



The American Iris Society

News & Notes

July 16 2017

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2018 AIS/SLI NEW ORLEANS CONVENTION UPDATE



The 2018 Convention Committee is currently working on designing a new look to the registration form that will feel different to both AIS and SLI folks. We are combining both organizations' convention registration forms.

At the same time we are working with the hotel to choose the dinner menus. I have been told by my SLI Co-Chair that the food at the hotel is excellent. The New Orleans committee members are working on securing the buses, the

Welcome to the 49th 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.

More from the 2017 Convention

Even after the **2017 AIS**



May 23-27, 2017
Dedicated
to the legacy of
Agnes Whiting



Convention is over, there is more happening. You can continue to find it on the [AIS 2017 Convention website](#). We are making the website available and adding to it as a resource for future Conventions and for all members and irisarians to enjoy.

Just recently added is a [PDF of the AIS 2017 Convention Book](#). A good introduction to what was happening and reference material for everyone. Thank you to Judy Keisling for preparing the book and for keeping our contributions on track.

Another addition is more videos of the gardens. Thanks to Jan Blaedel we have short videos from her photos. Find [links to all 6 of the videos here](#).

lunches, and the gardens that will be on tour.

The 2018 Convention Committee is working on the convention registration information and will have it available soon on the 2018 Convention website:
<http://www.2018irisconvention.org/>

The 2018 Convention website has a lot of information that you may find interesting. For example, if you will need a roommate at the hotel, you will find who to contact for assistance.

Join us at the beautiful and historic city of New Orleans, Louisiana in 2018. Hope to see you there.

Paul W. Gossett
2018 AIS/SLI Co-Chair

Editor's Note: The above photo is from the [New Orleans Museum of Art Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden](#), one of the tour gardens. You can see a larger version of the photo [here](#). Then click on that to see an even larger version.

Quick Links

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[Arl Society International](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society](#)

[Median Iris Society](#)

[Tall Bearded Iris Society](#)

[Society for Japanese Irises](#)

[Society for Louisiana Irises](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris](#)

Do you have photos, videos, or other Convention topics to share? We'd be glad to help and to hear your thoughts. Contact wrmesser@gmail.com and thank you.

AIS Silent Auction

Debbie Strauss prepared a great note about the Silent Auction at the 2017 Convention. She gave me permission to mainly use a link to it. Here is the first paragraph. Be sure to see all the photos she has as well.

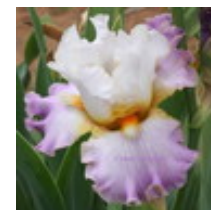


Many of us were fortunate enough to attend the 2017 AIS National Convention in Des Moines Iowa, a truly beautiful and well-organized event. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to an excellent convention, especially Kelly Norris and Paul Gossett. Nick Stewart and I (Debbie Strauss), had the best meeting room in the hotel with the best staff to help us with the Silent Auction. We also had outstanding and enthusiastic volunteers that we would like to thank from the bottom of our hearts, as we could not have done it without them!! We would also like to thank Annie Ullman & Mary Poole for collecting the items mailed to Iowa and for getting them safely to us at the hotel.

Find [Debbie's complete thank yous, thoughts, and photos here](#). **Thank you to her and Nick Stewart for a job well done!** They have been incredibly hard-working Silent Auction Chairs for the last 6 years.

2017 Iris Shows

Iris shows include so many details as I'm still learning to appreciate. Which suggested a couple of things: I need someplace to keep track of these and is there some way to help you with your iris shows at the same time?



'Exhibitionist'

So this is a [page created for the 2017 iris shows](#). As it is on the Iris Wiki, anyone can add to it. Some items already there include links to reference material, links to the 2017 list of iris shows scheduled, iris show reports, and iris show report resources. You can find the blank [2017 Exhibition Report Form \(Word\)](#) there.

The iris show reports are ones I've found, not the official ones I'm receiving. Are yours, including photos if you like, available somewhere. Let me know and I can point to them. Or if not already online, we can help you publicize them. It is a great way to highlight your club and many of

[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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your members!

What else would you like included? Let us know or add them yourself. Thank you.

While almost all of the 2017 iris shows are past, there are still **reblooming iris shows** on [this years list](#). And there is still time for you to schedule one!

HIPS Sale to Offer 700+ Irises

The HIPS rhizome sale is going to be a whopper this year! Over 700 varieties of iris will be available, many of them hard to find. The list (with photos) will be online no later than July 17, and the **sale starts on July 22 for HIPS members**, July

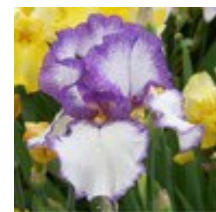
25 for non-members. Join by July 21 and get priority purchasing! This will be a "live" sale again this year, with the available irises listed online. As they are purchased, the number available will decrease. You will know what you are buying before we send you an invoice. Don't forget to look at the list of NOIDs - they may not have a name, but they look beautiful in the garden!



A spreadsheet with the number of each rhizome available will be posted before the sale starts. Rhizomes are \$6.50 each, minimum of four, and this includes shipping. For more information, visit the HIPS website at www.historiciris.org. Please share this information with your friends and help make this sale a success. Thank you for your support!

Next Board Teleconference July 26

The next AIS Board of Directors teleconference is **Wednesday, July 26th** at 8pm Eastern, 7pm Central, 6pm Mountain, and 5pm Pacific time. Full details on how to join it will be on [AISDiscuss in the July messages](#). The [AIS website news page](#) will also have the details.



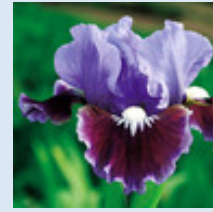
'Dallas Skyline'

Also upcoming is the **AIS Fall Board Meeting November 3-4 in Dallas, Texas**. You can [download the registration form as a Word \(docx\) file](#).

Members are invited and encouraged to participate in both of these events,

Judges Voting Reminder

One of the responsibilities and opportunities of being a judge is **voting on the performance of irises in the garden**. Each judge needs to have their ballot postmarked by **August 1st** or have voted online. Judges can reach the online voting or download a reference ballot from [here](#). The [reference ballot \(PDF\)](#) is available to everyone.



'Devoted'

The updated list of judges is approved by the AIS Board each year and is available from the [AIS documents page](#). You can learn more about becoming a judge from your Region. Contact either your Judges Training Chair or your Regional RVP.

And in mid-August, learn the voting results. Look for a special edition of News & Notes pointing you to all the Medal winners, Award of Merit irises, and the Honorable Mention irises.

Regional Fall Meeting Season

Hard to believe it is already that time of year. Sure enough, the first of the **Region Fall Meetings** are next month. See a [list of all the meetings we know of here](#).



'Mist Falls'

Please let us know of meetings we are missing or add them to that page. These meetings are a great chance to see many friends and learn more about irises, frequently including judges training. Thank you to everyone creating these meetings! Enjoy!

An Exquisite Jigsaw Puzzle

From the guest irises for the **2017 AIS Convention**, this MTB from **Brian Wendel (2010)** was well named. ['Exquisite Lady Leah'](#) was blooming in our garden shortly before the Convention. (I'll admit looking at irises during the Convention was sort of a blur. I'll have to look at my pictures to see if it was still in bloom:) Did you see it during the Convention?



You can enjoy the [standard difficulty puzzle](#) and/or the [harder difficulty puzzle](#). Maybe a way of reliving some of the Convention for you.

Become an Emember

If you are already a member, you might consider adding an **American Iris Society** 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).