



RAMBLING RHIZOMES
January 2011

Newsletter of the Tucson Area Iris Society

tucsoniris.org



TAIS Calendar

Jan 8 - Lunch Meeting. - Vail Steak House - Speaker Phil Seader of Enchanted Desert Garden

Feb 12 - Petterson's on fertilizers. Location TBA

Mar 12 - Panel Discussion on Growing tips. Location TBA

Apr 23 - Iris Show - Harlow's Nursery.

Jun 18 - Program on Nat'l Convention at Victoria, BC. / Board Meeting.

Aug-Oct schedule tba

January 8th

12:00 Lunch

Vail Steak House

13005 E Benson Hwy

Presentation:

**Tucson Gardening Challenges
Phil Seader**

The Vail Steak House is located on the frontage road to the north of I10. Take the Wentworth/Vail exit, turn left over the freeway and then turn right on the frontage road. The restaurant is on the left about 1/4 mile on the frontage road. The menu choices are open, everything from sandwiches to steak. Individual checks.

Program follows lunch: Radio Personality and naturalist Phil Seader hosts a horticultural radio show on seasonally relevant topics, Sat 7-8 a and Sun 3-4 p on KVOI 1030 AM called "The Enchanted Desert Garden Show." He also is involved in operating the nursery of the same name which is located at 11011 E Tanque Verde Rd. He will be speaking on the gardening challenges in the Tucson area. A question and answer session will follow.

Happy New Year to all. We're hoping for a good year with the Tucson Area Iris Society. We're making some changes that we hope will increase participation. We're going to have meetings and news letters with more substance and less fluff, starting with our first meeting which will address real Tucson area gardening issues. Please bring your questions and enjoy a good discussion on personal gardening concerns. We're looking forward to a great iris show at Harlow's. Kathy is going to compete this year rather than judge, and I'm hoping to have a few surprises up my sleeve, so we should have some great entries. Several of us are going to the AIS National Convention which will be in Victoria, BC, starting the last day in May.

by Gordon Jensen

FIND IT ON <http://www.tucsoniris.org>

If you'd like to find a little iris poetry, I can't think of a better place than on our own TAIS website. We have recently added quite a few more wonderfully written Iris poems. Here is a sample of one of them:

Iris, Most Beautiful Flower

Iris, most beautiful flower,
Symbol of life, love, and light;
Found by the brook, and the meadow,
Or lofty, on arable height.
You come in such glorious colors,
In hues, the rainbow surpass;
The chart of color portrays you,
In petal, or veins, of your class.
You bloom with the first in Winter,
With the last, in the Fall, you still show;
You steal the full beauty of Springtime,
With your fragrance and sharp color glow.
Your form and beauty of flower,
An artist's desire of full worth;
So Iris, we love you and crown you,
MOST BEAUTIFUL FLOWER ON EARTH!
- Edith Buckner Edwards (AIS bulletin January 1961)

If you'd like to find more, and view some of the newly added poetry then check out our TAIS website. Look for "Culture, Tips, & Articles" on the side bar, then click and look for the Poetry Link.....and enjoy the poetry.

Margie Valenzuela

TAIS BOARD MEETING November 13, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Dian Curran. Also present: Gordon Jensen, Ben Herman, Maxine Fifer and Kathy Chilton.

1. Newsletter: Newsletter will continue to be digital email. Members can opt for a mailed B/W hard copy.

2. Dues will increase to \$15 a year.

3. Meetings:

January 8 (Kathy Chilton coordinating) Try for outside speaker/lunch meeting.

February 12 (Dian Curran) Petterson's speaking on Fertilizers.

March 12 (Carolyn Cowan) Panel discussion on growing tips.

April 23 (Maxine Fifer) Show - Harlow's

June 18 Kathy Chilton -Program on Nat'l Conv. Victoria, BC / Board Meeting

August- September. Potluck/Region Auction - Sale Sept. 17 or 24

Oct. 15 Meeting TBA

FINANCIAL NEWS

Report for 11/1/09 thru 10/31/10:

Balance 11/1/09 \$4,959.73; Receipts \$4,077.77; Expenses \$6,612.69

Balance 10/31/10 \$7,404.54

Proposed Budget for 11/1/10 thru 10/31/11:

Expenses \$5,427; Receipts \$5,427 (43 memberships @ \$15 = \$645; Sales \$4,782)

MINUTES OF THE 10/16/10 TAIS MEETING

Held at El Parador, 2744 E. Broadway

After the 18 members attending had ordered lunch, Dian called the meeting to order and read the proposed slate for the coming year, which consisted of Dian Curran, President; Gordon Jensen, Vice Pres., Maxine Fifer, Treasurer, Kathy Chilton, Secretary and board members Margie Valenzuela, Bert Detwiler, Paul Bessey and Carolyn Cowan. An additional nomination from the floor was to add Ben Herman as a board member. The nominees were unanimously voted by acclamation.

A discussion followed about suggestions for the next year's programs, show, meeting places, etc., and the group was asked to write down ideas for the new Board to consider at their planning meeting, which has been postponed so that Valenzuela and Chilton can attend.

After lunch the group was entertained and enlightened by Dr. Carl Olson from the UofA, who spoke about insects in the Tucson area and showed a PowerPoint presentation.

The meeting ended at 2:15 p.m.

Member Profiles;

Ruth Over

Ruth has been a long time member of TAIS. She is one of those rare people who is a native of Arizona - not Tucson, but close by in Douglas. Her husband Frank, who is originally from Indiana, was a real estate appraiser in Tucson before he retired. After they were married, Ruth worked for him and attended some classes related to their business. They live in Tucson with their son Franklin, also known as Chip.

Her interest in iris began by going to the shows in the mall and buying a few iris at a time. When she realized she could produce the same impressive blooms in her own garden, she was hooked and became a member of the Iris Society. Besides the tall bearded and Louisianas, she has a wildflower garden, lupines, roses, etc. Ruth ad-

mittedly "just loves plants." Her garden changes with the seasons. She enjoys starting plants from seeds. Poppies are one of her particular favorites. Ruth is also a member of the Rose Society. Even with the work involved, she considers gardening her main form of relaxation.

During her time as a member of TAIS, she has been on the board of directors twice, helped with refreshments, taken part in panel discussions. When she was the publicity chairman, a full page feature of Melania Kutz's garden appeared in the Tucson Daily Star.

Because of her son's health needs and her gardening, she and her husband have limited time for other activities. However, they both remain avid supporters of the University of Arizona football team.



TUCSON AREA IRIS SOCIETY (TAIS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)

PHONE _____ EMAIL

Make checks payable to TAIS. Check Category below:

Single \$15 _____ Dual \$18 _____ Youth \$5 _____

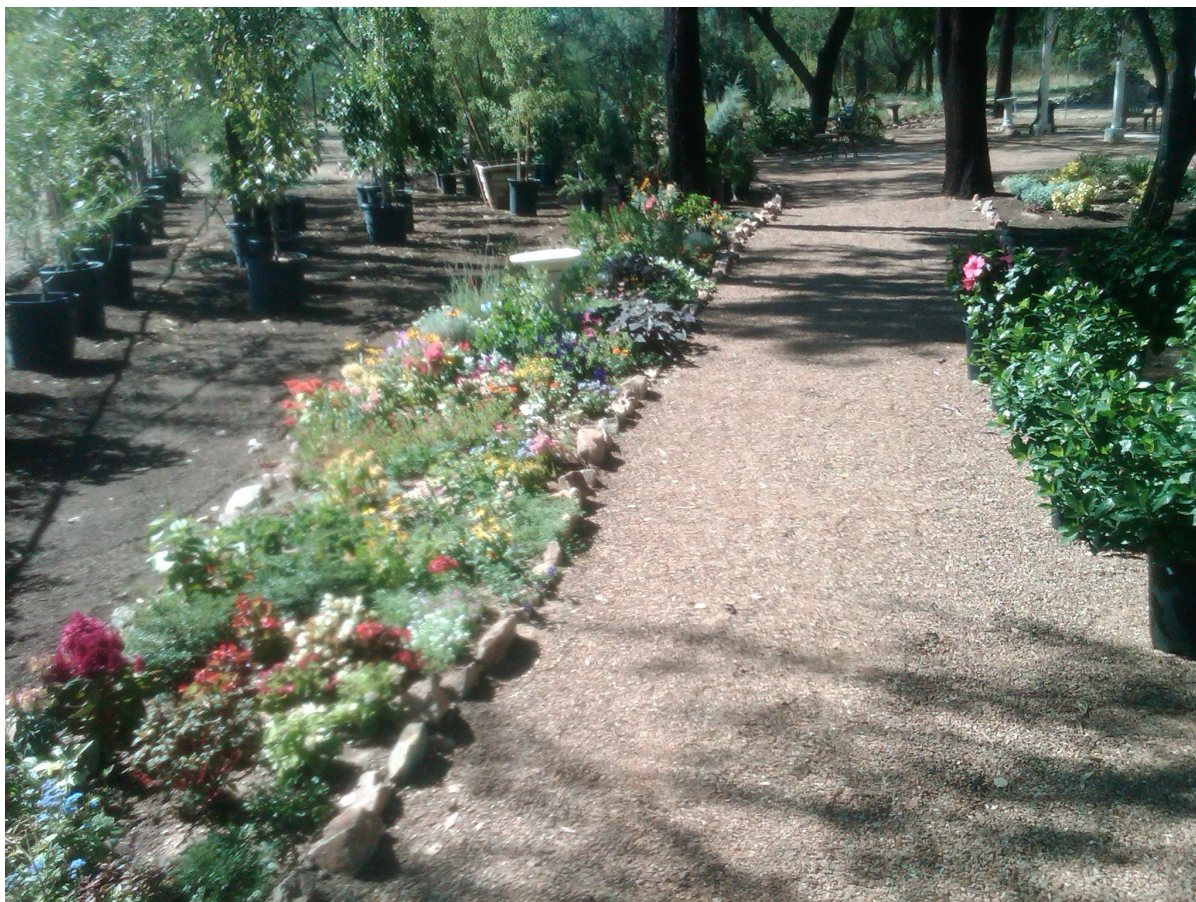
Mail this and your check to:

Maxine Fifer, Treasurer, 4527 N Camino Cardenal, Tucson, AZ 85718

Please check all opportunities that you would be interested in:

- Assist at iris sales
 Assist at Spring Show
 Bring treats to a meeting





Enchanted Desert Garden
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