

January, 2006

Meeting Friday, January 20
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons' Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

January Clean up the dead and diseased leaves from your irises. Also dig out the weeds as you do your cleanup.



Irene Cummins and Joan Scanlon have a secret—"Take a look at Mr. December, he sure is a Pretty Boy!"

From The Prez

HOPE THE NEW YEAR brings all members good health and wonderful gardens! This year, the board has a new and exciting schedule planned for our society.

We will vote on a number of proposals at our regular club meeting this month. We will vote on whether to buy a digital projector, how to participate in the Monterey Bay Master Gardeners' Smart Gardening Faire in Scotts Valley on June 24, and whether to seek Non Profit Status. Please be at the meeting on Friday, January 20, at 7:30, at the Native Sons Hall, 239 High Street, Santa Cruz, to help us decide!

This spring the Greater Portland Iris Society in Oregon hosts the National Iris Society Convention on May 22-27. This will be a fantastic venue for iris lovers, with the biggest iris gardens in the world on display, and I recommend you register now to reserve a space! Also, the Clara B Rees Society in Los Gatos hosts the fall Regional this year, and may need some volunteers! Come to the meeting and keep informed of the events!

Please renew your Monterey Bay Iris Society membership now, this will be your last newsletter if your name appears yellow on this month's address label. Former Board member Adela Feran did not intend to be on the board this year, so Carolyn Craft has volunteered. Her nomination will be confirmed by the Board at the January General Meeting.

Thank you to Rosa Raddichi, and her mother Nuni Raddichi, for hosting such a pleasant and important meeting! And thanks the board members, for attending and contributing to our continued success!

❁ Diane

2006 Calendar

Monthly meetings are held in Native Sons' Hall unless otherwise stated.

Regular Meeting

Friday, January 20 7:30 P.M.

Program

Hot Garden Topic

Refreshments

Shirley Linck and Carolyn Craft

Regular Meeting

Friday, February 17 7:30 P.M.

Program

Our Website and Using the Internet

Refreshments

Mjeanne Erwin and Phillipa Alvis

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 17 7:30 P.M.

Program

David and Anna Cadd Present

Refreshments

Brenda Wood and Diane Harrison

Regular Meeting

Friday, April 21 7:30 P.M.

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

Rosa Radicchi and Irene Cummins

Annual Iris Show

Capitola Mall..... April 28 to April 30

Set up

Friday 9:00 P.M.

Show

Saturday 9:00 a.m.–8:00 P.M.

Sunday..... 9:00 a.m.–6:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Friday, May 19 7:30 P.M.

Pizza Potluck



CULTURE TIPS

LAST YEAR WE WROTE, "Last December it rained and this December it rained even more." This statement is even truer this year. The soil is super saturated now and this is the time to get your winter chores done. For irises, cleaning up means cutting and pulling off the dead and diseased leaves. Check the level of the soil, put soil on if roots show, but pull soil off if the rhizome is completely buried. Dig out the weeds that take the nutrients from the irises. Get this job done as soon as your soil dries enough so you don't sink in or compact soil when walking.

Also the constant heavy rains often wash soil away exposing roots of your irises. Be sure to cover these roots with soil as soon as you can. You don't want those roots to dry out.

After getting your irises cleaned up and weeded the next thing to do is FERTILIZE. Fertilize in early February as the new growth begins with a balanced fertilizer like triple 10 or 12-12-12 or similar, whatever is cheapest. The higher the number, the less to use. Just sprinkle around your irises, hopefully just before a rain. Scratch it in and the wetness of the soil is usually enough to begin the breaking down process. If the soil is dry, then you should water it in. In this cooler time of the year, it takes about 4 weeks for the effect of the fertilizer to show.

For the last several years, we have not had any significant killing frosts (global warming?). The effect is that many diseases and pests overwinter and aren't killed off. This means corrective action to spray your irises after your clean up is done. Whatever you use regularly should be applied now; i.e., Isotox for pests and Rally for fungus. Also use the leftover dormant spray on your irises too as you spray trees and roses. This helps to kill fungus spores and insect eggs hiding in the soil and leaf folds.

Joe



Joe signs his iris for Diane! Buy your own copy at the next meeting.

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Garden Events

Monterey Bay Rose Society

Rose Pruning Clinic

Alladin Nursery

Freedom Boulevard, Corralitos

Saturday, January 14 10:00 A.M.

AIS Region 14

Winter Budget meeting and judges training

Sunday, January 22 8:30 A.M.

Oakland Club at Lake Merritt, Oakland.

4 hours of judges training at a cost of \$30. From 10:45 to 12:45 the training will be on Spuria iris. there will be a 45 minute lunch break. At 2 p.m. there will be a 1 hour presentation for everyone on Spuria iris given by Jim Hedgecock, from Missouri. From 2:30 to 4:40 p.m., the final 2 hours of judges training will be on Tall Bearded Iris.

Registration information available on line. Go to www.AISregion14.org.

AIS National Convention

Portland, Oregon

May 22–May 27

Monterey Bay Master Gardeners

Smart Gardening Faire

Scotts Valley

June 24

10 A.M.–6 P.M.

LAST CALL ON DUES

If you don't renew this month, this is the last Newsletter you will receive. \$7 single; \$10 couple. Pay at meeting or send to Treasurer, Rosa Radicchi 730 Modesto Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

January 5 Board Meeting

The MBIS club officers discussed a number of proposals at the board meeting. Please be at the January General meeting on Friday, January 20, 7:30, at the Native Sons Hall to vote on these important proposals.

Digital Projector—Shall the club buy a digital projector for about \$799 plus tax, in order to show photos from computers at meetings? Along with this proposal is the request that the projector be made available to rent to Clara B Rees Society or to other garden related events, for a reasonable fee.

Scholarship—Shall the club continue to provide a promising horticultural student at Cabrillo College with a \$500 scholarship, and shall the club present the student with the check at the club picnic or at a regular monthly meeting (the student's choice)?

Articles of Incorporation and Non Profit Status—Shall the club update its papers to create current legal status?

Trophies—Shall the club provide simple crystal keeper trophies instead of the nominal monetary prizes at the annual show?

Membership Dues—Shall the club raise the membership dues to \$10 and \$12 per year to keep up with the cost of printing and providing newsletters?

Garden Faire—Shall the club operate a booth to sell irises and educate the public about Irises at the Smart Garden Faire, 10 A.M. until 6 P.M. on Saturday, June 24?

Board Member Opening—(*editor's note- Carolyn Craft has volunteered for this position.*)

Fall Regional—Clara B Rees club in Los Gatos hosts the fall Regional. Many of our members are in both societies, so stay tuned for how we might help.

August Sale—we need someone to organize the Sale advertising, contact the Red Apple Cafe and the newspapers. If interested, call Diane, Sheryl, Joe, or Charlie.

Thank you to all the board members, for attending and contributing to the meeting!

Diane Sampson

Pins

We still have pins left from last years regional and they are on sale for \$4 each. Contact Rosa Radicci or Shirley Linck if you want to purchase one.

Meeting Greeter

Since at present we do not have a Membership person we will rotate a greeter for the month. Nolan Hinshaw will be this month Meeting Greeter.



Nice calendar! Diane Sampson, Elena Laborde, Joe Ghio, John Stremmel, and Charley Kearns admire "Pretty Boy"



DOOR PRIZES

- 1 **APPLAUSE LINE**, Ghio, S. light blue; F. black-blue, lighter rim, B. red.
- 2 **AUGUSTINE**, Schick, S. cream, F. toasted orange
- 3 **BLUE TEMPTATION**, Schreiner, Large cerulean blue
- 4 **BRAGGIN RIGHTS**, Burseen, White, blue edge of F.; purple horns
- 5 **BRILLIANT GLOW**, Miller, Cantelope orange
- 6 **BUFFALO GAP**, Burseen, Pink splashed deeper
- 7 **BY DESIGN**, Kerr, S. light blue; F. blue black, B. red
- 8 **CHARTERED COURSE**, Kerr, S. Lavender; F. red purple. RE
- 9 **CHEERFUL DOLL**, Miller, MTB, orchid pink
- 10 **DRIFTING BUBBLES**, Ghio, Lacy light pink
- 11 **LOOKY LOO**, Ernst, S. white, F. red violet, white spray pattern
- 12 **MANGO PASSION**, Lauer, Intense orange
- 13 **PASSION FOR LACE**, Nicodemus, BB, lacy fuchsia
- 14 **PERSONA**, Keppel, MTB, S. rose, F. white, veined violet
- 15 **PRAGUE**, Johnson, S. peach, F. burgundy black
- 16 **RAINY RIVER**, Painter, Violet blue, deeper in center of F.
- 17 **SARAH SUNSHINE**, Burseen, Orange, spoons beards
- 18 **SOCIALIST**, Johnson, S. lilac, F. black purple
- 19 **SUNBREAK**, Keppel, IB, violet/rose luminata
- 20 **THAT'S ALL FOLKS**, Maryott, Huge gold; white spray pattern
- 21 **HOSE SPRINKLER**, Bicolor with Silver tips and moving parts



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