



# IRIS AUSTIN

A Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin



Nelda Moore, Ken Fuchs, Editors

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ISA Website: [http://www.kenfuchs42.net/isa\\_index.html](http://www.kenfuchs42.net/isa_index.html)

## NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, **September 15, 2024** 1-3 P.M.

Zilker Botanical Garden - Auditorium

2220 Barton Springs Road

Austin, TX 78746

Dues are \$18.

## I.S.A. OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

President – Jaime Hadley

VP-Programming – Ellen Singleton

VP-Membership – Marney Able

Secretary – Dara Smith

Treasurer – Donna Little



“Rebloomers Anyone?” will be the theme of the Region 17 American Iris Society Annual Meeting in the Hampton Inn and Suites South located at 8962 S. Broadway Avenue in Tyler, Texas October 4 and 5. Telephone 903-630-7272. Room rate \$115 for double queen.

Registration deadline is September 15. Acknowledgment is by email only. Adult registration is \$60. Checks are made payable to “East Texas Iris Society” and sent to Connie Ford, 122 Spruce Trail, Gun Barrel City, TX 75156.

When you check in, additional information will be in your packet with your name tag.

The Friday dinner will be subs from Jersey Mikes or vegetarian while Saturday Lunch is on your own or Build A Sandwich. Dinner is White Meat Italian or vegetarian. Each society attending will bring homemade cookies or non-refrigerated appetizers to share.

Join with several attendees from Austin and surrounding areas to enjoy friendships and share information about irises, clubs, and fundraisers.



2024 Dykes Medal winner ‘Don't Doubt Dalton’ - Burseen 2014. Photo by Judy Schneider

## 2024 IRIS SALE IN AUSTIN



Photos by Donna Little

The Iris Society of Austin enjoyed a terrific rhizome sale in the Norris Conference Center Saturday, September 8.



Jaime Hadley recorded every sale even those the last hour before closing at 3 P.M. Others who assisted with work included Marney Abel, Audrey Baker, Joyce Evans, Shirley Friesen, Debbie Hood, Donna Little, Nelda Moore, Mary O'Conner, Kathy Petheram, Tracey Rogers, Dara Smith, and Carolyn Wylie.



Rhizomes included bearded irises with some growing in pots as well as those that were reblooming varieties purchased from growers.

## 2024 AIS CONVENTION + JAPANESE IRISES

Although this American Iris Society and the Society for Japanese Irises called this National Convention "New Horizons 2024," this is one that lingers with each of us. It was hosted by Greater Portland Iris Society June 26-29!

Only now can you imagine yourself in this magnificent setting among Douglas firs and oak trees listening to the Columbia River separating Washington State from Oregon and viewing Mount Hood at sunset. These are the New Horizons 2024 of fields of Japanese Irises such as SPEC-X and the pseudatas, a cross of *Iris ensata* and *iris pseudacorus* as well as 'Polly Wolly Doodle' waving tall.



c. Jim Copeland

'Polly Wolly Doodle' - Jill Copland Spx 2021

It is a new world of irises where water and soil make a huge difference providing a heavenly landscape that Texans still talk about. Dig out those pictures of Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm owned by Chad Harris and Dale Grams. Then show Aitken's Garden with spurias, beardless irises, and orchids. And there are more irises to see in Mid-America Garden operated by Thomas Johnson and Kirk Hansen. Siberian and Japanese irises, magnolia trees and fuchsia from Miller's Manor Gardens created by Lynda and Roger Miller. There is another garden owned by Susan Schouten and named Misty River Iris that has re-blooming irises.

With Eye Candy everywhere one Japanese Garden was entered during the first day as a tribute to peace to come to all in five gardens that had been

the Portland Zoo. A docent explained the symbolism of crooked paths where the evil could not follow.

Then there were medals of joy: Paul Black won 4, Tom Burseen won the Dykes Medal for 'Don't Doubt Dalton,' Rita Butler won Signa Medal, and Howard Dash and Adam Cordes were awarded the Wister Medal.

## REMEMBERING SUSAN CARR FLANAGAN

May 22, 1938 - July 11, 2024



Susan was born in Louin, Mississippi. Growing up on the family farm, Susan always wanted to make new opportunities for herself. She studied science at the University of Mississippi and worked for many years as a Microbiologist in the Birmingham Lab for the State of Alabama.

Susan was a beautiful person and lived a life of perseverance and hope. She was a single mom to her daughter Dara E Smith (of Austin) and led a life by example of self-assurance and re-invention. She changed careers as a pharmaceutical sales rep in the 1980's and moved with Dara to Katy, TX. It was there that she met her future husband Jack Flanagan. They continued their shared life with a move to San Antonio, TX. Once more retired, Susan fulfilled her dream of becoming an entrepreneur and opened her own florist shop "An Empty Vase" in Boerne, TX.

Susan was passionate in her love for flowers. As a young girl she remembered making bouquets as the family picked cotton on the farm. It was this interest that followed her until her recent passing. She was a long-time student and *sensei* of Ikebana, the art of

Japanese flower arrangement. She was an active member of Ikebana International Houston and Ikebana International Chapter 46 San Antonio and had been a past President in both of those organizations. Susan made many "friendship(s) through flowers" and traveled to chapter meetings and conferences all over the United States and also to Japan in support of her commitment to a life-long study. At the time of her passing Susan was a member of the American Orchid Society, The Iris Society of Austin, and Treasurer of Ikebana International Chapter 46 San Antonio.



Susan with Dara and Jack at the 2015 AIS convention in Portland

