



IRIS AUSTIN

A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

March 2020 — Vol. XX #3

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

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

6:30 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746

Potluck

Host: Ellen Singleton

Program – Preparation for the Iris Show

Show Schedule

IRIS SHOW “Anniversary Celebration” APRIL 11

THE IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN

in cooperation with

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

presents

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



Saturday, April 11, 2020

The Iris Society of Austin will hold its 30th accredited Iris Show entitled “Anniversary Celebration” April 11 in the auditorium of the Austin Area Garden Center in Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Road in Austin, Tx 78746. This marks the 100th Anniversary of the American Iris Society and the 50th Anniversary of the Taniguchi Garden.

Entries will be accepted from 7:30 to 9:45 A.M. Judging will begin at 10 A.M. The public is invited to enter the auditorium after judging at 1 P.M. The show closes at 4 P.M.

Any exhibitor under 19 years of age can exhibit in either Youth Horticulture Division or Adult Horticulture Division, but not both in the same show.

The Show Committee includes Nelda Moore chairman; Jim Landers, judge coordinator; Marney Abel, clerk/ placement coordinator; Dara E. Smith, secretary/Classification; Ken Fuchs, awards; Tracey Rogers, artistic designs; Audrey J. Baker, photography; Shirley Randolph and Shirley Friesen, Hospitality; and Tracey Rogers, Publicity. All members will be deeply involved with bringing irises and artistic arrangements, working on keeping the room clean, and assisting with break down at 4:05 P.M. on Saturday.



Ellen Singleton's 2019 Best of Show winner 'High Point'





ISA Members especially invite youth groups to visit the show. Anyone wanting to join the American Iris Society or the local club can do so while visiting the show.

This is a great time for visitors to bring a pencil and pad of paper to write the names of favorite irises that they may be interested in purchasing during the September rhizome sale.

HOOKEr NICHOLS AND DIANA FORD SEEDLINGS SELECTED FOR CENTENNIAL HONORS

During the 2019 San Ramon, California Iris Convention iris hybridizers submitted 48 bearded iris seedlings to 5 gardens and 37 beardless entries to 3 gardens for attendees to consider for centennial recognition honors.

In the beardless centennial iris competition Hooker Nichols's Seedling No. 135, a yellow Louisiana Iris, garnered enough votes to be named 2020 'Centennial Anniversary.'



Diana Ford's entry No. 208 for bearded competition will be named 2020 'Centennial Celebration.' It sports yellow and white in its falls of a unique maroon, with yellow and white tall upright standards.



These newly named irises have been shipped to Newark, New Jersey, where they will be blooming during the 100th Anniversary Celebration May 18-23.

IRENE AND JIM CUMMINS CAPTURED GARDEN HONORS

Irene and Jim Cummins of Scotts Valley, California captured the Gerald Richardson Award for best Integrated Privately Maintained Planting. An integrated Garden is a bed composed of iris and companion plants that display the irises to their best effect as a landscape plant.



Their garden had irises planted inside an antique iron bed frame. The guest iris garden was planted in

front of a fence that held much art. The other garden was decorated with such items as pots of irises, milk cans, feed troughs, plows, bird houses of teapots, tool art birds, and iron works.

Although there will be no private gardens for the 2020 A.I.S. Convention, this category will probably be used again during future conventions. Since the American Iris Society began in 1920, this is a time to wear a hobble skirt or the Roaring Twenties flapper or gangster styles to the banquet. You might dance the Charleston at the closing.

The 2021 A.I.S. Convention will be April 12-17 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Make plans to attend.

FLORAL DESIGNS

Arranging flowers according to elements of design or principles of design include color, light, space, line, form, pattern, texture, unity, harmony, rhythm in expressing yourself creatively. Successful floral design begins with fresh plant materials that have been properly handled and prepared by cutting the buds, blossoms, and foliage the evening before the arrangement is due. Handle only the stem when cutting the iris stalk with a sharp knife at a slant so that the long stem can absorb more water. Stand flowers and foliage in a bucket of cool water to keep them in a dark place. If the irises are not open fully, then the bloom stalk can be placed in warm water under a lamp light all through the night. Some people blow on the partially closed bloom. Never bring irises to the show if they are mostly spent flowers or past their blooming period.

When working the arrangement, cut the stem again at a 45 degree angle by placing the end an inch in the water when cutting to prevent air from entering the stem and interfering with water uptake. Remove all foliage below the water level of the container to prevent decay and foul water.

Style of Arrangements – You may want to select an easy style for your iris arrangement by working on a line arrangement or by using the Japanese style. Using a Spuria leaf, place a bud against it, and then complete the style with a leaf to the right and then to the left before working the focal point with iris blossoms.

Other styles are line-mass and mass. These are used for a full bouquet.

Color – Reds, oranges, and yellows are bright and stimulating and considered warm colors that tend to

be advancing colors to the eye and have more visual weight than cool colors. Blues, greens, and violets are usually tranquil, peaceful, restful. These are cool colors and tend to be receding and have less visual weight than warm colors.

Space describes the open area in and around the design by use of plant material and through the placement of materials.

Line creates a visual path for the eye to follow through a design. It is the framework or skeleton of a design—short, curved, straight, weak, strong.

Form describes the 3 dimensional aspect of design—closed,, compact, massed, with few open spaces.



Pat Freeman
2019

Texture refers to the surface quality of plants—fuzzy, glossy, smooth, rough. Baby's breath has a airy texture, a rose has a velvety texture, a zinnia has a dense texture.

Size of flowers and leaves is important. Use buds and small flowers at the top and edges of an arrangement, while large leaves or fully opened flowers are placed low in the arrangement—focal point.

Harmony produces a feeling of unity.

Principles of design include balance of placement of flowers and foliage; focal point or portion of a design which first attracts attention.

Rhythm refers to the visual path so that the eye is first attracted to the focal point and then carried throughout the entire arrangement. Repeat shapes, hues, line direction.

Minutes of the Iris Society of Austin February 22, 2020 Meeting

The meeting was called to order and presided over by Dara Smith. There were 12 members in attendance for our Valentine's potluck and meeting. Several members reported having many iris blooms and buds. More so for this time of the year than in the past. And we were reminded that it is time to fertilize for the Spring!

The Minutes from January 14th, 2020 meeting were approved as published in the February 2020 Newsletter. The Treasurer's Report was also approved with review of the current balance of \$15,390.23. Recent transactions include membership dues and AIS membership renewals.

We mourn the loss of our member Stephanie Sheridan who has passed away following her rapid decline in health, and our thoughts are with her family. We will miss her contributions to our iris family.

AAGC - Meeting update from Ellen.

There is now a form for all the clubs to submit the information about upcoming meetings and events to have the information updated on the Zilker Garden Website. They would like to have information for Program Schedules 3 weeks in advance. Dara has the form "AAGC Garden Club Monthly Meeting Information Form" to give to Jaime that Ellen got at the meeting today. This is a paper form, but there may be a digital format as well.

We need to be sending in the information on membership meeting attendance, educational events /topics, guest speakers and presentations. There is now a policy for any Sales that are held at Zilker for AAGC to keep 15% of the Net profits.

ISA Business:

- Ken will add Don and Pat Freeman to the mailed list for the newsletter.
- In regards to our local Austin member Stephanie Sheridan's passing, Ellen has inquired about memorials appropriate to Zilker Garden. There is a \$2400 fee associated with the particular bench that meets the approval of the garden. Ellen will investigate how we can move forward with preparing and/or funding this type of memorial and possibility of partnering with the Daylily

Society.

- Update on hosting the Region 17 meeting in 2021 – There was no update on this action.
- Preparations for the Spring Show. Next Month's meeting program will be hosted by Show Chair Nelda Moore on Preparing for the Show. The show theme is selected as "Anniversary Celebration". Tonight's program demonstrates some examples for the design category "Exhibition Table". Audrey will contact Marney for information on setting up the Photography entries.
- Nominating Committee – Tracey Rogers has presented the following Nominees for the Slate of Officers to be voted on at the March 2020 meeting:
 - President - Ellen Singleton
 - VP Programming - Nelda Moore
 - VP Membership - Jaime Hadley
 - Treasurer - Tracey Rogers
 - Secretary - Dara E. Smith
 - Historian - (open for nominations)
- A garden work day was selected for Saturday February 29, 2020 at 9am to weed and work on the Zilker irises (Tall Bearded beds, Louisiana and Spuria).

Important Dates:

- Club Garden Workday - Saturday February 29, 2020 at 9am.
- March Meeting - Tuesday March 10, 2020.
- ISA Show - Saturday April 11, 2020.
- Temple/Belton Iris Show - Saturday April 18, 2020.
- American Iris Society Convention 2020 New York - "The Centennial Celebration of The American Iris Society"
- Region 17 Meeting - August 2020 Hosted by Iris Society of Dallas

Program:

The Tom Burseen 2020 Iris Catalog – photos from his catalog in digital format by Ken Fuchs.

The In's-and-Out's of the "Exhibition Table" – Information on the new Design category (Division IV, Class 3) for this year's show. Tracey Rogers and Ken Fuchs.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dara E. Smith, Secretary