



IRIS AUSTIN

A Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

February 2023 — Vol. XXIII #2

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

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden - Auditorium

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746

POTLUCK

Nelda brings King Ranch Casserole and paper products including decorations.

DUES

Iris Society of Austin dues for membership are Single \$18 and Joint membership \$24.

AAGC raised their dues to \$13, which caused the increase. Please join as soon as possible.

We need for you to return to our meetings held on the second Tuesday of the month in the AAGC Auditorium at 6:30 P. M. If you do not attend and want to join, send your check made out to IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN to

Tracey Rogers

4608 Hoffman Drive

Austin, TX 78749.

2023 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION



The Iris Society of Dallas will host the 2023 American Iris Society Convention April 12-16 in the Courtyard by Marriott, 2200 Bass Pro Ct in Grapevine, Texas 76051. The room rate will be \$139 per night for a single or double. The headquarters provides a shuttle to the Dallas Fort Worth Airport and free hotel parking. It also allows small dogs. Telephone 817-251 9095

Perhaps a dip in the pool will provide a relaxing evening after walking through the iris gardens during the day.

Five gardens will be featured. Shady Spot owned by Judy Schneider of Whitesboro has 2,500 named irises, some historic varieties and many newly introduced varieties. She features the National Collection of MTB irises of about 600 varieties. These irises are planted with shrubs, perennials, and annuals that are drought tolerant on her farm where horses, goats, and birds live happily.

Dell Perry of Plano grows MDBs, aril/arilbreds, bearded, Japanese, Louisianas, spurias, Siberians, and plenty of garden art.

Michael and Mary Ellen Reed's Garden in Farmer's Branch, Texas, is a beautiful creation with irises, daylilies, southern bulbs and other plants all living in harmony, and protected by "fierce" dachshunds.

On the second day of tours buses will travel to Cedar Creek Lake to view Connie Ford's bearded irises including ones that have variegated foliage, Japanese, and pseudatas, or flags.



Hooker and Bonnie J. Nichols, who own Hillcrest Iris and Daylily Gardens, are proud to show bearded irises that are unusual such as novelty irises. Other unique annuals that are among the irises are sunflowers, zinnias, poppies, and morning glories that they grow from seeds in their greenhouses.

Full registration is \$349 by March 15 or \$399 by April 1. Garden Tours only are \$275. The Welcome Dinner and Sunday Awards Brunch \$100.

Make check payable to Iris Society of Dallas. Send to

AIS Convention 2023
Debbie Strauss, Registrar
2213 Hereford Blvd
Midland, TX 79707-5012

The Geek Luncheon is \$50 Thursday, April 13 at Noon—2 P.M. Payment should be made to

Jill Bonino
3119 Kirkham Drive
Glendale, California 91206.

JUDGES TRAINING DRAWS MEMBERS

Hooker Nichols presented Judges Training to the Iris Society of Austin and some from the surrounding area on Saturday, January 14, in the Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7127 Bee Caves Road, Austin, 78746. Hooker and Bonnie are both well-known hybridizers who own Hillcrest Gardens in the Dallas area and participate in the American Iris Society. Hooker has been growing irises since he was 9 years old.

This school for anyone interested in irises and not just for those who are working on being iris judges was most interesting and valuable. Hooker taught about planting seeds, growing them successfully, and eventually registering the seedlings that become the new varieties for \$50 or more. He added interesting details about Louisianas and showed pictures of irises and the forms of the flowers that are in the Judges Handbook. Fimbriated edging on some of the petals of Louisiana irises as well as ruffling were discussed.

David Kraemer brought lemons from his tree that were delightful; slices tasted like lemon drops and the whole slice was edible. Other breakfast items included pigs in a blanket, breakfast casserole, strawberry and banana bread, donuts, cake, orange juice, coffee, and water.

2023 IRIS SHOW

IRIS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN will have an accredited show April 22 in the Zilker Botanical Garden Auditorium.

VIOLET CROWN FLOWER SHOW

Violet Crown Garden Club will have judged horticulture, floral designs, and garden photography on display at the National Garden Club Standard Flower Show in the Austin Area Garden Center March 11-12. To enter contact Sue King at sueshoopman4@hotmail.com

The event will be held Saturday, March 11 from 1-5 P.M. and Sunday, March 12 from 1-4 P.M.

HORTICULTURE OF IRISES

New weeds and dead iris foliage need to be removed from most iris gardens during this summer-like weather in January and February. Around Valentine's Day feed your irises and water the fertilizer around the plant into the soil. Bearded irises can have bone meal for healthier fans and huge flowers while Louisianas require azalea food mixed in water and poured on the soil.

Spurias use rose food that you use to feed your prize rose bushes that can be pruned at this time unless it is a climber. Hooker buys 8-8-8 fertilizer and uses that on his iris garden.



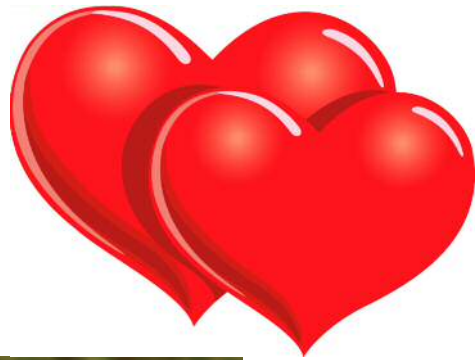
'Heartbreak Warfare' - Nichols 2013 LA



'Heart Mountain' - Mohr 1989



'Heart of Hearts'- Black 2015 AB



'Heart of Dreams' - Blyth 2012



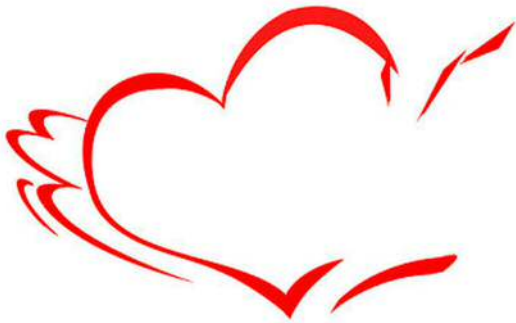
'Heart Racer' - Blyth 2019



'Heart Reioice' - Kerr 1998



'Heartfelt' - Black 2018



'Heart to Heart' - Ghio 1980 SPU



'Heartfelt Desire' - Dash 2020

Minutes of the Iris Society of Austin January 10, 2023 Meeting

The meeting was called to order and presided over by Ellen Singleton.

The November 8, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as written in the January 2023 Newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Tracey Rogers and approved. The current balance is \$15,906.57. This includes recent expenses for hospitality, R&I purchase

Dues for 2023 were collected by Tracey. Single membership is \$18. Joint membership is \$24.

AAGC:

March 11 -12 will be the Violet Crown Show. Contact Sue King (sueshoopman@hotmail.com) for information on show schedule.

ISA Business:

- Judge's Training - ISA will resume its regularly hosted Judges Training in January 2023!!

3 hours of Judges Training on Louisiana Irises for \$5.00.

Nelda Moore has secured a location at the Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church (7127 Bee Cave Road, Austin TX 78746 in Room 200) for a Judge's training on January 14, 2023. Hooker Nichols will be our invited presenter. Breakfast treats at 9a and class starts shortly after.

- Jaime Hadley circulated a sign-up sheet at the October meeting for anyone interested in purchasing the new revision of the AIS Judge's Handbook. ISA will make a club order for the paper only (no cover) for \$20 each. The pages will now fit in a regular 8"x10" 3-ring binder. Please let Jaime Hadley know if you want to order a new handbook.

- December 14th, 2022 was the dedication of the memorial bench for Don Freeman.

- A sign-up sheet was passed around for Hospitality hosts for the meetings for 2023

- Iris Show – Nelda Moore is the 2023 Show Chair. The theme for the show is "Celebrate Earth Day with Irises". The show is on April 22, 2023.

- Show Committees Information:
 - Tracey Rogers - Judge Co-ordination - Artistic & Horticulture
 - Jaime Hadley - Vases / Placement
 - Dara E Smith - Secretary, Classification, Entries, Placement
 - ? - Clerks: Carolyn Wylie, Ellen, Audrey, Laura
 - Jaime Hadley - Awards Chair
 - Audrey Baker - Photography Entries
 - Donna Little - Hospitality
 - Everyone - Publicity, Clean-up

- Show Schedule Information:
 - Names of Committee Chairs
 - 60 days prior to the show for approval
 - Artistic Categories: (4 Classes ea. With 4 entries) - Small, Novice, Designer's Choice, Exhibition: table or tray (not sure if this should be one or the other?)
 - Educational Display related to the theme of "Earth Day"

Important Dates:

- February Meeting: Tuesday February 14th, 2023
- Judge's Training Saturday January 14, 2023 at 9am at Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church

- American Iris Society Convention April 12 - 16, 2023 Dallas, TX. Full Registration is \$349 until March 13, 2023. Other registration options are available see <http://www.irises-dallas.org/isd-events/2023-ais-convention/> for information

- ISA Show April 22, 2023 at Zilker Botanical Garden - "Earth Day"

Program: All in attendance discussed the preparations for the April 2023 show. ie. Committee Chairs, Show schedule, Duties.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dara E. Smith, Secretary