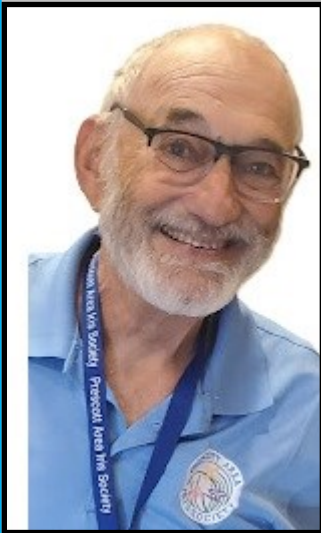




# Prescott Area Iris Society

## President's Message



Channel surfing the Olympics this morning- so many events! Actual surfing from Tahiti, kayak, basketball, gymnastics, archery, swimming, skateboarding , equestrian ... and many more to come.

And I thought, we at PAIS also have lots of events. We dig, clean, mark and sell irises from our personal gardens and from the public gardens we maintain. And then we plant and grow those irises that don't sell for our Spring sale.

We have other events, too. Photo contests and ice cream socials, planning meetings for our fall "Iris in the Pines" conference.

Olympic athletes have incredible support from coaches, therapists, dieticians, doctors. All working together for team success. As PAIS President, I also have had incredible support, starting with fellow members of the board, and including dozens(!!) of other members who give of their time and energy to make our events successful.

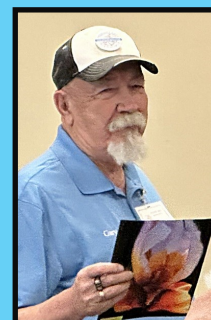
Gold medals to all of you...you know who you are.



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Below: Isabel Olsen and Loretta Bresof prepare for the Ice Cream Social; winner Gary Miller, and organizer Robin Walter



## Rhizome Splitting Demonstration

At the June 15th meeting, Dennis Luebkin provided a demonstration on how to split irises properly. Sharon Luebkin helps on the left and Jeri Conklin assists on the right.



## Secretary Jeri Conklin Honored



Secretary Jeri Conklin was honored at the June meeting by President Marty Boxer. Sharon Luebkin donates iris-themed table runners, one of which is for Jeri (below right).

Jeri will be moving out of the area and taking both fond memories of PAIS and some of her favorite irises. PAIS will sorely miss her contributions both as part of leadership and her kindness to all. We wish you well, Jeri!

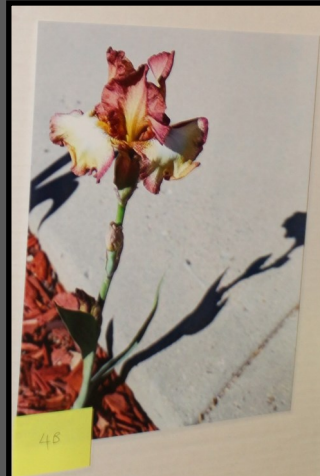


# 15th Annual Photo Contest Entries: Pictures of the entries and displays

## Category A Habitat / Landscape



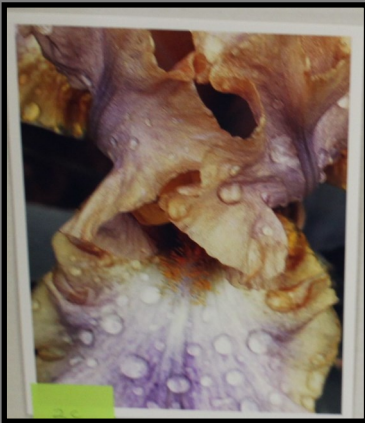
## Category B Individual Iris/Same Cluster





# 15th Annual Photo Contest Entries

## Category C Artistic



## Category D Irises and Others





# Voting on Photos and Eating Ice Cream!



Left to right: Joanne Moorhouse, Kellie Smith, Heather Blakely

Below: Bill Walter, Sherry Williams, Dennis Luebkin



Judy & Stan Book



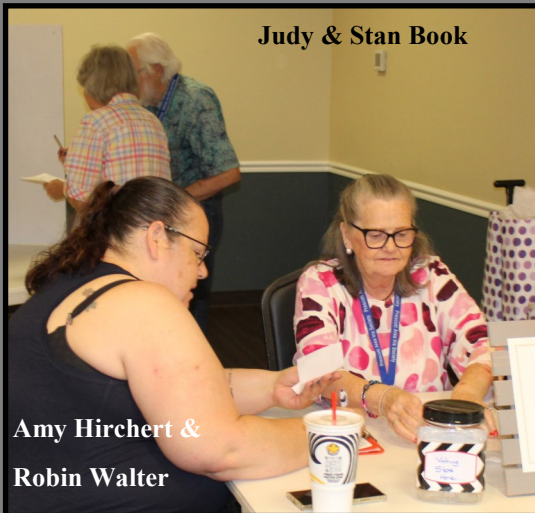
Jeri Conklin



Dennis & Sharon Luebkin



Cynthe Brush



Judy & Stan Book

Amy Hirschert & Robin Walter



Vicki Hughes Joanne Moorhouse, Marty Boxer, & Stan Book



Charles Steen and Kathleen Shaffer



PAIS members enjoy ice cream and assessing the photo entries.



# 15th Annual Photo Contest Winners

## Habitat/Landscape

Marty Boxer  
1st place in  
Habitat/  
Landscape



Sherry Williams  
Runner Up in  
Habitat/Landscape

## Individual/Cluster Same Iris

Individual/  
Cluster Same  
Iris —Tie!

Sherry Williams  
& Kathleen  
Shaffer



Individual/  
Cluster Same  
Iris —Runner  
Up

Cynthe Brush

## Artistic



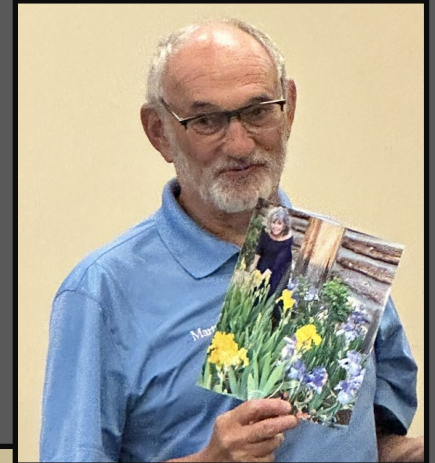
Gary Miller  
(top) 1st place  
Artistic Design



Cynthe Brush  
Runner up Artistic  
Design

## Irises & Others

Marty Boxer  
awarded 1st  
for Irises and  
Others



Cynthe Brush  
Runner Up in the  
category Irises and  
Others



## 2024 HIPS Iris Sale

From July 9-12, the Historic Iris Preservation Society held its annual iris sale. The format of the sale is a direct donor-to-customer sale in which donors group six varieties as a "collection", and HIPS compiles the collections into a database for customers to browse. When a customer chooses a collection of six, the donor will dig and ship fresh rhizomes directly to the customer. This year was a successful year: a total of 277 collections were purchased, with 15 of those headed for Canadian customers.

This sale is beneficial two-fold: First, revenue helps HIPS fund preservation projects, education and outreach, and necessary website maintenance. But the greater benefit is that we are able to distribute historic varieties to more gardens throughout the US and Canada. This year's sale was even more significant for preservation: a large number of rare Guardian Garden irises were released and distributed in many of the collections, fulfilling the Guardian Garden mission to distribute rare cultivars to gardeners in many geographic areas.

We want to thank the donors who supplied the rhizomes, muscle, energy, and passion that made this sale such a success. And we thank all of our customers for supporting the sale and HIPS mission: we hope that these irises bring you joy!

Thank you!

Wendy Scott  
HIPS Iris Sale Team

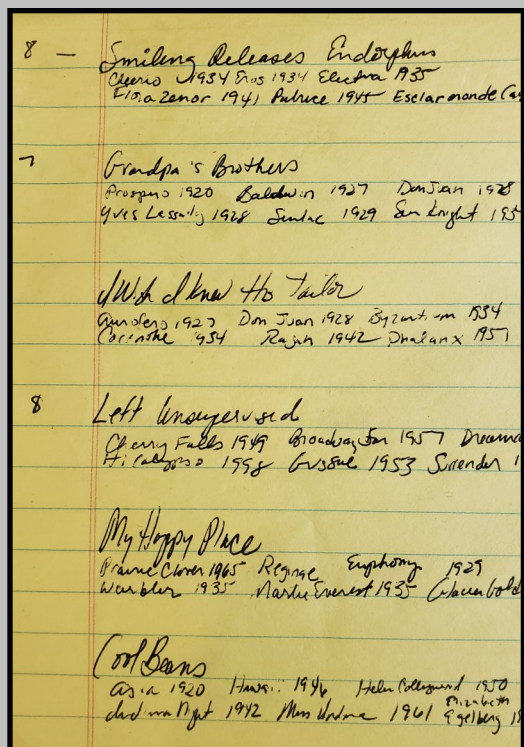
Cynthe Brush preps her HIPS iris donations for shipping (right)

Neal Lankford submitted a picture of Crimson King bought last year at the HIPS Sale from Barb Walls. The irises from Arizona are now in Alabama





## The 2024 HIPS Sale—Notes from a Historics Lover

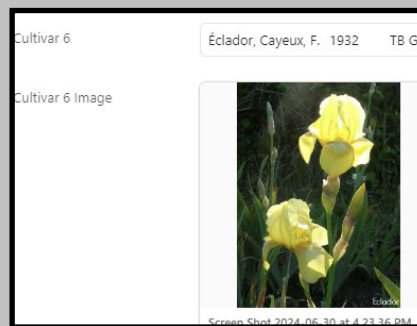
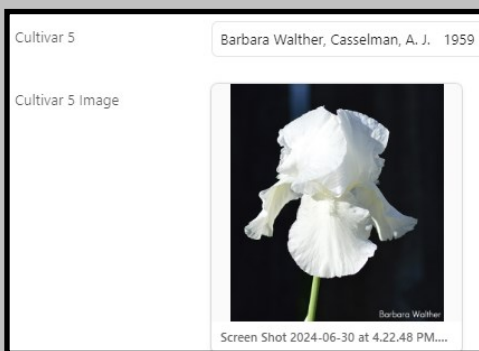
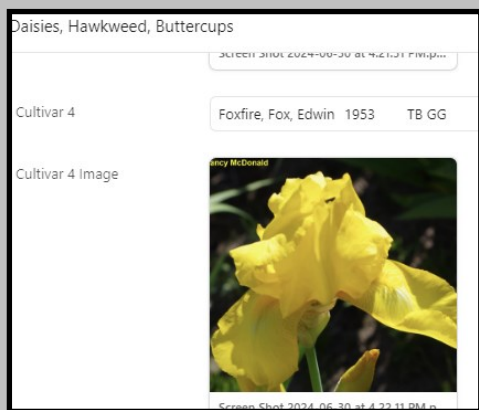
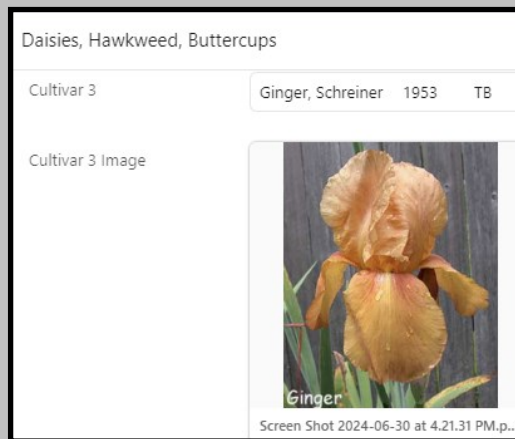
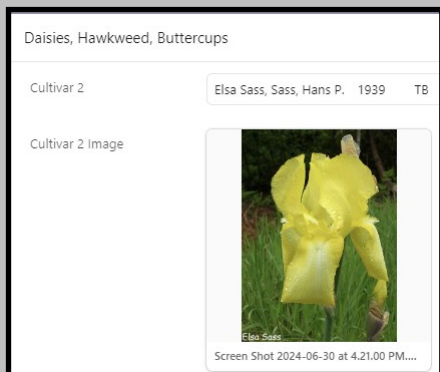
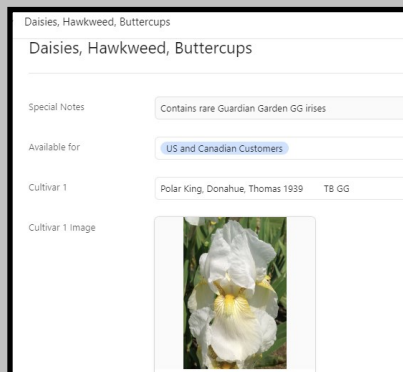


I love when the HIPS Annual Sale rolls around. I leisurely look through the collections comprised of six historical irises; each collection has a wonderful creative name crafted by the donor — Left Unsupervised, I Wish I Knew His Tailor, Enjoy Every Sandwich, Rich Medieval Tapestry, Smiling Releases Endorphins.

I make a list of four pages of possibilities. I rank them. Then comes the cross-checking to make sure I do not purchase something I already own. I have a registered historical garden, so this is one of the best opportunities to secure hard to find cultivars.

I narrow it down to three options: How Many Favorites Does She Have; Daisies, Hawkweed, Buttercups; and French Time Travel. I should only buy two, so as soon as it opens, I scoop up the first two. An hour later I think—*It's all for a good cause, go ahead and get the third*—but when I go back to the site it is already gone. It's probably a good thing since I've promised to donate both the irises and the shipping costs for the boxes I've listed for the sale.

Here are screenshots of the cultivars in the collection Daisies, Hawkweed, Buttercups. Included in this collection are four rare GG cultivars! I'm happy I'll be adding these to my garden and I'm hoping I'll be able to share out in the future to do my part so they get removed from the endangered list. Barbara Walls





## August Survey

How do you keep your irises thriving in the brutal summer heat?

Some afternoon shade relief helps when we get these 110 degree heat waves (with wind, yuck). I tend to pot and transplant so I can choose optimal weather for permanent planting. Val Maxey



Since I am traveling almost all of July, I am gambling that the monsoon takes care of them or that they go dormant. Since I'm in the mountains, I usually have more of a chance for afternoon thunderstorms. I'll assess this strategy once I return. I will explore shade cloth for August, though.

Barbara Walls

The tubs of Louisiana iris are watered lightly daily and reside under the light shade of a Mesquite tree. The large pots of TBs (10 of them) receive full sun as well as reflective heat, so when it is over 100 degrees, I cover them with 30% or 40% shade cloth. I also grow iris in a stock tank in full sun, and will also cover this with shade cloth, all the way to the ground. I find this will keep the soil in the tank a bit cooler. All other iris are receiving very light spotty shade during parts of the day. I only lightly water once a week, or when my moisture meter indicates they are dry. No fertilizer until the weather breaks. I will spray for white flies with Neem oil, if there is an issue, very early in the morning.

Joyce Knill

On a scorching hot day in late June, I photographed some historic iris at the Citizen's Cemetery on Sheldon St. across from Yavapai College. Those iris looked far better than my iris that have been hose watered, fertilized, & loved. My iris have 2 that probably died from heat & all leaves have brown, dry tips this summer. The cemetery iris (possibly 'Crimson King') had no divisions, no water except that from the sky, and no fertilizer. Has my green thumb turned brown?

Katy Standhardt PAIS



They are all in raised beds on drip irrigation so get watered every other day in hot summer.

Helene Rupp



## August Survey

How do you keep your irises thriving in the brutal summer heat?



With long stretches of intense heat and no rain, the key for my irises is regular drip irrigation—Watering daily —Twice daily when times are scorching. The beds with drip are growing well, even with brown leaf tips...which I trim off for visual tidiness when I have time.



The beds where the drip system isn't working (I have trouble-shooting to do along with repairs) or new beds that aren't on the system yet, look much worse with lots of yellowing / browning leaves as the irises go dormant more quickly. I'm doing hand watering with the hose and praying for the monsoons to rain several times a week. I turn off the drip irrigation when it rains.

Cynthe Brush



## August Survey

What irises grow so well for you that you can split them almost every year?

This is the iris which blooms the longest and is divided annually. My husband isn't fond of it, but the neighbors loved it.

We have an unnamed historic iris, which grows like a weed. Daybreak over the Rockies, I'm Wicked, Nordic Dawn, and Calico in Pink are all very good performers in my garden here in Tucson and can be divided yearly. I have about 60 iris, but only 35 in beds--the rest are all in pots. The pots seem to grow a bit slower.

Calico in Pink pictured below



This is one of my iris which grows like a weed and I divide it annually. (purple noid pictured right)  
Joyce Knill....Tucson



"Autumn Tryst" is the outstanding performer in my garden. Reliable rebloomer (bloomed three times last year, including December, which was weird). Very hardy and prolific.

Val Maxey

Crimson King grows ridiculously well. I moved some two years ago and they have to be dug out because they are overtaking the bed. I donated three landscaping boxes of CK to the HIPS sale because I knew I would have to re-do that bed. They do look awesome, though, as the first bloomers in spring and they rebloom in other zones. But, yes, you can have too much of a good thing.



Barbara Walls

My best reproducing iris are Vibrations, God's Handiwork, and Claudia Burton

Marge Larson

I can't manage to split all the iris I have every year so I rotate. Most are done every other year.

Helene Rupp



## August Survey

What irises grow so well for you that you can split them almost every year?



**TB-NoID #1**  
35-38in, Very Fragrant  
Mid Season, Vigorous

I have two NoIDs that are fantastic growers for me. ~ NoID #1 is a lovely TB sky-blue self. The most fragrant iris in my garden. One of these days I will find its cultivar name!! It can easily be split every other year if not given a big planting space. ~ NoID #3 is a historic '30s era tall, vigorous bitone, TB an 'Indian Chief' look-alike iris, but with PBF. Found on this property, even after decades of utter neglect. It has to be divided every three years. (see rhizome photo with increases) With the attention I've given it this past decade, it's taking over the property in multiple plantings. Love it and want to encourage lots of folks to grow this handsome iris. ~ SDB 'Web of Desire' is a fantastic grower! I have two plantings I divided last year and many pots of extra rhizomes to sell / trade.

Those plantings have already completely filled out and will need to be divided again in 2026.



**SDB-Web of Desire**  
Early Season, Vigorous

Cynthe Brush



**TB-Historic NoID**  
40in, 'Indian Chief' look-alike  
Mid-Late Season, Vigorous



**Iris NoID #3**  
Three year increases - 1 rhizome  
1 Mother - 4 Daughters - 22 Granddaughters



## August Survey

When do you prefer to plant your newly purchased rhizomes when they arrive in the summer? Do you plant the rhizomes as soon as possible? Do you wait until fall and keep them cool in the interim? Do you pot them up and transplant later? What's going on in your garden?

I try to get them in ground ASAP but always within a couple weeks of arriving. If left to sit for more than a 3 or 4 days I soak them in some water for a few hours to rehydrate before planting.

Helene Rupp

I am going to plant them as soon as possible, but I do have some qualms. Last year our monsoon was nonexistent and the newly planted irises struggled, and I lost too many. The monsoon started out well, and I hope it holds. If it doesn't, I may let them chill in a cool place for a while and plant in September. The weaker ones I may pot up because my potted ones did surprisingly well.

Barbara Walls

I have had the best luck by planting them after giving the rhizomes a light water/bleach bath. I then set them in a pan of shallow water overnight, and plant them in their 'home' about 18 hours later. I have tried planting new rhizomes in one gallon pots, then when the weather breaks (late Sept. here in Tucson) planting in their permanent home. I find they will either rot, or at best, not bloom for me the following spring. If I am planting in this heat, I just skip the fertilizer and only lightly water, providing much needed shade.

Joyce Knill

I have little patience, so plant them in prepared soil as soon as I can.

Blair Larson

I plant irises as soon as I've figured out where they're going to be grown. Ones I haven't decided a location for, are planted in pots in the interim. My focus this year is on:

~ Thinning irises I have too many of.

~ Selling / trading irises that don't really appeal to me anymore. Curiously, my tastes are changing as I grow irises longer.

~ Acquiring colors I don't have in the garden. Have purchased / traded for several white selfs and whites with color accents.

~ Getting named cultivars to help ID my favorite NoIDs.

~ Nurturing the 65 seedlings I'm growing from others' crosses.

Cynthe Brush



## Can You Dig It? Pre-Rhizome Sale Event

Rhizome digs can be arduous work, but many hands make the work a wee easier.

Sandy Schilling digs up the ultimate beast of clumps from Jeri Conklin's place. Marty helps with the hard work. Since Jeri is moving, the iris beds needed to be dug up. Jeri is keeping some but has generously donated many to the club. Jeri says they were truly excavating the rhizomes and Sandy thinks they dug at least 1,000 cultivars.

Jeri posits this disclaimer: "For any of my rhizomes —while everything was plotted and named, they had a mind of their own, and some got mixed in with their neighbors. All attempts have been made to label the rhizomes correctly. If you get one that doesn't match its name, I'm sorry. I did my best with labels. Look at it as a gift from the Iris god."

Pictured below: Marty Boxer and Sandy Schilling







## Marking Party— The Next Step

Gary Miller and Stan Book man the table (upper left)

Katy Standhart and Vicki Hughes sort and mark (right)



Pictured below: Back Row: Sandy Schilling, Linda Davis, Stan Book, Gary Miller

Middle Rows: Vi Zepeda, Bridget Bernardi, Joanne Moorhouse, Kelly Smith, Heather Blakely, Katy Standhart, Angela Denis, Judy Book, Kathleen Shaffer,

Front: Kathy Sisley, Pam Poco





# PAIS Rhizome Sale 2024



Isabel Olsen keeps all the workers happily fed (upper right) Katy Standhardt, and Nancy Lefler helped in the kitchen at this event. Angela Denis, Sharon & Dennis Luebkin, Joanne Moorhouse, Marty Boxer, and Kathy Sisley break for a smile.



Kathleen Shaffer smiles



Gary Miller somehow avoids those donuts.

Nancy Lefler, Sandy Schilling, and Kelly Smith clean up the irises for a better presentation (below)



Charles Steen organizes



Great deal grab bags



Charles Steen & Sandy Schilling organize and work nonstop during the event



# PAIS Rhizome Sale 2024



Top Row: Iris newsletters and pamphlets at Nancy Lebler and Pat Owings tend the table. Marty Boxer puts on a planting demonstration for the waiting customers. Mid Rows: A customer looks through an available magazine; various pictures of customers enjoying their shopping experience.



Left: Angela Denis cleans up rhizomes, Sandy Schilling takes a moment to smile.

(Right) Customers enjoy checking out—PAIS offers great deals!





# A Few of the PAIS Members Helping to Raise \$6,101.23



Heather Blakely greets at the door



Kristeen Wood tallies irises



Jeri Conklin tallies irises



Nancy Lefler and Pat Owings



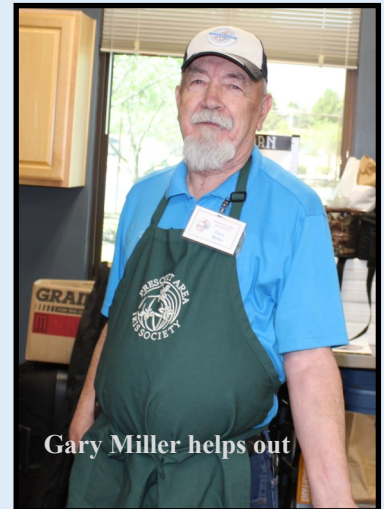
Kathy Sisley works the room



Sherry Williams and Eugene Zielinski work the register



Linda Davis distributes baskets to customers



Gary Miller helps out



Joanne Moorhouse helps with seeds



Vicki Hughes, Pat Owings and Sandy Schilling keep the chaos to a minimum



Amy Hirschert checks out iris purchases

**Prescott Area Iris Society**

welcomes you to

**'Iris In The Pines'**



**Fall**

8:30 AM—4:00 PM

at the

**Highlands Center of Natural History**

In the Prescott National Forest

Featuring guest speaker & Judges training

**Rick Tasco**



RICK TASCO

*Newcomers to the garden -*

**Registration Form**

Registration fee: Adults	Registration received by September 14th	<del>\$70.00</del>
	Registration received September 15 thru October 12	<del>\$75.00</del>
	Youth	<del>\$35.00</del>
<b>PAIS Member registration:</b>		<b>\$ 35.00</b>

Name(s) of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Iris Society Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Judges Training: Yes ( ) No ( ) Please indicate the number attending judges training. \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Prescott Area Iris Society. Mail registration check & registration form to Sherry Williams, 6571 E. Dalton Way, Prescott Valley, Az 86314.

**Registrations must be received no later than September 14th**



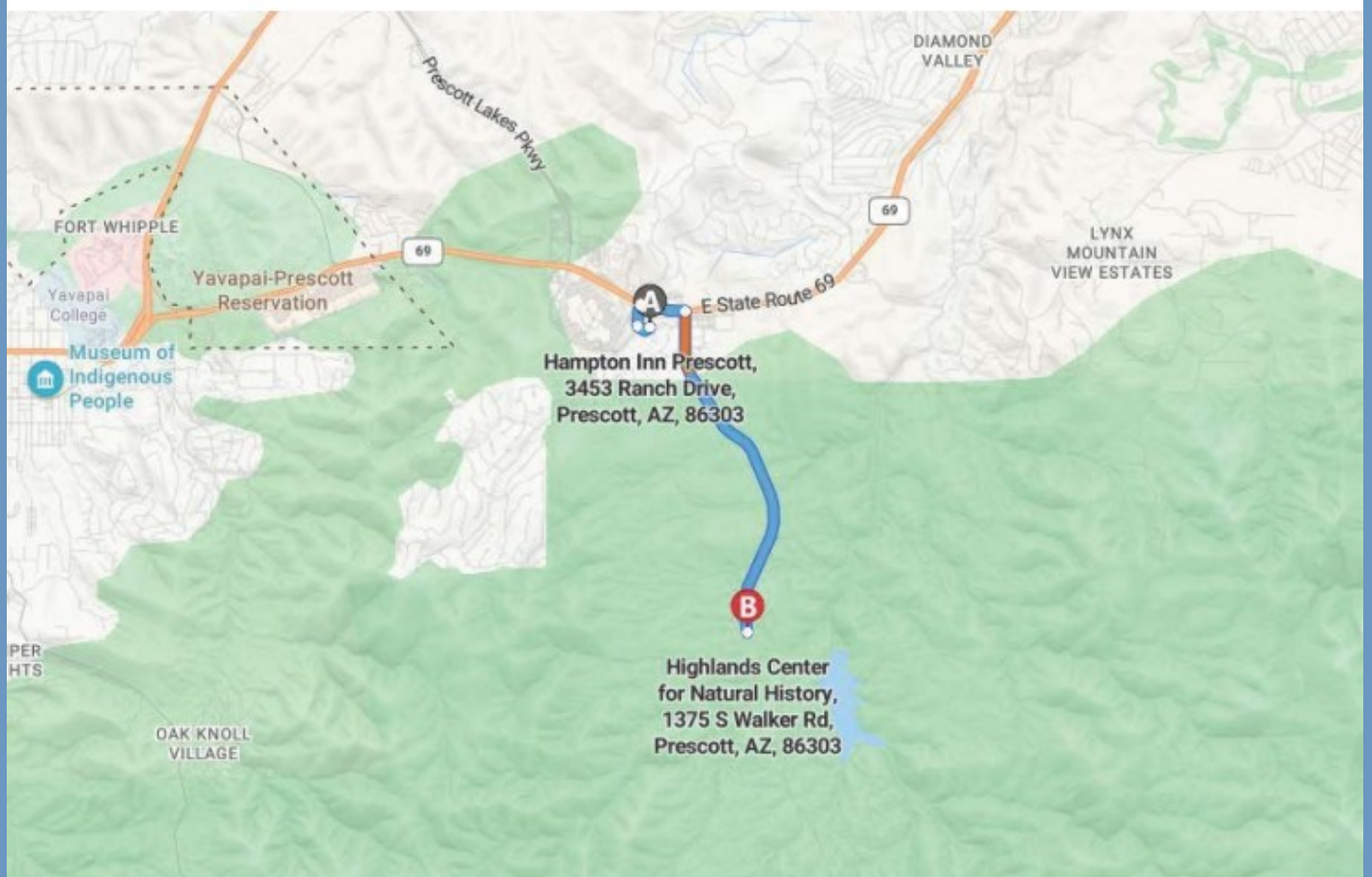
Conference location: Highlands Center of Natural History,  
1375 So. Walker Rd  
Prescott Az. 86303

Our conference is being held in the Kieckhefer Classroom at the Highlands Center of Natural History. The Highlands Center is an 80-acre campus in the Prescott National Forest near Lynx Lake, with remarkable facilities, and offers community events and outdoor educational programs and opportunities year-round.

## Schedule of Events

**Saturday, October 12, 2024 8:30 AM—4:00 PM**

8:30—9:30 AM	Registration, Continental breakfast, raffle & Silent auction open
9:00—10:00 AM	Region 15 Board Meeting with Janis Shackelford RVP
10:00—11:00 PM	General Meeting
11:00—12:30 PM	Speaker - Rick Tasco, Superstition Iris Gardens
12:30 - 1:30 PM	Buffet Lunch—Classroom & patio seating
1:30 - 3:00 PM	Indoor Judges Training—Rick Tasco
3:00 - 4:00 PM	Raffle & Silent Auction results



## Other Information

Questions regarding the conference, hotels, location, access or .....?

Contact Kathleen Shaffer, [irisfun351@gmail.com](mailto:irisfun351@gmail.com) or Sherry Williams, [duckwalkdesigns@gmail.com](mailto:duckwalkdesigns@gmail.com)

### Hotel accommodations:

- The Prescott Hampton Inn is 2.3 miles from the Highlands Center. This is a lovely hotel that offers completely renovated rooms and an indoor pool (bring your suits). We have reserved a block of rooms for our conference at the rate of \$189.00 per night. Our group name is 'IRIS GATHERING'. Call in your reservation (928) 445-5500 and use the group name when registering. Deadline for booking rooms to guarantee rate & availability is September 13th.
- There are a number of other hotels within close proximity to the conference location as well as RV, rental cabins and camping locations within Prescott National Forest.
- Travel: Travel by car or there are flights to Prescott from LAX.

The Prescott Area Iris Society welcomes you to the AIS Region 15 2024 Fall Conference in beautiful and historical Prescott, Arizona. Located in the central mountains of Arizona 90 miles north of Phoenix and 95 miles south of Flagstaff. Prescott has diverse climate variations based on altitudes from approximately 4000' to 8000' within a radius of 40 miles making for an excellent environment for growing iris.

### **Prescott area sites to see:**

- Courthouse Square, Whiskey Row (Montezuma between Gurley & Goodwin Sts), Downtown Historic district shops, galleries, antiques stores, breweries, and eateries.
- Sharlot Hall Museum, Phippen Western Arts Museum, Museum of Indigenous People
- Yavapai College Sculpture Garden & Iris Gardens (maintained by PAIS)
- Lynx Lake, Goldwater Lake, Watson Lake, Willow Lake, Granite Basin Lake, Fain Lake

### **Northern Arizona sites to see:**

- Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon and the red rock country
- Verde Valley Scenic Railroad, Clarkdale
- Grand Canyon National Park & the Grand Canyon Railroad
- Tuzigoot National Monument, Clarkdale
- Montezuma's Castle, Camp Verde
- Flagstaff, Az including the Snow Bowl and San Francisco Peaks

### **Phoenix area sites to see:**

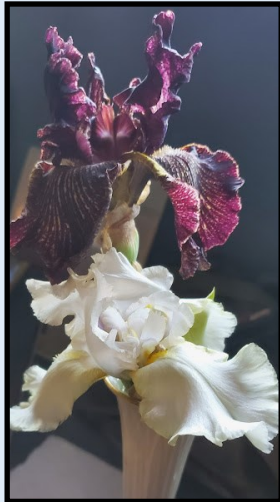
- The Desert Botanical Gardens, Heard Museum, OdySea Aquarium & the Butterfly Wonderland

Visit our website for additional information. <http://prescottirissociety.org>.



## PAIS Members' Birthdays

Aug 2 Linda Davis  
Aug 2 Sharon Luebkin  
Aug 15 Bonnie Feather  
Aug 23 Kathie Mitchell  
Aug 23 Ron Mitchell  
Aug 29 Kellie Smith  
Aug 29 Gerry Snyder  
Sep 11 Kris Wood  
Sep 20 Jeri Conklin  
Sep 23 Joanne Moorhouse  
Sep 24 Rev. Jean Holmes  
Sep 25 John Poco  
Sep 26 Lane Kihlstrom  
Sep 26 Barb Meyer



Thank you to everyone who helped with the survey and/or sent pictures for the newsletter. A big thanks to those who took the time to help me tag pictures. I truly appreciate it and could not do this without you.



Barb Walls

Elk Path Irises  
Friendly Fire  
Keppel 2002

## PAIS Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise stated, all events will be held at Stoneridge Community Center, 1300 Stoneridge Drive, Prescott Valley, 86314

August/September Potting Party (date and venue TBD)

September 21 General Club Meeting and Iris Silent Auction Speaker: PAIS Member Isabel Olsen presenting "Creative Design."

October 12 Region 15 Fall Conference at the Highlands Center of Natural History

November 16 General Club Meeting and 2025 PAIS Board Election Guest Speaker: Kathy Chilton – who has the distinction of an iris named in her honor.

General meetings are 1:30 - 3:30 P.M. Speakers & Guest Speakers will be updated if there are any changes. Board meetings are at 11 A.M. on General Club Meeting days. All updates and announcements will be emailed (and included in the newsletter when possible), so be sure not to miss out on all PAIS happenings by keeping your email address up to date.



Elk Path Irises  
Take a Look  
Johnson 2023