

IRIS AUSTIN

Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin September 2026, Vol. XXVI No. 7

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

an Affiliated Society of the American Iris Society in Region 17 (Texas)

<https://www.irises.org/>

www.aisregion17.org

Submittals to the newsletter should be emailed ASAP



Next Meeting

Sunday, October 18, 2026,
1pm-3pm meeting/program
at **TBD**
the Auditorium

Zilker Botanical Garden
2220 Barton Springs Rd
Austin TX 78746

<http://www.zilker garden.org/>



AIS Region 17 Meeting
October 4-5, 2026
in Cleburne TX



2027 AIS Convention -
Oklahoma City

<https://www.ais2027convention.org/>

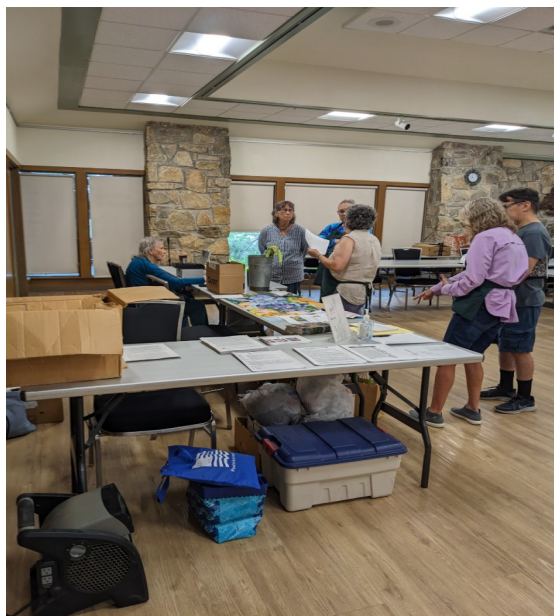
April 27- May 1
Registration opened
5/23/2026

Convention hotel: Embassy
Suites OKC Northwest

ISA 2026 September Iris Rhizomes Sale completed

The Iris Society of Austin (ISA) rhizome sale was held 9/12/26 at Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium. Thank you to Tracey & Ellen as sale co-chairmen for organizing, planning, managing, and the execution of the event. Also thank you to all the members that participated. At least 279 rhizomes were sold (per the "Square" report).

Kathy and Cindy worked the checkout table and entered sales via "Square".



Tracey mentioned during the 9/20/26 meeting that ISA did better this year for the fundraising sale as compared to last year's sale.

ISA 2026 September Iris Rhizomes Sale - continued

Members helped with setup prior to the sale and talked with customers during the sale.



Marney and Ellen greeted visitors at the entry door.



Meeting Notes from Iris Society of Austin Agenda - September 20, 2026

Tracey sent out the *agenda via email* prior to meeting

**Welcome*

--Tracey started the meeting and welcomed guests and members; one member on Zoom

**Program: The Fall Garden-Planting Irises*

- Audrey provided youtube videos to Shirley ahead of the meeting to execute during the meeting
- videos included one from Oregon, one from Louisiana, two from Pennsylvania, and one from Maryland
- discussion of the differences from video locations and central Texas followed the videos

**Business Meeting:*

**Minutes from May Meeting-Dara Smith*

- Dara unable to attend so postponed until next meeting

**Treasurer's Report-Donna Little*

- Donna provided numbers to the group (not included in newsletters per AIS guidelines). Tracey and Donna discussed/clarified some of the numbers from the ISA club fundraiser sale from the previous weekend.

**Sales Report-Tracey Rogers*

- Tracey handed out a paper copy of her estimated sale breakdown prior to the meeting and noted that adjustments will be necessary following Donna's new numbers. In general, ISA raised more funds during this year's sale compared to last year's sale.
- Tracey noted that 60% of rhizomes from the 'Tina & Her Daughters' order were Burseen rhizomes. Also, Tracey did have some small costs for the Facebook advertisement that ran four days. Ellen did the call-in to the radio program early on the day of the sale as part of the publicity effort.
- ISA must pay 15% of the net profits to Zilker (AAGC) as part of the usage fee for the Auditorium at the Zilker Botanical Gardens. The check is written to AAGC then the amount is given to PARD (Parks and Recreation Department) then passed to the City of Austin then included in the city's general parks fund. No special 'earmark' of the funds occur.

**Status of Zilker Botanical Garden*

- Tracey & Shirley conveyed info from the recent AAGC meeting. There were only three garden clubs in attendance that day (ISA, the orchid society, and the Austin garden club).
 - Tracey reiterated the news that the city of Austin did not renew the contract for the conservancy because the conservancy did not meet the requirements of the contract.
 - Following the meeting, the conservancy board voted to dissolve the conservancy by the end of September 2026. The employees of the conservancy will be laid off as of October 1, 2026 since the conservancy indicated they did not have the funds to continue or pay the employees beyond that timeline. PARD will take over the running of Zilker Botanical Garden (as they had done years ago before the conservancy was implemented).

Meeting Notes - continued

**Auditorium Repairs to start October 1- Where can we have show?*

- Tracey has received **no confirmation for meeting dates or location** from Zilker for 2026-2027 operational calendar.
- Tracey was informed that construction in the Auditorium is planned soon for 'asbestos removal' and construction should be completed by October 15th** (which is prior to the next ISA meeting of October 18th). It may be possible to meet at Zilker (possibly the Greene room), but Tracey will look for an alternative meeting location, in case it is needed.
 - **Note: after ISA meeting concluded, Tracey emailed the members later to say **"We will not be able to meet in Zilker at all during October. The whole park will be closed from October 1-October 15 for the asbestos removal and possibly longer during the month depending on what they find. It is not unusual for the park to close during ACL. I will reach out to Wheatsville Co-op when I return from my trip."**
- Tracey requested a show chair from the members as she cannot do it next year.
 - The chairman will need to look for and secure a show location in case there are issues with Zilker location. The Methodist church she mentioned in her emails in August for the sale might be possible, but the show chairman will still need show details secured/confirmed ahead of time. The Norris conference center might be possible for the show and its cost for both setup (usually Friday) and the show (usually Saturday) is \$750. In the past, PARD charged \$1K for setup (on Friday) and \$200 for the sale (on Saturday) for use of Auditorium at Zilker. The cost was one of the reasons ISA moved some of events to Norris conference center.
 - Because there is not a definite date for the show, Tracey has been unable to secure judges. A location and date should be finalized quickly so that other logistics (such as judges and schedule submittal) can be determined as soon as possible. Requests to judges need a first choice and second choice date.

**Zilker Beds - PARD wants to move beds again*

- Anna Bradley emailed Tracey regarding moving irises again.
- The group discussed the moving of irises again at Zilker.
 - The conservancy moved irises in March 2026 against the recommendation of ISA. The plants were moved to a shaded area and have been over watered.
 - Most of the plants have died and disappeared from their new location when Tracey checked the beds September 13th.
 - Marney put forth a motion to "not move the irises at Zilker" and Audrey seconded the motion. The members in attendance at the meeting voted on the motion with 8 "no" and zero "yes".

**Vote on Region17 meeting*

- Tracey discussed events related to the region 17 2027 hosting possibility. Currently Hooker N. plans to have a Zoom meeting for 2027.
 - In a prior ISA meeting, a search committee was formed for 2028 hosting and the search committee narrowed down the hotel hosting possibilities to two locations (one in Pflugerville & one at Palmer/I-35).
 - Jacky had indicated that he could get 5 volunteers from Waco to help with the event.
 - However, in the interim, another club has committed to hosting 2028 meeting and Hooker asked if ISA could host 2027.

Meeting Notes – continued

- Since the search committee was planning on 2028 and had not had an opportunity to present any information to the full ISA members before the September 2026 meeting, Tracey asked if ISA members at this September meeting would vote on willingness to host 2027 meeting. Additional discussion ensued.
 - Hosting tasks would include a) arranging, setting up, and hosting the Friday night banquet and games b) arranging, setting up, and hosting the Saturday night banquet, speaker(s), and silent auction c) arranging, setting up, and hosting the Saturday judges training d) setting up and hosting for officer meeting e) some goody bags for attendees f) registration of attendees.
- Shirley S. put forth motion "willing to host 2027 Region 17 meeting" & Mary O. seconded the motion. The members in attendance at the meeting voted on the motion with 2 "no" and 7 "yes".

**AIS Popularity Poll-will email link to members*

- Tracey mentioned that the popularity poll started September 1, 2026 and will probably end Oct or November. You do not need to be a member of AIS or ISA to vote. She will forward the AIS electronic email to all in attendance.

**New Business*

- Marney mentioned that she heard from a gift shop employee that the last day the gift shop will be open is next Sunday (September 27, 2026).
- Shirley S. asked for volunteers to join her at a Oktoberfest October 10th and promote ISA.

Zilker Botanical Garden Iris Bed on 8/13/2026

submitted by Tracey R

Tall bearded iris 'Notta Lemon'
(Tom Burseen, R. 2009) at Zilker (right)
Plant stake marked in orange box on pic
photo by Tracey R



Tall bearded iris 'Do Wah Diddy' (Tom Burseen, R. 1997) & 'Lemon Pledge' (Joe Spears, R. 2003) (below)
photo by Tracey R.



Tall bearded iris 'Lacy Chandelier' (Leonard and Kathie Jedlicka, R. 2012)
& 'Skip A Beat' (Tom Burseen, R. 2012) (below)
photo by Tracey R.



Tall bearded iris 'September'
(Fred Spahn, R. 1981) (right)
photo via AIS wiki



Notes about ISA meeting/show location & time for September 2026 - September 2027

Iris Society of Austin (ISA) meetings at Zilker Botanical Garden:

- **Iris Sale Date:**
 - Setup: Friday, September 11, 2026, 1-5pm
 - Sale: Saturday, September 12, 2026, 9am-3:30pm
- Sunday, September 20, 2026, 1-3pm [[*Zoom available](#)]
- **Other dates for ISA meetings have not been confirmed by AAGC/Zilker PARD. Possible future meeting dates:**
 - Sunday afternoon, October 18, 2026, 1pm-3pm at **TBD** location
 - Sunday afternoon, November 15, 2026
 - Sunday afternoon, January 17, 2027
 - Sunday afternoon, February 21, 2027
 - Sunday afternoon, March, 21, 2027
 - **Iris Show Date:**
 - Setup: Friday, ??TBD, 2027, 1-5pm
 - Show: Saturday, ??TBD, 2027, 9am-4pm
 - —includes the Auditorium and Greene Room for Judges
 - Sunday afternoon, April 18, 2027
 - Sunday afternoon, May 16, 2027
 - **Iris Sale Date:**
 - Setup: Friday, September ??TBD, 2027, 1-5pm
 - Sale: Saturday, September ??TBD, 2027, 9am-3:30pm
 - Sunday, September 19, 2027

For Club Members -- **[*Join Zoom Meeting:](#)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82096469078?pwd=yBaGnlv9pW8K5iZRbJHaWbmym2bsJ.1>

Meeting ID: 820 9646 9078

Passcode: 051827

One tap mobile – for call in audio only

+13462487799,,82096469078# US (Houston)

Join **instructions**

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/82096469078/invitations?signature=6D_Ouh-iZ84IfiL3ITbf0kXsRmNiO-r364yFBol4Rtc

Zilker Garden's regular operating hours are:

- September through May: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- June through August: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Admissions close 30 minutes before the Garden closes**

Tall bearded iris 'Presby Honors September'
(Joan Roberts, R. 2004) (right)
photo by Stoney Creek Iris via AIS wiki



Tall bearded iris "September Sailor"
(G. Percy Brown, R. 1959) (left)
photo by Argyle Acres via AIS wiki

Tall bearded iris 'September Frost'
(George Sutton, R. 1997) (right)
photo via AIS wiki

