



# Prescott Area Iris Society

Volume 14 Issue 3

June 2017



Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

## Happy Birthday to..... June & July birthdays |

June 7th	Sue Crabtree
June 7th	Barb Harlib
June 17th	Gerry Snyder
June 23rd	Barbara Kyte
June 24th	Lavon Levi
July 5th	Matthew Meinholz
July 22nd	Julie Cook
July 23rd	Sharon Phelps
July 25th	Valerie Phipps
July 26th	Victor Velonis

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

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Dennis and Sharon are on a much needed vacation visiting friends and relatives and attending the AIS National Convention in Iowa. Upon their return, Dennis is facing surgery on his other arm in early June and will not be attending our June meeting. He would appreciate your thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery.

The club is in the process of collecting one gallon pots to plant rhizomes for the spring sale. If you have more pots than you need, bring them to the June meeting. Some members will be downsizing their gardens and want to pot rhizomes as well as prep some for the July rhizome sale.

We are going to begin planting more iris at the sculpture garden and need volunteers to aid in this project which will begin in June. Please contact Patrick Beatty [Partick.Beatty@ATT.net](mailto:Partick.Beatty@ATT.net) 928-541-9086 and let him know which days of the week are best for you to work.

Iris need another fertilizing after the bloom season, so now is a good time to remove the spent bloom stalks, pull weeds, replace missing or unreadable plant markers and then fertilize in June. Hopefully the monsoon season will be better than average to help with watering the iris.

By Judy Book

**June Meeting:** Make plans to attend our June 10 meeting for the **PICNIC THEMED POTLUCK** (with no ants or flies please) @ 1:30 pm at Yavapai Title at the corner of Gurley and Sheldon.



We will learn more about native plants, presented by Steve Miller. He has studied native plants in California & Arizona for the past 20 years with the Native Plant Society. Steve owns The Native Garden in Prescott, a retail nursery specializing in native plants. He has established an experimental station at The Native Garden for four-season growing of heirloom vegetables and a horticultural demonstration site for low water use plants and plants that are not so attractive to the animals in our area. He conducts site evaluations for appropriate plantings and identification of existing native plants. P.S. Remember to bring one gallon pots you no longer need.

Judy Book, 928-776-7217.

## Coming Events

June	10	Picnic Theme Potluck & speaker Steve Miller - Native Garden
July	16-21	Public Gardens Iris Dig
July	22	Marking Party
July	28	Sale Setup - Yavapai Title
July	29	Rhizome Sale 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Yavapai Title
August	12	Iris care class/new member training - Mortimer Nursery
August	19	Iris Photo Contest/Auction/Ice Cream Social
September	16	Eric Moore Birds in the Garden
October		No Meeting
November	18	Elections/ Potluck Speaker TBA
December		No Meeting

## Exhibit/Show May 6, 2017

Barb McCurry

### AIS-judged Iris Show

There were 38 iris entries belonging to 11 PAIS members (Carolyn Alexander-9; Katy Standhardt-7; Barb McCurry-6; Dennis Luebkin-4; Judy Book-3; Vicki Hughes-3; Sharon Luebkin-2; Kathy Sisley-1; Ruth Simons-1; Loretta Bresoff-1, and Judy Reynolds-1).

Of those 38, 2 entries were excluded from judging due to incorrect varietal names. There were 4 sections of iris: Tall Bearded (20 with 19 judgeable); Novelty (8); Historic (7) and Median (3 with 2 judgeable). The winning Median was stripped of its 1st place ribbon because it was incorrectly named (discovered after judging occurred), and the two remaining medians both had pink honorable mention ribbons, so unfortunately there was no winner in that section.

**Katy with her iris *Mesmerizer*** took home a 1st place blue ribbon, the purple rosette for Best Specimen in the Novelty Section, and the larger purple rosette for Best Specimen of the Show. Katy is officially the Queen of the Show! Katy will receive a framed Best Specimen of Show Certificate at our next meeting on June 10th. Katy also won the Bronze Medal and Certificate for excellence in exhibiting the second most blue ribbon specimens (2) at the show.

**Carolyn and her iris *Instigator*** won a 1st place blue ribbon and the purple rosette for Best Specimen in the Historic Section. Carolyn is also the winner of the Silver Medal and Certificate for excellence in exhibiting the most blue ribbon specimens at the show...a grand total of 5!

**Judy with her iris *Point Counterpoint*** took home a 1st place blue ribbon and the purple rosette for Best Specimen in the Tall Bearded Section.



**Katy Standhardt with her iris *Mesmerizer***



**Carolyn Alexander and her iris *Instigator***



**Judy Book with her iris *Point Counterpoint***

### Peoples' Choice

We had 61 iris entries overall and 6 sections (missing youth this year). These iris winners are chosen by show visitors and our fellow iris club members.

Many thanks to ALL of you who participated and volunteered their time and energy to make our annual iris show a success! You all deserve a huge hug and pat on the back!

Tall Bearded (3 winners)

Kathy Sisley - Fall Fiesta with first place and overall PC winner

Kathy Sisley - Fire Breather with second place

Sharon Luebkin - Godsend with third place

Median

Carolyn Alexander - Concertina - no photo

Beardless

Marge Larson - Kaibab Trail

Historic

Barbara McCurry - Edith Wolford

Novelty

Dennis Luebkin - Mesmerizer

Artistic Design

Sandra Stewart - Blue and Gold (sister to Sharon Luebkin)



Kathy Sisley - Fall Fiesta with first place and overall PC winner & Fire Breather with second



Sharon Luebkin - Godsend with third place



Beardless  
Marge Larson - Kaibab Trail



Artistic Design  
Sandra Stewart - Blue and Gold



Historic Iris  
Barbara McCurry - Edith Wolford



Novelty  
Dennis Luebkin - Mesmerizer



Please, no pets!

Presents

# PLANT AND YARD SALE

## MONSOON MADNESS

BRING YOUR GARDENING QUESTIONS AND GET ANSWERS FROM THE MASTER GARDENERS  
COME ENJOY THE ENTERTAINMENT



TOOL / KNIFE SHARPENING  
\$2 - Small Knives (up to 6" blade)  
\$3 - Large Knives (over 6" blade)  
\$4 - Pruners & Shears / Occisors  
\$6 - Loppers/Axes (2- Sided Axes \$12)  
No serrated edges please!

Herbs, Perennials, Trees, Shrubs, Natives, & House Plants  
Garden Tools, Pots, Garden Art & Books

----- Cash Only -----

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2017

7:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. (unless sold out sooner)

Rodeo Grounds - Parking Lot  
840 Rodeo Drive, Prescott



Located behind the Rodeo grandstands and accessible from Gail Gardner Way or Miller Valley Road

928-445-6590 (ext. 222)

<http://extension.arizona.edu/yavapai>  
Yavapai County Master Gardeners



Press release, 2017

### Master Gardeners Plant & Yard Sale

The University of Arizona Yavapai Master Gardener Association will hold its annual Monsoon Madness Plant and Yard Sale on Saturday, July 15, 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM (or until sold out) at the rodeo grounds, 840 Rodeo Drive, in Prescott. A wide variety of locally grown plants, garden tools, pots, and garden and yard stuff will be available.

Shoppers can stop by the Information table where master gardeners will answer questions on choosing and growing plants, watering, composting, and insect control. Local musicians will provide entertainment.

Sharpening and tune-ups will be available for knives, pruners, shearers, loppers and axes (no serrated edges, please) at the sale as well.

Rain or shine. All sales are cash only. Please no pets. For more information call 928-445-6590 x222 or visit our website at <http://extension.arizona.edu/yavapai>.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S.

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## Larry Gaulter's Small Iris Garden

By Bryce Williamson

AIS World of Iris Blog <https://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/> May 8, 2017

For the newcomer who might want to hybridize iris, you might be a bit put of when you hear that Schreiner's plants 50,000 seedlings, or that Keith Keppel raises 10,000 each year. Rest easy, potential hybridizer! Even a gardener with limited space can successfully hybridize new and beautiful plants. This post and the next will tell the story of two Region 14 hybridizers who were, and are, successful regardless of space limitations.

*'Drury Lane'* Photo by Alain Chapelle



When I joined the American Iris Society as a teenager, Larry Gaulter was a fixture of the region. He had been Regional Vice-President for a year and was serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Iris Society. At meetings of the Clara B. Rees Iris Society, Larry and his wife Frances would drive down from Hayward in the company of Walt and Vi Luihn.



Larry lived in a tract home with a small back yard. Over time, he took over part of the back yards of the homes to either side of him. From that limited space, a series of fine irises emerged, irises that I am convinced, did not receive enough praise while he was still alive.

Here are some wonderful Gaulter irises for you to judge for yourself.

*'Mademoiselle'* HIPS Archive

'Mademoiselle' was Larry's first Award of Merit winner. From Schreiner and Whiting breeding stock, it would be a foundation of his lavender/orchid/blends.

*'Claudia Rene'* Photo by Robert Schreiner

'Claudia Rene', named for one of his daughters, was in bloom at the first Region 14 Spring Meeting I attended. The first day of the meet, the flowers were faded, but the next day fresh flowers opened, and as a new introduction it was bargain-priced at only 20.00. I had to have it, and its seedlings were a mixed bag: many were rough, but quality also emerged. My first introduction, 'Baroque', was a 'Claudia Rene' child. Other hybridizers like Joe Ghio also used 'Claudia Rene' to great success.





*'Laurie'* Photo by Wisconsin Iris Society

From 'Claudia Rene', Larry introduced 'Laurie', and for years 'Laurie' and 'Babbling Brook' vied for the Dykes. Sadly, 'Laurie' did not win. Twenty years after introduction, a well grown stalk of 'Laurie' still looks modern and fresh.

*'Mary Frances'* Photo by Susanne Holland Spicker

Larry would finally win the Dykes Medal for 'Mary Frances', one of those irises that grows and blooms everywhere. Still popular today, it has become an enduring classic.



Two other Gaulter irises have also become classics. 'Skating Party' won an Award of Merit and it has endure as a great white iris.

*'Skating Party'*  
Photo by Susanne Holland-Spicker

appreciated.

For color and pattern, though, Larry's 'Persian Berry' is still unmatched. It won an Award of Merit and is still widely grown and



*'Persian Berry'*  
Photo by by Marilyn Campbell



*'Alexander's Ragtime Band'*  
Photo by Country Delight

I always enjoyed 'Drury Lane' for its bright color combination, but it never caught on with the public like some of Larry's other creations.

Larry was a positive role model for others—he became an early supporter of Don Denney and Jim McWhirter. That duo revived Cottage Gardens and many of their early introductions contain Gaulter irises as parents.

It was fitting that Jim McWhirter would introduce Larry's last introduction, the Award of Merit winning 'Alexander's Ragtime Band'.

It should be no surprise that both 'Mary Frances' and 'Skating Party' have been voted into the Tall Bearded Iris Society's Hall of Fame. During his lifetime Larry won a Dykes Medal, the Hybridizers Medal, and the AIS Distinguished Service Medal. Not bad for someone working in a limited space in a backyard garden

At our April '17 Board Meeting, the newest members of our board were asked to submit a bit of a Bio addressing their Love of Iris.

### Joanne Moorhouse

In 1968 while in nursing school in New Mexico, the lady that lived across the street from me had many colors of iris. I always admired and complimented her on their beauty. When I graduated, she gifted me several different ones and I took them back to Prescott. I planted most of them in my mother's yard. That started my love for iris.

### Loretta Bresof

When Ira and I bought our first home, I started to grow iris. I didn't know their names and really didn't care, I just loved them. When I started a home florist business, I chose the iris as the flower to place on my business card. It reminded me of my youth and walking through my grandmother's iris garden a long time ago. 13 years ago we retired and moved to Prescott Valley. I immediately planted some purple iris I found in a Chino Valley nursery. They were growing wild everywhere. I had to have some. Today I have several areas where Crimson King are planted. I also have 3 small beds and grow several named iris. I finally have the iris garden I dreamed of as a child....thanks to my Grandmother Barbara.

My first memory of gardens were my mother's in Downers Grove, Illinois. My mother's parents were farmers and mom had a large garden of veggies and various garden flowers, mostly hollyhocks and cosmos. My love of iris was born when we visited my grandmother's home in Joliet. In a large side yard of a corner lot, Grandma Barbara grew rows of peonies and iris. I fell in love with the purple and yellow Heritage iris and enjoyed bending down to smell their sweet fragrance. Then and there I became a life time fan of the flower named after a Goddess.

### Kellie Smith

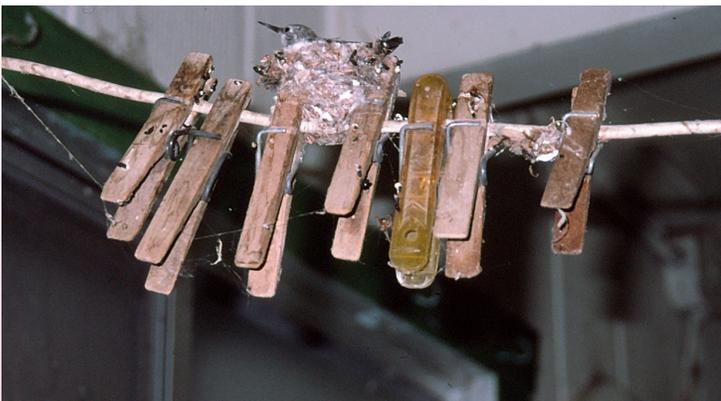
Growing up in Prescott the only iris or flags as my grandma called them seemed to be purple, yellow, and white. I never liked them because I was tasked with the chore of removing the dead leaves every fall.

A year ago I was invited by my mom to attend a PAIS general meeting. My eyes were opened to the large assortment of iris and that started my buying frenzy, the rest is history.

### Vicki Hughes

I am a new gardener. After purchasing my home here in Prescott Valley, I became interested in creating a flower garden. There are so many beautiful flowers that love the weather here in AZ and many of them, including Iris, I had admired and enjoyed back in Ohio.

I was very excited when I learned of PAIS. I was thrilled to learn of the multitude of colors and varieties available and to have the opportunity to purchase them for my garden. Now have over 40 named Iris, 5 rose bushes and a growing collection of other native and traditional flowers. I am also glad to see the club participating in community gardens and supporting scholarship programs.



Several years ago I was giving a judges training at Floyd Wickencamp's house in Sun City when I noticed that NO one was paying attention to me, but looking into the corner of his patio. The baby hummingbirds were fledging and balancing on the clothesline (does anyone still use a clothesline?) I consider it a memorable iris moment. From [Marge Larson](#)