

# *“Iris Roundup”*

*Region 15 Spring Trek*

*April 10 & 11, 2026*

*Hosted by*

*Sun Country Iris Society*



## *Future Events*

*2026 AIS National Convention — May 18-23  
New Jersey & New York*

*2026 Region 15 Fall Trek — October 17  
Tucson*

*2027 Region 15 Spring Trek — April 16-17  
San Diego*

*2027 AIS National Convention — April 27-May 1  
Oklahoma City*

## *Things To Do On Your Own*

### *Desert Botanical Garden*

*1201 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix  
website: <https://dbg.org>*

### *Japanese Friendship Garden*

*1125 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Phoenix  
website: <https://www.japanesefriendshipgarden.org>*

## *The garden at the Extension office*

*Sharon standing next to a bloom stalk of 'Bay Front' TB—G. Sutton*

# Table of Contents

	<i>page</i>
<i>Greetings</i> .....	2
<i>Schedule of Events</i> .....	3
<i>Extension Office Map</i> .....	4
<i>Region 15 Officers / SCIS Officers / Trek Committee</i> .....	5
<i>Guest Speaker Bonnie Nichols</i> .....	6
<i>Sharon Petterson's Garden</i> .....	8
<i>Ardi Kary's Garden</i> .....	11
<i>Julie Grove's Garden</i> .....	13
<i>Guest Iris List</i> .....	15
<i>Thank You</i> .....	22
<i>Region 15 Awards</i> .....	24
<i>Awards Ballot</i> .....	25

## ***Greetings from Co-Chairs***

*Hello and Welcome to the 2026 Spring Trek hosted by Sun Country Iris Society. My name is Ann Booth, Co-Chair along with Sharon Petterson. I became involved with iris in 2001 when I met Dwayne and it was at that time the iris journey began. We are snowbirds and live in Washington State and Gold Canyon Arizona. Both Dwayne and I are hybridizers and I have had a small number of registrations and introductions, primarily Miniature Tall Bearded and Standard Dwarf Bearded varieties. We are members of Sun Country Iris Society, King County Iris Society, and several other iris groups in Washington and Oregon. Both Dwayne and I are Master Judges. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy this iris weekend with us!!!!*

*I am Sharon Rovey Petterson, a native of Arizona who grew up with spuria iris my mother had. I first purchased irises from Shepherd's Iris Gardens in Phoenix, where we met Dr. Charles Jenkins who later brought his spuria hybridizing to our property. We joined SCIS in 2007. I am a judge and artistic judge and was President of SCIS for the past 3 years.*

## ***Welcome!!!!!!***

*Sun Country Iris Society and all of the Trek Committee extend a warm welcome to each and everyone of you!!! We truly hope you will enjoy your time touring the gardens, taking part in the Silent Auction and Raffle and enjoying meals and garden tours with friends, old and new and most of all having the opportunity to hear Bonnie Nichols, AIS President!!!!!! Again welcome and enjoy!!*

## ***Schedule of Events***

### ***Friday, April 10, 2026***

- 4:00 pm      *Registration at the University of Arizona Extension Office @ 4341 E Broadway Rd Phoenix, AZ  
Silent Auction & Raffle opens*
- 5:45 pm      *Mexican buffet dinner*
- 6:30 pm      *Bonnie Nichols on Novelty Iris JT with slides  
(1 hour classroom)*
- 8:00 pm      *Region 15 Board Meeting*

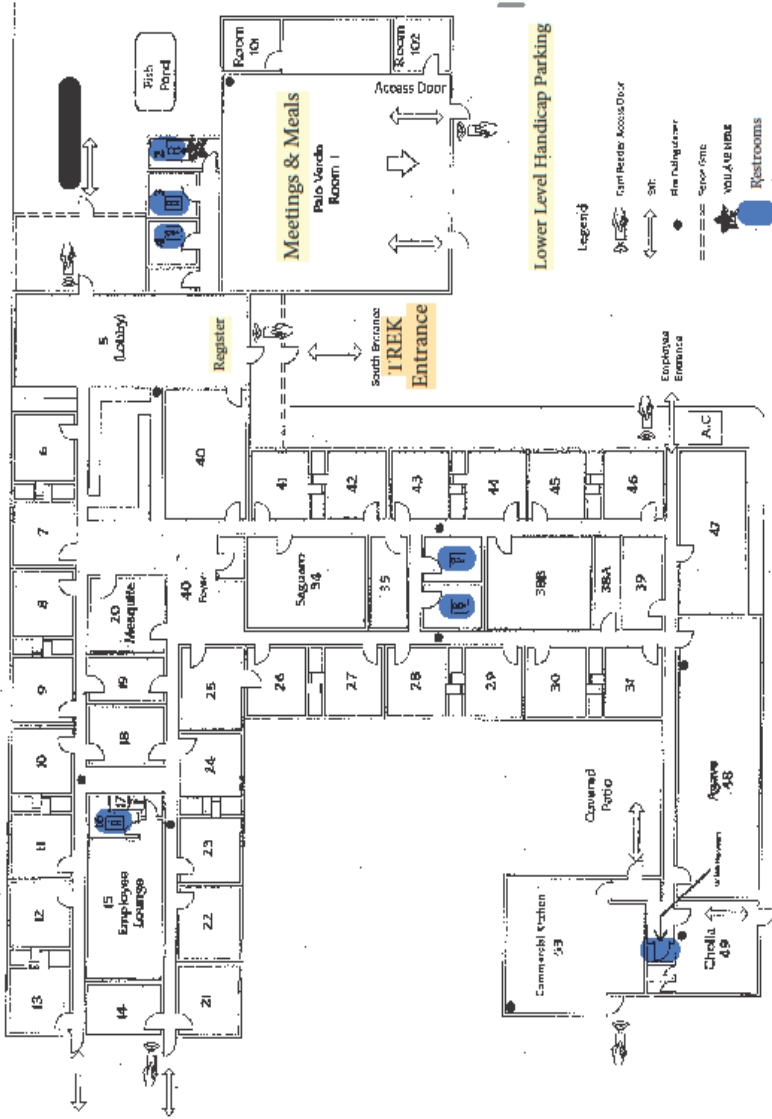
### ***Saturday, April 11, 2026***

- 7:00 am      *Registration & coffee*
- 8:00 am      *Bus loads & departs UofA Extension Office*
- 8:30 am      *Sharon Petterson's garden (breakfast items)*
- 9:00 am      *In garden Judges Training @ Sharon's garden by  
Bonnie Nichols (1 hour in-garden)*
- 10:40 am     *Bus departs for Ardi Kary's garden*
- 11:15 am     *Ardi Kary's garden (snacks & drinks)*
- 12:45 pm     *Bus departs for Julie Grove's garden*
- 1:15 pm      *Julie Grove's garden (snacks & drinks)*
- 2:30 pm      *Bus departs for UofA Extension Office*
- 3:00 pm      *Region 15 General Meeting  
Raffle & silent auction opens*
- 3:15 pm      *Dinner (pulled pork)*
- 4:00 pm      *Guest speaker Bonnie Nichols*
- 4:45 pm      *Raffle & Silent Auction winners announced*
- 5:30 pm      *Wrap-up and invitation to the Fall '26 and Spring '27  
Treks and the '26 AIS Convention.*

# Cooperative Extension Office 4341 E Broadway Road



Parking Lot Main Entrance  
Upper Level Parking



Extension Gardens: Shrubs, Flowers, Vegetables

## **Region 15 Officers—2026**

*Region Vice President:*.....Beth Train  
*Assistant Region Vice president:*.....Mary Hanson  
*Secretary:* ..... Lois Farr  
*Treasurer:*.....Cheryl Deaton

## **Sun Country Iris Society Officers—2026**

*President:*..... Kyria Peavy  
*Vice President:*.....Dwayne Booth  
*Secretary:*..... Ann Booth & Jenine Cook  
*Treasurer:* ..... Bill DeHaven  
*Directors:*..... Sharon Petterson / Stuart Early / Darol Jurn

## **Sun Country Iris Society Trek Committee**

*Many thanks to all the Sun Country Iris Society members who made this a success including the gardeners who cared for the guest irises and the following individuals who contributed a significant amount of personal time and resources:*

*Chairperson* ..... Ann Booth & Sharon Petterson  
*Treasurer* ..... Bill DeHaven  
*Secretary* ..... Valerie Wielgus  
*Guest Iris Chairperson* .....Dwayne Booth  
*Registration* ..... Ann Booth & Stuart Early  
*Table Arrangements* ..... Dale Liggett  
*Bus Captains & prizes*..... Kyria Peavy & Jenine Cook  
*Trek bags & content*..... Dale Liggett & Cynthia Huettner  
*Name badges*..... Ann Booth & Kyria Peavy  
*Raffle & Silent Auction* ..... Mary Platner  
*Door prizes* ..... Sharon Petterson & Jeanne Carlson  
*Trek Booklet*.....Dwayne Booth & Darol Jurn  
*Flyer*..... Julie Grove

# *Bonnie J Nichols*

*Dallas, Texas*

*Bonnie J Nichols of Dallas, Texas, is a nationally respected irisarian with more than 35 years of service and leadership in the iris and daylily communities. She currently serves as President of the American Iris Society (2024-2027) and has previously held the offices of First and Second Vice President. Bonnie is an Emeritus Judge of the American iris Society, an American Hemerocallis Exhibition and Garden Judge, and a longtime judges training instructor at local, regional and national levels.*

*A life member of the AIS and several specialty sections, Bonnie has chaired multiple national conventions, and has received numerous honors, including the AIS Distinguished Service Award and the Region 17 Distinguished Service Award. She and her husband, Hooker Nichols, own and operate Hillcrest Iris & Daylily Gardens in Dallas, where they hybridize and grow a wide range of irises, with a special emphasis on Novelty varieties.*

*Bonnie's interest in irises was inherited from her mother, Dorothy Devenport who provided Bonnie her first iris plants as a young child. Bonnie will tell you that she does not*



*remember a time without an iris garden. She joined the Iris Society of Dallas in the mid 1980's and became a judge for the AIS in 1991. It was meant to be that two lifetime irisarians would meet, fall in love and marry. She and Hooker are Emeritus Judges for the AIS and are both avid hybridizers.*

## NOTES

## ***Sharon Petterson's Bio & Garden***

*Sharon and Gary Petterson's 1.5 acre flood irrigated home participated with host garden in the 2009 Trek. The landscape was designed and installed by Gary (and family) in 1984-5 after they moved to Gilbert from Glendale, Arizona. For nearly 40 years, the Petterson's owned Gardener's World Nursery and Gardener's Eden Landscaping in the Japanese Garden area in Phoenix. During that time, they grew poinsettias and hosted a Poinsettia Festival for 28 years with over 25,000 poinsettias. Gary passed in 2013 and Sharon reduced the spuria iris garden area to build a casita in 2019. Daughter Kari Petterson and Steve Murray remodeled the main house and moved in 2020. They are the main labor for remodeling and caring for the gardens that have 30 fruit trees, many unusual ornamental plants, both bearded and spuria iris, as well as metal art from Sharon's years growing up on a dairy farm in Glendale Arizona.*

*Guest iris are located along the front circle drive. Other iris, plants and flowers are scattered all around the property. Spuria iris grow behind the casita where the late Dr Charles Jenkins worked on his new introductions. There are a few guest spurias in this area but most*



*are Jenkins Noids that were not introduced. Louisiana iris grow in tubs of water near the gravel drive to Sharon's casita. Francelle Edward's seedlings grow around the apple trees along the drive.*

## Map of Sharon Petterson's Garden



- Refreshments are available on the back patio of the main house.
- Seating is available on both the Main House and Casita patios.
- Restroom locations are indicated with an "R" on the above map.
- Most garden beds contain iris. Feel free to wander and enjoy. If walking through the spuria iris or wandering in the irrigated garden, please watch your footing.

NOTES



'Paul Gossett' LA— H. Nichols

## ***Ardi Kary's Bio & Garden***

*Ardi Kary has the most beautiful iris garden in the Scottsdale area. Her love and journey with iris began in the 1980's when her parents were growing them and it was also in the 1980's that Ardi joined Sun Country Iris Society. Her parents lived in Salt Lake City Utah and after her mother passed away, Ardi continued to chat with her father every week and he continued to send iris to her for her garden.*

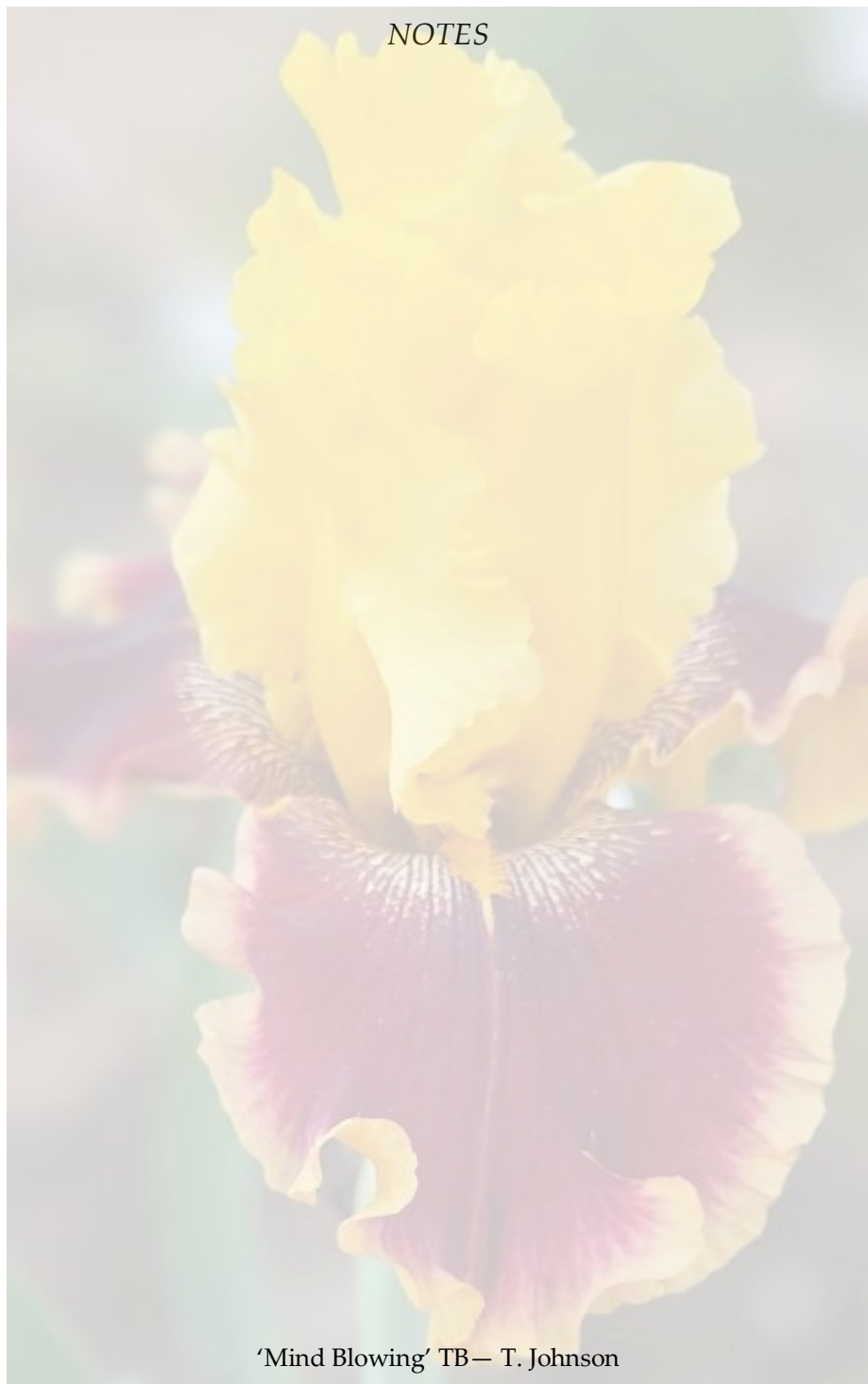
*In the mid 80's she was asked to have her garden on tour for the 1987 National Iris Society Tour. She agreed to be on tour even though her home was in the path of a new freeway being built so she moved to a new home and relocated her iris. Ardi has continued to grow iris ever since.*

*Ardi has served in a variety of positions with Sun Country Iris Society including President and Judges Training Chair for the club. Her commercial garden features Tall bearded, Arilbreds and Spurias primarily and she has the largest collection of Arilbreds in the area. She also introduced iris for several local iris hybridizers, the most notable was Francelle Edwards. Some of those introductions included 'Cloud Reflection', 'Coral Dancer', and 'Toltec Talisman'. Each year she offers members of our club the opportunity to come to her garden and hybridize.*



***Welcome to Ardi's garden!!!!***

NOTES



'Mind Blowing' TB— T. Johnson

## *Julie Grove's Bio & Garden*

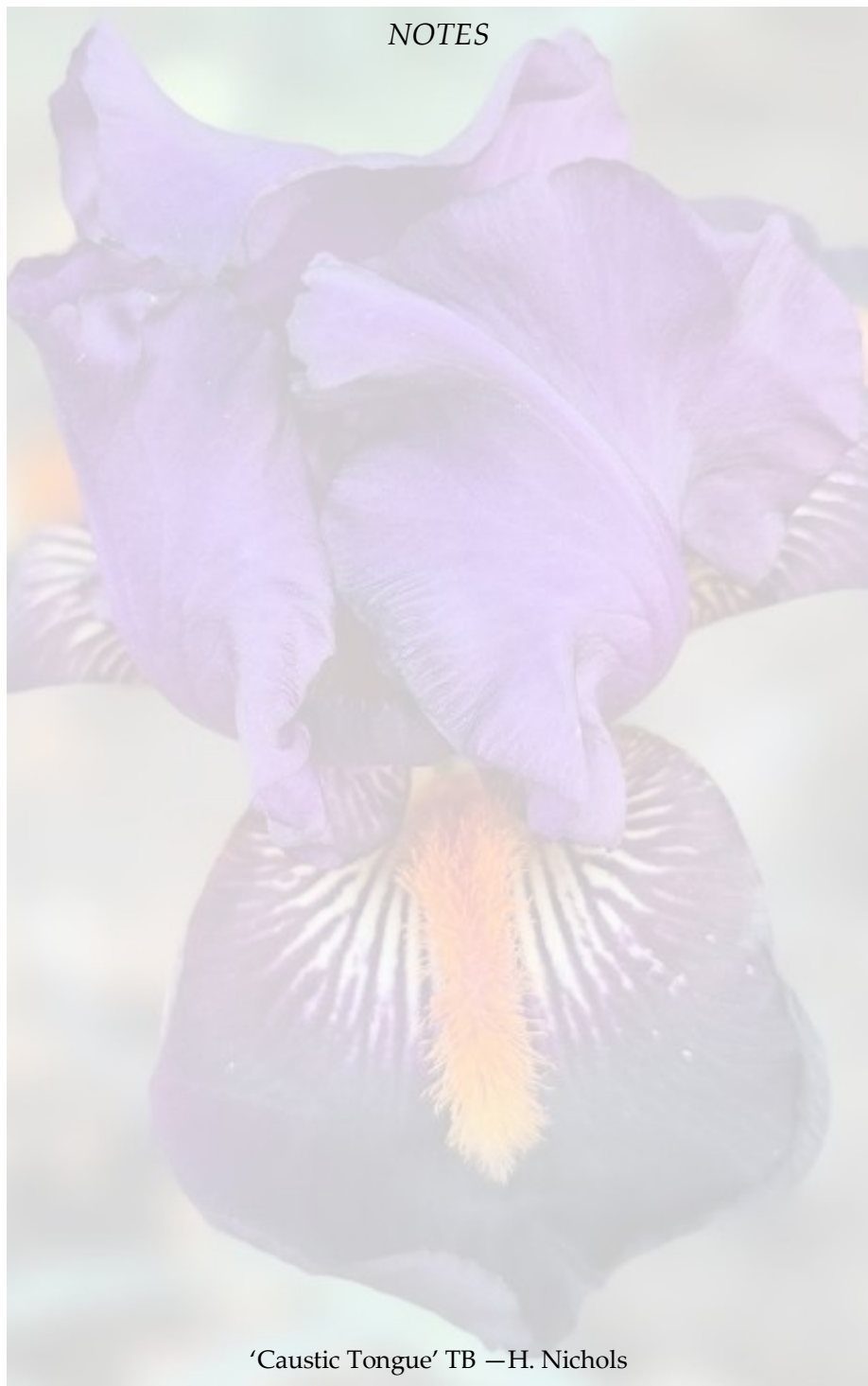
*Julie Grove is a Master Gardener with a lifelong love of digging in the dirt and dreaming big in bloom. While she's cultivated everything from perennials to pollinator havens, she's newly smitten with the glamorous world of irises—and has happily fallen down that rabbit hole.*

*After recently doubling the size of her garden (because clearly there wasn't quite enough room before), Julie has been busy tucking tall bearded irises, Louisiana irises, and a growing collection of rebloomers into her expanding beds. Each season brings new experiments in color, height, and timing, as she discovers just how dramatically these standouts can transform the landscape.*

*Though seasoned in the garden, Julie considers herself a joyful student when it comes to irises. She's excited to welcome you through her garden paths, share what she's learning, and continue growing—right alongside her ever-expanding iris collection.*



NOTES



'Caustic Tongue' TB —H. Nichols

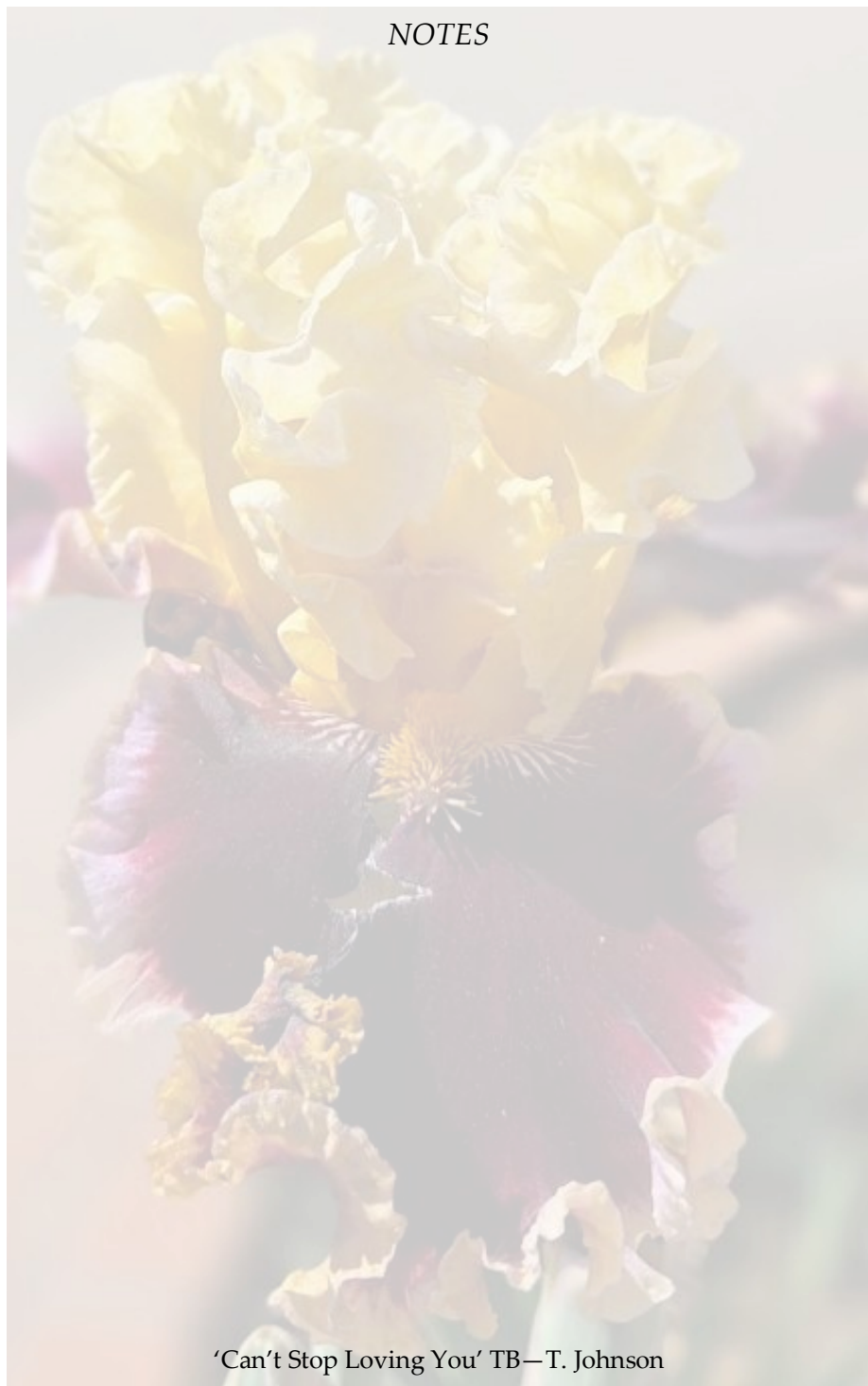
## *Region 15 2026 Trek Guest Irises*

<i>Iris/Hybridizer</i>	<i>Intro</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Award</i>
<i>Alien Encounter (H. Nichols)</i>	2021	LA	LA
<i>All In Vein (T. Johnson)</i>	2021	TB	Barr
<i>Allen James Tetreault (H. Dash)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>Atlanta Is Burning (H. Nichols)</i>	2021	LA	LA
<i>Awesome Wonder (T. Johnson)</i>	2020	TB	Barr
<i>Bersameeta (J. Geditz)</i>	R2024	TB	Sdlg
<i>Black Stetson (J. Hedgecock)</i>	2020	SPU	SPU
<i>Botty Creek Apparition (H. Nichols)</i>	2022	LA	LA
<i>Bonnie's Pleasure (R. Tasco)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>Bountiful Bloom (P. Black)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>Brazos Moon (H. Nichols)</i>	2016	LA	LA
<i>Bright And Shining Star (P. Black)</i>	2020	TB	Barr
<i>Broadway Dazzle (H. Nichols)</i>	2022	LA	LA
<i>Caddo Campfire (H. Nichols)</i>	2024	LA	LA
<i>Can't Stop Loving You (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>Carnival Bandana (H. Nichols)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>Castle On The Hill (T. Johnson)</i>	2022	TB	Barr
<i>Caustic Tongue (H. Nichols)</i>	2020	TB	Barr
<i>Chocolate Delight (H. Dash)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>Coloring Book (P. Black)</i>	2024	TB	Barr

## *Region 15 2026 Trek Guest Irises*

<i>Iris/Hybridizer</i>	<i>Intro</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Award</i>
<i>Crazy Ideas (H. Nichols)</i>	2019	LA	LA
<i>Crescent City Blues (H. Nichols)</i>	2023	LA	LA
<i>Dallas Moonlight (H. Nichols)</i>	2017	LA	LA
<i>Dare To Be Different (T. Johnson)</i>	2022	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Dart Mission (R. Tasco)</i>	2024	AB	<i>Tasco</i>
<i>Delicious Dessert (H. Nichols)</i>	2022	LA	LA
<i>Feast For The Eyes (P. Black)</i>	2023	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Flame Stitch (T. Johnson)</i>	2022	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Frank's Dream (H. Dash)</i>	2021	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Fresh And Lovely (R. Tasco)</i>	2023	AB	AB
<i>Galactic Gigolo (P. Black)</i>	2023	AB	AB
<i>Garden Appeal (P. Black)</i>	2024	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Gentle Manner (K. Keppel)</i>	2020	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Girl With A Chill (J. Geditz)</i>	R2023	TB	<i>Sdlg</i>
<i>Gone Viral (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Goodwin Fire (G. Miller)</i>	2019	LA	LA
<i>Gypsy Rhapsody (H. Dash)</i>	2024	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Hico Outlaw (H. Nichols)</i>	2022	LA	LA
<i>Ignite The Light (T. Johnson)</i>	2021	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>I'll Be The One (T. Johnson)</i>	2024	TB	<i>Barr</i>

NOTES



'Can't Stop Loving You' TB—T. Johnson

## *Region 15 2026 Trek Guest Irises*

<i>Iris/Hybridizer</i>	<i>Intro</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Award</i>
<i>Imperial Commando (H. Dash)</i>	2023	TB/SA	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Improbable Plot (H. Nichols)</i>	2016	LA	LA
<i>It's Nice Tobe Nice (J. Geditz)</i>	R2023	TB	<i>Sdlg</i>
<i>Just Between Us (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>King's Coronation (L. Rhodes)</i>	2025	TB	<i>Holk</i>
<i>Lavender Sonata (L. Rhodes)</i>	2023	TB	<i>Holk</i>
<i>Love You So (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Lust For Lime (R. Treadway)</i>	2024	LA	LA
<i>M.D. Faith (R. Treadway)</i>	2024	LA	LA
<i>Mark My Words (T. Johnson)</i>	2024	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Mindblowing (T. Johnson)</i>	2020	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Naked Beauty (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>Never Forget A Lady (T. Geditz)</i>	R2024	TB	<i>Sdlg</i>
<i>Never Never Land (P. Black)</i>	2024	TB	<i>Barr</i>
<i>North Star Kelly (J. Geditz)</i>	R2023	TB	<i>Sdlg</i>
<i>Optical Illusion (R. Treadway)</i>	2020	LA	LA
<i>Paper Parasol (R. Treadway)</i>	2024	LA	LA
<i>Paris Follies (H. Nichols)</i>	2016	LA	LA
<i>Pat Norvell (H. Nichols)</i>	2021	LA	LA
<i>Patriotic (P. Black)</i>	2023	BB	<i>Craig</i>

## *Region 15 2026 Trek Guest Irises*

<i>Iris/Hybridizer</i>	<i>Intro</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Award</i>
<i>Paul Gossett (H. Nichols)</i>	2021	LA	LA
<i>Petal Power (E. Rieniets)</i>	2023	BB	Craig
<i>Pinch Me Pink (R. Tasco)</i>	2024	TB/SA	Barr
<i>Pink Martini (L. Rhodes)</i>	2023	TB/SA	Holk
<i>Rodeo Rebel (E. Rieniets)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>Running In Circles (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>SDLG #CJM-50-X (J. Hedgecock)</i>	N/A	SPU	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #LR20-06-13 (L. Rhodes)</i>	N/A	TB	Hamner
<i>SDLG 16-64-B (J. Geditz)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG 19-24-A (J. Geditz)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG 19-242-C (J. Geditz)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #17e5-10-21R1Sp6 (E. Rieniets)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #28E4-21-21R3Sp8 (E. Rieniets)</i>	N/A	BB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #31K23E4-25-23 (E. Rieniets)</i>	N/A	BB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #39TB40SA/E5-4-22 (E. Rieniets)</i>	N/A	TB/SA	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #LR19.17.04 (L Rhodes)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #LR20.02.01 (L Rhodes)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #LR21.03.02 (L Rhodes)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #LR21.03.05 (L Rhodes)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg
<i>SDLG #LR21.03.09 (L Rhodes)</i>	N/A	TB	Sdlg

## *Region 15 2026 Trek Guest Irises*

<i>Iris/Hybridizer</i>	<i>Intro</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Award</i>
<i>Sedona Skies (D. Journ)</i>	2026	SPU	SPU
<i>Shine A Light (H. Dash)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>Snazzy Dresser (J. Geditz)</i>	R2023	TB	Sdlg
<i>Stephanie Returns (H. Dash)</i>	2024	TB/RE	Barr
<i>Storm Lord (R. Tasco)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>Sugar Baron (H. Nichols)</i>	2023	LA	LA
<i>Sunny Resort (H. Nichols)</i>	2022	LA	LA
<i>Sure To Turn Heads (P. Black)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>Terra Cotta Surprise (L. Rhodes)</i>	2023	TB	Holk
<i>This Is Crazy (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>Unsung Hero (H. Nichols)</i>	2021	LA	LA
<i>Violet Vision (R. Treadway)</i>	2019	LA	LA
<i>Vivid Sunset (T. Johnson)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>We Are Magic (T. Johnson)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>White Chameleon (R. Tasco)</i>	2023	TB	Barr
<i>White Noise (R. Tasco)</i>	2022	AB	Tasco
<i>Wichita Lineman (J. Hedgecock)</i>	2014	SPU	SPU
<i>Wild About You (P. Black)</i>	2024	TB	Barr
<i>Winnifred Sturtevant (H. Nichols)</i>	2021	LA	LA

NOTES



‘Sherbet Bomb’

## *Thank You*

*A special thanks to all of the hybridizers who provided guest irises for the Region 15 2026 Spring Trek.*

*Thank you to all of the Sun Country Iris Society Members who worked tirelessly to make this event possible.*

*Thank you to the Sun Country Iris Society club members who provided and cared for the guest Iris in their gardens. Without their dedicated support this trek would not have been possible.*

*Thanks to all of the members and vendors who contributed time and donated items for the silent auction, raffle and bus prizes.*

*Thank you to the sponsors AND SCIS Members that donated many items toward the raffle and silent auction:*



## ***Donors***

### ***Commerical gardens & commercial donors:***

*Brothers Business Machines*

*Schreiner's Gardens*

*Summer Winds Nursery (in Phoenix & Mesa)*

*Superstition Iris Gardens*

*Treeland Nurseries*

*Whitfill Nursery (Gilbert)*

### ***Individual donors and many more:***

*Hall Badshaw*

*Dwayne & Ann Booth*

*Lorna Corlett*

*John & Carolyn Honnette*

*Cynthia Huttner*

*Darol Jurn*

*Sharon Luebkin*

*Kyria Peavy*

*Sharon Petterson*

*Mary Platner*

*Christine Smith*

## ***AIS Region 15 Awards Ballot Guidance***

*Vote your choice for the BEST cultivar in each of the categories listed below. The selected iris need not be a guest iris, but preferred if available. You will find your ballot on the last page of this booklet inside the back cover. Turn in your ballot when you return to the UofA - Maricopa County Extension Office. Winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening.*

### **HERB HOLK AWARD**

*Best Tall Bearded iris cultivar by an IN-Region 15 hybridizer*

### **CLAIRE BARR AWARD**

*Best Tall Bearded iris cultivar by an OUT-of-Region 15 hybridizer*

### **BERNARD HAMNER AWARD**

*Best seedling by an IN-Region 15 hybridizer*

### **BEST SEEDLING AWARD**

*Best seedling by an OUT-of-Region 15 hybridizer*

### **BEST SPURIA AWARD**

*Best spuria iris cultivar*

### **BEST LOUISIANA**

*Best Louisiana iris cultivar*

### **RICK TASCO AWARD**

*Best Arilbred iris cultivar*

### **TOM CRAIG AWARD**

*Best Median iris cultivar*

*(includes IB, BB, MTB, and SDB irises)*

## ***AIS Region 15 Awards Ballot***

*Please vote your choice for the BEST cultivar in each of the categories listed below. Turn your ballot in upon returning to the Maricopa Extension Office. Winners will be announced at the Awards*

***HERB HOLK AWARD***

***CLAIRE BARR AWARD***

***BERNARD HAMNER AWARD***

***BEST SEEDLING AWARD***

***BEST LOUISIANA AWARD***

***BEST SPURIA AWARD***

***RICK TASCO AWARD***

***TOM CRAIG AWARD***

