

- 2015 ISA Rhizome Sale
- Youth Activities
- New Iris Garden



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

# IRIS AUSTIN



## Next Scheduled Meeting:

Tuesday, October 13

**GATE CLOSSES AT 6:30 P.M.**

Meeting begins at 7 P.M.

Pot Luck

Program – The Irises of Portland

## Future Meeting Dates:

- ▶ Tuesday, November 10, 2015
- ▶ NO MEETING IN DECEMBER
- ▶ Tuesday, January 12, 2016
- ▶ Tuesday, February 9, 2016
- ▶ Tuesday, March 8, 2016

## Volunteer Opportunities:

Moving irises and planting the new garden

- ▶ Serving, cleaning, setting tables in the auditorium for the Sister City Delegation on Saturday, November 14
- ▶ Attending the Bamboo Show and Sale, Wednesday, October 28
- ▶ Working during the Zilker Garden Festival April 2 and 3, 2016
- ▶ Helping with the Iris Show Saturday, April 9, 2016

## MEETING TIME CHANGE

The next meeting is October 13 at **6:30 P.M.** Please note that the time will change during the next couple of meetings. **THE GATE CLOSSES AT 6:30 P.M.** or you will have to call to get in: 512-477-8672.

Plan to leave home earlier than usual.

## RHIZOME SALE YIELDS THOUSANDS



After a successful rhizome sale on September 12 in the Norris Conference Center at Anderson Lane and Burnet Road, the Iris Society of Austin entered the Fall Plant and Porcelain Art Sale held in the auditorium of Austin Area Garden Center in Zilker Botanical Garden on September 26. The group added \$590.00 to the \$4,000 received on Saturday after Labor Day.

Those who created a beautiful display included Marney Abel, Jaime Hadley, Nelda Moore, Karen Peteram, Tracey Rogers, and Ellen Singleton.



MINUTES OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN  
September 8, 2015

Marney Abel called the meeting to order in the absence of the President.

Jaime Hadley read the May Meeting Minutes in the absence of the Secretary – these were also printed in the July Newsletter.

Marney delivered an abbreviated Treasurer's Report with a current account balance of \$16,143.15

Don Freeman delivered an update on the Zilker iris bed move project. He and Nelda Moore meet with Liz McVeety from the AAGC Horticulture Committee and it was determined that the proposed plan for the ADA pathway to the front beds was too expensive for the moment, so they will take the overall plan back to the drawing board. Meanwhile, they would like to move forward with the addition of a single new raised bed, identical to the existing iris bed in the front garden, positioned just to the west of the existing bed. Nelda moved that the Iris Society of Austin approve expenditure of \$3017.00 from the club's account to pay for the new stone raised bed – one half of that amount to be paid to the contractor now, and the other half upon completion. Mike Renfro seconded the motion, and the membership approved without dissention.

Marney reported from the last AAGC meeting, where the late Celia Pearson was remembered for serving the AAGC and working tirelessly in her own garden for the greater part of her 102 year life. In November Zilker will celebrate a visit to the gardens from our sister city in Japan, and work is underway already to plan for the Spring Zilker Garden Festival.

Don asked that we each take time to call our particular City Council Member to ask her or him to support the \$95,000.00 line item in the current budget to fund an Executive Director for the new Zilker Conservancy for the first year.

A Thank You note from Esther Stone was read, and Tracey Rogers moved, and D Boyle seconded, a motion to make a memorial donation to AIS/Region 17 in memory of much missed member Bob Stone. The motion passed unanimously.

Ken Fuchs asked and Nelda Moore confirmed that we will have the Zilker Garden Center reserved for our 2016 Spring Iris Show on Saturday April 12. For reference, Easter is Sunday March 27, and the Zilker Spring Garden Festival is April 2-3.

Tracey and Ellen Singleton gave the members present all the pertinent information for the Annual Rhizome Sale Saturday September 9, from 9a-3p, at Norris Conference Center. Set-up will be at the same place Friday, 9/11/15 from 9-10p, and members can arrive Saturday morning between 7:30 and 8 to help get ready. Any leftover rhizomes will be taken to the Fall Zilker Garden Festival Saturday September 26.

The iris rhizomes brought in were labeled and priced and prepared for the sale.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Hadley

VP Membership, in the absence of the Secretary



'Harvest of Memories' blooming in Esther Stone's garden August 5, 2015

#### HORTICULTURE

All of your irises should be planted by the end of the month. Follow directions in the culture booklet by creating a mound of soil, then spread the rhizome roots over the soil, and cover the rhizome with the amended dirt. Water thoroughly. After that, water only if the soil is dry, but do not overwater bearded irises. Bone meal is the best fertilizer to use for these irises.

Louisiana irises, on the other hand, need water in order to grow. They are heavy feeders so fertilize them in September, in February, and after they bloom. Be sure to cut the bloom stalks so that the seed pod does not take food from the rhizome.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth Chairman Vicki Howard announced at the Region 17 American Iris Society Meeting in Addison on August 15 that the logo contest would be continued. Instructions were printed in the Youth Newsletter that was sent to many of the 16 youth members in this region. Vicki's address is P.O. Box 113, Rio Vista, TX 76093 or e-mail [vickihoward70@yahoo.com](mailto:vickihoward70@yahoo.com).

To earn an AIS Youth Patch be an active dues paying member of AIS and your club, enter the Ackerman Essay Contest, enter the Youth Coloring Contest and the Photo Contest, grow at least two different types of iris — dwarf bearded, Louisiana, Species-X, write an article for a newsletter, help at a show, sale, or event, recruit a new member, and visit other gardens during bloom time,

create a "word search" puzzle for a newsletter, or plant an iris garden in the community, or create an original piece of artwork for a newsletter. This work is done over a period of one year. If you started at the end of January 2015, then you should have your requirements completed by February 1, 2016.

Beginning October 1 youth dues will be \$8 per year and membership with the magazine IRISES will be \$12 per year.

At this time each youth member should have received a newer iris grown in a convention garden in Portland, Oregon, where 4 youth members attended the National Convention.



### NEW IRIS GARDEN

Plans for moving the irises to the sunny location in front near Barton Springs Road are finally underway with a concrete berm designed similar to the landscaped bed near the daylily garden. During the Saturday Work Day on September 19 D. Boyle, Don Freeman, David Kraemer, and Nelda Moore dug weeds and Bermuda grass from the area so that the soil could be moved in preparation for bringing in a special soil mixture for the new rhizomes. A plan for moving some of the border bearded irises, Louisiana irises, and spurias is also being considered, but this is a matter that can be discussed at the October meeting since other members want to participate in the selection process. [Photos by Tracey Rogers]





We're having a sale!

