



Region 15

Spring 2025 Semi-Annual Report

YOU'RE INVITED!

SPRING TREK 2025

Hosted by the Inland Region Iris Society
in Redlands, CA

Fri-Sat April 25-26th, 2025

www.region15ais.org

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Region 15 Fall Meeting 2024



Top left and middle: Very fitting centerpieces and table runners (*middle photo by Beth Train*)

Top right: Beth Train with vase that she won (*photo by Barbara Walls*)

Middle left: The theme was 'Iris in the Pines,' *middle right:* beautiful iris painting in silent auction (*photo by Barbara Walls*)

Bottom left: another centerpiece and iris table runner, *bottom middle:* Dennis Luebkin of PAIS making an announcement from the podium, *bottom right:* Jim Hanson holding framed prints from raffle



Thank you Prescott Area Iris Society!

Photo Credits: Mary Hanson unless otherwise noted



Note from the Editor

Hello fellow AIS Region 15 members!

I hope your fall and winter have gone well. Here in southern California, it sure did not feel like winter for the last couple of months. We finally got some much needed rain in February, rain that I know most of you were sorely missing as well. I hope you got some beneficial

rain without flooding or mudslides. I hope you all made it through the January fires unscathed. Santa Ana winds in winter are uncommon but not unheard of, and fire season really is all year long.

There are many shows and sales to look forward to, as well as the Spring Trek of course. As AIS Exhibition Schedules chair, I can report that Region 15 has five approved shows - 3 in CA and 2 in AZ.

According to the affiliate reports, we can expect at least one other to get approved shortly. You can look up all AIS approved shows here: wiki.irises.org/pub/Main/IrisShows/AIS%20Show%20Schedule.pdf and a growing list of sales here: wiki.irises.org/pub/Main/IrisShows/AIS%20%20Sale%20Schedule.pdf.

On page 9 is an announcement about the newly-approved 2025 AIS membership drive. Please spread the word to your club members who are not AIS members yet, or whose membership has lapsed for more than a year. Tell your iris loving friends too! Now is the time to join - \$10 for a full membership, savings of \$35! This includes 4 printed issues of the AIS Bulletin. Hurry though, as there is a cap of 750 discounted memberships.

I likely will not be able to make it to the Spring Trek due to another commitment - my local cactus and succulent society is hosting a national convention that week. I am sure the rains we have had, and will have this month, will make for a wonderful display of iris blooms.

Olga Batalov, Editor

READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT
www.region15ais.org



*On the Cover: TB 'Funshine' (Van Liere 2024)
Photo credits: Robert Van Liere*

AIS Region 15 Local Chapter Presidents

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society

Pat Simpson
patsi5253@gmail.com
[HDIDS Facebook](#)

Inland Region Iris Society

Beth Train
inlandregionirissociety@gmail.com
[IRIS Facebook](#)

Lompoc Valley Iris Society

Cindy Martin
lompocvalleyiris@gmail.com
[LVIS 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

Brian Moon
briankmooner88@gmail.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 Spring Trek	Inland Region Iris Society	Redlands, CA
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

Get more info about upcoming Region 15 Treks from our website

www.region15ais.org

Visit us on Facebook

Membership Update (as of 1/14/2025)



By Mason Train, Membership Chair

TOTAL AIS MEMBERS: 212 (199 individuals)
TOTAL YOUTH: 3
TOTAL AFFILIATES: 10 (No change)

TOTAL AIS MEMBERS: 212 (199 individuals, 3 libraries, 10 affiliates)

AZ = 79 (75 adults, 1 youth, 3 affiliates)

CA = 133 (121 adults, 2 youth, 7 affiliates, 3 botanical gardens/libraries)

Of the 199 individual memberships:

77 are full memberships (print + e-member)

56 are print only memberships

28 are e-memberships only

24 are Life memberships

3 are youth memberships

11 are in their grace period



AIS Region 15 RVP Message

By Beth Balaney-Train, Region 15 RVP

Hello Region 15!

Spring is here and the garden is rejoicing with blooms all around. I love the fresh scent of freesias and citrus blooms. It is a lovely time to spend in the garden!

Thank you Prescott Area Iris Society for hosting the well-attended Region 15 Fall Meeting. Mason and I had a wonderful time. It was nice seeing familiar faces and meeting new friends. The food was delicious, the raffles were outstanding, and Rick Tasco's program was very informative.

I am looking forward to this year's Region 15 Spring Trek. Inland Region Iris Society will be hosting again. I hope you enjoyed last year's one-garden trek because it will be another one-garden event this year with about 150 well-grown guest irises in addition to the host garden's multitude of iris plants. So register for "A Spring Day In A Secret Garden" to be held on April 25-26, 2025, if you haven't already. Bob Van Liere of Iris4U Garden in Colorado is the guest speaker.

The Trek Wheel is full until Fall 2027. I'm glad that TAIS will be hosting the Region 15 Fall Meeting in 2026! It is wonderful that affiliates who haven't hosted a Region 15 event for some time are getting more involved now. I would love to see those who usually host Fall Meetings do a Spring Trek in the future.

This year's AIS National Convention is scheduled for June 4-7 in Billings, MT. This event features three days of garden tours. I am planning to attend and I hope to see some of you there.

Thank you Region 15 affiliates for sending in your affiliate renewals in a timely manner. All officers are required to be AIS members during their term, so be sure to take note of your AIS membership expiry dates at system.irises.org/membership/web-based-lookup.

Wishing you all a gorgeous iris bloom season this spring!



Region 15 RVPs, past and present

Left to right:

Sue Brown

Cheryl Deaton

Kathy Chilton

Debbie James

Beth Train

***Photo credit:
Mason Train***



AIS Judges Training

By Mary Hanson, Region 15 Asst. RVP

and Judges Training Chair

Greetings Region 15 iris lovers,

Region 15 has 4 retired judges. I am sad to report that Mrs. Steele passed away recently. We have 6 Master judges and 15 Garden/Exhibition judges. We also have 3 Emeritus judges - Andi Rivarola, Jill Bonino and Cheryl Deaton. In addition, 9 of our Emeritus, Master and Garden/Exhibition judges are also certified in Artistic Design. Region 15 has one apprentice judge and 10 student judges.

Region 15 held two judges training in the fall of 2024 and four judges trainings in 2025. Three more judges trainings associated with the Spring Trek are currently approved.

Judges, please pay attention to your AIS expiration dates and be sure to keep track of your training hours.

If you are bringing in a speaker who is doing a JT, please send me the information as soon as possible so I can communicate the information to our webmaster and so judges can make plans to attend.

Mary

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. The next AIS webinar will be in the summer.

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.

TREASURER'S REPORT

AIS REGION 15 2025 proposed budget

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2025 Budget
Rhizome Sales	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,831.78*	\$ 5,000.00
Convention	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
RVP Travel	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
OFFICER FUND			
RVP	\$ 500.00	\$ 126.99	\$ 500.00
aRVP	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00
Secretary	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 500.00
Treasurer	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 500.00
Website	\$ 495.00	\$ 495.00	\$ 495.00
Newsletter	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,027.72	\$ 1,500.00
Awards	\$ 200.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 200.00
JT expenses	\$ 50.00	\$ 33.83	\$ 50.00
Shipping**	\$ 200.00	\$ 156.71	\$ 200.00
Spring Trek	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Fall Meeting	\$ 600.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 600.00
Misc.	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 100.00
TOTAL	\$12,195.00	\$ 9,047.03	\$12,195.00

* total from 9 clubs, ** trek rhizomes

The balance as of December 31, 2024 was:

Checkbook balance: \$16,091.48 (with 2 outstanding checks totaling \$623.01)

Investment account: \$17,241.42

\$5,000 matures 2/14/2025 (6 month), \$5,000 matures 4/14/2025 (12 month), \$6,000 matures 5/7/2025 (18 month)



AIS Youth Program Report

Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 and AIS Youth Chair

I have not gotten a youth report for months, but the last I knew we had 5 youth members.

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

2025 Convention

2025 June 2-7, Billings, MT

Hosted by: [Big Sky Iris Club](#)

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
tdirisdgarden@gmail.com

Convention website: bigskyirisclub.com/2025-ais

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

FUTURE SECTION CONVENTIONS

Society for Louisiana Irises Convention

April 3-5, 2025

Lafayette, LA

Convention Website: [2025 SLI Convention](#)

Siberian/Species & AIS Region 21 Convention

May 23-24, 2025

Ames, IA

Convention Co-Chairs: Kris Jurik & Lois Girton

Convention Website: [AIS Region 21 Convention](#)

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

FUTURE REGION 15 TREKS

2025 Spring Trek

Inland Region Iris Society

April 25-26, 2025: Riverside, CA

2025 Fall Meeting

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society

October 18, 2025: Palmdale, 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>



SAVE THE DATE



“IRISES - The Next Generation”

Region 15 Fall Meeting

October 18, 2025

Palmdale Elks Lodge

Hosted by the Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society

Speaker: Michael Kowalchek, President of the Oklahoma Iris Society and
co-chair of the 2027 AIS National Convention

More information and registration will be provided at the Region 15 Spring Trek in April





**Inland Region Iris Society
invites you to a**

Spring Day in a Secret Garden
AIS REGION 15 SPRING TREK 2025
April 25-26, 2025

Guest Speaker

Bob Van Liere of Iris4u Garden



Hotel

**La Quinta Inn & Suites
12952 14th St.
Yucaipa, CA 92399**

Location

**The Gardens of Wild Oak Farms
32016 Live Oak Canyon Rd
Redlands, CA 92373**



Inland Region Iris Society

welcomes you to a

Spring Day in a Secret Garden

AI REGION 15 SPRING TREK 2025

APRIL 25-26, 2025

The Gardens of Wild Oak Farms 32016 Live Oak Canyon Rd. Redlands, CA

Hotel: La Quinta Inn & Suites 12952 14th St. Yucaipa, C 92399

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Club: _____

Name: _____ Club: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Includes BREAKFAST, LATE LUNCH, REGISTRATION PACKET with TREK BOOKLET

Registration received by April 6, 2025: \$100.00

Attendees _____ X \$100.00 = _____ TOTAL

Registration on or after April 6, 2025: \$110.00

Attendees _____ X \$110.00 = _____ TOTAL

Reservations for Kimberly Crest House & Gardens Tour and A.I.S. Webinar, Friday
April 25, 2025 from 1:00-3:30 pm (Webinar limited to the first 25 people): YES _____ NO _____

Reservations for J.T. Artistic Design Chapter 27 AIS Judges Handbook, Friday
April 25, 2025 from 5:00-6:30 pm (limited to the first 25 people): YES _____ NO _____

Reservations for Miniature Floral Design Class with Linda Lang, Saturday
April 26, 2025 10:15-11:15 am or 11:15-12:15pm (limited to 30 people per class): YES _____ NO _____

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

Please make check payable to Inland Region Iris Society (IRIS).

Please send completed registration form and your check to:

Carolyn Nielsen
14150 Bush Avenue
Riverside, CA 92508

Contact Carolyn Nielsen with questions at <Cando6@att.net> phone number: 951-486-1630

NOTE: HOTEL ON YOUR OWN

NOTE: CASH OR CHECK ONLY AT THE DOOR

AIS REGION 15 SPRING TREK 2025

Hosted by INLAND REGION IRIS SOCIETY

Spring Day in a Secret Garden

The Gardens of Wild Oak Farms 32016 Live Oak Canyon Rd. Redlands, CA 92373

Hotel: La Quinta Inn & Suites 12952 14th St. Yucaipa, CA 92399

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY APRIL 25, 2025

- 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Crafton Hills Iris Farm, Redlands, CA optional tour (free, no reservation required)
- 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm Tour & JT Webinar (Reservation Only) Kimberly Crest House & Gardens,
1325 Prospect Drive, Redlands, CA 92373
- 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Registration at La Quinta Inn & Suites, Yucaipa, CA. Conference Room
- 5:00 pm Pizza and salad greens
- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm JT Artistic Design Chapter 27 AIS Judges Handbook by Beth Train, AIS G/E and
Artistic Design Judge. 2.0 hours credit. Conference Room
- 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm AIS Region 15 Club Presidents Board Meeting. Conference Room

SATURDAY April 26, 2025

Location: The Gardens of Wild Oak Farms, Redlands, CA.

- 8:00 am - 10:00 am Registration, Breakfast, Garden Walk, Buy Raffle Tickets
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Welcome by Carol Morgan Trek 2025 Chair and Tony & Cheryl Hicks Garden hosts
General Meeting & Introductions by Beth Train, RVP AIS Region 15
- 10 am to noon: 3 classes 1 hour each:
- 10:15 am - 11:15 am In-garden JT, Tall Bearded Irises by Claire Schneider, AIS G/E Judge, 1 hr. credit.
- 10:15 am - 11:15 am You make, Linda Lang instructs: Miniature Floral Design
- 11:15 am - 12:15pm Judges Training on Ethics by Cheryl Deaton, AIS Emeritus Judge, 1 hr. credit.
- 11:15 am - 12:15 pm Repeat Miniature Floral Design, if necessary.
- 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm Bob Van Liere from Denver, CO - Farewell Tour (Retiring)
- 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm Lunch BBQ catered by Tony and Cheryl Hicks
- 2:15 pm - 2:45 pm Restroom, Garden Walk, Turn in Award Ballot at Registration table
- 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm Christian Bedard from Weeks Roses
- 4:00 pm Awards
- 4:15 pm Raffle Drawing
- 5:30 pm Thanks for Coming

SUNDAY April 27, 2025 (optional iris garden tours)

- 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Lori Rhodes of Crafton Hills Iris Farm in Redlands, CA will have an open garden.
Free for Region 15 Trek attendees, reservations NOT required.
(see map provided in Trek bag)
- 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Inland Region Iris Society Club Garden at Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center,
7621 Granite Hill Drive, Jurupa Valley, Riverside, CA (see map)
DIRECTIONS: Coming from the East or West on the 60 Freeway, take the Pyrite exit.

From the West: turn left at the bottom of the offramp, take a right turn onto Granite Hill Drive and continue on to the JMDC entrance. From the East: exit at Pyrite, turn right at the bottom of the offramp. At the next stop sign, turn right on Granite Hill Drive and continue on to the JMDC entrance. FREE PARKING, FREE SELF-GUIDED TOUR.

Region 15 Fall 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

AIS REGION 15 FALL BOARD MEETING

October 12, 2024

Prescott, AZ

9:05 am Region 15 Board Meeting called to order by Beth Train, Region 15 RVP. Beth welcomed all attendees and thanked Prescott Area Iris Society for hosting.

Minutes from the Spring Board Meeting on April 20, 2024: no corrections nor additions. Cheryl Deaton made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Sue Brown. Vote taken, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: by Cheryl Deaton. [See page 15]

Judges Training Report: by Mary Hanson

Thanked judges for their timely submission of Activity Reports and for voting the AIS Ballot. Of the 26 Region judges, one judge did not vote.

Membership Report: by Mason Train

No change from report published in the Region 15 Fall 2024 Bulletin.

Awards Report: by Cheryl Deaton in the absence of Claire Schneider.

Checks were sent to the Region 15 Spring Trek Award winners (except for those hybridizers who have passed).

Youth Report: by Cheryl Deaton

The Region has 1 AIS Youth member. She encouraged affiliate members to seek out youth members. AIS has a youth membership promotion until the end of the year: for every full membership (or upgrade to full membership), the AIS will pay for 2 youth (print) memberships.

Beth added that AIS has a new youth membership chair, Carolyn Hoover from Region 14. Check out the updated AIS Youth webpage.

Editor's Report: none

Historian Report: by Sue Brown. Please send your club newsletters.

Beth added that she also wants to receive the affiliate newsletters. She thanked SFVIS, SCIS, and TAIS for sending her their newsletters.

Ways and Means: No report. Position open.

Affiliate Reports:

HI Desert Iris and Daylily Society: by Sue Brown. Iris sale will be the following week, Friday-Sunday.

Inland Region Iris Society: by Beth Train. Spring Trek guest irises were dug in July and mailed to the affiliates. She and Mason met with Lynn McIlwain of HDIDS and gave him the boxes of rhizomes for HDIDS, SFVIS, OCIDC, and SoCal Iris Society. This saved the club some shipping expenses. IRIS had a great Region 15 Rhizome Auction, making over \$1,300 for the region. Upcoming programs include a JT on Novelty Irises by Beth in November, Christmas Party with Gift and Cookie Exchange in December. IRIS will host the Region 15 Spring Trek on April 25-26, 2025 in Redlands, CA with guest speaker Bob Van Liere of Iris4U Gardens in CO.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society: No report.

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club: No report.

Prescott Area Iris Society: by Marty Boxer. Thanked PAIS members for their help and support in hosting the Fall Meeting especially Kathleen and Isabel. PAIS sold 500 potted irises last spring.

PAIS lost many irises at the Yavapai location because of extreme heat this past summer and are looking for iris donations. There is a list inside your bag.

San Diego Iris Society: by Mary Hanson. SDIS made \$3,000.00 at their iris sale. The Members Only Auction will be next Sunday. Other programs: November – painting irises on rocks by Penny Culbertson from IRIS, December – Christmas Party at Claire’s house.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society: by Jill Bonino. Held the Club Auction in September. Iris sale this October in Chatsworth.

SoCal Iris Society: by Jill Bonino. The club had the biggest iris spring sale to date, made \$8k at the South Coast Plaza event. They sold out early. Lynn McIlwain mentioned that they had a very good Region 15 rhizome auction– was amazed at the great quality and variety of the rhizomes received. They are back to having club meetings at the LA Arboretum. The club president Brian Moon and his wife Leigh Nicolai are moving to Tucson sometime next year. Programs: Ice Cream Social; Christmas Party in December.

Sun Country Iris Society: by Mary Platner. SCIS has 60 members. Made \$1,400 at sale. Members are faced with the challenge of gardening in hotter temperatures. Hoping for longer rebloom season.

Tucson Area Iris Society: by Pat Olsen. She recently moved from Chicago, IL (Region 9), bringing with her about 1,500 rhizomes (350 varieties) and is now faced with gardening in clay soil. TAIS made about \$6K at their rhizome sale in September. Program: Photo contest.

Old Business: Beth thanked the affiliate members for turning in their AIS TB Iris Symposium Ballots. Results were forwarded to Howard Dash, who in turn will forward the national results to Riley Probst, the AIS TB Iris Symposium Chair. Results will be published in the AIS Bulletin. Of note, the top tall bearded irises for Region 15 are ‘Bottle Rocket’ (M. Sutton 2010) and ‘Autumn Explosion’ (R. Tasco 2013).

Beth again reminded the clubs to send her their newsletters. She enjoys reading the newsletters and likes learning more about each affiliate club and their activities.

New Business:

- A. Beth thanked the affiliate clubs for their support of the Spring Trek 2024 Rhizome Sales fundraiser and turning in their donation.
- B. Reminder for next year’s Region 15 Basket donation for the AIS Convention. \$25 per club, make check to Region 15 and mail to Cheryl Deaton.
- C. Affiliate renewals for 2025. \$30 per club. Officers listed should be AIS members for the duration of the year/term. Make check to AIS or pay online (PayPal). Mail/email the completed form to Beth.
- D. Beth made a proposal for the Region to give the Region 15 Editor funding for attending regional events in the amount of \$250-500. After much discussion, including the Region not meeting budget goals especially in terms of trek rhizome sales, the proposal was tabled for future discussion
- E. Beth reminded members to beware of spam/phishing emails. No Region 15 or AIS member will solicit money in any form.

Trek Wheel:

Spring Trek 2025: Report by Carol Morgan, Trek Chair. Hosted by Inland Region Iris Society on April 25-26, 2025. One garden (The Gardens at Wild Oak Farms, Redlands, CA) with about 150 guest irises in addition to the owner’s own iris plantings. The La Quinta Inn and Suites is the hotel of choice, just 5 minutes away. Registration starts Friday afternoon at the hotel, followed by a JT and Board meeting. Saturday programs include garden tour, in-garden JT, class on miniature floral design, program by guest speaker Bob Van Liere. On Sunday, the IRIS Club Garden at JMDC will be open for tours (free) as well as Crafton Hills Iris Farm. Copies of the registration form and schedule were handed out to the club presidents/representative present today.

Fall Meeting 2025: Report by Allie Deaton. Hosted by Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Club on October 18, 2025. There will be about 100 raffle items.

Spring Trek 2026: Report by Mary Platner. Hosted by Sun Country Iris Society. April 11, 2026. Three guest gardens.

Fall Meeting 2026: Vacant. Beth suggested that TAIS host this event. They haven’t hosted any regional event for years. Many Region 15 members would like to visit Tucson and meet TAIS members.

Spring Trek 2027: San Diego Iris Society.

Fall Meeting 2027: San Fernando Valley Iris Society

10:15 am Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Mason Train (in the absence of Lois Farr)

REGION 15 FALL TREASURER'S REPORT

10/12/2024

Beginning Balance as of Oct. 8, 2024 \$15,149.95

Income

Rhizome Sales (Guest irises from Spring Trek 2024) \$ 2,967.53

HDIDS \$ 500

IRIS \$ 1,325.53

LVIS —

OCIDC \$ 200

PAIS —

SoCal \$ 516

SDIS —

SFVIS \$ 426

Sun Country —

TAIS —

Donations to 2024 AIS Convention (OCIDS) \$ 25

TOTAL INCOME \$ 2,992.53

Expenses

RVP expense \$ 126.94

Spring Trek Awards (3) \$ 75

AIS National Convention 2024 Donation \$ 250

Region 15 Website \$ 495

JT Expense \$ 33.83

Newsletter \$1027.72

RVP Travel \$1000

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 3,008.54

ENDING BALANCE as of 10/12/2024 \$15,133.94

INVESTMENTS (Edward Jones)

Beginning balance (April 2024) \$16,936.53

Ending balance (Sept. 2024) \$17,158.78 + \$222.25

REGION 15 FALL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2024 Prescott, AZ

CALL TO ORDER at 10:20 am by Beth Train, Region 15 RVP.

Affiliate Roll Call:

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society: 7

Inland Region Iris Society: 5

Lompoc Valley Iris Society: 0

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club: 0

Prescott Area Iris Society: 24

San Diego Iris Society: 2

San Fernando Valley Iris Society: 1

Southern California Iris Society: 3

Sun Country Iris Society: 9

Tucson Area Iris Society: 4

Beth thanked all the attendees. ADJOURNMENT at 10:30 am.

Region 15 Winter 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

AIS REGION 15 WINTER BOARD MEETING

Saturday, January 18, 2025, 9 am

ZOOM

Meeting called to order at 9:03 am PST by Beth Train, RVP Region 15.

In attendance: Sue Brown, Sherry Williams, Beth Train, Mason Train, Claire Schneider, Sharon Peterson, Kevin Kartchner, Mary Hanson, Brian Moon, Olga Batalov, Cheryl Deaton, Lois Farr

Minutes from the Fall Board Meeting on October 12, 2024: No corrections nor additions.

Cheryl Deaton moved to accept minutes as printed. Mason Train seconded the motion. Votes taken. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Cheryl Deaton: We have 3 CDs: a 6 month (matures 2/14/25), 1 year (matures 4/14/25) and 18 month (matures 5/7/25). The 6 month CD will renew for 6 months, if needed before spring. Our balance is below the \$50,000 minimum required to benefit from the AIS Financial Counselor. Bank of America is requiring all incoming checks to be written to "AIS Region 15". Region 15 Budget 2025 (see page 7) presented. Motion passed to keep the budget the same as in 2024.

Judges Training - Mary Hanson: 25 total AIS Judges: 17 Garden/Exhibition, 6 Master, 3 Emeritus, 7 Artistic, 1 Apprentice, 8 Students. Congratulations to Andi Rivarola as the AIS Gold Medal Awardee for outstanding service to AIS. Andi and Jill Bonino were appointed Emeritus Judges by the AIS Board of Directors last November.

At the 2025 Region 15 Spring Trek – Judges Training offered: on 4/25/25 on Artistic Design, 2 hours credit, taught by Beth Train. On 4/26/25, 2 choices: on Ethics taught by Cheryl Deaton and on Tall Bearded Iris in-garden JT by Claire Schneider, 1 hour credit each.

Membership - Mason Train: Of the 29 new members in 2024, 11 are E-members. The spring newsletter will contain a detailed report. E-membership allows members to look up past bulletins and is \$15, compared to \$30 regular membership. Suggestion made to use as door prizes to encourage more AIS memberships.

Awards Report - Claire Schneider: 5 Awards at Spring Trek - Checks for winners, no trophies. Claire will bring a box of unused trophies to the Spring Trek to give in addition to a check. Trophies already engraved -- example "Best Louisiana Grown." Any Louisiana can be awarded if it is blooming in the garden.

Youth Report - Cheryl Deaton - no report, technical difficulties

Editor Report – Olga Batalov: Deadline for newsletter articles is March 1st, 2025. Please send affiliate reports.

Newsletter expenses are under budget for now due to the use of past purchased stamps, 10 cents lower than current cost. Beth Train requested consideration of printing on non-glossy paper to save weight/postage - Olga explained that the quality of photos would be poor. Decision made to stay with glossy paper. Olga requested any flyers of upcoming events dated beyond newsletter publication and article contributions.

Historian Report - Sue Brown: Historical records passed down from Winona Stevenson arrived in cardboard boxes. Sue replaced damaged boxes with 4 plastic boxes to prevent water or other damage. Will send receipt for reimbursement.

Ways and Means Report - None

Affiliate Reports

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society by Sue Brown. The club has found a new meeting location at The Grange at Quartz Hill. A very nice location with a large patio to protect from winds. Show and sale on May 2-4 at the Palmdale Elks Lodge. New President is Pat Simpson. Beth requested the club newsletter to be forwarded to her.

Inland Region Iris Society by Beth Train. April 12 IRIS Show and Potted Iris Sale at JMDC. Everyone is invited to the Spring Trek on 4/25-4/26/2025. There will be one huge garden with about 150 guest irises plus the garden's own. Bob Van Liere is the speaker. The hotel is the La Quinta Inn & Suites in Yucaipa. Friday judges training and a spaghetti dinner available. Saturday includes breakfast and lunch, events end by 5:30 pm, no dinner.

Lompoc Valley Iris Society - no report

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club by Lois Farr. The club met for a very nice Christmas Lunch and Party. Small group. Informed Region of the sad passing of Frank Hogancamp, a very valuable and active member, husband of Bobbie Hogancamp, who continues to attend and lead the club.

Prescott Area Iris Society by Sherry Williams. 92 members. May 9, 2025, Spring Show. The club lost 100 plus irises at the Yavapai Sculpture Garden due to drought conditions and damage by wildlife. Irrigation was destroyed by javelinas. The club funded \$6000 for a new irrigation system. Still seeking irises on the published list. Sherry will update the list and resend. The club wants to replace and support Arizona hybridizers. Rick Tasco started in Arizona, so his irises are valued. The club very much wants to replace any of his iris that were lost.

San Diego Iris Society by Mary Hanson. The club met on Sunday, 6 days ago. Membership is 49 families. Their membership is families, not single memberships. The club is very busy, with a Holiday Party at Claire Schneider's home. This January, Mason Train spoke on Iris Photography with emphasis on the AIS Photography Contest. February 9, 2025 celebrates the club's 62nd birthday. Jody Nolin will speak on Species and Spec-X Irises. In March, Cathy Egerer will speak on historic irises. April will be an informational meeting on How to Prepare for an Iris Show, with judges' comments. Iris Show and Potted Iris Sale in May at Balboa Park. June meeting is Awards from the Spring Show. Claire Schneider will speak on her experience as a judge in Europe.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society by Andi Rivarola. April 19 is the Spring Show. 72 members - new generation of younger members: secretary and both vice presidents. 4 members passed away last year. The club emphasizes education. Publicity Chairman attracts new members with new ideas. Scholarship Program is very productive - current secretary, who is in her 20's, is a past scholarship recipient. February meeting will be Claire Schneider on Irises 101. March meeting will be Artistic Design, April meeting - Horticulture, May is mini show - Spurias, Louisianas, Species - How to Grow Beardless Iris, members in attendance will share preferences, not judged. June meeting is awards, and July - Jill Bonino will share digital presentation from the AIS National Convention in Montana.

Southern California Iris Society by Brian Moon. Approximately 7 active members, added 2 members. January and February meeting location at LA Arboretum cancelled due to LA County helping fire victims and Arboretum providing youth camps. Iris Show on April 12 and 13 hopefully will be back at the Arboretum. Spring rhizome sale at South Coast Plaza Crystal Court on April 24 to 27. June meeting – Election of Officers. Brian and his wife Leigh are moving to Tucson this February.

Sun Country Iris Society by Sharon Petterson. Club meets every month except July. December meeting was Holiday Party with guest magician; installation of officers. January is Judges Training on Species. February meeting is Lynda Miller, hybridizer Upcoming Judges Training on Artistic Design. Members can practice by bringing spurias or Dutch irises. April 12 is Iris Show and Potted Iris Sale. Show has "Garden Angel" Class for unnamed irises. May and June, members will go to Sedona and other higher cooler elevations iris gardens. Darol sends monthly newsletters. New members are driving a distance to attend meetings.

Beth mentioned that in some iris shows, NoIDs can be accepted as display only (not judged). It is good practice for members on how to show bloom stalks and sometimes NoIDs are identified.

Tucson Area Iris Society by Kevin Kartchner. Club will send a \$677 check to Cheryl Deaton for auctioned irises. 78 members, 24 regular active members. Great newsletter, show on 4/19/25 with the Rose Society, so very good attendance. 2025 is their 60th club anniversary, to be celebrated with a luncheon. Hosting 2026 Fall Meeting. Need Rain!!

New Business:

All Affiliates to donate \$25 for Convention basket. Make checks to AIS REGION 15 and mail to Cheryl Deaton.

Update Affiliate Memberships: use PayPal for faster service, checks take months to clear. Affiliate Renewal Form was emailed, also available on the Region 15 and AIS websites. March 15: deadline to submit completed forms (and checks, if applicable) to Beth. Make sure officers are AIS members.

Memorial Fund to AIS suggested by Beth to honor deceased Region 15 members, judges in particular.

Presidents (or representatives) are encouraged to join the AIS Affiliates Group led by Jody Nolin, former AIS President. Many helpful topics are discussed. Next Zoom meeting (lasts one hour only or less) is February 20, Thursday at 5 pm PST, topic: how to get speakers for club meetings, how to email newsletters using MailChimp,

etc. Email Claire to be added to the Zoom mailing list. Claire added that if you can't attend the Zoom meetings, at least read the informative notes that Jody sends after each meeting.

Old Business:

Be careful of scam/phishing emails. No AIS or Region 15 officer will solicit money in any form.

Trek Wheel

Spring Trek 2025 – Report by Beth Train. April 25-26. Registration fee \$100. Registration form and schedule are on the Region 15 website.

Fall Meeting 2025 – Report by Sue Brown - Huntington Library is not available, location TBD. Per Cheryl Deaton (by email) - Fall Meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2025 with Michael Kowalczyk of Oklahoma Iris Society as guest speaker. Palmdale Elks Lodge to be confirmed.

Spring Trek 2026 – Report by Sharon Peterson. Sun Country Iris Society is hosting. Date: April 10-11, 2026. 3 gardens with about 100 guest irises each.

Fall Meeting 2026 – Tucson Area Iris Society is hosting. Pat Olsen chairs.

Spring Trek 2027 – Claire confirmed that San Diego Iris Society will host.

Fall Meeting 2027 – San Fernando Valley Iris Society will host per Andi Rivarola.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 am PST.

Respectfully submitted by Lois Farr, Region 15 Secretary

January 30, 2025

Treasurer's Report (supplement) January 18, 2025

REGION 15 SPRING TREK RHIZOME SALES 2024

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society	\$ 500
Inland Region Iris Society	\$1,325.53
Lompoc Valley Iris Society	\$ 300
Orange County Iris and Daylily Club	\$ 200
Prescott Area Iris Society	\$ 500
San Diego Iris Society	\$ 500
San Fernando Valley Iris Society	\$ 426
Southern CA Iris Society	\$ 516
Sun Country Iris Society	\$ 564.25
Tucson Area Iris Society	*
TOTAL	\$ 4,831.78

* Note: TAIS to send check in the amount of \$677, making the total to \$5,508.78

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

Container-Grown Iris: A New Section in the Spring Show

Article and photos by Claire Schneider

In 2021, The American Iris Society (AIS) added "Chapter 26: Container Grown Iris" to the AIS *Handbook for Judges*. The chapter was revised in 2022 to clarify how seedlings may be used in a container-grown exhibit.

There are many reasons to grow irises in containers. If you live in an apartment or have a tiny yard, you can grow irises in a container on your balcony or patio. When the iris is blooming, you can move the container to the front door or other location for better viewing. When it has finished blooming, you can move it back to its growing area. Delicate and difficult to grow iris might perform better when grown in a pot. Smaller irises are easier to see when grown in a pot. Irises growing in pots are protected from gophers and rabbits.

The following scale of points is a reference for judging container-grown iris. Judges will give the most weight to how the iris has been grown: is it vigorous, healthy, and with many flowers? The judge will also consider how you have prepared the iris for the show. Did you choose an appropriate container and does it complement the iris? Did you carefully groom the plant for the show?

SCALE of POINTS Exhibition Judging of Container-Grown Iris

1. Cultural Perfection of the iris (how the iris has been grown)	70 points
a. Vigor and Condition of Plant	30
b. Floriferousness of Plant	40
2. Condition & Grooming (how the exhibitor has prepared the iris for being judged)	30 points
a. Appropriateness of Container for Growing the Plant	10
b. Presentation of Container	5
c. Grooming of Plant	15
TOTAL	100 points

There are no requirements or limitations about the pot. It can be large, small, ceramic, resin, decorated, or plain. However, keep in mind that the judges will be influenced by the pot you use. "A big floppy plant in a small container is not attractive, nor is a dwarf plant in an over-sized ceramic pot." (Chapter 26, page 3)

There is nothing in the chapter about companion plants for your container-grown iris. In other words, you could choose to add some lobelia or pansies or violets or other living plants. Again, keep in mind that the judges will be influenced by how your iris fits into the pot and how companion plants, if you have added them, complement the iris.

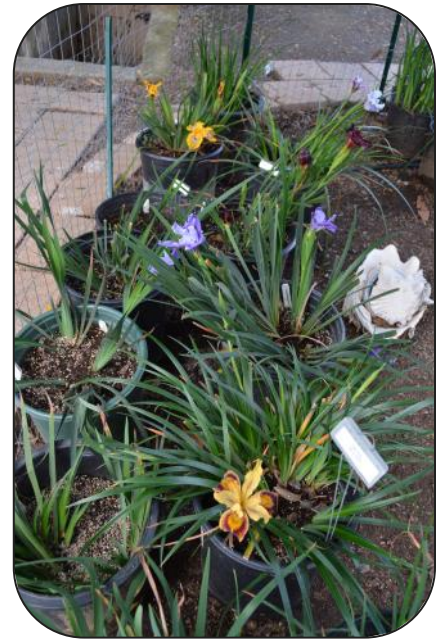
You are permitted to enter only one stalk of any cultivar in any of the single-stalk section of the iris show. Examples of single-stalk sections are tall bearded iris, arilbred iris, Louisiana iris, and species iris. You are permitted to use another stalk of the same cultivar in any of these sections: Collections, English Boxes, Container-Grown Iris, and Single Blossom. For example, you may enter a stalk of 'Hakuna Matata' in the arilbred iris section. You would also be allowed to enter 'Hakuna Matata' in the Container-Grown Iris, Collections, and Single Blossom sections.

There is nothing in Chapter 26 about what interval of time the iris has been growing in the pot. It is conceivable that you could place a resin pot, such as what I use for *Iris gramineae*, into a decorated, ceramic pot and enter it into the iris show. Or better yet, transplant the iris into a ceramic pot.

One last note. Entries in Collections, English Boxes, and Container-Grown Iris sections are not eligible for Best Specimen of Show. However, award ribbons won by Collections, English Boxes, and Container-Grown Iris are included in the tally for the sweepstakes awards: the Silver and Bronze Medals.

For this article, there is only one photo, 'Whispering Clouds,' that demonstrates a container-grown iris that I would enter in an iris show. I included the other photos to show you that there are irises that thrive when grown in a pot.

For more information about entering a container-grown iris in the show, refer to the *Handbook for Judges*, [chapter 26](#). You can download it from the Iris Encyclopedia.



Above left: AB 'Circus Parade' is one of the more difficult arilbreds to grow. By growing it in a pot, I can move into the shade during the summer and out into partial sunshine during the cooler months.

Above middle: AR 'Merlin's Magic' is an aril iris, a species, which is difficult to grow. It takes NO water during the summer. I grow it in a pot so I can move the pot away from any water source in the summer, to remind me not to give it water.

Above right: Pacific Coast Native irises are another class of iris that do poorly in hot temperatures. By growing them in pots, I can move them into or out of shade, depending on the season and temperature.

Below left: 'Tsukiyono' is a pseudata iris that needs wet "feet." All of my pseudata irises are in 5 gallon pots that sit in troughs filled with about 6 inches of water.

Below middle: 'Whispering Clouds' is my only container-grown iris that I would consider entering in the spring show. The container is lovely and the appropriate size for this iris.

Below right: 'Ice Sculpture' (Hager 1975) at Charlotte Iris Society's 2024 show (photo by Lewis Bozard)



REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

By Pat Simpson, President

Winter has been fairly mild and the irises are really starting to grow. A couple of my irises are actually blooming and even poppies are showing their colors, which could mean that spring is right around the corner.

At our January meeting, our club had the wonderful pleasure of having Derek Winkler from the Antelope Valley Conservation Center as our guest speaker. He presented the different methods of creating mulch to supplement our desert soil.

At our February meeting, Cheryl Deaton was our speaker and gave us tips on preparing the irises for the April Show & Sale. She was so informative on properly showing the iris to its best advantage. We also had a potting party for irises that were donated to the club.

In March, we will have a floral arranging demonstration by AV Florist.

Our club is really looking forward to the Region 15 Spring Trek presented by Inland Region Iris Society, and many members are planning on attending. Should really be a fun event!

At our April meeting, we will have a potluck and finalize everything for the Show and Sale in May.

The theme this year for our Show & Sale, at Palmdale Elks Lodge on May 3-4, is "Let's Disco for Irises." Hopefully we will have a bountiful crop of irises this year for our show.

Our current officers, installed in December, are Pat Simpson, President; Allie Deaton, Vice President; Marilyn Kiger, Treasurer; and Nancy Lemos, Secretary.

Looking forward to spring and lots of blooms!

- Pat

www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/



Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

By Derry Gerald, President

Hello everyone! We had a wonderful Christmas party, but the January meeting was cancelled because only 3 people would have been able to make it.

We have some sad news. We recently lost Frank Hogancamp and long-time member Peggy Sheldon. They will be sorely missed. They were both on the board.

The budget has been worked out and will be voted on. We decided to go dark for a few more months in addition to the summer months. We are still meeting at the same place: 1st Presbyterian Church, 11832 Euclid Street, Garden Grove, CA. We would love you for to come, but please call first to check if we will be meeting.

The rain has helped everything grow, especially the weeds. We are looking forward to seeing our irises bloom.

Love, Derry

www.facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub



San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

By Andi Rivarola, President

Hello all,

Looking forward to this new year with encouraging news, even though we experienced a huge catastrophic event in the Los Angeles area. Some members of our club had to be evacuated, some were ready to evacuate and yet others lost their homes. We wish for all of us to recover from this nightmare with a deeper appreciation for life.

This month, we said goodbye to our members, Brian Moon and Leigh Nicolai-Moon (*left photo below*). They moved to an area near Tucson, AZ. We will miss them dearly.

2024 was also a year in which we lost several long-standing members. We would like to ask those in charge, above, to stop this. At the same time, we now have several new — younger — members, and we welcome them with open arms.

These are our activities in the next few months:

March 6: Flower arranging skills and demonstration

April 3: Horticulture preparation for the Spring Show

May 1: Beardless iris mini-show, and spuria and Louisiana culture review

June 5: Elections, Awards Night and potluck dinner

July 3: We go dark!

August 7: Jill Bonino presentation on national and regional treks



Middle: 'Princesse Caroline de Monaco' (Cayeux 1998) blooming in Andi's garden in 2024



Right: 'Charismatic' (George Sutton, 2011).

All photos by Andi Rivarola.

facebook.com/SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety
www.SanFernandoValleyIrisSociety.org



Inland Region Iris Society Report

By Beth Train, President

What a difference a year makes! This winter has been very mild and relatively dry compared to last year's seemingly unrelenting rains. We didn't have much of a fall and winter rebloom in the club garden but the irises are now waking up. Spring bulbs are all in bloom so the spring iris bloom season shouldn't be far behind.

IRIS had a successful September Fall Sale. A lot of the freshly dug rhizomes were in big demand, with many cultivars selling out early. Unsold rhizomes were potted for future sales. Members enjoyed the October 2023 Halloween Costume Celebration, so we had another one last year! It was amazing to see the creative costumes the members came up with. Our Christmas Party and Gift Exchange were well attended as usual. The well-loved Cookie Exchange was back. We had a JT on Novelty Irises as well as a slide presentation on the AIS National Convention 2024. Future events are as follows:

March 4	Iris Show (Mock) Horticulture Section
April 1	Business Meeting: last minute preparation for the Spring Trek 2025
April 12	IRIS Show " Iris For All Seasons " and Potted Iris Sale at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Riverside, CA
April 25-26	AIS Spring Trek 2025 " Spring Day In A Secret Garden ", at The Gardens of Wild Oak Farms, Redlands, CA
April 26-27	Potted Iris Sale at the Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tours, Elks Lodge, Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA
May 6	Hybridizing Irises by Lori Rhodes of Crafton Hills Iris Farm, Redlands, CA; and Nomination of Officers
June 3	Fun and Games Night; Election of Officers

You are welcome to attend IRIS meetings and events. Our meetings are held at the Janet Goeske Senior Center in Riverside, CA with a 6 pm start time – potluck dinner followed by the business meeting, then the program at around 7 pm or so.

Thank you Prescott Area Iris Society for the wonderful Fall Meeting! Five IRIS members attended the event. We had a great time and always look forward to supporting the activities of fellow affiliate iris societies.

You are all invited to attend the AIS REGION 15 SPRING TREK this APRIL 25-26. We are hosting again! There are about 150 guest irises in addition to The Gardens of Wild Oak Farms' own iris plantings, both bearded and beardless. Bob van Liere from Iris4U Garden in Denver, CO is the guest speaker. Judges Training, both in-garden and classroom-type, are available. I'm giving a JT on Artistic Design on Friday, April 25. Registration fee is \$100 – includes gift bag, trek booklet, breakfast and lunch. The registration form and other information are in this issue, as well as on region15ais.org.

See you at the iris gardens!

Beth 3/2/2025

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



Top left: Kathryn and Kara at the Fall Rhizome Sale; *top right:* Fall Rhizome Sale at JMDC

Middle photo: Phyllis and Odelia enjoying the holiday desserts

Bottom left: Beth and Rick Tasco at the Region 15 Fall Meeting, *bottom middle:* Alex and Michelle at the Potting Party, *bottom right:* Beth MD checking up on her patient Mason (October IRIS meeting)

Photo credits: Beth and Mason Train





Lompoc Valley Iris Society Report

By Cynthia Martin, President

Those who remember reading reports from Lompoc in the past 2 years can probably remember my frequent mentions of building a large society garden.

Well, it's finally underway! Phase 1 of the garden is almost complete. So far, we have 12x4 foot beds, 18 inches deep, and 8 in total. They are in the formation of a sun-pattern, with a circle pad in the middle which will be paved with stone. There are a few very specific challenges with building this garden. One being that the land is literally just pure sand, so we needed to import large amounts of soil amendment. We also have a terrible issue with gophers in California in general, as I'm sure many of you know, and so very large root cages must be built and laid into the beds before good soil gets added. This project has been in the idea phase for a little over a year, and the timing became right to finally get it going. This garden will have 3 phases total, and we are looking at a fairly sizable show garden that will be very much worth visiting in Lompoc! This garden will be a place for events, educational programs, and a place for meetings as well because the host church is also allowing us to use their educational building for our meetings. How incredible and wonderful it will be to be able to have meetings on site with our show garden.

Comprehensive Care Center garden update: The irises that we planted at the CCC in Lompoc are also doing quite well, and we look forward to enjoying those blooms alongside the residents there this spring! Our little club really is taking great steps toward creating gardens and making bearded irises more accessible to the public.

As far as other changes for LVIS, I've been making a great effort to start offering educational topics with every meeting, with my last class on iris colors and patterns being a huge hit. I'll start uploading those presentations to YouTube. You can follow @TheLompocValleyIrisSociety on YouTube to get notified when new videos are uploaded. My next presentation will be about pollinating, storing, and germinating bearded iris seeds in zone 9.

On a very solemn note, LVIS has experienced a loss recently - that of our treasurer, Maureen Tolson. Maureen dedicated many years diligently operating as our club treasurer alongside co-treasurer Julie Davies. Maureen was a great friend and a kind soul, extremely smart, witty, and funny. Maureen was also a member of the Alpha club in Lompoc, and last spring she arranged for some of us to take the Alpha club garden tour. I'll always remember how she had taken such a genuine interest in my beginner hybridizing efforts, and was so encouraging about that. I am so glad I got to know her over the past few years. We will begin a tradition in LVIS where we plant an iris in someone's honor, with Maureen's iris to be determined as we select the perfect one to remind us of her. It will be planted in our new society garden where we can see her name with it, and remember her fondly.

Stay well, everyone, and let's be grateful to usher in another spring. A new bloom season of hope, growth, and new memories waiting to be made.

www.facebook.com/LompocValleyIrisSociety



Top left: LVIS members Patty Buchmiller and Justin Martin cut wire mesh to make gopher proof linings for the beds.

Top right: LVIS Membership coordinator Ken Ainslie measures the correct dimensions for the bed before digging the final touches.

Middle left: An overview of the layout of the beds in a sunbeam pattern

Bottom right: LVIS member Bill Kelly tends to the irises at the CCC



San Diego Iris Society Report

By Mary Hanson, President

Hello, everyone!

The San Diego Iris Society is having a great year. We currently have 49 families in our society.

We have a busy winter/spring season of 2025 planned. On January 12th, Mason Train of Inland Region Iris Society gave a program on photographing iris for the AIS photo contest. He gave tips and showed iris images that had been photo contest winners in previous years. He also talked about the categories and the importance of captioning your photo.

On February 9th, we celebrated our 62nd birthday at San Vicente Resort in Ramona. We feasted on tri-tip, chicken, salad, veggies and potatoes. For dessert, we had two kinds of cake. Jody Nolin did a presentation and judges training on species iris. She showed many examples of species iris both in her garden and in other gardens she had visited. We gifted species iris and table centerpieces as door prizes at the conclusion of the party.



On March 9th, we invited Cathy Egerer from HIPS to speak on historic iris.

In April, I will present on getting an iris stalk ready for the spring show.

In May, we will hold our Spring Show and Potted Plant Sale in Balboa Park. Our artistic division theme is "Go West Iris!"

In June, we conclude our year with a program by past president Claire Schneider on judging iris in Europe, as well as the presentation of awards from the Spring Show and an ice cream social.

Mary Hanson

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

*Above: Birthday cake
All photos by Claire Schneider*



Top left and right: SDIS members and guests enjoying the November iris rock painting tutorial by Penny Culbertson of Inland Region Iris Society

Middle left and right: SDIS members enjoying encore rock painting, this time of ladybugs, at the December Holiday Party hosted by Claire Schneider

Bottom left: attendees enjoying each other's company at SDIS February birthday party

Bottom right: guest speaker Jody Nolin

Photos by Claire Schneider





Southern California Iris Society Report

By Jill Bonino, Treasurer

SCIS ended 2024 with a great Holiday Lunch at Northwoods Inn. It was the last meeting in person with President Brian Moon and his wife Leigh before they move to Tucson, AZ in early 2025. Lynn McIlwain will take over Show Chair duties that Leigh and Brian have shouldered for many years... Cheryl Deaton will step in as Vice President during meetings until a new President can be elected in June 2025. The Moons have been irreplaceable members of our Chapter for several decades, and we will miss their commitment and cheery, helpful attitudes. We will miss them very much.

All of our members escaped the January 2025 wildfires with no fire damage. However, the fires caused us to have a Zoom meeting in January 2025, as the LA Arboretum was using our meeting space for a Youth Camp for fire victims. The group voted for a new Club Show Award to be named the "Brian and Leigh Moon Award for Best Space Age Iris". This award will be available at our 2025 Show on April 12, 2025 at the LA Arboretum in Ayres Hall.

Our big Sale of the Year will be held from April 24-27, 2025 at South Coast Plaza in Orange County. We grossed over \$8,000 at this event in 2024.

The year 2025 will bring a lot of changes to our Club. Stay tuned.

From Cheryl Deaton, Vice President: We had a Zoom meeting in January because the Arboretum was using all rooms for the fire victims. Our show will be at the Arboretum on April 12th & 13th. Jill Bonino gave a presentation on iris patterns at our February meeting.

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



Prescott Area Iris Society Report

By Sherry Williams, President

Well, this has been a VERY dry winter for us so far. Hopefully, the skies will open up a bit more before the spring to provide us with our bounty of irises that we all look forward to. We hired Jonny's Tree Service & Landscaping to completely renovate the irrigation at Yavapai College Sculpture Garden. This project was greatly needed. Much of the irrigation system was installed when the gardens were first planted and has been repaired by our members annually. Last year's lack of rain caused animals to come to the gardens looking for water and digging under the rhizomes for grubs and other food. The result was a loss of approximately 65 cultivars and the destruction of much of the irrigation. We have about three replacements in one of our members' gardens (if they increase) and we are asking all of the clubs in Region 15 to look to see if they have any of the other cultivars we lost that can be donated. We are including the list for you to check your gardens to see if you possibly have replacements you can donate.

We have our Spring Sale planned for May 10th at the Stoneridge Community Center. If you'll be in Prescott, please join us.

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

Missing irises - September 2024

Sculpture Garden

About Town	Ancient Echoes	Anne Murry
Ardent Dancer	Art Center	Art Deco
Art Form	Artic Song	Artistic Dreams
Black Mercury	Circus Dancer	Color Splash
Color Strokes	Concertina	Dime a Dance
Disco Music	Drama Queen	Emperors Concerto
Ensemble	Fifth Dimension	Foundation
God's Handiwork	Grand Old Opry	Grateful Red
Holiday in Mexico	Hollywood and Vine	Houdini
Instant Hit	Jazzed Up	Keeping Up With Appearances
Lullaby	Magic Man	Midnight Kitty
Opening Act	Painted Picture	Poem of Ecstasy
Private Treasure	Purple Pleaser	Red Masterpiece
Rub Mine	Show Finale	Standing Ovation
Strictly Jazz	Symphony of Light	Timeless Moments
Undivided Attention	Waltzing Princess	Yellow Design

Dykes Medal Iris Garden

Argus Pheasant	Blue Rhythm	Cherie
Chivalry	Coralie	Crowned Heads
Daring Deception	Dividing Line	Eleanor's Pride
Elmore	Great Lakes	Hello Darkness
Honky Tonk Blues	Mary Geddes	Mary Randal
Missouri	Pink Taffeta	Prairie Sunset
Queen's Circle	Reckless Abandon	Red Douglas
Sable Night	Sierra Blue	Swans Flight
Wabash	Whole Cloth	

Don Shepard Iris Bed

Flutter Bug (SPU)	Grape Champagne	Latin Jazz
Midrib Magic	Our Cindy Ann	Pee Wee Pete (SPU)
Splash of Blue		

Whiting Iris Bed

Arab Chief
Crepe Suzette
Rea Jean

Western Iris Bed

Brown Lasso
Double Shot

Tasco Iris Beds

Angel Of The Garden	Aztec Prince	Barnum's World	Better Than Ever
Bold Awakening	Boogie Woogie	Button Wood	Care to Dance
Chocolate Mint	Color Watch	Confederate	Cool Morning
Dragon's Eye	Enduring Beauty	Exotic Treasure	Just for Ken
Love Unlimited	Lucky Dragon	Moment In the Sun	Musician
New Vision	Noble Warrior	On The Web	Perfect Touch
Rare Breed	Royal Flame	Sand and Snow	Shaman Magic
Signal Butte	Violet Storm	Vivid Dreams	White Noise
Warrior Prince			

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Sun Country Iris Society Report

By Sharon Petterson, President

Sun Country Iris Society meets on the first Tuesday of the month, except July. We have many interesting meetings, judges trainings and our special guest, Lynda Miller. Our AIS show and potted iris sale with a theme of "Memories and Melodies" is April 12 at Berridge Nursery. We sell potted iris and share information on growing irises at several other sales. We sell rhizomes dug from member gardens in the fall. We buy newest rhizomes to auction to members in the fall. We have presentations and judges trainings: April 1 Artistic Design at our meeting. May 10 in Payson, May 17 in Sedona and June 14 in Forest Lakes. Members in the higher elevations invite us to tour and enjoy lunch in their gardens when their irises bloom.

IRIS ROUNDUP TREK - April 10-11, 2026: Three SCIS members have planted around 300 rhizomes donated by many hybridizers for the 2026 Trek. Our members will enjoy a Pre-Trek tour on April 5, 2025. We plan a fantastic Western Reception featuring Bonnie Nichols, AIS President, as our guest speaker. She will also do judges training. Mark your calendars now for this educational, fun filled event with fantastic food and friends.

Photo credits: all by Sharon Petterson except the one she is in, where she handed her phone to a member



Above left: Lyn And Bill DeHaven show how to dig rhizomes for member sales. *Above right:* Members shop our rhizome sale on October 24. *Below left:* Members sell rhizomes at Whitfill Nursery on October 24. *Below right:* Holiday Party, Ardi Kary table



www.suncountryiris.org



Top left: Robbie the magician: Holiday party entertainment. Top middle: Julie Grove and Luis Verger - refreshment coordinators extraordinaire. Top right: Special refreshments for January meeting. Below: Gary Miller installs Officers for 2025 - Bill DeHaven: treasurer, Russ Carlson: board, Dale Liggett: past president, Mary Platner: Vice President, Valerie Wielgus: Secretary and Sharon Petterson: President (Missing - Ann Booth: board)



At left: Dwayne Booth gives Judges training on Species X.



Bottom middle: Reception for hybridizer Lynda Miller. Bottom right: Guest speaker and hybridizer Lynda Miller, with Mary Platner showing Lynda's many introductions





Tucson Area Iris Society Report

By Sue Clark, Secretary

The Tucson Area Iris Society's annual rhizome sale brought in over \$3000 in profit. We had a plethora of member-donated rhizomes in this year's sale, which could have been dubbed "the year of the NoID!" We sell these no ID or unnamed rhizomes as "landscape irises," and they sell well! In October, Dr. James Walworth, a specialist in nutrients, salts, and water in Tucson soils, spoke to our group about some specific recommendations for growing irises, as well as how to recognize and treat various nutrient deficiencies. The winning photos in our annual contest were revealed. November brought our potluck feast with its plant- and seed-exchange, always a favorite. After our December break, Chuck Chapman Zoomed in from Canada in January to speak about Broken Colors in irises. His presentation was full of slides of beautiful, speckled iris flowers. The February meeting will feature a demonstration on floral arranging by Cindy Grimm, and March will feature tips for our April Iris Show.



All photos taken by Dave Smith

<https://www.facebook.com/Tucsoniris/>
[TucsonIris.org](https://www.tucsoniris.org)

Above: photos from rhizome sale



Above left: photo from rhizome sale; *right and middle:* photos from November potluck; *bottom photo:* January meeting



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AIS Region 15 2025 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
March	4	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Iris Show (Mock) Horticulture Section	Riverside, CA
	4	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	6	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Flower arranging skills and demonstration	Canoga Park, CA
	8	TAIS Meeting: tips and experiences with exhibiting irises at shows	Tucson, AZ
	9	SDIS General Meeting: Cathy Egerer from HIPS	Lakeside, CA
	12	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club (OCIDC) meeting - call to confirm	Garden Grove, CA
	15	HDIDS Monthly meeting: floral arranging demonstration by AV Florist	Lancaster, CA
	22	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
April	1	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Last minute preparation for Spring Trek 2025	Riverside, CA
	1	SCIS Monthly Meeting: <u>Artistic Design JT</u>	Phoenix, AZ
	3	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Horticulture preparation for the Spring Show	Canoga Park, CA
	9	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club (OCIDC) meeting - call to confirm	Garden Grove, CA
	12	<u>Sun Country Iris Show</u> at Berridge Nursery	Phoenix, AZ
	12	<u>IRIS Show and Potted Iris Sale</u> at JMDC	Riverside, CA
	12-13	<u>Southern California Iris Show</u>	Arcadia, CA
	13	SDIS General Meeting: program on spring show best practices	Lakeside, CA
	19	<u>SFVIS Iris Show and Sale</u>	Canoga Park, CA
	19	<u>TAIS Iris Show and Sale</u> - in combination with Rose Society of Tucson's Show at Trinity Presbyterian Church	Tucson, AZ
	19	HDIDS Monthly meeting: finalize everything for Show and Sale	Lancaster, CA
	19	PAIS Meeting: Preparing for the Iris Show	Prescott Valley, AZ
	24-27	<u>SoCal IS Annual Iris Sale</u> , South Coast Plaza	Costa Mesa, CA
	25-26	<u>Region 15 Spring Trek</u> (registration form on page 11)	Redlands, CA
	26-27	<u>IRIS Sale</u> and Riverside Community Flower Show at Elks Lodge	Riverside, CA
May	1	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Beardless iris mini-show, spuria & Louisiana culture review	Canoga Park, CA
	3-4	<u>SDIS spring show and sale</u> - Balboa Park, Casa del Prado rm 101	San Diego, CA
	3-4	<u>HDIDS spring show and sale</u> - Palmdale Elks Lodge	Palmdale, CA
	6	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Hybridizing Irises by Lori Rhodes of Crafton Hills Iris Farm, and nomination of officers	Riverside, CA
	6	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	10	<u>PAIS Spring Sale</u> , Stoneridge Community Center	Prescott Valley, AZ
	10	SCIS <u>in-garden JT</u>	Payson, AZ
	10	TAIS Meeting: Dykes Bingo presented by Kevin Kartchner	Tucson, AZ
	14	Orange County Iris & Daylily Club (OCIDC) meeting - call to confirm	Garden Grove, CA
	17	SCIS <u>in-garden JT</u> (also one on June 14th in Forest Lakes)	Sedona, AZ
June	3	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Fun and Games Night; Election of Officers	Riverside, CA
	3	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	4-7	<u>AIS National Convention</u> , optional tour on June 3rd	Billings, MT
	5	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Elections, Awards Night and potluck dinner	Canoga Park, CA
	15	SDIS General Meeting: Ice cream social & show awards ceremony	San Diego, CA

Month	Day	Event	Location
June	21	PAIS Meeting: Ice Cream Social and Photography Contest	Prescott Valley, AZ
	28	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
July	1	IRIS Monthly Meeting:	Riverside, CA
	19	PAIS Iris Marking Party	Prescott, AZ
	26	<u>PAIS Rhizome Sale</u>	Prescott Valley, AZ
August	5	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
	5	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	7	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Jill Bonino on national and regional treks	Canoga Park, CA
	9	TAIS Meeting: Rhizome Auction (members only)	Tucson, AZ
	30-31	<u>SDIS fall rhizome sale</u> - Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101	San Diego, CA
September	2	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
	2	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	4	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	20	PAIS Meeting: Planting Amethyst Creek Iris Farm	Prescott Valley, AZ
	TBA	<u>TAIS Rhizome Sale</u> at Harlow Gardens Nursery	Tucson, AZ
October	2	SFVIS Monthly Meeting	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
	7	SCIS Monthly Meeting	Phoenix, AZ
	11	TAIS Meeting: Lynda Miller (via Zoom) and 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 Save the Date on page 9	Palmdale, 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/pais).

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

AIS Region 15 Commercial Iris Gardens

Kary Iris Gardens

(480) 949-0253

Ardi Kary

6201 East Calle Rosa

Scottsdale, AZ 85251

email: ardikary@aol.com

Scott's Iris Gardens

(805) 712-2439

Tracy Scott

14615 Chispa Rd

Atascadero, CA 93422

email: scottsirsgardens@outlook.com



Bloomer-rang Iris Farm

(330) 958-0319

email: bloomerangiris@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Bloomer-rang-Iris-Farm/>

Crafton Hills Iris Farm

(909) 492-0165

Mike and Lori Rhodes

Redlands, CA

email: craftonhillsirिसfarm@gmail.com

Facebook: [Facebook/craftonhillsirिसfarm](https://www.facebook.com/craftonhillsirिसfarm)

www.craftonhillsirिसfarm.com



Wild Oaks Farms

(909) 307-4565

Tony & Cheryl Hicks

32036 Live Oak Canyon Rd

Redlands, CA 92373

email: wildoakfarms.redlands@gmail.com

For advertising information contact
olga_batalov@yahoo.com

Region 15 Fall Meeting 2024



Top left: Kathy Chilton of TAIS with Rick Tasco (credit: Beth Train), top right: group shot from the front (credit: Beth Train), middle right: general overview of the room, with Pat Olsen of TAIS in pink (credit: Lois Shoaf)

Bottom left: Leeann & Lois Shoaf of TAIS with Beth Train of IRIS (credit: Beth Train), bottom middle: beautiful sculptures at the Highlands Center for Natural History in the Prescott National Forest (credit: Lois Shoaf), bottom right: general overview of meeting (credit: Loretta Bresof)



Thank you Prescott Area Iris Society!

Photo Credits as noted above

Bob Van Liere Introductions

Photo credits: Robert Van Liere. 2025 Introductions by Sutton's Iris Gardens.



'Angels On My Shoulder' (Van Liere 2025)



'Boom Shakalaka' (Van Liere 2023)



'Colorado Pinstripes' (Van Liere 2025)



'Count It All Joy' (Van Liere 2025)



'Maroon Bells Glow' (Van Liere 2025)



'My Lighthouse' (Van Liere 2025)



'Purplicious' (Van Liere 2024)



'Stars And Stripes Forever' (Van Liere 2010)



'Vein Ambition' (Van Liere 2025)