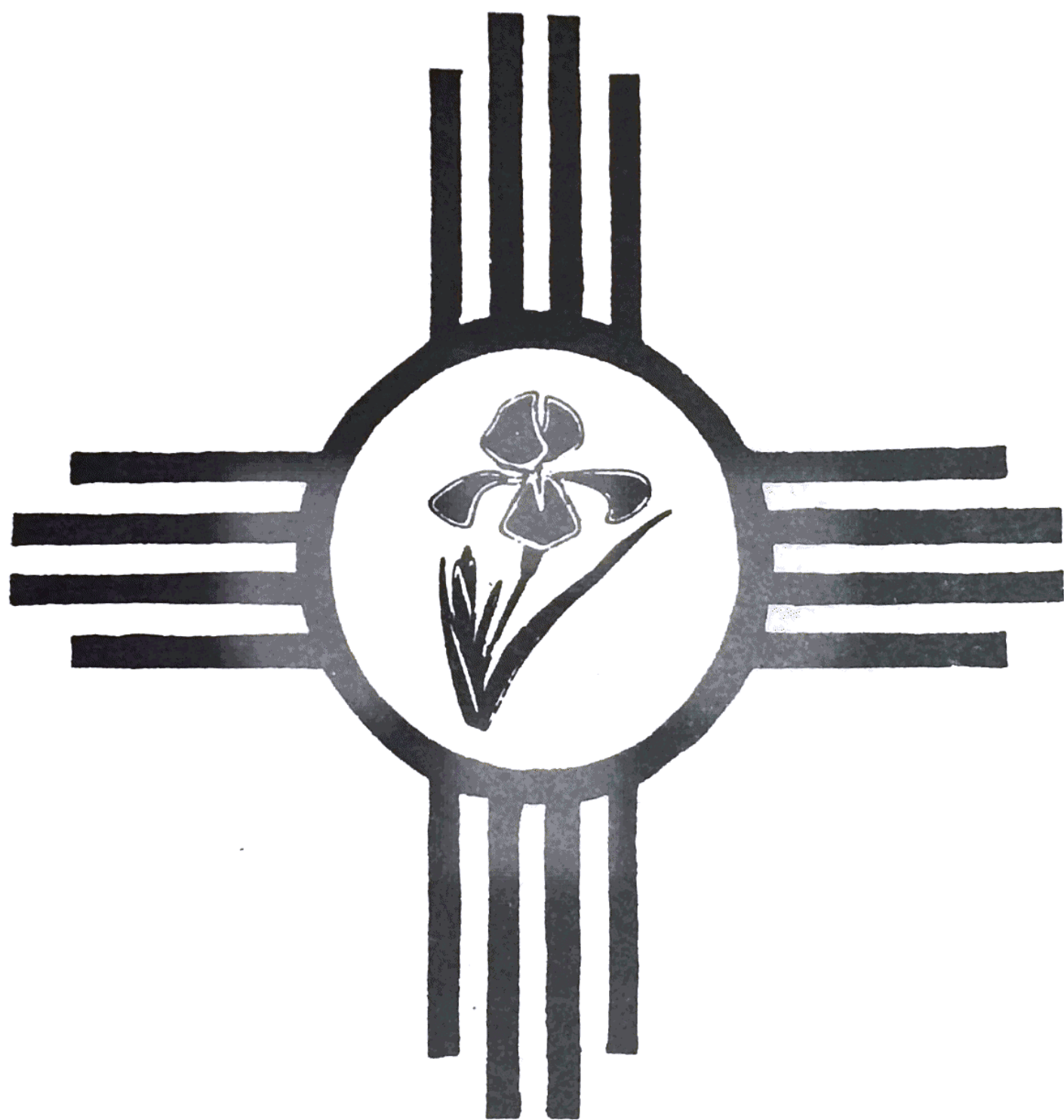


AIS REGION 23

NEWSLETTER



SPRING

1990

REGIONAL 23 OFFICERS

<u>Regional Vice-President</u>	Doug Goodnight (505) 392-5459 (505) 392-2700	1005 Gamblin Lane Hobbs, NM 88240
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<u>Membership Chairman</u>	Bill Coursey (505) 299-3050	4100 Blue Ridge Pl., NE Albuquerque, NM 87111
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	RVP	
<u>Youth Chairperson</u>	Karen Bergamo (505) 299-5198	2508 Punta de Vista Albuquerque, NM 87112

***** ADVERTISING RATES PER ISSUE:

1/4 page	\$ 8.00
1/2 page	14.00
3/4 page	19.00
Full page	23.00

Please contact Editor for details.

Reprinting is granted from Region 23 Newsletter as long as author and source are recognized.

REGION 23 AFFILIATES

ALBUQUERQUE ARIL SOCIETY (505) 345-7592	Susan Latimer 291 Sandia Rd., NW Albuquerque, NM 87107
ALBUQUERQUE IRIS GUILD (505) 345-0119	Howard G. Shockey 4611 Rio Grande Ln, NW Albuquerque, NM 87107
LEA COUNTY IRIS SOCIETY (505) 393-6238	Bill Brown 1732 N. Jefferson Hobbs, NM 88240
MESILLA VALLEY IRIS SOC. (505) 524-3140	Jeff Anderson 300 W. Taylor Rd. Las Cruces, NM 88001
NEW MEXICO IRIS SOCIETY (505) 898-7347	Ruth Bronson 10243 Belnap Pl, NW Albuquerque, NM 87114
ROSWELL IRIS SOCIETY (505) 625-9821	Letha M. Dent 3011 Diamond A Dr. Roswell, NM 88201
SANTA FE IRIS SOCIETY (505) 988-1792	Sylvia Chavez 409 W Buena Vista Santa Fe, NM 87501

1990 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

Please check pages 87 and 88 of our January AIS bulletin for all of the rules. Then let me know if you wish to participate as a society or as an individual.

Happy New Year! I have already found that there is much more to being RVP than the initials. We are all better checker players when we watch. The job leaves me very little time for procrastination. You have all been very helpful by sending me the information that I have requested. Please keep up the good work. This keeps the paper work from getting too deep.

Judges and all AIS members please remember that it is very important to vote all of the ballots, that we receive. In the past, our track record has been very poor. This is the only way that we will ever know what your favorite iris is. Most of us think that it is the one that is blooming, but let us be more specific. In this Newsletter you will find a Judges report form. Judges, please use it to keep your records. I will send you another one to fill out and return to me. This is a suggestion made by one of our members, and for the life of me I cannot remember who she is. If the lady that made the suggestion will drop me a line after she reads this, I will give her credit in the next Newsletter.

Members, if we promote Iris as well as we do our grandchildren, the state will know what we are all about. Let us try not to be boring with it, but never miss a chance to tell people about AIS, your own Society and the lovely flowers that we grow.

Karen Bergamo has agreed to be our youth Chairperson. We will be able to start a youth movement with each of you helping. The wheels of life turn faster as we grow older. So let us search for more young people to help us. We could start by giving more and better awards to our youth. They are the exhibitors of today and the AIS leaders of tomorrow. Young people, you do not have to be as old as I am to be a garden judge. We have a great amount of wisdom and

these people will be happy to help all of our members. Let us be known as the region of members helping members and anyone else that may be interested in iris.

I am looking forward to seeing our region well represented in Omaha, and I would like to see most of our members in Santa Fe, for our Regional Convention. Don Shepard will be our speaker. Don and his wife, Bobbie, put in a lot of hours for the National Convention in Phoenix. They also donated some very nice rhizomes for the Roswell regional in 1988. If you attend the regional you will not be disappointed, and it will give us another chance to say thank you for a wonderful time in Phoenix.

May all of your entries be winners.

Doug

WHATS HAPPENING - REGION 23

Mesilla Valley Iris Society

The Botanical Garden at New Mexico State University exists to foster increased awareness and appreciation of the native plants of southern New Mexico and to demonstrate the variety, use, care and maintenance of woody landscape plants, annuals, perennials and turf grasses in the Las Cruces area. The garden is open to the public daily, sunrise to sunset.

Through generous contributions of time, talent and materials made by local individuals and businesses, the Botanical Garden was designed and constructed in 1984. Since its construction, the Botanical Garden has been an important part of Horticulture at NMSU. The plant collections are used by numerous classes, and many students have gained valuable practical experience by working in the garden.

The Botanical Garden is open to the public, providing a beautiful year-round display of annual, perennial and wood plants along with turfgrasses. Individuals and garden clubs, informally and formally have enjoyed the colorful displays at the garden.

The plant collections continue to grow. In 1989 there were approximately 80 varieties of annuals and perennials, 125 woody plant species and 22 turf plots.

Plans are underway to upgrade and expand the Botanical Garden. The future should be even more exciting and colorful than the past!

Friends of the Garden support the Garden by donations of \$25.00 or more and time. By doing so they receive a quarterly newsletter containing garden tips and describing what is happening at the Garden. They also are invited to seminars and openhouses at the Garden and are able to purchase surplus plant material from the garden at a discount.

Please make your tax deductible contributions to:

NMSU Foundation, Botanical Garden
P. O. Box 3590
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Santa Fe Iris Society

Iris gardens in Santa Fe have been blessed with a slew of late winter snows. We started our winter very dry, with a depressingly sunny Christmas Day. Many a time we are forced to unkink the old garden hose, in order to moisten overly dry beds even in winter.

Yes, snows are a great blessing to Irisarians, and most welcome - in the winter. The problem with snow is that it has a pesky way of hanging around until and into Spring. I don't know if gardeners in Hobbs or Roswell are hit by late

spring freezes, but in Santa Fe they seem to come several times a year, preventing us from having the "normal" Spring we've always dreamed of.

Although Spring freezes are a crushing blow to the blooms we've been coddling along, they do make for some crazy sights in the garden. Good Morning America is especially susceptible to freeze, and for the last two years has bloomed on corkscrew-like stalks with crepe-paper blooms. One year I had a most promising clump of Prince Indigo with twelve stalks about 32" high (the biggest clump ever produced in my garden). This clump was a thing of beauty, with buds ready to burst, when one morning I awoke to find all the stalks bent over like umbrella handles.

Another interesting phenomena produced by spring freezes are freak blooms. Cherub Choir once bloomed with every petal (standards and falls) 1/2 pink, 1/2 white with the line of demarcation being right down the center. Baja Bandit bloomed with only 2 standards and 2 falls, giving it a sort of a Cowboy Hat effect. Flair, which is very floriferous anyway, has a tendency to produce extra standards and falls.

In Santa Fe at over 7,000 feet, we have almost a three-week advantage over Albuquerque before freezes damage our blooms. Our show this year is scheduled for June 2nd and 3rd. This is a little late for some of us, still good for those at higher elevations or with shadier gardens, and just about right for our friends in Los Alamos.

I guess here in Santa Fe we are probably like all other Irisarians around the state. We too are keeping our fingers crossed and saying our prayers. We'd sure like to hear from other societies around the state if anyone has a "normal" bloom season.

Sylvia Chavez

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep,
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sun on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn's rain.

When you awake in morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the star that shines at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there -- I did not die.

Author Unknown

Submitted by Letha Dent.

UPDATE ON OUR REGIONAL CONVENTION

Those of us that were fortunate enough to attend the Phoenix Convention in April 1987 will remember Don and Bobbie Shepard. Bobbie was the Convention Chairperson. The job that she and her staff did to put the convention together was fantastic. They will never have to say that it could have been better.

Don and Bobbie will be coming to Santa Fe for our Regional Convention August 25 and 26. Don will be our after dinner speaker. They have had their commercial garden open for about nineteen years. Looking thru some of their old catalogs I found that he worked with Mark Rogers and Harry Tate on Aril-breeds. His 1985 catalog had the following iris listed as his 1985 introductions: GRAPE FIESTA, SCARLET SAGE, JALAPENO, CAMEL BANDITO, HOT PIZZAZ, DOTTED DOVE, all Tall Bearded, and LITTLE WILLIE an IB bringing up the rear. I have no idea how many iris that Don has introduced. I like his 1987 SPLASH OF BLUE and BIG DUKE. SPLASH OF BLUE was quite a show in his garden. It came in second to Floyd Wickenkamp's SON OF SON for the President's Cup. Don's iris do well for me in Hobbs. They seem

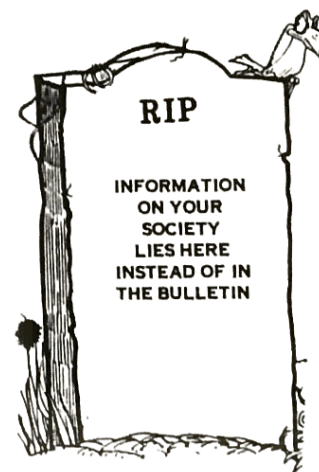
to be ready to grow in our desert. There is not that much difference in Phoenix and Hobbs when it comes to climate. They are already climatized to our part of the world. I have given you very little information about Don, so come to the convention and I am sure that we will learn much more about them. Fellow Members, I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Santa Fe and helping give Don and Bobbie a great New Mexico welcome.

Don was asked to give our Judge's Training on Spurias. He declined by saying that he was not that well versed in them. Maxine Perkins and I had been trying to work up a training session on spurias and ethics. Max will do two hours on spurias and I will do one hour on ethics.

The information on our August Convention will be in your mailbox in just a few days. Since the dates are during the tourist season, those of us that will need a room, must make our reservations promptly. The motel will hold the block of room for only a short time.

Our conventions are beginning to seem like the World's Fair. They are bigger and better each year. This is by far the best time for Iris Fellowship that I know. We have no Iris to groom, or Judges to complain about, so we can lay back and have a great time.

Let us not forget the amount of work that it takes to put on a convention. Our support will be the best way in the world to say THANKS, SANTA FE.



REGION # 17 COMING ATTRACTIONS

Jim Coward, past RVP of Region 17 will present a four hour judging school in Waco, Texas on March 24th. It will be held at 1705 North Fifth in the Nell Pate Garden Center. Registration will be from 9:00 am to 9:30. Two hours in the morning on TBs, lunch on your own and then two hours on ETHICS.



JUDGES

In the very near future you will receive a letter from Maxine Perkins in regards to how many training hours you will need this year to remain in good standing.



On The Lighter Side

LOOKING AHEAD

My time for showing irises
Is soon coming to a finis
I can't see to groom my entries,
Nor identify the iris

But the future still looks worthy,
So I will not hold a grudge;
If my eyesight fails completely,
I can always be a judge.

ON MEMBERSHIP

Bill Coursey, our assistant RVP, will also be our membership chairman. If we forget to send in our dues, we will be getting an extra reminder from him. He will not be meddling, just showing concern for our membership.



AIS DUES

The new AIS membership was very late, so we will be late with our reminders. I do hope that all you have paid your dues by the time you read this. We cannot afford to lose any of our members.

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Annual	\$ 9.50	Sustaining	\$20.00
Triennial	23.75	Research	47.50
Family	11.50	Life	190.00
Family Triennial	28.50	Family Life	237.50
Youth Member, with others of family as members			2.00
Youth Members, with no others of family as members			3.25

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
Society for Siberian Irises	2.50	6.50	3.00	7.50
Spuria Iris Society	3.00	7.00	3.50	8.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	3.00	7.50	4.00	10.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	3.50	9.00	4.50	10.50
Louisiana Iris Society of America	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155

1990 SHOW SCHEDULE - REGION 23

- Albuquerque Aril Society
Albuquerque Garden Center, April 29
- Albuquerque Iris Guild
Albuquerque Garden Center, May 19 and 20
- Lea County Iris Society
Broadmoor Mall, April 21
- Mesilla Valley Iris Society
Mesilla Valley Mall, April 28 and 29
- New Mexico Iris Society
Albuquerque Garden Center, May 12
- Roswell Iris Society
Sally Port Atrium, April 21
- Santa Fe Iris Society
June 2 and 3

ABOUT OUR YOUTH PROGRAM

Karen will have to depend upon our show chairman for most of her assistance. To give our youth a fair shake, she will need a report from each show that has a youth division. Then the silver medal winner will need to send Karen a letter telling her exactly what they are doing with Iris. I would like to have the region winner decided at the regional convention by the vote of those attending. The winner's name would then be sent to the national youth chairperson with a chance to win the national award.

FROM MARJORIE HOLMES CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

"This is MY garden, God, this is my garden, my own small precious portion of the earth that you have made.

I will dig and hoe and tend it, I will grub in the soil. . . it clings to my fingers, it is hard and certain beneath my knees.

It receives my year-long offerings, I am filled with humility and anxious hopes, yet knowing a happy patience too. How insignificant am I to be entrusted with this miracle to come.

And surely, the silent forces of creation set to work and soon the miracle has come. . . first the blades and then the blossoms with their incredible colors and fragrances. . .

We think of that final garden where Christ prayed, ("In my Father's house are many mansions," He said.) I feel sure that among those mansions there are surely many gardens too.

How marvelous that our very existence began in the garden. Perhaps that's why we feel so wonderfully alive in a garden. . . so close to YOU.

(Presented by Jerry Toland at Roswell's 1988 State Convention; suggested by Susan Latimer for this Newsletter.)

REGIONS 14 AND 15 JOINT SPRING MEETING AND GARDEN TREK

April 20-22, 1990 - Van Nuys, California
Hosted by San Fernando Valley Iris Society

For more details contact:
Bill Rinehart
22218 Schoenborn St.
West Hills, CA 91304

REGISTRATION FORMS

PRINT YOUR NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR BADGE. EACH PERSON SHOULD REGISTER SEPARATELY. IF YOU HOLD A REGIONAL OFFICE IN TEXAS OR ANOTHER STATE OR IF YOU HOLD A NATIONAL AIS OFFICE, PLEASE PUT THAT TITLE OR OFFICE UNDER YOUR NAME.

Mail this registration to:
Ruth James
6614 Southwest Parkway
Wichita Falls, Tx. 76310

REGISTRATION: By April 16 - \$10.00
After April 16 - \$15.00
Breakfast \$ 6.75
Banquet \$15.00
Judging School \$ 5.00

I plan to attend the Region 17 meeting April 27-28-29, 1990

Name: _____ FEES:
Registration _____
Breakfast _____
Banquet _____
Judges Training _____
Title: _____
Address: _____ Total enclosed _____
City: _____

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 26:

5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Registration and Show Entries - Wichita Ballroom
Hospitality

SATURDAY, APRIL 27:

7:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Registration and Show Entries

7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Dutch Treat Buffet Breakfast and combined
Region 17 General Membership and Executive
Board Meeting
Judges Training School
Garden Judging - Tall Bearded Iris

10:30 - 12:30 a.m.

11:10

Judges Briefing - Burkburnett Rm.

11:15- 1:00

Show Judging

Lunch on your own

1:15 - 6:00 p.m.

Show Open to the Public- Wichita Ballroom

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Judges Training School
Ethics in Judging

7:00 p.m.

No Host Cash Bar

7:30 p.m.

Banquet
Dinner Music
Guest speaker

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

9:00 - 12:00 a.m.

After Banquet - Awards picked up and Show Entry
Removal.

Garden Tours
Bus tour of area gardens. Progressive breakfast or
lunch served.

Tall Bearden Iris
Aril-Bred Iris
Tritoma (Pokerplant)
Roses
Umbrella Plants

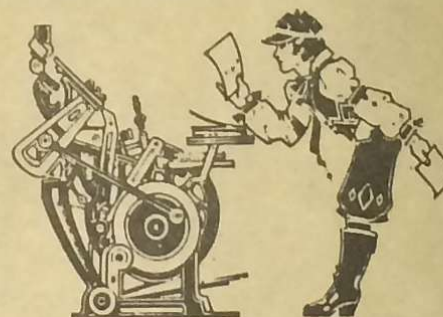
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