

PRESCOTT AREA IRIS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

You Can Be A Star!!

Bonnie Sekenske, my new newsletter assistant, came up with the great idea of having a garden of the month photo in our newsletters. Each month we will include photos of member gardens to inspire us all. This month's masthead photo is from Bonnie's garden. So don't be bashful send your photos along with a description to bssekenske@gmail.com.



Garden of the Month

Presidents Message

New Years Greetings to All,

2013 is over! With 2014 beginning we now have a new Board for PAIS. I would like to thank our outgoing 2013 Board members Sharon Phelps (treasurer) and Bonnie Sekenske (Sculpture Garden) for their dedication and hard work for the accomplishments PAIS had last year. Sharon Phelps has been on our board for many years in numerous positions and has guided our Board on financial issues for the past two years. Bonnie's diligent work on the Sculpture Garden in its maintenance and expansion has been terrific. Each has contributed to the success of PAIS and we thank them. I would also like to welcome our new board members Susie Otter (treasurer), Dede Erceg (Sculpture Garden) and Sue Crabtree (Director at Large). Each of them is new to PAIS and board membership. We are excited to have them with us to share new ideas and their excitement and energy.

Our continuing Board members are Dennis Luebkin, Sharon Luebkin, Stan Book, Judy Book, Barb McCurry, and Kathleen Shaffer. Their knowledge will be invaluable. For a full overview of your new Board, Committees Heads and other positions see the listings contained in our new membership handbook which will be available to all members at the February 15 General Meeting. This will be a great meeting with wonderful topics and games. We have some coordinator and event positions which have not yet been filled. If you would like to volunteer for any of the open positions or assist with any events please sign up at the Feb 15 meeting, contact a board member or any chairperson of the committees indicated. We can use your help. The silent auction/photo contest co-chairs positions are still open. and we have an instructional manual to guide you through the planning process. Corral another member and signup for this fun event.

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2014 Calendar of Events

February 15	General Meeting
March 13-14	Sculpture Garden Clean Up
April 18-19	Region 15 Spring Trek
April 26	General Meeting
May 2	OLLI Lecture #1
May 3	Historic Iris Planting
May 7-8	Sculpture Garden Clean Up
May 9	OLLI Lecture #2
May 10	Garden Tour/Progressive Meal
May 16	Iris Exhibit Set Up
May 17	OLLI Lecture #3 at exhibit
May 17	Spring Iris Exhibit

Notices

- **Our first ever club handbook will be available at the Feb. 15 meeting.**
- **When you receive your handbook be sure to check out the committee list to see what you signed up for. All members should help with at least one event.**

President's message cont'd.

Our joint Transition Board Meeting of the 2013 and the new 2014 Boards was wonderful having social time, sharing ideas and making it through a lengthy agenda of both old 2013 closeout business and opening new business for 2014. The year 2014 presents itself as an exciting year with activities, and social events throughout the year. I would like to encourage all members to become active and participate in these activities. Participation is what makes PAIS a strong organization in the greater Prescott community. I would also like to thank all those in the general membership who participated in the programs and activities of PAIS last year. For those who did not have an opportunity to participate last year, both the board and the community look forward to your participation this year in some of the exciting events to support both PAIS and our programs. Our sales will support our community outreach programs for the Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Gardens, Yavapai College Sculpture Garden, the Citizens Cemetery program and our evolving interface with lectures, educational and horticultural programs at Yavapai College, Prescott College and the public/private elementary school system. You can find out more about our events, activities, schedules and community outreach programs on our new website <http://prescottirissociety.org> . We look forward to each of our members volunteering their time and talents to PAIS programs, events, activities and fund raising sales to make these programs successful. Join us!! We have much to accomplish so roll up your sleeves, expand your friendships in the group, enjoy the social times, bring friends to the meetings, learn, share your knowledge, ask questions and above all let's have fun doing it.

Best regards,
Dennis Luebkin

February 15 Meeting

Birds in the Garden will be presented by Eric Moore, owner of Jay's Bird Barn. He is a life long birder, active member of the local Audubon Society.

Dennis Luebkin, will present a segment on preparing our gardens for spring, including clean up, prep and fertilizing irises.

Game time! "white elephants", Bring a new or like new item to swap. Please bring one wrapped item for the game. You might want to include a gift tag which gives a hint as to what the package might contain; such as, "for the gardener", "for the chef", etc.

See you Saturday,
February 15, 1:30 pm
at Yavapai Title.



New Board Members



Susie Otter - Treasurer

I moved to Prescott from Mesa in 2007 with my husband Kevin. His family was heavily into iris and my love of flowers grew as I enjoyed the milder, mountain climate. After working the Sharlot Hall Museum rhizome sale last summer, I met new people and grew to enjoy the club members and their desire to spread the "iris virus". I am looking forward to working with the board this year and getting to know more club members.

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New Board Members Cont'd.

Sue Crabtree—Director at Large



I am a novice in the field of irises. Growing up in northern Minnesota, I liked the deep purple color of Mom's iris that sprang up after the snowy winters. After college and a bit of teaching in Minnesota, then moving to warmer AZ and meeting my husband, Jack, we moved to Littleton, CO with Martin Marietta. We had a bunch of overgrown irises along our fence that clogged my sinuses each time I passed them. So, I eventually pulled them all out and it looked so clean and fresh without those scents. When early retirement time came along, we bought our land in Prescott in 2003, then had our home built and moved in during May of 2004. What a find Prescott was - not as cold as MN, not as hot as Phoenix - but just right.

While I was learning the area around our home, I came across an ad for an iris show at Mortimers. Wow, talk about sensory overload! I could not believe all the various colors of these flowers - and they had names too. I asked if these were sold here at Mortimers, and was told 'oh no, these are award winners'. So, I opened my mind to the world of iris and then attended a pot-luck at Barry Golden's. I was astounded by his large field of cultivated irises. Since I was curious about the names -

my first iris was called Bumblebee Delite. (When my sister and I would visit our Grandma, guess I was a bit more noisy than she was and my grandpa would call us butterfly and bumblebee). Next came a beautiful silver colored iris called "Uncle Charley". (Of course he was one of my favorite uncles, and I'm still looking for a Napoleon).

Next step in my iris instruction was to visit the "Hummingbird Gardens" and after seeing all the cultivation in raised beds, etc. I was hooked. Attending the club meetings gave me a so much information about the iris that I almost got overwhelmed - these were all professional growers, I thought. The gardens we visited were so orderly and plentiful. My few plants were just here and there among all the rocks of a high desert landscape. I dropped out of the PAIS for a few years and just continued to add a few irises at a time. Then, my irises needed to be divided and I coincidentally bumped into Judy Book at the post office. I asked when the Sharlot Hall Museum sale was so I could donate some of my extras. She invited me to the marking party at Luebkins - and I was "re-hooked". The camaraderie there put a smile on my face and when Sharon told me about the new classroom project, I knew I could serve in my small way. Now, I'm looking forward to this years' program and putting a light in some students' faces as they try their hand at becoming a fan of the iris.

Dede Erceg—Sculpture Garden Chair

Since 1984 I have enjoyed living in the Prescott area with my husband John. I have two beautiful daughters, Angela and Heather, and a spunky Jack Russell named Rainy.

I have been gardening since I was a toddler with my grandfather in his back yard. I love houseplants, bulbs, and vegetable gardens. I am a master gardener and also belong to the Alta Vista Garden Club. My love of gardening inspired the name of my real estate company, Garden Brook Realty. My other hobbies are camping, hiking, and quilting





Memorial Garden for Prescott's Hot Shots

As everyone knows Prescott lost 19 courageous young men in a devastating wildfire last June.

PAIS plans to remember them and the lone surviving hero at the Yavapai College Sculpture Garden with a plaque and at least 20 irises named appropriately e.g. Super Hero, Warrior King., Role Model.

If you have any of the rhizomes listed below and are willing to donate them to the memorial garden, please contact Dede Erceg, Sculpture Garden Chair, at GardenBrookRealty@gmail.com.

The following rhizomes are needed:

- Guardian Angel*
- Great Balls of Fire*
- Heaven and Earth*
- Living on the Edge*
- Rare Quality*
- Standing Proud*
- Team Spirit*

Community Outreach – Education

Our education outreach committee is eager to teach more children, grades K-4 about iris and would like your recommendations for additional schools which might be willing to have their students introduced to something new. Public, charter or private schools have all found the program exciting and we would like to continue to spread the "iris virus". Contact Sharon Luebkin (623-628-4860) with your suggestions.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- Jan 1 Barbara Mc Landress
- Jan 9 Sandra Hennigan
- Jan 11 Kathleen Shaffer
- Jan 17 Dan Schroeder
- Feb 1 Candis Peters
- Feb 3 Joseph Meinholz
- Feb 14 Audrey Velonis
- Feb 20 Jacki Hardy



PRESCOTT AREA IRIS SOCIETY TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY FOR 2013

Beginning balance checking account & cash box \$3,161.11

INCOME

Membership Dues:	565.00
Refunds:	119.56
Retail Sales (markers, books, postcards, aprons, etc)	635.00
Region 15 proceeds(iris-2012 "guest iris"later -50% net ret.to Reg15)	1,096.00
Region 15 Auction proceeds iris '13 pots	517.85
Rhizome Sales:member iris sales	7,467.65
donation popcorn/drinks Iris show	24.00
donation from Verde Valley iris club on their disolution	379.53
unknow source, to balance to iris show income	3.00
Vendor sales (20% of their sales returned to PAIS-see expenses)	36.50
TOTAL INCOME	\$10,844.09

EXPENSES

AIS PAIS affiliation & dues for Exec. Board*\$10 reimbursed PAIS for non-board	\$110.00
AIS iris culture booklets for resale	\$164.00
*Community Service-classroom, Sharlot Hall Museum, Citizens cemetery	\$469.83
Donation to "Friends of YC Art"- 1 yr membership	\$50.00
dues refund (members)-overpayment for 1/2 yr. membership	\$43.50
FALL TREK 2015 EXPENSES-deposit Hassyampa	\$300.00
Gifts/donations: Dan Schroeder	\$200.00
mail box rental	\$118.00
meeting/program expenses-supplies, food, restaurant/speakers	\$38.45
newsletter (printing & postage)	\$115.21
Office supplies/Admin. Costs (incl.gen'l postage) many costs donated	\$381.28
PAIS supplies:20 embroid/PAIS logo aprons	\$440.00
plant markers purch. For resale	\$301.53
Region 15 sale of rhizomes, amout to be return after-potting costs	\$548.00
Region 15 auction/ice cream social incl.\$492.06 to Reg. 15	\$650.85
rhizome sale expenses inclu.don.to Sharlot Hall M.	\$645.11
rhizome sale expenses potting iris for 2014 sales	\$123.48
Savings deposit	\$1,800.00
Sculpture garden new beds created, fertilizer, mulch, plant markers	\$681.01
Spring Iris Exhibit expenses-non judged	\$759.99
Storage unit rental	\$605.00
Travel expenses for board Region 15 Fall & Spring Treks	\$965.54
Vendor sales portion returned	\$29.20
web site new host \$500, setup \$500	\$1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$10,539.98

CHECKING ACCOUNT & PETTY CASH BALANCE 12/31/2013	\$3,479.42
PAIS SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE 12/31/2013	\$6,808.70
TOTAL PAIS BANK ACCOUNTS & PETTY CASH 12/31/2013	\$10,288.12

Please note that the budget is proposed for 6 month intervals because most of our income is generated in the second half of the year.

PAIS Proposed 2014 budget committee 12/04/2013		Proposed budget '14	Proposed budget '14	tot. proposed budget 2014
actual carry over is \$3378.87		<i>Jan-June</i>	<i>July-Dec</i>	
Est. carryover 1/1/2014 (check & cash-on-hand) not savings		3,800.00	2,573.00	
Membership- dues		300.00	300.00	600.00
Retail Sales-markers, culture books, etc		200.00	300.00	500.00
Rhizome Sales: all member-related iris sales		1,200.00	3,812.00	5,012.00
Rhizome Sales - all Region 15 related sales (potted 2013 leftovers +2014 new-auction)		360.00	1,000.00	1,360.00
Vendor sales-refreshments & member sales		130.00	20.00	150.00
income for period		2,190.00	5,432.00	7,622.00
TOTAL EXPECTED INCOME +carry over		5,990.00	8,005.00	
AIS dues for executive officers. Fixed			-100.00	-100.00
Auction-ice cream social			-100.00	-100.00
Community Service/Ed: classroom, Sharlot HM, cemetery		-300.00	-395.00	-695.00
Cultural booklets (AIS)			-82.00	-82.00
Fall Trek 2015		-100.00	-100.00	-200.00
Gifts/donations-"Friends of YC"			-50.00	-50.00
Mail Box rental- fixed expense			-114.00	-114.00
Meeting & Program expenses (restaurants, speakers), refreshments, etc		-100.00	-100.00	-200.00
Newsletter- mailing costs for 6 members		-75.00	-75.00	-150.00
Office Supplies & Admin. Incl. gen'l postage		-150.00	-200.00	-350.00
Plant markers for gen'l sale/1,000 ea.		-277.00		-277.00
Region 15 affiliate fee- fixed expense			-25.00	-25.00
Region 15 all related sales: auction, potted, etc. 100% returned		-360.00	-640.00	-1,000.00
Rhizome sale expense (all expenses, inc. Sharlot Hall Museum rental)			-725.00	-725.00
Rhizome sale expenses-potting for 2014&15 sale			-125.00	-125.00
Savings deposit			to be re-viewed year-end	0.00
Sculpture Garden expenses (fertilizer, mulch, labor, rhizomes, etc)		-200.00	-474.00	-674.00
Spring Iris Show- non juried		-700.00		-700.00
Storage unit rental- fixed expense		-605.00		-605.00
Travel expenses-Board Fall & Spring Treks-Exec. board member(s)		-400.00	-400.00	-800.00
Vendor sales, refreshments & member sales		-150.00		-150.00
Web-site hosting pd November			-500.00	-500.00
total expenses		-3,417.00	-4,205.00	7,622.00
Total balance (+income -expenses)		2,573.00	\$3,800.00	