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February 2019 — Vol. 28 #02



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

IRIS AUSTIN



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:30 P.M.
Auditorium
Austin Area Garden Center
Zilker Botanical Garden
2220 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78746
Potluck

EVENTS AT ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDEN CONSERVANCY:

February 16 Rose Society Workshop

February 23-24 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Orchid Show and Sale

April 11 6:30 – 9:30 P.M.
Starlight Social – the Conservancy's Grand Garden Party

April 13 1- 4 P.M. Iris Show in Austin Area Garden Center

May 2 Mother's Day in the Garden

"IRISES IN ART" CHOSEN THEME OF SPRING SHOW

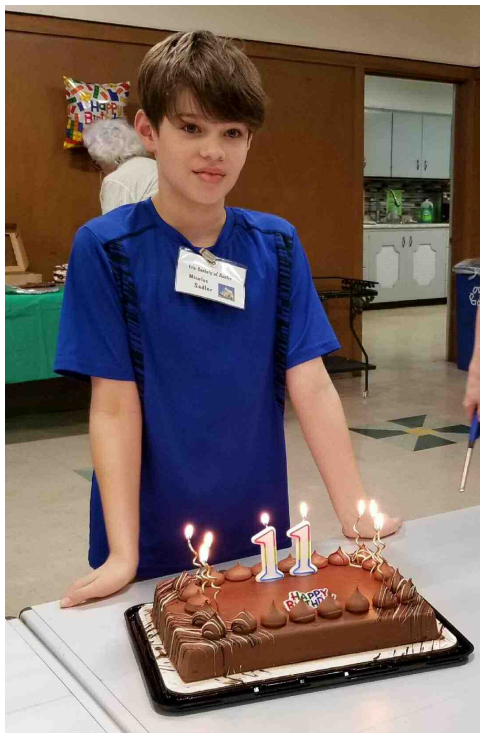


"Iris in Art" will be the theme of the 29th accredited Iris Show on April 13 in the Austin Area Garden Center in Zilker Botanical Garden. The Iris Society of Austin in cooperation with the American Iris Society will open the approved show to the public from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. with no charge except entrance fee for the garden. The horticultural exhibit, the artistic designs in sections for novice, small-design, functional tray, and designer's choice, and the English Boxes that can be constructed for 3 to 6 blooms will fill the auditorium like an exquisite garden. Horticultural Sections will include Non-Tall Bearded, Historic Tall Bearded, Space-Age, Novelty, Non-Space Age, Non-Historic Tall Bearded, and All Other Tall Bearded.

The iris painting used on the show schedule is by Korean-American artist Hyon O'Brien.



DUES AND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF JANUARY 8



Happy Birthday was instilled in the hearts of all present among those who attended the Iris Society Meeting the evening of January 8th. The delicious food was placed on festive tablecloths with clusters of balloons tied to the tables. The celebration included singing and blowing out the 11 candles that flickered on the special chocolate cake decorated for Youth Member Nicholas Sadler, who paid his dues of \$6 along with 19 others who renewed their memberships during the meeting.

Cynthia Sadler, his mother, was a guest during the exciting moment. Nicolas has received other recognition when he entered his own design in the 2017 spring show and won a logo contest with his artistic creation in a AIS Region 17 contest for youth members. His logo appeared on a T-shirt, the prize he won.



HORTICULTURE

With rain falling regularly weeding is necessary when the ground is drier and cedar fever is a thing of the past. In my own garden some of the leaves of irises are yellow so that means cleaning the garden of dead foliage around the rhizome.

KEEPING DEER OUT OF THE GARDEN

As iris growers and iris exhibitors how do you keep deer out of your territory so that you can enjoy the flowers and receive awards in the club shows?

First, do not feed the deer by planting pansies or roses as companion plants around your irises. These are "ice cream"! Usually the deer find irises too tough to eat and when you first plant them, deer will pull the plants out of the garden in hopes that forbs or other plants will grow. Look at the chewed leaves and determine whether a deer left tracks or whether a bunny chewed the foliage. Then use deer deterrents. Place human hair in used hose or stockings and hang them nearby on the outside rows. Some people use soap or soap flakes in this manner. Also after you have cut your husband's hair, spread the clippings in your flower bed. Plant garlic by your rose bushes if you must have roses. Feed the plants with blood meal. Ground some red pepper and mix with water in a spray bottle. Use this on plants. You can use deer repellent from the garden store, but follow directions carefully. You might prefer using urine such as when a dog marks his territory.

Where deer usually enter your garden, plant rosemary and other herbs that emit a fragrance better known as pungent odor such as sage, autumn sage, chives, bee balm, yucca, purple coneflower, ornamental grasses, and even nandina or heavenly bamboo (not the variety that develops berries) that is too invasive.

There is a mesh called deer guard that you can use as a cover during the night or you can use a light that comes on with a timer and noise to frighten the deer. Even a sprinkler system with a timer can discourage the herd. (When we had herds of deer and new landscapes, I saw a herd stepping on mesh that looked like wire. The deer made sure that they stepped on it to keep it down so that they could eat the pansies.)

A barrier or an 8-foot fence can keep deer at bay. Use an invisible fishing line as a neat fence, but

remember that it is there when you walk fast. Even a wire near the ground can put you down head first. An electric fence can kill you. Remember that deer are known to injure or kill humans especially when you are on the road.

TULSA AREA IRIS SOCIETY JT CLASS MARCH 2019

You are invited to join us on Saturday March 16, 2019, Judge's Training with Bob Skaggs from House Springs, Missouri. He will be teaching a 3-hour school on Tall Bearded (TB) Irises and 2-hour school on Median Irises. Training session will be from 9am to Noon for 3 hours of Tall Bearded training; we will break for lunch and then reconvene for 2 hours of Median Iris training. You do not need to be a member to attend, but there will be a \$10 fee.

Bob Skaggs will also be giving a program on Tall Bearded Irises on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at the TAIS Monthly Meeting.

Both events will be held at the Tulsa Garden Center at 2435 South Peoria, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

For more information you may contact Paul W. Gossett at 918-853-6204 or pwgossett1@yahoo.com.

MINUTES OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN January 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order and presided by President, Jaime Hadley. We had a special welcome for guests to Cynthia Sadler and our Youth member Nicolas Sadler. Nicolas is celebrating his 11th birthday with us at the potluck this evening. The minutes from the November 2018 meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

The balance for January 1, 2019 is \$15,623.39. Recent transactions include calendar sales, membership fees, AIS membership renewals. Reminders: Calendars are still available for purchase. And "Thank You" to members for participating in 5 events a year to qualify for paid AIS membership.

AAGC Council Report:

There is more talk about the Conservancy. The Bay Laws are getting approval and signature from City of Austin. There will be reduced responsibilities of the AAGC as the Conservancy takes over.

Members must join the Conservancy to get the 10% gift store discount. New lights have been installed in the meeting room. Celebrations will be held this year for updates and stone work for ADA compliance around the Tamaguchi Garden.

- AAGC dues for ISA active members (\$10 ea.) is due by April 1st.
- Need the 2019 Membership List and Officers and List of Program Topics for meetings as of March 30th. Due by April 1st. (late by June 1st)
- April 11, 2019 is the "Starlight Social" tickets are \$100.00 ea.
- Gift basket donations for 50 raffle baskets are being accepted (there is a theme for each basket).

Austin Iris Club business:

1. Ellen made ISA cards to leave around the meeting room.
2. Christmas tree decorating was fun and the tree looked very nice.
3. The workday that was talked about at the last meeting was taken care of by members during other times. Please see the November 2018 newsletter for all the details.
4. Judge's Training will be held January 19, 2019. Nelda will bring food. Marney is collecting the \$10.00 fee.
5. Sign up with your \$10 for the Judge's Training (Space Age and Novelty) on January 19, 2019.
6. DUES ARE DUE for 2019!!
7. April 13, 2019 is our ISA Iris Show.
8. National Convention is in California, April 23 - 27, 2019
9. Nominating Committee lead by Nelda Moore for the February meeting. Officers to serve June 1st - May 31st.

ISA SHOW 2019

1. "IRISES IN ART"
2. Sign up with Tracey to reserve a space for the Artistic Sections:
 - a. Novice
 - b. Small Design
 - c. Functional Tray
 - d. Designer's Choice

Important Dates:

- Next ISA Meeting - Tuesday February 12, 2019

- AIS Convention April 23 - 27, 2019 San Francisco, CA

Program: "Irises 101" - Terminology of Iris Color Patterns including a glossary handout!! Perfect for New Members. Thank you, Marney and Ken

The meeting was adjourned.
Dara E. Smith, Secretary

Submitted for Approval on: February 12, 2019.

Out of This World Iris Debbie Strauss' JT Class - January 19, 2019

