

IRIS AUSTIN

A Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

July-August 2023 — Vol. XXIII #6

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

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:30 P.M.
Zilker Botanical Garden - Auditorium
2220 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78746
POT LUCK

SALE:

The Iris Society of Austin will sell rhizomes September 9, 2023 in the Norris Conference Center near the Walmart Supercenter located in Northcross Mall at 2525 W Anderson Lane, Austin, 78757.



American Iris Society
Region 17
Where the West Begins
ANNUAL MEETING
August 4 – August 5, 2023
hosted by The Fort Worth Iris Society
First United Methodist Church
301 S. Main St
Weatherford, Texas
REGISTER NOW!!!



FLORAL DESIGN WITH IRISES

Floral design is the art of selecting and organizing flowers and foliage according to the elements and principles of design in order to attain a pleasing and interesting design. To be successful begin with fresh plant material that you have selected and cared for by handling only the stems, not laying the irises down or bumping the open flower parts. Cut the stems at a slant with a sharp knife or flower shears longer than required in a flower arrangement.



Stand cut materials in lukewarm water to a depth of half their length overnight in a cool, dark place. The next morning cut stems under water at a 45 degree angle. Remove all foliage below the water level of the container, but keep the material in water to stiffen before arranging. Woody stems should be peeled back and split to allow the stem to hold water. Plants that exude milky substance should be sealed by searing the cut end or by dipping in powdered alum. Hollow stemmed flowers should be filled with water before being placed in the container. Hold the flower upside down to fill it, then place your finger over the cut.

Containers should be thoroughly washed. Select neutral colors, and the container or vase should never be ornate or white or clear glass. A good holder should give freedom to position stems where they are wanted and hold them securely. Choose a holder suitable for the style of the arrangement, the plant material to be used, and the container to be used. Use pinpoint for line and line mass arrangements. Then use waterproof floral clay to fasten the holder to the container.

Stems are either stuck on the pins or wedged between the pins. For thin stems bind several together with rubberband, string, or floral tape. If using Oasis, soak a portion that will fit in the container and insert the stems to the bottom of the foam.

FLORAL ARRANGEMENT STYLES include the following:

Line arrangements are adaptations of Japanese styles where linear pattern is dominant and restraint in quantity of plant materials used with emphasis on individual blooms or foliage.



line



line Mass

Line mass arrangements combine strong line of Japanese styles with massed effect of European designs using a clean, uncluttered look with a definite line, a well defined mass, and plenty of open spaces.



Mass

Mass arrangements are made whenever selected flowers and foliage are used in large amounts in a thick, full look, with closed silhouette. The emphasis is on the whole colorful mass of flowers and foliage,

rather than on individual components. Color is important. Round or mass shapes usually dominate, but spiky or linear forms are good for triangular arrangements.

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN

Color
Light
Space
Line

FORM

Spiky/linear shapes
Mass/rounded
Spray or filler shapes such as fern, baby's breath, mums

Triangle



Crescent



ATTRIBUTES OF DESIGN

Expression
Harmony
Unity

Harmony



PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

Balance
Focal point
Dominance
Accent
Rhythm
Contrast

Proportion
Scale

Focal Point



HORTICULTURE



'Orange Popsicle' - G. Sutton 1987

During the spring bearded irises blooming in fields brought many memories of Mother's Garden with 'Orange Popsicle,' 'Persian Berry,' 'Immortality,' being tried with a few faithful rebloomers. In Central Texas these rhizomes can be planted in the fall; therefore, for the best selection offered come early. These irises have been washed, leaves cut in an upside down 'V,' leaving about 4 inches of foliage for easy planting, and the roots have been trimmed, not shaved off, for faster growth. To plant these rhizomes, dig a hole in some prepared soil and plant the rhizome about an inch deep or just barely covered. Then when all are about 12 inches apart, water the area deeply, and leave them alone until they are dry. Usually the fall rains are sufficient. Bearded irises love the cool weather and the moisture that comes down, but too much water will cause them to rot. Bone meal can be used as fertilizer around the rhizome and



'Persian Berry' - Gaultier 1976



'Immortality' - Zurbrigg 1982

continue this after they bloom and then in the autumn again.

Louisiana irises are dug and kept wet until the day before the sale. Cut the foliage and clean the rhizome before wrapping it in a wet newspaper or paper towel and inserting it in a plastic bag. Always place the name of the iris on a tag tied to the bag. These native wildflowers are planted in a container with no holes in the bottom or in a swamp. They must be kept wet in order for them to bloom. Since they grow in acid soil, Louisianas need azalea food as a supplement.

Spurias are kept damp and sold in a plastic bag like the Louisiana irises. Plant them in a separate area or behind other irises since these are the tallest irises. Water and fertilize these with rose food. Spurias are beautiful, exotic, and useful for their slim leaves in

floral arrangements. While some of these plants are evergreen, most of these show brown foliage that can be cut at ground level in July. They will return in September when the rain brings them to life. These flowers have appeared in local flower shows in the spring, but that did not happen in April 2023 since they either did not bloom or they had already bloomed.

For other irises that are sold such as Siberian, Japanese, or Aril or Arilbred, the society has a booklet for sale that will help you be a successful grower—“Basic Iris Culture.”

FLORAL DESIGNS BY PAT FREEMAN



Pat Freeman 2009



2004



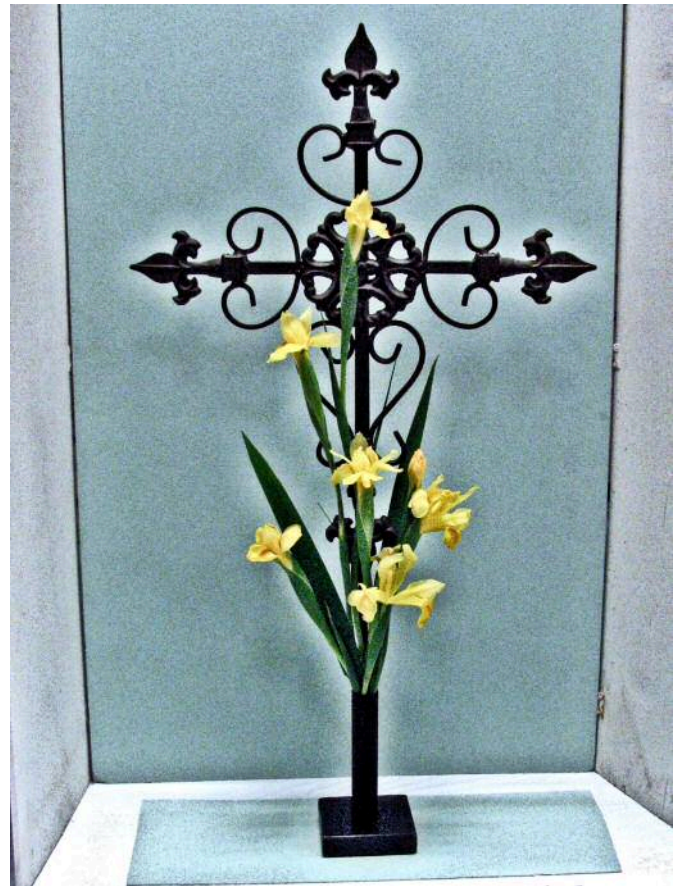
'French Impressionist' 2005



Sandy Schroeder looks on as Pat Freeman creates her Artistic Display. April 7, 2007



'Pick-a-Color' 2006



'The Crusades' 2009



'Blooms for Any Occasion' 2007



'The Light Fantastic' 2010



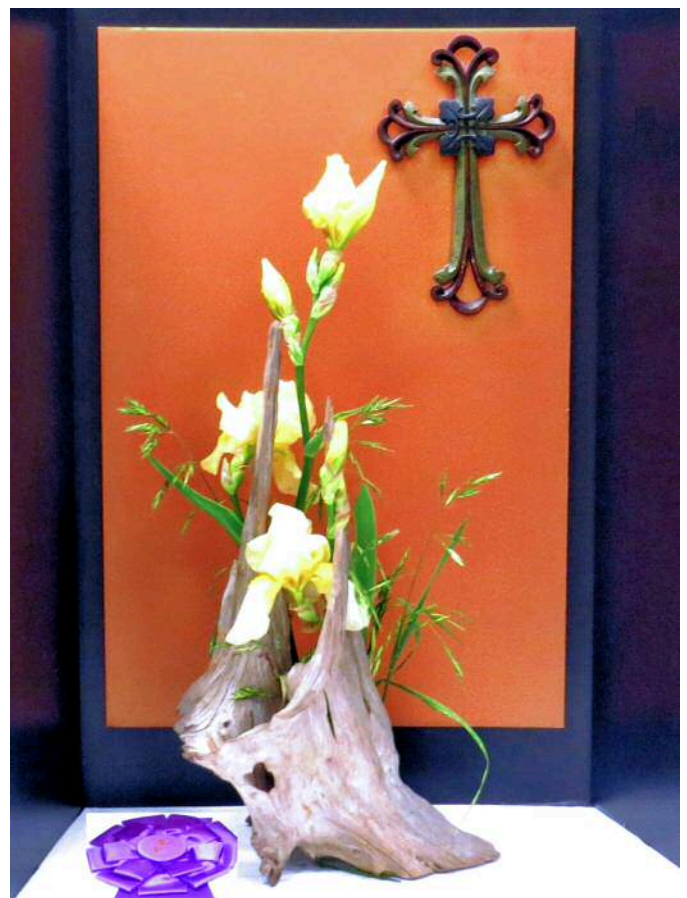
'Imagine' 2011



'Birds in Our Garden' 2013



'Dancing in the Rain' 2012



'Gospel Under the Tent' 2014



'West Texas Two-Step' 2016



'A Trip to the Moon' - 2017

WORKDAY IN THE GARDEN

On Sunday, July 9th at 7 a.m., ISA members and volunteers gathered at Zilker to dig up the iris beds. They toiled for three hours in the extreme heat and cleaned out the beds. Their goal was to take home all the plants and save some of them for replanting in the Zilker Rose Garden in October. Those participating were Ellen Singleton, Dara Smith, Nelda Moore, Tracey Rogers, Shirley Smith, Laura Moorman, Shirley Friesen, Carolyn Wylie, Debbie Hood and her husband Jason. Zilker staff member Judith Craft also participated.



Garden Judging Class March 19, 2011





March 29, 2019



WORKDAY Sunday July 9, 2023 (Photos by Tracey Rogers)





Irises rescued and saved for replanting in the Zilker Rose Garden in October

MINUTES OF THE MAY 9TH, 2023 MEETING OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

The meeting was called to order and presided over by Ellen Singleton.

There was no April 11th, 2023 meeting because we had our show. The March 2023 meeting minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Tracey Rogers and approved. The current balance for end of month April 2023 is \$14,908.67. This includes recent expenses and for Sutton order, Show expenses, hospitality and photo displays.

ISA Business:

- Awards for the 2023 Iris Society of Austin Show will be presented at the September meeting.
- Updates need to be made to our website.
- Updates need to be made to the Yearbook and published. This includes:
 1. Are there any by-laws changes to be updated?
ie. limits to Treasurer term of 5 years
 2. Removed Historian & Librarian
 3. Suggested to add revision # and a 'glossary' of change history to the document.
- Next year's show will be April 20, 2024 - we discussed ideas for holding a show outside of Zilker. Share any ideas for alternate locations to hold our show.
- Ellen Singleton has volunteered to be the Show Chair for 2024!!

Suggestions for themes:

Celebrating Zilker with Irises.

Designs:

Tray - Oriental Design for Tamaguchi Garden

Small - Children's garden

Designer's Choice - Heartford Dinosaur

There was a motion to adopt these themes 'if' we have the show at Zilker. Motion Approved.

- List all the jobs we need volunteers for throughout the year. *ie.* meeting hospitality, presenting, show prep, sale prep,
- Every meeting should have a program and agenda. Everyone should try and present a meeting program. Program ideas were for design (tray large, small, thematic etc.). How to grow and present an iris at a show. Play a game, have meeting

raffles for rhizomes, containers, knick knacks, fun things to do.

- To plan our year long meetings here are the dates we would want a program for 8 meetings - ADD THESE DATES TO YOUR CALENDARS!!!!
 1. Tuesday September 12th 6:30p (after the sale on the 9th)
 2. Sunday October 15th (this is our first meeting at our new time on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 1p - 3p) - host: Jaime
 3. Sunday November 19th (1p-3p) - host: Ellen
 4. Sunday January 21st (1p-3p) - host: Donna
 5. Sunday February 18th (1p-3p) - host: TBD
 6. Sunday March 17th (1p-3p) - host: TBD
 7. Sunday April 21st - (1p-3p) (show is April 20th) - host: TBD
 8. Sunday May 19th (1p-3p) - host: Audrey

Program:

All in attendance discussed the programs and ideas for meetings this year.

- We played a game of R-H-I-Z-O-M-E !!!!
- We said "Safe Travels" to David and Susan Kraemer as they head for cooler temps during the Summer!!
- Everyone have a great Summer and see you at the Sale!!

The meeting was adjourned.

Dara E. Smith, Secretary

Submitted for Approval on: September 12th, 2023

A REBLOOMER IN TRACEY'S GARDEN



'Total Recall' - Bloomed June 10, 2023