

AIS REGION 14 SPRING BOARD MEETING

Region 14

The American Iris Society

Aptos, CA

Friday, April 27, 2012

By: Phyllis Wilburn, Secretary

Executive Committee and General Committee members present: RVP Jeanne Plank, ARVP and Judges Training Chair Kathy Braaten, Secretary Phyllis Wilburn, Treasurer Helen Franklin, Bulletin Chair/Editor Tom Karwin, Director Carol Dahout, Director Gordon Nicholson, Immediate Past RVP Lynn Williams, Honorary Awards, John Pesek, Science Chair John Stremel; Trophies and Awards Chair David Cadd; Youth Chair Lorraine Nicholson.

Absent Board Members: Director Larry Lockhart, Historian Committee, Jean Richter, Membership Chair, Mary Ann Horton Scholarship Chair Terri Hudson; (Absent in the line of Duty) Carolyn Craft, Finance Chair;

Attending Affiliate Presidents: Mary Collins, CBRIS, Helen Franklin, representing JMGIS; Kathy Braaten, SFIS; Anna Cadd, SRIS; Sandy Mann, representing SJIS; Bill Fink, Sacramento IS; Tom Karwin, MBIS; John Stremel, WIS, Terry Toney representing FIS; Kitty Loberg, RIS.
Affiliates Not Formally Represented: LVIS; LTCIS; SNIS; MDIS; Shasta IS; SBMIS.

Other signed-in Attendees: Bob Plank, Barbara Pesek, Elaine Fischer, and Joe Ghio.

CALL TO ORDER:

Regional Vice President, Jeanne Plank called the Spring Meeting of the Region 14 Board of Director's to order on Friday, April 27, 2012 at 7:02 pm. RVP Plank thanked the Monterey Bay Iris Society for hosting this Spring Regional meeting. After introducing regional officers, RVP Plank extended a welcome to all, and asked everyone to sign the attendance sheet being circulated. On a motion from Lynn Williams, seconded by Helen Franklin, the minutes of the Fall 2011 Regional Meeting were approved as published.

Reports from the board:

Secretary Phyllis Wilburn said that the Standing Rules had been updated to reflect the voting at the Fall Meeting, and that the updated version had been emailed to all affiliate Presidents and Region 14 board members and chairpersons.

Judges Training Chair, Kathy Braaten announced that 7 judges training sessions have been held so far this year. In addition, a blind judging session, coordinated by Linda Stremel, is scheduled for tomorrow, April 28, at the Cummins garden. Joe Ghio will give TB judges training in his garden on Sunday, April 29. Fred Kerr will give garden training at Horton's Iris

Garden in Loomis on May 5, and Anna Cadd will give in-garden TB training on Dykes Medal/Modern iris comparison at the LBGC garden in Santa Rosa on May 12. The current Region 14 judge count lists 3 apprentices, 25 garden/exhibition judges, 12 Master Judges, and 6 Emeritus Judges. Activity reports will be sent out to judges shortly and are due June 1, 2012.

Treasurer Helen Franklin announced that the year-end Region treasury balance should be in the next bulletin.

Director Gordon Nicholson had no report, and Director Larry Lockhart was not present.

Director, Carol Dahout reported that the SF garden Show was wonderful affair. RVP Plank expressed the Region's gratitude to the Clara B Rees Iris Society (CBRIS) for organizing and coordinating the Region 14/AIS presence at the show. Carol reported that this year R14 did not pay for electricity, and that members and former members of local clubs had staffed the booth. Discussions followed on the validity of people staffing the booth who were not AIS or local club members, and also on the future possibility of being able to sell irises at the show from the booth.

Historian Jean Richter was not able to be present for this evening's meetings.

RVP Plank pointed out that John Pesek is now chair of Honorary Awards Committee. Anna Cadd, outgoing HA Committee Chair offered help to John during the transition.

Ann Pike representing E-Services requested that changes should be sent directly to her when an Affiliate needs their info updated on the R14 web site. RVP Plank strongly suggested that each Affiliate designate an "e-ambassador" to monitor the Affiliate's information on the R14 web site. Kathy Braaten observed that value that could come from having a calendar on the site.

Editor, Tom Karwin, said that he has been overwhelmed with other activities so that the R14 Spring Bulletin has not been published. Much discussion ensued about electronic communication with many suggestions that might help the Region, including: having each Affiliate designate a member-reporter for the Bulletin; having someone synthesize articles from R14 Affiliate newsletters (noting that not all R14 Affiliates have a newsletter); having each Region Director report for their area of the Region; suggested by Kitty Loberg -- having a Facebook-like page using a program called Word Press, and relevantly, creating a steering committee to discuss the issue of electronic communications and make recommendations to the Board. Tom indicated that the deadline for the 2012 Summer Bulletin is June 1, and he hoped that everyone would have submittals on time.

Membership Chair Mary Ann Horton, unable to be present, had sent a report to RVP Plank stating that AIS membership in Region 14 was holding steady.

Scholarship Chair, Terry Hudson, also not present, sent a letter written by Jason Heutmaker of Modesto, the recipient of the 2012 Region 14 \$500 Scholarship Award. RVP Plank read the

award-winning letter. Jason Heutmaker will be attending Humboldt College, studying the relationship between Bees and Irises.

Science Chair, John Stremel, reported that he would have an article in Bulletin on a future project he is proposing.

Awards Chair, Anna Cadd, announced that there would be no Region 14 Garden Awards at this Regional meeting. Monterey Bay Iris Society will have a ballot for the favorite iris.

Youth Chair, Lorraine Nicholson announced that four youths via the Las Vegas Affiliate attended the AIS convention in Ontario, CA through scholarships from Region 14. There are now 35 youths in the Youth project and they will be sent irises by Lorraine.

Anna Cadd introduced a discussion about putting advertisements for Region 14 into other horticultural magazines such as Pacific Horticulture. It was moved and seconded that R 14 investigate placing one year of ads for AIS/R14 in Pacific Horticulture and tracking the results. Motion carried.

Kitty Loberg discussed the possible dissolution of Redwood Iris Society. She stated the Affiliate had voted that, in the event of their dissolution, they request that their leftover money be earmarked for a startup of a future club. Lynn Williams moved, Gordon Nicholson seconded that in the event of dissolution of an R14 affiliate, R14 may accept and hold funds in a restricted account for use in starting up new affiliates within the Region. Motion carried.

Kathy Braaten, President of Sierra Foothills IS announced that the 2012 Fall Meeting will be held October 27-29 in Roseville, CA. The speaker will be Paul Black. Early registration is \$55, and the hotel is the Orchid Suites, with a room rate of \$69 for room, Lunch will be included but dinner will be on your own.

John Pesek moved to adjourn, and Kathy Braaten seconded. Adjourned at 8:00 pm.

General Meeting

RVP Plank opened general meeting at 8:10 pm:

Announcements were made as to what was generally discussed at the Board Meeting.

Concerns were raised about the notification process for the Bulletin. Committee Chair Tom Karwin said that Affiliate presidents would be notified when the newest Bulletin issue was available for the web site, but, he pointed out, we have skipped the 2012 Spring Bulletin.

Betty Ford expressed concern and voiced the opinion that distracting and conflicting activities should not be taking place while the General Meeting is in session. RVP Plank indicated that she wanted to combine the Board and General Meetings sessions. There was also a question about guidelines for Spring Regionals, and whether or not any such guidelines exist.

Kitty Loberg moved, John Pesek seconded, that the Region 14 Board investigate combining the Board and General Membership Meetings, and propose bylaws changes for implementation.
Motion carried.

Following a motion from Kathy Bratten, seconded by Helen Franklin, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.