



AIS Region

Hawaii

Nevada

Northern California

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Editorial submissions and inquiries should be directed to the editor. Deadlines for submissions are February 1 (Spring issue), May 1 (Summer issue), August 1 (Fall issue) and November 1 (Winter issue). Rights to all submissions will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication and copyright purposes, and as subject to the editor's unrestricted right to edit and comment editorially. Submit articles via email in a text file, e.g., .doc, .txt, (not .pdf).

Submit images with a resolution of 300 dpi via email to the designer [Gesine Lohr, gesine.lohr@gmail.com] and Mikey Lango (mdlango@aol.com) in a standard graphic format such as .jpg or .tiff. Include the name of the photographer, names of people shown and a brief description of what's going on.

Documents with archival content should be emailed to Internet/Electronic Services Ann Pike (baynews@baymoon.com) for posting on the AIS Region 14 website.

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Subscriptions

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Advertisements

Iris growers and suppliers of gardening-related goods and services are welcome to advertise in the Bulletin and at www.aisregion14.org.

For current rates for directory listings and display advertisements, see last page.

Cover Photo

Gypsy Lord (Keppel 2006)

photo: Riley Probst

The Bulletin is published online in March, June, September and December by the American Iris Society's Region 14, a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation whose sole purpose is promoting the culture and improvement of the genus Iris. [Society members who are not online may ask their club presidents for a printed copy]

The RVP's Garden >

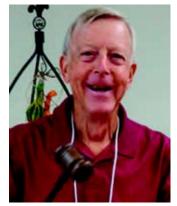


photo: Phyllis Wilburn

They say time passes fast when you are having fun!!!!!

Well, I must be having fun because the last three years have gone by so quickly. It is hard to believe that this is my last RVP message. It has been an honor to serve as RVP for Region 14. We are

so fortunate to have so many wonderful and dedicated people from California and Nevada.

This past spring was the busiest I have ever spent showcasing irises. I visited eight shows within the region from Reading to Bass Lake, had a wonderful time at our Spring Regional, and then went on to the festivities in Portland and the AIS National Convention. It was great to see so many Region 14 people in Portland.

At the AIS National Convention in Portland,

the AIS Board of Directors approved Region 14 having the 2019 AIS National Convention. Shirley Trio-Probst is the chair for the convention. It has not been decided as to where in Region 14 the convention will be based. Shirley is working hard in identifying gardens that could be on tour.

Let's give Shirley all of our support in this adventure.

Now is digging time and rhizome sales time for the affiliates and then planting the new irises we received from door prizes, trades or

right: John Pesek, holding a rhizome of **Snow Flurry**, at CBRIS rhizome sale (photo: Mikey Lango)

purchases. Where oh where will we find room?

Our Spring Regional, hosted by the newest affiliate in Region 14, the Yosemite Iris Society, was in a beautiful area of the Sierra Mountains. Thank you Yosemite for putting on a top-notch spring regional.

This fall we are going south again for the Region 14 Fall Regional in Visalia hosted by the James Gibson Iris Society on October 16-17, 2015. See this bulletin and our Region 14 web site for details. The guest speaker will be Chuck Bunnell, who hybridized **Dividing Line**, the first MTB Dykes Medal winner.

It is time to get your Tall Bearded Symposium votes to me. It is best just to email me with your vote numbers only or numbers and names. My deadline is September 30, 2015 to turn the region's votes over to Riley Probst, the AIS Symposium Chair -- so I need your votes by September 15, 2015. The ballot is available on the AIS web site --

www.irises.org/About_Irises/Awards_Surveys/TB_Symposium.html

~ John Pesek





http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/

Editor's Notes ~ Shirley Trio-Probst



As this issue becomes ready for print we on the editorial staff are nearing the end of our first year. This issue is our fourth but November 1 will mark our first year on the job. When we took the job it was with much trepidation and just plain fear. Region 14 had been without a bulletin for several months. No experienced

person was volunteering to take over the job, in fact no one volunteered at all; so my inner self said "just do it!" Volunteer and learn how to do it. A conversation with Tom Karwin put the decision over the top.

Tom offered help and advice and is a great consultant. How could I go wrong? Then the phone rings, Gesine Lohr from the Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society says "hey can you use a person experienced in computer layout with a history of professional technical proofreading -- I'm available and I'd like to work with you". Well what do you say to an entrance like that? I whooped, hollered shouted and danced, would be an understatement; I did all of this while driving down Interstate 5 in Sacramento.

Tom Karwin had a good thing going so why not just continue it. I needed to get my feet wet and learn. What better way than to get to know the club presidents, the Region 14 committee chairs and the workers than to ask lots of questions about what they did for the bulletin? So I did, I asked a lot of questions and learned about every job. Some people were patient with me and understood what I was trying to accomplish and some were not so patient or understanding. We got our first issue out on time and we were ecstatic. We haven't missed a deadline since we started.

Our baseline of assistants began to grow. Mikey Lango came on board our little boat in charge of photography and pictures and she is excellent bar none; proofreaders Jean Richter, Bonnie Petheram and Alleah



image from Lloyd Austin and his wonderful "Rainbow Offerings" catalog

Haley came on board. Alleah began to write and procure articles. There were good sports like John Pesek, who we blackmailed into allowing us to print a photo taken when he was caught red handed trying to date a cow in a sweater, Phyllis Wilburn ALWAYS had an article handy. People like Kathy Braaten who always had her club article on time without being reminded helped tremendously. Riley Probst always could find the photo we needed if Mikey didn't have it, even at 2:30 in the morning. When my computer began to act like a psychotic serial killer in the middle of getting the last article on the last day before publication, Riley was always there to say "I got it straightened out".

We learned together. Yes we made some mistakes and there were always those that quickly pointed out what they were. We worked hard and as Chief Dan George stated "we endeavored to persevere." Oh we still make some mistakes but we are getting better, learning more and becoming faster at what we do. John put it well in his RVP message when he said Region 14 has a great bunch of dedicated irisarians. It seems that the word thanks is not enough to convey my appreciation to all of the members of the region who gave us help and encouragement. Most of all, from my heart thank you to the editorial staff who gave so much of their time every two months to get this bulletin out, especially to Gesine Lohr for always having a kind and cheerful word and always a positive attitude. None of us could have done this without you Gesine. Thank you and thank you all. Now mount up pilgrim, year two is on its way and we don't have time to fool around!

If you have any questions, concerns, or thoughts about our Bulletin, please contact me, the editor, directly ~ thanks! shirleyjtrio@gmail.com, 209-551-6323.

below: James M. Gibson Iris Society raffle prize



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Calendar

Regional Meetings

2015 Fall Regional

The James M. Gibson Iris Society will host the Region 14 Fall Meeting on October 16th & 17th, 2015.

The hotel, Wyndham Visalia (formerly the Holiday Inn), is located in Visalia, CA., just off the freeway beside the airport on the south side of town. Region 14 has held functions there before so for all of you that go back a few years it will be familiar.

We invite all Region 14 members to attend. For more information, see p. 33 here, and the Region 14 website -- www.aisregion14.org/

We hope you all come. We are attempting to put together a reblooming full show. We are also working on getting permission to plant October blooming irises on the hotel grounds.

Chuck Bunnell, winner of the 2014 Dykes Medal for **Dividing Line**, will be the guest speaker.

~ Riley Probst

~ Steve Schreiner ~ presenting in Fresno November 2!

The Fresno Iris Society has invited Steve Schreiner to give a lecture on Nov. 2, 2015 at 7 p.m. in Fresno at the Hampton Inn near Herndon and Blackstone Avenues. All members of Region 14 are invited to attend this (free) lecture. Make a fun evening out of it and call Janet Smith at 559-683-0447 or email her at gbyp456@gmail. com to get an exact address, to let them know you are coming so they can have enough chairs and refreshments. The editor has known Steve for 25 years and can attest to his warm personality and witty humor ~ this promises a fun evening that one will not soon forget. Let's all support the Fresno club and attend this lecture. You might even want to stay the night in the Hampton Inn.

Region 14 Winners in 2015 American Iris Society Judges' Balloting by Shirley Trio-Probst

(photos by Riley Probst unless otherwise noted)

So many of us wait for the day the Annual AIS Awards are announced so we can know who won what. Of course the iris that wins the Dykes Medal is always foremost in curiosity. Every person who has ever hybridized an iris dreams of their creation winning the Dykes Medal. This writer can remember the time when hybridizer Keith Keppel (a former member of Region 14) dreamed of winning the Dykes. Keith never in his wildest and best dreams would have thought that someday he would be the proud holder of six Dykes Medals, four in the last ten years, including winning this year for **Gypsy Lord** (see cover photo).

The Schreiner family's irises have won eleven Dykes Medals spread out over three generations and hybridized by different family members. Who knows what the future will bring for Keith Keppel? Region 14 says "Congratulations, Keith!"

Some Region 14 people fared well in this year's voting. Rick Tasco, co-owner of Superstition Iris Gardens in the Mariposa area (Catheys Valley), received third place honors in the Dykes Medal voting for his creation **Absolute Treasure**. Rick also created **Temporal Anomaly** which was one of three winners of this year's Wister Medals. This iris is a very unusual and different fancy plicata.

Region 14's incomparable Joe Ghio's very lovely and perfectly formed **Niche** received the Knowlton Medal, for border bearded iris.

When the Sutton family were members of Region 14, Michael Sutton hybridized and introduced **Bright Blue Eyes**; it was second runner-up for the Cook-Douglas Medal for best standard dwarf bearded iris. Even though the Sutton family has moved to Idaho, **Bright Blue Eyes** was bred and introduced here in Region 14.

The Clarence G. White Medal is given to





left: Absolute Treasure (Tasco 2006)(photo: Riley Probst) right: Niche (Ghio 2007) (photo: Riley Probst)

aril and arilbred irises with at least 50% aril content. Region 14 members took three out of six places. The grand winner was **Aztec Prince** by our own Rick Tasco, followed by first runner-up **Persian Queen**, created by the late Bob Annand. Oh, but Rick Tasco wasn't done yet. This topnotch hybridizer garnered second and fifth runner-up slots with his creations **Exotic Treasure** and the outstanding **Silent Sentry**. Way to go, Rick!

Next up on the AIS award list is the William Mohr Medal for arilbred irises with less than 50% but at least 25% aril content. Rick Tasco and Superstition Iris Gardens scored again, taking first runner-up for the beautiful **Chain Reaction**.

The Sydney B. Mitchell Medal is for the Pacific Coast irises. These beautiful little jewels are very special as they can be found only in special climates, and are found both in the wild and being hybridized. Joe Ghio literally stole the show with his **Bay Street**. The second runner-up slot went to **Pinole Prince**, hybridized by the wonderful late Region 14 member Vern Wood. We are so appreciative to Terri Hudson for introducing this flashy jewel. Joe Ghio creations **Eye**

above: Temporal Anomal (Tasco 2007)

(photo: Rick Tasco)

Catching and Bubble Wrap took the third and fifth runner-up slots. Lois Belardi's beautiful Letter Perfect received sixth runner-up honors.

The Eric Nies Medal is given to the spuria iris receiving the most votes. Region 14 is proud to say that the second runner-up place was garnered by **Saint Patrick's Gold**, hybridized by the terrific couple Anna and David Cadd.

The Fred and Barbara Walther Cup is given to the iris receiving the most Honorable Mention votes in ANY category. Last year Region 14's Riley Probst's **Holiday In Mexico** won the cup, and this year his wife, Shirley Trio's creation **Opposites** placed fourth runner-up for the Walther Cup.

The Award of Merit is a very prestigious award and all Medal contenders are chosen from this list. It is not an easy thing for an iris to receive an Award of Merit. An iris must have won an Honorable Mention (HM), and only ten percent of the HM winners can receive the Award of Merit (AM). Region 14 irises made quite a splash by winning several slots in the tall bearded Award of Merit category. Those irises and their hybridizers



above: Opposites (Trio 2012)

(photo: Riley Probst)

are: Engagement Ring (Joe Ghio), Dragon King (Rick Tasco), Strawberry Frosting (Mike Sutton), Rim Of Fire (Mike Sutton), and Rum And Coke (John Painter). Runners up for the TB AM Award are: Lest We Forget (the late George Sutton), Edge Of The World (Mike Sutton), Judy Nunn and Nessun Dorma (both by Fred Kerr), Doctor Who (George Sutton), Be Original and Plot Line (both by Joe Ghio), Chocolatte (Lesley Painter), and Splatter Matters (John Painter).

That list shows that the Region 14 hybridizers are working hard. Now on to the border bearded (BB) Award Of Merit. **Bohemian Rhapsody** (Fred Kerr) received an AM, and **Sheer Excitement** (Rick Tasco) and the reblooming **Fruit Stripe** (Mike Sutton) were runners-up.

Not to be left out are the intermediate bearded iris. **Bahama Blues** by Mike Sutton received the Award of Merit, and **Backlit Beauty** by Rick Tasco, the reblooming **Fall Line** by Mike Sutton, and **Micro Burst** by Rick Tasco were all runners-up.

Mike Sutton's **Pinkster** was another Region 14 introduction winning the Award of Merit, this time for standard dwarf bearded irises.

Rick Tasco's **Bhutan** took second place in the aril and arilbred section, winning an Award of Merit

Runners-up for the Award of Merit for PCNs included **Finger Pointing**, **Mandalay Bay** and **Line Drawing** (all by Joe Ghio), and **Lewis Lawyer** (by Adele Lawyer and introduced by Terri Hudson). Region 14 hybridizers took four places out of the top five runners-up slots.

There are not too many people working on Louisiana irises here in Region 14 but "Pete" Rudkins' **Blue Splatter** was a runner-up for an Award of Merit in that iris category.

There were 6,910 votes cast in the Honorable Mention category for tall bearded irises. Only ten percent of the irises introduced may receive an Honorable Mention. Two years after being introduced, irises get on the ballot. Every iris introduced is eligible for an Honorable Mention but only ten percent actually receive an HM.

Congratulations go out to **Opposites** by Shirley Trio for receiving the second most votes for a Tall Bearded HM. **Opposites** was also the fourth runner-up for the Walther Cup.

In Region 14, Joe Ghio is the originator



(photos: Riley Probst)

of the most TB HM winners: Yours Truly, Oil Painting, Otherside Of Heaven, Polite Applause, Soul Mate, Civility, Core Values, Illusionist, and Emblematic. Congratulations to Lesley Painter for a TB HM for Golden Gaga, and to her husband John Painter for Jazzberry. David and Anna Cadd, good job for winning a TB HM for Lady In Purple. Mike Sutton and his late dad George Sutton had some Region 14 introductions that were honored with TB HMs. Those irises are Charismatic (George's iris) and Mike's Fruited Plain. Rick Tasco's irises just keep winning and winning. Rick received HMs for Autumn Explosion, a rebloomer of course, and Subtle Beauty. Riley Probst's iris Power Lines received a TB HM also. It is Riley's first HM for a tall bearded.

Two new people to the AIS awards system from Region 14 are Shirley Trio and Doug Kanarowski; both hybridizers' irises took TB HMs. Doug received an HM for his **Sings With Frogs** and **II Stutter**.

The Region 14 runners up for the TB HM are **Bronze Warrior**, **Gypsy Kisses**, and **Mango**

Queen (all by Fred Kerr), **Storm Rider** by Rick Tasco, **Platinum Jubilee** by Joe Ghio and **Solar Power** by Ross BeVier.

Runner-up for an HM for border bearded irises was **Dark Wonder** by Rick Tasco.

The HM for intermediate bearded irises for Region 14 introductions went to **Leave The Light On** by Riley Probst and to **Deep Burgundy** by Mike Sutton.

An Honorable Mention went out to Mike Sutton's **Bluebeard's Gold**, a standard dwarf bearded iris.

Runners-up for Aril And Arilbred HMs were **Alakazam** and **Enchanter's Spell**, both by Rick Tasco.

The last category that featured hybridizers from Region 14 is the HM for Californicae or Pacific Coast irises. Joe Ghio was involved in two of the four slots with his Costanoa and This Is It by Lois Belardi, which he introduced. Joe also filled the runner up section with seven out of nine slots with Coin Collector, Fresh Eyes, High Fire Danger, Open Eyes, Point Lobos, Power Center, and Stamp Of Approval.



above: Bohemian Rhapsody (Kerr 2009)

(photo: Riley Probst)



above: Bhutan (Tasco 2010)

(photo: Riley Probst)

As one can see by the results of all of these awards and runners-up to awards, Rick Tasco and Joe Ghio are absolutely on fire with their wonderful creations. Rick is winning awards in almost every category. That takes a lot of work and a lot of dedication.

We Region 14 members need to support our hybridizers by purchasing their irises and growing them. Oregon may be "Iris Heaven" but Region 14 is "Iris Paradise". In growing irises in this region we see much less rot and fewer other culture problems than any other region. Our growing season is much longer, therefore our rhizomes are usually much larger and hardier

than many grown elsewhere. Region 14 also shows off more rebloom from our remontant irises than any other region. So rally to our own hybridizers and support them. Plant and grow their irises and I bet you will vote for them. Our hybridizers support our region with their very generous donations of irises for our spring trek and our fall meetings. They ask for nothing in return. Let us reward them by choosing their irises to grow in our yards and fields.

Next year you members who are judges may vote for more Region 14 irises. Who knows, the next Dykes winner may be from Region 14.





above: Blue Splatter (Rudkin 2009)(photo: J. Richter)



above: **Bronze Warrior** (Kerr 2012)(photo: Mikey Lango)

Serena Galindo American Iris Society Scholarship

I aspire to attend and afford a college education so that I can major in plant sciences. This field is not only a pure interest of mine but would also allow me to become a botanist. Being a botanist would combine my two favorite passions, nature and benefiting others. I do not believe that there is sufficient representation of organic medicine within modern health care and hope that I can change this mental and physical barrier by traveling globally to heal and inform others with natural ailments.

I have been an advocate for my community by being involved in programs such as the North Fair Oaks Youth Initiative and Student Conservation Association. The NFOYI program focuses on encouraging youth to engage in civic matters through community events such as the OYE Conference and Friday Night Lights. The program has supported my leadership, communication and expression skills through workshops and now I am more confident to work with others and guide them. In the student conservation association, I among other youth learned about matters that exist within our local national parks, such as needing trail reinforcement, posts, and gardening, I participated in the 2014-2015 year program but did not complete it due to scheduling complications. I have also been apart of Sequoia's environmental club which given me the opportunity to teach and be apart of sustainability at Sequoia. To reduce Sequoia's footprint, I have participated in activities such as bike-to-school day, environmental-waste, composting and recycling drives.

AIS Convention 2015

~ photos by Mikey Lango





above: Steely Don (Aitken 2012) spuria left above: Hot Chili (Aitken 2014) spuria left middle: Seminole Sunrise (Wolford 2006) LA



an

above: Evening Comes (Schafer/Sacks 2014) sib

above: Carnivalito (Schafer/Sacks 2015) siberian



more AIS Convention 2015

~ *most* photos by Mikey Lango



above: Lynda Miller and Jim Morris

above: Joe Ghio, Carolyn Craft, Wayne Craft

below: Keith Keppel





"I'm Sorry, I Didn't Get Your Name. . . '

by: Phil Edinger

former HIPS Identification Chairman

(Historic Iris Preservation Society)

Phil Edinger, who served for many years as HIPS' ID Chairman, wrote this excellent protocol for identifying unknown iris.

This article first appeared in *Roots*, Journal of the Historic Iris Preservation Society, Vol. 2, Issue 1, Spring 1989

You can also find it on the original HIPS website done by the late Mike Lowe, at http://www.worldiris.com/public_html/Frame_pages/ID.html and at the current HIPS website, http://www.historiciris.org/articles/id-groundwork-checklist.html

Collectors of old irises (or old roses, daffodils, etc.) soon encounter the "Nameless plant." The first brush with this creature may be the mis-identified plant: the one you acquired for Such-and-Such but which proved to be not that item. The avid collector determined to retrieve old irises from cemeteries, roadsides, old homesteads, directly and knowingly enters the "Nameless Plant" realm - frequently hoping that identification can be made after a bit of study.

Sooner or later, then, all of us are likely to discover the pleasure of detective work. And almost immediately we discover the pitfalls, frustrations, and blind alleys that go with it. Basically, the problem is this: we will have before us a living individual, all of whose characters we can see at a glance; but where do we find good written and photographic material to give us the detailed information we need to distinguish our unknown individual from other similar irises?

If we have access to old iris catalogs, they're usually the first reference tool in an identity search: their pages tend to be packed with descriptions of a great number of irises. But catalog descriptions focus on the flowers; and, since sales is the motive, these descriptions emphasize the good and novel points while ignoring or down-playing the negative. Hyperbole is rampant: "monster blooms;" "best blue;" "flawless form;" etc. AIS *Bulletins* and BIS *Year Books* may offer more realistic descriptions, though you'll find your share of unhelpful tersities such as "worthless;" "not in a class with So-and-So;" "over-rated;" and such. With the proper resources and enough time, you may find helpful information gems tucked away in old gardening publications such as *Flower Grower* or *The Gardener's Chronicle*.

Photographs sometimes will come to the rescue, showing details that written descriptions fail to mention. But so few irises were photographed relative to the number of irises that were put into circulation. Earliest photos were black-and white, but if they're clear photographs they can show well all details other than color. Many of the early color plates in catalogs were hand-tinted - sometimes very well done but in some cases with rather bizarre results that wildly overemphasized color. And to muddy waters further, some of the less-scrupulous catalogers (never anticipating our needs) would apply different names to the same color photo in subsequent catalog issues -- leaving you to wonder which iris name (if any) was correct. The Robert Wayman catalogs are probably the worst offender; the large suppliers - Pattison, Schreiner, Cooley - are virtually 100% reliable.

Another frustration is repetition. You may find the same description or descriptive phrase in a number of different catalogs - just as you will find the same photo used over and over again. Only persistent searching will unearth snippets of detail that will begin to round out the repeated basics.

Detective work therefore can become major paperwork as you jot down possibilities and then comb "the literature" for further details to add to your bodies of evidence.

You can see, then, that trying to pin a name on a nameless iris is both a detective project and an obstacle course. Is it possible to succeed? Yes, and no. The "no" is obvious: insufficient evidence to make an I.D. The "yes", though, can be of two kinds.

The only <u>sure</u> identification of an unknown comes when you can match it with living material of a correctly-named plant (one that has been perpetuated with its name attached). Thus, if your nameless murky blend proves to be the same as my **Alcazar** (which came from someone who bought it as such, 'way back when), then you have a certain I.D. Lacking this confirmation, the best any of us can say is "probably" or "most likely" for any proffered identification made solely from descriptions and photographs. That's not to say that you may not be absolutely correct in your conclusions. But given the lack of richness in "the literature" and the fact that you will not have evaluated every possible description and photo, it would be inaccurate to announce <u>positive</u> identification (not to mention misleading, should you be wrong).

Lack of positiveness on your part need not cause despair or discouragement. There is the chance that your tentative identification may be conclusively proved or denied by another grower of historical irises. For example, you might share your "probable **Alcazar**" with someone who grows the iris and have your educated guess confirmed when they match up at bloom time. At worst, your speculative I.D. may prove incorrect - also an important step in an identification process ("I don't know what it is, but I do know it's NOT **Alcazar**").

As you collect and study your unknown irises, there are three activities that will greatly aid your research: 1) keep records on your unknowns, 2) photograph them for off-season reference, and 3) share the irises. Especially, record the source of each of your unidentified irises and assign to each some sort of simple "garden name" (or number) for easy reference. Through sharing, you will find that some unknowns were widely grown in their day (your **Roanoke lavender** may equate to my **Mendocino mauve**, for example). This minimizes the confusion, as we share and compare, that can result when one unknown iris is passed around under a number of separate "garden names."

Following is a lengthy list of descriptive points that, taken together, will form a "profile" of an unknown iris suitable for distinguishing it from virtually all others. It may appear daunting to make notes on all these aspects (and I confess that this is a "do as I say, not as I do" proposition!), but by training yourself to observe details, you will amass data that will make your excursions into "the literature" more fruitful.

Points Of Identification: Tall Bearded Irises

[Note: size, height, profusion of bloom are **RELATIVE** qualities. Good or poor culture will influence all three, but the differences in size and height, in particular, will remain fairly constant.]

RHIZOME:

A. Size

- -- relatively small (generally diploid)
- -- relatively large (frequently tetraploid)

B. Shape

- -- fairly compact, chunky
- -- elongated

C. Increase

- -- slow (2 for 1)
- -- moderate (about 4 for 1)
- -- rapid (5 or more for 1)

FOLIAGE:

A. Leaf bases

- -- conspicuously tinged red to purple
- -- lightly tinged red to purple
- -- tinged on initial spring growth only, fading out to all-green generally by bloom time (e.g. some pallidas, **Souv. de Mme. Gaudichau**)
- -- entirely green

B. Leaf character

- -- relatively long or relatively short
- -- narrow or fairly broad
- -- flat, slightly curled at tips, or distinctly curled in upper quarter or so
- -- carriage: stiff or lax (tips bend over)

[Note: size of fan/length of leaves is not always an indicator of ploidy; some diploids (e.g. **Thais**, **Floridor**, some pallidas) are large while some tetraploids (e.g. **King Tut**) are quite small.]

-- surface: smooth or noticeably ribbed

C. Leaf color

- -- blue green, with glaucous 'bloom' on surface (as in I. pallida)
- -- "average" green
- -- yellowish green

STEM:

A. Height

- -- relatively tall (tetraploids; some pallida derivatives)
- -- average
- -- relatively short (many diploids)

B. Character

- -- rigid, straight
- -- angular (zigzag, from branch to branch)
- -- flexuous (generally a tetraploid character)

C. Branching

- -- number of actual branches
- -- number of sessile bud placements (buds borne against main stem)
- -- branch placement starts: high (above center); about center; low (below center) to very low
- -- branch length

<u>short</u>: buds so close to stem that stem intersects virtually all open flowers - a pallida characteristic

<u>med</u>: (average): open flowers generally carried far enough from main stem so there's no interference

long: lowest branch often has one or two sessile buds or even a secondary branch

```
-- branch carriage
             close [see 'short' above]
             buds "toe-in" (point toward stem - e.g. Dominion)
             wide-angled (45 degrees or greater)
             medium (average) intermediate between close and wide-angled [see 'medium' above]
D. Freedom of bloom
      -- many stems to a clump
      -- moderate number of stems to a clump
      -- few stems to a clump
BUDS:
A. Number: per placement (terminal, each branch), and total per stem
B. Spathes
      -- totally scarious (papery) as in I. pallida,
             pale, nearly white
             tan to brown
      -- half-scarious/half fleshy
      -- totally fleshy (may have scarious tip only)
             all green
             tinged with red to purple (lightly or heavily?)
             inflated
FLOWER:
A. Size
      -- relatively small (many diploids)
      -- average
      -- large (generally tetraploids)
B. Form
      -- Standards
             shape: circular; oblong; ovate; obovate; fiddle-shaped
                     [note if standard is fairly flat or curves back noticeably from the midrib]
             carriage: arching (tips touch) or overlapping {both are dome-shaped}; broadly rounded
                    (globular as in some arilbreds); conical; open (anywhere from slight gap to
                    broadly open or cupped); floppy (upper portion may flop inward or outward -
                    sometimes entire petal may do so; this may be due to poor substance [see later] or
                    midrib that fails to support entire length of the standard)
             margins: ruffled, waved, smooth, laced
      -- Falls
             shape: circular; oval; oblong; fiddle-shaped; spatulate
                    [note if fall is flat, pinched at the sides, or convex]
             carriage: nearly horizontal; flaring (approximately a 45 degree angle); drooping to
                     straight-hanging; reflexed (bending back toward stem)
             margins: ruffled, waved, smooth, laced
C. Substance:
                    good (stiff);
                    average;
                    poor (flimsy)
```

D. Color:

-- Standards

<u>markings</u>: note veins (amount and color) at base of petal; wire edge of darker or contrasting color around petal edge

-- Falls

markings:

haft veins: plentiful to absent; color (and background color); narrow to wide spacing; conspicuous dotting - with (or instead of) veining edging: lighter margin; dark wire edge

-- Beards

<u>character</u>: narrow or broad; dense, sparse; length they extend onto falls <u>color(s)</u>: (e.g. evenly yellow; orange with dark tips to hairs; white on blade of fall, yellow in throat; etc)

-- Style arms and crests

color(s) of each

<u>character of crests</u>: (e.g. not conspicuous, prominently exserted (i.e., projecting beyond the surrounding parts, as a stamen -- Ed.); tips rounded, pointed, elongated)

E. Anthers

-- length

<u>short</u> (usually diploid)

<u>long</u> (usually tetraploid)

nearly absent perhaps just a "hook" at the end of the filament

- -- pollen: present or absent (sometimes anthers may be fully formed but fail to release the pollen this is worth noting)
- F. Texture (separately for standards and falls, if they differ.

Examples: silky, velvety, opaque, translucent, crepy, smooth or with conspicuous texture veins, etc.)

G. Bloom period

- -- early, midseason, or late
- -- rebloom (summer, autumn, winter)

Color is the most difficult part of the profile - bad enough when you're trying to describe a self-colored flower, progressively more difficult as you attempt to describe multicolored and blended blossoms. The various color charts (RHS, Ridgeway, Maerz & Paul, etc.) are good to use IF you have one because you will have a definite color reference that will be understood by anyone else having the same color chart. But most of us will have to wing it, going with "wisteria lavender" or "grape purple," or something.

I worry that this may be off-putting. I produced the material as I did to encourage people to look at details and not to rush to conclusions. *Phil Edinger* HIPS ID Chairman

Old Iris Catalogs Online! *(free!)*

Seeking Nominations for the Larry Gaulter Lifetime Achievement Award

If you're interested in reading old iris catalogs, there's now a lot available online, for free! Catalogs are scanned, and then put into PDF format -- which is easy to read, most computers have Adobe Acrobat Reader -- if you don't, you can download it free, see

http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/product.jsp?platform=windows&product=10

Bob Pries has put links to many catalogs, in the Library section of the AIS Iris Encyclopedia --

http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/Main

scroll down the page, you'll see "The Library of Iris Literature, including Articles, Books, and Catalogs" --

click on

"The Iris Library", to the right of the photo of a bookshelf --

This brings you to a list -- probably the easiest way to start, is to scroll down, click on a year to see what catalogs from that year are available. For example, if you go to 1926, and click on "Carl Salbach Catalog",

http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/Hist/Info1926CatalogCarlSalbach

you'll find a PDF of that catalog, which was from the Mike Lowe donation to AIS (and the image shows that that copy of the catalog originally belonged to hybridizer Lloyd Austin!). http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/Hist/Info1927CatalogIndianSprings has 1927 Indian Spring Farms catalog.

Bob has done a huge amount of work, (and AIS in scanning the Lowe library), thanks Bob!!

Starting in 2005, I scanned and made PDFs of some iris catalogs, which I'd be happy to send anyone.

Gesine Lohr

The Region 14 Honorary Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the Larry Gaulter Lifetime Achievement Award.

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

The Larry Gaulter Award may be awarded to an individual, firm, or couple that has made a significant, long-term contribution to Region 14. The individuals selected as recipients must be currently living in Region 14 at the time of the decision of the committee.

A Larry Gaulter Award recipient shall have demonstrated an exceptional dedication to serve Region 14 over a long period of time. The award is meant to honor those individuals who have demonstrated exceptional service over a period of eight years or more.

Service to the region is demonstrated by (but not limited to) any of: service on regional committees, as regional committee chairs, as regional officers, on the executive or general committee, and service in conjunction with regional or regionally sponsored shows and meetings.

Service to local societies, iris shows. judges' training, other local activities and general promotion of irises can be considered, but only as an adjunct to primary service as defined above. Service at the national level is not to be considered.

In making nominations, please include as much supporting information that meets the above criteria as you can to support your candidate.

Please send your nominations for this award to the Chairman of the Honorary Awards Committee:

Betty Ford 1383 E. Napa Street,

Sonoma, CA 95476

Email irisbetty@aol.com

Youth Views

~ Lorraine Nicholson

Where did the bloom season and summer go? There was no rest for our youth; they enjoyed their own iris blooms and dug, cleaned, made notes the rest of the time.

The Leo T. Clark Iris Society was busy; they added eight more youth members to their group. The affiliate also voted to set aside \$150.00 for youth keeper gifts to be given to the kids when they enter stalks or any other kind of arrangements/designs in their show. That is a good incentive, what kid doesn't want \$\$\$ to spend. The adults of that club have also approached several BIG BOX stores and walked away with goods at much lower or give away prices.

Another fast-growing youth group is in Coarsegold: there are three Classroom Iris Projects (CIP) there. Several youth were added to two of those groups. Several of those kids entered the iris show that was held at the Spring Regional this year in Bass Lake. By the ribbons given to them I would say they are doing well; thank you to their teachers and to mentor Carolyn Hoover.

We also have an active CIP group that is being mentored by some of the members of the Santa Rosa Iris Society. There is only one CIP group, but as many as twelve more schools are being mentored and we look forward to the time they are granted entrance into a CIP by the American Iris Society. Rudy Cuica spoke in May with the AIS board at the meeting in Oregon at the National Convention. AIS agreed to form a committee with Rudy at the helm to work on the current AIS rules to see if acceptable alternatives can be found.

Rudy will report back to the AIS Board at the Fall Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska the first weekend of November.

Cheryl Deaton is the AIS Youth Advisor Chairperson; speak out to her in favor of the Region 14 youth.

I have to say a wonderful "thank you" to the parents, grandparents and mentors of youth who do not have a structured CIP to attend. These people make the time to see to it that these youth are nurtured in all things iris.

Also, I would like to ask for suggestions for a "summer gift" from our region to each of these 158 youth that will excite and encourage them for another year. Because of the generosity of our region we can afford to spend three to five dollars on each child. This probably includes shipping. We sent each youth a paperback book in 2014, titled "Basic Iris Culture" It is our hope that when they pick up that book as adults, they will remember the fun they had as kids and will become members of AIS *AGAIN*

Girl Scout Badge Training ~ Rudy Ciuca

Last spring Joe Lawrence and Rudy Ciuca of the Santa Rosa Iris Society attended a Girl Scouts Badge Day held at the Charles Schultz Museum in Santa Rosa. This event exposes youngsters to various aspects of arts, crafts, and science. Joe and Rudy manned an iris table where they talked with the youngsters about growing irises.

below: Girl Scouts coloring iris pictures



They also had some different iris pictures for the kids to color. Several of the youngsters submitted their colored picture to be entered in the Santa Rosa spring show where they would be judged and possibly win ribbons.

Adults who came to the table expressed interest in their school garden programs. The interested adults will be contacted by members of the Santa Rosa club and will receive rhizomes in the fall. Those rhizomes will be planted in school gardens. Twelve schools signed up.

Classroom Iris Project ~ Rudy Ciuca

Fourth grade teacher Cindy Leonard from Cobb Elementary School in Cobb, California (Lake Co.) requested someone to come to the school to prepare the students for presenting iris blooms for our annual iris show. Jim Begley, Joe Lawrence and Rudy Ciuca went as requested and met with two separate classes. Each class was scheduled for one hour. The youngsters were as excited and as motivated as their new mentors. The future irisarians were filled with questions all related to irises.

We talked in general about iris culture and iris shows. Jim Begley gave a brief lesson on irises in the garden and then gave a lesson in preparing for a bench show. Several students were very interested in hybridizing and Jim gave those youngsters one-on-one attention.

Between classes Cindy gave us a tour of the campus where the irises are planted. Jim discussed light requirements, water requirements and fertilization issues.

The two class sessions went very well and the youngsters, all from the fourth grade, were very appreciative. Both the youngsters and the iris teachers (Jim, Joe and Rudy) had a great day! below: Jim Begley and Joe Lawrence giving iris exhibition training to students at Cobb School.



below: Jim Begley giving iris training at Cobb School. Joe Lawrence is in the background.





above: **Beam Me Up Scotty** (Aitken 2011) photo: Mikey Lango

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~ Advertising Manager ~

Enjoy talking to people about irises? Especially enjoy talking with the Region 14 hybridizers?

Region 14 wants you to come and join our little editorial group. We need an advertising manager. Not much to do, just phone the hybridizers and commercial gardens every three months. Be your own boss, work in your own time and the pay is great (zero!). All the kudos you could want and maybe even a free bottle of water thrown in once in a while, all for just making a few phone calls a year.

Give it a try. Contact the Editor!

Wanted!

We encourage each iris society president, or a representative, to send news from their society for publication in the Bulletin. Please share information on your events, innovative ideas and latest accomplishments to Shirley Trio, Editor shirleyjtrio@gmail.com by the quarterly due dates listed on page 2 of this bulletin.

This is YOUR bulletin!

How to Vote the Tall Bearded Symposium

Go to the AIS web site www.irises.org

click on "NEWS'

scroll down to and click on 2015 Tall Bearded Symposium

scroll down and click on 2015 Tall Bearded Symposium Ballot

Record your chosen iris numbers and email the numbers to the Region 14 RVP, John Pesek

jmpesek@sbcglobal.net

The Bulletin—AIS Region 14

Clara B. Rees Iris Society

Clara B. Rees Iris Society had a very successful Spring Show held at Westgate Mall in San Jose. We gained one new member and had fun helping onlookers understand iris culture. Henry Rojas won Best Specimen of Show with his tall bearded iris entitled **Shadows of Night**. The society's important relaxing event for the summer was our July picnic. We are lucky to be able to hold it on members Jim and Elaine Laflin's lovely grounds where we had a spirited auction as well as delicious food.

As my presidency comes to an end, I enjoy looking back on my memories of getting to know our members on deeper levels. We have an excellent treasurer who keeps our budget on track, a vice president with wonderful writing skills who was able to procure many interesting speakers and a secretary who not only takes concise minutes, but also adds humor filled notations about the speakers' programs. Our members who aren't able to attend a meeting really appreciate finding out what has happened by reading the delightful minutes.

We have members with muscles who literally do the heavy lifting, those who know how to load a van with CBRIS belongings in ten minutes, problem solvers, three enthusiastic judges' candidates who are filled with the love of irises, and those who willingly do the work that maintaining a viable society requires. There are those who have laughed at my jokes and encourage and supported me through all our meetings.

Our Spring Shows, our sales and our picnics are a delightful success due to a team effort led by our capable, tireless chair and the members who helped. I offer kudos to all the Clara B. Rees Iris Society members. We welcome Mary as our new President, again, we can't do without her.

September, October and November promise the fun of the beardless sales and auctions. Let the fun begin.

Barbara Pesek, Outgoing President

Clara B. Rees members are looking forward to the beginning of our new year in September. This month has been the start since I joined in 1992 and may have been instigated at the conception of the

society in 1957. Our new officers are: President - Mary Collins, Vice Presidents - Philippa Alvis and Carolyn Craft, Secretary - Lynn Stuart, and Treasurer - Jane Jordan. We also welcome new board members: Jane Reiter, Elaine Fischer, and Carol Dahout.

Fresno Iris Society ~ see page 5



Some very hard working club members showing off the rhizomes for the sale (Angie Herrick) and proudly working the show!

James M. Gibson Iris Society

The James M. Gibson Iris Society is proud to be able to do our part for the region by hosting the

Fall Regional Business Meeting. We have invited Chuck Bunnell, the hybridizer of the first miniature tall bearded iris to win the Dykes Medal. Chuck will spend time Friday night talking to us about his garden, his hybridizing program and other interesting topics. On Saturday Chuck will give judges' training.

We are having a full reblooming iris show so we hope everyone will bring in their reblooming stalks to share with us. The Jim Gibson members appreciate the help of the Yosemite Iris Society in getting the show together and getting it set up.

Judges, be prepared to be asked to judge the show on Friday evening. We have permission from the hotel to display the irises in the main hallway so the other hotel guests may see them and enjoy them. We have been told there is to be a large wedding in the same area that the irises will be displayed -- what good luck! Don't forget to mark your calendars and attend the Region 14 Fall Regional on October 16th and 17th. There will be a lively auction, and irises for sale and don't forget the silent auction, which promises to have some interesting items.

See you at the new Wyndham Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn) in Visalia, 9000W. Airport Drive. Approximately ¼ mile off freeway. Can be seen from freeway. If you pass the airport when on the freeway you have gone too far. The hotel is PET FRIENDLY for a small fee and there are refrigerators and microwaves in the rooms (but request those rooms at time of booking) -- so bring your wine or your cokes and popcorn and be prepared to have fun.

Riley Probst, President

Las Vegas Iris Society

The Executive Board of the Las Vegas Iris Society is very busy this summer preparing for our new year to begin in September. I need to give a big thank you to Dorlene Waite and Christine Meagher for getting me ready to be a first-time president.

We will be doing some exciting things in our community to promote interest in iris. We were contacted by the Old Mormon Fort Museum Las Vegas first settlement for a gift of iris to be placed at the entrance of the visitor center. We will be supplying some iris to Opportunity Village for their 2.5 acre park designed for handicapped people, opening in Novem-

ber. We also have a speaker who teaches "Gardening Summer Camps" through the school district. Instead of a speaker fee she asked that we give an "Introduction to Iris" presentation for her.

Not only will we donate our rhizomes to these great organizations, but we will be there to give them advice and someone they can call with iris questions. Fortunately for us the museum and park have an onsite Master Gardener to do the planting and after care.

I am eager to read what the other clubs are doing this year. Happy iris growing everyone.

Leo T. Clark Iris Society

Members of the Leo T. Clark Iris Society have been busy preparing their own iris beds and also planning for our two September iris sales. The first sale will be in Fort Bragg over the Labor Day weekend and Cloudia Owen and Kathy Hutchinson will be representing the club at this sale, offering a good selection of TB iris rhizomes in the frequently requested colors of black, orange, yellow and pink.

This year we will also be offering more SDB and MTB rhizomes and suggesting ways that they can be used in perennial gardens.

Our second September sale is at the Durham Rotary Harvest Festival where we will be selling potted rhizomes. This is our first time offering potted rhizomes at this sale and we are hoping that they will be well received. Again, we will be doing some education to our buyers regarding ways to use SDB, MTB and other median irises.

At our October meeting we will have our traditional COME AS AN IRIS meeting. Always fun and challenging to not only dress as a named iris, but also to guess who is representing what iris! The LTCIS will also be represented at the annual October Home And Garden Show held at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds in Chico. Mary Old-Kooi will be the lead person for that event.

A topic has not yet been selected for our November meeting, but a guest speaker will hopefully be on the Agenda.

Wishing you all less heat and more precipitation.

Carol Cullen, Co-President

Monterey Bay Iris Society

The summer was very productive for the Monterey Bay Iris Society. We had three sales that were financially rewarding. June brought our first sale at the Garden Faire in Scotts Valley; July brought our picnic and auction. We had a hoot of a summer picnic and got to meet the little grandsons who Carolyn Craft has brought us to know with her funny stories of their non-stop antics. The turn out for the picnic was phenomenal. August brought our Deer Park sale with its line formed and waiting to buy irises at 8:30 in the morning. We were sold out by 11:00 am. A week later was our Farmers Market sale at the Cabrillo College, another great profit day. We have learned that you just cannot go wrong with advertising. Spend \$100.00, reap \$3,000.00.

Our August meeting brought a good program and a table full of irises brought by the members. Each member took their choice when their number was called. There were enough irises for everyone to take two. In September we will do it again, October starts the beardless season off. Joe Ghio will give us a very educational talk on the culture and growing of PCIs or are they PCNs. November continues with beardless talks and educational programs.

Our membership has grown so much we are about out of room in our meeting hall -- we had a capacity crowd for the last two meetings. There is always room for one more, come and join us. Our secret for growth is continuing to adopt new ideas and working together in harmony and fun (and doing what Joe tells us to do!). No old fogies in our group! We even have some 40 year-olds, imagine that. Come and have fun with us, we'll make it worth your while (you should see our refreshment table).

Mount Diablo Iris Society

The summer just flew by. Mount Diablo Iris Society topped off the summer with a grand sale at the Benicia-by-the-sea Peddlers Faire. The weather cooperated and we made a lot of sales. Our booth has expanded to three canopies.

We cannot believe that the fall is right around the corner. Fall for the Mount Diablo Iris Society means auctions, auctions, and more auctions and potting parties. At our spring show we sell irises that have been growing for several months in one gallon pots. This sale has been very successful for us and each year brings in a large portion of our revenue.

We will begin our beardless auctions and we invite anyone and everyone to attend. The prices are certainly right. We will not be holding elections in October as we elect our board for two years.

We meet on the first Friday of every month. Call President Stan Morgan at 925-687-6459

Sacramento Iris Society

What a busy summer we have had so far, highlighted by a great rhizome sale in July. We worked up to it by having a fun picnic at Cindy Eastman's house in June with our sister society, Sierra Foothills Iris Society. Then we had two all-day sessions digging, trimming and labeling, first at Horton's Iris Garden, then at the Wilburn's garden. The two day sale at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center was complicated by the fact that we were bumped from the building for Sunday by another reservation, and had to move the tables of baskets with rhizomes into the patio for the Sunday sale. We feared that would affect sales negatively, but we made more money than last year and were very pleased with the results of the sale. Our Sales chair, Stan Logan, was out of the country until the week before the sale, which meant no sign-up sheet went around for times to work. What a ploy on his part, as all the active members showed up and worked all day, as they had no 'scheduled' time. Stan is famous for saying 'This is the fun part', and I tend to agree.

Our next event is our annual Potting Party to pot about 400 irises for sale during the coming year. It is a never ending cycle, and we have great camaraderie and lots of fun doing it.



above: Yarda Hansen trimming rhizomes

photo: Phyllis Wilburn

below: Group photo of SIS photo: Phyllis Wilburn



I am including our one-and-only group photo, which may never happen again. We had to take it without the presence of Della DeCorse and Joyce Ragle, who also worked, but it is the best we could do. From Left to right the folks are Standing: Stan Logan, Bill Fink, Phyllis Wilburn, Cindy Eastman, Alison Willy, Valerie Wheeler, Fran Shields, Mary Ann Horton, Russ Shields, Peggy Ruud, Nicolai Laquaglia, Barbara Elkin, and Kathy Braaten. Seated are left to right: Patsy Laquaglia, Ruth Ostroff, and LaVille Logan.

In earlier news.....

What a summer it has been for all SIS members! The show went on with Alison Willy at the helm as Chair, and everyone else pitched in. Some say it was the best show ever with more than 400 people visiting and almost all the potted irises sold. That is a pretty powerful statement as this was our 65th annual show. Stan Logan had the great idea of displaying single blossoms in drink cups, with the iris name for the public to see. It was a very popular table. The peoples' choice was **Aardvark Lark** by Paul Black, which was entered by Fran Shields who also won Best in Show with **Absolute Treasure**. Betty Schmidt won the Best Artistic with a beautiful arrangement called Tokyo Nights.

The show was followed the next week with two garden visits. Fran and Russ Shields' place in

Elk Grove is a show-place and the irises were in full bloom. Some could not resist buying a few new potted irises while we were there. Then two days later we were at Ruth Ostroff's and Horton's Iris Gardens. Both were in peak bloom and the light was great for photography. Thanks to Russ and Fran Shields, Ruth Ostroff and Mary Ann Horton for opening their gardens to us. The next big thing was the Picnic at Cindy Eastman's house in Grass Valley, and then we held the Rhizome sale in July preceded by two dig and labeling sessions. Now we are looking foreword to the September auction and the October elections. Not sure if SIS will have a Thanksgiving celebration or a Christmas party. This is one busy club, but we love it.

Phyllis Wilburn, President

San Joaquin Iris Society

Santa Rosa Iris Society

September is one of our Society's busiest months, with two massive rhizome sales open to the public. The first is from 9-3 on Saturday, September 5 at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center (LBAGC) in Santa Rosa. Members donate their extra rhizomes and place them, separated by variety, in grocery bags set on tables. A label is affixed to the upper, narrow end of the bag which has a picture and the registration description of the iris so customers can see what they're purchasing.

Then on September 8-10 we cart the bags to the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa where we have a large booth at the 5th Annual National Heirloom Expo, a hugely popular display of "everything organic", from heritage livestock breeds to heirloom vegetables and seeds -- billed as "the world's pure food fair".

We join an army of mostly youthful farmers, gardeners, and farm animal enthusiasts. Members take turns working two 4 ½ hour shifts each day, selling iris rhizomes and educating customers about irises, their culture and landscape uses, and conducting iris dividing demonstrations. There we will encourage children and teachers displaying their school garden projects to sign up for the AIS Classroom Iris Project that our Society sponsors.

October is when we pretty much finish our gardening for the year in our Iris Display Garden at the LBAGC. We have a newly installed drip system with new valves and T-tape, a collection of all the American Dykes Medal winners, as well as representatives of most of the known bearded and beardless groups of irises, including a growing collection of antique irises.

November brings our annual "Come Dressed as an Iris Name" holiday potluck dinner and costume party at the LBAGC. This year it is planned to start at 6:00 PM on Friday, November 6. By my count this is the 16th year for the costume party. The Society provides ham or turkey or both, and members bring their favorite holiday dishes. Prizes are awarded in such categories as "Favorite Costume", "Master Perplexer" and "Guessed Most Iris Names".

Alleah Haley, President

Shasta Iris Society

Sierra Foothills Iris Society

Sierra Foothills members were busy digging and dividing iris to prepare for our annual sale that was held at Eisley's Nursery in Auburn on July 25th and July 26th. We had a very successful two day sale. Cindy Eastman chaired the sale and did a tremendous job again this year. We were very successful in promoting the AIS voucher program at our sale. We are pleased to announce we had five new members join AIS and a total of seven new members to our Society.

We will be having a program on Spuria iris in August presented by member Eric Hansen. Phyllis Wilburn will share her slides of the wonderful iris from the National Convention held in Portland at our September meeting. Of course October is our thank you potluck and silent auction, which is a big hit with our members. We will also be electing our new board for the new year 2016. No meeting for our society in November or December.

Submitted by Kathy Braaten

Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society

The Sydney B. Mitchell Iris society had a successful bearded iris rhizome auction last July at the Oakland Garden Center, followed by sales of

more rhizomes at the Jack London Square Farmers' Market. We're looking forward to our September club barbeque, and our beardless iris sale, which will be held the evening of October 23 at the Oakland Garden Center.

Jean Richter, President

Westbay Iris Society

We only meet twice a year and do not have regular meetings.

Yosemite Iris Society

These children in the photo grew their irises in pots and one young man was rewarded with a full stalk and blooms. Carolyn Hoover is the mentor to approximately 80 children in her Classroom Iris Project.

Now that school has started Carolyn has again started working with the youngsters. Carolyn does this by herself. Whew!!! 100 kids. How does she do it?

Carolyn is the current President of the Yosemite Iris Society. In September the President will chose a nominations committee for their elections in November. There is no meeting in November or December.

This is the newest Region 14 affiliate and its membership is growing. Recently at a potting party the conversation revolved around how much fun the Spring Regional was and how much the garden own-

ers enjoyed growing the guest irises and hosting all of the regional membership.

YIS worked closely with the James M. Gibson Iris Society during the spring regional. JMGIS helped with the show. In October the YIS will reciprocate and help the JMGIS with their Reblooming Show during the



photo: Carolyn Hoover

fall regional that JMGIS is hosting in Visalia.

Our Yosemite Iris Society got all of the Regional iris dug from our three gardens; we got the irises ready and sent out to 11 affiliates. One day it was 103 but Guy Hoover, Riley Probst, Dan Cereghino and Shirley Trio-Probst were digging and bagging in full sun. Now that is iris dedication.

We had several Farmers' Market Sales, a picnic, a potting party and lots of fun. We plan to increase our support to the CIP at Coarsegold School.

Our next meetings will be on September 4 and then on October 2. We do not meet in November or December. We meet at 7:30 on the first Friday of the month except July and August, when we do other fun stuff. We meet in the library of the Yosemite Lakes Community Center. Several members meet for dinner next door at the Blue Heron Restaurant at 6 pm. Come join us. Eat, Drink and stay for the program!

Carolyn Hoover, President

Errata/Corrections

We had photo information incorrect, for the photo "FIS at Home & Garden Show" p. 24 last issue -- the correct information is:

Ramona Speer and Carolyn Krajicek (*photo:* Marilyn ONeill





Dish Gardens: miniature landscapes built around a theme

By Mary Old-Kooi

Materials:

- 1. A container such as a ceramic pot, dish or something creative such an old boot that will hold water and have drainage
- 2. Potting Soil
- 3. A black permanent marker
- 4. A variety of plants that have the same kind of needs to survive.
- 5. Pea gravel for drainage
- 6. Small ornaments to "tell the story"
- 7. A spoon or garden spade
- 8. Garden gloves
- 9. Water

Directions

- 1. Write your name on the bottom of the dish.
- 2. Choose a theme and small ornament(s) or decoration(s) to carry it out. Examples: ceramic chicken, farm animals or frog hidden in the grass around a pond.
- 3. Cover the drain hole of the pot with a piece of screen to keep the dirt from drifting & plugging it up.
- 4. Add 1-2 inches of pea gravel to keep roots above standing water.
- 5. Add moist potting soil to within 2 inches of the top of the pot. (Leave enough room for your plant's roots as they are added to the scene.)
- 6. Remove three plants by placing your fingers in a "V" under the bottom leaves, turning the pot upside down and gently tapping until it falls into your hand. Try to select three different heights of plants, and be aware of color and texture as you choose your plants.
- 7. Set the tallest plant in the center if the pot will be viewed from all sides or to the back or side of the pot if the dish will be viewed from just one side.
- 8. Add two more plants and decide if more are needed, but do not crowd them.
- 9. Arrange soil, bark, sand, gravel, twigs, stones or ornaments to tell the story of the garden. Is your scene a frog's magical pond, a mermaid's garden, or the Hobbit's home?
- 10. Turn the dish to see if it is balanced from all viewpoints.
- 11. Water your garden.
- 12. Ask a friend to look at your dish garden and give you constructive suggestions.

13. Fill in the AIS Entry Card and hang it on your Dish Garden. Be sure to fill in information on the top as well as the bottom of the card.



Members of the Leo T. Clark Iris Society voted to offer scholarships to any youth interested in growing iris. A Youth Activities Committee composed of Shirley Clark, Marilyn Mazza, and Mary Old-Kooi will meet regularly with students to teach them about iris horticulture and artistic arrangement. LTCIS members set aside \$150 in support of the first adventure: Dish Gardens to be judged at the Spring Iris Show. Ceramic pot-belly bowls were purchased for children under the age of ten years. Students of ten years and older were provided blue glazed ceramic pots. Individual selection of pots was also allowed. Our goal was to provide all necessary materials in order to spare any family expenses they could not afford; however, individual provisions were also allowed.

Using AIS guidelines for arrangements, the children selected their pots and plants. Flowering pansy, vinca, begonia, marigold, petunia, colas, Daisy, iris, and variegated greens were provided. The first place \$ 10 check for children under ten years of age went to C.M.; the winner over ten years of age was S. O. All participants received keeper gifts of multicolored markers in keeping with the show's theme of "Kaleidoscope of Iris".

LTCIS now has 13 youth members ranging from age 4 to 15 years of age. All participants were offered five to ten free iris to grow in their home gardens.

later AIS Conventions

East We Go in 2016 ~ May 23-28, Newark, New Jersey

Convention Chair: Paul W. Gossett 1502 S. Boulder #12B, Tulsa, OK 74119

phone: (918) 853-6204 e-mail: pwgossett@juno.com

Convention Co-Chair: George Boyce

520 Dairy Road, Palmerton, PA 18071-5923

phone: (610) 824-8198 or (607) 857-8732

e-mail: glenara@aol.com

2017 AIS Convention ~ May 22-26 Des Moines, Iowa

Convention Chair: Kelly Norris

3149 Kentucky Avenue, Bedford, IA 50833

phone: (515) 777-2356

e-mail: kellydn@frontiernet.net Convention Co-Chair: Gary White

701 Old Cheney Road, Lincoln, NE 68512

phone: (402) 421-6394 e-mail: in2iris@yahoo.com





Region 14 Commercial Gardens

Bay View Iris Garden, Joe Ghio, 1201 Bay St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060; 831-423-3656; email: ghiobayview@surfnetUSA.com.

Bluebird Haven Iris Garden, Mary Hess, 6940 Fairplay Rd., Somerset, CA 95684; 530-620-5017; www.bluebirdhavenirisgarden.com.

Cadd's Beehive Iris Garden, Anna and David Cadd, 329 North St., Healdsburg, CA 95448; 707-433-8633; email caddsiris@comcast.net.

Crazy Cat Lady Iris Garden, Linda Hood and Tiffany Rush, 20924 Ave. 152, Porterville, CA 93257; 559-789-7446; email: linda-hood@sbcglobal.net

Fleur de Lis Garden, Riley and Shirley Trio Probst, 2701 Fine Ave., Modesto, CA 95355; 209-551-6323 (call first – we might be out visiting gardens ourselves); email: rprobst02@earthlink.net, shirleyjtrio@gmail.com

Frannie's Iris Garden, Fran and Russ Shields, 8884 Saddlehorn Ct., Elk Grove, CA 95624; 916-688-5262; email: franniesirisgarden@frontier.com.

Hillside Iris Gardens, William Tyson, 43315 Ranger Circle, Coarsegold, CA 93614; 559-658-7987; email billtyson@sti.net.

Horton Iris Garden, Mary Ann Horton, 7440 King Rd. (mailing PO Box 1054), Loomis, CA 95650; 916-652-4351; www.hortonirisgarden.com; email: maryann@hortonirisgarden.com.

Mariposa Iris, Douglas Kanarowski, 6147 Smither Rd., Mariposa, CA 95338; 209-966-3496 www.mariposairis.com.

Napa Country Iris Garden, John and Lesley Painter, 9087 Steele Canyon Rd., Napa, CA 94558; 707-255-7880; www.napairis.com.

Nola's Iris Garden, Nola Prevost, 4195 Sierra Rd., San Jose, CA 95132; 408-929-6307; www.walking-p-bar.com; email: orders@walking-p-bar.com or gprevost@sbcglobal.net.

Pleasants Valley Iris Farm, Kendall Richard, 7317 Pleasants Valley Rd., Vacaville, CA 95688, 707-451-3367; www.irisfarmer.com; email irisfarmer2006@ yahoo.com.

Rainbow Acres, Fred Kerr, Box 2191, North Highlands, CA 95660; 916-331-3732. http://rainbowacres2.homestead.com/iris1.html email: rainacre@aol.com

Superstition Iris Gardens, Rick Tasco and Roger Duncan, 2536 Old Highway, Cathey's Valley, CA. 95306; 209-966-6277; NEW email: randrcv@sti.net

updated info is in red (the hotel was sold and so some *information changed)*

American Iris Society Region 14 2015 Fall Regional Meeting October 16-17 Guest Speaker – Chuck Bunnell

~ hybridizer of 'Dividing Line', the first Miniature Tall Bearded Dykes Medal Winner ~

Hosted by James M. Gibson Iris Society

Conference Hotel -- Wyndham Visalia, 9000 W. Airport Drive, Visalia, CA 93277 **Contact the hotel directly for room reservations at (559) 651-5000 **[corrected number]

When making reservations, ask for Vanessa at extension 2611 [new information!] To receive the group rate, use the name Region 14 of the American Iris Society when making your reservation. The room rate is available until October 1, 2015.

Room rate is \$89.00, plus all applicable taxes, per night. There are pet friendly rooms for an additional \$25.00 per stay, not per day. There are a few rooms with small refrigerators and microwaves, but you must request those rooms at time of booking.

Refunds before October 1 require \$10.00 per person handling fee. No refunds after October 1 or may be decided at the discretion of the registrar.

A continental breakfast will be provided to all region 14 registrants at 8 a.m. on Saturday morning: assorted breakfast breads, bagels with cream cheese, trays of fresh seasonal fruit, assorted juices, freshly brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee, and assorted hot teas. Lunch will be a deli style buffet.

Registrant 1 First Name	Last Name		
Registrant 2 First Name	Last Name		
Address	City	ST	Zip
Telephone E-m	ail for confirmation		
Local Iris Society			
Registration fee if paid by October 1, 201	15 \$65.00 x person (s)	Tota	1 \$
If paid after October 1, 2015	\$75.00 x person (s)	Tota	1 \$
Please make checks payable	to JMGIS or James M. C	Gibson I	ris Society
Please send reg	gistration to: Linda Hood,	Registra	ar
20924 Ave	nue 152, Porterville, CA	93257	
e-mail linda-hood@sbcgloba	l.net or phone (559) 789-7	'446 [co	rrected number]
*****We will be having a full Rebloomi Will you be bringing bloom stalks? Yes	S		up enough tables.
Containers and entry tags will be p sponsored by the Yosemite Iris Society.	provided by the James M.	Gibson 1	<u> </u>
1 J			

Abstract of the Minutes of the Executive Committee and General Meetings Spring Regional April 17, 2015 Bass Lake, CA

Note: The following is an abstract of the official minutes by AIS-14 Secretary Mary Sindicic.
The unedited minutes are available on the AIS-14 website, www.aisregion14.org/minutes.php

RVP John Pesek called to order the combined meeting of the Executive Committee and General Membership Meeting at 7:30 p.m., and welcomed everyone and thanked the Yosemite Iris Society for hosting the event and the Jim Gibson Iris Society for helping out with the show.

Approval of Minutes Fall Regional Meeting of October 4, 2014 as published, in the Winter 2014 Bulletin.

Board Reports (see the official minutes on the AIS–14 website)

<u>Secretary</u> Mary Sindicic: Mary Sindicic recorded the minutes of the Fall Regional.

Treasurer Helen Franklin

Judges' Training Chair Phyllis Wilburn
Bulletin Editor Shirley Trio

Standing Committee Reports, Directors Reports

(see the official minutes on the AIS–14 website)

Business:

Old Business - John brought up that in the Fall Regional there was a motion made by Kitty Loberg to retire the Jim Gibson Cup as an award given at the Spring Regional. Nothing had been done with the motion so Riley Probst asked that the motion be tabled again and a committee made up of Bill Fink Chair, David Cadd, Riley Probst, Kitty Loberg, and Rudy Ciuca will bring a recommendation to the Fall Regional.

2016 Spring Regional Update - April 29, 30, May 1, 2016 -- RVP Pesek introduced Nola and Gary Prevost, owners of Nola's Iris Garden, and asked her to give an update on the 2016 Spring Regional. The hotel for the Spring Regional will be the Beverly Heritage Hotel in Milpitas which is six miles from their garden. Right

now they are the only garden that we will be having on the Spring Regional and they will have a full day for everybody. They will be bringing everyone from the hotel to their garden via mini buses because there have been some concerns they live at 1300 ft and it's a two lane county road very similar to the road going out to Superstition Garden. She encourages everyone to take the shuttle from the hotel to their gardens but you are more than welcome to drive, it is a very safe drive. They have about 120 guest irises planted and right now are on target blooming. Guest irises are blooming at the same rate as their normal garden and there are about 10 % in bloom now. All the guest irises look healthy and they are looking forward to everyone coming up. She thinks it is going to be a fun and full weekend for everyone and will be well worth it. Phyllis Wilburn asked about the food -- breakfast will be at the hotel and lunches will be catered at the garden. Banquet will be at the hotel and the guest speaker will be Steve Schreiner.

Sydney B. Mitchell – Registration & Banking, Mt. Diablo Iris Society - Packets and Pens, Monterey Bay & Clara B – Iris Show

2019 AIS Convention - At the Fall 2014 Regional they tabled our request to offer to hold the 2019 AIS Convention that Kitty Loberg submitted. We have a chair Shirley Trio, hotel coordinator is Eric Hansen, guest iris Riley Probst, goody bags Carolyn Hoover, registration Jean Richter. Some of our members have talked to Jim Morris and he is definitely behind us having it. There are other members on the AIS Board who don't want us to have one because they want to concentrate on the 100th Anniversary of AIS in 2020 but the President of AIS right now Jim Morris is in favor of us holding it.

New Business - John asked for nominations for the position of Central Director. Shirley Trio nominated Carolyn Craft and Jean Richter nominated Bonnie Petheram. Both accepted the nominations and were seconded. The nominees were asked to leave the room and a vote was taken. Carolyn Craft won the nomination

John Pesek opened for discussion the advertising rates for the Region 14 Bulletin. After much discussion Kitty Loberg made a motion and Kathy Bratten seconded to change the **Standing Rules** C 6 to read:

6. The bulletin and the website will have a rate schedule for garden-related display advertising, based on 20% of the AIS rate schedule to be effective in June 1st 2015. (Added June 1st 2015)

Motion passed.

Choosing Nominating Committee Members - Pesek opened up for discussion whether we want to change Article V: Section 1 of the By-Laws and after much discussion it was decided to leave it as is.

Affiliates having a show on same weekend as the Regional - John Pesek opened for discussion whether to rotate dates of Spring Regional and use out of region judges. After much discussion it was decided not to make any changes.

Announcements - Janet Smith showed John Pesek the 2016 AIS calendars and wanted to let everyone know they are available online at AIS storefront.

John Pesek asked Riley Probst to talk about 2015 Fall Regional hosted by the James Gibson Iris Society. It will be held October 16 & 17 2015 in Visalia, CA and they picked the Holiday Inn Hotel [Ed. note: name subsequently changed to Wyndham Visalia] which you can actually see from Hwy 99 freeway. He thinks the room rates are \$99.00 per night and will have a Fall reblooming show on Friday night and during the day on Saturday they will have the Region 14 board meeting and judges training by an out of town probably even out of region guest judges' trainer that has not been selected yet. [Ed. note: rooms are \$89.00]

Lorraine Nicholson made the announcement that Phyllis Wiburn has agreed to the position of RVP and Alleah Haley has agreed to the position of Judges' Training Chair and the committee felt it is a wonderful duo to continue the work that John Pesek has done for the last three years. The nomination will be published in the next bulletin and if no other candidates come forward they will be elected at the Fall Regional.

John Pesek thanked all of the people that brought iris for the show; they expected 50 irises and there were 106 irises

RVP John Pesek adjourned the meeting and encouraged everyone to participate in the fundraiser following the meeting.

Meeting adjourned. Mary Sindicic

Editorial Policy of Region 14

The Bulletin of Region 14 is published and issued quarterly by the editorial and publication staff of Region 14. Region 14 is a part of the American Iris Society and is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. The Federal tax ID number is on file with the Secretary and Treasurer of Region 14 and is available upon request. All editorial inquires should be addressed to the Editor, Shirley Trio-Probst.

Any reproduction either whole or in part of the publication including photos, articles, and logos without express written permission of the editor is strictly prohibited. Reprint permission is granted to the publications of other AIS sections, AIS regions, AIS Affiliates, and Cooperating Societies.

Views expressed herein are those of the authors and contributors and do not necessarily represent those of the Editor, editorial staff, Region 14, its officers, and members of the American Iris Society. Any mention of equipment or any reference to a copyrighted name does not constitute an endorsement by Region 14 members or members of the American Iris Society.

Any submissions to the Region 14 Editor will become the property of the Region 14 editorial department. The Editor retains the right to edit all submissions, and may provide editorial comment. The Editor retains the right to publish or withhold any submitted article.

Compliance with this policy is assumed at submission by the author, editor, and all other agents acting as officers with Region 14 and the American Iris Society.

The American Iris Society and its sections and members have no financial responsibilities to Region 14 and its bulletin, and accepts no responsibility for content of the regional bulletin.

About Advertising

The AIS Region 14 Bulletin is published four times each year: spring (March 1st), summer (June 1st), fall (September 1st), and winter (December 1st). We distribute the Bulletin online through the Region's website, http://www.aisregion14.org/, where it is available for downloading by anyone without charge.

We will publish advertisements for irises and other garden-related goods and services.

At our discretion, we will place ads throughout each Bulletin, or group them together.

Submit text advertisement copy or display advertisement artwork to the editor, Shirley Trio-Probst shirleyitrio@gmail.com. We cannot accept MS Publisher or Word Perfect files.

Deadlines for advertisement submissions are as follows: February 1st (spring issue), May 1st (summer issue), August 1st (fall issue) and November 1st (winter issue).

Payment is due at the same time. Send your check, payable to AIS Region 14, to:

AIS-14 Treasurer Helen Franklin 5621 Oakhill Court Santa Maria, CA 93455

Category & Dimensions	One Issue	Four Issues
Text-only Advertisements (black & white)		
3" text advertisement (2.25"w x 3.00"h)	\$5.00	\$18.00
Display Advertisement (color photos with text)		
1/4 page (3.65"w x 4.875"h)	\$20.00	\$72.00
1/2 page, horizontal (7.50"w x 4.875"h)	\$40.00	\$144.00
1/2 page vertical (3.65"w x 9.875"h)	\$40.00	\$144.00
Full page (7.50"w x 9.875"h)	\$80.00	\$288.00
Full page, inside cover	\$125.00	

Any purchase of advertising in 4 issues will receive a 10% discount in addition to the already very low one-issue price.

Editor approval needed; specials possible.

For technical questions, including full-page ad copy specifications, contact bulletin designer Gesine Lohr at gesine.lohr@gmail.com

AIS Emembership is separate from the normal AIS membership. Emembers do not receive printed copies of the AIS Bulletins. Instead, they have access to online AIS Bulletins using an easy to use viewer. Emembers also have access to online viewing of The Basic Iris Culture Booklet and access to irisregister.com, the online database of iris registrations and introductions.

Additional services may be made available in the future.

A summary of the current AIS service links found within the AIS Emember service area includes:

Iris Register Database, the online database of iris registrations and introductions, maintained by the American Iris Society. The AIS is recognized and acknowledged as the official world registry of iris cultivars (except for bulbous iris).

AIS Bulletin Library

At present the library contains AIS Bulletin issues from the years 1920 to 2009 inclusive

inclusive.

The **AIS Basic Culture** booklet is published by the American Iris Society, Third Edition 2011, 48 pages total. Recent AIS Bulletins Emembers view some of the more recent quarterly AIS Bulletins online; from January 2010 to the current issue.

You may purchase an AIS Emembership through the AIS Membership information area of the website for \$15 per year. http://www.irises.org/About AIS/Membership Info/emembership info.html