

June, 2009

Next meeting      Friday 19, 2009  
 Doors open            7:00 P.M.  
 Meeting                7:30 P.M.  
 Place                    Native Sons Hall  
                               239 High Street, Santa Cruz

## 2009 Calendar

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

### Regular Meeting

Friday, June 19.....7:30 P.M.

### Program

TBA

### Refreshments

Ann P & Caroline Craft

### Smart Gardening Faire

Sky Park, Scotts Valley ..... June 27  
 Saturday ..... 9:00 A.M.–6:00 P.M.

### Annual July Picnic

Saturday, July 18.... 11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.  
 Harvey West Park  
 Potluck and Auction

### Annual Sale

Dig..... Joe's Ranch  
 Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>..... 9 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Sale.... Deer Park Shopping Center  
 Saturday, August 1.... 9 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

### Regular Meeting

Friday, August 21,..... 7:30 P.M.

TBA

### Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

*Smart Garden Faire! June 27th  
 9am-4pm. Iris Needed!*

## Newsletter

Deadline for May is July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please have all submissions in by that date.



This year's award winners, Jim, Fred, and Lisa with all the club's trophies.

## From The Prez

**W**E'RE ENTERING THE SOCIETY'S BUSY SEASON!

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have our regular meeting. We'll finalize plans for the 4th Annual Smart Gardening Faire on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. There is more information on that event elsewhere in this issue.

Come to the Faire! You will enjoy your day this unique event and have opportunities to learn a bit about sustainable gardening, sample interesting (and possibly unfamiliar) foods, and pick up some beautiful plants for your garden. While you are at the Faire, plan to spend a couple hours at the MBIS booth to tell visitors about irises and the MBIS (we always welcome new members) and sell a plant or two. We are still open to your contribution of potted irises for this sale.

We will also plan our Annual Picnic on July 18<sup>th</sup> including the Distribution of Door Prizes and Raffle.

Then, we'll talk about our Big Dig on August 6th and preparations for our Annual Sale on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

And don't forget Region 14's Live Auction of Irises on August 1st. There is more information about that event elsewhere in this issue of Bay News. The Auction planners would like to know how many MBIS members are planning to attend, you can expect a brief Show of Hands Exercise.

Finally, mark your calendar for next year with a reminder for the 2010 Spring Regional, to be held April 23, 24, 25 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday), 2010.



Our program for the evening probably will be a screening of digital images from the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris. We'll convene as usual at 7:00, start our busy agenda at 7:30 and proceed to our program and refreshments. I'll see you at the meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>! 🌸🌸 Tom

## CULTURE TIPS

**W**E HAD A USUAL BLOOM SEASON. That is, the weather was weird. As we got going into bloom season, three days of 90+ temperatures “fried” blooms and buds especially the dark colors. Then the weekend of the show we had 4 days of rain for a total of 2 inches, then 2 days of 90 temps again toward the end of the season. The rain came lightly which is just what the irises needed and brought out color, size, and ruffling. The first rain come Friday afternoon of the show weekend but sort of stopped around 6 P.M. which made for fabulous showing.

Give your irises some water this month, but always cut off water at least two weeks before you plan to dig. This allows them to harden off nicely. We never water our established clumps during the summer. But if you soil is light and sandy and your weather is very hot, they will need some water during the summer.

If you are into rebloomers, give them some fertilizer now and water pretty regularly to get the maximum performance out of them. Many irises “rebloom” in our coastal climate that won't elsewhere.

The usual trip to the center of the iris world in Oregon was also unusual! The 4 days that I was there, the temperatures were 90-100 degrees each of the days. But the irises stand up better there in the heat then they do here. Probably had more humidity then we had. The Schreiner Show Garden looked more like a lupin garden then iris garden. The lupin were tall, floriferous as I've never seen them. Keppel continues to pushing out the most fabulous seedling beds that will be found anywhere. The latest break are plicatas with standards with the color and markings of something like Jesse's Song with the falls being the color and markings of something like Epicenter. Amazing!

Get those summer weeds out of ur beds now and break or cut off your spent stalks.. 🌸🌸 Joe



## New Members

We have two new members that joined after this year's Iris Show. We welcome and hope to see Amy Wagner, of Santa Cruz, and Linda Martin, of Capitola at our meetings! Welcome to the Monterey Bay Iris Society!

## NON-IRIS PLANT EXCHANGE

Bring your surplus non-iris to exchange. Lay them out on the lawn in front of the Hall. Take what you want and enjoy!

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## BLOOMERS

This is bloom season. There is no rebloomer drawing this month! Rebloomer drawing startes again in November.

## Show Award Winners Correction

Best Species Iris      Lisa Ayala—*i. douglasiana*  
Best Collection Charley Kearns—Historic Iris *Odoratissima*

## Driving Directions to Smart Garden Faire

Take Highway 17 to Scotts Valley . Leave Highway 17 at the Mt Hermon exit. Continue .7 mile on Mt. Hermon Road. Turn right on Kings Village Road. Follow Kings village Road to the end and turn left into Skypark.



## SMART GARDEN FAIRE

The MBIS is once again having a booth at the Smart Garden Faire this year on June 27th. We will sell rhizomes and pass out iris culture information and promote our Society. We need volunteers to man (woman) the booth and help sell rhizomes. The hours are from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. If you have a couple of hours to spare, please call Brenda Wood at 831 818-4515 to volunteer. We also need rhizomes from your gardens. Please bring them to the meeting on June 19th. If you cannot make the meeting, call Brenda and she will make arrangements to pick them up. We are hoping for better weather this year....last year we had a heat wave and the big fire during the Faire so the attendance was down.

## Fourth Annual Smart Gardening Faire Focuses on Food

The Monterey Bay Master Gardeners holds its 4th Annual Smart Gardening Faire on Saturday, June 27, 2009, with a Focus on Food. From 9:00 to 5:00 in Scotts Valley's Skypark,

Gardening is America's most popular outdoors avocation. Ornamental gardening combines creative challenges, aesthetic pleasure and healthy exercise, and edible gardening adds the satisfaction of both raising your own food and reducing your grocery bill.

This year's recession has inspired a surge of interest in home vegetable gardening. In March, First Lady Michelle Obama planted an organic vegetable garden on the White House lawn, the first garden on that very visible site in over sixty years. In May, California's First Lady Maria Shriver planted a symbolic vegetable garden in Sacramento's State Capitol Park, to inspire new gardens throughout the state.

Today, local gardeners are flocking to garden centers to choose their own tomatoes, peppers, peas, beans, squash, carrots, beets and herbs, and edible gardens are appearing by the thousands in schoolyards, community plots, and the backyards of private homes.

MBMG President Cynthia Jordan said, "The Monterey Bay Master Gardeners have advocated home and school gardens for over ten years, and strongly encouraged gardening without synthetic chemical fertilizers and pesticides. We are delighted to see this great enthusiasm for edible gardening, and very pleased to include a Focus on Food for the annual Smart Gardening Faire."

Garden related speakers will include, Lynne Battazzo, Bee Symphony; Beth Benjamin, Fall Gardening from Seed; Dave Egbert, Fire-safe Gardening; Cynthia Sandberg, Backyard Chickens; Manfred Warmuth, Productive Gardening at Home; and Thomas Wittman, Easy Gopher Control Without Poisons. Focus on Food speakers include, John Farais, Native California Edibles; Darren Huckle, La.C., Herb Walk at Skypark; Larry Jacobs, Gardening without Chemicals; Alrie Middlebrook, Edible Gardening; and Ilona & Cheytan Wood, Living Foods.

The gathering of exhibits and plant sales by local garden-related community groups and businesses, the sale of garden-related goods, appeal to a wide range of gardeners. This year's Faire will highlight chickens, which are perennially popular residents of the edible garden.

Demonstrations include, tool sharpening by Terry Beech, plant propagation by Master Gardeners, composting by Ecology Action, Master Gardeners will answer questions on plant problems.

Children are most welcome and a full day of garden-oriented activities for children makes the Faire a family event.

Visit [smartgardening.org](http://smartgardening.org)



Lisa Ayala with award winning arrangement



Andie McEwans' Youth award winning arrangement



Jim Cummins' award winning, Ride 'Em Cowboy



## DOOR PRIZES IRISES



This is the last drawing of the year. Your winnings will be available (and must be picked up) at the July picnic. Bearded door prizes will resume in November.

1. **BLACK MAGIC WOMAN**, Tasco, S. red purple; F. black; red beards
2. **CASINO CRUISER**, Burseen, Buttercup yellow w/huge spoons
3. **DELEON**, F. Kerr, Sky blue self
4. **DRIVE MY CAR**, L. Lauer, S. blue; F. violet, copper shoulders, white whiskers at beards
5. **FUEDALISM**, J. Ghio, S. buckskin; F. maroon; tons of buds
6. **GENTLEWOMEN**, M. Smith, Peachy pink glaciata
7. **HOME SWEET HOME**, D. Spoon, Sky blue self
8. **LOVING PINK**, D. Spoon, S. pink; F. lavender pink,
9. **NICKNAME**, F. Kerr, Red violet fancy luminata
10. **ORANGE AVATAR**, F. Kerr, S. light orange; F. white w/orange band
11. **PEP RALLY**, J. Ghio, Red purple luminata
12. **PLASTIC MONEY**, Burseen, Pinky lavender w/red white horned beards
13. **PUGZILLA**, Kasperek, Orange yellow w/tangerine beards, SDB
14. **RAY DALE KERR**, F. Kerr, Golden yellow w/rusty brown band on F.
15. **SPOT ON**, M. Sutton, S. white; F. red purple w/white starburst; RE
16. **STARRING ENCORE**, D. Spoon, S. raspberry; F. plum, cream starburst; RE
17. **STOLEN IDENTITY**, Burseen, Odd "fluffy" bowl of fluff w/odd colors and horns.
18. **THROUGH THE CLOUDS**, J. Ghio, Superformed light blue.
19. **VALENTINO**, J. Painter, Cardinal red w/gold beards
20. **ZESTING LEMONS**, R. Ernst, Different lemon w/white blending in F.



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