

# AIS Region 23 Newsletter New Mexico

2018



Cynthia and Wes Wilson's garden during the 2018 Ariltrek in  
Las Cruces, NM

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## Editor's Note

The views and information contained in the articles within this newsletter are solely those of the author, and are not necessarily endorsed by the Region 23 Executive Board. Reprinting of articles contained in this newsletter is permitted provided the source of publication, and the author, is given full credit.

Due to rising costs of printing and postage, the Region 23 American Iris Society Members approved the discontinuance of the newsletter in hard copy format, and have authorized the publication of the regional newsletter via electronic format. Society Presidents are encouraged to copy the newsletter to share with their members that do not utilize computers and/or internet services.

The Region 23 Newsletter will be posted to our Website at least once a year. I sincerely hope that you continue to enjoy the newsletter and all the information concerning the AIS members within our Region. All regional members are encouraged to submit news flashes (special kudos, get well wishes and memoriam information), photos, and articles to me at: sdayres2@aol.com. Any comments on format or changes you would like to see implemented, please let me know as well. Since the document is electronic, it is easy to modify.

I sincerely thank Patricia Randall and Rae Phillips of the Enchanted Vista Iris Society for letting me use their Convention bulletin for part of this newsletter.

## Regional Vice President Message, Scarlett Ayres

Scarlett Ayres, Regional 23 RVP

Thank you all, for attending the 2018 AIS Region 23 Regional Convention in Santa Fe, NM. The next couple of years is going to be awesome. It is only a few years before the American Iris Society will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2020. The 2020 National Convention will again be back east in Newark, NJ. A whole committee is planning to make sure this occasion is something special. AIS is planning an anniversary book and other events to celebrate. Of course AIS is encouraging voluntary contributions, both from Affiliate Clubs and individuals. Should you wish to contribute you can make checks out to "AIS Foundation," c/o Jill Bonino, 3110 Kirkham Drive, Glendale, CA 91206.

Can you believe it? New Mexico is hosting the 101st in Las Cruces, NM. The second century of the AIS begins in New Mexico! Think of all the new irises coming our way. MVIS will need help planting in the fall of 2019. Then MVIS will need help digging them up in 2021. Of course, where appropriate, the club will share with helpers.

This was an exciting year. The Mesilla Valley Iris Society in Las Cruces, NM hosted the Aril Trek on April 7, 2018. Four gardens were on display. Comments were heard that this was the best Arilbred display that they ever saw. Thanks to all the clubs who sent rhizomes to Las Cruces. Our clubs still enlist the next generation of irisarians through their "Growing Iris Growers program. Their efforts to involve youth in iris growing has been rewarded with the first AIS Youth members within our Region.

Former RVP Howie Dash is now the RVP Representative to the American Iris Society Board. It is nice to have a representative from NM in this important position.

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Even more exciting news is that MVIS is considering hosting the national AIS convention in 2021. There are many concerns. Las Cruces may not have a big enough hotel, banquet rooms or adequate transportation from the El Paso Airport. The convention may have to be in El Paso with bus transportation to the gardens around Las Cruces. Wouldn't it be wild if the next century of the AIS 101st National convention starts in NM? We as a region has to decide if we want to pursue this endeavor. It will require participation and help from all clubs.

Remember you AIS member status by going to <http://www.aislookup.org/> and entering your last name.

## Club News

### Albuquerque Aril and Iris Society (AAIS)

Submitted by Holly Finlay, President

Show Winners (12 exhibitors, 103 entries)

Best in Show

Victoria Fall exhibited by Blenda Drummond

Silver Medal Winner

Eva Barry (13 blue ribbons)

Bronze Medal Winner

Helen Radebaugh

### Enchanted Vista Iris Society (EVIS)

Submitted by Pat Randall

### Mesilla Valley Iris Society (MVIS)

Submitted by Cynthia Wilson, President.

## **Pecos Valley Iris Society (PVIS)**

Submitted by Pegi Smith, President.

## **Santa Fe Iris Society (SFIS)**

Submitted by Debra Bilberry, SFIS President

**Figure 1 A beautiful May day in Santa Fe showing blooming irises**

**Figure 2 Barbara Mann wins best in show at the Santé Fe Iris Society**

## **Region 23 News**

## **Howie Dash wins cup at the AIS national convention in Des Moines, IA**

## **Aril Trek in April 7-8, 2018 in Las Cruces**

In 2018, there will be an Aril Trek in 2018 that will feature two-year clumps. Sharon McAllister was a member of our AIS Region 23 for many years. When she stopped hybridizing, Malevil iris gardens had many of her irises but they lost many irises when their well failed. They will try to send MVIS their surviving McAllister irises and MVIS will develop a McAllister garden. Wes asked that if anyone has her irises please send the irises to MVIS so they can be on the Trek.

## Region 23 will host the 101<sup>st</sup> AIS National Convention

The AIS board of directors informally asked Howard Dash of Mesilla Valley Iris Society if the region would host the 101<sup>st</sup> American Iris Society National Convention. Blue J Iris Nursery is moving from Nebraska to southern New Mexico. This provides an anchor garden for the tour.

## Region 23 Regional Officers and Club Directors

### REGION 23 Officers

RVP (executive): Scarlett Ayres [sdayres2@aol.com](mailto:sdayres2@aol.com)

Assistant RVP: Cindy Rivera [cinrivera15@gmail.com](mailto:cinrivera15@gmail.com)

Secretary: Fran Days [chatmaison@comcast.net](mailto:chatmaison@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Debra Bilberry [dbilberry@gmail.com](mailto:dbilberry@gmail.com)

Membership Chair:

Webmaster: Scarlett Ayres [sdayres2@aol.com](mailto:sdayres2@aol.com)

Newsletter Editor: Scarlett Ayres [sdayres2@aol.com](mailto:sdayres2@aol.com)

### Local Iris Club Directors

Albuquerque Aril and Iris Society: Steve Speights [smspeights@q.com](mailto:smspeights@q.com)

Enchanted Vista Iris Society: Rose McClain Rocky Ford

Mesilla Valley Iris Society: Cynthia Wes [wes-wilson@comcast.net](mailto:wes-wilson@comcast.net)

Pecos Valley Iris Society:

Santa Fe Iris Society: Henry Day

## Region 23 2016 Annual Honorary Awards

### Judges Award

This year judges award Phil Doonan.

## 2018 Regional Convention-Santa Fe Notes

## Garden Judging of Dwarf and Median Iris by Paul Black

## Articles

### Recycled Glass For Your Garden

By Scarlett Ayres

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### Growing Iris Growers

By Cynthia Wilson

## Things I learned living in New Mexico

## Website News

Past newsletters are now on the website. Go to [www.aisregion23.com](http://www.aisregion23.com) and click the newsletter tab.

## Geek Corner

There is many resources available on-line like AIS region 23 newsletters and PowerPoint presentations developed by club members are available. These exist at [www.aisregion23.com](http://www.aisregion23.com). Click on Newsletters or Presentation. However, there are many other resources. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and type American Iris Society in the search box. There are videos on care, fertilizing, dividing, pruning etc. There are videos on Louisiana irises. There are no videos on arils or arilbreds

Some clubs have videos on you tube about their club, shows and garden flyby using drones. It would be cool if we can do the same. We can feature the president or a personable, charismatic club member answering questions from an out of sight reporter about the club and irises. Then there can be videos of the show (if allowed by the owners of the location of the show) or a slideshow on show winners. Just think about having a presentation on YouTube advertising the fun your club has. Specifically, you can have video about

- Show
- Video of gardens
- Club members having fun
- The sale

Note that PowerPoint can be turned into a video with voice over and timing information saved. First, create your PowerPoint presentation. Then click on Slide show->Record Slide Show and begin speaking to your slides. Advance the slides as you keep talking. When finished hit Esc. Then save the file as a Windows Media Video file. So click File->Save As. Click Browse and change file type to Windows Media Video (WMV). It can take a while. Upload to YouTube and send the link to [sdayres2@aol.com](mailto:sdayres2@aol.com) so a link is placed on the website. If you are not sure on how to load to YouTube or create a PowerPoint video, go to YouTube and in the search box enter your question. Chances are if you can ask it, someone has made a video on how to do it.

It would be nice to have a YouTube presence from each club. It also would be nice to video tape the presentations at the Aril Trek. We can interview some of well-known hybridizers and ask them questions like:

- How should one get started growing arilbreds?
- What are the basic needs of arilbreds?
- What fascinates you about arils and arilbreds?
- Tell me an interesting fact about arils or arilbreds
- What is a benefit in joining the Aril Society International?
- How many different cultivars of arils and arilbreds do you have in your garden? Do you have a favorite?
- What does the future hold?

Then Arilbreds will have a YouTube presence.



## American Iris Society News

**Future AIS Conventions Locations:** The 2018 AIS National Convention will be held in Louisiana.

Looking ahead the American Iris Society will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2020. It will be an exciting time and the 2020 National Convention will again be back east in Newark, NJ. We hope that one of the Convention gardens will be the NY Botanical Gardens, where AIS was formed in 1920. AIS is planning an anniversary book and other events to celebrate. Of course AIS is encouraging voluntary contributions, both from Affiliate Clubs and individuals. Should you wish to contribute you can make checks out to "AIS Foundation," c/o Jill Bonino, 3110 Kirkham Drive, Glendale, CA 91206.

## Judges Report by Patricia Randall Judge's Training Chairman

Our new three-year cycle of judging credits begins August 1, 2016.

In reviewing the Judges Activity Reports our regional judge's have been very busy visiting gardens locally and nationally. Hours recorded run from 2 to 14 garden visits.

Another great aspect of our judge's achievement for this year is the number of hours of classroom and in-garden training tabulated. Several judges served as instructors for H training sessions. For this, we appreciated your dedication to assure we required our needed hours of credit to meet our hours to retain our certifications.

One note – my computer crashed 2 weeks ago, so please check with me to see if I received your reports via email and/or snail mail. If I have not received your report, I ask that you mail a copy to me ASAP. Reports to our national are due by Sept 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks

There is nothing

Does inspire us

Like the beauty

Of an iris