

# AIS Region 23 Newsletter New Mexico



Chihuahua Desert by Howie Dash of Las Cruces, NM won one of the 2023 Wister Medals.

September 2023

2023

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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.

## **Regional Vice President Message, Jacqueline Pountney**

I go by Jacquie. I am 79 years old. I have been married for 60 years. I moved to Las Cruces 11 years ago from South Carolina. I found MVIS and at the first meeting I joined. Cynthia Wilson was the president at this time. I have served as Vice President several times. I became a judge 4 years ago but because of Covid I haven't been able to judge yet. I am still trying to learn what I need to do as RVP.

I have around 400 hundred Iris in my yard. My husband is a great help to me.

## **EVIS President's Welcome to the Convention**

Welcome one and all, we are delighted to once again hold an honest to goodness Regional Convention. It is such a joy to spend the day with all of our beloved iris friends from our region, as well as our out of state attendees.

With the changing times the cost of things has risen sharply, therefore, we opted to host a one day only convention to help in keeping the costs of our registration down to an affordable price. We have our business to attend to, a great guest judge's instructor and guest speaker, Jim Hedgecock, informing us all about the wonders of the Spuria Iris. We even tucked in a bit of fun and games to close out the afternoon activities. The activities will continue with our Evening Banquet Dinner, guest speaker program, and finally capping off the convention with the iris auction.

We have a delightful Silent Auction prepared for you, hopefully we have something special for everyone. Good Luck on your bidding.

A million "thanks" to my wonderful support group for all of the planning and execution of the multiple duties to bring a convention together. You are all so greatly appreciated, and it couldn't have been done without all of you.

I hope you all enjoy the goodies prepared for you by our society members, including the dinner buffet chocked full of home made delights and prepared by my daughter DeAnne.

Just a bit of info about myself in where my iris hobby began to where and what I am doing in the present time.

I began growing irises in 1972 and joined the American Iris Society in 1976. Over the years I have grown up to 750 varieties of iris in my gardens, however, due to age and arthritis issues I have cut back to 150 various types and varieties of irises. I couldn't have done it all without the wonderful help from my beloved late husband Johnny.

I have organized two iris societies, I helped to develop an iris display garden in Scottsbluff, Nebraska and a Commemorative Iris Garden here in Rio Rancho.

I have served in several official posts of Region 23, as well as the American Iris Society and AIS sections. Am currently serving as the Judges Training Chairman of Region 23, as well as the Region 23 Awards Chairman. I am also the presiding president of EVIS as well as the Convention Chairman.

The true treasures I have collected and keep very close to my heart over all of these years are the wonderful friends and iris lovers who share my iris passion. I am so blessed and honored to call each of you my friend.

## **Albuquerque Aril and Iris Society (AAIS)**

Submitted by Rae Phillips, AAIS President

Starting with 35 members, this year had us back on track with a normal schedule after a really busy 2022. Our elected officers were: President Eva Barry, Vice President Candy Scott, Treasurer Linn Furnish, Secretary Rae Phillips, and Past President Helen Crotty. Eva Barry needed to step down in February, so Rae took the helm with it becoming a community effort from the other officers and our members.

Our Annual Iris Show was held on April 23rd, with a relatively small number of participants due to the early date; many irises were not yet in bloom. Most of our entries were ABs and SDBs – which was actually a nice change, since shows held in May are mostly TBs. It introduced our members and attendees to varieties of iris not always present at our shows, and hopefully encouraged members to start growing some of them. Several members had expressed interest in adding artistic design to our show, so they were encouraged to create some as a display-only section. Given its popularity, the section will probably be added to future shows.

Our Iris Sale was July 15th, with likewise smaller participation due to the excessive heat that prevented many from digging. (We really appreciated all the brave souls that got out early in the mornings to do so.) Eva, Linn, Candy and others had potted iris last year from those we received from national convention in Las Cruces, so they brought in additional income to make this annual fund raiser a success.

Good participation from most of our members helped make these events successful. Our 2023 meetings were also well attended with enthusiastic participation. We featured guest presenters who expanded our knowledge of all things iris -- especially helpful given that many newer members are just getting into growing iris. The only months we do not have any events are January and November. We finished the year with a fun Holiday Party, December 13th. We are ending the year with 41 members.

2024. Major events scheduled for next year will be the Iris Show on Mothers' Day May 12 and the Iris Sale July 13. Meeting dates for 2024 are Feb 18, Mar 17, Apr 28, June 16, Aug 18, Sept 22, and Oct 20. Meetings are usually held at 2:00 pm at the Albuquerque Garden Center and visitors are always welcome. We are way behind in updating our website ([albuquerquearilandirissociety.com](http://albuquerquearilandirissociety.com)), but it still contains good information on growing and processing iris. Meanwhile, join us on our active Facebook group page, especially when bloom season begins.

## Enchanted Vista Iris Society (EVIS)

Submitted by Patricia Randall, EVIS President

The society members were so excited to get back into a normal routine of meetings and special events once again after that dreadful pandemic shutting down our lives for two years.

We hosted a show once again last year and again this year. Hosting a show is always a lot of work but we are all so glad to be able to show off our beautiful irises as well as our talents in interpreting artistic design classes, photo skills and educational displays.

We held an iris sale last year for the first time in two years as well. Due to the number of irises needed in hosting the regional convention we decided to forego the iris sale for this year. It has been scheduled once again for next year.

We continue to provide interesting programs at our meetings. Whenever one of our certified society judges provides the program, we make it into not only an educational presentation, but also a judges training session with one hour of judging credit. We have found that this keeps our society judges current in their training requirements.

Our group has been especially busy this year with all the plans for the Regional Convention we are hosting this year. It will be the first in place convention since 2019. Most of us are not overly fond of zoom meetings, we rather prefer getting together with our regional friends for a day of learning new things, receiving a gift iris, bidding on great silent auction items and finally bidding on the beautiful irises that have been purchased for the live auction.

We are trying a new schedule of hosting a one day only convention, so we have jam packed everything necessary into our one-day session. We have shortened the time span for the judges training session from the usual three hours to only two hours. We will begin the day with registration and the business meeting. We will then break for lunch. We have scheduled the judges training session for the afternoon and a bit of relaxation and fun with Iris Bingo. The members provided all goodies and meals to make the convention more affordable for everyone who may wish to attend. Hope you all enjoy our culinary skills as well.

We are looking forward to hosting the event and sharing all the delights of the day with all of you.



### **Mesilla Valley Iris Society (MVIS)**

Submitted by Wes Wilson, President

The MVIS is a group of Iris lovers who are not afraid of hard work. July and August this year has tested our endurance with 100+ degree temperatures and no rain.

This has been a bittersweet year. We added 8 new members and said goodbye to two sweet ladies: Ann Colwell and Juliana Walker. Ann was a 50-year member of MVIS, quite an achievement. Our current membership is 60 members.

The Mesilla Valley Iris Society held its annual iris show at the Mesilla Valley Mall on Saturday, April 22. It was MVIS first iris show since 2019. There were 10 exhibitors and 119 entries, of which there were 117 different cultivars. Highlights: Best in show was Angel in the Garden, TB 2022, Rick Tasco, exhibited by Howie Dash. The Best seedling was ADG 16-20-01, hybridized and presented by Howie Dash. The Silver

metal was awarded to Cynthis Wilson and the Bronze medal was awarded to Steve Kelly.

Roy Covey organized our 2023 garden tours with good success. The irises cooperated with great blooms in all gardens.

The Farm and Ranch Museum hosted an iris garden for the 2022 AIS Convention. They have requested that we continue this garden. Jane Himes will lead the maintenance of the Farm and Ranch Garden.

For several years MVIS members have been discussing ways that we may contribute to our community. We had accumulated a small account to this end. With the unexpected earnings from the 2022 convention, a New Mexico State University endowed scholarship became a possibility. The Mesilla Valley Iris Society Endowment Scholarship became a reality this summer. This scholarship will provide approximately \$1000 per year for a qualified horticultural student. A contribution of at least \$25,000 is required to initiate a new scholarship fund. Now that the fund has been established anyone may contribute any amount.

The Big Dig will be at Wilson's August 28 to September 1. Bob Pountney and Roy Covey are leading this activity. Sheri Arevalo is digging 2022 Convention Iris at Blue-J and bringing them to Wilson's on August 27. Because we have many 2022 Convention iris, anyone who helps with the trimming, washing, and tagging will receive free iris.

We provided 600 varieties of the 2022 Convention iris at our 2022 sale. We will have a comparable amount at our sale this September. September's sale dates are 9 and 10 at the Mesilla Valley Mall. Jacquie Pountney has taken the lead for the sale.

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

Submitted by Diane Brennan, PVIS Co-President.

**Fall 2022 PVIS Activities:** During the **September** meeting, we finalized plans for our participation at the October Regional State Fair in Roswell. Senior Day at the fair was a success with members participating in the giveaway of 90 tall bearded iris, along with a brief demo of how to plant. PVIS and the Anderson Museum of Art hosted eight Assurance Home teens: they were provided flowers and vases to make original floral designs, which were then on display at the regional state fair.

In **November**, Pat Krakauskas presented information about a new program for volunteers through the City of Roswell. Volunteers, after passing a background check, may sign up to help the city with events or landscaping; any credits of \$25/hour of volunteer efforts may be donated toward rent to anything used at city facilities.



At our **December** holiday dinner, we elected officers: Co-Presidents: Diane Brennan and Joyce Hutchings, Treasurer: Yukie Pfeiffer; and Recording Secretary: Diane Brennan.

**Winter/ Spring 2023** The **January** 2023 meeting incorporated planning for the new year. In **February**, Jim Gill of Roswell Seed gave a presentation re: the composition of our local soils and different types of composting. In **March** we discussed plans for upcoming events. We did not have an April meeting because of two events including activities with the preschoolers making flower designs, and other hands-on activities with children and youth. In **May** we planted two large flowerpots at the Chaves County Courthouse in coordination with the "Keep Roswell Beautiful" program.

An outdoor **June** summer luncheon was held at the home of Frank and Diane Brennan, at which time new officers were voted upon. In **August** we will partner with the Chaves County Master Gardeners at the Farmers' Market to share information about growing flowers in our area.

In closing: We have three new members joining us this summer.

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

Submitted by Marilyn Bennett, SFIS President, SantaFeliris@gmail.com

Our year began with a meeting at our club garden site last September to vote on our slate of officers, decide on meeting dates, dates for the show and sale, and to review the proposed SFIS budget. Members were asked to sign up to chair committees for the coming year. Our first 2023 meeting on 2/19/23 was a potluck in our new space, the Community Room at De Vargas Mall. Meetings this year were held on the third Sunday of the month from 2-4 PM. Our March guest speaker and judge's training was by Ken Fladagher on the topic of "Reblooming Iris". At the 4/23/23 meeting, Sylvia Chavez and Diana Capshaw, our show artistic co-chairs, did a great presentation for us on "Artistic Design" including several demos of ideas for entries in this year's show categories.

Our 40th annual show was held at De Vargas Mall on May 20, 2023 with the artistic theme of "The Iris in Figures of Speech". We had 13 horticulture exhibitors, 44 entries and 43 different cultivar entries in TB, 18, MTB, SOB, and AB sections. We also had 20 entries in the Artistic Division including 1 youth.

We held a dig & divide demo at our iris garden on 7/30/23, followed by a successful Rhizome Sale for members and the public on 8/05/23 at De Vargas Mall. The August meeting will include voting in our new slate of officers, and planning for our potluck banquet to start off our "new year" at our September meeting.

## Region 23 News

### Welcome to our new members

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new American Iris Society members to our region. We also would like to take this opportunity to welcome new members to the various clubs. We hope your association with the regional and national members about our favorite flower will prove to be beneficial and educational and that you make many new life-long friends.

### Minutes at the 2023 Regional Meeting

There are no minutes available this year. Francis Day collected the minutes but passed away before she was able to disseminate the minutes.

### AIS Region 23 2022 Annual Honorary Awards

Distinguished Service Award: **Wes and Cynthia Wilson**

The Wilsons have been heavily involved with the Mesilla Valley Iris Society for over 10 years. Both have served as presidents of MVIS and for many years have written the club's monthly newsletter. Their home residence have been the meeting location of the MVIS board and the location of the Big Dig which is an annual event where the club comes together to clean, trim and mark the irises for the rhizome sale in September.

The Wilson were heavily involved in organizing the 2018 Ariltrek in Las Cruces, NM. Their garden was on the Ariltrek and was described as having the best Arilbred blooms that have ever being seen! Wes has used his computer skills to further the club's itinerary.

Their garden was one of the tour gardens at the 2022 AIS National Convention, held in Las Cruces. They maintained the convention plantings in their garden.

The past Hybridizer Award Winners have been: Howard Shockey, Luella and Henry Danielson, Pete McGrath, Sharon McAllister, Steve Kelly and Howard Dash.

The past Distinguished Service Award Winners have been: Barbara Figge, Maxine Perkins, Floyd Stoppani, Ann Colwell, Karen Bergamo, Patricia Randall, Jim Reilly, Reita and Scott Jordan, Cindy Rivera, Pat Feather, Pegi Blackwell-Smith, Phil Doonan, Fran and Henry Day, Rosemary and John Cain, Debra Bilberry and Eva Barry.

I sincerely THANK YOU for your nominations and hope you can join me next year in the presentation of the new awards.

Iristatically Yours,

Patricia Randall,

Region 23 Awards Chairman

If you are unable to email your nominations, you can mail them to me at:

758 Hood Road, SE Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

## Obituaries

**Ann Colwell:** It is hard to imagine a Mesilla Valley Iris Society without Ann Colwell. She had been a member of MVIS for most of the club's history. MVIS would probably not exist today without Ann. She is the glue that kept the club together and on track.

Every year we use to have the "Big Dig" at her house. Everyone would bring their Irises to the "Big Dig" and clean them at her house. She and her husband Chuck were then responsible for transporting the cleaned and named Irises to the Mesilla Valley Mall (MVM) the following weekend. She used to maintain the photo database to be used in the sale.

In the springtime, she and Chuck would transport most of the show's paraphernalia to the MVM. Somehow, she managed to exhibit irises while also holding down the classification clerk job. For many years, she was the sole author for the club newsletter. She has held many officer positions over the years and is regarded as the expert on MVIS policies. She also did many odd jobs for the club like keep track of club Irises, responded to Region 23 data requests, developed the show brochure, etc

She was a warm and friendly person, and her positive and upbeat outlook has helped many a new member in their efforts to grow Irises.



**Figure 1 Ann Colwell was a long-time member of the Mesilla Valley Iris Society. She has the heart of MVIS.**

**Region 23 Convention Speakers**

**JIM HEDGCOCK**

- Emeritus Judge in American Iris Society Honors and Awards 2nd Place- Florence, Italy International Iris Trials-1991
- Best Branched Variety -Florence, Italy International Iris Trials-1991
- 5th Place-Florence, Italy International Iris Trials-1993
- 3rd Place-Florence, Italy International Iris Trials-1995
- 5th Place-Florence, Italy International Iris Trials-1998
- Best Early Blooming Variety, Florence, Italy Iris Trials-2015
- 17-Honorable Mention Awards-American Iris Society
- 6 Award of Merit-American Iris Society
- 12-Exhibition Certificates-American Iris Society-Best Seedling In Show
- 14 Silver Medals-American Iris Society-Most Blue Ribbons In Show
- 2-Bronze Medals-American Iris Society-2nd Place- Most Blue Ribbons In Show
- 20 Section Certificates-American Iris Society-Best In Section at Iris Shows
- 5-Best Specimen In Show Certificates-American Iris Society
- 2002-1st Place-Tall Bearded Irises-Loomis Test Gardens-Colorado Springs, Colorado
- 2004- 1st Place-Border Bearded Irises-Loomis Test Gardens-Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Best Early blooming Variety, Florence, Italy Trials 2
- President's Cup American Iris Society, 2009
- 3rd Place-Moscow, Russia Competition-2011
- Best Early Blooming Variety, Florence Italy T:
- Best Spuria Variety out of Region, Region 15,
- Best Seedling out of Region, Region 15, 2013
- Eric Nies Medal-2017
- Top Spuria Society Poll Variety-2017, 2018, 2020
- First Place AIS International Iris Competition, May, 2021

#### Offices

- Vice President-Greater Kansas City Iris Society-2 Years
- President-Greater Kansas City Iris Society-5 Years
- Vice President-Pony Express Iris Society-2 Years
- Director-National Median Iris Society-2 Years
- 2nd Vice- President-National Spuria Iris Society-2 Years
- 1st Vice President-National Spuria Iris Society-2 Years
- Past-President-National Spuria Iris Society (Two Terms)
- Regional Vice President, Region 18, American Iris Society commencing 2022.

#### Horticultural Experience

- Have hybridized (Bred) irises for 42 Years.
- Have hybridized and introduced well over 600 new iris varieties to commerce.
- Presently raise approximately 100,000 iris plants on 8 acres of land.
- Have introduced to commerce through our nursery approximately 100 varieties of irises for other iris hybridizers.

- Have conducted judges training sessions for other American Iris Society judges.

### Other Iris Activities

- Have conducted numerous one-hour sessions at Kansas City libraries in the last 4 years on irises and their culture.
- Numerous programs for local garden clubs and societies in the greater Kansas City area on irises and their culture.
- Have conducted 2 one-hour sessions on irises and their culture at the General Motors Assembly Plant in Kansas City for their employees.
- Have done live radio broadcasts answering questions on irises and their culture. A two-hour broadcast KCMO and a one-hour broadcast at KFEQ.

## Website News

The webmaster Scarlett Ayres now belongs to the American Horticultural Society. They do have an events section that AHS members can access. This year we added club shows and sales to the AHS event section for the southwest region. If you want to add more events, please contact her. You will need an event website (or contact the Scarlett to add one to the AIS Region 23 website). The site is not open to the general public but those that view it are avid gardeners.

### [Events by Region - American Horticultural Society \(ahsgardening.org\)](http://ahsgardening.org)

- Sustainable Gardening >
- Creating Container Gardens
- Gardening Maps
- Master Gardeners
- Societies, Clubs and Organizations
- AHS Gardening Podcasts
- Events by Region
- Educator Resources
- IVER FARM >
- AYS TO SUPPORT >

To submit a regional event for potential posting, please email information to [webmaster@ahsgardening.org](mailto:webmaster@ahsgardening.org).



AUG 03

**Santa Fe Iris Society Rhizome Sale (Santa Fe, NM)**

The SFIS rhizome sale will be held on Saturday August 3 at 9 am – 12 pm (or until sold out) at the DeVargas Center on N. Guadalupe and Paseo de Peralta These rhizomes are excess rhizomes from our members' gardens and are proven growers in our climate. The rhizomes have been donated by our members and freshly dug from their own gardens. All rhizomes are cleaned, labeled and dipped in a disinfectant solution.

[View event website »](#)

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AUG 31

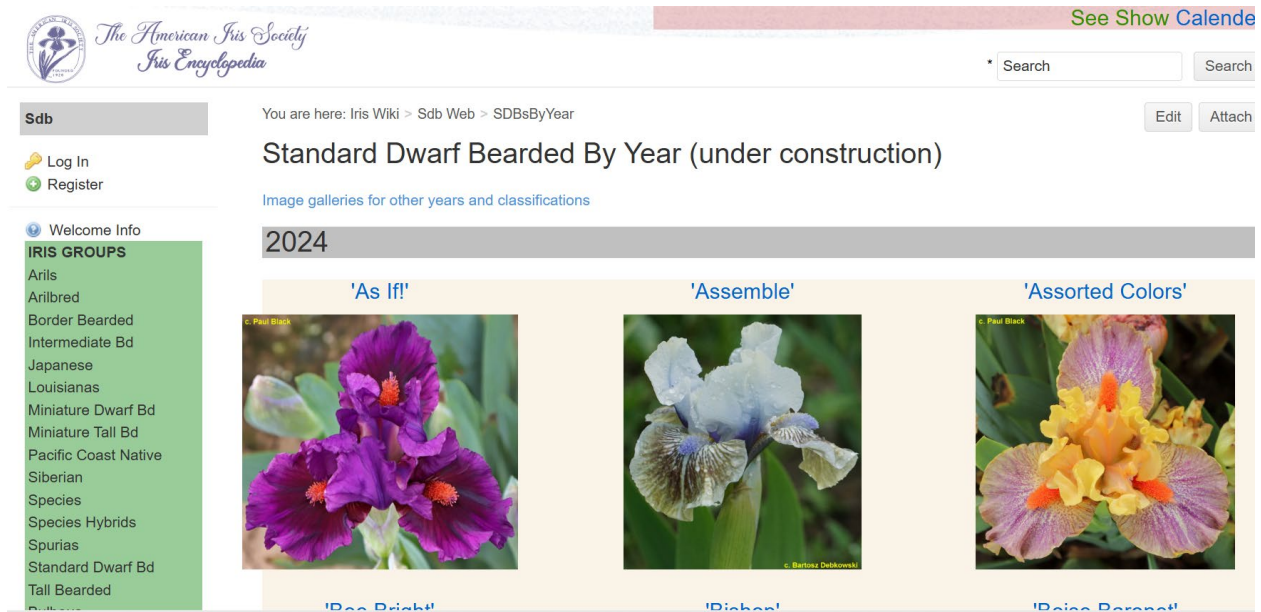
**Enchanted Vista Iris Society Rhizome Sale (Rio Rancho, NM)**

The sale is open to the public 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Potted Iris at \$7.00 each and iris rhizomes \$2 to \$7 will be available. These are irises that are locally grown by club members. The irises are cleaned and marked. Club

## Geek Corner

The iris Wikipedia now has the capability to show you iris by year. For example, to view the images of SDBs introduced in 2024: Go to the iris Wikipedia, click on SDBs on the left side, scroll down to find [Iris by Year](#) and click on that link. Note that irises are added throughout the year. Not all years for all iris types have been completed. In the future there will be a gallery showing irises by color. This is a good way to direct your viewers in a PowerPoint presentation where you are discussing iris types to go to the AIS and explore!

<https://wiki.irises.org/Sdb/SDBsByYear>



The screenshot shows the website for The American Iris Society's Iris Encyclopedia. The page is titled "Standard Dwarf Bearded By Year (under construction)" for the year 2024. It features a navigation menu on the left with categories like "IRIS GROUPS" and "Sdb". The main content area displays three images of irises: "As If!" (a purple iris), "Assemble" (a light blue iris), and "Assorted Colors" (a yellow and purple iris). The page also includes a search bar and a "See Show Calende" link.

## Region 23 Regional Officers and Club Directors for 2024

RVP (executive): Jacquie Pountney, [jacquiepountney@yahoo.com](mailto:jacquiepountney@yahoo.com)

Assistant RVP: Robin Kishbaugh, [rgkishbaugh@yahoo.com](mailto:rgkishbaugh@yahoo.com)

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

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)

## American Iris Society News

**Future AIS Conventions Locations:** The 2025 AIS National Convention will be held in Billings, Montana June 2-7. This is just above Yellowstone National Park. The 2026 AIS National Convention will be in Newark, NJ and New York, May 18-23 (tentative). This replaces the convention in 2020 that was canceled due to the Covid pandemic.

The revised *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials Show* is now available for purchase at \$14.00 (includes shipping and handling). 40 pages (front and back).

The AIS 2024 Membership Drive launches March 1st. The purchase of one new full AIS membership qualifies the purchaser for up to two free, one-year, youth print memberships. In addition, if an AIS member upgrades to a full membership from a print or e-membership, they also will qualify for up to two free, one-year, youth print memberships. Youth membership is for gardeners aged 18 and younger. (FYI, the regular rate for each youth print membership is \$12.) The Membership Drive will run from March 1 to December 31, 2024.

The AIS integrated online system can now process gift memberships! To purchase a membership as a gift to someone else, go to <https://system.irises.org/membership> and check the "This purchase is a gift" box. You will be prompted for the recipient's name, address, and email address (if applicable).

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

From all indications, so far, the Region 23 judges are all on track with training and , voting their official ballots. I have emailed all of the judges an activity report form to submit to me with a tally of their total hours. Most of us have acquired at least a couple of hours of training this past year which helps to compile the qualified hours we need to retain our certification. We do not have to acquire all of our required hours within one year as we have a span of three years to accumulate those hours.

We lost one judge when Ken Fladager moved to Corpus Christi, Texas earlier this year. He was a great resource for providing judges training, both in the classroom as well as in garden. His services will be missed but we wish him well in his new home and the development of his new garden.

There are a couple people who have accumulated enough hours, and have been a member of the American Iris Society for the required three years or more, so their names will be submitted to Bonnie Nichols, AIS Judges Training Chairman, for approval as Apprentice Judges beginning January 2024



We currently have nine Garden/Exhibition judges, six Master Judges, three retired Judges, and one Emeritus Judge.

The American Iris Society has implemented a new program to provide training for current judges to also become certified Artistic Design Judges as well. For those of us who have done artistic designs for a period of years may qualify to be grand- fathered into the program due to our vast knowledge in the components of artistic designs. Henry Day and I are currently waiting to hear if we qualify as being certified and qualified to begin judging designs in future iris shows.

## On the Lighter Side

Someone has been adding soil to my iris garden. The plot thickens.

Thank goodness spring is finally here, the irises are re-leaved.

The worms have taken over – it's a global worming!

When the growin' gets tough, the tough get growin.

Irises. Let me plant one on ya!

Iris to be in the garden every morning

What do irises grow under their falls? Underplants.

I would tell you a weed joke, but I would have to pull it.

## Poetry

### *Iris Blessing*

*Sensual iris, Kissed by the morning dew,  
Each drop minored reflecting the light  
Regal in Purple, Lilac throat thirsting,  
Passionate glory.*

*Mystical Iris, Godden of the heavens,  
Chaste in your purity, Faithful to your season,  
A Fleur 'de 'Lis of dreams.  
Blessed Messenger Of the Gods.*

Much of this newsletter was pulled from the Booklet prepared by Patricia Randall, EVIS officer & EVIS member.

Iristatically Yours

Scarlett Ayres, editor