

Region 15

Fall 2025 Semi-Annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED!

FALL MEETING 2025

**Hosted by Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society
in Palmdale, CA**

Saturday October 18th, 2025

www.region15ais.org

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Region 15 Spring Trek 2025



Top row: miniature design activity

Middle left: Beth Train working on her miniature design

Middle right: Cheryl Hicks, winner Bernard Hamner award for best seedling hybridized in Region 15

Bottom left: Beth Train (Region 15 RVP), Lois Farr (Region 15 secretary), Sharon Petterson (SCIS president) and Andi Rivarola (SFVIS president and AIS past president)

Bottom right: Beth Train giving a Judges Training



Thank you Inland Region Iris Society!

Photo Credits: Claire Schneider



Note from the Editor

Hello fellow AIS Region 15 members!

I hope you are all safe from the extreme weather that seems to be the norm this year, from the fires in January to the monsoon rains and dust storms (haboob) at the end of August. I hope the other wildfires this year have not negatively affected you or your loved ones. We

were at the south rim of the Grand Canyon on the day that the Dragon Bravo fire broke out on the north rim. I suppose it reminds us that when you put off something until tomorrow, it might not still be there. I am glad we went to the north rim 3 years ago, even if only briefly, because it will not be the same for many years to come.

On a more positive note, I hope you all had a good bloom season. I hope you attended your society's show, if they had one, in the spring to admire other people's entries and maybe entered some of your own. I hope your rhizome sales are successful in bringing in lots of revenue and iris enthusiasts, especially anyone who was just walking by. A key goal of the societies is to educate the public about our favorite genus of plants, the irises. Of course, none of that would be possible without our armies (large or small, mighty nonetheless) of committed volunteers and board members.

Getting and retaining members seems to be getting harder each year. Be sure to take note and share what has and has not worked for your society. The AIS affiliate group, led by Jody Nolin, meets over Zoom to discuss all sorts of topics related to iris societies. If this sounds interesting to you, please reach out to Claire Schneider at itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com to be added to the list of participants.

Lastly, if you get a chance, take the personal time off to travel or be with your loved ones. Come to the Fall Meeting to mingle with other iris enthusiasts! I am sure guest speaker Michael Kowalchuk will have lots of ideas on how to revitalize our memberships.

Olga Batalov, Editor

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT
www.region15ais.org



On the Cover: AB 'Pashtun Princess' (Lawrence Ransom 2011) blooming shortly after I bought it this spring at the SDIS Spring Show and Sale
Photo credits: Olga Batalov

AIS Region 15 Local Chapter Presidents

Central Coast Iris Society

Cindy Martin

CentralCoastIris@gmail.com

[CCIS Facebook](#)

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Pat Simpson

patsi5253@gmail.com

[HDIDS Facebook](#)

Inland Region Iris Society

Beth Train

inlandregionirissociety@gmail.com

[IRIS Facebook](#)

Orange County Iris & Daylily Club

Derry Gerald

562-420-9190

[OCIDC Facebook](#)

Prescott Area Iris Society

Sherry Williams

duckwalkdesigns@gmail.com

PAIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

San Diego Iris Society

Mary Hanson

mehanson92021@gmail.com

SDIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Andi Rivarola

andinsky@gmail.com

SFVIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

Southern California Iris Society

Cheryl Deaton

region15kids@hotmail.com

[SCIS Facebook](#)

Sun Country Iris Society

Sharon Petterson

sharonpet29@gmail.com

[SCIS website](#)

Tucson Area Iris Society

Kevin Kartchner

irisgrowinaz@gmail.com

or taisnewsletter@yahoo.com

TAIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

**American Iris Society
Region 15
Elected Officers**

Region 15 Vice President (RVP)
Beth Balaney Train
bethtrain8@gmail.com

Assistant RVP and Judges Chair
Mary Hanson
mehanson92021@gmail.com

Region 15 Treasurer
Cheryl Deaton
27218 Walnut Springs Avenue
Canyon Country, CA 91351
region15kids@hotmail.com

Region 15 Secretary
Lois Farr
loistamfarr@gmail.com

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
2025 Fall Meeting	Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society	Palmdale, CA
2026 Spring Trek	Sun Country Iris Society	Phoenix, AZ
2026 Fall Meeting	Tucson Area Iris Society	Tucson, AZ
2027 Spring Trek	San Diego Iris Society	San Diego, CA
2027 Fall Meeting	San Fernando Valley Iris Society	TBA, CA
2028 Spring Trek	Open	TBD
2028 Fall Meeting	Open	TBD

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks
from our website

www.region15ais.org

Visit us on Facebook

Membership Update (as of 8/15/2025)



By Mason Train, Membership Chair

TOTAL AIS MEMBERS: 236 (224 individuals)
TOTAL YOUTH: 4 (2 with, 2 without bulletin)
TOTAL AFFILIATES: 10 (No change)

TOTAL AIS MEMBERS: 236 (224 individuals, 2 libraries, 10 affiliates)

AZ = 83 (81 adults, 1 youth, 3 affiliates)

CA = 151 (139 adults, 3 youth, 7 affiliates, 2 botanical gardens/libraries)

Of the 224 individual memberships: 53 are \$10 special memberships (50 full members and 3 print members) from the 2025 AIS Membership Drive



AIS Youth Program Report

Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Youth Chair

We have 5 youth members - 3 in California and 2 in Arizona.



AIS Region 15 RVP Message

By Beth Balaney-Train, Region 15 RVP

Hello Region 15! It has been a long, hot summer and I'm ready for the cool, crisp autumn air. How did your garden fair in these triple digit temperatures?

Thank you Inland Region Iris Society for hosting the AIS Region 15 Spring Trek last April 25-26. The guest irises at The Gardens at Wild Oak Farms were in full bloom. The attendees' time in the garden was cut short by a noontime downpour. It worked out great that there were several lectures and another classroom JT to fill in the time until the rain stopped.

By this time, the affiliates should have received the Region 15 trek guest iris rhizomes for their auction/sale to benefit Region 15. I hope you will be as generous as you were at last year's auction fundraisers. Many thanks to the hybridizers and the affiliates for supporting the region.

Mason and I attended the AIS National Convention in Billings, MT. It was one of the biggest AIS convention we've attended as there were about 450 registrants. The six guest gardens were in peak bloom. It was wonderful and overwhelming at the same time. One or two gardens had the irises planted too closely together such that it was difficult and time-consuming to search for the labels. Other than that, plenty of delicious food, informative programs, and the wonderful and friendly people all made for a great convention. There were 16 Region 15 affiliate members (maybe 18?) at the event.

Cara Hutchings, the Region 2 archivist, emailed me last May. The Region 2 Library is downsizing and they have several hard copies of the Region 15 Newsletter. Sue Brown and I determined that these are issues that we don't have in our files nor on the region website. It worked out that Cara was going to the convention and was willing to bring the newsletters with her so the three of us met in Billings. I am in the process of scanning the newsletters (the oldest was March 1963!) so they can be uploaded to the website. Sue will keep the printed copies in our physical library and will tell you more about them in her historian report at the Fall Meeting.

Watch out for the AIS Popularity Poll this November. This will be online and will replace the Tall Bearded Symposium (not to be confused with the TBIS Symposium). All named irises, bearded or beardless, and in any iris class may be written as your top 25 favorite irises.

The Region 15 Fall Meeting in Palmdale, CA will be hosted by the Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society. I plan to attend. I am looking forward to hearing Michael Kowalchuk's program. It would be interesting to know the novel ideas of the younger generation of iris lovers. I hope to see you on October 18th.



Left to right, standing: Mason Train, Beth Train, Claire Schneider, Sue Brown, and Jill Bonino.

Left to right, seated: Debbie James, Cheryl Deaton, and Allie Deaton.

*Photo credit:
Jody Nolin*



AIS Judges Training

By Mary Hanson, Region 15 Asst. RVP

and Judges Training Chair

Greetings Region 15 iris lovers,

Region 15 has nineteen active judges: ten garden exhibition judges, six master judges, three emeritus judges, and one apprentice judge. Of the active judges, nine are also certified in artistic design. There are nine students in training to become judges.

Judges, remember to keep up your training hours, complete your annual activity report and vote the ballot. Looking forward to seeing many of you at the fall meeting!

Mary

TREASURER'S REPORT

REGION 15 TREASURER'S REPORT

AUGUST 1, 2025

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF 4/22/25 \$15,837.39

Income \$ 25.00

Expenses \$ 364.02

Convention donation \$250.00

RVP officer's fund \$114.02

ENDING BALANCE AS OF 6/30/25 \$15,498.37*

*I have not received July's bank statement. There are outstanding checks totaling \$1160.63.

INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

Beginning balance (March 2025) \$17,527.88

Ending balance (July 25, 2025) \$17,956.29 +\$428.41

\$6000 matures 12/19/2025

\$5000 matures 2/17/2026

\$6000 matures 4/06/2027



Region 15 Spring Trek



AIS National Convention in Billings, MT



The American Iris Society



Check AIS membership status:
system.irises.org/membership/web-based-lookup

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:
Jean Richter
1226 High Street
Alameda, CA 94501
Phone: (510) 205-4033
E-mail: memsec@irises.org



www.AISYouth.org

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

AIS CONVENTIONS

2026 AIS Convention

2026 May 18-23, NJ & NY

2026 Convention Co-Chair: Gary White

in2iris@yahoo.com

2026 Convention Co-Chair: Jill Bonino

jillbiris62@gmail.com

2026 Convention Co-Chair: Andi Rivarola

andinsky@gmail.com

Convention website: ais2026convention.org

2027 Convention

2027 April 27 - May 1, Oklahoma City, OK

Hosted by: Oklahoma Iris Society

2025 Convention Co-Chair: Michael Kowalchyk

phone: 405-593-9608 | email: mjkow24@gmail.com

2025 Convention Co-Chair: Angie Salazar

text: 405-412-1359 | email: irisjunkie@yahoo.com

Convention hotel: Embassy Suites OKC NW

3233 Northwest Expy, Oklahoma City, OK 73112

FUTURE SECTION CONVENTIONS

None currently scheduled

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

FUTURE REGION 15 TREKS

2025 Fall Meeting

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society

October 18, 2025: Palmdale, CA

2026 Spring Trek

Sun Country Iris Society

April 10-11, 2026: Phoenix, AZ

2027 Spring Trek

San Diego Iris Society

April 16-17, 2027: San Diego, CA

2025 AIS Membership Drive

By The American Iris Society

The AIS Membership Development Committee is happy to announce the 2025 Membership Drive.

DETAILS: **\$10 Annual Membership Special**

Registration membership type: **Full Membership** qualifies for this offer.

Membership Drive Duration: March 1 - November 1.

Qualifications:

- For new members only, or
- For those that have lapsed their membership for over a year.

The AIS Board of Directors approved a budget to include only 750 new members under this special throughout the U.S.

New AIS members receive AIS's **Basic Iris Culture Booklet**, an informative booklet which provides guides, facts and tips for successful iris growing.

Print AIS Membership includes a subscription to the AIS Bulletin, a quarterly publication, which provides fresh information on iris culture, color photographs of both old and new irises, plus a Directory of commercial iris growers located in the United States and Canada.

Electronic Membership provides early access to the online AIS Bulletin (no print copy), all the benefits of standard membership, and a growing list of other online resources.

* **Full Membership** includes all the above.

<https://tab.so/AISMemberD2025>



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 www.irises.org/news-events/ or read your latest *News & Notes* email.

All of the past webinars, including JTs, are now posted on 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.

Region 15 Spring Board Meeting Minutes

AIS REGION 15 SPRING BOARD MEETING

Friday, April 25, 2025, 7 pm

Yucaipa, CA

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions by Beth Train, Region 15 RVP.

The motion to approve the Winter (January 18, 2025) Board Meeting Minutes was made by Cheryl Deaton, seconded by Sue Brown. Vote taken, motion carried.

OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer Report - Cheryl Deaton: no expenses since Christmas. She just rolled over the \$6000 CD. Another CD at 4.7% interest rate will mature in October; any other CDs will roll over as well. Earnings from the sale of AIS Region 15 rhizomes did well last year. She is hoping for good rhizomes and sales this year. *Report is on page 13.*

Judges Training Report - Mary Hanson: a total of 23 judges including 3 emeritus, 6 master judges and 14 garden/exhibition judges. There are also 9 certified artistic design and 10 student judges. There have been five judges training sessions - two tomorrow, the other 3 are in Arizona in May and June. Pay attention to your membership AIS expiration and keep track of your JT hours. The judges annual Activity Reports will be due soon - send them to Mary Hanson.

Membership Report - Mason Train: There is a new AIS Membership Drive: \$10 for a full one-year membership (compared to \$45). Any new member or someone whose membership has lapsed for more than a year is eligible for the Membership Drive. The 2025 AIS Membership Drive will run from March 1st to November 1st and will include the Basic Iris Culture book. The 2025 AIS Membership Drive is limited to 750 new memberships. So far, there are 10 new members in southern CA and 3 in AZ. The AIS website provides a flyer which you can send out for publicity. Ask your new members to fill out both the club and AIS membership form at the same time.

The San Fernando Valley Iris Society is paying the \$10 fee for all new SFVIS members who qualify for the Membership Drive. They have added approximately 10 new members. The Inland Region Iris Society has a drawing at every club meeting for a free one-year AIS membership (print or e-membership).

Awards Report - Claire Schneider: Hybridizers currently receive a \$25 check for winning an award. **Motion:** That the awards be increased from \$25 to \$50, taking effect at the Spring Trek 2026. Motion made by Claire Schneider, seconded by Mason Train - motion passed.

Youth Report - Cheryl Deaton: Currently, Region 15 has 5 youth members. We need more!

Editor Report - Olga is not here but she thanks you for your timely submissions!

Historian Report - Sue Brown: anything in paper goes in the file box. Sue has been trying to print electronic documents and then saving both versions.

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society - Pat Simpson: 34 members, 12 AIS members. The spring show is next weekend. Irises have been blooming for a month, with new stalks coming up. They have weeding parties and are completely redoing the nursery. Hosting the Fall Meeting on October 18 is going to be exciting.

Inland Region Iris Society - Beth Train: Welcome to the Spring Trek. The club has worked hard to bring you beautiful guest irises in bloom and a full schedule of events. Rain is predicted for around 11 am tomorrow. There is a potted iris sale at the Elks Lodge in Riverside this weekend, so a third of our active members are doing the sales while the rest of us are attending this trek.

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club - Lois Farr: membership is declining.

San Diego Iris Society - Mary Hanson: It's been a great year. We have 51 families, 76 individuals. The Spring Show is the first weekend of May in Balboa Park, where we will also sell potted plants. Publicity is through social media, branching out to Twitter and Instagram. In June, we will present the awards from the spring show. Claire will give a program on judging irises in Europe. The 2027 Spring Trek will be April 16-17.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society - Andi Rivarola: At their spring show, there were 38 artistic designs. Best of show was won by 'Voluminous,' a white TB introduced by George Sutton. They had a sale on Saturday, which went very well. There will be a Beardless Iris mini show with spuria and Louisiana irises at the May meeting. Judging will be by an informal vote. Irises are set up on tables, then the attendees vote by pen and paper. This is very popular. The June meeting is a potluck with awards and elections. They go dark in July. In August, Jill Bonino will present a slide

show. September will be an auction of \$1400 worth of irises. November will be Bingo night - play for irises prizes. December will be a holiday party!

Southern California Iris Society - Cheryl Deaton: Brian continues to be president and meetings are by Zoom. Irises were sold out at the South Coast Plaza sale - 150 irises sold for a total of \$1400. Thursday was potted iris which sold out, so Brian returned to his Santa Clarita home to dig more.

Sun Country Iris Society - Sharon Petterson: *The SCIS group is having a great time with many new members. She invited the trek attendees to come to Phoenix next year for the 2026 Spring Trek. There are 3 gardens, buses, and 3 meals included for \$100. The guest speaker is Bonnie Nichols, who will give garden judges training and JT on Novelty iris. The rhizome sales will be in October, and the potted irises were sold in March. The April show had 15 exhibitors and 78 entries. An arilbred won Best in Show. They increased their entries by giving \$20 in credit towards the purchase of irises to every person who entered the show.*

Tucson Area Iris Society - Pat Olson: This year, the iris show was held in conjunction with the Rose Society again. This is only the 3rd show, so there is still a lot of learning going on. 12 exhibitors, including 2 first time and 4 new to TAIS - 85 cultivars. They have members' garden walks. May 10th will be their 60th anniversary celebration. October is weeding month in Tucson so we are preparing well ahead for the 2026 Fall Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The budget was approved at the Winter Board meeting.

The 2025 AIS Convention in Billings, Montana is sold out at 400 attendees. Instead of donating a gift basket for the silent auction, the AIS Region 15 is donating \$250, \$25 from each affiliate. Each affiliate should mail a check to Cheryl made out to AIS Region 15.

NEW BUSINESS

Donations to AIS: An anonymous donor is asking for matching donations to AIS. This person will match donations dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$7500. You can choose which fund your donation goes to.

Revision to awards - Claire Schneider: Six awards are given at Spring Trek:

- Best Cultivar by a Region 15 hybridizer (Herb Holk Award)
- Best Cultivar originating outside of Region 15 (Claire Barr Award)
- Best Seedling by a Region 15 hybridizer (Bernard Hamner Award)
- Best Seedling originating outside of Region 15
- Best Spuria
- Best Louisiana

The Cultivar Award does not specify any class of iris. There is no class for Tall Bearded.

Motion #1: The Best Cultivar will be defined as a Tall Bearded iris, taking effect at the 2026 Spring Trek. The two Best Cultivar Awards will be renamed the Herb Holk Award for Best Tall Bearded Iris originating in AIS Region 15 and the Claire Barr Award for Best Tall Bearded Iris originating outside of AIS Region 15. Motion made by Claire Schneider, seconded by Mary Hanson, motion passed.

Motion #2: AIS Region 15 will add two awards to the Spring Trek: Best Arilbred Iris and Best Median Iris (intermediate bearded, border bearded, miniature tall bearded, and standard dwarf bearded), which will take effect at the 2026 Spring Trek. Motion made by Claire Schneider, seconded by Mary Hanson, motion passed.

Motion #3: The Best Median Iris Award will be named the Tom Craig Award. He was a significant hybridizer who lived in Escondido, California (Region 15). Motion made by Claire Schneider, seconded by Mason Train, motion passed.

Motion #4: The Best Arilbred Iris Award will be named the Rick Tasco Award. He is a significant hybridizer who lived in Phoenix, AZ (Region 15). Motion made by Claire Schneider, seconded by Sue Brown, motion passed.

Revisions to JT application form - Andi Rivarola made a **motion** for following revisions to the application form for the judges training program, seconded by Mason Train, motion passed.

- "Application for Entrance" to "Application for Admittance"
- Update yes or no questions to checkboxes, with no wrong answers.
- Question 1: from "Do you have the latest copy of the Judges Handbook?" to "Have you downloaded the latest copy of the Judges Handbook?"

continued on page 12

Region 15 Spring Board Meeting Minutes

NEW BUSINESS - JT application form revisions continued from page 11

- Remove Question 6: "Have you been the announced speaker on the subject of iris before an organized group?"
- Remove Question 7: "Have you written an article for publication on iris or related subject?"
- Remove Question 9: "Have you prepared an educational exhibit for a show?"
- Revise Question 13 from "Have you assumed the responsibility for increasing the membership of the American Iris Society?" To "Have you HELPED INCREASE the membership of the American Iris Society?"
- Revise Question 14 to "Have you participated actively in an iris group on social media?"
- Revise Question 15 to "Have you served as a volunteer at an iris show?"
- Remove Question 16: "Have you managed an iris show or iris specimen section of a show?"
- Remove Question 17: "Have you participated actively in a specialty iris group recognized by the AIS?"
- Remove Question 18: "Have you raised seedlings from your own iris crosses?"
- Remove Question 19: "Have you registered or introduced an iris?"
- Revise Question 20: "Would you be willing to judge an iris show anywhere within your own AIS Region boundaries, knowing that this activity is a gratuitous service?"

The AIS has cancelled the Tall Bearded Symposium for 2025. Instead, there will be an online Popularity Poll. People may vote for their top 25 Favorite Irises. Voting will open in November.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Farr

AIS Region 15 Recording Secretary

AIS REGION 15 SPRING GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, April 26, 2025, 9 am Redlands, CA

The general meeting was called to order by Beth Train, Region 15 RVP, at 9:15 am.

Beth welcomed the trek attendees. She also welcomed the guest speaker, Bob Van Liere. She introduced Carol Morgan, the trek chairperson. Carol oriented the attendees as to where the guest irises are in the guest garden. She introduced Cheryl Hicks, owner of The Gardens at Wild Oak Farms. Cheryl Hicks gave a brief history of the property she co-owns with her husband Tony.

Affiliate Roll Call:

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society - 8	San Diego Iris Society - 5
Inland Region Iris Society - 20	San Fernando Valley Iris Society - 1
Lompoc Valley Iris Society - 3	Southern California Iris Society - 3
Orange County Iris and Daylily Club - 1	Sun Country Iris Society - 4
Prescott Area Iris Society - 0	Tucson Area Iris Society - 3

Affiliate Reports (continued from board meeting):

Lompoc Valley Iris Society - Cindy Martin, President: LVIS has recently established a club display garden. Members were busy planting irises and have room for more rhizomes.

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society - Allie Deaton, Fall Meeting chairperson: Allie invited everyone to register and attend the Fall Meeting on October 18, 2025 in Palmdale, CA. The guest speaker is Michael Kowalchyk, President of the Oklahoma Iris Society. Allie distributed information flyers and registration forms.

Sun Country Iris Society - Sharon Petterson, President: Sharon invited the trek attendees to go to Phoenix, AZ next year for the Spring Trek. Three guest gardens are on the bus tour. The guest speaker is Bonnie Nichols, President of AIS - more information will be shared in the fall. Sharon and Dale Liggett handed out information flyers and bookmarks.

Beth thanked the attendees and adjourned the meeting at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mason Train

REGION 15 TREASURER'S REPORT - SPRING 2025
4/21/2025

BEGINNING BALANCE \$13,808.41

Income

Rhizome Sales Oct-Apr		
(Guest irises from Spring Trek 2024)	\$3,866.78	
Donations to 2025 AIS Convention	\$ 175.00	
TOTAL INCOME (October to April)		+\$4,041.78

Expenses

IRIS rhizome shipping	\$ 156.71	
IRIS 2024 Spring Trek subsidy	\$ 800.00	
Asst. RVP Expense	\$ 250.00	
RVP Expense	\$ 373.01	
Newsletter	\$ 458.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES (October to April)		\$2,037.72

ENDING BALANCE as of April 21, 2025 **\$15,837.39**

INVESTMENTS (Edward Jones)

Beginning balance (September 2024)	\$17,158.78	
Ending balance (March 2025)	\$17,527.88	+ \$369.10

\$6,000 matures 5/7/2025

\$5,000 matures 7/14/2025

\$6,000 matures 10/21/2025



PRESENTS THE

AIS REGION 15 FALL MEETING

IRIS – The Next Generation

October 18, 2025
9 am to 4 pm

Palmdale Elks Lodge
2705 E Ave Q
Palmdale, CA

Guest Speaker: MICHAEL KOWALCHYK

Cosgrove Award Winner, Hybridizer, AIS & Daylily Judge,
President of Oklahoma Iris Society, and
Host of the 2027 AIS National Convention

Registration Fee \$85.00
includes Continental Breakfast and hot lunch

Recommended Hotel (if needed):

Courtyard by Marriott

530 West Rancho Vista Blvd

Palmdale, CA 93551

(661)947-4100

4.5 mi from event, close to freeway





AIS REGION 15 FALL MEETING

Saturday October 18, 2025

Palmdale Elks Lodge
2705 E Ave Q, Palmdale, CA

SCHEDULE

9:00 am to 10:30 am	Registration Continental Breakfast Raffle and Silent Auction opens
9:30 am to 10:30 am	Board Meeting
10:30 am to 11:00 am	Welcome and General Meeting
11:00 am to 12 noon	JT on Ethics by Michael K.
12 noon to 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm to 2:30 pm	Presentation by Michael K.
2:30 pm	Raffle & Auction "last chance"
3:00 pm	Raffle and Silent Auction
4:00 pm	Adjourn meeting



AIS REGION 15 FALL MEETING

October 18, 2025
9 am to 4 pm

Palmdale Elks Lodge
2705 E Ave Q, Palmdale, CA

IRIS – The Next Generation

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Club: _____

Name: _____ Club: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Includes
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, HOT LUNCH, REGISTRATION BAG and
JUDGES TRAINING on ETHICS by Michael Kowalchuk, guest speaker

Registration received by October 3, 2025: \$ 85.00

Attendees _____ X \$85.00 = _____ TOTAL

Registration received after October 3, 2025: \$ 95.00

Attendees _____ X \$95.00 = _____ TOTAL

Please send checks payable to Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society
along with completed registration form to:

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society
PO Box 4572
Lancaster, CA 93539



Recommended Hotel (if needed):
Courtyard by Marriott
530 West Rancho Vista Blvd
Palmdale, CA 93551
(661)947-4100
4.5 mi from event, close to freeway



IRIS ROUNDUP

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 10TH & 11TH, 2026



MOST WANTED!

OUR VERY

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

AIS PRESIDENT

BONNIE NICHOLS

SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY

INVITES YOU TO THE AIS REGION 15 SPRING TREK

TOUR 3 GARDENS IN THE PHOENIX ARIZONA AREA

CONTACT ANN BOOTH FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ANNBOOTH_HR@HOTMAIL.COM OR 425-244-1354

NEW GARDEN AWARDS ADDED TO AIS REGION 15 SPRING TREKS

by Claire Schneider, Awards Chair for AIS Region 15

Six garden awards are given at AIS Region 15 spring treks. They are:

- ✿ Herb Holk Award (Best Cultivar by an AIS Region 15 hybridizer)
- ✿ Claire Barr Award (Best Cultivar from outside AIS Region 15)
- ✿ Bernard Hamner Award (Best seedling by an AIS Region 15 hybridizer)
- ✿ Best Iris Seedling Award (from a seedling from outside AIS Region 15)
- ✿ AIS Region 15 Spring Trek Best Spuria Cultivar
- ✿ AIS Region 15 Spring Trek Best Louisiana Cultivar

After viewing the irises in the Spring Trek gardens, attendees fill out a ballot for the six garden awards. The ballots are tallied and the winners are announced at the end of the meeting.

Requests for bearded iris cultivars are sent to hybridizers two years before a spring trek event. Requests for beardless iris cultivars are sent three years before. Most of the bearded iris rhizomes sent by hybridizers have been tall bearded, even though the request could include invitations for the arilbred and median classes of iris. Median and arilbred irises grow very well in AIS Region 15, yet we see very few of them in the Spring Trek gardens. The medians are the border bearded (BB), intermediate bearded (IB), miniature tall bearded (MTB), and standard dwarf bearded (SDB) irises. Something needed to change to entice hybridizers to send cultivars from these other classes.

After much discussion at their April 25, 2025 Spring Board meeting, the AIS Region 15 Board of Directors approved four motions dealing with the Spring Trek garden awards. The names of the Herb Holk and Claire Barr Awards were changed, two awards were added, and the size of the prizes was increased from \$25 to \$50. This is now the list of garden awards for AIS Region 15 spring treks, beginning with the 2026 Spring Trek.

Awards with new names

Herb Holk Award for the **best tall bearded iris** by an AIS Region 15 hybridizer

Claire Barr Award for the **best tall bearded iris** from outside of AIS Region 15

Unchanged awards

Bernard Hamner Award for the best seedling by an AIS Region 15 hybridizer

Best Seedling Award for a seedling from outside of AIS Region 15

AIS Region 15 Spring Trek Best Spuria Cultivar

AIS Region 15 Spring Trek Best Louisiana Cultivar

New awards

Rick Tasco Award for the best arilbred iris

Tom Craig Award for the best median iris, where median refers to BB, IB, miniature tall bearded (MTB), and standard dwarf bearded (SDB) irises

We hope these changes to the AIS Region 15 awards will promote the planting and show of median and arilbred irises. However, because of the two and three years needed for rhizomes to become flowering clumps, we probably won't see an increase in the number of median and arilbred irises in the AIS Region 15 Spring Trek gardens until 2027. We do look forward to seeing them! They add beauty to the garden, while extending the bloom season.

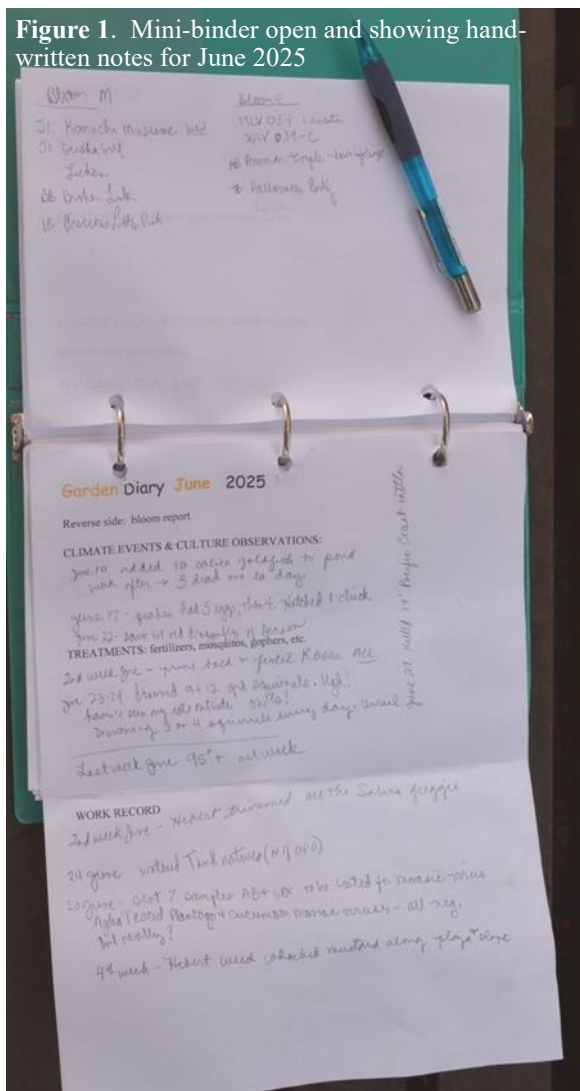
Recording Rebloom Data

Article and images by Claire Schneider, California, USDA Zone 9b

Why do you grow reblooming irises? Easy to answer: to extend the season of iris flowers in your garden. You want to see irises blooming in the garden for months and months!! Every spring we search iris websites and study iris catalogs looking to purchase those irises that rebloom and sadly, we don't find very many. One problem is that hybridizers do not always know that their cultivar reblooms. Irises are registered as spring bloom, yet in some parts of the USA they rebloom. How can you know which irises rebloom? And in which part of the country do they rebloom? We need a system to collect and publish current rebloom data. Luckily, the Reblooming Iris Society (RIS) is doing just that. However, to have as complete a record as possible, they need YOUR rebloom data!

There are many methods for recording bloom data. You could write bloom information on a clipboard, on a calendar, or in a small spiral notebook. I use a garden diary because it fits into my tool bag. The tool bag travels everywhere in the garden with me, which means I can record information immediately in my garden diary. When a particular cultivar is blooming or has set seed or appears sickly, I pull out the diary and make a note. Also, I am able to record other events and observations such as the date fertilizer was applied, when I divided 'Joseph's Mantle' (T. Craig 1949, TB & RE) or where a particular gopher was caught. The disadvantage of recording bloom data this way is trying to see the big picture. Unless you go through the diary page by page, how do you know if 'Mesmerizer' (M. Byers 1991, TB RE) rebloomed? As handy and accurate as the diary is, it isn't very efficient. My solution is to use both a diary and a spreadsheet. I keep track of growth and bloom in the diary, then transfer that information to a spreadsheet on my laptop. Now when I want to know about 'Mesmerizer,' I can look it up, year by year.

Figure 1. Mini-binder open and showing hand-written notes for June 2025



GARDEN DIARY

I use a mini-binder (Figure 1), a 9 by 7 inch three-ring binder with one page for each month. This half-size binder easily fits into my garden tool bag. Information for one month is written on a sheet of regular printer paper, 8.5 by 11 inches that folds into the binder.

I created a template (Figure 2) so that each time I need another month, I open the template, change the month, and print. The front side has three categories, the back side is blank, leaving plenty of space to write bloom information. I usually print three months at a time. Three holes are punched at the top of the page to hold it in the binder.

There are three category topics on the front page. (1) CLIMATE EVENTS & other observations, includes information such as storm rainfall totals, daytime high temps, nighttime low temps, damage by rabbits, etc. Other information that goes here are things like order another irrigation timer, fixed hole in the fence of north garden, and Ceanothus is blooming. The next topic is (2) TREATMENTS such as fertilizers, setting gopher traps, and mosquito dunks applied to troughs. Last is the (3) WORK RECORD, such as dividing in the historic garden, planting iris or tomatoes, pulling weeds, pruning roses, building another rock wall, and so on.

Figure 2. Information page for September is ready for input.

Bloom records are written on the back side of the page. The Reblooming Iris Society's system for recording bloom is easy. E for early in the month, M for middle, and L for late. Early would be the 1st to 10th of the month, middle is 11th through the 20th, and late is the 21st to the end of the month. I group my blooms into their classes, which makes it easier to enter the data into the spreadsheet.

Currently there are three years of pages in my garden diary, which makes it easy to look back to see what I did a year ago during a particular month. For example, I can see that I fertilized the Louisiana irises in May 2024 and June 2023. According to my garden diary, the first leaves of the dormant spuria poked through the soil in October 2023 and in late September 2024. I pruned roses in December 2024, January 2024 and 2023. Yes, I keep notes on all my plants, not just the irises.

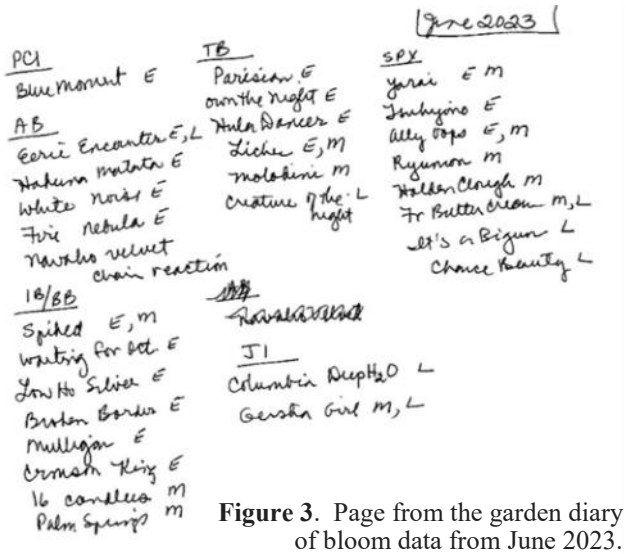


Figure 3. Page from the garden diary of bloom data from June 2023.

Your bloom record will tell which cultivars rebloom in your garden. To actually see the rebloom easily, your bloom data should be entered into a spreadsheet for the entire year (Figure 4). This is easy to do using the RIS system of E, M, and L. (I was out of town during April and didn't collect any data. No problem, the RIS can use bloom data from the other months.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
Median Bloom 2024					Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Ju_y	Aug	Sept	OCT	NOV	Dec
Absolute Perfection	IB															
Absolutely Yes	IB									E						
Apache	IB															
Black Label	BB								E							
Blueberry Trail	BB															
Blurred Vision	IB								E							
Broken Border	BB	RE								M						
Broken Link	BB	RE				ML				M	L					L
Caramel Chocolate Sundae	BB								E							
Coin Flip	BB								M							
Concertina	IB	RE				ML	M			E	M					L
Cowboy Coffee	BB															
Crimson King	IB				EM	E	EML			M	L					EML
Different Path	BB															

Figure 4. The compiled bloom record for 2024 for the first fourteen intermediate and border bearded irises in my garden.

From my bloom record of 2024, you can see that 'Concertina' (G. Sutton 2000. IB & RE) and 'Crimson King' (Barr & Sons 1893, IB) have been wonderful reblooming irises in MY garden. But could they rebloom in YOUR garden? Look in the AIS Iris Encyclopedia (the wiki) to see that 'Concertina' is registered as a reblooming iris. Because the wiki has been adding rebloom data, now you can see exactly WHERE it has been reported to rebloom.

Now look in the AIS Iris Encyclopedia (the wiki) for 'Crimson King' and you will see that it is not registered as a reblooming iris. It has an early bloom, but is not a rebloomer. However, reports of rebloom for 'Crimson King' have been added to the wiki, which means you can see places where 'Crimson King' does rebloom.

SUBMITTING YOUR REBLOOM DATA

The Reblooming Iris Society (RIS) publishes an annual report of rebloom. Your bloom and rebloom information would be a valuable addition to that report. If you haven't been keeping bloom records, now is the time to start. Write your bloom information on a sheet of paper, on your wall calendar, in a spiral notebook, or in a garden diary. If you already have a system for keeping bloom records, all the better. At the end of the year, compile your bloom data into a spreadsheet or onto a sheet of paper. Please submit your rebloom report to Sarah Sue Miller by attaching it to an email sent to risrebloomrpt@gmail.com, or mail a paper rebloom report to 100 Edgewater Rd, Hickory, NC 28601. For more information, visit the RIS website <https://rebloomingiris.com/> While you are visiting the RIS website, consider becoming a member: \$8 per year, \$25 for three years. Wishing you a long and colorful REBLOOM season!!

Special Chart for Zones 8b, 9, and 10. We are no longer recording spring bloom.										Year: 202__	
Name:			City, State:			2023 Plant Zone: _____					
Email:			E (1-10 of the month) / M (11-20) / L (21-31 of the month)								
All TBs unless noted		1st hard freeze:		Jan.	Feb.	March	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
All are rebloomers.		Hybridizer	Year	E M L	E M L	E M L	E M L	E M L	E M L		
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
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REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

By Pat Simpson, President

No affiliate report was received before the September 1st deadline. Photos below submitted by Sue Brown.



Top right: Linda Lang taught us how to make miniature flower arrangements at 2025 Region 15 Spring Trek, top right: Carol Morgan and Marilyn Kiger admiring irises in the rain at 2025 Region 15 Spring Trek, bottom left: Michelle Starkey with the winners at HDIDS Spring Show, bottom right: Region 15 members at AIS National Convention in Billings, MT - left to right: Cheryl Deaton, Sue Brown, David Toth and Allie Deaton

www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/



San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

By Andi Rivarola, President

Hello all,

Our club has been busy as usual.

We were off in July.

In August, we had two iris auctions, one of which was our annual iris auction of irises we purchased from well-known hybridizers. This auction was held during our regular monthly general meetings at the Canoga Park Women's Club. Secondly, we had the Region 15 auction held at one of our club's members' gardens.

September will be a digital presentation by Jill Bonino. Jill's presentation will include images from the AIS National Convention held in Billings, Montana, as well as images from the Region 15 Spring Trek.

October's presentation is unknown as of yet. November will be our Games Night, where we play games for irises. December will be our Holiday Party with a potluck dinner, plus the announcement of the Spring Show theme.



Photos by Andi Rivarola from the SFVIS show on April 19th.

facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety
www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org



Central Coast Iris Society Report

By Cynthia Martin, President

Greetings, Region 15 affiliates!

You may be looking at this unfamiliar name and logo and scratching your head. Is there a new Iris Society in Region 15? Yes! The Central Coast Iris Society is a brand new club, established in June of 2025 by me, the immediate former president of Lompoc Valley Iris Society. As a matter of fact, all officers and members are the same as they were in LVIS, and our current projects remain the same, but with renewed fervor. So, please don't mourn the loss of LVIS, but instead wish us luck with this brand new club, for which we have a grand vision for a long-term future. CCIS is being built on a stronger foundation that will lead us toward limitless possibilities over the coming years. Our ultimate goals are to utilize updated methods for record keeping, expand our membership, and invest in our members and community. We are also working hard to build a display garden here in Lompoc that we may use to host public and regional events in the near future.

Speaking of our new display garden, we have been able to make a lot of progress since my last update. So far, we have 16 ground-level beds with a total of 125 different varieties of named and registered bearded irises inside them. The goal by the end of October is to have at least one more long bed installed, if not more, depending on the speed at which we can get it done. The property we have been generously granted access to is at Hope Chapel in Mission Hills, Lompoc. The area behind the church has the potential to boast a sizeable display garden. Thanks to a couple of supportive community members, we have been gifted most of the stone we needed to line the beds, and Hope Chapel is providing the gopher wire - an absolute necessity when planting anything in the ground here on the coast. They also allow us to use their youth building for our general meetings, which has been so convenient and appreciated. We are very excited! There has never been an official iris society garden in Lompoc before, but with the right space, materials, and dedication of our hard-working members, the dream is quickly becoming a reality.

Along with the construction of our society garden, there has been a re-emphasis on iris education. At our last meeting, CCIS membership coordinator and co-treasurer Ken Ainslie gave an informational talk about proper labeling of bearded irises, materials and techniques. In addition, I was able to give a talk about iris colors and patterns, a class I have conducted for my members in the past, to a local assisted living community. We look forward to providing many more classes and demonstrations as we re-center our core values, and "dig in" to what we do best: cultivate beautiful irises and provide educational experiences for our members and the community.

Finally, I'd like to praise the Inland Region Iris Society for yet another astounding Spring Trek. Half the joy of attending is the incredibly warm welcome that we get upon arrival. Myself, Treasurer Megan Drap, and Purchasing Committee member Sarah Snow-Towne had such a wonderful day with you all who were in attendance. It's like visiting close friends, and it's such a blessing to experience that kind of warm hospitality combined with gorgeous iris gardens. We hope to return the favor with the garden we are building, and invite you all back to Lompoc for a trek in the near future. All good things come in time.

Happy growing to you all, and much love.

www.facebook.com/CentralCoastIrisSociety



Top left:
View of the
CCIS society
garden, *top
right:* Myron
working in
the garden

Middle left:
Bill, Doreen
and Ken,
middle right:
Ken steering
wheelbarrow

Bottom left:
Doreen and
Weston,
bottom right:
Afrikka and
Jennifer



*All photos
taken by
Cynthia
Martin*



Inland Region Iris Society Report

By Beth Train, President

Hello Region 15. I hope you are having a lovely summer. The past months were busy with travelling and trying to escape the heat. I'm looking forward to the cooler temperatures of autumn and the welcome bloom of remount irises.

On behalf of Inland Region Iris Society, thank you for attending the Region 15 Spring Trek last April. Members worked together to bring you a fun-filled event with plenty of continuing education opportunities and beautiful guest irises in full bloom. It was a one garden trek just like last year's (which IRIS hosted as well). The midday rain came as predicted but we were prepared with umbrellas. It got cold too, and guests huddled near the heaters. Luckily, there was plenty of food and other activities that kept everyone engaged during the downpour.

Mason and I attended the AIS National Convention in Billings, MT last June hosted by the Big Sky Iris Club. They did a great job with about 450 registrants and all six guest gardens in peak bloom. The weather was mild and pleasant. We had a fun time at the pre-convention get together at Delane's and Jane's home. We learned more about irises from the many lectures offered during the convention. It was great to see people we know, get acquainted with familiar faces, and make new friends. I highly recommend going to a national convention if you are able.

IRIS has 52 members. We enjoyed a program on hybridizing irises by Lori Rhodes in May. An informative program on growing plumerias was held in July. August was the Members Only Auction with rhizomes from Mid-America and Sutton's Iris Gardens. Members had a fun night outbidding each other and we all took home wonderful selections. The programs for the rest of the year are as follows:

September 2	Region 15 Trek Rhizome Auction
September 20	IRIS Fall Rhizome Sale at Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center
October 7	Fun and Games Night; Halloween Costume Contest
November 4	Continuing Education Series aka Judges Training: on "Aril and Arilbred Irises" by Claire Schneider of San Diego Iris Society
December 2	Christmas Party, Gift Exchange, and Cookie Exchange
January 6	"AIS National Convention 2025" slide presentation by Beth Train
February 3	IRIS goes DARK. No meeting.
March 3	To Be Confirmed
April 7	Line, Line Mass, & Mass Artistic Floral Design Demo by Linda Lang
April 18	IRIS Potted Iris Sale and Show at JMDC. Show Theme: TBD
April 24-25	IRIS Sale at the Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tours, Elks Lodge, Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA
May 5	"Photographing Irises" by Mason Train
June 2	Fun and Games Night

On another note, we are wishing Lori Rhodes of Crafton Hills Iris Farm the best of luck with the move of her iris farm to Gardnerville, NV. She is a valuable member of IRIS, served as treasurer, and supported several of our club activities. We will miss her terraced iris garden (in Redlands, CA) which was always a pleasure to visit.

I am looking forward to attending the Region 15 Fall Meeting in Palmdale, CA this October.

See you at the iris gardens.

Beth 8/24/2025

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



May program: Lori Rhodes on "Hybridizing Irises"



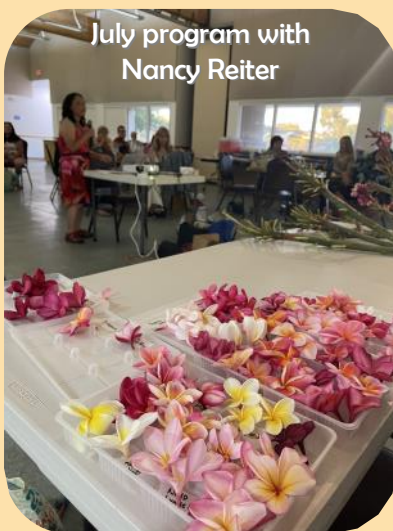
Crafton Hills Iris Farm (CHIF) Redlands, CA on April 27, 2025



Lori Rhodes, Sue Brown and friend, and Mason Train at CHIF



Sandy Grossich (left) won Best of Show, Iris category, at the Riverside Flower Show; with Mason, Odelia, and Phyllis.



July program with Nancy Reiter



Kathy Chilton and Mason at Spring Trek



Abe Feuerstein, Ingrid Gibson and Dale Liggett keeping warm



IRIS Show



IRIS Show

Photo credits: Beth Train



San Diego Iris Society Report

By Mary Hanson, President

Hello, everyone!

The San Diego Iris Society just held our annual rhizome sale in Balboa Park at the end of August. In October, we will hold our members only rhizome auction. In December, we will have our holiday party. In January, Linda Lang, floral designer, will give a hands-on floral design program with iris. We would love to have you join us. Please RSVP with me at mehanson92021@gmail.com if you wish to participate, so we can ensure sufficient materials. In February, we celebrate the birthday of the San Diego Iris Society with a party. Paul Black will be our guest speaker. Mark your calendars!

In 2027, we are hosting the Region 15 Spring Trek with the theme "Bees, Butterflies and Blooms." It will be held April 16-17. There will be three host gardens.

Mary Hanson



Above left: Best Arrangement at 2025 SDIS Spring Show, designed by Harrison Wilson



Above right: Artistic design by Mary Hanson showcasing our theme: 'Go West Iris'

facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety (public)
facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety (private)
SanDiegoIrisSociety.org



Top left: Janis Shackelford (left) and Claire Schneider (right) at the 2025 Region 15 Spring Trek (photo by Jan Benoit)



Top right: Queen of Show (& Best Miscellaneous) - AB 'Heart of Hearts' exhibited by Claire Schneider

Middle: Best Louisiana and Best Purple - 'Great White Hope' exhibited by Janis Shackelford

Bottom left: "By the Light of the Silvery Moon," designed by Benjamin Wilson

Bottom right: Best seedling (19-003, spuria), exhibited by Claire Schneider

Photos by Olga Batalov unless otherwise noted





Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

By Derry Gerald, President

Hello again! The weather has been so hot and humid here lately. It's very hard on our gardens and the gardeners. I've planted my new irises in pots and have them in filtered sun.

We decided not to meet in July or August due to the heat and many of our members being out of town.

Our daylily auction was in May. Bobbie Hogancamp did a marvelous job of selecting beautiful plants. Even I could not resist getting a few.

August was our members only auction, as well as the Region 15 auction. We had asked for fewer rhizomes this year due to our low budget and so many iris from Oregon.

The members asked for the September meeting to be on soil prep, planting and care of irises.

I am looking forward to the "Fall Trek." It is so wonderful seeing many of you there.

Love, Derry

www.facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub



Southern California Iris Society Report

By Cheryl Deaton, President

The Arboretum has given approval for all of our meeting dates up until June 2026. We will have our show on April 18th & 19th and our theme is "Irises in the Solar System." We are busy discussing our budget and a new investment account. Since it is the 80th anniversary of So Cal Iris Society, we are celebrating with a club funded holiday party on December 6th. August is our bearded iris auction and October will be our beardless iris auction. September is TBA.

facebook.com/SouthernCalifornialIrisSociety



Prescott Area Iris Society Report

By Sherry Williams, President

We just finished our rhizome dig 'em up, clean 'em up and sell 'em season.

In other words, our Rhizome sale. It was a pretty successful event this year and we have refilled our coffers, which had been emptied by our need to redo the irrigation system at the Yavapai College Sculpture Garden. We luckily had a good amount of rhizomes, which were cleaned and marked at our 'Marking Party,' had happy customers at the Rhizome Sale, then we had our 'Potting Party' and now we babysit our leftovers until spring. We also have 4 new members from our Rhizome Sale, which brings us to 86 family memberships (118 members).

We have been able to receive a number of donations, and we also purchased iris from Bluebird Haven Iris Garden and C & T Iris Patch that we are planting in the Yavapai College Sculpture Garden to replace those we lost last year. Luckily, this year our monsoons have returned, and we are receiving more rain (and hail), plus our irrigation system is functioning much better, so hopefully we will not have such a devastating loss again.

One of our visitors to the Sculpture Garden has come up with a wonderful idea that we are going to implement. She and her dear friend visit the garden regularly, especially in the spring. She has donated money to purchase a special iris that will be planted in the garden in honor of her friend. We have ordered a new iris from Mid-America Garden in her friend's favorite colors, and it will be planted with a special marker noting that this iris is in honor of her friend. We think this is a wonderful way to remember someone lost or honor someone special in a person's life.

We are looking forward to our Silent Auction in September and want to thank Region 15 for some amazing rhizomes.



Marking party



Happy customers



Rhizome Sale

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



Sun Country Iris Society Report

By Sharon Petterson, President

Sun Country Iris Society enjoyed many events over the Spring and Summer. Don't miss the IRIS ROUNDUP TREK on April 10-11, 2026

Top left: Jackie Peel, member and Master Gardener, gave a program on Weeds and Fertilizer in February (photo by Luis Verger); top middle and right: Potted Iris Sale and class by Mary Platner at Summer Winds Nursery (photographer not known)



Middle left: Pre-trek visit to 3 host gardens to be ready for Iris Roundup Trek on April 10-11 2026; middle right: AIS Show Memories and Melodies Artistic Design entries in "Only in America" class

Bottom left: Best of Show by Pat Olsen with AB 'Perry Dyer'; bottom center: 2025 Spring

Trek in Redlands, CA with spuria iris - Beth Train, Lois Farr, Sharon Petterson, Andi Rivarola; bottom right: At Spring Trek, Beth Train helps SCIS members as they invite everyone to Iris Roundup in April 2026 - Sharon Petterson, Dale Liggett, Pat Olsen.



All photos by Sharon Petterson, except as noted

www.suncountryiris.org



Row 1 left: SCIS judges at Tucson AIS Show - Sharon Petterson, Dale Liggett, Pat Olsen, Cheryl Dreska; row 1 right: May program - Ponds Inspiration by the Pond Society (photo by Luis Verger); row 2 left: SCIS has a reputation for fabulous food, refreshments and presentation, thanks to Luis and Julie (photo by Luis Verger); row 2 middle: garden visit, judges training and lunch in Payson, AZ - thanks to Hall and Cliff; row 2 right: potluck and report on Spring Trek by Sharon Petterson in June; row 3 left: ice cream social in August (photo by Luis Verger); row 3 middle: auction of Region 15 rhizomes with auctioneer Gary Miller and Kyria Peavy in August; row 3 right: photo contest voting and winners by Cynthia Huttner (photo by Luis Verger); row 4 left: members prepare iris for Sedona sale in August; row 4 right: Payson iris sale and new member





Tucson Area Iris Society Report

By Sue Clark, Secretary

This is TAIS' 60th anniversary year! In January, we tuned into a Zoom meeting with Chuck Chapman from Canada, who spoke about broken color and iris genetics. February's meeting found us watching a professional florist demonstrating how to create different styles of arrangements. She offered many tips. In March, member Pat Olsen presented a slide show about selecting and grooming irises for a show. I showed slides of arrangements from our last two shows and then created an arrangement to encourage members to bring one to the show. I gave many suggestions of what might be used instead of green foam for more sustainable options.

In early April, member Terry Swartz opened his lovely rose and iris garden to members. Later in the month, Kevin's, Susan's and Joyce's gardens were open to members. Our iris show in April was held in conjunction with the Rose Society show. The room was glowing with all of the spectacular flowers, arrangements and ribbons! Instead of a meeting in May, we enjoyed a celebratory 60th anniversary luncheon. We each received a crystal ornament with

our 60th anniversary logo on it, as well as a hand trowel with a comfy handle. A delicious cake and a get-to-know-more-about-each-other activity rounded out the event.



Above: photos from
Spring Show

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

*All photos on this page
taken by Dave Smith*



*Above left: One of Sue's arrangement (photo by Sue Clark); above middle: Sue Clark with her winning arrangement (photo by Paige Bausman); above right: Terry's garden (photo by Dave Smith)
At right: Kevin Kartchner's garden (photo by Kevin Kartchner)*

Bottom 4 photos: 60th anniversary luncheon (photos by Dave Smith)



AIS Region 15 2025-2026 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
September	2	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Region 15 Trek Rhizome Auction	Riverside, CA
	2	SCIS Monthly Meeting - silent auction	Phoenix, AZ
	4	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: presentation by Jill Bonino	Canoga Park, CA
	10	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	13	<u>TAIS Rhizome Sale</u> at Harlow Gardens Nursery	Tucson, AZ
	20	<u>IRIS Fall Rhizome Sale</u> at Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
	20	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
	20	PAIS Meeting: Planting Amethyst Creek Iris Farm	Prescott Valley, AZ
	27	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
October	2	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Games Night, Halloween Costume Contest	Riverside, CA
	7	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	8	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	11	TAIS Meeting: Lynda Miller (via Zoom) on TB iris, Officer Elections	Tucson, AZ
	12	SDIS General Meeting: members-only Region 15 iris auction	Lakeside, CA
	18	<u>Region 15 Fall Meeting</u> hosted by HDIDS at Palmdale Elks Lodge	Palmdale, CA
	25	Southern California Iris Society beardless iris auction	Arcadia, CA
November	4	IRIS Monthly Meeting: <u>JT</u> on aril/arilbred irises by Claire Schneider	Riverside, CA
	4	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	6	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Games Night	Canoga Park, CA
	9	SDIS General Meeting: presentation by Master Gardener	Lakeside, CA
	12	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	15	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
	15	PAIS Meeting: Companion Plants for Iris by Suzy Andregio of AAIS	Prescott Valley, AZ
	TBA	TAIS Meeting: Holiday Potluck and Photo Contest Result	Tucson, AZ
December	2	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Christmas Party, Gift and Cookie Exchange	Riverside, CA
	2	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	4	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Holiday Party	Canoga Park, CA
	6	Southern California Iris Society 80th anniversary holiday party	TBD, CA
	10	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	14	SDIS Holiday Party	Ramona, CA
	20	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
January, 2026	1	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	6	IRIS Monthly Meeting: AIS National Convention 2025 by Beth Train	Riverside, CA
	6	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	11	SDIS General Meeting: Artistic Design by Linda Lang	Lakeside, CA
	14	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	17	HDIDS Monthly Meeting	Lancaster, CA
	24	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA

Month	Day	Event	Location
February, 2026	3	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	5	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	8	SDIS Birthday Party at San Vicente Resort, speaker: Paul Black	Ramona, CA
	11	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	28	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
March, 2026	3	IRIS Monthly Meeting: agenda to be confirmed	Riverside, CA
	3	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	5	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	8	SDIS General Meeting: agenda TBA	Lakeside, CA
	11	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	28	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
April, 2026	2	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Line, Line Mass and Mass Artistic Floral Design Demo by Linda Lang	Riverside, CA
	7	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	8	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	10-11	Region 15 Spring Trek hosted by Sun Country Iris Society	Phoenix, AZ
	18	IRIS <u>Potted Iris Sale & Show</u> at Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
	18-19	<u>Southern California Iris Society Spring Show</u>	Arcadia, CA
	19	SDIS General Meeting (due to Spring Trek): agenda TBA	Lakeside, CA
	24-25	<u>IRIS Sale</u> at the Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tours, Elks Lodge: 6166 Brockton Avenue	Riverside, CA
May, 2026	2-3	<u>SDIS Spring Show and Sale</u> , Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101	San Diego, CA
	5	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Photographing Irises by Mason Train	Riverside, 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 Quartz Hill Grange located at 41843 50th St W, 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 Wednesday every month at 2 pm at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove, CA. Inquire with Derry Gerald (562-420-9190) in case meeting has been cancelled.

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/paisirissociety).

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), is back to holding 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. 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

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For advertising information contact
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Region 15 Spring Trek 2025



Top left: Guest speaker Bob Van Liere, top right: Carol Morgan and Penny Culbertson of IRIS

Middle left: Certified Wildlife Habitat sign at Wild Oak Farms, middle right: luncheon

Bottom left: rock hunt and prizes, bottom middle and right: more painted rocks (photo by Jan Benoit of SDIS)



Thank you Inland Region Iris Society!

Photo Credits by Claire Schneider unless otherwise noted

Winning Iris from 2025 Spring Trek

Photo credits: Beth Train, Claire Schneider, Janis Shackelford or Anna Cadd



Best seedling originating outside of AIS Region 15 - seedling 17LCH19 hybridized by Diana Ford (*photo by Claire Schneider*)



Best seedling originating in AIS Region 15 (Bernard Hamner award) - seedling 19-01-01 hybridized by Cheryl Hicks (*photo by Beth Train*)



SPU 'Speeding Star'(Cadd 2002) - Best Spuria (*photo by Anna Cadd, not taken at Spring Trek*)



'Purplicious' (Van Liere 2024) - winner Favorite Iris by popularity poll (*photo by Janis Shackelford*)



'Storm Lord' (Tasco 2023) - winner of Claire Barr award for best cultivar from outside of Region 15 (*photo by Janis Shackelford*)



'Scoonchee' (DeSantis 1997) - winner of Herb Holk award for best cultivar originating in AIS Region 15 (*photo by Claire Schneider at 2024 Spring Trek*)