July President’s Message ............... Anna Cadd

Someone visiting my garden mentioned that it looked really beautiful in March, April and May. It was full of daffodils, tulips, many flowering fruit trees, and of course, irises. I don’t grow a lot of median irises, but I have many early blooming arilbreds in spectacular colors. And, of course, tall bearded all over the garden in beds incorporated with flower beds, and a lot of spurias, some Siberians and pseudatas. Now, at the end of June, some rebloomers are getting “back to business,” and some pseudatas are still blooming. But it is getting “green” in the garden, with perennials barely surviving in the extreme drought and annuals almost dead. The garden is not colorful anymore, and the visitor called it “the spring garden.” I remember Schreiner’s iris garden, full of companion plants, mostly lupines and huge poppies. My new version of the garden will be to create perennial beds with dahlias, snapdragons, penstemons, daisies, rock roses, hydrangeas in shaded areas, and some native plants. Now, it is time to cut bloom stalks from the clumps so they will not take energy from the rhizomes, weed the nasty spurge, oxalis, plantains and grasses, and groom the rebloomers! Let’s create summer and fall gardens full of flowers for ourselves, the butterflies, and our neighbors.
1. Hopefully you have already applied fertilizer to your irises. Remember, they will do better with deep watering on a less frequent basis than frequent shallow watering.

2. Of course, you’ve been pulling weeds, removing diseased or brown iris leaves, and trimming away leaves with leaf spot. That is a never-ending process! Throw diseased portions in the garbage, not the compost bin. Leave healthy green foliage undisturbed.

3. Think about dividing overcrowded clumps. Save the best three rhizomes for replanting and any leftovers you might consider for our upcoming sale. You may need to delay digging until it is closer to our rhizome sale.

4. Before replanting, amend the soil. You may want to allow the area you select to mellow for a week before planting. Irises can remain out of the ground for 3-4 months, but you must keep them in a cool, dry place until you are ready. If the rhizomes look really dry, soak them in a bucket of water for 6-8 hours before replanting. But the best advice - replant as soon as possible.

5. When planting, be sure to label with a water-proof tag and marker. Sometimes animals may come into your yard and move the tags, so create a map of your garden to help identify the iris in case the tag disappears. This happens more than you’d like to believe!

Something to Look Forward To........

**2022 Fall Regional : October 7 - 8: to be hosted by Leo T. Clark and Shasta Iris Societies - at the Doubletree by Hilton, Chico**

**2023 Spring Regional, May 12 - 14: hosted by Yosemite Iris Society in Oakhurst, CA visiting Kanarowski Gardens and Gonzalez Iris Garden, Ahwahnee, CA**
2022 SRIS Dates . . . . . .

Monday, July 11: Noon at LBA&GC - Even though we had a great show in May, we will discuss any suggestions or ideas you have to make our show even better for next year. While the show is fresh in your mind, do we need to clarify rules, modify the program, increase hours for setting up, change the length of the show, or need more help in certain areas of the show? Bring your ideas!!

Monday, August 8: Noon at LBA&GC

Monday, September 12: TBA

Keeping in Touch - Update .......

Nancy Fortner, as of June 20 -

“Thanks for checking in. I'm doing ok. Recovery from surgery was intense, but I'm able to get around pretty well now. Adjusting to the changes in vision due to loss of eye, but I think that will improve with time. Starting 6 weeks of radiation this week to make sure of no lingering cancer cells. Two women who I met at a SRIS rhizome sale have become very close friends and they came by last week to deadhead my iris and roses. Spending part of every day in the garden, along with Ernie, aka Orange Kitty.”

Rudy Ciuca, as of June 19 -

Rudy is still recovering from his fall in May. His face has healed, but he still has pain in his neck, shoulder, and left side. He is sleeping in his recliner where he is more comfortable at night than in his bed. Rudy is doing more painting in his studio, which serves as a welcomed distraction.
From Lynn Williams - June 18 ..............................

“As some of you know, I have underlying health issues being Type 1 Diabetic and acute lung issues (tend to easily get infections in lungs and bronchial areas), so I have been pretty careful about masking up and practicing social distancing and testing a lot. I have had 2 vaccines, plus both booster shots. The first time I got COVID, the Delta variant, and I have no idea where I was exposed, I had a very mild case - I ran a fever for 5 days, and mild congestion. This last time I got COVID (the latest variant), I ran into Safeway to pick up my insulin prescription, and while waiting in line, a man behind me started coughing. I suddenly realized I had forgotten my mask. Since he wasn't standing directly behind me, but 2 down, I thought, I'll be alright. Well, that wasn't the case. 3 days later on Tuesday, June 7th, late morning I started running a fever. I thought I had a bad cold type virus because I also had congestion. By Wednesday morning, I knew it wasn't a bad cold, so I tested, which tested positive. I called my doc and he returned my call after 5 pm that day and prescribed Paxlovid, because it was in the first 48 hours of symptoms. For me the side effects of the meds was a very nasty metallic taste in my mouth and the last couple of days I became a little light headed and a little nauseated. All in all a small price to pay for a medicine that kept my lungs free of congestion and me out of the hospital. I have been very sick running a fever between 100 and 101 for most of the time and have had head congestion since. I can only imagine how much sicker I'd be, if I hadn't called my doctor in the first 2 days and gotten the prescription. I have started improving, though I'm still very weak. Yesterday my temp broke, but returned last evening. This morning my temp was normal. The doc says, if I go 2 days in a row without a fever, I can then test again. If I test negative, then I can start being in public as long as I continue to mask and practice social distancing. The only thing I can say is that this COVID is very lethal. It only takes one brief exposure (I was in Safeway for only about 15 minutes) and it is worse than any flu I've ever had. If you haven't had your vaccine, don't hesitate to get one. I'm sure it would have killed me, if I hadn't been vaccinated.”

From MBIS, June newsletter - Craig Tarr - President’s message ..............................

“…..Although the pandemic seems to be lessening, our last MBIS meeting seemed to be the place that seven or eight of our members contracted COVID. Several others, including myself had similar symptoms but tested negative. Karin took two negative tests and then a positive one and was positive again several days later. We have been housebound for two weeks now and giving the pets more attention than they deserve. I am very surprised that such a large percentage of people at the meeting got ill. I have not been nearly as vigilant lately and have let my guard down. Please remember to stay safe. It seems we are not out of the woods yet. On a positive note, many of us now have partial immunity for several months…… ”
We know everyone loves celebrating the 4th of July, but are you also celebrating these special days in July?

- July 3  National stay out of the sun day
- July 6  National fried chicken day
- July 7  World chocolate day
- July 10 National kitten day
- July 12 Cow appreciation day
- July 13 National French Fry day
- July 14 Pandemonium day
- July 14 National mac & cheese day
- July 15 National give something away day
- July 17 National ice cream day
- July 21 National junk food day
- July 22 National hammock day
- July 24 National drive-through day
- July 27 National crème brûlée day
- July 30 National cheesecake day

Diana Ford receiving an AIS Exhibition Certificate for her Best Seedling, #139MBM6, shown at our Spring show.

Since we all want our efforts to be recognized at future shows, maybe we should consider adding the following classes and awards to our show program. We all can be winners!

- Professor of Entomology Award - for most livestock displayed
- FBI's CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) Award - for most fingerprints
- Edward Scissorhands Award - for most obvious trimming
- The Machu Picchu Award - for staging irises too high
- The Sticky Notes Award - for using too much Crazy Glue® and rubber cement
- Sleepy Head Award - for coming with your entries 15 minutes before the show starts
- Back to School Award - for putting the stalk in the wrong class
- Lost in Space Award - for forgetting how to fill out the entry tags properly
- Backward Glance Award - for facing stalk the wrong way
The Iris Society of Dallas
Knows how to put on a good time.

Come next year to a new location, Grapevine, Texas, for the American Iris Society Convention 2023. This town is historic and has been rebuilt in that fashion. It also has a yearly wine festival so there’s plenty of wine to enjoy year-round. Finally, Grapevine has a nice Botanical Garden to visit.

Tour Garden - Hooker and Bonnie J Nichols

New, very large garden in East Texas. They grow, hybridize, and sell many types of irises. Basically, a dream garden.

Tour Garden - Michael and Mary Ellen Reed

A Suburban sized garden beautifully designed. Along with irises, especially Tall Bearded, they grow daylilies, southern bulbs, and other plants. The Reeds also have a vegetable garden.

Tour Garden - Dell Perry

While Dell grows all types of irises including Japanese and Arlils. She is our Median "Queen" as she won Best in Show at both FWIS and ISD 2021 shows with median iris.

Events

- Bearded Iris Panel Discussion
- Beardless Iris Panel Discussion
- Geek Live Auction
- Silent Auction
- Representatives from most American Iris Society Groups

Contact Information:

Convention Chair
Bonnie J Nichols
www.irises-dallas.org

Courtyard By Marriott
Grapevine, Texas

Rooms for Iris Convention Attendees cost $139.00 per night for single or double. Contact: Courtyard by Marriott directly at (817) 251-9095 or (888) 236-2427 and ask for IRIS SOCIETY of DALLAS rate. Online booking: https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1648064935535&key=GRP

Hotel Services:

- Shuttle to DFW Airport
- Café
- Small Dogs Allowed
- Outdoor Pool

Full Registration including 2 days of iris garden tours, 2 lunches, Welcome Banquet, Awards Brunch, & Convention materials $349

- Bus Tours only (including 2 lunches and Convention materials) $275
- Welcome Dinner & Awards Brunch only $100

Geek Luncheon $50
Luncheon & Live Auction benefiting AIDS Electronic Services

Tour Garden - Connie Ford

Lake Front Property with Louisiana's, Species and Species X as well as Guest Irises.

Tour Garden – Judy and Dale Schneider

Their garden is my fantasy in full display. Judy tends the garden, her farm animals, and her cluster of Frenchie's. She designs and plants the garden, then her husband, a true craftsman, constructs the features.

Larg growing area at Judy’s above. Garden area with Louisiana’s in containers below.
THE FINAL Door Prize Drawing for this year -
Those of you who attend the July 11th meeting will select your iris there. Those of you who do not attend the meeting will have a choice of what remains. I will send out an email after the meeting to inform you of what irises are remaining to select. Please email me with your top 5 selections, in order of preference, by noon **July 15th**. If your choices have already been selected, a random item from the list will be substituted. Let me know if you would rather receive no prize than a substitution. If door prize rhizomes need to be mailed, you must be willing to pay the postage.

**BIG FLIRT** (Johnson/2021) 36” M; S. flesh pink with light veining; F. deep grape purple with white spray around beard and light lavender marginal band; B. orange tipped lt. lavender.

**BITTY BEAUTY - MDB** (Schreiner/ 2020) 7.5” E; S. white; F. purple edged white; B. yellow

**BOUNDLESS BEAUTY** (Tasco/2019) 37” M; S. coral pink; F. pale silvery lavender center, wide band of cyclamen purple; B. burnt tangerine

**CARAMEL CHOCOLATE SUNDAE - BB** (Black/2019) 26” E-M; S. mid auburn flushed darker with khaki edge; F. dark red-brown, mid gold around beard veined re-brown; B. mid marigold

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION** (Ford/2019) 35” E; S. white brushed with med. yellow at midribs and yellow veining; F. dark maroon with pale edge and dark wire, maroon lines and yellow flash around beards; B. yellow tipped orange

**DEBONAIR BEAR - SBD** (Black/2020) 15.5” M-L; S. mid straw; F. dark ruby center with lighter center streak blend outward to wide buff band washed rose

**DOWNSTREAM - FLATTIE** (Schreiner/2021) 36” L; S. & F. light blue; B. white, tips yellow

**EYES OF AN ANGEL** (Johnson/2021) 35’ L; S. pink; F. white with pink band; B. powder blue

**FASHION EVENT** (Keppel/2020) 38” M; S. violet; F. peach cream deeper at edge; B. coral tangerine

**GROUP HUG - IB** (Keppel/2021) 24” M; S. dark purple; F. white with dark prune-purple band, few dots and faint midline; B. pale yellow tipped brown in throat, middle white, ends dark blue.

**HEY LOOK ME OVER** (Black/2021) 31” E-M; S. bright mid gold; F. mid-dark mahogany with a wide lighter tan gold blended band; B. marigold.

**MY PRETTY** (Johnson/2021) 34” L; S ivory, blue cast, deep pink center spot; F. light blue-pink and ivory blend, deep pink thumbprint on hafts; B. orange in throat and middle, blue-white ends.

**OFF THE SHOULDER** (Schreiner/2019) 35”, L; S. white; F. red-purple, white zonal spot and edges; B. blue

**OLDIE GOLDIE** (Schreiner/2020) 37” E; dusty gold self; B. orange gold

**PARTY CITY** (Johnson/2020) 32” E; S. blend of golden-orange and salmon; F. orange ground overlaid with deep wide red violet lines, encircled with an orange band; B. orange/salmon

**PERFECT BALANCE - SDB** (Johnson/2020) 13” M; S. rosy purple plicata on white group; B. light lavender with deep lavender hair tips

**POETRY IN BLOOM** (A. Cadd/2021) 42” VE; S. It. creamy yellow, darker at base, delicate light-brown lines; F. white base, reddish purple plicata, 3 distinctive dk. purple lines in center and small lines on falls, darker purple at end of falls, densely dotted between lines; B. white, tipped yellow

**ROYAL ACADEMY** (Keppel/2021) 39” M; S. fluorite violet; F. vatican purple; B. dk. concord

**STELLALUNA - MDB** (Schreiner/2020) 7” E; S. tan; F. deep copper, tan edge; B. blue

**YOU’RE SO VEINED** (Tasco/2020) 35” EM; aster violet self, white ground around and below beard, heavily
Minutes - June 13th, Noon at LBA&GC… Anna Marie Hermansen

Attendees: Betty Ford, Kitty Loberg, Marlene Horn, Steve Albert, Linnea Polo, Cheryl Bryan, Denise Plummer, Diana Ford, Anna Cadd, Jeff Davis, and Anna Marie Hermansen.

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm by Anna Cadd. She welcomed new member Denise Plummer. Treasurer’s report was given.

Anna Cadd then began a power point presentation of her pictures from the 2022 AIS National Convention in New Mexico. Diana Ford finally received her award for Centennial Celebration.

The business meeting began with Anna reporting that we now have 41 members including 4 new members. At our July meeting we will present awards from our spring show. Jeff will show some pictures from the Spring Regional in Union City and Anna will present pictures from our show.

Jeff Davis, Spring show chairman, brought to our attention that he received a letter from a member that an entry in our show had been in violation of the rules. The show committee had met earlier, on June 10 via Zoom, to discuss how to proceed. Since this entry was in violation of AIS rules, it needed to be disqualified. Another entry arose that was also in question. A discussion ensued as to what to do. Do we have the authority to disqualify entries after the judges leave, is the judges decision final, can we move runner up best of show to best of show? A suggestion was made to contact AIS and ask for assistance with these matters, since something like this has never occurred for our chapter.

Editor’s Note: As of June 23 - Members of the Executive Committee met on June 17 via Zoom. The issues were again discussed. AIS (Bonnie Nichols from Lois Rose) had been contacted, but we have had no response yet as to how to handle our show issues.

For a few laughs!

Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road is paved with flat squirrels who couldn’t make a decision.

“The starting pay is $40,000. Later it can go up to $80,000.”
“Great, I’ll start later.”

Tip: Save business cards of people you don’t like. If you ever hit a parked car accidentally, just write, “Sorry” on the back and leave it on the windshield.

Just once, I want the username and password prompt to say, “Close enough.”

Thanks to the following people for contributions to the newsletter …
Nancy Fortner, Rudy Ciuca, Lynn Williams, Craig Tarr (MBIS newsletter), Kathy McCallum, and Anna Cadd

August Newsletter Deadline - July 20th