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May 2014 — vol 23 #4



Nelda Moore, Editor

A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

# IRIS AUSTIN



## next ISA meeting >>>

Iris Society of Austin Meeting  
**Tuesday May 13, 2014**  
**6:45 pm** (gates close at 7:00)

**Late? call 477-8672 ext 13**

Zilker Garden Center  
2220 Barton Springs Rd  
Austin TX 78746

- Potluck Supper
- Business Meeting
- Recap 2014 AIS Nat'l Conv

## next AAGC meeting >>>

Austin Area Garden Council Meeting  
**Tuesday May 13, 2014**  
**10:00 am**  
Zilker Garden Center

Marney Abel – ISA representative

## upcoming events >>>

May 13, 2014 – Regular Meeting

## Another Great Show

### Winners Under the Big Top

Don & Pat Freeman won the AIS Silver Medal Certificate for earning the most blue ribbons with their horticultural entries in the Iris Society of Austin's 2013 Iris Show entitled "Under the Big Top." Don and Pat achieved the highest award in this American Iris Society sanctioned event on April 12 by earning eleven blue ribbons in Division I.

Marney Abel won the Bronze Medal

Certificate for earning the second highest number of blue ribbons with eight.

Debbie Hood grew the Best Specimen of the Show this year, a Tall Bearded Iris named 'Silverado,' which was also named, Best Tall Bearded Iris of the show, and Best White. The Runner up was a Spuria named 'White Heron', grown by the Freemans, which also won Best specimen in the Other Iris Section.

## Amarillo By Evening

### Register Early for Region 17 Convention

The American Iris Society Region 17 Convention, the 55th Annual Meeting, will be hosted by the North Plains and the South Plains Iris Societies August 22 and 23 in the Holiday Inn Amarillo West Medical Center, 8231 Amarillo Blvd West.

Our special rate is \$99 per night plus tax, and this includes breakfast buffet or made to order breakfast from the menu. Make your reservation before August 1<sup>st</sup> and mention North Plains

Iris Society Meeting in order to receive the discounted group rate.

The registration fee of \$75 includes the Friday and Saturday evening meals. The Judges Training Class is \$5 per student.

Send completed registration form with a check made payable to North Plains Iris Society to Debbie Strauss, 2213 Hereford Blvd, Midland, TX 79707-5012.

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# Other Area Shows

## *Austin Iris Society Members entered several shows this season*

Thanks to a late cold snap in Austin, there were no irises entered in the Zilker Garden Festival flower show this year. There were other kinds of cut flowers and foliage, growing plants, and artistic designs. Don and Pat Freeman took advantage of the opportunity to show several horticultural and artistic entries, and took home several blue ribbons. Tracey Rogers also had a couple of Artistic entries. If you have never made it out of the water sales booth and up to the Garden Center for the festival's Flower and Plant Show, you are missing a wonderful display of horticultural prowess and artistic vision.

There are several Iris Societies that have shows within a few hours' drive of Austin every Spring, and all AIS sanctioned shows are open to all iris growers. With this in mind, a few of the members of the Austin Iris Society took some of their beautiful blooms to our neighbors' shows, and brought home ribbons.

The show nearest us was hosted by

the Belton Iris Society on Saturday, April 19. Ken Fuchs attended, as did Jim Landers, both are members of the Belton Iris Society, and Jim Landers co-chaired the Belton show this year.

Don & Pat Freeman took a car-full of entries to the Belton show. They brought home a second silver medal of the season for the most blue ribbons in the Horticulture division, with four of those specimens making it to the head table. The Freemans won Best Louisiana with 'Our Sassy', Best Plicata with 'Tango Amigo', Best Blue with Burseen's 'Ty Blue', and Best Bi-Tone with 'Fashion Diva'.

Tracey Rogers and Jaime Hadley each took nine blooms, and each brought home two blue ribbons. D Boyle took ten entries and also came home with a blue ribbon.

Donna Little apparently had better flowers left in her garden on April 19, as four of her seven entries won blue ribbons, giving her the Bronze

Medal for 2<sup>nd</sup> most blue ribbons at the show. Her "Victoria Falls" graced the head table as Best Historic Iris, and Donna's "Behavin Bad" was honored as Best Texas Hybrid, Best Space-Age Iris, and Runner Up to Best Specimen of Show.

Donna Little, Susan Flanagan and Jaime Hadley also took blooms to enter in the Dallas Iris Show which was held on April 7, during the AIS National Convention. Jaime and Susan each came home with one blue ribbon. Donna, however, did much better. Her TB 'Flights of Fancy' was honored on the Head Table in Dallas as Best Bi-Color, Best TB, and Runner-Up to Best Specimen of Show.

Dara was not able to take any entries for the Dallas show because she was apprentice judging that show, trying to get her required hours of work towards becoming a new AIS Judge.

We hope more of you will try entering other area shows next year!



*left: Austin members at Clark Gardens*

*above: Austin members picnicking at Woody Keas Garden*



## More on 2014 Austin Iris Show

The Best of Section award for Historic Irises went to TB Iris 'William Setchell' shown by Stephanie Sheridan; this specimen was also named Best Violet Iris.

The Best of Group award for the Louisiana Irises went to 'Rhett' grown by Don & Pat Freeman. The same specimen also won the award for Best Red Iris of the show.

Unfortunately no Dutch Iris were entered in the show this year since we were back to our regular date the second weekend in April.

The Best of Section award for the Median Irises went to IB 'Desert Bouquet' entered by Tony Sheridan.

The Space Age Section was won by Donna Little with TB 'Horned Rosy Red'

Marney Able brought in a rare perfectly matched collection of 3 stalks of TB 'Wild Prairie Sunset' which won a blue ribbon and a local award for Best of Section for Collections.

A local award was also given to the best specimen of the Youth All Bearded Irises Section, which was TB 'Morning Reveille' grown and entered by Tiffany Sheridan.

Roger Abel produced the Best Bi-Color with TB 'Wild Prairie Sunset,' while the Best Gold, TB SA 'Glitter Gulch,' was grown by Pat Byrne.

Stephanie Sheridan won an AIS Special Award Ribbon for the Best Bi-Tone, a TB named 'Tobacco Chew', which also took the award for Best Texas Hybrid

The Best Orange was TB 'Orange Celebrity' grown by Marney Abel, who also brought the best Pink, TB 'Elegant Girl'.

The Freemans graced the Head Table with three Special Award Ribbon winners:

Best Amoena & Multi-Color – TB 'Stir It Up'

Best Yellow – TB 'Notta Lemon'

Best Brown – TB 'Rustler'

And Donna Little rounded out the Head Table with these winners:

Best Blue – TB 'Victoria Falls'

Best Plicata – 'Cherokee Heritage'

Best Purple – TB 'Phantom Mist'

In Division IV, the Artistic Design division, there was an abundance of beautiful flowers shown.

The Best Design of Show award went to Pat Freeman for her 'Gospel Under the Tent' entry in the Religious Class.

Pat also won the Artistic Sweepstakes by winning another blue ribbon for her elephant full of iris in the center ring in the Designer's Choice Class.

Other blue ribbon winners for Artistic Design were Lori Anderson for her Elephant Family Sideshow design entered in Class 3 – Two Containers; and Nelda Moore for her entry in Class 5 – Table for Two.

The Fan Favorite award given to the horticulture entry voted on by the public went to TB 'Morning Reveille' entered by Tiffany Sheridan.

And huge thanks go to Shelia Senghas, Ellen Singleton and Lori Anderson and anyone else who took home leftovers from the last September's Rhizome Sale and potted and cared for those plants over the winter. Revenue from potted iris sales totaled \$242.00.

## last meeting's minutes >>

Iris Society of Austin Meeting  
Tuesday March 11, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President, Pat Byrne. The minutes from the last meeting and Treasurers Report were approved.

Marney Abel gave the AAGC Council Report. Preparations are under way for the 2014 Zilker Garden Festival March 29 and 30. ISA members are encouraged to volunteer for water sales and the front gate. Parking passes and tickets were handed out.

The Theme for the April 12th 2014 Austin Iris Show is "Circus Under the Big Top". There will not be another meeting before the show. Let Pat Freeman know if you plan to enter a design in the show. Tracey is also planning the lunch catering and needs to know if you plan to eat with us. The cost is \$10. The day of the show, be sure to have all your horticulture and design entries submitted between 7:30AM and 9:45AM.

A motion was made by Ellen Singleton to offer potted rhizomes for sale at a table during the show. Jaime Hadley seconded and the motion was approved.

The current office holders were all presented as nominees for the proposal of next year's office holders. There was a discussion to open the nominations from the floor and no other nominations were made. As such, a motion was made to approve the proposed officers as they are currently, by proclamation. This motion passed.

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# New Officers

## To be installed at May meeting

Your officers who will serve from June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2015 are:

President.....Pat Byrne ..... patb1@consolidated.net..... 281-391-6190  
VP Programs ..... Ken Fuchs ..... kenfuchs42@hotmail.com ... 254-773-5017  
VP Membership.....Jaime Hadley ..... jaime@hadleyspace.com .... 512-335-9812  
Secretary .....Dara Smith ..... desmith@austin.rr.com..... 512-454-1430  
Treasurer ..... Marney Abel.....marneyabel@austin.rr.com... 512-330-9052  
Historian/Librarian .... Tracey Rogers ..... rogers89@earthlink.net ..... 512-280-4856



minutes continued >>

2014 AIS Convention will be April 5-10 in Dallas, TX

2014 Society for Louisiana Irises Convention will be April 3-5 in New Orleans, LA

The program presented was “A trip down memory lane” about the National Convention that the Austin Iris Society hosted in 2008. Then a hilarious montage of irisarians in ridiculous videos played for the “blooper” reel!! Thanks, Ken!

*submitted by Dara E Smith, Secretary*

## Region 17 Convention Continued...

Registration for the Region 17 Convention will be held Friday, August 22, from 3 until 6:30pm while the Welcome Dinner and Fun will begin at 7pm.

On Saturday Judges Training will be taught from 8:30 until 10:30am, and the topic is Exhibition Judging Classes of Iris other than Tall Bearded.

From 11-noon there is an optional tour to the Amarillo Botanical Gardens, and everyone will be on their own for lunch from Noon to 1pm.

At 1pm the Region 17 Business Meeting will begin followed by the Rhizome Auction around 2:45pm.

The Saturday night banquet begins at 7pm after a cash bar cocktail hour. Craig Edwards from Blue J Iris will be the keynote speaker, with a program on Space Age Innovations and More!

Dawn Boyer, Region 17 Vice President, paints Amarillo as an exciting place to visit with so much to offer. The Amarillo Coin and Currency Show will be in Civic Center the same weekend, the Texas Air and Space Museum is always interesting, or visit the Amarillo Museum of Art, Wonderland Amusement Park, Amarillo Little Theatre and Opera. Then there is the Grand Canyon of Texas called Palo Duro about 20 miles southeast of Amarillo near Canyon, TX.



*clockwise from top left:*

**Linda Neudek** with her 2014 artistic design  
**Pat Freeman's** Best Design of Show  
**Debbie Hood's** best Specimen 'Silverado'