

## in this issue >>>

- Show Recap
- Convention Updates
- TBIS News
- March Meeting Minutes

April 2013 — vol 22 #4



A Monthly Newsletter of the Iris Society of Austin

# IRIS AUSTIN



## next ISA meeting >>>

Iris Society of Austin Meeting  
**Tuesday April 9, 2013**  
**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
- Multi-Sensory Experience of the 2013 Iris Show

## next AAGC meeting >>>

Austin Area Garden Council Meeting  
**Tuesday April 9, 2013**  
**10:00 am**

Zilker Garden Center  
Nelda Moore – ISA representative

## upcoming events >>>

Apr 13 – Ft Worth Iris Show

Apr 15-20, 2013 – AIS Nat'l Conv

Apr 17 – Dallas Iris Show

Apr 21-23, 2013 – LA Iris Conv

May 14, 2013 – ISA Meeting  
June 11, 2013 – ISA Meeting  
July 9, 2013 – ISA Meeting

## Austin Iris Show

### *Freemans take the Silver Medal again*

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 "Jewels of the Earth." Don and Pat Freeman achieved the highest award in this American Iris Society sanctioned event on the day before Easter by earning twelve blue ribbons in Division I. Stephanie Sheridan won the Bronze Medal Certificate for earning the second highest number of blue ribbons with four.

Don & Pat Freeman also grew the Best Specimen of the Show this year, an iris named 'Different Take,' which was also named, Best Tall-Bearded Iris of the show, and best Texas Hybrid.

The Runner-Up was 'Casino Cruiser,' also entered by the Freemans, which won a Best of Section ribbon for the Space-Age Irises as well.

The Best of Section award for the Historic Irises went to 'Ida Red' shown by Tony & Tiffany Sheridan; this specimen was also named Best Red Iris.

The Best of Section award for the Other Irises (this year made up of Dutch and Louisiana Iris) went to 'Miss Saigon' a Dutch Iris shown by Stephanie Sheridan.

It was very interesting this year to have as many Dutch Iris entered as Louisianas, and no Spurias at all. This is no doubt due to the early date of our show. Perhaps our Louisianas and Spurias will be blooming for the Dallas Iris Society's show to be held during National Convention.

Donna Little produced the Best Plicata with 'Hemstitched,' while the Best Bi-Color, 'Coffee Whispers,' was grown by Marney Abel.

Dara Smith won an AIS Special Award Ribbon for the Best Purple named 'Night Moves.' The Best Violet was 'Recurring Dream' grown by Marney Abel.

The Freemans filled out the rest of the Head Table with the following Special Award Ribbon winners:

Best Blend - 'Talk Show Mania'  
Best Multi-Color - Peaches & Wine'

*continued on page 2*

# Show Artistic Awards

*continued from page 1*

Best Blue – ‘Stand in Awe’  
Best Bi-Tone – ‘Pieces of April’  
Best Yellow – ‘Glitter Gulch’  
Best White – ‘Tennison’s Ridge’  
Best Amoena – ‘Braggin Rights’  
Best Pink – ‘Dazzling Sarah’

In Division IV, the Artistic Design division, there was an abundance of beautiful flowers shown. Several members were heard remarking that this was the best spread of Artistic Designs we had

seen in a while.

The Best Design of Show award went to Pat Freeman, whose birds are the jewels of her garden, interpreted in the Designer’s Choice class.

Sonja Hensley won the Artistic Sweepstakes by earning two blue ribbons, one for her bouquet of iris and columbine in the Mass Design Class, and one for her beautiful purple and gold themed Table for Two with a hint of parsley.

Other blue ribbon winners for Artistic Design were Lori Anderson

for her Sparkles of Beauty design entered in Class 1 – Novice; and Jaime Hadley for his spherical design entered in Class 4 – Small Designs.

Perhaps the most commented on design of the show was the red-ribbon-winning design by Ken Fuchs in the Designer’s Choice class, which he aptly titled, “The Family Jewels”. And another eye-catcher was the small design served on a square plate by Tracey Beyoncé Rogers.

## ais national convention updates >>>

The Iris Society of Austin will send a basket of items for the silent auction that will be held during the American Iris Society National Convention in Addison April 15-20. If you can provide an iris gift representing Austin or the Hill Country, please bring it to the meeting April 9. Marney Abel has sent several plant markers, iris glasses, and garden gloves. Nelda has two items from the Hill Country that are made in Wimberly and Buda.

If you are not going to drive to the convention, please bring a dozen or more of your favorite cookies to the April 9 meeting so that Nelda Moore can transport them to Addison on behalf of the club. Cookies brought in from all over Region 17 will feed hungry conventioners on busses full of iris joy.

Jim Landers thanks the club for the \$200 donation to produce a delightful little book that will be issued to National Convention attendees.

It may not be too late to register to attend the convention. Full registration cost as \$399, which includes Welcome and Awards banquets, garden tours, judges training, and a convention book. Contact Dell Perry immediately if you would like to attend but have not yet registered.

seandelirises@yahoo.com or 972-816-3418.

There will be a boutique at convention. If you have wares to sell, contact Diana Winship for a table at a nominal fee. Otherwise just plan to shop at some point while you are at the hotel.

Diana.winship@earthlink.net or 972-234-5742

## after show blooms? >>>

Are your irises still blooming? Is your show winning stalk just about to open? You still have a couple of chances to win the blue ribbons.

Saturday April 13 is the Fort Worth iris show, and Wednesday April 17 is the Dallas Iris Show.

If you are going to convention, be sure to bring a few choice blooms with you and turn them in from 8-9:30am Wed. morning for what will probably be the best attended iris show in Region 17 this season!

For the Dallas Show Schedule go to [irises-dallas.org](http://irises-dallas.org) and click the link for 2013 AIS Convention, then the link for Iris Show Schedule.

The Fort Worth show is in conjunction with Flowercade at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center. Contact chair Linda Smyser at 817-504-9831 or [lksmyser@charter.net](mailto:lksmyser@charter.net) for more info.

# TB Iris Society News

## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

The Tall Bearded Iris Society features iris hybridizers Tom Burseen, Chuck Chapman, Vincent Christopherson, Michael Sutton, and Jack Worel for 2013 as it introduces its fundraiser again. The total market value of TB irises 'Arro Reece,' 'Flash Flare,' 'Fresh Lemonade,' 'Cold Front,' and 'Cavewoman' this year would be \$245, but you can get this collection from the TBIS for just \$90, postage paid.

Thirty collections are reserved and your orders must be received prior to June 15, 2013. Orders must include a telephone number and e-mail address as well as the mailing address and zip code.

All orders will be shipped the first week of August via US Postal Service, Priority Mail. The payment for the order should be made out to TBIS Plant Sale and envelopes addressed to Helen Jones, Treasurer,

529 S 12th St, Clinton, OK 73601-4311. If paying by Visa or Master Card, make sure to include your credit card number and expiration date.

## MACHULAK ESTATE ITEMS

On pages 24-28 of Tall Talk Spring 2013 some of the Machulak Estate Items are published with their prices. Daughter Ramona has donated this vast collection of iris items from Walter and Audrey Machulak of Milwaukee. To see artifacts on line go to [www.tbisonline.com](http://www.tbisonline.com).

For additional information, contact Evan Underwood in Murfreesboro, TN. [machulakestate@aol.com](mailto:machulakestate@aol.com) or telephone (615) 403-3139. Payment for the items should be sent to TBIS Treasurer, Helen Jones, whose address is above.

## TBIS GENERAL MEETING

The TBIS General Meeting will be Wednesday, April 17, from 12:30 – 2pm during the National Convention in Addison.



above right – Lori Anderson and her blue ribbon entry in the Novice artistic class  
above left – Susan Flanagan chats with the judges around a spectacular breakfast buffet  
left – Apprentice show secretaries Dara E Smith and Shelia Senghas prepare to record winners names

## Iris Society of Austin Meeting Tuesday March 11, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President, Marney Abel. The minutes from the February 2013 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report was given by Pat Byrne.

Nelda Moore gave the AAGC Council Report. These fairie butterfly houses are now on display on the Escarpment Trail. The AIS has volunteered to sell water at the garden festival. Members were encouraged to sign-up for a time slot to sell water. \$1 from each entry to the festival will go to the City of Austin. There will be music in the Rose Garden and Garden talks. Parking passes will be available for volunteers. T-shirt pickup on Friday April 5 10a-noon. Enter your flowers for the Flower Show on Friday morning.

Horticulture Report: Don Freeman  
The blooms are just starting to show up and the show is only 2 weeks away. Try to protect your plants if you can from wind and cold. Good Luck!

Jaime Hadley gave the Show Report, going over the details for the designs and horticulture entries that will be included in our show. Shelia gave examples of containers and design ideas for the new "Small" category to inspire entrants.

The Nominating Committee presented officer nominations which are open to any member. Members will vote in

*continued on next page*

# Zilker Garden Festival

Thanks for all your hard work!

The Weekend of April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> might have been a great weekend for an Iris Show if it weren't for all the beautiful things on display all over Zilker Gardens as part of the annual Zilker Garden Festival. Several members entered irises or other cuttings or potted plants in the show that was part of the festival, as well as a few artistic flower designs. A brief stroll through the auditorium seemed to indicate that the Freemans may have taken away as many blue ribbons from the Festival Show as they did from the Iris Show. All their thumbs seem to be green, and we congratulate them on their

showing!

The Iris Society of Austin donated \$200 for bottled water for the Zilker Garden Festival. Stations were set up in the Rose Garden, at the Garden Center entrance, in the Speakers' Tent, and in the Herb Garden. Abundant gratitude goes out to those who volunteered time to sell water, including Marney Abel, Lori Anderson and friend Linda, D Boyle, Pat Byrne, Don Freeman, Pauline Guerrero and her grandson, Jaime Hadley, Donna Little, Nelda Moore, Kathy Petheram, Dara Smith and son Nicolas Sadler, and Tracey Rogers.

## meeting minutes cont'd >>

April for the upcoming year Executive Board members. Nominations are:  
President – Pat Byrne  
VP Programs – Ken Fuchs  
Treasurer – Marney Abel  
VP Membership – Jaime Hadley and Shelia Shengas  
Secretary – Dara E. Smith  
Librarian/Historian – Tracey Rogers

Special Thanks to Shelia and Lori for March hospitality set up and clean up.

*submitted by Dara E Smith, Secretary*

## did you know? >>>

Yellow flags or *Iris pseudacorus* is used in water purification when it is planted in a substrate or lava-stone in a reedbed-setup so that the roots of the iris can improve water quality by consuming nutrient pollutants from agricultural runoff.

## members on the move >>>

Best of luck to member Carolyn Gifford as she plans for a move to a new garden home at The Preserve at Mayfield Ranch around June. She is excitedly panning her new gardens and making room for drought-tolerant irises.



above left – Best Blue 'Stand in Awe'  
above right – small arrangement by Tracey Rogers  
right – Artistic Sweepstakes winner



Sonja Hensley shares irises with a bride visiting the show

left – Don & Pat Freeman beam with pride at their Best Specimen of Show, 'Different Take' and Runner Up, 'Casino Cruiser'

