMEMBERING RICHARD C. RICHARDS

Reprinted from Summer 2022 IRISES bulletin, compilation by Jim Morris, Obituaries Editor; photo from Katharina Notarianni

Richard Carl Richards, husband, father, grandfather, professor, author and colleague, passed away at age 87 on July 9, 2022 in his beloved city of San Diego, CA. He is survived by one brother, Robert (Debbie), a son, Randal (Lynnette), nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Richard was born May 23, 1935 in Malad, ID and then at some point migrated to Santa Barbara, CA, where he graduated from Santa Barbara High School. Richard received his BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and then went on to complete his MA at the University of California, Los Angeles. He was married twice in his life, first in 1956 to the mother of his son, Joyce Lee Tarro, and second in 1983 to Marlene Ann Christensen nee Johnson.

Richard loved to help and inspire others. In his early years, he served as a captain for the Mt. Baldy Fire Department and was commemorated for his many years of service. Richard had a great passion for teaching, and dedicated 40+ years of his life to teaching philosophy to college students across several California campuses - most notably, Cal Poly Pomona. He wrote several books, including two textbooks, to offer wisdom and guidance to any who found themselves willing to pursue an intellectual adventure. And in his personal life, Richard was always teaching and inspiring, offering endless love, advice, and support to his many grandchildren.



REMEMBERING RICHARD C. RICHARDS

continued from page 22

Richard also adored the Iris flower, specifically the Pacific Coast and Tall Bearded varieties. He is known for his PCI 'Clarice Richards' (named for his mother and introduced in 1983), and his TB rebloomers 'Amethyst Winter' (1998) 'Classical Brass' (2014), 'Easy Being Green' (2009, at right) President's Cup winner in 2012 and AM in 2013, and 'Marty Richards' (named for his late second wife in 1983). He also introduced 'Bernice's Legacy' (2000 TB-RE) for his friend and fellow hybridizer Bernice Miller from Alabama. His passion for this beautiful breed of flower took him across the country and gave him the wonderful community of the American Iris Society. It also gave him a beautiful legacy that some of his grandchildren have taken upon themselves to carry, dusting off the old gloves and rusty skills taught to them in their youth by Richard.

Richard was a gardener of so many wonderful things, spending his life lovingly nurturing the world around him. From a budding Iris seedling to the curious minds of his grandchildren, Richard strove to make everything in his life brighter and more beautiful. His grace, wit, kindness, and influence will be greatly missed, but how wonderful a gift it is to have had such a brilliant influence to start with.

On behalf of myself and my family, thank you so much for allowing us this opportunity to honor him within the community he loved so dearly. I hope that this reaches the many people who loved him, and whom he loved, within the AIS and that they are able to grieve him in their respective ways.

If there are any members who wish to reach out to our family directly, please pass along my email; I would love to hear from them.

Granddaughter Isabelle Richards, isabellerichards@gmail.com

About Richard C. Richards in his own words

"I meet death occasionally for lunch, but we only talk about trivial things. We're not really good friends, but we tolerate each other. Many of the poems in 'Poems That Almost Got Away' deal with death. That is a respectable topic for a philosopher, a poet, or anyone else who wants to understand this crazy disease called life, and not simply to get through it with as little thought as possible. Death to me is a concern, but not a preoccupation. I meet death occasionally for lunch, but we only talk about trivial things. We're not really good friends, but we tolerate each other. Sometimes I joke. Sometimes you cannot tell whether I am joking or not. Neither can I...sometimes.

I remember little of my conception and birth. I assume it took place, but I was not in a position to appreciate it. It was all just a whirl of chromosomes and genes. Plus a rude exit into the world at Moscow, Idaho. They tell me it was in 1935. They could be wrong.

I had what was, compared with children today, an idyllic youth, spent in an atmosphere of no TV and other digital devices, mostly because they had not been invented yet. We roamed the fields and woods near Boise, Idaho, fished, and threw rocks at Neanderthals, who were plentiful at the time.

A move to Santa Barbara, California, after the late, great WWII introduced me to the world of thinking, stimulated and occasionally threatened by some really great teachers at both Santa Barbara High School and the University of California, Santa Barbara. At the latter I discovered my true vocation, but became a philosopher instead. UCLA put the cap on my bottle of education, and I spent nearly forty years teaching at California State Polytechnic on a one-year temporary appointment. I got all the mileage out of that appointment I could.

My first marriage produced one son, Randal, who produced nine grandchildren, who produced four great grandchildren so far. A wonderful marriage to Marlene "Marty" Richards added immeasurably to my life.

The philosophy of humor has interested me for years, and with retirement, I decided to write the book, [A Philosopher Looks at The Sense of Humor](#). It has a serious intent and a humorous approach. That way I can offend a larger number of people: both the humorous and the serious.

My funeral occurred several years ago, but it did not take. But I got to put the fun back in FUNeral." — Richard C. Richards, La Mesa, CA

REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

By Sue Brown, President

Hooray!!! Hooray!!! Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society finally found a home for their monthly meeting. The Community Center at Antelope Acres has a refrigerator and a sink, so that we may have refreshments for our meetings.

We had a successful sale in April from our club garden in Palmdale. There were potted irises, rhizomes and daylilies. Many customers came and several decided to join our club.

Greg from the local bee club came to our May meeting. He presented a fascinating program on honey bees.

For the June program, Neil Weisenberger prepared us for our fall planting with "Soil Amending, Planting & Fertilizing Iris."

I always look forward to the July meeting. It is a potluck with salads and desserts. There were numerous yummy salads and tempting desserts. And there were always leftovers, so I took some salad home for dinner.

Iris Give-A-Way and ice cream social were the programs for August. Our club ordered rhizomes from several hybridizers. Each member that came to the meeting took home two rhizomes of newer varieties.

San Diego Iris Society, the host of Region 15 Spring Trek, sent many rhizomes for our auction in September. We will have fun trying to outbid each other for the most desirable rhizomes.

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society will host the 2022 Fall Meeting for Region 15 at the Huntington Botanical Garden in San Marino on October 22. David Toth will be our guest speaker. Plan to come to admire David Toth's novelty irises.

*At right: David Toth's TB 'Shattered Dreams' (2017), a broken color and therefore novelty iris, blooming in Janis' trek garden in 2020
photo by Janis Shackelford*



www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/



Inland Region Iris Society Report

By Beth Train, President

Hello Region 15 affiliates!

Spring brought beautiful iris blooms in the IRIS Club Garden. We continue regular upkeep and are busy planting rhizomes in the production beds for future sales. IRIS had a successful Spring Potted Iris Sale last April. We only had approximately 250 potted irises at the sale (fell way short of the 400 goal). We have loyal customers who bought hundreds of dollars worth so the sale went quickly and we sold out in under three hours. As I anticipated, not having the Yucaipa sale and Riverside Flower Show sale brought more customers than usual.

IRIS is growing! We have 47 members with 1 youth member and 18 AIS members.

Sandy Grossich's term as 2nd VP ended last June 30th. Odelia Ada was elected as her successor. Welcome Odelia! I look forward to her ideas and suggestions that will bring the club forward and help us continue (and improve) to make good use of member volunteer hours.

We had a successful Members Only Rhizome Auction. There was a nice selection from Mid-America Garden, Keith Keppel Iris Garden, Ghio and Sutton's Iris. I am looking forward to the Region 15 Rhizome Auction/Fundraiser scheduled for the September meeting. The rhizomes from the Region 15 Spring Trek hosted by SDIS have been potted and are ready to be auctioned off.

As of this writing, IRIS is preparing for its annual Fall Rhizome Sale. We thank the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center (JMDC) for the use of the Sunken Garden area for our sales. The sale will be on September 17-18, Saturday and Sunday from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm (or until we sell out, hopefully). All irises we sell are locally grown, either at the club garden or donated by IRIS members.

Our Annual Reblooming Iris Display resumes in October. Members bring in iris blooms from their garden. Each bloom earns a raffle ticket for a one year new or renewal membership to the Reblooming Iris Society. We all enjoy seeing and learning about the reliable rebloomers in our area.

Save the date: April 20, 2024! IRIS will host the Region 15 Spring Trek at the JMDC. Guest irises are potted first for planting in the club garden late October into November this year.

IRIS 1st VP's Carolyn Nielsen and Penny Culbertson have scheduled interesting programs this year. You are invited to attend; meetings are held at the Janet Goeske Senior Center in Riverside, CA with a 6 pm start time. IRIS Schedule of events:

September 6 – AIS Region 15 Rhizome Auction, Hawaiian themed Potluck

September 17 & 18 – IRIS Annual Fall Rhizome sale at JMDC, Riverside, CA

October 4 – “Sex in the Garden” by Cheryl Deaton

November 1 – “No Show-worthy Iris Bloomstalks? No Worries! A JT on Artistic Design and Container -Grown Iris and Single Blossom Entries for the Iris Show” by Mason Train

December 6 – Christmas Party with Gift Exchange and Cookie Exchange

January & February – Potting Party at the club garden in lieu of meetings, dates TBA

March 7 – Horticulture Entries for the Iris Show– How to Prepare and Show Iris Bloomstalks: Demonstration by Beverley Fortune and Carol Morgan.

April 4 – “Floral Design Using Irises”, a demo class by Ron Lang

Be safe. Be healthy. See you at the Fall Meeting in October (and at the iris gardens).

Beth 8/28/2022

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



Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

By Lucie George, President

We had a great summer and have really been increasing our membership. We have 35 members this summer. And we are thrilled to have them all.

June is the month that the Lompoc Valley Iris Society has a picnic meeting. This year, our meeting was held at Clairmont Lavender Farm in Los Olivos, CA. A few years back, one of our members, Ken Ainsle, contacted the owners of the farm, Meryl Ann Tanz and Sean Crowder (mother and son) to ask if he could plant some iris there. As a result, Ken now has over 100 iris planted at the farm. The combination of purple lavender and Ken's iris is stunning! At the picnic, Sean gave a presentation about Clairmont Lavender Farm. He showed us a model of the distiller he uses to produce his lavender essential oil. In addition, Sean discussed the history of the business and methods of processing and storing the lavender. The length of time lavender essential oil will retain its scent is over 100 years! It was a warm day in the Santa Ynez Valley, but there was plenty of shade. Everyone had a wonderful afternoon and appreciated the knowledge, friendship and lovely venue. You can contact the Clairmont Lavender Farm at 805-688-7505.

In July, we held the annual rhizome sale, where we met a lot of people, gave out information to the community and raised money for our scholarships. This year, we changed up our location, pricing and our display and were able to increase the involvement with the community. See pictured the rhizomes set up on risers near the street, which made for better visibility and easier shopping!

The scholarship committee reported on this year's scholarship process, and we collected the submissions for our annual photo contest. This year, we expanded our contest categories to include Space Age Iris, A Close up of a Portion of an Iris, An Iris Arrangement, An Iris Collage, and An Artistically Enhanced Iris Picture. The submissions are with the judging committee, and we are excited to see the results at our next meeting. Hopefully we will be able to post some on our Facebook page (*link below*).

We received our shipment of society iris for the year and potted about 15 iris and over 100 1-gallon pots with iris for next year's garden tour. At our August meeting, we received back the increases from last year's growers and awarded them to the door prize winners. We also divvied up the purchasing committee's iris to the membership and the 100 plus iris we will distribute to the community at our garden tours next year. Most members are "babysitting" 10 iris in 1-gallon pots for the garden show iris, and 3 iris in 2-gallon grow bags for next year's door prizes awarded at each meeting.

Photos on next page by Florence Schleunings

facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety

Picnic at Clairmont
Lavender Farm



Annual rhizome sale



Society Iris after potting





Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

By Lois Farr, Vice-President

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club continues to enjoy our monthly meetings. Derry Gerald shared a lesson on BULBS – tulips, daffodils, freesias, and more. We anticipate planting bulbs in our gardens soon.

Bobbie and Frank Hogancamp prepared a colorful slide show of day lilies in June. Day lilies are a great companion to our irises, so adding new varieties is always a plus.

We look forward to our tall bearded and beardless iris auction in the coming months, and an upcoming informative presentation about BEES, Bees, Bees ... the buzz of all life.

With vacations and heat, we thought a month off would offer everyone a change of pace, so we skipped our July meeting.

Two new members joined our club, and we celebrate adding new members to our garden friends.

Despite the crazy things around us, our meetings offer a welcome repose, and the simple sameness of our meetings and friends is a welcome treat. Members bring a wide range of ideas, and it is great to hear updates and share garden and vacation reports too.

Our best months are ahead, and we do appreciate being an affiliate of Region 15.

Sincerely,

Lois Farr

facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub



Southern California Iris Society Report

By Mike Monninger, President

Forwarded by Jill Bonino, SCIS Treasurer

Well, we thought we were getting back to normal after COVID. Now the LA Arboretum, where we meet and have our Show, is starting a major remodel on its entrance from September, 2022 through June, 2023. We will not be able to meet in person during these months unless we find an alternate location. We also will not be having a Show for 2023.

We had a fabulous sale at South Coast Plaza in April. There was lots of pent up demand for irises and we made \$4,700 in 4 days. We just held our Club auction on August 20. We had over 200 different varieties of recent iris introductions we purchased from Mid America, Sutton Iris Garden and Keith Keppel Gardens, along with our portion of the Region 15 guest iris. It took over 2 hours to distribute them all....and Region 15 got a check for \$500.

Membership has been steady during COVID. We are now up to about 22 members with about 12 coming regularly to meetings. We will be meeting via Zoom when we need to and maybe have a lunch meeting somewhere until we can get back into our regular meeting location.

Mike Monninger

facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety



San Diego Iris Society Report

By Claire Schneider, President

Greetings from the San Diego Iris Society,

SDIS held its first full-on AIS approved show since the pandemic closed our meetings two years ago. In spite of the challenging year in terms of the weather, there were many entries at the show, April 30 and May 1. Janis Shackelford came away with Best in Show for 'Blondie's Blush' and the AIS Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons. The fun thing about our show in San Diego is seeing all the trophy winners. We have a trophy for best pink, best Louisiana,



best spuria, best Californicae, best red, best purple, best yellow, and best miscellaneous iris. (among others not awarded this year) Because there are so many opportunities to win, we usually see many entries.



SDIS takes a vacation in July. The first event of the 2022-2023 season will be our Fall Rhizome Sales, August 27 & 28 and September 10 & 11. We are fortunate to have the use of the Casa del Prado building in Balboa Park for our sale. There are hundreds of visitors in the Park on weekends and many of them find their way into our sale. This year, we will be selling tall bearded, Louisiana, and arilbred iris.

The first in-person meeting of this season will be the members-only auction on October 9th. After the auction, Beth and Mason Train will present a program on reblooming iris. For the November 13th meeting, Phil Williams of Rockytop Gardens will be the speaker. Our in-person meetings take place in the Lakeside Historic Building, 9906 Maine Ave, Lakeside, CA from 1 to 3 pm. The December 11th meeting will be a Holiday Party in Ramona. For more information, visit the SDIS website.

Photos from Spring Show taken by SDIS member Tammy Priest.

facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety (private)
SanDiegoIrisSociety.org



San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

By Andi Rivarola, President

Members of the SFVIS enjoyed a wonderful spring.

On **February 3rd**, we had a wonderful program by Bob Van Liere from Denver, Colorado.

This meeting was supposed to be in person, but due to a COVID surge, the meeting ended up being held via Zoom.

In preparation for our April Spring Show, on our **March 3rd** program we were happy to present Janet Gies. Janet demonstrated how to design flower arrangements using irises. Janet is the past president of the Woodland Hills Floral Society.

In order to prepare for the Spring meeting, we held our **April 1st meeting** (on Friday) and asked everyone to help with preparations.

Our **Spring Show was held on Saturday, April 2nd**. We offered a beautiful room, and we were ready for many blooms. Unfortunately, it was a bit too early and bloom was limited.

Our **May 5th general meeting** offered our usual program, a spuria iris mini-show. It's always fun for those in attendance to pick the most popular spuria in bloom.

The **June 2nd general meeting** was a potluck dinner, plus election of new officers and presentation of show awards.

The club went dark for July.

I hope everyone is enjoying summertime.

Sincerely,

Andi Rivarola

San Fernando Valley Iris Society, President



Bottom left: Flower Arrangement demo, bottom right: SFVIS Spring Show

facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety
www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org

Top left: TB 'Valley of Dreams' (Blyth 2015), top right: 'Ruby Moon' (Sutton 2012) at show



Tucson Area Iris Society Report

By Sue Clark, Secretary

The Tucson Area Iris Society learned about all sorts of flower-related things during the late winter and spring. In February, member Terry Swartz Zoomed about his success at growing Japanese irises in Tucson. He's been growing them in pots for 20 years and even provided some to the Japanese Gardens in town. We learned about water harvesting in-person in March from a speaker from Tucson Watershed Management Group and examined the water-harvesting system of our society's president, Kevin Kartchner. We toured his garden and saw over 1000 irises that he had transplanted in July due to a move. In April, we held an iris show at a local nursery. The show was small, since bloom season was late and the show was early, but guests enjoyed it and learned more about growing our favorite flower. The Viewers' Choice was a stalk of 'Night Moves' with seven open flowers upon it (*top right photo*)! Members toured each other's gardens this month, as well. A Master Gardener and Tucson-native spoke about creating pollinator gardens, as well as good companion plants for irises at an in-person meeting in May (*photos at right and below*). One top suggestion was to grow each type of pollinator plant in groups or drifts of the equivalent of at least one square yard. We also had a demo on how to breed irises by Kevin. We'll resume after our summer break with our rhizome auction in August and rhizome sale in September.

Photos by Dave Smith and Kevin Kartchner



<https://www.facebook.com/Tucsoniris/>
TucsonIris.org



Prescott Area Iris Society Report

By Dennis Luebkin, President

This has been a busy 2022 for PAIS. With the emergency of Covid now lessening, our events and meetings are getting back to normal. Our spring potted iris sale was our last online event, with our summer rhizome sale being a live event. Our rhizome sale in July was a tremendous success, with additional funds going to fund our Yavapai College scholarships. We currently provide an annual scholarship of \$1,000 for horticultural students at Yavapai College and are funding a \$10,000 endowment for horticultural students to honor Francelle Edwards, Arizona hybridizer and friend of PAIS.

Our regular membership now stands at 99 with 506 Facebook followers. Several of our local Facebook followers are now attending meetings and volunteering in our garden workday events. We have been able to restart our school iris education program again in the elementary schools. Our education program at Yavapai College will begin again in April of 2023, along with new iris classes at the Sharlot Hall Museum.

PAIS also held Sculpture Garden tours of the irises and sculptures during the months of April and May, which proved to be remarkably successful and will continue next spring. Groups from around Arizona and the local tri-city area toured the gardens.

The Sculpture Garden at Yavapai College is currently undergoing a two-year upgrade by amending soil, irrigation upgrades, providing new planting areas and planting additional irises. Since the Sculpture Garden is adjacent to the fine arts building and theater, the themes for the additional irises will be related to the fine arts: music, art, dance, Broadway, and literature. We are also adding the iris collections of Rick Tasco and Roger Duncan.

Our Gardens at the Sharlot Hall Museum and Embry-Riddle University will also be expanded during the 2022-2023 season. Numerous PAIS members were able to attend both the National Convention in Las Cruces, NM, and the Region 15 Spring Trek in San Diego. It appears that 2023 will also be a busy and exciting year for PAIS.

PAIS would also like to welcome as new members Bloomer-Rang Iris Farms to the Prescott area.



[facebook.com/groups/1048378225226372/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1048378225226372/) (public)
<https://www.facebook.com/prescottiris>
www.prescottirissociety.org



Top and middle: marking party at
Brenda Griffin's home

Bottom: dig at Sharlot Hall Museum

Photos by Dennis Luebkin





Sun Country Iris Society Report

By Sharon Petterson, Secretary

SCIS has enjoyed many activities the past few months.

AIS convention - Las Cruces: 5 attended from SCIS.

Below: Christine Smith and Mary Platner enjoying a great meal



Sharon Petterson, Dennis and Sharon Luebkin



Below left: Judges training participants on spuria irises. Denise Stine training at Darol Jurn's garden in Sedona.

Right: Judges training Forest Lakes (photo of participants)



www.suncountryiris.org

Spring show judges and clerks making decisions



Spring show artistic design winner: Sharon Petterson



Early spring show and sale - display of artistic designs

Below left: Photo winner in photo contest, taken at Payson Hall and Cliff's garden



Right: Demonstration on how to exhibit in the spring show, given by Denise Stine with assistant Valerie Wielgas



AIS Region 15 2022-2023 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
September, 2022	1	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	6	IRIS Monthly Meeting - AIS Region 15 Rhizome Auction	Riverside, CA
	6	SCIS Monthly Meeting - club rhizome auctions (TB & AB)	Phoenix, AZ
	10-11	<u>SDIS fall rhizome sale</u> , Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101	San Diego, CA
	13	OCIDC Meeting - program on bees planned	Garden Grove, CA
	17	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
	17	<u>TAIS Rhizome Sale</u> at Harlow Gardens Nursery, 9 am to noon	Tucson, AZ
	17	PAIS General Meeting - program: The Wonderful Worldwide Diversity of the Iris Family, Iris Silent Auction (members only)	Prescott Valley, AZ
	17-18	IRIS Annual <u>Fall Rhizome sale</u> at JMDC, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm	Riverside, CA
	24	SCIS Monthly Meeting - <u>not at LA Arboretum (refer to page 28)</u>	TBD
October, 2022	1	<u>SCIS JT</u> : How to put on an Iris Show (flyer on page 12)	Scottsdale, AZ
	2	<u>SFVIS Iris Sale</u> at the Encino Farmers Market	Van Nuys, CA
	4	IRIS Monthly Meeting - "Sex in the Garden" by Cheryl Deaton	Riverside, CA
	4	SCIS Monthly Meeting - club rhizome auctions (LA & SPU)	Phoenix, AZ
	6	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	8	<u>TAIS 5th Annual Photo Contest</u> at Murphy-Wilmot Branch Library	Tucson, AZ
	9	SDIS General Meeting - iris auction, guest speakers on RE irises	Lakeside, CA
	15	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
	15	<u>SCIS rhizome sale</u> at Whitfill Nursery	Gilbert, AZ
	22	<u>Region 15 Fall Meeting</u> , hosted by HDIDS at the Huntington	San Marino, CA
	22	<u>SCIS rhizome sale</u> at Metro Tech	Phoenix, AZ
	29	<u>SCIS rhizome sale</u> at Cabela's	Glendale, AZ
November, 2022	1	IRIS Monthly Meeting - "No Show-worthy Iris Bloomstalks? No Worries! A JT on Artistic Design and Container-Grown Iris and Single Blossom Entries for the Iris Show" by Mason Train	Riverside, CA
	1	SCIS Monthly Meeting - member rhizome, plant, bulb & seed sale	Phoenix, AZ
	4	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	5	<u>SCIS JT</u> : How to Create and Judge Artistic Design (flyer on page 13)	Scottsdale, AZ
	13	SDIS General Meeting - speaker: Phil Williams of Rockytop Gardens	Lakeside, CA
	19	HDIDS Monthly Meeting - presentation on AIS Convention in Las Cruces by Jill Bonino	Lancaster, CA
	19	PAIS General Meeting - speaker: TBA	Prescott Valley, AZ
December, 2022	1	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	6	IRIS Monthly Meeting - Christmas Party, gift and cookie exchange	Riverside, CA
	6	SCIS Monthly Meeting - induction of officers for 2023	Phoenix, AZ
	11	SDIS Holiday Party	Ramona, CA
	17	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA

Month	Day	Event	Location
January, 2023	3	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	5	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	8	SDIS General Meeting	Lakeside, CA
	21	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
February, 2023	2	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	11	SDIS Birthday Party (Saturday)	San Diego, CA
	18	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
March, 2023	2	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS Monthly Meeting - Horticulture Entries for the Iris Show: How to Prepare and Show Iris Bloomstalks, demonstration by Beverley Fortune and Carol Morgan	Riverside, CA
	7	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	12	SDIS General Meeting	Lakeside, CA
	18	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
April, 2023	4	IRIS Monthly Meeting - "Floral Design Using Irises" by Ron Lang	Riverside, CA
	4	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	15	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
May, 2023	6-7	SDIS Spring Show and Sale, Balboa Park	San Diego, CA

AIS REGION 15 AFFILIATE SOCIETY MEETINGS

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society (HDIDS) meetings: 1-3 pm on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Antelope Acres Community Center, 8820 West Avenue E-8, Lancaster, CA 93536 unless otherwise stated. HDIDS, P.O. Box 4572 Lancaster, CA 93539
Visit: 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: 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 Stoneridge Community Center, 1300 Stoneridge Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314. For calendar of events go to www.prescottirissociety.org or [Facebook](https://facebook.com/paisociety).

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 or 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/sanfernandovalley.irissociety

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, July, August, September and October. The Los Angeles Arboretum is located at 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA. **Note: refer to page 28 about how in-person meetings are not currently possible here.** facebook.com/SouthernCaliforniaIrisSociety

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

Tucson Area Iris Society (TAIS): 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

AIS 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](https://www.facebook.com/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

For advertising information contact
olga_batalov@yahoo.com

Region 15 Spring Trek 2022



Top left: Janis Shackelford (left) and Claire Schneider (right), hosts of two of the Region 15 Spring trek gardens; top right: one of the seashell centerpieces made by Mary Hanson; bottom left: chocolate iris made by Mary Hanson with the help of her husband Jim; bottom right: SDIS president Mary Hanson (left) and our speaker Hugh Stout of Dancingtree



Thank you San Diego Iris Society!

Photo Credits: Beth Balaney-Train of IRIS, except top right - Olga Batalov

Irises Blooming at the Spring Trek



TB 'I'm So Confused' (Cheryl Deaton 2014)
winner of Herb Holk Award - best iris
cultivar introduced by Region 15 hybridizer



LA 'Bless Your Little Heart' (Ron Killingsworth 2020)
winner of best Louisiana iris, taken at Janis' garden



TB 'Blinded by the Light' (Larry Lauer 2017)
winner of Claire Barr Award - best iris cultivar
introduced by hybridizer outside of Region 15



SPU 'Lines Form Here' (Jim Hedgecock 2020)
winner of best spuria iris, taken at Janis' garden



TB Seedling# ABJY-OS (Bill Molnar)
winner of Bernard Hamner Award - best seedling
by a Region 15 hybridizer, left photo by Janis



'Flamingo Fever' (Dash 2019)
blooming in Bill Molnar's
garden



Richard Richards'
Seedling# 36001
in Janis' garden



'Ay Chihuahua' (Dash
2018) blooming in
Claire's garden