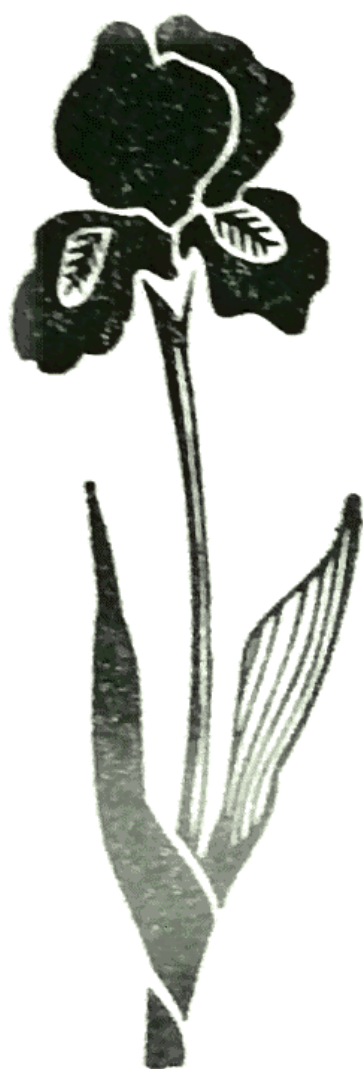


# NEWSLETTER OF REGION 23



◆ Santa Fe Iris Socceity

◆ Albuquerque Aril Society and  
New Mexico Iris Society

◆ Pecos Valley Iris  
Society

◆ Mesilla Valley Iris Society

## SPRING 2002

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

## THE IRIS

Iris, once you walked the glade  
 As a simple country maid.  
 In the gardens you were rated  
 Somewhat unsophisticated,  
 Sweet, but scarcely born to bloom  
 In a formal drawing room.  
 Then you waxed in height and grace.  
 Lovelier grew your tinted face.  
 Conscious of your spreading powers,  
 Tall you stood among the flowers  
 Till you packed your purple gown,  
 Smiled and waved and went to town.  
 Now, coiffured in latest style,  
 Full of beauty and of guile,  
 You're the star of all the shows,  
 Rivaling the florist Rose.  
 Clad (though purple's still your passion)  
 In the changing hues of fashion.  
 Which but proves, beyond a doubt,  
 Ladies know their way about.

The American Weekly  
 January 2, 1944

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## PUBLICATION DEADLINES

The Region 23 Newsletter will be published three times annually for the purpose of keeping you apprized of American Iris Society and Region 23 information and functions. Deadlines shall be:

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
Spring Issue	February 15	March 15
Summer Issue	May 15	June 15
Fall Issue	August 15	September 15



## OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Regional Vice President.....Patricia Randall

758 Hood Road, SE  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124  
(505)891-8705  
patannran@earthlink.net

Assistant Vice President.....Pegi Naranjo

3102 North Montana  
Roswell, New Mexico 88201  
(505)622-0648

Secretary.....Patricia Feather

1345 Canyon Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
(505)982-6578

Treasurer.....Vacant

Judges Chairman.....Karen Bergamo

2508 Punta de Vista, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112  
(505)299-5198

Youth Chairman.....Pam Lackey

7545 Union, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109  
(505)821-3419

Membership Chairman.....Mary Herrington

1400 East Bland Street  
Roswell, NW Mexico 88201  
(505)622-9161

Newsletter Editor.....Patricia Randall

## AIS AND REGIONAL HAPPENINGS FOR 2002

National Convention, Memphis, Tennessee.....April 24 thru 29

Pecos Valley Iris Show, Roswell, NM.....April 27  
Roswell Mall

Albuquerque Aril Society Show, Albuquerque, NM.....May 4 & 5  
Albuquerque Garden Center

Mesilla Valley Iris Society Show, Las Cruces.....May 4 & 5  
Mesilla Valley Mall

New Mexico Iris Society Show, Albuquerque, NM.....May 11 & 12  
Albuquerque Garden Center

Santa Fe Iris Society, Santa Fe, NM.....May 18  
DeVargas Mall

New Mexico Iris Society Sale, Albuquerque, NM.....July 13  
Annual Rhizome Sale, Albuquerque Garden Center

Albuquerque Aril Society Sale, Albuquerque, NM.....July 20  
Annual Rhizome Sale, Albuquerque Garden Center

Santa Fe Iris Society Sale, Santa Fe, NM.....Unknown  
Annual Rhizome Sale, DeVargas Mall

Region 23 Annual Convention, Las Cruces, NM.....Sept. 14 & 15  
Proposed Speaker/Trainer - Keith Keppel

Pecos Valley Iris Society Show, Roswell, NM.....Unknown  
Annual Fall Iris Show, Roswell Mall

Annual AIS Fall Board Meeting, Ft. Worth, TX.....Nov. 1 thru 3

## RVP RAMBLINGS

I wish to take a few minutes to extend our sympathy to the family and friends of two terrific A.I.S. members that are no longer with us. Floyd Stopani who passed away last November and Barbara Figge who passed away early March. This dynamic duo will be leaving a huge gap in organizations and especially in our hearts. These people were very active and supportive of their local societies as well as regionally and nationally. I personally consider it an honor to have known these individuals and to have counted them as friends. The talents and support from Floyd and Barbara will be greatly missed by all who knew them.

With the passing of Floyd we are faced with the responsibility of re-electing a Region 23 Treasurer. Contained in this publication is a ballot for this election. Per the Regional By-Laws a new election must be conducted to fill any vacancy of an elected official. The Nominating Committee has conducted a telephone conference to procure a person who would be amendable in filling this post. An official ballot has been included in this publication (as an insert), it is important that you cast your ballot and return to me ASAP, deadline date shall be April 30, 2002. Any ballots received after this postmarked date will not be counted.

I have also taken time to compile a news article for the three local iris societies, just a bit of news to keep all abreast of what we have done for fun, and what is planned. I would greatly appreciate it if each affiliate would select a news reporter to provide information on your group happenings. I would especially appreciate a summary on your show results as I think it would be nice to provide information to all AIS Region 23 members who the winners were in each category, as well as some statistics on the number of entries, number of exhibitors, etc. Please send me this information, as soon after your annual spring shows as possible, so it may be published in the Summer edition of the newsletter. For those Societies hosting an annual fall show, please submit your information for inclusion in the Spring publication.

While I am in my staunch "gimme mode", I would like each affiliate to consider selecting some one to serve as a society youth advisor (someone to encourage youth members or promote youth membership, and especially to provide us with news on the youth activities in your society, look for ways to encourage and compliment your youth, local awards, sharing free rhizomes, youth division show results, etc.). Some information was provided last year on the AIS setting up a new Affiliates Award. This would require a member of your group to serve as an historian (someone to compile information on group happenings and special events, pictures, etc., this person would also nominate their society for an annual A.I.S. Affiliate Award). If your group would be interested in any of these positions please feel free to contact me for detailed information.

Wishing you a bountiful and beautiful bloom season 2002, I remain

Respectfully Yours,  
*Patricia Randall*

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## ALBUQUERQUE IRIS GUILD DISBANDS

The members and guests of the Albuquerque Iris Guild met at Maria Teresa in November. This was the Grande finale for the group. The organization officially disbanded, effective December 2001.

Business of the meeting was the presentation of 2001 Show awards and to vote the transfer of society funds to the treasury of the Albuquerque Aril Society. Property, books/publications/check lists/etc., were offered to the members at a greatly reduced price. Items not sold will become the property of the Aril Society.

It was a solemn and sad occasion for most, especially the charter members of the group. All of the members, however, are also members of either/or both the Albuquerque Aril Society or the New Mexico Iris Society, and felt that they would still be very active in the meetings and events of those groups, and would be able to volunteer their expertise and services to the annual shows and sales.

## **ALBUQUERQUE ARIL SOCIETY EVENTS**

Albuquerque Aril Society members and guests met at the home of Ronnie and Peter McGrath to celebrate their holiday awards banquet, the event was held in December. The members provided delicious covered dishes for the occasion.

A short meeting was held for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. Officers for 2002 are: President, Peter McGrath; Vice-President, Cindy Rivera; Secretary/Treasurer, Reita Jordan.

The A.I.S. Silver Medal was awarded to Valerie White, and the Bronze Medal was presented to Patricia Randall.

Several ideas were discussed, including the society taking over the rhizome sale formerly hosted by the Albuquerque Iris Guild, the sale will be held on Saturday, July 20th. We also discussed the show to be held on May 4 & 5. We discussed other means of raising funds for the society, ways to advertise our society, and ways to promote membership.

The group originally met the third Thursday of the month with meetings being held at the Albuquerque Garden Center at 7:30 PM. Due to a conflict with other organizations on this same evening, the group has elected to hold their meetings on the second Thursday of the month, same place and time, with the meetings being held in the Patio Room. Cindy Rivera prepares and presents a slide presentation and informational handout for each meeting.

Anyone in the area, who grow, or would like to learn about the aril/arilbred irises, are invited to join us.

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## **AFFILIATION APPLICATIONS APPROVED**

A notice has been received from Shirley Pope, Affiliates Chairman, advising us that the five (5) affiliation applicants have been approved for affiliation for 2002. My thanks to the Society Presidents for their timely submission of applications and membership data, I was able to complete and submit before the deadline.

## **NEW MEXICO IRIS SOCIETY NEWS**

Karen and John Bergamo served as the hostess and host for the New Mexico Iris Society Christmas Party. Members brought delicious snacks to share. The highlight of the evening was the White Elephant Gift Exchange, ore more aptly put, Gift Take Away. Members took turns selecting a gift, opening it, and then hoping no one would take it away from them, many select items exchanged hands several times, anyone lucky enough to possess the gift of their choice the third time around got to keep that gift. A delightful and hilarious time was had by all!

The New Mexico Iris Society meets at the Albuquerque Garden Center on the third Thursday of February, March, April, June, August, September and October at 7:30 PM. Guest speakers or slide programs are scheduled for each meeting. The group opted to eliminate the annual September banquet and hold a regularly scheduled meeting in it's place, special feature of the evening will be the installation of officers for the ensuing year.

An iris plant exchange and/or auction will be held at the August meeting. The annual banquet will be replaced with an annual Christmas Party to be held in December, hosts for this year will be Scott and Reita Jordan, date and time to be announced.

Programs held and/or planned for this year are: Historic Iris; Iris Fertilization/Feeding/Pest Control; Pictorial Tour of Cooleys & Schreiner's Iris Gardens; Iris Art/Crafts/Photographs; and Pictorial Tour of the Keith Keppel Iris Garden.

The group sponsors their annual iris show on the Mother's Day weekend, which will be on May 11 & 12. Their rhizome sale will be held on Saturday, July 13.

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**American Iris Society  
Website Address**

**<http://www.Irises.org>**

**Lots of information and links to clubs, gardens, etc.**



In Memoriam  
*Floyd Stopani*

Floyd Stopani died of a Staphylococcal bacterial infection that attacked his brain. It was very sudden and very unexpected. He checked into the hospital, fully expecting to recovery and return to his wife, his family, and his ministry. Instead, he slipped into eternity.

Floyd served the Aril Society International for over twenty years. He and his mom, Luella Danielson, received, stored, sorted, packed and shipped out more than 10,000 aril and arilbred rhizomes during his tenure as plant sale co-chair. Floyd had been treasurer for Region 23, American Iris Society, for a number of years.

Year in, and year out, Floyd quietly and selflessly served each of us that ordered from the sale. He lived an authentic Christian life, proving that being a Christian didn't mean you had to stop having fun. He was the life of the party everywhere he went. Even as his life was slipping away he had fun with Helen and thought of others rather than himself. He pastored everywhere he went, in season and out of season, serving others in whatever capacity he could. He was truly a pillar of the Aril Society International, as is his mother, Luella Danielson. Floyd was a man who had his priorities straight.

Helen, his wife, and Luella are American Iris Society judges, and those of us in Albuquerque have been fortunate to see both of them, along with Floyd, most springs as they made the 4 ½ hour drive from El Paso to judge the Albuquerque Aril Society spring show.

We especially look forward to seeing them in the future, as we reflect on how fragile life is.

Floyd will indeed be missed deeply by all who knew him.

- Pete McGrath -

In Memoriam  
*Barbara Jean Figge*

November 16, 1931 - March 3, 2002

Barbara Figge was a dedicated irisarian. She was our past Region 23 Vice President for the American Iris Society and had just finished a term on the American Iris Society as a director. She belonged to many iris societies and clubs over the years but her main focus was always the New Mexico Iris Society. In NMIS she had served in almost every office, on every committee, and had been chairman of both main functions, the show and the sale, numerous times.

Barbara was always happy to see new people join the group. She was pleased when someone wanted to become a judge and was delighted to sign for them. She believed in encouraging new interests in iris.

Barbara was well known in the iris world and was honored to be asked to judge shows in other areas. I was fortunate to travel with her quite a bit. She was both mentor and friend. I judged with her numerous times, many places. She was an Active Master Judge and was always interested in taking judges training to expand and enhance her knowledge.

Barbara was a wife, mother, teacher, and friend. I know I am not alone when I say, "I will miss her".

- Karen Bergamo -

*American Iris Society Convention*

***THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER!***

Full details on Convention Registration, Registration Forms and Hotel Reservation Information is available in the Spring 2002 Publication of the Bulletin of the American Iris Society. For more Convention information, you may contact Elke Longworth at telephone # (901) 867-0200, or by e-mail: [elke@prodigy.net](mailto:elke@prodigy.net)

*Judges Training*  
*Region 23, American Iris Society*

*Who:* Ramona Howard, Instructor  
*What:* Garden Judging, Tall Bearded's  
*When:* Sunday, May 12, 2002 9-12AM, Mother's Day  
*Where:* Hsia-fen & Pei-lin Tien Residence  
11009 Coronado Avenue, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
*Cost:* \$5.00 per person

Karen Bergamo, Region 23, Judge's Training Chairman, has arranged for all interested irisarians/judges to attend three hours of certified garden judging at the home of the Tien's.

Directions: If traveling north on Eubank, turn east on Coronado Avenue (south side of the Grace Lutheran Church), east to corner of Browning Avenue. If traveling east on Paseo del Norte, continue east past Eubank to Browning, turn south (three blocks) to the corner of Browning and Coronado. The Tien's garden is located on the northwest corner of Browning and Coronado avenues.

Pre-Registration and Payment preferred, however, registration and payment may also be made that morning. Please make checks payable to Region 23 and return to: Karen Bergamo, 2508 Punta de Vista, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112.

\*\*\*\*\*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Status \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

*OFFICIAL BALLOT*  
**Region 23, American Iris Society**

*TREASURER*

Per the terms of the By-Laws, Region 23 of the American Iris Society: Article X: Vacancies, (a) In the event of vacancy in the offices of Assistant RVP, Secretary, or Treasurer, the regional Nominating Committee shall make nominations for replacement, which shall be published in the next newsletter or in a special ballot for membership vote. Therefore, the members of the 2001 Nominating Committee reconvened, telephonically, to select and present a nominee to be elected to the vacated post of Treasurer. Reita Jordan was contacted and has graciously offered her services in this capacity. She has served as Treasurer of the three local iris societies (numerous times) and is currently serving as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Albuquerque Aril Society and Treasurer/Membership Chairman of the Aril Society International. She comes highly recommended and qualified.

**Please mark your ballot and return to: Patricia Feather, Secretary/ Region 23/ AIS, 1345 Canyon Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.**

**Ballot to be postmarked by April 30, 2002. Any ballot postmarked after that date will not be counted. Thank you for your prompt response!**

\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Reita Jordan**

\_\_\_\_\_



## REGION 17 ANNUAL MEETING

*sponsored by*  
Permian Basin Iris Society  
*and*  
West Texas Iris Society

August 16 & 17, 2002

### **M C M Elegante Hotel**

*Hotel & Conference Center*  
5200 East University  
(Take the East Loop 338 Exit from I-20)  
Odessa, Texas 79761  
[www.mcmelegante.com](http://www.mcmelegante.com)  
1-866-368-5885  
(Fax 915-362-8958)

Rates \$65 per night plus tax (1-4 people per room). Be sure to say you are with the Iris Society when making your reservation.

Deadline for reservations is July 26, 2002

### AGENDA

#### Friday, August 16

1 pm to 11 pm

7 pm to 10 pm

#### Saturday, August 17

8 am to 11 am

11 am to 12:30 pm

12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

1:30 pm to 4 pm

4 pm to 6 pm

7 pm to 9 pm

Registration

Supper & Entertainment

Judges's Training School (3 hrs credit)

Region 17 Board Meeting (Open to all)

Lunch on your own

Auction

Commemorative Air Force or  
Petroleum Museum

Banquet Speaker (TBA)

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(print name as you want on your badge)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of persons attending

Full Registration (including meals) \$50

After July 26, 2002 \$55

Judges' Training School (separate from registration) \$ 5

\_\_\_\_\_ Full Registration (including meals) @ \$50 each \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Judges' Training School @ \$5 each \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday Night Meal Only @ \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Banquet Only @ \$20 each \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed Registration Form and check made payable to  
the Permian Basin Iris Society to:

Pat Jones  
12324 Palomino  
Odessa, Texas 79764



## APPROVED AIS JUDGES

### Region 23

Karen Bergamo G  
2508 Punta de Vista Drive, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112  
87048

Ann Colwell A  
905 West Taylor Road  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005

Helen Crotty A  
1366 State Road 344  
Sandia Park, New Mexico 87047

Henry Day A  
33 Domingo Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Sara Doonan AM  
415 Green Acres Lane  
Bosque Farms, New Mexico 87068

Ken Fladager G  
1829 Clearwater Loop, NE  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

Dorothy Gordon G  
9000 Zuni, SE Sp. W-69  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123

Reita Jordan G  
3500 Avenida Charada, NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

Pam Lackey A  
7545 Union Street, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

Alma Maxwell G  
13443 Desert Hills Place, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111

Mrs. Milton (Patricia) Clauser AM  
P. O. Box 1006  
Corrales, New Mexico

Bill Coursey AM  
7723 Black Mesa Loop, SW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105

Luella Danielson AM  
425 East Luna Azul Drive  
Chaparral, New Mexico 88021

Phil Doonan G  
821 Country Club Drive, SE Apt 2C  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

Patricia Feather G  
1345 Canyon Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Doug Goodnight G  
1005 East Gamblin Street  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

William Huey G  
P. O. Box 381  
Tesuque, New Mexico 87574

Dr. Scott Jordan G  
3500 Avenida Charada, NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

Tom Tadfor Little G  
3245 Louraine Circle  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Peter McGrath G  
11208 Eagle Rock Avenue, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87122

Pegi Naranjo G  
P. O. Box 477  
Roswell, New Mexico 88202

Patricia Randall G  
758 Hood Road, SE  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

Mrs. Howard (Irene) Shockey AM  
4611 Rio Grande Lane, NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

Mrs. Pei-lin (Hsia-fen) Tien A  
11009 Coronado Avenue, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87122

G = Garden Judge  
AM = Active Master Judge

Maxine Perkins AM  
P. O. Box 494  
Mesilla Park, New Mexico 88047

Cindy Rivera A  
20 Kennedy Drive  
Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031

Helen Stopani AM  
425 East Luna Azul  
Chaparral, New Mexico 88021

Mrs. Walter (Valerie) White AM  
1428 Stagecoach Lane, SE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123

A = Apprentice Judge

## The World of Irises

The American Iris Society Board is interested in encouraging wider distribution of the AIS hardback publication *The World of Irises*. To facilitate purchase by Affiliates or Regions or others who may be interested in larger quantities, a discount scale has just been established by the Board. The rates are effective immediately. Any further questions about *The World of Irises*, the discount schedule, or AIS Storefront terms of trade generally should be directed to the Storefront.

**Quantity prices are:** 10 copies @ 20% discount  
50 copies @ 30% discount  
100 copies @ 40% discount

\*\*\*\*\*

**CORRECTION:** The telephone number published in the January 2002 AIS Bulletin for the AIS Storefront was incorrect, the correct telephone number is: (503) 826-8808

Region 23 of the American Iris Society

## AFFILIATES & PRESIDENTS

Albuquerque Aril Society.....Pete McGrath  
11208 Eagle Road Avenue, NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87122  
(505)797-2727

Mesilla Valley Iris Society.....Wm. H. "Bill" Pfifer  
4140 Cholla Road  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011  
(505)522-0797

New Mexico Iris Society.....Helen K. Crotty  
1366 State Road 344  
Sandia Park, New Mexico 87047  
(505)281-2136

Pecos Valley Iris Society.....Gary Biggs  
3008 North Garden  
Roswell, New Mexico 88201  
(505)623-7908

Santa Fe Iris Society.....Magdalene (Maggie) Rubino  
2 ABS Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506  
(505)982-3770

## GOD'S HEAVENLY GARDEN

Sometimes God picks the flower  
That is still in full bloom;  
Sometimes the bud is chosen  
That we feel He's picked too soon.  
Sometimes the flower is fading  
With petals floating down,  
But God knows the perfect time  
To gather flowers from the ground.  
There is a heavenly garden  
In which God takes great pleasure  
Because He's placed within it  
The loved ones that we treasure.  
He walks among the blossoms  
Giving them eternal rest,  
And I know that it must please Him  
Because He chose our very best.

(Editor's Note: Karen Bergamo found this poem and thought it would be nice to publish, I think it should be dedicated to the wonderful iris friends that God has gathered from our earthly garden to plant and grow in His heavenly garden.)