



# Region 15

Spring 2026 Semi-Annual Report

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

**SPRING TREK 2026**

Hosted by Sun Country Iris Society  
in Phoenix, AZ

**Friday-Saturday April 10-11, 2026**

[www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org)

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# Region 15 Fall Meeting 2025



*Top left:* Sue Brown checking people in  
*Top right:* members of HDIDS in attendance  
*Middle left:* Allie Deaton, VP of HDIDS  
*Middle right:* Flo (CCIS, left) with Patti Nygaard, Cheryl Deaton and Tina Rohl of HDIDS  
*Bottom left:* Michael Kowalchyk and his grandmother  
*Bottom right:* handmade quilt by HDIDS member Tina Rohl



**Thank you Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society!**

*Photo Credits: Claire Schneider*



## Note from the Editor

Hello fellow AIS Region 15 members!

What a winter it has been! So wet and relatively mild, until just recently. The plants (and the weeds) look so refreshed. I got 2.4 inches the week after Valentine's Day, adding up to over 10 inches since last August. I am sure those of you in the LA area got much more. I hope Arizona got its fair share of rain as well. I read that all of California is drought-free for the first time since December 2000. The wildflowers are responding to the rains as well, earlier than normal since we had such a warm winter. My local mountains finally got snow with the last storm. I wonder what the plants think of this sudden last cold spell. They all probably thought it was already spring.

With all the rains we had, I am sure the trek gardens in the Phoenix area are going to look amazing. I hope all of you are thinking about going to the Spring Trek hosted by Sun Country Iris Society on April 10-11th. I would go, but I have a conflicting society meeting that I am on the board of and we are presenting an award to someone. I have also been unemployed for 18 months now, which could change at any moment, in which case I would start without any vacation time.

Please send articles, JT flyers and other information for this newsletter. I would love to make it more informative for all of you. If you have a local iris newsletter and read an article that you think others in Region 15 would enjoy, please let me know. I enjoy reading what all of the other clubs in our region are up to, as I hope you all do as well. We can definitely learn so much from each other.

As always, I hope you and your family, pets, loved ones, friends and fellow society members are doing well. Don't forget to enjoy the sunshine and take a moment to soak in the beauty of this early spring.

*Olga Batalov*, Editor

**READ THIS ISSUE ONLINE AT**  
[www.region15ais.org](http://www.region15ais.org)



*On the Cover: 'Rise Like a Phoenix' (Paul Black, 2017)  
Photo credits: Olga Batalov*

### **AIS Region 15 Local Chapter Presidents**

#### **Central Coast Iris Society**

Cynthia Martin  
[CentralCoastIris@gmail.com](mailto:CentralCoastIris@gmail.com)  
[CCIS Facebook](#)

#### **Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society**

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

#### **Inland Region Iris Society**

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

#### **Orange County Iris & Daylily Club**

Derry Gerald  
562-420-9190  
[OCIDC Facebook](#)

#### **Prescott Area Iris Society**

Isabel Olsen  
[forwardprescottirissociety@gmail.com](mailto:forwardprescottirissociety@gmail.com)  
PAIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

#### **San Diego Iris Society**

Mary Hanson  
[mehanson92021@gmail.com](mailto:mehanson92021@gmail.com)  
SDIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

#### **San Fernando Valley Iris Society**

Andi Rivarola  
[andinsky@gmail.com](mailto:andinsky@gmail.com)  
SFVIS [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

#### **Southern California Iris Society**

Cheryl Deaton  
[region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com)  
[SCIS Facebook](#)

#### **Sun Country Iris Society**

Kyria Peavy  
[suncountryiris@gmail.com](mailto:suncountryiris@gmail.com)  
[SCIS website](#)

#### **Tucson Area Iris Society**

Kevin Kartchner  
[irisgrowinaz@gmail.com](mailto:irisgrowinaz@gmail.com)  
or [taisnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:bethtrain8@gmail.com)

**Assistant RVP and Judges Chair**  
Mary Hanson  
[mehanson92021@gmail.com](mailto:mehanson92021@gmail.com)

**Region 15 Treasurer**  
Cheryl Deaton  
27218 Walnut Springs Avenue  
Canyon Country, CA 91351  
[region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com)

**Region 15 Secretary**  
Lois Farr  
[loistamfarr@gmail.com](mailto:loistamfarr@gmail.com)

**Committee Chairs**

**Awards:** Claire Schneider  
[itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com](mailto:itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com)  
and Janis Shackelford  
[jgshackelford@cox.net](mailto:jgshackelford@cox.net)

**Editor:** Olga Batalov  
[olga\\_batalov@yahoo.com](mailto:olga_batalov@yahoo.com)

**Historian:** Sue Brown  
[irisfor15w@gmail.com](mailto:irisfor15w@gmail.com)

**Membership:** Mason Train  
[inlandregionirissociety@gmail.com](mailto:inlandregionirissociety@gmail.com)

**Nominating Committee:**  
Claire Schneider  
[itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com](mailto:itsaclearday.claire@gmail.com)

**Ways and Means Committee:**  
open

**Webmaster:** Tim Valenzuela  
[webdev@region15ais.org](mailto:webdev@region15ais.org)

**Youth Program:** Cheryl Deaton  
[region15kids@hotmail.com](mailto:region15kids@hotmail.com)

# AIS Region 15 Trek Wheel

Event	Trek Host	Location
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](http://www.region15ais.org)

Visit us on Facebook

## Membership Update (as of 2/21/2026)



By Mason Train, Membership Chair  
Submitted by Beth Balaney-Train

**TOTAL AIS MEMBERS:** 238 (226 individuals)  
**TOTAL YOUTH:** 4 (3 with, 1 without bulletin)  
**TOTAL AFFILIATES:** 10 (No change)

**TOTAL AIS MEMBERS:** 238 (226 individuals, 2 libraries, 10 affiliates)

**AZ = 87** (83 adults, 1 youth, 3 affiliates)

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

There is ONE new member (so far) via the 2026 AIS Membership Drive.



## AIS Youth Program Report

Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Youth Chair

We have 4 youth members - 3 in California and 1 in Arizona.



## AIS Region 15 RVP Message

*By Beth Balaney-Train, Region 15 RVP*

Hello Region 15! It's been a nice, cool, and rainy winter for us gardeners in Southern California. How did the Arizona affiliates do weather-wise?

I am looking forward to this year's Region 15 Spring Trek on April 10-11. Sun Country Iris Society is hosting. The last time they hosted was in 2018. There are two guest gardens and a bonus garden (Ardi Kary's) to tour. They had a relatively mild winter in Phoenix and irises of many classes are waking up from their winter dormancy. The gardens promise a wide variety of iris in bloom – the better to find, evaluate, and vote for winners in the new Region 15 Award Categories! Bonnie Nichols, the AIS President, will present a keynote program on Saturday afternoon. There are two judges training opportunities– a classroom JT on Novelty Irises Friday night, and an in-garden JT on Saturday morning. Don't miss it!

Thank you Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society for hosting the well-attended Region 15 Fall Meeting. Mason and I had a wonderful time with the warm and welcoming HDIDS members. Michael Kowalchuk's program was interesting. It was an eye-opening perspective on managing iris clubs from a younger person. There were a lot of raffle and silent auction items. I loved Yvette's creative beaded iris flower centerpieces. The food was plenty and delicious.

The Fall Meeting this year will be hosted by Tucson Area Iris Society. They haven't hosted for many, many years. I expect there will be big attendance at this meeting. The TAIS members are looking forward to welcoming all of us!! Jody Nolin, former AIS President, will be the guest speaker. She is very knowledgeable and is an excellent speaker. Mark your calendars and save the date: Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 9 am to 4 pm.

The Trek Wheel is open in Spring 2028 and onwards. We have several affiliates who haven't hosted a Region 15 event lately, so please think about hosting one in the near future.

This year's AIS National Convention is scheduled for May 18th-23rd in the New York/New Jersey area. I am hoping to attend. The botanical gardens should be especially lovely this time of the year.

AIS is offering another membership drive this year. Available to FIRST-TIME purchasers only: buy one year membership and receive a second year free! Choose from Full, Print, or E-membership options.

Thank you Region 15 affiliates for sending in your AIS affiliate renewals in a timely manner. Digital is the way to go – it is fast, easy, and secure. All officers must be current AIS members during their term. Thank you also to those who participated in the online AIS Popularity Poll. I don't have the numbers nor data for Region 15 yet. There were around 350 respondents nationally. It is not a bad start for the new poll. Hopefully, there will be more participation in the coming years.

Lastly, this is my last year as Region 15 RVP. My term is ending in October 2026. Several positions will also be open, so please consider being officers of the Region. Claire Schneider, the Nominating Chairperson, will be contacting some of you soon.

Wishing you all a gorgeous iris bloom season this spring!

*Beth Train* 2/21/2026



## AIS Judges Training

*By Mary Hanson, Region 15 Asst. RVP*

*and Judges Training Chair*

Greetings Region 15 iris lovers,

Region 15 has 20 active judges, 4 emeritus judges (Gerry Snyder was added), 12 master judges and 4 retired judges. 10 of our active judges also have certification in Artistic Design. We have 10 students. We have no apprentices due for promotion to G/E judge, but one student needs five recommendations from accredited judges to be promoted to apprenticeship.

Upcoming JTs include a 1 hour classroom JT on aril and arilbred iris by Claire Schneider on March 28th at the LA Arboretum, a 1 hour classroom JT on novelty iris by Bonnie Nichols on April 10th in Phoenix AZ, and a 1 hour in-garden JT on TB iris by Bonnie Nichols on April 11th at 9:15 am in Gilbert, AZ.

Judges and student judges: don't forget about the JT webinars posted on the AIS YouTube channel (refer to page 9). They are a great way to get classroom trainings. You can rewatch them and submit the test every three years.

*Mary*

### Judges Training Webinars

The Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society is proud to sponsor the first ever judges' training on conducting and judging virtual iris shows. This training will be held online via Zoom at 5:00 p.m. Pacific time on Friday, March 27. This one-hour training will be given by AIS master judge and virtual show chair, Jean Richter.

To register for the training go to this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/izsGYY-bRu-MfMzrVUL25A>. After registration, you will be given the Zoom link to join and access to various versions of the test.

SBMIS was proud to host a two-hour online judges' training on novelty iris by current AIS president, Bonnie Nichols. If you would like to view a recording of the training and get information on completing the test for judges' training credit, please visit: [bayareairis.org/novelty-recording.html](http://bayareairis.org/novelty-recording.html)

# TREASURER'S REPORT

REGION 15 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET  
 January 17, 2026  
 By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

	2025 BUDGET	2025 ACTUAL	2026 PROPOSED
Rhizome Sales	\$5,000	\$5,379.21 (9 clubs)	<b>\$5,500</b>
Convention Donation	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250
RVP Travel	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Officer Expenses		\$1,053.76	
RVP	\$ 500		\$ 500
Asst RVP	\$ 500		\$ 500
Treasurer	\$ 500		\$ 500
Secretary	\$ 500		\$ 500
Website	\$ 495	\$ 495	<b>\$ 595</b>
Newsletter	\$1,500	\$ 903.76	\$1,200
Awards	\$ 200	\$ 100	<b>\$ 350</b>
JT Expense	\$ 50	\$ 60.63	<b>\$ 70</b>
Spring Trek Stipend	\$ 800	\$ 0	\$ 800
Fall Meeting Stipend	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600
Shipping (Trek Rhizomes)	\$ 200	\$ 0	<b>\$ 300</b>
Misc.	\$ 100	\$ 47.58	\$ 100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,195</b>	<b>\$10,113.94 ***</b>	<b>\$12,765</b>

\*\*\* There was a donation of \$224.00 from HDIDS for the Fall Meeting. Note that totals do not include 1 club rhizome auction donation (see page 17), Spring Trek stipend, and shipping charges for rhizomes.

Checkbook Balance: \$17,785.96 as of 1/16/2026.

(Bank statement for December 2025 not received)

Investment Accounts:	Beginning	\$18,338.21	
	Year End	\$17,226.51	\$ 1,111.65
	Actual profit of		\$ 2,081.06

## *The American Iris Society*



Check AIS membership status:  
[system.irises.org/membership/web-based-lookup](http://system.irises.org/membership/web-based-lookup)

Renew membership  
(pay by check, Visa, or MasterCard)  
[www.irises.org/aismembers/](http://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](mailto:memsec@irises.org)



[www.AISYouth.org](http://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](mailto:in2iris@yahoo.com)

**2026 Convention Co-Chair:** Jill Bonino

[jillbiris62@gmail.com](mailto:jillbiris62@gmail.com)

**2026 Convention Co-Chair:** Andi Rivarola

[andinsky@gmail.com](mailto:andinsky@gmail.com)

**Convention website:** [ais2026convention.org](http://ais2026convention.org)

### **2027 Convention**

**2027 April 27 - May 1, Oklahoma City, OK**

Hosted by: [Oklahoma Iris Society](http://Oklahoma Iris Society)

**2027 Convention Co-Chair:** Michael Kowalchyk

phone: 405-593-9608 | email: [mjkow24@gmail.com](mailto:mjkow24@gmail.com)

**2027 Convention Co-Chair:** Angie Salazar

text: 405-412-1359 | email: [irisjunkie@yahoo.com](mailto:irisjunkie@yahoo.com)

**Convention hotel:** Embassy Suites OKC NW

3233 Northwest Expy, Oklahoma City, OK 73112

**Convention website:** [ais2027convention.org](http://ais2027convention.org)

## **FUTURE SECTION CONVENTIONS**

### **Society for Louisiana Irises Rendezvous 2026**

**Friday April 10-11th, 2026**

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center

Lafayette, Louisiana

<https://louisianas.org/event/2026-annual-meeting/>

### **2029 Spuria Convention**

**2029 mid-May, Ramona, CA**

**Convention Co-Chairs:** [Claire Schneider](#), [Andi Rivarola](#) and [Gary White](#)

For most current additional information,  
visit [irises.org/aismembers/conventions/](http://irises.org/aismembers/conventions/)

## **FUTURE REGION 15 EVENTS**

### **2026 Fall Meeting**

**Tucson Area Iris Society**

**October 17th, 2026: Tucson, AZ**

### **2027 Spring Trek**

**San Diego Iris Society**

**April 16-17, 2027: San Diego, CA**

# ★ **IMPORTANT** *Announcement!*

AIS Membership Drive 2026  
***Buy a membership for One Year, Get a Second Year  
FREE***

#### Details

- 1- Buy any membership (E, Print or Full) for one year, get a second year FREE.
- 2- New members only (including international).
- 3- Duration: January 1 - December 31, 2026.
- 4- Limited quantities.

Please share this link with your friends, family and society members **who are not AIS members yet**:  
[system.irises.org/membership/promo](https://system.irises.org/membership/promo).

## **Iris Shows**

There are two AIS accredited virtual shows this year. Mt. Diablo Iris Society's virtual show is open for entries through August 31st. To enter the virtual show, email [MDISVirtual@gmail.com](mailto:MDISVirtual@gmail.com) for a registration number. The Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society's (SBMIS) virtual show will be open for entries from March 1 through June 15. Please see their website, [bayareairis.org](http://bayareairis.org), for details. As with all AIS accredited iris shows, these virtual shows are open to all. A [list of all iris shows](#) has been posted on the Iris Encyclopedia. A [list of iris sales](#) is also posted. For inclusion on the list of sales, please email the date and location to [exhibition.schedules@gmail.com](mailto:exhibition.schedules@gmail.com).

## **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/](http://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](mailto:aiswebinars@gmail.com).

# Region 15 Fall Board Meeting Minutes

## AIS REGION 15 FALL BOARD MEETING

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Palmdale, CA

The meeting was called to order at 9:43 am by Beth Train.

Board members in attendance: Beth Train, RVP; Mary Hanson, assistant RVP; Cheryl Deaton, Treasurer; Lois Farr, Secretary; Mason Train, Membership Chair; Claire Schneider, Awards; Sue Brown, Historian. Affiliate Presidents/representatives: Pat Simpson, Cindy Martin, Isabel Olson, Dwayne Booth.

Welcome and Introductions by Beth Train, Region 15 RVP.

Minutes from the Spring Board meeting of April 20, 2025 were reviewed for corrections/additions - none needed. Cheryl Deaton motioned to accept, seconded by Isabel Olson, motion passed.

### OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer Report – Cheryl Deaton - detailed report submitted (see page 13). Motion to reinvest \$6,000 CD maturing 10/19/25 made by Jill Bonino and seconded by Mason Train. Motion passed.

Judges Training Report – Mary Hanson: Current Judges Status - 19 Active Judges, 10 G/E, 6 Master Judges, 3 Emeritus Judges, 1 Apprentice, 9 Students. Judges Training dates: 10/2/25 - Claire Schneider on LA Irises, Canoga Park; 10/18/25 - Michael Kowalchyk on Ethics, Palmdale; 11/4/25 - Claire Schneider on Aril and Arilbred Irises, Riverside.

Membership Report – Mason Train: Total AIS members in Region 15 is 237 (151 in CA, 86 in AZ) and 4 Youth Members. 61 people have purchased the \$10 AIS Membership Special to date: 52 new members and 9 returning. The \$10 AIS Membership Drive was extended to December 31, 2025.

Awards Report – Claire Schneider: Certificates and \$25 check were sent to each of the 2025 Region 15 Spring Trek winners: Holk Award - Peter de Santis for "Scoonchee," Claire Barr Award to Rick Tasco for "Storm Lord," Bernard Hamner Award to Chery Hicks for seedling 19-01-01, Best Seedling outside of Region 15 to Diana Ford for seedling 17LCH19, Best Spuria Iris to Anna and David Cadd for "Speeding Star," Best Louisiana Iris - no winner, Favorite Iris at the trek to Bob Van Liere for "Purplicious."

Next year, awards will increase to \$50!

Youth Report – Cheryl Deaton: Currently, there are 4 youth members, we need more!

Editor Report – Mary Hanson for Olga Batalov: Deadline to submit articles and reports for the Spring Newsletter is 2/22/2026.

Historian Report – Sue Brown: Sue requested newsletters from Central Coast, Prescott, Sun Country, Orange County, and Southern California. OCIDC does not publish a newsletter (per Derry G).

Nominations Report – Claire Schneider: Elected officer terms for RVP, assistant RVP, secretary, and treasurer will end at the end of the 2026 Fall Meeting. The new slate of officers to be elected at the Fall Meeting 2026 is required to be published in the Region 15 Fall Newsletter. RVP candidates should have had Region 15 Executive Board experience. The assistant RVP candidate must be an AIS accredited judge. Please send nominations for the new 3-year term (Fall 2026 to Fall 2029).

### AFFILIATE REPORTS

Central Coast Iris Society – Cindy Martin: Rebranded name, with 34 members, no youth. They are

maintaining a club garden at Hope Chapel Mission Hills. \$500 was donated to Lompoc High School. April 25, 2026 will be open garden - open invitation to everyone to visit. Email CentralCoastIris@gmail.com.

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society – Pat Simpson: The fall sale yielded \$1900 in 3 days. In November, there will be a membership drive, and in December a Holiday Party.

Inland Region Iris Society – Beth Train: 44 members, 36 active members (28 AIS members). AIS membership is a door prize at every meeting. Election in July, Carolyn Nelson is VP elect. August and September meetings were auctions. A one day sale yielded \$3000. Unsold rhizomes were potted for the Spring Sale 2026. October Meeting was Halloween Bingo and a fun Costume Contest, which is on its 3<sup>rd</sup> year. In November, Claire Schneider will do a continuing education program with 1.0 credit hour for judges. December is a Christmas Party with Gift and Cookie Exchange!

Prescott Area Iris Society – Isabel Olsen, VP, read the report sent by Sherry Williams: 86 family memberships, which represents 118 members. Rhizome sale in July brought in about \$7600. They replanted a lot of areas at the Yavapai College Sculpture Garden where rhizomes were lost - not finished yet but making progress. A new garden planted with historic irises as well as cowboy/western themed irises was started at the Prescott Pioneer Home (est. in 1909). The addition of Pioneer Home brings their public gardens to four (the other 3 are YCSG, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and Sharlot Hall Museum).

San Diego Iris Society – Mary Hanson: 60 families, 150 individual members, and 2 youth. Meetings are 2nd Sunday at the Lakeside Historical Society. Coming up, they have a sale on Labor Day weekend, Master Gardener program in November, Holiday Party at Claire Schneider's home in December with AIS membership as a door prize, Artistic Design by Linda Lang in January, and the SDIS Birthday celebration in February with guest speaker Paul Black.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society – Jill Bonino: JT with Claire Schneider this October, Holiday Party and Potluck in December, Iris Show on April 18, 2026.

Southern California Iris Society – Cheryl Deaton: Elections were held. April 18 and 19, 2026 will be their “Iris in the Solar System” show, and April 23-26, 2026 will be their sale at South Coast Plaza.

Sun Country Iris Society – Dwayne Booth: Spring Trek is April 10 and 11, 2026 - see bookmarks and forms for more information. SCIS has 92 members, 32 new members this year. Meetings at the Valley Garden Center have approximately 35 attendees.

Tucson Area Iris Society – Hosting the 2026 Fall Meeting “A Desert Oasis of Iris” on October 17, 2026 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Wilson Room of the Tohono Chul in Tucson, AZ. Guest speaker: Jody Nolin.

## NEW BUSINESS

New or returning AIS member \$10 membership drive was extended through December 31, 2025.

Motion to approve increase of Tim Valenzuela's fee for administration of the Region 15 website from \$495 to \$595 starting this fiscal year. Motioned by Jill Bonino, seconded by Cheryl Deaton - motion passed.

Bylaws - please send a copy of your affiliate bylaws to the AIS Affiliate chair, Jody Nolin. Copy Sue Brown for the Region 15 files.

AIS Affiliate Renewal will go online.

AIS National Convention 2026 update by Jill Bonino – Dates: May 18-23 in NY/NJ. See website and registration form for more information. Register early, limited to 220 attendees!!

*continued on next page*

## OLD BUSINESS

AIS Electronic Popularity Poll starts November 1st - open to both AIS and non-AIS members. Each ballot may list up to 25 different irises of any class. Pick up to 25 iris that grow well in your garden and any favorites. Results of the past AIS TB Symposium were not representative of what grows well in our region or other regions. The poll aims to find out this information according to region. Hopefully, results for this poll will provide better information. Start making your list now!

Continued consideration to add Region 15 event expenses for the newsletter editor \$300-\$500.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: Spam email awareness.

TREK WHEEL reviewed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Farr  
AIS Region 15 Recording Secretary

## AIS REGION 15 FALL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, October 18, 2025 Palmdale, CA

The general meeting was started at 10:45 am by Beth Train.

Beth welcomed the attendees and the guest speaker Michael Kowalchyk. She thanked HDIDS for hosting the Fall Meeting.

### Affiliate Roll Call:

Central Coast Iris Society - 3	San Diego Iris Society - 3
Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society - 21	San Fernando Valley Iris Society - 1
Inland Region Iris Society - 10	Southern California Iris Society - 5
Orange County Iris and Daylily Club - 2	Sun Country Iris Society - 2
Prescott Area Iris Society - 1	Tucson Area Iris Society - 0

Adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Farr  
AIS Region 15 Recording Secretary

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## REGION 15 FALL TREASURER'S REPORT

October 18, 2025

By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer

BEGINNING BALANCE (as of 10/17/2025) \$ 15,498.37

INCOME \$ 4,300.70

Credit (Awards)	\$ 100
Rhizome Sales	\$ 4,200.70
- San Diego Iris Society	\$ 500
- San Fernando Valley Iris Society	\$ 572
- SoCal Iris Society	\$ 530
- Sun Country Iris Society	\$1,180
- Central Coast Iris Society	\$ 418.70
- Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society	\$ 500
- Prescott Area Iris Society	\$ 500

EXPENSES \$ 1,883.42

RVP Travel	\$ 1,000
JT	\$ 60.63
Historian	\$ 47.58
Newsletter	\$ 445.68
aRVP travel	\$ 229.53
Awards	\$ 100

ENDING BALANCE (as of 10/18/2025) \$ 17,915.65

INVESTMENT INCOME (as of 9/26/2025) \$ 18,083.54

#1 CD \$6,000.00 matures 10/19/2025

#2 CD \$5,000.00 matures 2/17/2026

#3 CD \$6,000.00 matures 4/06/2027

YTD increase \$ 856.98

# Region 15 Winter Board Meeting Minutes

## AIS REGION 15 WINTER BOARD MEETING

Saturday, January 17th, 2026 ZOOM

Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Beth Train. Board members in attendance: Beth Train, RVP; Mary Hanson, assistant RVP; Cheryl Deaton, Treasurer; Lois Farr, Secretary; Mason Train, Membership Chair; Claire Schneider, Awards; Sue Brown, Historian. Affiliate Presidents/representatives: Pat Simpson, Cindy Martin, Isabel Olson, Andi Rivarola, Kevin Kartchner, and Kyria Peavy.

Minutes from the Fall Board and General Meeting of October 18, 2025 were reviewed. Correction –Tim Valenzuela’s fee increase approval to be corrected to: Jill Bonino made the motion and Cheryl Deaton seconded the motion. Motion to accept the minutes with corrections noted made by Mason Train and seconded by Andi Rivarola, motion passed.

### OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer Report – Cheryl Deaton: Treasurer Report and Proposed 2026 Budget were distributed. See page 7. The Region has not received the request for the stipend for the 2025 Spring Trek and shipping of rhizomes. This will add \$1000 to the expense total. Total earnings from the rhizome auction does not include one affiliate’s. HDIDS is planning to return the \$600 stipend issued for the 2025 Fall Meeting because they made a profit. The Proposed 2026 Budget was reviewed. Motion made by Andi Rivarola to accept the budget as proposed, seconded by Mary Hanson, motion passed. Cheryl also reminded the affiliates to make all checks from the spring trek sales payable to AIS Region 15.

Judges Training Report – Mary Hanson: 20 Active Judges, 4 Emeritus Judges (Gerry Snyder added), 12 Master Judges, 4 retired judges. 10 Judges have certification in Artistic Design. No apprentices are due to be promoted to G/E Judge. We have 9 students. One student needs five recommendations from accredited judges to be promoted to apprenticeship

Membership Report – Mason Train: As of 1/9/26, there are 226 AIS memberships - 84 in AZ, 142 in CA. We have 4 Youth. Update on the \$10 AIS Membership Drive 2025: 68 people in Region 15 purchased the \$10 special (21 in AZ and 47 in CA). 58 of these were new memberships, and the rest were returning lapsed members. The NEW AIS Membership Promotion for 2026 is available to FIRST-TIME purchasers only - buy one year membership and receive a second year free! Choose from Full, Print, or E-membership options. Valid for ONE YEAR memberships only; a 3-year membership is not doubled.

Awards Report – Claire Schneider: No updates at this time.

Youth Report – Cheryl Deaton: Only 4 youth members, no updates. Please encourage youth to join. Remember the 2026 Membership Special: one year for \$10, second year free.

Editor Report – Olga Batalov: Newsletter submissions deadline is **2/22/26** to meet 3/11/26 publication mailing deadline, one month before Spring Trek on 4/11/26. PLEASE be prompt. Olga is under budget, mostly due to use of already purchased stamps.

Historian Report – Sue Brown: No updates at this time. All affiliates, please send newsletters and updates to Sue. Sun Country and Prescott will be sending future newsletters.

Ways and Means – Position open: no report

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

Central Coast Iris Society – Cindy Martin: The next meeting is on 1/24/26 at 2 pm at 3265 Rucker Road, Lompoc. This is the same location for the CCIS Garden Tour on 4/25/26 at 9 am. The CCIS Club Garden has 250+ iris varieties planted, including the Middle Eastern (arilbred). A \$65 assortment was ordered from Anna Cadd, who included generous extra bonuses. Membership fees will be collected at the January meeting, so the number of active members is TBD after dues paid.

Inland Region Iris Society – Beth Train: A fun Christmas Party - the Gift and Cookie Exchanges went well. Mason Train's January presentation on "Photographing Irises" was well received. No February meeting with many on vacation. Beth Train will present a slide program of the 2025 National Convention in Montana at the March meeting. Iris Show "Sing A Song With Irises" and potted irises sale at JMDC on April 18th. The Riverside Community Flower Show is on 4/25/26 - I.R.I.S. will enter irises and sell potted irises to the public.

Orange County Iris and Daylily Club – Lois Farr for Derry Gerald: Small attendance of 8 members. There was a Christmas party with homemade turkey lunch and a gift exchange. January meeting agenda - roses presented by Derry Gerald. Very loyal and dedicated members keep the meetings and the club active.

Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society – Pat Simpson: Their membership drive brought in 4 new members. Another membership drive planned for March. Seeking young members. Current membership is 39 members and 1 youth. Membership drive through Facebook, flyers, word of mouth, with 25% reduced membership fee from \$20 to \$15 and a goodie bag filled with named iris and iris accessories. December: Christmas party, gift exchange, good time with lots of food and gifts. Board meeting this afternoon and Claire to present a program.

San Diego Iris Society – Mary Hanson: October was the members only auction, with \$500 sent to Region 15. Master Gardener presentation on gardening in southern California in November. Holiday Party hosted by Claire Schneider in December, with median iris given as party favors. January will be a Judges Training on Spuria iris presented by Claire Schneider. In February, Paul Black will present "Extending the Iris Bloom Season" at their Birthday Party. Everyone is invited - RSVP due by 1/31/26.

Prescott Area Iris Society – Isabel Olson: Crossover meeting on 1/10/26 for board and new officers. The 2026 budget was approved, and they talked about having an AIS approved show in 2026 and other upcoming programs and events. Iris Bucks Store opens on 2/7/26. Iris Show "Parade of Iris" on 5/9/26. 86 family memberships, 121 individuals.

San Fernando Valley Iris Society – Andi Rivarola: December Holiday Party featured San Fernando Valley Men's Chorus (25 members) Sing Along and potluck for all with many attendees. January - no meeting; February - presentation by Cheryl Deaton and Baby Shower celebration for one of the club members; March - Floral Arrangement; April - prepare for 4/18 show and attending Spring Trek.

Sun Country Iris Society – Kyria Peavy: December: Christmas Party with Barbershop Quartet/Men's Choir and installation of new board members for 2026; January: Pat Olson from Tucson presented on 2025 National Convention; February: judges training with Dale Liggett; March: open; April: hosting the 2026 Spring Trek on 4/10-4/11 - please promote in your clubs. The club is putting much effort towards hosting the 2026 Spring Trek on April 10-11, 2026. A trek schedule was requested by Beth Train. Spring Trek details still being worked out, so schedule will be released soon. After Covid, many new members purchased irises, yet were uninformed about care and iris techniques and want to learn elementary steps. Old members are tired of hearing these but new members are looking to learn more. Membership focus will be towards mentorship - new members can be mentored by seasoned members. Sue Brown requested newsletter - Kyria will provide.

Southern California Iris Society – Cheryl Deaton: December - club provided luncheon celebrating 40th Anniversary; January - Pacific Coast Native Irises presentation by Jeff; February - open, possibly Cheryl;

March - open; April 18-19 will be the South Coast Plaza sale, their big money maker for the year.

Tucson Area Iris Society – Kevin Kartchner: \$1,029 will be sent to the region for the auctioned irises. They have 70 members. The November meeting was an annual potluck, which included a seed and plant exchange. 2025 was the club's 60th anniversary. Recently, the club was featured in a local 7 minute video made through Arizona Illustrated, a local PBS station, attracting interest and new members. The April Show will be in conjunction with the Rose Society, where potted irises outsell roses. Looking forward to hosting the 2026 Fall Meeting on October 18th with guest speaker Jody Nolin.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Region 15 Treasurer will send a \$250 check to the AIS 2026 Convention. Each affiliate society should please contribute \$25. Send \$25 checks made payable to AIS REGION 15 to Cheryl Deaton. AIS National Convention 2026 will be in NY/NJ on May 18-23, 2026.

Affiliation Renewal Membership Applications for 2026: Fee \$30 - Suggestion to use the online application, as Beth Train demonstrated. All affiliates should update their information on the AIS website on renewal forms - club officers, emails, addresses. Instructions here: [Affiliate Renewal – American Iris Society](#). If you want to pay by mail instead of online, checks must be made payable to AIS and mailed to Jody Nolin directly. Deadline is 4/1/26; 4/15/26 is considered delinquent.

Proposal for Editor expense budget for regional meetings tabled - not needed by editor.

Region 15 2026 budget discussed and approved earlier in this meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Region 15 Spring Trek rhizome auction: All checks must be made payable to AIS Region 15 and sent to Cheryl Deaton, treasurer.

Reminder to vote in the Popularity Poll: simple online vote method, demonstrated by Beth Train, very user friendly. Need higher Region 15 participation. Beth volunteered to input choices for anyone who would rather send her their votes.

Other announcements: SPAM email awareness.

Trek Wheel reviewed:

April 10-11, 2026: Spring Trek in Phoenix, AZ hosted by Sun Country Iris Society, Bonnie Nichols speaker

October 18, 2026: Fall Meeting in Tucson, AZ hosted by Tucson Area Iris Society, Jody Nolin speaker

April 16-17, 2027: Spring Trek in San Diego, CA hosted by San Diego Iris Society

October 2027: Fall Meeting in CA hosted by San Fernando Valley Iris Society

Spring Trek 2028 is open

Fall Meeting 2028 is open

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 am

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Farr

AIS Region 15 Recording Secretary

# TREASURER'S REPORT

REGION 15 RHIZOME SALES 2025

January 17, 2026

*By Cheryl Deaton, Region 15 Treasurer*

Central Coast Iris Society	\$ 418.70
Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society	\$ 500.00
Inland Region Iris Society	\$ 978.51
Orange County Iris and Daylily Club	\$ 200.00
Prescott Area Iris Society	\$ 500.00
San Diego Iris Society	\$ 500.00
San Fernando Valley Iris Society	\$ 572.00
Southern CA Iris Society	\$ 530.00
Sun Country Iris Society	\$1,180.00
Tucson Area Iris Society	*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,379.21</b>

\* Check in the amount of \$1,029.00 to be mailed by TAIS



Citizens Committee of the Essex County  
Presby Memorial Iris Gardens



**The American Iris Society**  
**2026 National Convention**  
**May 19-23 ~ New Jersey & New York**



# IRIS ROUNDUP

A.K.A AIS REGION 15 2026 SPRING TREK  
HOSTED BY THE SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY  
APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> & 11<sup>TH</sup>

Included: Friday evening (Mexican fare dinner ) and Saturday afternoon (Pulled Pork BBQ) plus 3 gardens on tour (Gilbert, Sun City and Phoenix Arizona) by bus. There will be both classroom and in-garden judges training led by **American Iris Society President Bonnie Nichols.**



Meetings and meals will be at the Maricopa County Extension Office, 4341 East Broadway Road, Phoenix, 85040.

Registration is \$100.00 by 3/1/2026; \$110 after 3/1/26 payable by check [or register online!](#)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Plan to attend Saturday afternoon meal? Yes/No

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Plan to attend Friday evening meal? Yes/No

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Mobility Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send checks payable to Sun Country Iris Society along with a completed registration form to: Ann Booth, 2026 trek Co-Chair, 8683 East Golden Cholla Drive, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118, Alaniann@outlook.com, (425) 244-1354





# *Sun Country Iris Society*

Sun Country Iris Society is a 501c3 organization and an affiliate of the American Iris Society

## **Region 15 Spring Trek Schedule**

### **Friday, April 10, 2026**

- 4:00 pm Registration at Maricopa County Extension office  
4341 E Broadway Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85040  
Silent Auction opens, buy tickets for raffle items
- 5:45 pm Mexican dinner from Valle Luna at Extension office
- 6:30 pm Judges Training on Novelty Irises by Bonnie Nichols (1.0 hr credit)
- 8-9 pm Region 15 Spring Board meeting

### **Saturday, April 11**

- 7:00 am Registration and breakfast (coffee and snacks)
- 8:00 am Leave Extension office for Sharon Petterson's garden
- 8:30 am Arrive at Sharon's garden, breakfast items available
- 9:15 am Bonnie Nichols' in-garden Judges Training (1.0 hr credit)
- 10:30 am Board bus to Ardi Kary's garden
- 11:15 am Arrive at Ardi's garden, snacks available
- 1:15 pm Board bus to Julie's garden
- 1:50 pm Arrive at Julie's garden, light lunch (charcuterie snacks)
- 3:00 pm Board bus to Extension office
- 3:30 pm Welcome Address and Region 15 General Meeting  
Update on 2026 Fall Meeting hosted by TAIS
- 3:45 pm Pulled pork sliders meal at Extension office  
Last call for silent auction, deadline to turn in official voting ballot
- 4:00 pm Guest Speaker Program: Bonnie Nichols, AIS President
- 5:00 pm Region 15 Spring Trek Awards, silent auction winners, raffle drawing
- 6:00 pm Wrap-up and Announcements. Thanks for coming.

### **Sunday, April 12: Suggested Phoenix area attractions**

Desert Botanical Gardens (1201 N. Galvin Parkway, open 8 am - 9 pm), Japanese Gardens (1125 N 3rd Ave, open 9 am - 6 pm) and other activities on your own

# HOTELS

WE ARE NOT HAVING A DESIGNATED CONVENTION HOTEL. INSTEAD, RESEARCH HAS LOCATED THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES IN THE AREA OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE. ALL HAVE FREE PARKING, FREE WI-FI, WHEEL CHAIR ACCESSIBILITY AND ALL BUT THE WYNDHAM INCLUDE A FREE BREAKFAST. ALL ARE ABOUT 4 MILES FROM SKY HARBOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN PHOENIX.

- **Green Tree Inn and Suites** (3 stars) 4234 South 48<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix AZ 85040  
.7 miles from meeting site
- **Hampton Inn & Suites** (4.5 stars) 1550 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tempe AZ, 85281  
1.4 miles from meeting site
- **Home2Suites** (4.5 stars) 4725 East Broadway, Phoenix 85040  
.6 miles from meeting site
- **Wyndham Airport/Tempe** (3.5 stars) 1600 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tempe, 85281  
3.5 miles from meeting site

OTHER PHOENIX AREA ATTRACTIONS: YOU MAY WANT  
TO VISIT DEPENDING ON YOUR LENGTH OF STAY:

- DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN, 1202 NORTH GALVIN PARKWAY, PHOENIX 85008 - [DBG.ORG](http://DBG.ORG)
- JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN, 1125 NORTH 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE, PHOENIX 85004 - [JAPANESEFRIENDSHIPGARDEN.ORG](http://JAPANESEFRIENDSHIPGARDEN.ORG)
- HEARD MUSEUM, 2301 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PHOENIX 85004 - [HEARD.ORG](http://HEARD.ORG)

SUN COUNTRY IRIS SOCIETY IS A 501-C3 ORGANIZATION  
AND AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY



*The Tucson Area Iris Society invites you to*



# A Desert Oasis Of Iris

**The AIS Region 15 Fall Trek**  
**October 17, 2026**  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**at Tohono Chul**  
in The Wilson Room  
7366 N Paseo Del Norte  
Tucson, Arizona

**Featuring guest speaker**  
**Jody Nolin**  
Past President of AIS

Cost \$60, includes lunch  
[tais.trek.committee@gmail.com](mailto:tais.trek.committee@gmail.com)



**Tohono Chul**  
GARDENS • GALLERIES • BISTRO

Spring 2026 Semi-Annual Report 21

# NEW AIS MEMBER BENEFITS FROM THE ELECTRONIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

by Linda Wilkie, republished from January 2026 News & Notes

## Enhanced Applications for Member Accessibility and Privacy

The Electronic Services Committee has recently developed and launched several new applications aimed at improving access to information and streamlining processes for members, all while maintaining a high standard of privacy protection. These applications are now live and ready for use by all AIS members.

## Secure Member Lookup

One major update is the relocation of the member "lookup" feature, which previously allowed users to view membership expiration dates. This feature has now been placed behind a secure firewall to ensure your personal information remains protected. With this new system, you as a member have greater control over the visibility of your information and can determine how much is shared and with whom. For further details and guidance on using the new lookup, please refer to the article in the 2026 Winter issue of IRISES.

## Leadership Directories with Privacy Controls

Regional Vice Presidents (RVPs) and affiliate club presidents' contact information is also now located behind the same secure firewall. This consolidation allows members to easily find leadership contacts in a single location. Additionally, named leaders have the ability to choose how much of their contact information is displayed within the application, ensuring privacy preferences are respected.

## Online Affiliation Renewal and Payments

The affiliation renewal process has been upgraded to allow completion and payment online, making affiliation management simpler and more convenient.

## Accessing the New Applications

All AIS members, regardless of their e-Member status, can access these new applications via the e-Member login button at [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org). If you are unsure whether your AIS account is registered with an email address, please [contact the membership secretary](#), Jean Richter, for assistance.

## Support and Demonstrations

For demonstrations or if you have questions regarding any of these new applications, please reach out to the Electronic Services [webmaster](#), Linda Wilkie.

# AIS AFFILIATE RENEWALS

by Linda Wilkie, republished from February 2026 News & Notes

The AIS Lookup, affiliate information and affiliate renewal has moved behind the firewall (i.e. [Integrated System](#)) to improve information security. **Any AIS member** with an email address on file can access this page. Anyone can edit **their own** privacy settings under the Account settings menu. Clicking on the "Member List" tab will open the AIS Lookup. Use the filter to refine your search. Clicking on the Affiliates tab will open the Region and Affiliates information table.

Affiliate officers can edit their own information, the affiliate's information, and set the privacy information for their affiliate. RVPs will be able to see this information for affiliates in their region. Click on the 2026 Affiliation tile to enter the edit screen for your affiliate. Affiliate officers can edit their club's information at any time. If you hold elections mid-year, you can update your officer information at that time.

The affiliate renewal process is fully now on-line and the application is live. Thank you to the 81 affiliates who have successfully completed their renewals! The payment **deadline is April 15, 2026** and reminders will go out in March to those who have not renewed. Any officer already in the system can edit their club's information. If all the officers are new, they may need help editing their information. You can contact your RVP or the system administrators for assistance.

Officers whose membership expires before July 1 will receive a warning that officers must be active AIS members and their affiliation renewal will not proceed to the payment section until the membership is renewed. Some clubs have perceived that as not having their changes saved.

Affiliation fees paid by check should be sent directly to the affiliate liaison, Jody Nolin. **RVPs will not collect checks** and send them on to her. This is a change to prior years' procedures. **Checks must be made out to The American Iris Society.**

Clubs choosing to continue to submit their information using the paper form will not be able to use electronic payment. Electronic payment is only an option when using the on-line affiliation renewal application. If you wish to renew with a paper form, download the [2026 form](#) (or [fillable pdf](#)) and follow the instructions.

For system issues, contact Electronic Services: Linda Wilkie, 402-250-7671, [lwilkie.gois@gmail.com](mailto:lwilkie.gois@gmail.com)

For affiliate-related issues, contact the Affiliation Liaison: Jody Nolin, [jody.nolin@gmail.com](mailto:jody.nolin@gmail.com)

To change the email address associated with your AIS membership, contact the AIS Membership Secretary: Jean Richter, 510-205-4033, [memsec@irises.org](mailto:memsec@irises.org)

# REGION 15 PRESIDENTS' REPORTS



## Central Coast Iris Society Report

*By Cynthia Martin, President*

Greetings, Region 15 affiliates!

As excited as I know we all are for bloom season 2026, I can attest that there may be none so excited as the club members of CCIS. This year, we will finally see the full bloom of our new society garden, as most of the tall bearded irises are coming into their second year as established clumps. Not only this, but we have been able to diversify our collection with a new raised bed dedicated to arilbred irises, 18 named varieties in total, and a modest display of named and registered Louisiana irises, 6 in total, with the potential for adding more if they do well.

More on the Louisiana irises: Ours are planted in wine barrels, which are a common and inexpensive commodity here in Lompoc. The use of wine barrels for displaying our Louisiana irises is not only cost-effective, but visually, they pay homage to the vineyard theme in our valley, which many locals take much pride in. Our wine region here is called The Sta. Rita Hills and is known for some of the best pinot noirs (and cold climate syrah) in the world. The contents of the barrels is a special moisture-retaining soil mixture of compost, native ground dirt, and peat moss. We will be relying on the adaptability of these tough irises to acclimate to their positions in our display garden, while tailoring our care towards their specific needs for consistent moisture and high demand for feeding. It will be a fun experiment for us, for sure!

Future plans for the garden include more long beds for even more tall bearded irises, a raised bed for Pacific Coast Native irises, paving of the center circle, and leveling of the pathways to make them smooth, well-managed, and easily accessible.

We would like to remind all of our region 15 affiliates and their club members that they are welcome to visit our garden any time. Its location is 3625 Rucker Road, at Hope Chapel in Mission Hills, Lompoc. Please don't hesitate to email us at [CentralCoastIris@gmail.com](mailto:CentralCoastIris@gmail.com) for more details on planning a visit, hotel suggestions, and things to do in our area in addition to visiting our display garden. Lompoc is a worthwhile destination! Our vineyards are beautiful, our restaurants have great food, and we also have the La Purisima Mission. In addition, we are only 30 minutes drive from the famous Danish town of Solvang. Come out and see us this bloom season!

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



*Top left:* wine barrels ready to be set up and planted with Louisiana irises this weekend,  
*top right:* photo of club member Leslie Kelly planting the arilbreds

*Bottom:* photo of completed arilbred iris bed

*All photos taken by Cynthia Martin*





# Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society Report

*Copied from the Winter Board Minutes in lieu of report*

The club has a membership drive every year. They got 4 new members from last year's membership drive. They are planning another membership drive in March. They are seeking younger members. The current membership is 39 members and 1 youth. They conduct their membership drive through Facebook, flyers and word of mouth. They offer a 25% reduced membership fee from \$20 to \$15, and a goodie bag filled with named iris and iris accessories. In December, they had a Christmas party with a gift exchange. It was a good time with lots of food and gifts. Claire presented a program on aril and arilbred iris at their January meeting.

*Photos from holiday party and January meeting taken by Allie Deaton*



[www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/](http://www.facebook.com/hidesertiris/)



# Inland Region Iris Society Report

*By Beth Train, President*

Spring is just around the corner or maybe, it is here already? The early winter rains awakened wildflower seeds. The Carrizo Plains shine with goldfields. Anza Borrego Desert is looking lovely with beautiful purple desert verbena. The California poppies at Antelope Valley shouldn't be too far behind. Reblooming and early spring irises are popping up here and there while battling the rains and windy days typical of Inland Empire winters. The rains these past couple of days (and last week) are a blessing to our gardens and loved by weeds everywhere. It was a cold storm and brought several feet of snow to the local mountains.

IRIS had a successful Fall Rhizome Sale last September. A lot of loyal customers showed up as well as gardeners new to irises. IRIS members were around to aid customers with iris selection, as well as share their knowledge on iris care and culture. As usual, we dug more than we sold. Unsold rhizomes were potted for future sales. Members showed up in creative costumes for the October Halloween Costume Celebration. Mother-daughter team Carole and Amy won Best in Costume with their queen bee and apiarist garb. Mason was Vincent Vega to my Mia Wallace (of Pulp Fiction fame). It was a fun night of games and prizes! A JT on Aril and Arilbred Irises was given by Claire in November. Our Christmas Party was well attended. Participants in the Gift Exchange and Cookie Exchange came home with wonderful presents and a wide array of delicious cookies. Mason presented a very informative program on "Photographing Irises" in January. He was very pleased with the positive response from the members. Members loved his program and praised him personally for his well-organized slides, colorful pictures, and easy to understand photography tips.

Future events are as follows:

- February 3 IRIS goes DARK
- March 3 AIS National Convention Power Point Slide Program by Beth Train
- April 7 "Line, Line Mass, and Mass Flower Design" demo by Linda Lang
- April 18 IRIS Show "***Sing A Song With Irises***" and Potted Iris Sale at the  
Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Riverside, CA
- April 25-26 Potted Iris Sale at the Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tours,  
Elks Lodge, Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA
- May 5 Program TBA. Nomination of Officers
- June 2 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 Hi Desert Iris Society for the wonderful Fall Meeting! Nine IRIS members attended the event. Michael Kowalchuk was an engaging speaker. He shared novel ideas on how to manage iris clubs and attract younger new members. We had a great time and always look forward to supporting the activities of fellow affiliate iris societies.**

See you at the iris gardens.

*Beth* 2/21/2026

[www.facebook.com/Inland-Region-Iris-Society](http://www.facebook.com/Inland-Region-Iris-Society)

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*Clockwise from top, left: Queen Bee Carole and Apiarist Amy, Beth's Mia Wallace and Mason's Vincent Vega, Gift Exchange participants, Christmas Party potluck, Mason, and Claire. Photos by Beth Train*



# San Diego Iris Society Report

By Mary Hanson, President

Hello, everyone!

SDIS has had an exciting start to the year. Our members-only auction of Region 15 iris was on October 12th. We raised \$372. A motion was made, seconded and approved to send \$500 to Region 15 instead of the \$372 that was raised by the auction. In November, a Master Gardener spoke about gardening in San Diego County. In December, Claire once again hosted our holiday party in her home in Ramona. As usual, we had a beautifully set and decorated dining room and delicious food! There were not as many people in attendance as the year before, but it was a nice cozy crowd. And, as usual, we wandered around Claire's amazing garden. At our January 11th meeting, Claire gave a talk on spuria that also served as a judges training. On February 8th, SDIS celebrated our 63rd birthday with a party at the San Vicente Resort. Our guest speaker, iris hybridizer Paul Black, spoke on his recent hybridizing efforts.

Coming up, on March 8th, Jeff Chiu will give a talk on PCN iris. On April 19th, Sandy Masuo of the Huntington will give a talk titled "Super Natural: Tales of Plants Behaving Weirdly." Our Spring Show and potted plant sale will be on May 2nd and 3rd at Balboa Park in San Diego. On June 14th, we will have an awards presentation from the Spring Show, officer elections and an ice cream social. SDIS does not meet in June or July, so our next events would be our fall rhizome sales on August 22-23 and September 19-20.

*Mary Hanson*



*Above left:* Putting the finishing touches on the side dishes  
*Photos on this page by Jan Benoit*

[facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety) (public)  
[facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/SanDiegoIrisSociety) (private)  
[SanDiegoIrisSociety.org](https://SanDiegoIrisSociety.org)

*Above right:* More fruit art by Olga - a pineapple parrot, tomato iris and apple hummingbird



*Row 1 left and right: guests enjoying the food at the holiday party (right photo by Jan Benoit)*

*Row 2 left: Our birthday cake (photo by Tammy Priest)*

*Row 2 right: Paul Black, our guest speaker\**

*Row 3: Janis Shackelford, Paul Black, Olga Batalov, Mary Hanson, Jan Benoit, Joyce (in charge of catering at San Vicente Resort) and Claire Schneider at the birthday party, with Paul's dachshund Shadow on the screen\**

*Row 4 left: Guests enjoying Paul's presentation, including two guests visiting from the Riverside area, Jane and Ken Reiter\**

*Row 4 right: Edith Schade, who helped us reserve the venue*

*Photos by Claire Schneider or \*Katharina Notarianni unless otherwise noted*





# San Fernando Valley Iris Society Report

*By Andi Rivarola, President*

Hello all,

After the December rains and high January temperatures, the garden plants, including irises, think we're in spring. Reblooming and once blooming irises are blooming early. What would the rest of the season bring? Here's our club's schedule till the end of the year:

March 5 - Flower arrangements utilizing irises

April 2 - How to prepare irises for entry into the Spring Show

April 18 - Spring Show 2026

May 7 - Beardless iris mini-show plus culture info

June 4 - Potluck dinner plus show awards

July 2 - We go dark

August 6 - Iris Auction

September 3 - Digital presentation by Jill Bonino

October 1 - TBD

November 5 - GAMES

December 3 - Holiday party



*Photos by Andi Rivarola*

*Left: 'Sky Hooks' at Christine Griego-Anderson's garden*

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

*Top and bottom right photos from 2025 SFVIS show*



## Orange County Iris and Daylily Club Report

*By Angie, club member, submitted via Lois Farr*

*The Orange County Iris and Daylily club continues to meet monthly at the Presbyterian church in Anaheim, California, where we have met for decades. We continue to enjoy monthly meetings with simple discussions and desserts. It is a wonderful treat to gather and exchange news and updates about our gardens and our lives. We are a small group of less than 10, yet we adhere to club procedures and include traditional celebrations. Closing our 2025 year, the November and December meetings were mostly fun and festivities. Starting off 2026, January and February meetings featured ROSES by Derry Gerald, our club president and master gardener. In addition to learning more about roses, the club re-elected board members and passed the 2026 budget. Between travels and health issues, our meetings remain a bright spot for all of us.*

[www.facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub](http://www.facebook.com/ocirisanddaylilyclub)



## Southern California Iris Society Report

*By Cheryl Deaton, President*

In December, the club celebrated our 70th anniversary with a holiday luncheon paid for by the club. Our January meeting was a presentation on PCIs by club member Jeff Chiu. It was very interesting and got many club members interested in trying to grow PCIs. Our February meeting will be on "Preparing for the Show" by club advisor Lynn McIlwain. We have many new members who will benefit from the information provided by this program. In March, we will have a JT on arilbreds by Claire Schneider. Everyone is invited to attend. April is a busy month. Many members will attend the Region 15 Spring Trek in Phoenix. Our spring show will be April 18th and 19th. The theme is "Irises in the Solar System." Our major fundraiser at South Coast Plaza is April 23, 24, 25 and 26. We go dark in May and other programs are to be determined.



*'Into The Night' (top) and 'Feeling Spicy Tonite' (bottom) blooming in Jill Bonino's garden in January - photos sent by Sue Brown*

[facebook.com/SouthernCalifornialIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/SouthernCalifornialIrisSociety)



## Prescott Area Iris Society Report

*By Isabel Olsen, President*

We started 2026 off with a bang!

Our new board members met in January for our traditional “Crossover” Potluck Meeting. Along with getting to know each other better, we approved our budget and shared our thoughts and plans for the upcoming year. We thanked our outgoing President, Sherry Williams for her service and presented her with a gift.

Our newly elected officers are: Kellie Smith - Secretary, Eugene Zielinski - Treasurer, Laura Reinhold - Vice President, and Isabel Olsen - President.

Kathy Sisley continues as our Member at Large, and we are happy to welcome our new Membership Chairperson, Kathy Kooreny. This important role was passed to her from Robin & Bill Walter, who were our membership team for 10 years.

We had the honor and pleasure to have Thomas Johnson of Mid-America Garden as our keynote speaker at our February meeting. It was enlightening listening to a hybridizer speak about achieving the color combinations in his seedlings.

This spring, we will have several opportunities to promote our club, starting in April with a table at the Clarkdale Plant Sale & Garden Festival, our Iris Show “Parade of Iris” on May 9th, along with a Potted Iris Sale the same day. We will have approximately 900 pots available for purchase. Our members do a great job at inviting guests to our meetings, which has resulted in several new members. We currently have 81 PAIS members, with a total of 114 including family members.

Our club has three iris gardens in the community for the public to enjoy, and a fourth in the works at the Arizona Pioneer Home. Thanks go to members Kellie Smith, Joanne Moorhouse and Heather Blakley for working hard to provide a beautiful iris garden for the residents.

All of the members on our garden teams have been busy fertilizing and getting the beds ready for a beautiful bloom season. We recently received a donation of large buckets from two local retailers to be used for our community work and events.

As the new President, I’m grateful for the enthusiasm of the new members that are taking chairmanships, and some of our veteran members for helping for a smooth transition. A special thank you to Judy Book for helping with our website updates, printing, and for always supporting the progress of Prescott Area Iris Society!



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

*Above photo:* Isabel Olsen,  
PAIS President, with  
Thomas Johnson  
(photo by Barbara Walls)



*Top left:* Thomas Johnson presenting at February meeting, *top right:* Officers & Board Members with Thomas Johnson (photos by Barbara Walls)

*Middle:* Robin and Bill Walter



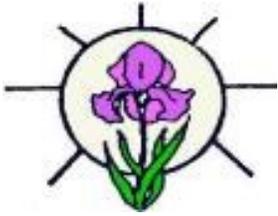
*Bottom left:* Members Angela Denis, Cynthe Brush, Melissa Burroughs, Marty Boxer and Isabel Olsen working at the Sharlot Hall Museum Garden (photo by Katy Standhardt)

*Bottom middle:* Robert Smith working in the Embry-Riddle Garden

*Bottom right:* Kellie Smith and Bridget Bernardi working in the R.M. Sculpture Garden

*Photos by Isabel Olsen unless otherwise noted*





# Sun Country Iris Society Report

*By Kyria Peavy, President*

Hard to believe it's 2026 already! What a wonderful way we ended 2025 with our spectacular holiday party. The evening was filled with incredible food, beautiful music from a wonderful men's choir, and most importantly, a lovely time spent with friends and family. It was heartwarming to see old faces return, and we celebrated the induction of our 2026 officers. Everyone had a truly great time.

We've kicked off 2026 with excellent programming. Pat Olsen provided us with a fantastic recap of the 2025 AIS Convention in Montana, sharing insights and inspiration from that gathering. Additionally, Dale Liggett conducted valuable Judges Training on historic irises, helping to deepen our knowledge and appreciation of this variety.

Most of all, we're looking forward to welcoming all our iris friends from Region 15 to the 2026 Region 15 Spring Trek right here in Phoenix, Arizona. This is an exciting opportunity to showcase our beautiful desert landscape and share our passion for iris with visitors from across our region. If you haven't registered yet, please do so soon. To make registration a little easier, we now have an online registration form. Just go to [suncountryiris.org](http://suncountryiris.org) and look for the Region 15 Spring Trek Registration form highlighted in red. It's that easy!

The Sun Country Iris Society is excited to host this regional gathering and looks forward to making it a memorable experience for all attendees. See you there!

Photos on pages 36-37 showcasing our holiday party, friends and family and presentations were provided by Dale Liggett and Pat Olsen.

Top right photo: men's choir at holiday party

Bottom right photo: induction of 2026 SCIS officers



[www.suncountryiris.org](http://www.suncountryiris.org)



*Top left photo:* Luia Verger, Barbara Hayes, Donald Poppe and Julie Grove at the holiday party



*Middle left photo:* February Meeting refreshments

*Middle right photo:* blooming at trek garden (photo by Sharon Petterson)

*Bottom left photo:* Dale Liggett giving a judges training on historic iris

*Bottom right photo:* Pat Olsen giving a presentation on AIS Convention in Montana





## Tucson Area Iris Society Report

*By Sue Clark, Secretary*

The Tucson Area Iris Society held a successful rhizome sale in September with the help of many of our members. It was difficult to choose the best from among the 89 beautiful photos that were submitted for our 8th Annual Photo Contest in October. Lynda Miller was our speaker that month via Zoom. We enjoyed seeing what she has in the works. In November, we held one of our favorite meetings of each year, featuring a potluck lunch accompanied by a plant- and seed-exchange. We do not meet in December, but in January we were back at it, viewing slides of iris species from around the world, as presented by Eugene Zielinski of our sister club in Prescott. So much variety in the genus *Iris*! In February, we'll learn about Dykes-Medal-winning irises by playing a Dykes-themed Bingo game. March brings us knowledge about historic irises and the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS), presented by Cathy Egerer. Since several of our members attended the AIS Convention in Billings last year, we've been featuring information and photos from that event in our newsletter - people, artistic arrangements, and gardens full of irises.



*Above:* September rhizome sale

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

*All photos taken by Dave Smith*



*Top left and right:* September rhizome sale; *middle left:* first 50 people got coached on potting a rhizome during the sale, *middle right, bottom left and bottom right:* January meeting

# AIS Region 15 2026 Calendar

Month	Day	Event	Location
March	3	IRIS Monthly Meeting: AIS National Convention slides by Beth Train	Riverside, CA
	3	SCIS Monthly Meeting: presentation on LA iris by Dwayne Booth	Phoenix, AZ
	5	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Flower arrangements utilizing irises	Canoga Park, CA
	8	SDIS General Meeting: PCN iris by Jeff Chiu	Lakeside, CA
	11	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	14	TAIS Monthly Meeting: Cathy Egerer of HIPS on historic iris	Tucson, AZ
	21	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
	28	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting: <u>JT</u> on arilbred iris	Arcadia, CA
April	2	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Prepare irises for entry into Spring Show	Canoga Park, CA
	7	IRIS Monthly Meeting: "Line, Line Mass and Mass Flower Design" demo by Linda Lang	Riverside, CA
	7	SCIS Monthly Meeting: trek preparation	Phoenix, AZ
	8	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	10-11	<b><u>Region 15 Spring Trek</u></b> hosted by Sun Country Iris Society	Phoenix, AZ
	18	<u>SFVIS Spring Show</u>	Canoga Park, CA
	18	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
	18	<u>IRIS Show &amp; Potted Iris Sale</u> at Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center	Riverside, CA
	18	<u>TAIS Iris &amp; Rose Show and Iris Sale</u> at Trinity Presbyterian Church	Tucson, AZ
	18-19	<u>Southern California Iris Society Spring Show</u>	Arcadia, CA
	19	SDIS General Meeting (due to Spring Trek): "Super Natural: Tales of Plants Behaving Weirdly" by Sandy Masuo of the Huntington	Lakeside, CA
	23-26	<u>Southern California Iris Society iris sale</u> at South Coast Plaza	Costa Mesa, CA
	25	PAIS General Meeting: "Preparing for the Iris Show" by Isabel Olsen	Prescott Valley, AZ
	25-26	<u>IRIS Sale</u> at the Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tours, Elks Lodge: 6166 Brockton Avenue	Riverside, CA
May	2-3	<u>SDIS Spring Show and Sale</u> , Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101	San Diego, CA
	5	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Nomination of officers, program TBA	Riverside, CA
	5	SCIS Monthly Meeting: Species iris by Eugene Zelenski	Phoenix, AZ
	7	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Beardless iris mini-show and culture info	Canoga Park, CA
	9	24th Annual <u>PAIS Iris Show &amp; Potted Iris Sale</u>	Prescott Valley, AZ
	9	TAIS Monthly Meeting: Fragrant Iris by Pat Olsen	Tucson, AZ
	13	OCIDC Monthly Meeting (call to confirm)	Garden Grove, CA
	16	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
June	2	IRIS Monthly Meeting: Fun and Games Night, election of officers	Riverside, CA
	2	SCIS Monthly Meeting: <u>JT</u> on Ethics by Michael Kowalchuk	Phoenix, AZ
	4	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Potluck dinner and show awards	Canoga Park, CA
	13	PAIS General Meeting: Photo Contest - Ice Cream Social	Prescott Valley, AZ
	14	SDIS General Meeting: awards ceremony, elections, ice cream social	Lakeside, CA
	20	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
	27	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
July	7	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA

Month	Day	Event	Location
July	18	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
	25	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
	25	<u>PAIS Rhizome Sale</u>	Prescott Valley, AZ
August	4	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
	4	SCIS Monthly Meeting: Ice cream social	Phoenix, AZ
	6	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Iris Auction	Canoga Park, CA
	8	TAIS Monthly Meeting: Rhizome Auction for members only	Tucson, AZ
	15	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
	22	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
	22-23	<u>SDIS fall rhizome sale</u> , Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101	San Diego, CA
	29	<u>SCIS rhizome sale</u> at Payson Farmers Market	Payson, AZ
September	1	IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
	1	SCIS Monthly Meeting: TB rhizome auction	Phoenix, AZ
	3	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: Digital presentation by Jill Bonino	Canoga Park, CA
	19	Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society monthly meeting	Lancaster, CA
	19	<u>TAIS Rhizome Sale</u> at Harlow Gardens Nursery	Tucson, AZ
	19-20	<u>SDIS fall rhizome sale</u> , Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 101	San Diego, CA
	26	Southern California Iris Society monthly meeting	Arcadia, CA
	October	1	SFVIS Monthly Meeting: agenda TBD
6		IRIS Monthly Meeting	Riverside, CA
6		SCIS Monthly Meeting: TB/LA rhizome auction	Phoenix, AZ
11		SDIS General Meeting: Region 15 iris auction	Lakeside, CA
17		<b><u>Region 15 Fall Meeting</u></b> hosted by Tucson Area Iris Society	Tucson, AZ

#### AIS REGION 15 AFFILIATE SOCIETY MEETINGS

Hi Desert Iris & Daylily Society (HDIDS) meetings: 2 pm on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Quartz Hill Grange Hall located at 41843 50th St W, Quartz Hill, CA 93536, unless otherwise stated. HDIDS, P.O. Box 4572 Lancaster, CA 93539  
Visit: [facebook.com/hidesertiris/](https://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](https://facebook.com/Inland-Region-Iris-Society)

For Central Coast Iris Society meetings contact the CCIS president or visit: [facebook.com/CentralCoastIrisSociety](https://facebook.com/CentralCoastIrisSociety)

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](http://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](http://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](http://sanfernandovalleyirissociety.org) or [facebook.com/sanfernandovalley.irissociety](https://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](https://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](http://www.suncountryiris.org)

Tucson Area Iris Society (TAIS): Visit on Facebook. Calendar of events posted to the TAIS website at [www.tucsoniris.org](http://www.tucsoniris.org)

Please send updates and corrections to [olga\\_batalov@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:ardikary@aol.com)

## Scott's Iris Gardens

(805) 712-2439

Tracy Scott

14615 Chispa Rd

Atascadero, CA 93422

email: [scottsirisgardens@outlook.com](mailto:scottsirisgardens@outlook.com)



## Bloomer-rang Iris Farm

(330) 958-0319

Wilhoit, AZ

email: [bloomerangiris@gmail.com](mailto: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 - **moved to Gardnerville, NV**

email: [craftonhillsirिसfarm@gmail.com](mailto:craftonhillsirिसfarm@gmail.com)

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

[www.craftonhillsirिसfarm.com](http://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](mailto:wildoakfarms.redlands@gmail.com)

For advertising information contact  
[olga\\_batalov@yahoo.com](mailto:olga_batalov@yahoo.com)

# Region 15 Fall Meeting 2025



Top left: Jane Reiter checking out the raffle iris

Top right: Derry Gerald and Jill Bonino

Middle left (from left to right): Jim Weiherer, James Charbonneau, Cynthia Charbonneau, and Yvette McClung

Middle right (from left to right): Carol Morgan, Beth Train (standing), Beverley Fortune, Carolyn Nielsen and Penny Culbertson

Bottom left: Mason Train standing next to I.R.I.S. members Alex (left) and Abe (right) Feuerstein

**Thank you Hi Desert Iris and Daylily Society!**

*Photo Credits: Claire Schneider*

# Showcasing Novelty Iris

All photos from AIS Encyclopedia

c. The Shady Spot



TB 'Don't Doubt Dalton' (Burseen 2015) with broken color (random dark purple splatters) HM 2017; Favorite Guest 2017; AM 2019; John C. Wister Medal 2021; Favorite Guest 2023; Dykes Medal 2023



Steve Sayers

BB 'Batik' (Ensminger 1986) with broken color HM 1988; Favorite Guest Iris 1988; AM 1990; Knowlton Medal 1992  
This iris helped popularized broken color



©CRAFTON HILLS IRIS FARM

TB 'Cha Cha Cha' (Bonnie Nichols 2018) with feathery flounces. One of parents, 'Dorothy Devenport,' is named in honor of Bonnie's mother. [Zurbrigg-Mahan Seedling Cup](#) 2016; HM 2021; AM 2023



TB 'Unicorn' (Lloyd Austin 1954) was one of first iris with horns



c. Christine Cusi

TB 'Mesmerizer' (Byers 1991) with flounces HM 1993; AM 1996; Wister Medal 2000; American Dykes Medal 2002



TB 'Conjuration' (Byers 1989) with horns HM 1991; [Premio Firenze Award](#) 1993; AM 1994; Wister Medal 1998; American Dykes Medal 1998, [Nelson Award](#) 2000, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2012; #3 in 2010 TB Symposium



c. Hillcrest Iris

TB 'Top Down' (Hooker Nichols 2015) has flat form. HM 2019



c. Connie Ford

TB 'Variegated Wonder' (Black 2012) is a sport of 'Wonders Never Cease' with variegated foliage. HM 2016



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