



# IRIS AUSTIN

A Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

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ISA Website: [http://www.kenfuchs42.net/isa\\_index.html](http://www.kenfuchs42.net/isa_index.html)

## NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden - Auditorium

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746

POTLUCK

## AUDREY BAKER NEEDS PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ISA SHOW APRIL 22

Don't forget to take your camera to the AIS Convention and take pictures of irises, tours, and people having fun. Select one or two to place on the photography board that Audrey Baker provides for the Iris Show, which will be in the Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium. She has selected the following categories: Single Bloom, Multiple Bloom, Irises in a Natural Setting such as a Landscape, and Non Bloom.

Perhaps some members snapped pictures of non blooming irises during the ice storm that can be used in the show this year.



## IRIS 'FOOTBALL HERO' WINS TOP HONORS



The American Iris Society honors the winner of the Dykes Medal by naming it the Iris of the Year for 2023. This year 'Football Hero' hybridized by Linda Miller has won since it became winner of the Dykes Medal in August. 'Football Hero' was registered in 2014 and introduced in 2015. This iris has yellow standards and dark purple falls edged with smoky orchid that highlights the gold beard. It has won Honorable Mention in 2017, Award of Merit 2019, John C. Wister Medal 2021 and the President's Cup in 2015.



Linda and Roger Miller in their Miller's Manor Garden, 2015 AIS Convention, Portland

## AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION/IRIS SOCIETY OF DALLAS

Full registration for the 2023 American Iris Society Convention held in Grapevine, Texas April 12-16 with the Iris Society of Dallas is now \$349 by March 15 and \$399 by April 1. Garden tours only for Friday and Saturday are \$275. This includes the convention book and bag as well as 2 days of bus tours and lunches. The Welcome Dinner and Awards Brunch is \$100. There is also a Friday night special dinner for \$45. On Thursday, April 13 noon to 2 P.M. is the Geek Luncheon for \$50. This is a separate registration mailed before April 7 to Jill Bonino at 3110 Kirkham Drive in Glendale, California 91206. This check is made payable to the American Iris Society. For more information go to [www.irises-dallas.org](http://www.irises-dallas.org).

Registration acknowledgments will be made via Email.

For those requiring special accommodations for persons with disabilities please allow them to be received by AIS Convention Registrar no later than March 15, 2023. Special diet requirements are included on a separate note. Send with your registration and make the check payable to AIS CONVENTION 2023, Debbie Strauss, Registrar, 2213 Hereford Blvd, Midland, TX 79707-5012 or phone 432-352-5483 or Email [debbie@loveirises.com](mailto:debbie@loveirises.com).

## AIS PHOTO CONTEST

The annual photo contest 2023 May 1 to August 1 at midnight Pacific Standard Time invites your entry in the following categories: Irises in a landscape or garden, Species irises in the wild, A person or people at iris events or tours, Close up of pets, wildlife, or garden art with irises, and Close up of an iris or irises, Iris photo, macro. High resolution digital photos or RAW digital photos are required (no smaller than 1600 X 1000 dimensions with maximum file size of 1.2 MB). Entries can be emailed to [susandriver801@gmail.com](mailto:susandriver801@gmail.com). See *IRISES*, the Winter 2023 Bulletin of the American Iris Society for entry requirements.

## THE NELSON AWARD

Did you know about the Nelson Award, a certificate that is awarded to the iris selected Best of Show the greatest number of times during the year? This award was finally given after a lack of shows in

2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic or weather conditions.

In 2022 'Dracula's Kiss' (Schreiner 2009), 'Glitter Gulch' (Burseen 2009), and 'Mood Ring' (Keppel 2017) all won, giving a three-way tie.



'Dracula's Kiss'



'Glitter Gulch'



'Mood Ring'

## HORTICULTURE

It is time to check your garden for irises in bloom. With the 15 degrees followed by spring weather and then the ice storm that brought destruction to juniper and other trees, the irises are rejoicing the spring conditions with enough rain to make them grow taller and some blossoms are hiding in your garden as well as in mine. Keep the new weeds down and keep your eye on the irises that might be the blue ribbon winners. Those single stalks might even go to the head table. Later you may want to take some buds to your refrigerator to have them open by April 21. These irises can be cut the evening before the show or very early the morning of the show. Turn them over after cutting them with a sharp knife to let any water drip down. You might even spill a bug or spider before you take the stem into the home. You also have the vases to clean and some water to hold the stem cut at a slant. Do not write on the stalk, but have a piece of paper fitted around the stem so that you can fill in the necessary information and correct name of the iris. You can save some time by using address labels on the entry tag, but be careful and enjoy the rules and regulations. For some of you this your first show so have fun learning something new.

## MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2023 MEETING OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

Ellen gave the AAGC Report

- AAGC is looking for nominations for officers - Ellen read off some of the probable nominees
- Several offices still need volunteers
- Marion Allsup is looking for names of those who have passed in 2022 to add to a memorial brick
- Tracey will look for the date that Pauline Guerrero passed so she can be added if appropriate
- April 1 we need to submit our membership count and officer list
- AAGC dues will be \$13 per member
- We need to submit our request for meeting dates by April 1 for the Oct 2023 - Sept 2024 year
- There is a plan to refurbish the Green Room, but it will not be until after June 1 so that people have it available for spring events
- The Don Freeman bench will be added to the Rose Garden after the electricity/lighting work is completed there

Meeting dates for next year

- There was a proposal to switch our meetings to Sunday afternoons at 2p instead of Tuesday nights. We decided to submit our request for 3rd Sunday of the month for the 8 months we meet (Jan-May & Sep-Nov)
- 2024 show first choice April 13, second choice is April 20
- Easter is 3/31/2024 and AIS Convention is at the end of June 2024

Tracey delivered the Treasurer's report and there was a unanimous vote to accept

2023 Iris Show

ISA Spring Show is April 22, with setup on the afternoon before 1p-3p

The overall theme of the 2023 show is Celebrate Earth Day with Irises

The Artistic Design categories will be...

- Novice - Clean Energy
- Small Design - Clean Water
- Tray - Irises & Bees
- Designers Choice - Save the Earth

Photo classes will be...

- Single Iris Bloom
- Multiple Blooms
- Iris in a Natural Setting and Non-Bloom

March Meeting program will be how to get your stuff entered in the Show

We may decide in March to cancel the April Meeting because it is 4/11, the day before the AIS convention in Dallas starts

Submitted by Jaime Hadley