



IRIS AUSTIN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

January 2020 — Vol. 29

ISA Website: http://www.kenfuchs42.net/isa_index.html

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

6:30 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746

Hosts: Dara Smith and James Hadley

DUES ARE DUE for the year

Local: Single \$12 / Dual \$18

American Iris Society:

Annual Single \$30 / Dual \$35

Triennial \$70 / Dual \$85

Life Single: \$1000 / Dual \$1500

Annual E-membership \$15

If you miss the January Meeting, please send your dues to

Tracey Rogers

4608 Hoffman Drive

Austin, TX 78749-3600.

January 18, 2020 **JUDGES TRAINING**

Instructor – Dell Perry

Topic – “Show Rules and Tall Bearded Exhibition”

Cost \$10 to Nelda Moore

Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church

7127 Bee Caves Road

Austin, TX 78746

9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

February 11, 2020 Next Meeting

Hostess: Nelda Moore

JUDGES TRAINING January 18: **“Show Rules and Tall Bearded Exhibition”**



Judging is set for January 18, 2020, in Ross Hall of the Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7127 Bee Cave Road, Austin, Texas 78746-4102. Breakfast and Registration will be 9:30-10:30. Class 10:30-1:30. Dell Perry will discuss Show Rules and Tall Bearded Exhibition for the 3-hour course that will be not only for judges in Region 17 AIS but also for anyone interested in irises and showing them.

Dell Perry and her son Seann established Seandel Iris Garden in the early 1990s. Today her Plano garden contains over 1500 varieties including tall bearded, median, dwarf, aril, arilbred, Louisiana, evansia, spuria, species, Japanese, and some Siberians. Dell Perry's interest in irises began when she was 6 years of age. She found some irises along a stream in Connecticut and dug up a few of them to replant and fell in love with their beauty. Her gardening interest also comes from her mother who farmed in Winters, TX.

Dell Perry is a member of the American Iris Society and several local societies as well as Region 17/AIS, where she serves as newsletter editor and judges training chair. Her garden is a display garden for the Aril Society International and the Median Iris Society.

CELEBRATE 2020 CENTENNIAL MAY 18-23

Have you been thinking about helping the American Iris Society celebrate its Centennial May 18-23 in the Liberty International Airport Marriott Hotel in Newark, New Jersey? If so, you probably want to send your registration before January 31st. A registration form is on page 33 of IRISES, the American Iris Society Bulletin, Volume 100, No. 4. <https://2020irisconvention.org>

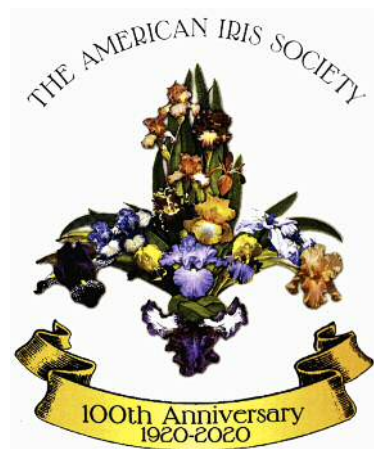
The basic registration fee until January 31 is (\$50), March 31 (\$75), and after April 1 (\$100). Bus tours and meals are additional costs. Dietary needs are Gluten Free, Lactose, Diabetic, and Vegan.

Optional tours begin May 18 with a tour of **The High Line**, a 1.45-mile-long elevated linear park. On Tuesday, May 19, a trip to **Liberty Park**, 8 A.M.-4 P.M. A free shuttle will take attendees to the Mills at Jersey Gardens for food and shopping 8 A.M.-8 P.M. on Tuesday and on Wednesday, 8 A.M.-4 P.M., and Thursday 4 P.M.-8 P.M. There are plenty dining locations. The driver will stop at the nearest Stop and Shop in Elizabeth, NJ for house-brand groceries, organics, and more. Many have pharmacies.

The hotel provides a free shuttle service from any airport terminal. Call the hotel number 1-973-623-0006 upon arrival for the shuttle to pick you up. A hot breakfast buffet is included all 3 days of convention garden tours.

The convention gardens that you can visit will be **Presby Memorial Iris Garden** with lunch included on Thursday, **New York Botanical Garden** with lunch on Friday, and **Wave Hill Public Gardens**, where you will have lunch on your own on Saturday. The cost depends on when you register --\$125 by Jan. 31, \$150 by March 31, and after April 1 \$175.

The Awards Banquet will be at Highlawn Pavilion Restaurant. The cost is \$50 with Vegetable Minestrone Soup and Baby seasonal greens, and an entree of your choice.



The High Line



Presby Memorial Iris Garden



New York Botanical Gardens



Wave Hill Public Gardens

HORTICULTURE

Weeding in Central Texas has been the biggest problem in the Iris Garden. Although rain has been sparse, tiny seeds found the right conditions to sprout and grow quickly. A scuffle hoe or a warren hoe or any sharpened hoe will be superb for removing small weeds like clover, hen bit or wild verbena, and creeping horse herb (tiny yellow flowers). After uprooting the mass, pick up and shake off the soil, and remove the plants. Then cultivate again. After this, the iris rhizomes may have to be watered. The soil down under is so dry. Sometimes a tiny increase will be sheared off, but the plant may have other increases that will be fertilized in February. Then hopefully the clump will have many blossoms.

Tall bearded irises need bone meal while Louisiana irises need acid fertilizer.

This year some of the Louisianas will not bloom here because animals have chewed them down to the rhizome. Deer have been a problem because of the fawns who were told to eat caladiums and those healthy green plants in the tub. Eat or pull them out of the pot, the mothers demanded.

The new garden at Zilker continues to have problems. Animals are eating the Louisiana irises or pulling them out and leaving them to dry. Although the garden has compost, the irises must be affected by the new concrete. I looked at the clumps after weeding, and increases were numerous, but they were dry and dead-looking or completely rotted. Do we need to grow a few irises such as 'Persian Berry', 'William A. Setchel', and other irises that do well by planting them in the middle of the bed?

If Santa brings more irises, I will quit complaining at the computer, and may your New Year bring many irises in bloom throughout the spring.



This beautiful Iris Christmas tree was decorated by Kathy Petheram and Tracey Rogers.



If you have not seen the Christmas trees on display for 2019, please go to the Austin Area Garden Center to look at all of the club trees before December 28. All of the displays will be taken down then.

If you have not done all of your shopping, consider the gifts in the Gift Shop and use your discount by telling the receptionist that you are a member of the Iris Society of Austin. Some of the Christmas items are sold at a discount so get ready for next year.

Minutes of the Iris Society of Austin

November 12, 2019 Meeting

The meeting was called to order and presided by President, Jaime Hadley.

The Minutes from October 2019 were approved. The Treasurer's Report was also approved and there was a review of the current balance (\$15,799.26) and the Sale report.

The AAGC Report focuses on the work to expand club's events publicity. Names associated with the AAGC information:

blair.hitch@zbgconservancy.org

blakelycole@yahoo.com

ISA Business:

Dues for 2020 are due in January! \$12.00 Individual and \$18.00 Couple/Family.

Judges Training will be Saturday January 18, 2020 for \$10.00 per person.

There was a proposal and many ideas discussed for support of ISA to host a Region Meeting. To this end, a motion was made for a committee to explore the potential for ISA to host or co-host a Region 17 Regional meeting in the year 2021. The motion PASSED.

ISA News:

Russel Kohlert is having surgery and we will keep him in our thoughts for a speedy recovery.

The holiday food for this evening's pot luck dinner was excellent! Thank you to everyone that prepared a dish to share.

Theme suggestions for the Spring Show will be in the newsletter to refresh our memories and allow us to have some inspiration to select the theme at the next meeting.

Important Dates:

- January Meeting - Tuesday January 14, 2020.
- Judges Training - Saturday January 18, 2020.
- ISA Show - Saturday April 11, 2020.
- May 18-23, 2020 - American Iris Society Convention 2020 New York - "The Centennial Celebration of The American Iris Society"
- August 2020 - Region 17 Meeting, hosted by Iris Society of Dallas

Program:

The highlights from gardens and tour of the American Iris Society Convention in San Ramon, California 2019 presented by Ken Fuchs.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dara E. Smith, Secretary

Submitted for Approval on: January 14th, 2020.

Speed Bump by Dave Coverly



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

