



# BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

[www.montereybayiris.org](http://www.montereybayiris.org)

February, 2010

Next meeting    Friday, 19, 2008  
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, February 19 ..... 7:30 P.M.

### Program

TBA

### Refreshments

Lisa & Ann

### Regular Meeting

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

### Program

TBA

### Refreshments

Brenda & Larissa

### Regular Meeting

Friday, April 16 ..... 7:30 P.M.

### Program

Mini Show

### Refreshments

Pat Lindstrom & Charley

### Annual Iris Show

Capitola Mall..... May 1 to May 2

Set up

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

Pizza Potluck



Splurge, 2010 Ghio introductio

## From The Prez

**F**IRST, A SAD REPORT: AIS President E. Roy Epperson of High Point, North Carolina, passed away during the fourth weekend of January. Region 14 RVP Jeanne Plank wrote, "While serving his region and the National Board, Roy Epperson had his hand in so many of the important works of AIS. We have lost a good friend." He is the only AIS President to die in office in the AIS's 90-year existence.

The AIS-Region 14 board approved RVP Plank's motion to donate \$200 to the AIS General Fund in memory of E. Roy Epperson. Because there was no provision in the AIS-14 budget for such expenses, the motion specified that the RVP's allowance would be reduced by the same amount. The board approved that plan but expressed interest in including funds for unanticipated expenses in future budgets.

The AIS is operating at a deficit. Elsewhere in this issue of Bay News is a letter from AIS Treasurer Jill Bonino, inviting donations to the AIS General Fund and reporting briefly on interesting "behind-scenes" projects. The MBIS board will meet to prepare recommendations for discussion at our February meeting.

AIS Region 14 also is experiencing financial problems: in 2009, the region's expenses exceeded revenues by \$2,245 (over 25%). The agenda for AIS-14 board



meeting on January 23rd included action on the region's proposed budget for 2010. Surprisingly, the proposed budget for 2010 also is out of balance: projected expenses: \$11,570; projected revenues: \$8,640. The expenses include \$3,650 for printing and mailing the *Bulletin*. This includes a 10% increase over 2009's expenses, despite the board's approval of a transition to an electronic version of the *Bulletin*. The approved budget (which hopefully will be balanced) is to be printed in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

I was unable to attend this meeting in Oakland, but other members of MBIS were to be there and plan to share their comments with the MBIS at our next meeting.

In the midst of all this fiscal gloom, which mirrors the condition of the rest of the nation, the Monterey Bay Iris Society is doing quite well, thanks to the energy and dedication of members who have provided leadership in our rhizome digs and sales.

A recent occasion was a "helping hand session" at Joe Ghio's ranch that Fred and Karen Valentine organized to complete some needed maintenance while Joe recuperated from surgery on his shoulder. In addition to Fred and Karen, the helpers included Jim and Irene Cummins, Art Lindstrom, Ann Pike and myself. We accomplished a lot in few hours but couldn't persuade Joe to limit himself to supervising: he did enough hands-on work to earn an extension of his recuperation period! Another session might be called in the future.

Come to our February meeting! Our program (to be announced) promises to be interesting and the socializing will be enjoyable as always! ❁❁ Tom

## Judging Floral Arrangements

Anna Cadd will be presenting a program on judging floral arrangements at the Clara B. Rees Iris Society meeting, April 2, 2010. All are welcome. You do NOT have to be working on a Judge's credential to attend. However, 1 hour of JT credit will be given if you are in the program.

The program will be held at the First Baptist Community Church, 17765 Daves Avenue, Los Gatos at 7 p.m.

Clara B Rees Iris Society would like to have a head count of attendees so that Anna will know how many handouts and/or tests to prepare. Please notify the contact person Philippa Alvis, [pandjalvis@verizon.net](mailto:pandjalvis@verizon.net) or 408-395-2144 if you are able to attend. Directions and more information will be in the March Newsletter. Please concern this great opportunity and contact Philippa.

## REBLOOMERS

Bring your reblooming irises now through March for show and tell and to drawing for first choice of door prizes.



## Board of Directors 2010

### President

Tom Karwin      [gardemomg@karwin.com](mailto:gardemomg@karwin.com)      426-5981

### Past President

Diane Sampson      [debsampson@baymoon.com](mailto:debsampson@baymoon.com)      728-1339

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### Treasurer/ Show Chair

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### Secretary

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Brenda Wood      [woodbrenda@aol.com](mailto:woodbrenda@aol.com)      724-5415

### Hospitality & Refreshments

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### 1 Year Board

Jessie Bush      [jessiebush@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jessiebush@sbcglobal.net)      420-1018

Rosa Raddicchi      [radicchi@aol.com](mailto:radicchi@aol.com)      460-0545

Fred Valentine      [heart711@earthlink.net](mailto:heart711@earthlink.net)      650-879-1262

### 2 Year Board

Elana Laborde

Art Lindstrom

Pat Wisdom

## AIS Fund-raising Letter

December 13, 2009

When the Society had a significant increase in insurance costs a few years ago, we received very generous donations from affiliates and regions to help us continue our coverage until the premiums came down again. We need your help again.

At the November 2009 Board Meeting held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the Board approved (after much discussion cutting, re-estimating, and adding) a General Fund deficit budget of approximately \$14,000 for the 9/30/10 fiscal year. The Society's Capital Reserves in the General Fund are down to \$93,326. Continued operating deficits will eat up these reserves quickly unless the Society changes how it does business. In the short term, the Society needs support from the affiliates, regions, and sections/cooperating societies to help cover this deficit until new sources of income and decreases in expenses bring the budget back into balance.

The Board of Directors is looking into new ways to attract new members, add new services and membership types (both electronic and other) and streamline operations to cut costs.

Several big projects have been going on behind the scenes that you may not have seen or heard about yet:

1. The AIS website ([www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)) is being redesigned to make it more user friendly and to attract new members with electronic payments for both the Society and Sections/Cooperating Societies. This has been going on for a couple of years. A third of the cost has come out of the General Fund and 2/3 out of the Restricted Electronic Services Fund monies, which have been raised separately by fees for the [irisregister.com](http://irisregister.com) and the annual Geek Dinner Auction.

2. A Society Photo Wiki, which should be on line in the Spring of 2010, will eventually include pictures and descriptions of every iris cultivar across the broad width of iris classifications. A wonderful horticultural reference tool.

3. A former Board member has been writing a software program for no charge to allow AIS Judges to vote their ballot electronically in the future. This will save the Society thousands of dollars in printing and postage cost while maintaining the security of tabulation and the privacy of your vote.

4. The AIS *Bulletin* will change from its current form to an 8-1/2" x 11" size beginning in January 2010, to cut printing costs without having to cut an issue of the *Bulletin*.

5. The Registration Fee for a new iris introduction will rise to \$15 per name beginning the summer of 2010.

6. Plans are being discussed to add an "e-membership", a members-only part of the AIS website, and ways to use the Internet to promote interest and membership in AIS.

Please send funds, no matter how small, to the AIS's new Donations Secretary, Lynn Williams. Designate these funds as Unrestricted Donations to the General Fund.

Lynn's address is 25415 Salmon Place, Willits, CA 95490. Her email is [irislvnn@willitsonline.com](mailto:irislvnn@willitsonline.com).

I will be glad to answer any questions you might have concerning the AIS's finances. Current financial statements as of September 30, 2009 will be published in the January 2010 *Bulletin*.

Jill Bonino

AIS Treasurer

[aistreas@earthlink.net](mailto:aistreas@earthlink.net)

## FREE IRIS OFFER!

Join the American Iris Society, Receive Free Irises!

Sign up for a membership with your Aitken's Salmon Creek Iris order and receive free bearded irises, Their choice, of recent introduction (2008 or 2009) of equal or greater value than your membership dues.

With your Aitken order, send a separate check, payable to "AIS", for a new membership, or they can add it to your credit card order. The free irises will be sent your order, and in addition to any bonus plants normally sent. Catalog order must be at least equal to the membership dues. To see more about this deal go to: <http://www.flowerfantasy.net/iris7000.htm#7002>

## CULTURE TIPS



WITH ALL THE RAIN, HEAVY AT TIMES, during the last few weeks, garden activities have been somewhat curtailed. This is the time to check your garden for drainage problems, low spots where the water collects, and make corrections in the future before you replant. There are lot of erosion problems in our beds in Santa Cruz with roots exposed. During dry spells, recover at least the exposed roots; the remaining corrects can wait until the soil dries out more.

The flowering plums and daffodils are coming into bloom; the first sign that spring is coming along fast. Also you will notice the first new leaves emerging from the center of your iris fans. This is the most important fertilization you can give your irises. However wait until the heavy rains are over with since they will leach most of the fertilizer away. But as the soil somewhat dries and the rains slack off, FERTILIZE! this month. Any balanced fertilizer is good. Simply buy the cheapest. The higher the numbers, just use a little less. About a handful per clump. Scratch it in and that is usually enough. The wet soil will slowly break it down. The effect of the fertilization will show in about 3 weeks, sooner if the weather warms up.

Fertilizer will show up in bigger, sturdier stalks; bigger blooms; bigger rhizomes in the summer, and even stronger colors in the blooms.

These heavy rains often cause gopher runs to fall into themselves. This will help you trace where they are coming from and better eradicate them. Also my garden is clean, and now you may find clusters of stuff starting to grow that gophers have stored in pockets in their runs. (hence called pocket gophers!). My neighbor has tons of yellow oxalis: The gophers have stored hundreds of these bulbs in pockets in my garden. I spray them with a strong solution of Roundup, since I don't want oxalis to get a foothold in my garden. There are many specie of oxalis, but the bane of my existance are the yellow bulbous ones that are native to South Africa and were first brought into California in the 1920's. From that innocent introduction they have spread all over the State. This is all the more remarkable since the blooms are sterile! But note the seamingly endless number of bulblets on the roots if you try to pull them up. Most of these bulblets break off in the soil as you pull. Even a seamingly immature tiny bump bulblet is vital enough to survive to next winter.. 🌱 Joe

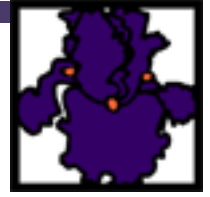
## Last Call For Dues

MBIS membership 2010 dues due. Members not renewing will be dropped from the roster. We don't want to lose anyone, so please remember to renew. Single dues are \$10, two or more at the same address \$15. Please pay at the November meeting, or send your renewal \$\$ to our treasurer, Charley Kearns, P. O. Box 2361, Los Gatos, CA 95031..



## DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. **BOLD MOVE**, M. Sutton, S. yellow; F. red violet; white zonal; RE.
2. **BOLSHOI**, Keppel, Deep orchid, tutu-ruffling
3. **CAMERA READY**, Tasco, Yellow ground, burgundy brown plicating
4. **DREAM YOU**, Kerr, White, half inch blue violet band on F
5. **EVENING TIDINGS**, Schreiner, Blue violet bitone; mahogany shoulders
6. **FANTASY RIDE**, Duncan, White, blue L&S; gold shoulders
7. **FLAME AMBER**, Keppel, Rose, apricot, orange, amber blend
8. **GLITTER GULCH**, Burseen, Orange self with flounces
9. **HATTIE EMMA**, Burseen, Blue violet reverse bicolor; violet horns
10. **HOPELESS ROMANTIC**, Ghio, Very broad light pink
11. **I WUW WUSES**, Burseen, Creamy peach w/layered flounces
12. **LET IT BE**, Lauer, Yellow; S. slightly lighter
13. **LIVING ON THE EDGE**, Lauer, Yellow w/beetroot band on F
14. **MY GENERATION**, Lauer, White base, aster violet lines throughout; RE.
15. **PALE FIRE**, Baumunk, Light pink, more yellow pink F.
16. **POLKA**, T. Johnson, S. pale violet; F. mid orchid; very ruffled
17. **PERSNICKETY**, Keppel, Tannish apricot; F. peppered raisin; IB.
18. **SINGULAR SENSATION**, Kerr, Red orange blend
19. **SORBOURNE**, Keppel, S. blackish russet; F. lemon ground, overall dark maroon dotting
20. **SURFER'S DREAM**, Richardson, Blue reverse amoena



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