

# Region 14

## The American Iris Society

Minutes of Region 14 2009 General Spring Meeting  
Santa Rosa, CA  
Friday April 25, 2009

*By: Rick Williams, Regional Secretary*

RVP Lynn Williams called the duly noticed 2009 Spring Regional General business meeting of Region 14 to order Saturday, April 25, 2009, at 8:00 p.m. in Santa Rosa, CA. RVP Williams expressed thanks to the Santa Rosa Iris Society for hosting the Spring Regional and welcomed everyone. RVP Williams then asked for the Society Roll Call for the meeting, as follows:

Clara B. Rees-13	Mt. Diablo-15	Shasta-1
Fresno-2	Redwood-9	Sierra Foothills-3
James Gibson-3	Sacramento-9	Southern Nevada-1
Las Vegas-8	San Joaquin-5	Sydney B. Mitchell-14
Leo T. Clark-1	Santa Rosa-23	Westbay-6
Monterey Bay-9		

Also present were Steve Schreiner, from Region 13 and David Miller from Region 20.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** RVP Williams announced that the minutes of the last General Business meeting were published in the Region 14 Bulletin, upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as published.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** Helen Franklin read the Treasurer's Report through April 15, 2009 as presented at the Board of Directors meeting the previous night, and upon motion duly made and seconded, it was duly approved.

**JUDGES' TRAINING REPORT.** Judges' Training Chair, Kathy Braaten made her report on the status of the Judges' training activities. There was 12 Judges' Training session of which 8 were in the garden training. She thanked the Judges for doing one-on-one, of where there was 8 hours for Students one-on-one and 7 hours for Apprentices one-on-one. The current Judges status for the Region is 27 Students, 5 Apprentices, 24 Garden/Exhibition, and 17 Active Master Judges. She also announced that we will have 2 Apprentices that will move to Garden/Exhibition in 2010. Also, we have had 2 new students come on board so far this year. She then asked everyone to work together and help each other to keep our judges and bring in new ones.

**BULLETIN EDITOR REPORT.** Mary Lee Fortner asked that members please send her articles for the Bulletin.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Finance Committee. Ray Vickers-Traft reported that \$921.50 was raised at the Fall Regional.

Historian. Marlene Wiley reported on the audio taped interviews of various Hybridizers from the late 1970s to the early 1980 that she received and that she needed help transcribing them. She announced that Mary Lee Fortner volunteered to help.

Internet Services. Internet/Web Master Kitty Loberg announced that she wants societies to send her their events information so that she can post them on the website. She then announced that we now have a link to a full copy of the current By-Laws and Standing Rules on the website, and that she had received the Bulletin pages from Mary Lee Fortner and is now working on putting them behind a password secure link for members only to open. The password will be listed in the bulletin and is 14irises, which can be changed each year. She intends to have the bulletin available by the end of July. She also stated that photos of all guest irises that will be donated to the Region will hopefully be published on the website for the Summer Fundraising Distribution for the Societies use in their sales. The photos of the 2007 and 2008 irises are still on the website. She also said that there is a tracker installed on the website and that we have an average of 30-60 hits a week from all over the country.

Membership/Public Relations. Membership Chair Mary Ann Horton was absent and RVP reported that as of March 31, 2009 the membership is stable.

Scholarships. Teri Hudson was absent and RVP Williams reported that the applications had been sent out to the various schools.

Science. John Stremel absent, no report.

## **OLD BUSINESS.**

A. Summer Fundraising. RVP Williams announced that this year we are adding a live auction in a central location as well as continuing the distribution system because several of the Bay Area Societies said that they would prefer a live auction. Mount Diablo Iris Society volunteered to host the live auction which will be in Walnut Creek on August 1<sup>st</sup> at the First Baptist Church of Walnut Creek. RVP Williams repeated that the same rules used last year for the Distribution System will be used again. Each society chooses how they will participate and that the distribution system is based on society membership.

B. Standing Rules/Bylaws. RVP Williams announce that the Board tabled to the Fall Regional, the proposed changes to the By-Laws because they were not complete and that several of the proposed changes needed to be corrected. Kitty commented that the Standing Rules motions at the Fall Regional were adopted and that there was a motion

to vote on the proposed changes to the By-Laws to the next meeting. She saw that there were some serious flaws in the proposed changes and there was an electronic vote by the board to not go forward until those problems were corrected. After the January Budget meeting the committee met and more work was done on the proposed changes. Kitty then made a motion for the By-Laws and Standing Rules Committee to deliver the final proposed changes by no later than August 31<sup>st</sup> for final action at the 2009 Fall Regional. Riley Probst seconded the motion, motion passed.

C. Start of New Society In Reno. John Pesek reported that there is a possibility of 2 different people to become president of the new society and that there are 15 perspective members, and that Evelyn Condo in Sparks would be willing to host an organizing meeting and that it would be in 3 to 4 weeks time during their peak bloom. RVP Williams said that she would send out an email to everyone in the Region of the date when set, so that anyone interested in attending could come. She also announced that there was a general consensus of the Board to include the new Reno Society in the Summer Distribution, but that they would be given the irises as a gift from the Region.

## **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. 2010 Spring Regional. Shirley Trio reported that the Spring Regional will be hosted by the Regional Board and held in Modesto on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> and that all three gardens, which were close to each other, looked great and that there were 245 guest irises.

B. 2009 Fall Regional. Shirley Trio reported that the Fall Regional will be hosted by the Sacramento Iris Society and held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> but that she was not sure where it will be yet. TBA She also stated that she was trying to get Dave Niswonger as the guest speaker.

C. 2011 Spring Regional. RVP Williams requested a hosting society for the 2011 Spring Regional. No society has volunteered yet. RVP Williams announced that a committee was working on putting together a "How To Plan A Spring Regional Manual", which she hoped would be finished by the end of June or July.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. There is still a call for Virginia Mesick irises for the Memorial Garden that is being done in her honor. Please check the Bulletin, page 32 for details.
2. There are free Region 14 Bulletins 1997 – 2000 in the back.
3. The Painters from Napa Country Iris Gardens have free catalogs on the table near the door.

**TROPHIES AND AWARDS** RVP Williams introduced David Cadd for the purpose of announcing the winners of the Region 14 Awards. Mr. Cadd made the following award presentations:

1. The Knopf Cup for best seedling by Region 14 hybridizer: Seedling L00-27C, by Leslie Painter.
2. The Cotillion Cup for best current introduction by a Region 14 hybridizer seen blooming at the Spring Regional, Let It Be, by Larry Lauer.
3. The Clara B. Rees Cup for best introduced iris prior to 2008 by Region 14 hybridizer; must be in a clump of 3 or more stalks: Heather Marie, by Vern Woods.
4. The Melrose Cup for the best beardless iris, seedling or named as seen at the Spring Regional, Drip Drop PCI, by Joe Ghio.
5. The Jim Gibson Cup for best plicata iris seen at the Regional, Ink Patterns, by Tom Johnson.
6. The Out of Region Cup for best seedling or named variety from a non-Region 14 hybridizer, Ink Patterns, by Tom Johnson.
7. The Hager/DuBose Cup for bearded iris other than tall as seen blooming at the Spring Regional and introduced within the last five years (2005-2009): Dividing Line MTB by Chuck Bunnell.

**HONORARY AWARDS** RVP Williams introduced Glenn Corlew who is the Region 14 Larry Gaulter Lifetime Achievement Award Committee Chair. Glenn made the presentation of the Larry Gaulter Lifetime Achievement Award to Kitty Loberg, who was present and accepted the award.

**ADJOURNMENT** at 8:45 PM, there being no further business and everyone being anxious to have the Steven Schreiner of Schreiner Iris Gardens program, the meeting was adjourned.

July 8, 2009

R. Richard Williams, Secretary