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April 2015 — Vol. 24 #3

Nelda Moore, Editor

A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

IRIS AUSTIN

**April 10 – Set Up for Iris Show 3 P.M.
April 11 – Iris Show, Open to Public 1-4 P.M.**

IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

6:45 P.M. (gates close at 7 P.M.)

Call 477-8672 ext 13 after 7 P.M.

Austin Area Garden Center

Zilker Botanical Garden

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, Texas 78746

Hospitality — Nelda Moore

April 10-12 – Free Soil Testing for Gardeners

See ISA website for details

**Tuesday, May 12 – ISA Meeting
Installation of Officers and Program**

May 18-23 – “Iris in Wonderland” American Iris Society Convention

sponsored by

Greater Portland Iris Society

Red Lion on the River

909 N. Hayden Island Drive

Portland, Oregon 97217

503-283-3030 or 1-800-548-7848

Registration by April 18 – \$319; after – \$369

August 14 and 15 – Region 17 American Iris Society Annual Meeting

Crowne Plaza Hotel

14315 Midway Road

Addison, Texas 75001

\$ 90 room rate until July 24

Registration \$50, Judges Training \$10

Late charge if not postmarked Aug. 5th

IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN SHOW APRIL 11 IN THE AUDITORIUM AT ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Iris Society of Austin will set up in the auditorium, the Greene Room, and the library from 3 P.M. until 4:30 P.M. on Friday, April 10, for “Colors of the Rainbow,” the 26th accredited show. Entries will be received from 7:30 A.M. to 9:45 A.M. on Saturday. Judging will begin at 10:15 A.M. Only authorized persons will be allowed in the show area during judging. Judging the sanctioned show will be done in conjunction with the rules of the American Iris Society. This year the small flower arrangements will be accepted in the Artistic Division as well as novice, use of two containers, designer’s choice, and table for two.

To enter the artistic division of the show please notify Pat Freeman (512-836-4679) by April 2.

To join the judges for lunch contact Tracey Rogers (512-2804856).

Breakfast will be provided in the library for the judges who will arrive early before judging begins. Nelda Moore and Pat Byrne, co-chairs, will work together to bring breakfast items.

Ken Fuchs completed the Show Schedule and will work with entries and classifications. He is also the secretary with awards while Don Freeman and Mike Renfro will work on staging and properties. Placement will be done by Jaime Hadley. All members will be responsible for clean-up when the show ends at 4 P.M.



“Colors of the Rainbow” – Iris Show 2015

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



MINUTES OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN
MARCH 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order by David Kramer and presided by Pat Byrne. The minutes from the February 2015 meeting minutes were approved as published in the March newsletter. Welcome back to Bob Stone.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the monthly report was given to the Secretary to keep on file. The ending monthly balance for February 2015 was \$17,985.20. The current balance on March 10 is \$18,115.20.

AAGC COUNCIL REPORT: The preparations for implementing a Conservancy are ongoing.

The Motion No. 11. RE. an amendment of the by laws to increase the club dues for each member was passed. The ISA membership discussed and passed a motion to approve the changes in the annual dues to AAGC for each member of ISA of \$10.00 per member due June 1st, 2015 at the February meeting.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Zilker Garden Festival March 28 and 29, 2015. Members are encouraged to volunteer for the event. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers at water selling stations. If you have entries for the flower show for ZGF, the entry date is Friday morning March 27, 2015 from 8:30a – 9:30a.

Each ISA member is eligible for 2 tickets priced at \$1.00 each and can be purchased at the Zilker clubhouse. Pre-sale tickets are available via Pay-Pal for \$6.00 and at the gate for \$8.00 adult / \$4.00 child. Volunteers get in free and also need a parking Pass!!

AUSTIN IRIS CLUB BUSINESS: There was a discussion to encourage all members to receive the newsletter electronically either by email or as they are made available from the website. It was also discussed that if there is a change of meeting date or a meeting is cancelled that a personal notification is sent out for our members that travel long distances or that do not have access to email.

The Iris Society is sponsoring the water sales at ZGF. A motion was presented that the ISA will pay/reimburse Nelda Moore for the expense incurred to provide the water to the festival. This motion passed unanimously.

Anyone with a desire to help with or take over as much of the Newsletter responsibility is encouraged to volunteer!! Jaime Hadley and Nelda Moore have been very generous with their time to present our club's news. But they are willing to share.

The Nominating Committee (Don Freeman, Donna Little, Jim Landers) presented the following members for the selection of the ISA officers:

President - Pat Byrne,
Programs – Donna Little,
Membership – Jaime Hadley,
Secretary – Dara E. Smith,
Treasurer – Marney Abel,
Historian – Tracey Rogers.

A motion was given that the slate of officers be approved by acclamation. This was Seconded and Passed. Officers will be installed at the next meeting.

Setup at the Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium for the ISA Show will be Friday April 10th 3:00p – 4:30p.

Ellen Singleton is asking for names of irises that would be considered to include in the Fall Sale.

Tracey Rogers is collecting \$10 for lunch at the Show. Let her know if you would like a lunch so that she can make the appropriate reservations.

The next ISA meeting will be the Tuesday following our Show. Tuesday April 14th, 2015.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Judges Training – Ft. Worth iris Society – April 4, 2015

Belton Iris Society Show - April 4, 2015

2015 Iris Society of Austin – Iris Show Saturday April 11, 2015

Waco Iris Society Show – April 11, 2015
Belton Iris Society Sale - April 17 and 18, 2015
Johnson County Iris and Daylily Society Show – April 18, 2015

Fort Worth Iris Society Show – April 18, 2015

The meeting program was related to preparations for our show next month. Ken Fuchs passed around show tags and the schedule. Please let Pat Freeman know if you are interested in entering any of the Design categories. Ken presented a short video with highlights from the past ISA shows.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dara E. Smith, Secretary



2015 ISA SHOW — THINGS TO CONSIDER:

The English Box

English Boxes are a part of Exhibition Judging in the Horticultural Division to display collections of single irises without stems, buds, or foliage in an iris show. This box is viewed from above showing 5 and not more than 6 individual flowers of the same classification such as all Spuria, all SDB, or all Tall Bearded. Each iris should be correctly named with the label or a 3 X 5 card posted outside the box, the names of the irises being on the card in their correct positions as displayed in tiny jars filled with sand underneath the 18" X 24" box that is 4 inches from the table to the top.

The blossoms should be uniform in size, form, substance, and texture. They should appear to float above the box with no falls touching the surface of the box. Bicolors can be combined with two self colors, but color clash and poor color arrangement will be faulted by the judges.

Even the background covering should be non-reflective and neutral in color so that it does not clash with the flower colors.

The Artistic Division

When completing an artistic arrangement for the Iris Show, the designer must remember that one or more iris blooms must be the center of interest. For this show the designer has several choices for the competition since small designs will be accepted. Although the exhibitor does not have to grow the flowers or plant material, he should be the person who has created the design. The plant material must be fresh, not treated or dried. The material or any part of the plant on the state conservation list is strictly prohibited. The use of colors or bunting is permitted if it interprets the theme. The American flag or any international flags can not be used, but accessories are permitted.

The show committee will provide a sign indicating that the exhibits will be protected, but they can not be responsible for loss or damage to the exhibitor's property.

The Educational Division

Shelia Senghas is the only person

who will complete an educational display, but other members are encouraged to find a topic and enter by calling 512-327-0401.

TOPICS TO CONSIDER

- Show how to divide and transplant iris.
- Tell how to arrange flowers for a specific design.
- Give step by step instructions for hybridizing iris
- Draw a landscape using irises.
- Tell about iris diseases or pests and how to treat to prevent this from happening again.
- In the American Iris Society Bulletin articles showed before and after treatment for nut grass and how the chemical had affected the irises. What have you used?
- Show examples of newsletters that Iris Society of Austin has done. What has the Iris Society done for you?
- Tell about the difference in a crop of irises with foliage cut too short instead of leaving at least 5 inches of leaves in a fan shape when planting.



Marney Abel prepares an English box for the 2010 Show.



DAVID KRAEMER'S SECRET TO GROWING RANDY'S BULBS AND SEEDS

David Kraemer is adamant about being patient when it comes to growing species from bulbs or seeds. He tells about some sprouting after awhile, but it really takes from November to March to see the results after leaving the little greenhouses containing them outside all that time. They probably need the cold weather followed by spring conditions to awaken.

David also says that a person must check the protected pots frequently because they should not dry out and they should not be placed in direct sunlight.

He tells about planting the bulbs in a pot and then putting the pot in a plastic bag. Even a $\frac{1}{2}$ -gallon milk or water jug that is cut up leaving no cap can be used as a mini greenhouse. If the seeds or bulbs do not emerge after this spring, continue to watch them and leave them out throughout the next winter.

Bicolor "cemetery irises" photographed by David Kraemer.



Memories of Past Iris Shows:

