



BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

www.montereybayiris.org

August, 2010

Next meeting Friday, 20, 2010
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

JULY PICNIC 2010



From The Prez

You should receive this issue of Bay News shortly before the MBIS Annual Rhizome Sale, so I will focus on encouraging you to participate as a helper, as a buyer, and as a promoter.

The sale will happen in two parts. The first session will be from 9:00 to “sold out” on Saturday, August 7th. The sale will be in the courtyard of the Red Apple Café, which is on the upper level of Deer Park Center, which is on the ocean side of Highway 1, close to the Rio Del Mar exit.

The second session will be from 9:00 to “sold out” on the following Saturday, August 14th. This session will be at the Aptos Farmer’s Market, in the parking lot of Cabrillo College, 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos.

To lend a hand at these sales, please show up around 8:00 on either or both days, and plan to stay for two hours (or more). You can help by setting out the rhizomes before the sale starts at 89:00 and then by assisting buyers with selection and cultivation advice.

You are of course welcome to buy rhizomes to fill out your own iris collection.

Finally, tell your gardening friends about the sale. It is the year’s best opportunity for new and expert iris lovers to add plants to their gardens at excellent prices. You will do your friends a big favor by turning them on to the MBIS Rhizome Sale!

Our August meeting, on Friday the 20th will include a report of this year’s sale success! . ❀❀ Tom

2010 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, August 20,..... 7:30 P.M.

TBA

Refreshments

Ann, and need a second

Regular Meeting

Friday, September 17 7:30 P.M.

Tall Beardless

Refreshments

Irene and need a second

Regular Meeting

Friday, October 15..... 7:30 P.M.

PCIs

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Regular Meeting

Friday, November 19 7:30 P.M.

Program..... TBA

Refreshments

Charley and Rosa

Annual Holiday Dinner

Green Valley Grill

Friday December 17.....6:00 p.m

Refreshment volunteers

needed! See months above.

Contact Jim and Irene or Karen if you can help.



CULTURE TIPS

WE'VE HAD A RELATELY COOL SUMMER. Most of us didn't have to water our established bearded irises.

August is the month to finish planting and resetting your bearded irises. If your soil has been used before or it is very light, it is well to add organic matter to your beds in the form of compost, manures or even something like mushroom compost. A light application of super phosphate or bone meal is also helpful. You can apply by broadcasting and work them in or put a handful in each hole as you plant.

Before replanting it is best to dip all your irises, newly acquired or even your own, in a bleach solution, one part bleach to 9 parts water. Submerge the plants up to at least one inch above the rhizome. Keep them in the solution for 10-15 minutes, then dunk them in clear water and set them out to completely dry before planting. This last direction is very important or else you are likely to have deformed plants in the spring. This process of soaking in bleach is helpful in killing off any fungus you do not want to introduce to your garden.

Bearded irises tolerate being out of the garden for some time, but keep them in the shade. Cut them back just before planting to keep them from falling over and to force new growth to form. TBs do best if the sun can get to the top of the rhizomes. Keep the weeds away from the plants, if you do not feel like pulling weeds later on, sprinkle some pre emergent on your beds after you are done with your planting. Be sure to use markers to label your plants, and draw a map of the new area showing the new varieties, so you will know which iris is which even if you loose the markers.

Water newly reset irises weekly, or more often in sandy soil or hot weather. Keep this regular watering schedule until 4 full new leaves grow out of the center of the fan (4-6 weeks). Then you can cut back the watering to 10 day intervals until the fall rains take over. ❀❀ Joe



Door Prizes

Members need to bring iris to share as door prizes. Bring favorite irises for the drawing.

From Santa Rosa Iris Society

Our Summer Iris Rhizome Sale, which is one of our main fundraisers, is on August 7th from 9am - 3pm at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa.

If you wish any further information, you may contact member David Cadd at 707-433-8633.



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Bloomers

Bring your rebloomer to share! First drawing goes to those who have brought blooms. Rebloomer drawing starts in August and goes until February.

In Memoriam

We lost two friends, iris hybridizers and master judges this during the month of July. Both were members of Mt Diablo and Sydney B Mitchell Iris Societies.

Carl Boswell, 85, passes away late in the evening of July 16th. Services were held on Thursday July 22nd at Moore's Mission Funeral Home in Concord. He was buried at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno California. Read his obituary and sign the guest book at <http://www.contracostatimes.com/obituaries>.

Glenn Corlew, 85, passed away the morning of our picnic, July 17th. A memorial service for Glenn was held at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church on Tuesday July 20th. We saw Glenn every year when he was a judge at our Spring Show. Read his obituary and sign the guest book at <http://www.contracostatimes.com/obituaries>.

IRIS BIDS



Picnic Report

MBIS members gathered for their annual picnic on July 17. In our favorite spot under the big oak in Harvey West Park, we enjoyed great food and socializing with each other.

Wayne Crabbs sold raffle tickets, bringing in \$170. Joe's "Blue Light Special" was a hit. Since there were many 08 and 09 introductions on the lawn, he declared any iris on the lawn could be purchased for \$3. This raised \$285. Thanks go to Jim and Irene Cummins and everyone else that brought those newer iris.

Spirited and competitive bidding brought in \$737 from the auction. A very respectable total of \$1,192 was raised during the event.

Joe Ghio auctioned prize 2009 introduction rhizomes, assisted by Wayne Crabbs reading the color descriptions.

Wayne Craft, Jim Cummins and Fred Valentine served as bid spotters and rhizome runners. Rosa Radicchi and Charley Kearns recorded the bids. There were 21 bidders. Virginia Keyser spent a very generous amount. Thanks, Virginia! Rhizomes receiving the highest bid were: Dodger Blue \$15, Sorbonne \$15, Teenybopper \$15 and Highland Lord \$14. Several reached \$10.

Before leaving, members were able to gather several freebies from the rhizomes remaining on the lawn. We all had a good time and raised a good amount of funds for the club. Thanks to all for your support and may you enjoy fantastic bloom from your irises.

Charley





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