

We're hooking up!!



DOUBLE TREAT

The Joint Convention of the
Society for Louisiana Irises
and the **Spuria Iris Society**
Dallas , TX, Friday, April 26 –
Saturday, April 27, 2024

- Five gardens on tour displaying both Louisianas and Spurias
- Learn how these beardless irises share the same gardens
- Expand your iris friendships



Hosted by the Iris Society
of Dallas

Click here for details.

Schedule, Registration Form, Hotel Information

Joint SLI & Spuria Convention

Dallas, Texas

The Iris Society of Dallas is proud to be host for the 2024 first-ever joint Louisiana and Spuria Iris Convention. Both Louisiana and Spuria irises bloom at the same time in Texas. For those of you that attended the 2023 AIS National Convention in Dallas, you saw how well the Louisiana and Spuria iris grow. We have FIVE area gardens to tour plus other exciting things for iris lovers to enjoy.

Thursday, April 25th is registration at the Fairfield Inn in Terrell. Terrell is east of the Dallas area. Plant sales begin at 4:00 p.m. The Fairfield Inn is surrounded by restaurants including fast food but also Chili's, Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse, and Chuy's Mexican Food. If you would like an early peek at the Nichols' Garden, they are hosting a hamburger cookout at 6:00 p.m.

On Friday, April 26th the bus will board and travel to Rodney & Cathy Barton's Garden in Hickory Creek (north of DFW). Be sure to ask Rodney about the iris Species they grow. Continuing further north of DFW we will tour Judy Schneider's Garden near Whitesboro.



Judy was on tour for the 2023 iris convention. You will enjoy seeing her Louisiana irises growing in large metal stock tanks. We will enjoy a sandwich

lunch at Judy's Garden. Besides irises, she is an avid animal lover – Nubian goats, pet cows, mini donkey, poultry and ornamental birds in two backyard aviaries.

Our final garden tour of the day will take us back into Dallas to Kelly Patterson's Garden. Kelly grows her irises beautifully in large containers. She has some of Pat Norvell's seedlings to show us.

After touring three gardens, we will travel back to the hotel and following a short break, the Louisiana and Spuria Silent Auctions will open for business.

Our evening continues with supper (hint: Mexican food) and hybridizers presentations for Louisiana and Spuria irises. The Hybridizer programs are always a delight to see their up-and-coming creations. The evening will conclude with a program on Louisiana irises.



On Saturday, April 27th the bus will load and travel a short distance to the garden of Hooker & Bonnie J Nichols. The Nichols grow bearded irises as well as daylilies, Spuria and Louisiana iris. Hooker is a Louisiana iris hybridizer and has won the coveted Mary Swords DeBallion Award the last two



Left: A portion of the beardless iris collection in the Schneider garden. Middle: The Nichols garden. Above: 'Sookie' (Scott Lively) in the Nichols garden. Photos by Robert Treadway during the 2023 AIS convention.

years (Watermelon Wizard and Melody Wilhoit). From the Nichols Garden we will travel to the Michael and Mary Ellen Reed Garden in Farmers Branch. We enjoyed the Reed Garden this past April at the national convention. The Reeds' corner lot garden is enjoyed by visitors all throughout the spring and summer.

Following the Reed Garden, we will travel a short distance to the Farmers Branch Rose Garden. We will have lunch at the Pavilion before traveling back to the hotel.

Saturday evening activities begin with a presentation on Spuria irises and conclude with an Awards Dinner and live plant auction of Louisiana and Spuria irises.

On Sunday morning, April 28th there will be two garden judges training classes (1- hour Louisiana and 1-hour Spuria) at the Nichols' garden that is 15 minutes from the convention hotel.

The Iris Society of Dallas

SLI-Spuria Convention

APRIL 26 - 28, 2024

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott - 351 Market Center Drive Terrell, Texas

Hotel room reservations: (972) 551-3200 ask for Iris Society of Dallas rate of \$115 per night

Registration deadline is March 25, 2024. Registrations will be acknowledged by email only.

You will receive a packet with additional information, name tags, and tickets at check-in.

PLEASE PRINT - Fill out one form per person attending.

Name to appear on name badge: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Do you plan on attending the Judges Training? (you do not need to be or be interested in becoming a judge).

YES ☐ NO ☐

Registration includes Friday lunch/dinner and Saturday lunch/dinner

PRICE

TOTAL

Adult Registration

\$229

=

Youth Registration (younger than 19 on 3/25/2024)

\$129

=

LATE CHARGE if postmarked/emailed after 03/25/2024

\$10

=

GRAND TOTAL (Registration + Late Charge, if applicable)

FRIDAY Lunch:

☐ Sandwiches

☐ Vegetarian

FRIDAY Dinner:

☐ Taco Bar

☐ Vegetarian

SATURDAY Lunch:

☐ Baked Potato & Salad

SATURDAY Dinner:

☐ Lasagna

☐ Vegetarian

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS:

☐ Gluten Free

☐ Lactose Intolerant

☐ Diabetic

☐ Other - please describe here: _____

MOBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

☐ Wheelchair/scooter/cart

☐ Cane/walker

Payment :

☐

CHECK - Make Payable to "Iris Society of Dallas"

Check # _____

☐

CREDIT CARD

☐

VISA

☐

MASTER CARD

☐

AMERICAN EXPRESS

For Credit Card payment, please supply this required information:

Card holder's name as it appears on the card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiry date _____ Billing zip code _____ CVV# _____

No Refunds after March 25, 2024

Refunds for cancellations requested on or after March 25, 2024 will be made at the discretion of the host society.

Send Reservation and Payment to: Dell Perry, 800 Purcell Dr. Plano, TX 75025

(972-816-3418) or seandelirises@yahoo.com

SLI & Spuria Mini-Convention
April 26-28, 2024
Tentative Schedule
(Subject to Change)

Thursday, April 25, 2024

4:00 p.m. – Registration at Hotel
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. – Plant sales at Hotel
5:45 p.m. – Carpool to Nichols garden for Hamburger Supper

Friday, April 26, 2024

8:00 a.m. – Buses leave for iris gardens from Hotel
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. travel from hotel to Hickory Creek (Barton)
9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Tour Barton garden
10:45 a.m. – Leave Barton garden and drive to Schneider Garden
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. -Drive to Schneider Garden
12:00 – 1:30 p.m. - Sandwich lunch @ Schneider Garden
1:45 – 2:45 p.m. - Travel to Patterson Garden
3:00 – 3:45 p.m. - Tour Patterson Garden
4:00 – 5:00 p.m. - Travel back to Hotel
5:00 p.m. – Silent Auction open & plant sales
6:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Light supper with hybridizers presentation & Louisiana iris program

Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:00 a.m. – Buses leave for iris gardens from Hotel
8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Travel to Nichols Garden
8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Tour Nichols Garden
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Travel to Reed Garden
11: 45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Lunch at Farmers Branch Pavilion (baked potato & salad)
12:30 – 12:45 p.m. Travel to Reed Garden
1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Tour Reed Garden
2:15 – 3:15 p.m. Travel back to Hotel
4:00 – Silent Auction open and plant sales
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Spuria presentation
6:15 p.m. – Silent Auction ends
6:30 – 9:30 p.m. – Awards Dinner with live auction

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Garden judging at Nichols garden - TBD

You're cordially invited!

The Society for Louisiana Iris and the Spuria Iris Society
are convening in Dallas, TX — April 26 - 28, 2024

We all hope that you can make a trip to Dallas, Texas to visit some beautiful gardens. Some of the gardens you may have seen if you attended the Spring Dallas Convention in 2023, and then we added a couple of more. This time though, the focus is on Louisiana and Spuria Irises.

The Michael and Mary Ellen Reed Garden (Farmers Branch, TX)

The Reed garden is adjacent to a beautiful golf course. The Reeds grow an assortment of bearded, Louisiana and spuria irises. They also grow daylilies, roses, and an annual vegetable garden. The Reed garden also has clematis, perennials, and annuals that make it a delight to visit.

The Schneider's Shady Spot Ranch Garden (Whitesboro, TX)

Judy Schneder is the owner of the Shady Spot, located about an hour north of the Dallas/Fort Worth metro area. The Shady Spot focuses primarily on raising irises of many classes. The garden is the result of a lifelong passion for gardening, flowers and animals.

The Nichol's Hillcrest Garden (Dallas, TX)

The Hooker and Bonnie J. Nichols garden, east of Dallas, sits on two acres of land that they purchased four years ago. The Nichols own and operate Hillcrest Iris & Daylily Gardens. The garden includes many plants besides irises and daylilies. Bonnie's love for novelty irises flows over to unusual and unique sunflowers, Zinnias, puppies, morning glories, and other annuals. Hooker and Bonnie are both hybridizers. Bonnie focuses on novelty irises, and Hooker hybridizes bearded, Louisiana and spuria irises.

The Rodney Barton Garden

In his own words: *"I live and garden on two acres in Hickory Creek, Texas, north of Dallas with my wife Cathy. I was originally most interested in growing vegetables, but my property came with a large bed of bearded irises. As time went on I collected more and more of them. The bug really hit me after I discovered the other classes of irises including Louisiana, spuria and species irises. In the early 1990's I joined SIGNA (the Species Iris Group of North America), the American Iris Society and the Society for Louisiana Irises. I took over as SIGNA membership secretary in 1999, and served as editor for almost 10 years. Now serve as president. Since retiring in 2013, I have been active in the Iris Society of Dallas. My other major gardening interest is native plants, and I am a member of the Native Plant Society of Texas.*

The Kelly Paterson Garden

In her own words: I'm Kelly Patterson and I've been enjoying myself digging in the dirt since I was a little girl with my grandma. I've grown veggies, and pretty much anything I can coax a bloom out of. A few years back, my husband bought me a membership to the Iris Society of Dallas. Since then, I've been discovering the amazing variety in the world of irises, and turning more and more space over to their cultivation. More recently, I have been trying my hand at Louisiana Irises - in buckets! Hope to see you in Dallas!

To sign up for the joint Convention please see the Fall edition of the *AIS Bulletin*, or go to the following website to find hotel information and the registration form:

<https://spuriairissociety.org/spuria-sli-convention>