

in this issue >>>

- 2017 Iris Show & Set Up
- 2017 AIS/Region 17 Basket
- Japanese Garden Update
- Zilkerfest Show Winners

April 2017 — Vol. 26 #04



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

IRIS AUSTIN



NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 P.M.

Auditorium

Pot Luck

HAPPY EASTER April 16

APRIL 7 3-5 P.M. Show Set Up

APRIL 8 7:30 A.M. - 4 P.M.

“IRISES IN SPACE” – 2017 Iris Show

APRIL 20-22 Society for Louisiana Irises

Dallas, TX www.louisianas.org

MAY 9 Iris Society of Austin Meeting

MAY 23-27 2017 AIS CONVENTION

Des Moines Marriott Hotel

700 Grand Avenue

Des Moines, IA 50309

desmoinesmarriott.com (515) 245-5500

IRIS SHOW APRIL 8 AND SET UP

Volunteers are needed to help set up the auditorium, the library, and the Greene Room Friday, April 7, from 3 to 5 P.M.

Those who want to start their displays for the artistic division and the photographic display may start their projects and finish by 10 A.M. April 8, when the judging begins. Probably the building will not be opened by 7:30 A.M., but all members have received a number, entry cards that can be completed Friday night at home, and a paper that can list all displays and horticulture entries since you, the grower, will know



2016 Best of Show Winner Dara Smith, 'Baditude'

what to enter. Remember all irises should be open and fresh, all insects and pollen removed, all iris flowers should have standards and falls with no insect holes or millions of aphids, Use an old tee-shirt to remove the fingerprints from the stalk or dust some shower shimmer powder on the fingerprints to restore nature's sheen. Saturday morning before 10:15 A.M. all should be ready for the judges since you have placed your irises in the bottles with the entry tag secured by a rubber band right under the best face of the iris forward. Place your iris carrier that you have fashioned to hold the flowers upright during transportation under the table next to the wall out of every person's path in the Greene Room.

(Continued on Page 2)



The table cover will hide these bottles and stuff, but you are responsible for taking this glassware and other possessions home with you when you leave at six.

There should be some Louisiana Irises as well as Spurias in this show. These irises should be examined closely for spiders and insects before placing the bloom stalk over the entry tag attached to the bottle. The entry tag is completely filled out with all information required, T for Texas hybridizer, and your entry number that was issued to you during the last meeting. The persons responsible for folding the bottom part of the tag will do this after a close examination of both parts.

For artistic arrangements and photographs or other entries the tag is also fully completed by the exhibitor and placed near the item. Remember to tell the judges your intentions on a card that you place in the exhibit.

This show should have educational displays as well as English boxes. Follow directions in the Show Schedule — the LAW OF THIS SHOW. THE JUDGES' DECISION IS FINAL!

Have fun and enjoy the irises!



Bullock History Museum and purchased beautiful Go Texan-made things for the basket such as Fredericksburg Farms San Jacinto Spinach Dip that is gluten free with recipes for using the contents, candy, and hand towel with Texas Bluebonnets.

These great prizes will be taken to Iowa by Debra Strauss.

IRIS GARDENS CLEANED DURING LIGHT RAIN

Donna Little, Debbie Hood, Tracey Rogers, Ellen Singleton, Don Freeman and some other members have worked in the Two Gardens near Barton Springs Road. Tracey has also weeded since March 11, the day selected to complete taking care of the iris gardens before the Zilker Garden Festival March 25 and 26. The crew removed dead leaves, brown foliage, spent bloom stalks, and many weeds.

NEW PROJECT DEDICATION MARCH 25

Mayor Steve Adler, City Council Members Leslie Poole, Ann Kitchen, and Jimmy Flannigan, and Acting Director Kim McNeeley of the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) were the speakers at 11 A.M. March 25, when the impressive ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new water feature that replaces the original stream bed in the Japanese Garden was held in the Rose Garden near the back gate of Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Road in Austin 78746.

Mr. Taniguchi had worked in the garden as a volunteer when the original water feature was opened in 1969. Now his grandson Evan has worked with



Evan Taniguchi



2016 AIS/Region 17 Basket, Newark Convention

AIS/REGION 17 BASKET AS BIG AS TEXAS

Please bring any iris or Texas item for the AIS/Region 17 basket that will be taken to the American Iris Society Convention for the 2017 event in the Des Moines Marriott Hotel, 700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309 May 23-27.

President Donna Little brought two outstanding iris gifts during the last meeting. Needed now are some Texas pralines, Texas chili, Texas peanut brittle, Texas hand-crafted aprons with bluebonnets or something similar.

Marney Abel and Nelda Moore visited the Bob

environmentalist David Mahler to update this special feature to meet the standards of the Watershed Protection Department. Evan Taniguchi is an architect who has assisted with other outstanding work in the beautiful gardens.

According to Cullen Finnegan of PARD more than a million gallons of water seeped into the ground each year. This landscaped stream bed was a dream that finally came true when the JetBlue Airline made it possible with a \$50000 donation to the \$180,000 project. Volunteers added mulch to the area to complete this streambed restoration project by the opening of the 60th Annual Zilker Garden Festival that ended Sunday evening.

HORTICULTURE

After all of the irises have bloomed, cut the bloom stalks before the iris shows seed pods since this removes some vigor from the plant. Be sure to watch the Louisiana Irises since bees, flies, wasps, and bats have worked on the flowers and fertilized them. If you are a hybridizer, you have covered the flower and have labeled the crosses that you have used for the black seedpod that will happen eventually.

The irises can be fed again. Use bone meal for the Tall Bearded, Rose food for the Spurias, and Acid Fertilizer for the Louisianas.

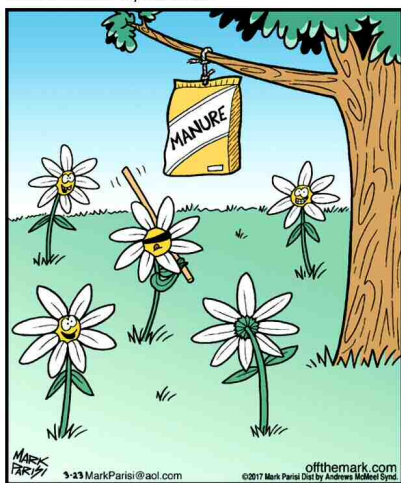
Always water the irises before you feed them. Then water the food into the soil.

Keep weeding. You might prevent clover, grasses, and other weed seeds from emerging next year.

Remember to tag the irises that you wish to remove from your garden and donate to the iris sale in September after Labor Day.

Keep the list of new irises that you wish to purchase for your next landscape.

Off the Mark by Mark Parisi



D BOYLE WINS WITH 'ROPER'S REVENGE'

Friday morning in the Flower Show held in conjunction with the Zilker Garden Festival in Austin, D Boyle won the Award of Horticultural Excellence



which is awarded to the exhibit judged finest in the entire Horticultural Division and it is not limited to exhibits having received a section award. Tracey Rogers won the same award last year with 'Grain Exchange.' The winning exhibit may also have won another Top Exhibitor award and in D's case, she also won the Award of Merit which may be awarded to cut, non-arboreal specimens scoring 95 or over in each of a designated number of sections. The irises are in Division 1, Section B—Annuals and Perennials, Class 9—Cut Specimen (one stem) from rhizomes, corms, bulbs, tubers, etc.

Ellen Singleton won first prize in the novice design category with 'Farmer's Market.' The overall theme of the show was Only in Austin and each design category was an Austin landmark—Moontower, Zaragoza Park, and the Broken Spoke were a few.

Don and Pat Freeman's hanging basket of 'Hoya carnososa' received a blue ribbon, and then the judges awarded it a Growers Choice Award. Finally, Don and Pat received the Sweepstakes Award for having the most blue ribbons. The theme of Pat's arrangement was Texas State Capitol, a parallel design, and it received a blue ribbon. Tracy Rogers also had some flower arrangements in the same show.

MINUTES OF THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN
February 14, 2017

Donna Little called the meeting to order.

We started right away with the program on photography presented by Brian Loflin of the Austin Shutterbug Club.

After the program there was not time for a reading of the Minutes or Treasurer's Report.

Ken Fuchs passed out show schedules, entry tags and exhibitor sheets for the annual spring Iris Show on April 8, 2017. Jaime Hadley announced the exhibitor numbers which will be posted on the ISA website.

Lora Anderson collected names of those who wished to enter the Artistic Design competition.

Nelda Moore collected names of those who wished to participate in the club luncheon at the show. Lunch will likely be barbeque.

Everyone was reminded to also bring irises to the Zilker Garden Festival show on Friday, March 24, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Hadley
VP Membership, in the absence of the Secretary



Ellen Singleton's 'Farmers Market' design



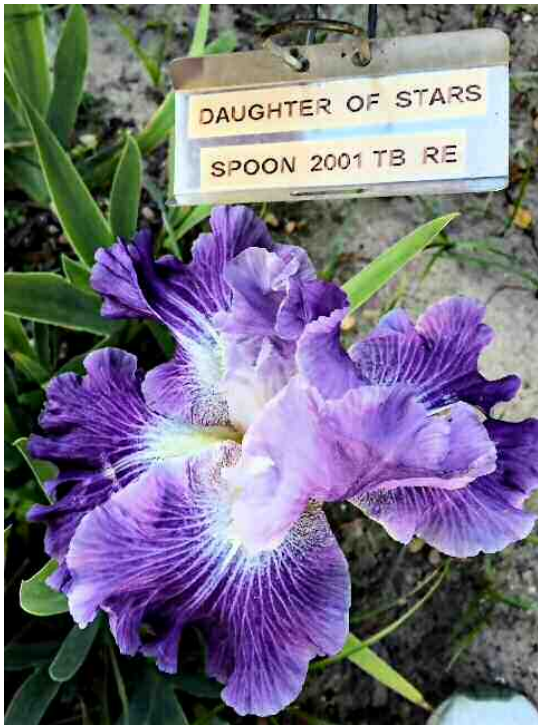
Don and Pat Freeman's hanging basket of 'Hoya carnosa'



Pat Freeman's 'Texas State Capitol' design



FOUR REBLOOMERS IN ELLEN SINGLETON'S GARDEN ON HER BIRTHDAY (MARCH 20)



An anomaly of 4 falls & 2 standards



'Austin City Blues' (Nichols 2009)



'Pure as Gold' (Maryott 1998)



'Tea Leaves' (Byers 1987)

