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The American Iris Society

News & Notes

March 2 2015

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Discovering What's in News & Notes



While **News & Notes** is a way to let members know what is happening in the world of irises, we would

Welcome to the twentyfirst regular issue of the **AIS News & Notes**. Please let us know what you would like to see here. And if you have notes you would like to add, or you would like to become a reporter, please let us know! You can contact either [Bob Pries](#) or [Wayne Messer](#) with your comments or interest.

Portland Deadlines and Updates

As the 2015 AIS Convention in Portland nears, a number of reminders and updates. Also see other items in this issue of News & Notes for Portland news.



Deadlines reminder - The discounted registration rate deadline is **March 21st**. You can see the details [here](#) and use the Registration button to register.

Optional Tour Update - The optional **Columbia River Gorge/Mt Hood Tour** was so popular it sold out. So a second bus has been added and you can register for it - first-come first-served. The tour is Tuesday, May 19th. Learn more about the tour on the Convention website [here](#) (bottom of the page). Note that although the website says sold out, for tour registration info, see John Ludi's announcement [here](#) or [here](#).

also like potential members to be aware of the benefit of News & Notes. To do this we have a sample issue - the **February 1, 2015 issue** - that you can point them to. An upcoming posting at the **World of Irises** has screenshots (meaning the links do not work) showing parts of it. The full issue, with working links, is [here](#) in the **Iris Encyclopedia**. We will add a link from it the the World of Irises posting as soon as it is available.

You can use parts of it, such as the feature article "**See the 2015 Dykes Medal Winner**", to introduce them to more iris goodies. Show them the range of topics - upcoming events, conventions, videos, news from all part of AIS, Iris Wiki - all with links to more. Just for fun, point them to the jigsaw puzzles and see what happens.

We'd love to hear how you use this. Please let us know how it works and how you are planning to use it. And what else would help you.

Quick Links

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[Arl Society International](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society](#)

[Median Iris Society](#)

[Tall Bearded Iris Society](#)

And a fun reminder - You can see videos of several of the iris gardens which will be on the tours on this Iris Encyclopedia [page](#).

Portland Silent Auction Request

HELP! The [2015 National AIS Portland Convention](#) is going to be amazing. There will be gardens galore, blooming iris everywhere, hybridizers roaming, exceptional section meetings with awesome programs, exciting training sessions, a bountiful boutique, great Geek dinner and auction, exciting section tables, a fully stocked storefront and meetings about everything iris. But the silent auction really needs your help to make it as outstanding as everything else. Now is the time for all of you AIS supporters out there to come to the rescue of the AIS Silent Auction please. We need your iris and garden paraphernalia! Please clean those closets, dust of those garage boxes, and donate your items to AIS. Follow [this link](#) to get the details about where to send your lovely donations. And thank you all for considering donating for the Silent Auction so we can make it supercalifragilistic!



CALLING ALL THE AIS REGIONS. The AIS silent auction also is in dire need of your continued support. We need you to gather all those amazing things from your local affiliates or iris members again! We want to wow all the Portland AIS Convention attendees! AIS Region Vice Presidents gather up those wonderful regional special things. Box them all up and bring them to Portland or mail them to any of the addresses at [this link](#) (PDF). It is so much fun to read the posters **we make for you**, beside the baskets that have information about each region along with colorful pictures of their gardens, or activities and members. And then you can try to buy all those exceptional items and take them home to enjoy! So please have fun and help AIS by donating your time and regional goodie baskets.

2015 Photo Contest Underway

The **2015 AIS Photo Contest** is now underway. I know it says they will be accepting photos beginning April 1st; but, my understanding is they are accepting them now. The important date to know is **June 30th midnight is the deadline for receiving entries**. See all the details on this [page](#).



That page also has a link to the [entry form \(PDF\)](#) which you will need. The Historic Iris Preservation Society has an article (2005) on photography of irises to help. See their list of articles [here](#). And this the [first page](#) of the "Notes on Photographing Irises" article.

You can see previous winners from 2008 to 2014 on the AIS website from the links [here](#).

Prescott Area Iris Society Iris

[Society for Japanese Irises](#)

[Society for Louisiana Irises](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises](#)

[Society for Siberian Irises](#)

[Species Iris Group of North America](#)

[Spuria Iris Society](#)

Interests

[Historic Iris Preservation Society](#)

[Reblooming Iris Society](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

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Gardens Projects

The [Prescott Area Iris Society](#) (PAIS) has been responsible for a remarkable number of public iris display gardens. Two recent ones are the **Fire Fighter Memorial Gardens** and the **Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Gardens**.



The Fire Fighter Memorial Gardens are dedicated to the 19 Fire Fighters who were killed fighting the Yarnell Hill Fire 2013. See more about it on the Iris Encyclopedia [here](#). The Gardens are located at the [Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University](#) which has asked PAIS to create future memorial gardens.

PAIS initiated the [Sharlot Hall Museum](#) Historic Iris Gardens to showcase historic irises for the period covered by the museum (1500-1943). Learn more on the Iris Encyclopedia [here](#), see photos and more details on the PAIS website [here](#) and in [FLAGS October 2013](#), p 24-26. (PDF)

Public iris display gardens are great projects for clubs and have increased PAIS visibility in the community, increased their membership, and helped them give back to the community. Has your club been involved in a public iris display garden? The Garden Web part of the Iris Encyclopedia has a [page](#) where you can add your gardens and learn about others.

Youth - Ackerman Essay Deadline

The **Ackerman Essay Contest** is an annual contest for AIS Youth Members. This year's topic is "**If you were an iris, which one would you be and why?**" The **deadline is March 31st, 2015** with the winners announced at the AIS National Convention.



See all the details [here](#).

Another Collage of Irises

While we wait for irises to begin blooming again here, something to keep you out of the snow. A selection of the [Dykes Medal Candidates for 2015](#) make up our jigsaw collage. So you can refer back to that if you need hints.



Again we have a [Standard version](#) and a [Harder version](#) for your enjoyment. Please let us know what types of puzzles and difficulties you would like to see.

Become an Emember

If you are already a member, you might consider adding an

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Emembership. This is a way for you to show additional support for AIS. For just \$15 a year, in addition to your regular membership charge, you have online access to **Irises**, including all the back issues of it and the **AIS Bulletin**, the **Registration & Introductions** database, and you help to support our online initiatives! Find out more [here](#). And you will qualify for the **AIS Voucher Program** described in earlier issues.



The Emembers Login link can now be found in the Quick Links in the left column. You will need your username and password which comes from the AIS Membership Secretary (aismemsec@irises.org).