



PRESCOTT AREA IRIS SOCIETY

November 2008

Volume 5, Issue 7

Barry's Golden Wisdom

Fall/Winter Iris Culture

1. Continue watering deeply every 7 to 10 days. This encourages the development of the fans and the continued growth of the rhizome. Regular watering may be discontinued when most leaves have died, usually in late November after several frosts.
2. Keep your iris beds free of dead leaves and weeds
3. Do not cut the leaves back. When the leaves die, pull them off.
4. When pulling off the dead leaves, make sure the tops of the rhizomes are not covered with dirt. After rain and snow, the rhizomes tend to get buried deeper.
5. Also be on the lookout for soft rot and treat the rhizome immediately. (See below for specific instructions.)
6. Water deeply about once per week beginning in January unless we have an exceptionally wet winter. Let soil dry out between each watering.
7. Fertilize in late February or early March.
8. Check plant markers for placement and legibility. If they are faint now, it will only be worse next spring.

Iris Rhizome Soft Rot

It happens once in awhile to everyone who grows irises. A fan will fall over, its base has turned mushy and stinks. Left unchecked, this bacterial rot will destroy the entire clump. It requires immediate action. Here are two recommended courses of action.

- If the rot is confined to one part of a clump, you may have good luck with just cutting out the affected parts, back to firm, white rhizome, and liberally dusting the wounds with Comet or Ajax or some other chlorinated cleaning powder. The chlorine disinfects, and the powder acts as a drying agent, too.
- If the damage to a clump is extreme or if the soil is still very wet around the clump, it is better to lift out the clump. Carefully cut the infected rhizome out of the clump and discard it. Then disinfect the rest of the clump by drenching it with a solution of one part bleach to nine parts water. Follow this by dusting the clump with Comet cleanser. Let it dry for a day or two and replant in a drier location, if possible.

As you are doing your fall cleanup, remove dead leaves and sniff their base. The scent should be earthy. The slightest smell of rot means it is time to take action before any visible damage occurs.

Thanks to Francelle Edwards, Phoenix and Dorothy Stiefel, New York for these tips.

An election for officers will be held at our November 8 meeting.

2009 Slate of Officers

President-Diane Clarke
Vice President—open
Secretary-Ruth DeVries
Treasurer-Vera Stewart



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 8 –2:00 p.m.

Spring Exhibit Iris Photos

Yavapai Title

1235 E. Gurley Prescott

At the intersection of Gurley and Sheldon

April 17-18, 2009

Road to the Future

Spring Trek—Phoenix

Make hotel reservations early because Phoenix is having a big event that weekend.

Flyer inside this issue.

Reblooming Iris Report

Linda Smith, Verde Valley Iris Society President, is continuing to build a list of reblooming iris for Northern Arizona. Please send her the names of your reblooming iris: irisgrower@cablone.net, or call 928-567-7470. In the Sculpture Garden *Marty Richards* bloomed last week and it has one more stalk with tight buds. If you are in the area in a week or so, stop by Yavapai College and check out the garden.

President's Message The Region 15 Fall Trek, hosted by PAIS is now history, and we can celebrate the extremely successful "Hassayampa Holiday"!!! Our new Regional Vice President Cheryl Deaton expressed her feelings, which have been reiterated by many others, when she wrote to me, "Please tell everyone that they put on a fabulous, fun, and totally enjoyable Fall Meeting!"



So in this column, my last President's message, I want to salute the super hardworking members of our club who were willing and able to present PAIS' first Regional meeting.

The Honor Roll includes first of all the Co-chairs Marge Larson & Stan Book. The three of us coordinated the arrangements at the Hassayampa facility, obtained speakers and their travel/lodging arrangements. The Fall Trek Treasurer was Joyce Crenshaw; Joyce was the creator of the design for the bookmark table favors, the wall poster, and put together the centerpieces for the tables for the Saturday luncheon. Selling raffle tickets and then serving as cashier was a hectic job, and she handled it like a pro. Joan Morse made western neck scarves for PAIS members to wear so that we were "visible", she created the table arrangements for the Friday night Welcome Party, and she worked with Linda Rossman on decorating the potted rhizomes that were on the raffle/auction tables. Diane Clarke was our auction/raffle/boutique coordinator, which involved obtaining the items, arranging them on Friday afternoon October 10th, announcing the winners for the raffle and Silent Auction, and preparing the poster and thank you letters for the many contributors. Linda Rossman solicited rhizome and the plant marker contributions, was in charge of decorating and filling goodie bags, sold raffle tickets, and served as the auctioneer for the live auction. Linda also donated a birthday cake that was served at the Friday social gathering. Judy Book completed a variety of printing jobs, including the name badges, the registration flyer, the Trek program agenda, and the color photos for the raffle and auction iris. Assisting at the Welcome/Registration table were Ruth Vries and Bonnie Haughton – yours truly was in charge of registration and was thrilled when we reached the goal of 50 and added two more for a total of 52! Audrey Velonis helped with the set-up on Friday afternoon and she and Doris Elevier were runners for the winners of the raffle/auctions. Carolyn Alexander provided transportation to and from the Prescott airport for Inland Region member Carol Morgan who promptly helped us out with set-up and later with take-down. Also helping with the clean-up were Doris Elevier and Linda Smith. Everyone worked together on this project – a wonderful example of teamwork in action – THANK YOU!

When you look at the Trek photos please take note of the one with Gary Phelps (Sharon's husband) standing next to what I'm calling a "transporter" – which holds iris blooms securely during transport. In this case there were several of these brought by Carole Buchheim and Alex Stanton all the way from California – filled with beautiful reblooming iris that filled our eyes with beauty and noses with fragrance. But getting back to the "transporter" – Gary is going to make a prototype of this for Sharon to bring to our next meeting, and we'll see how many members would be interested in ordering one.

In closing I want to thank you for your support during my two years as your president, and I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and in the new year

Vera

Fall Trek Contributors

Our local merchants contributed most generously to our Fall Trek raffle/auction. When you frequent these businesses, please take a moment to thank them for participating and making our event a huge success. The contributors are listed on page 4.

PAIS Contacts

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Diane Clarke, Vice President, 445-7067	agosers6@yahoo.com	Linda Rossman, Treasurer, 777-8110	lindarae@cableone.net
Ruth DeVries, Secretary, 771-1051	gmama14@mac.com	Judy Book, Newsletter Editor, 776-7217	jbook@cableone.net

November 8 Meeting

Now that our iris blooms are gone for the winter, we are in for a real treat on Saturday, November 8. Come and enjoy a musical, moving slide show of photographs and a video from our Spring Exhibit in May. We were fortunate enough to have a professional photographer, Jennifer Franks-Ciolino, visit our exhibit at Mortimer's. She was so taken with the exhibit that she came to see it twice! Since then, she has added music and movement to her still photos and put hundreds of them on a DVD. The close-ups are breath taking! If you couldn't make it to the Spring Exhibit, here's your chance to see what you missed. Don't miss this and discussions regarding rhizome exchanges and cultivation of the exhibited iris. More about Jennifer at [ww.JenergyPhotography.com](http://www.JenergyPhotography.com).

Remember to bring potted plants or seeds to share. See you at Yavapai Title, 1235 E. Gurley, Prescott. Map below .

Diane Clarke

Reblooming iris on display at the Fall Trek



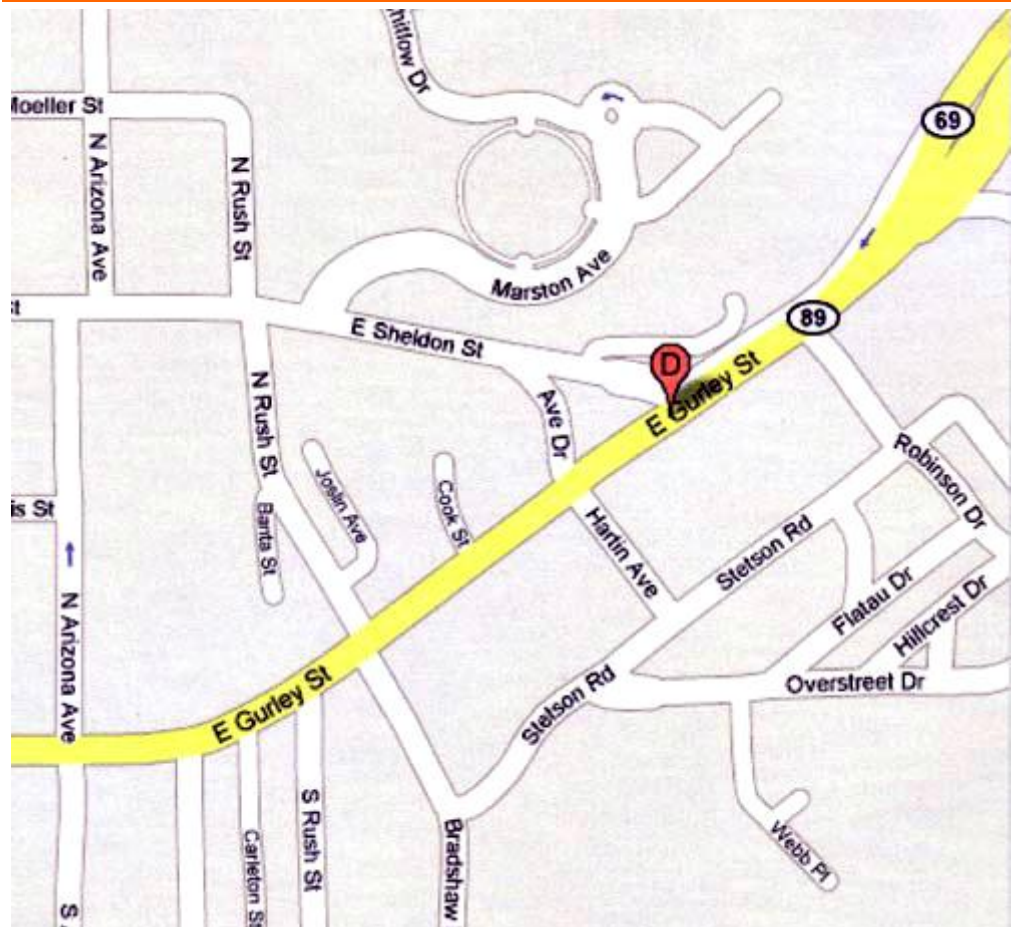
Autumn Circus -above

Fall Spotlight-below



Rosalie Figg (Photos by Linda Smith)

Be the first to answer this trivia question correctly at the November 8 meeting and win a prize. If you feed me I will grow, if you give me water, I will die. What am I?



PROUD

Our club should feel proud:

We accepted the challenge and staged a Fall Trek!
Our members shared and coordinated their many talents!
Our western hospitality showed through!
The community contributed to the raffle with many items!
The speakers were terrific!
The fall rebloomers were fantastic!
Everyone had a great time!
The Hassayampa Inn staff was most accommodating.

Marge Larson -- Hassayampa Holiday co-chair

Fall Trek Contributors

Carolyn Alexander
Caroline Linscott
Barbara Palmere
Mountain High Five Art Gallery
110 S. Montezuma #H
Prescott, AZ 86303

Valerie Phipps, Manager
Mortimer Nursery
3166 Willow Creek Rd.
Prescott, AZ 86305

Julie Gorman
Wild Iris Coffee House
124 S. Granite St.
Prescott, AZ 86303

Mr. Tilden Drinkard
Hassayampa Inn
122 E. Gurley
Prescott, AZ 86301

Deb Dorrell
A Good Yarn
220 West Goodwin Street
Prescott, AZ 86303

Tom Toth
Prescott True Value
846 Miller Valley Rd.
Prescott, AZ 86301

Schreiner's Iris Garden
3625 Quinaby Rd NE
Salem, OR 97303

Lesley & John Painter
Napa County Iris Garden
9087 Steele Canyon Rd
Napa, CA 94558

Tom Burseen
1513 Ernie Lane
Grand Prairie, TX 75052

Jim Hedgecock
Comanche Acres
12421 SE State Route 116
Gower, MO 64454

The Bath Shop

Keith Keppel
PO Box 18154
Salem, OR 97305-8154
Felix Pareja, Store Manager
Home Depot
1941 E. Highway 69
Prescott, AZ 86301

Rick Tasco
Superstition Iris Gardens
2536 Old Highway
Cathey's Valley, CA 95306

Mike & Kathy Barnes
Olsen's Grain Chino Valley
PO Box 427
Chino Valley, AZ 86323

Valerie Reid
Elite Reflections Salon
2517 N. Great Western Dr.
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Gordon & Amy Barth
Club 50 Fitness Center
3155 Windsong Dr.
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Eric Moore
Jay's Bird Barn
1046 Willow Creek Rd # 105
Prescott, AZ 86301

Gary Kincaid
Kincaid Gardens
11000 County Road 366
Savannah, MO 64485-2312

Kari Crowther
Scrapbook Den
1957 Commerce Center Cir. Suite C
Prescott, AZ 86301

Bob Van Liere
Iris4U
2700 West Amherst Avenue
Denver, CO 80236

Anna & David Cadd
Cadd's Beehive Iris Garden
329 North St
Healdsburg, CA 95448-4209

Betty Winn
Chicago Title
914 E. Gurlely St. #100
Prescott, AZ 86301

Jennifer Franks-Ciolino
Jenergy Photography
2522 N. 50th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85008

Jason Ebersol
Lowe's Home Center
2300 E. Hwy. 69
Prescott, AZ 86301

Marjorie Claus
Yangtze Design
1075 Ruth St.
Prescott, AZ 86301

Linda Smith
Verde Valley Iris Society
2290 W. Running Iron
Cottonwood, AZ 86326-7301

Jennifer Hysell
Ace Valley Home Center
7211 E. 1st St.
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Linda Rossman
Hummingbird Iris Gardens
5942 Old Black Canyon Hwy.
Prescott, AZ 86303

Alexa Skajel-Robinson
AZ Radio Group
Karico Lane
Prescott, AZ 86303

Desert Dental Group, California



Rick Tasco, Vera Stewart



Linda Rossman, auctioneer



Kathy Chilton, Regional Vice President



Table decor designed by Joyce Crenshaw



Diane Clarke announcing raffle winners



Joyce Crenshaw Trek Treasurer, Ruth DeVries, Registration



Live Auction Items (C Buchheim)



Reblooming Iris Display (C Buchheim)



Bonnie Haughton, Linda Rossman (C Buchheim)



Silent Auction Items (C Buchheim)



Raffle Items (C Buchheim)



Carolyn Alexander's boutique items (Linda Smith)



Sharon Phelps admiring reblooming iris
Gary Phelps inspecting the iris transporter (V Stewart)