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- *Responsibilities of a Clerk*
- *Photography Division*
- *Judges Training*



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

IRIS AUSTIN

Next Scheduled Meeting:

**Tuesday, January 12, 2016
GATE CLOSSES AT 6:30 P.M.**

Meeting begins at 7 P.M.

Saturday, January 16, 2016:

JUDGES TRAINING

Tuesday, February 9, 2016 – Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 – Meeting

Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3 –

ZILKER GARDEN FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 9 – IRIS SHOW

Tuesday, April 12 – Meeting

Tuesday, May 10 – Meeting

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Zilker Upcoming Events:

January 2, 10am-2pm

**Remove ornaments from Club
Christmas Tree**

January 9, 10am-12pm

**Travis County Master Gardeners
Educational Workshop with
Sheryl Williams on Compost
Basics**

January 12, 10am – AAGC Board of

**Directors Meeting – Host clubs
Austin Bonsai Society and
East Austin Garden Club**



AUSTIN IRIS SHOW APRIL 9

The Iris Society of Austin will present their 27th accredited iris show on Saturday, April 9, 2016, in the Austin Area Garden Center Auditorium, Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Road in Austin, 78746.

The show will be open to the public from 1-4pm with no admission charged to view the horticultural and artistic displays.

The title of the show will be "Waltzing Across Texas With Irises." This theme should be reflected in each of the Artistic Design sections:

Class 1: "Waltzing Across Texas With Irises" – Novice.

Class 2: "East Texas Waltz" – Small Design

Class 3: "West Texas Two Step" – Use of 2 Containers

Class 4: "Big Bend Promenade" – Designer's Choice

Class 5: "Texas Table for Two" – Table for Two

No flag can be used in the displays, but ISA members should have plenty of fun with the categories.

With the rain finally coming to awaken the dormant rhizomes, the show should be quite colorful with bearded varieties, Louisiana irises, and some Spurias. The irises will have been grown in this area with the exception of some used in the artistic arrangements; therefore, this is an opportunity for visitors to write the names of their favorite irises whether they purchase rhizomes from a catalogue or from the local society during their sale in the Norris Conference Center on the first Saturday after Labor Day in September.

(continued on next page)

ATTENTION: Pay your 2016 dues at the January meeting: \$12 single/\$18 joint. Cash, checks, and CC accepted.

Payment for Judges Training is \$5.

The 2016 Show will have a new division: Division VII – Photography. All members are encouraged to submit their best iris photographs for judging. See page 3 for more information and the rules for judging.

There will also be educational exhibits on a table so that newcomers can view a topic pertaining to iris, iris culture, or hybridizing. They will be judged by the entire panel of Horticultural Judges, and as always, their decision will be final. Any award may be withheld at their discretion. No member of the Iris Society of Austin should try to influence the judges, and it is inappropriate to argue with a judge after the show.

Ken Fuchs will create the show schedule and submit



There are still a few 2016 American Iris Society calendars available if anyone would like them. They are \$5 and Tracey will have them at the meeting. 'Awesome Alex' by Tom Burseen is a featured photo.

RAIZIN' REGION BASKETS 2016



Debbie Strauss has once again asked all Iris Societies in Texas to send her any iris related items, iris coupons from hybridizers, or any things made in a specific area for a 2016 Region 17 Basket for the May 23-28 National Convention in Newark, New Jersey.

Nelda Moore will provide the basket. Please bring any items from the Capital City or Area to her either in January or February to send to Debbie. Last year items from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library, the National Wildflower Center, and other local items including a handmade scarf by Marney Abel were sent to Portland, Oregon. This time Debbie will be driving to the convention with the donations.

Last year's Raizin' Region Basket raised \$400 for the American Iris Society.

it for approval by Lois Rose, the American Iris Society Schedules Chair.

Members of the Show Committee are Nelda Moore and Donna Little, show chairs; Ken Fuchs, entries and classification, secretary and awards; Don Freeman and Mike Renfro, staging and properties; ???, Pat Byrne, clerks and judges; Marney Abel and Tracey Rogers, Hospitality; All Members, clean up.

Entries will be received 7:30–9:45am on Saturday, April 9. No one can place an entry after 9:45am. The doors will be closed to everyone except the show committee.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CLERK FOR AN IRIS SHOW

In addition to carrying a hand punch for marking entry tags, the clerks should have a supply of ribbons and writing materials for the judges' use. A specified clerk should carry blue ribbon winners to a prearranged table to expedite the selection of top award winners. The clerks should be available to perform other needed services for the judges such as summoning a show official or rearrangement of specimens in a group to permit better viewing by the judges.

When the judging has been completed and the major awards have been selected, the Chairman of Clerks is responsible for opening entry tags and removing the lower portion of the tags, which are then delivered to the Secretary and Awards Chairman, who tallies them to determine the sweepstakes winners.

The clerks should never repeat what judges say during the judging process. They should never expose the name of an exhibitor on the entry tag until all judging has been completed and top winners selected. They should remember to respond to questions from members of the panel or show committee, but never speak to the judges or show visible delight or dismay when a judge selects a winner. All clerks must keep a comfortable distance from the judges' panel, which is usually 3 people.

Usually the clerks will learn much while they are doing their job. They always remember that the judge's decision is final.

NEW OFFICERS FOR THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

Gary White will serve a three-year term as president of the American Iris Society. Other officers will be Jody Nolen, First Vice President; Andi Rivaroli, Second Vice President; Gerry Snyder, Director; and Jim Morris, Immediate Past President. Congratulations and Best Wishes for Happy Irising!

SPECIAL RULES:
DIVISION VII – PHOTOGRAPHY

1. Exhibits (matted photographs) must have been photographed, transported and entered, in person, by exhibitor whose name appears on entry tag. (Only one name on entry tag.)
2. Exhibitor may enter only one exhibit per section, but may enter as many sections as desired.
3. To constitute a section, a minimum of three exhibits must be entered by a minimum of three exhibitors.
4. Subjects are NOT required to be grown or owned by exhibitor
5. All exhibits must be in color, use an 8"x10" photograph format and be matted.
6. Picture frames and glass are not permitted.
7. Matt(s) will be provided by exhibitor and are exhibitor's choice of width, color, style, texture, and used to enhance subject.
8. Image modifications/manipulations:
 - a. Modifications may be made to the image in the photo editing mode of cameras, apps (Pro Camera), or programs (Photoshop), as long as the modification is applied to the whole image and not just part of the image.
 - b. Adding graphics, borders, text, clip art, computer generated images, and images from other photographs is NOT permitted.

Sections: Division VII – Photography

Section A. **A Single Iris or part of an iris**

Section B. **More Than One Iris** (Blooms may be on the same stalk or on multiple stalks.)

Awards: Division VII – Photography

1. **Special Award, Best Photograph of Show:** One AIS rosette (small purple) may be awarded.
2. **Ribbons:** A first-place ribbon (blue), a second-place ribbon (red), a third-place ribbon (white) or an honorable-mention ribbon (pink) may be awarded to each entry in the section.

Judging: Division VII – Photography

1. The number of judge(s) and selection of individual(s) for judges will be determined by the Judges Chairperson.
2. Judging will be determined with the following having equal importance:
 - a. Impact
 - b. Composition
 - c. Technique

JUDGES TRAINING JANUARY 16
IN WHPC'S UPPER LEVEL

Since food trucks will be parked near the area of Ross Hall or the lower covered parking lot of Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, the Iris Society of Austin will move to Room 200 for Judges Training on January 16, 2016. This room is on the right as one enters the building from the upper parking lot near the covered walkway that leads to the offices of the church.

From the traffic light on Bee Cave Road turn on Barton Creek Boulevard and carefully enter the church property, then continue forward until the third driveway, which will lead you to the sanctuary. Park on the upper level near the covered entrance of the church. There is a handicapped space near the door.

A breakfast of ham, tacos, sweet rolls, coffee, and juice will await the attendees from 8:30am during registration. Judges Training will begin at 9am and end at noon. Al Elliott will conduct the three-hour course on Space Age Irises. Several members have already paid \$5 to attend this educational opportunity, which is not just for those who are training to be iris judges. This is truly an essential educational challenge for judges to maintain judgeship. Dana Brown is Region 17 Chairman of Judges.

The church is located at 7127 Bee Cave Road in Austin, TX 78746.

PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM



Following the Judges Training Session, Peggy Cathey, a member of the Waco Iris Society and the Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society and a certified A.I.S. judge, will present a very informative program on photographing irises. Since we will have a photography division in our 2016 Show, this is an excellent opportunity for each of us to learn more about the art of iris photography. Please make plans to attend this instructional program.

MINUTES OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN
November 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order and presided by Pat Byrne. Special guest Kathy Wood greeted the membership with a request for monetary donations to support the Conservancy. The minutes from the October 2015 meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. Welcome to new member Debbie Baylor who joined after our sale.

Treasurer's Report:

The ending monthly balance for September 2015 was \$18,596.33 The current balance on November 10, 2015 is \$16,708.34. Recent expenses include payment on the newly installed iris bed at Zilker and the reservation of venue for 2016 sale.

AAGC Council Report:

Conservancy – There was membership discussion for making a contribution for operating expenses. Don Freeman suggested a \$250.00 contribution from ISA. This was presented as a motion and 2nd by Nelda Moore and Passed.

Remembrance of Joe Montgomery:

Don Freeman requested an ISA memorial donation for the long time AAGC member of \$50.00. Mike Renfro so moved and D. Boyle 2nd and Passed.

2016 Show:

The ISA Show date is set for Saturday April 9, 2016. Theme: Waltzing Across Texas with Iris. The Show will include Divisions for:

Horticulture, Photography, Educational Exhibit, and Artistic Design including the Small Arrangement category that we had last year.

The Photography addition is new for ISA this year and Ken Fuchs will provide the category description and rules adapted from the Belton Iris Society Show Schedule.

Judges Training:

ISA will host a Judges Training with Al Elliot January 16, 2016 at 9am in room 200 A and B of the Westlake

Hills Presbyterian Church. Sign up to attend will be available at the next meeting and the cost is \$5.00. Please volunteer to bring breakfast treats. You do not need to be in the Judges Program to benefit from the information that will be covered. Please plan to attend with your fellow iris lovers!!

Jim Landers also announced a Judges Training would be presented Nov 14, 2015 in Dallas.

Austin Iris Club business:

1. New garden bed has been successfully planted. There is a color map of the flowers that were planted. Very nice!!
2. The next garden activity will be the preparations to move the Louisiana plantings up to the front bed area.
3. There was a request for vases so people could prepare early for the show and after a search, Don Freeman said there are not any extras. But, Jim Landers said he has about 24 that he will share. Let him know if you would like to borrow them.
4. We will not meet during December.
5. The next meeting is January 12, 2016.
6. ISA will collect the member's dues of \$12.00 at the January meeting.

Important Dates:

Iris Society of Austin – Next Meeting – Tuesday January 12, 2016.

Judges Training at Presbyterian Church – Saturday January 16, 2016.

ISA Show – Saturday April 9, 2016.

The meeting program presented by Ken Fuchs was a video The Irises of Portland 2015, with many of the 2014 and 2015 new Introductions on display in the guest the gardens on tour during the National Convention that was held in Portland, OR in May of 2015.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dara E. Smith, Secretary

Submitted for Approval on January 12, 2016.



**YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES:
LOGO AND PHOTO CONTESTS**

Region 17 AIS Youth Advocate Vicki Howard is giving each youth under the age of 19 who is a member of Region 17 an opportunity to create an original logo that must show an iris. The deadline for entering this contest is February 26. Submission by email is preferred. Send entries to vickihoward70@yahoo.com or to reg17kids@yahoo.com. The entry on 8½ X 11 in. format must not be folded if you send it to Vicki Howard, PO Box 113, Rio Vista, Texas 76093.

If you have any questions, telephone her at 817-933-1057.

A panel of judges will select the winners, but all entries sent to the judges will be anonymous. A photograph release form for minor children must be completed by the parent or legal guardian giving the printed name, signature, date, street address, city-state-zip, phone number and Email address.

Vicki also encourages youth to take cameras anywhere and everywhere in the garden, at iris shows, at iris sales, or in the park and then enter the Annual American Iris Society Photograph Contest for youth. For youth winners and rules see www.irises.org or the AIS Bulletin.



Pictures courtesy of Cullen Finnegan

NEW BED UPDATE

by Don Freeman

Last Saturday, December 5, three of us worked on pulling weeds. Kathy Pethram, David Kraemer and I cleaned half the bed. Nelda Moore worked Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (today, December 11) and finished weeding.

Out of desperation I decided to put down a mulch to slow down the germination of weed seed. This is the third time this fall this bed has been weeded. We can have problems if it rains too much.

Tuesday Dee Boyle met with the PARD staff to develop a plan to make labels for each Iris in the new bed.

Thanks for everyone's hard work. Don

