

March, 2011

Next meeting Friday, 18, 2011
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

2011 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 18.....7:30 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments St Paddy's Day

Brenda & Larissa

Regular Meeting

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

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

Volunteers needed

Annual Iris Show

Capitola Mall..... May 6 to May 7

Set up

Friday, May 5.....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 20.....7:30 P.M.

Pizza Potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, June 17.....7:30 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments

TBA



Cummins' iris beds covered in snow! Snow in Scotts Valley

Photo by Jim Cummins

From The Prez

EARLY IN MARCH, AIS MEMBERS received the latest issue of IRISES: The Bulletin of the American Iris Society. The issue is dated as the “January” issue, but it is a quarterly publication and would be more accurately identified as the “Winter” issue.

The publication looks great and includes several interesting articles and fine photos of irises, singly and in groups. Impressive!

The issue has an insert, an official ballot on which AIS members are invited to vote to approve or not approve a proposed addition of a new class of membership: “Electronic membership.” This membership class would differ from other classes in only one respect: “e-members” would receive the Bulletin, the membership packet and other information in electronic form and not in printed form.

Approval of this change requires a two-thirds affirmative of the total votes cast.

This is another sign that the Digital Age is gradually becoming the primary form of information that we rely on for news, education and entertainment. Electronic delivery of information is faster, cheaper and more convenient. Printed newspapers, magazines and books will be around for a long time, to be sure, but we all will need to be computer literate.

Still, we enjoy live, in-person talks during our meetings. Our February meeting featured Barbara Hanson’s talk about edible (and inedible) fungi and her personal



experiences collecting them in nearby natural areas (places we used to call “the woods”). Her slide-illustrated presentation was interesting and informative, and several members seemed to express interest in getting directly involved in mushroom hunting.

Barbara subsequently identified a short video recording by the Fungus Federation of Santa Cruz: “Deadly and Dangerous,” which presents local experts on identifying poisonous fungi. The video can be viewed online by browsing to <http://blip.tv/file/4631312>. Note that even the ancient lore of mushroom hunting has gone digital! Thanks, Barbara, for both the talk and the link.

Our March meeting will open as usual at 7:00 and at 7:30 we will have our traditional (and amazing) St. Patrick’s Day repast, hosted by Brenda Wood. We will also work in a brief businesses meeting and a program (to be announced). I’ll see you there! 🍄 Tom

Dogs at the Meetings

It was noted that a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West has informed us that animals are not to be inside their hall when we hold our meetings. This is due to insurance purposes.



CULTURE TIPS

WHAVE A “NEW NORMAL”—rather than light rain over a period of time, we know are get heavy downpours in a short period of time. The effect of this that beds are easily eroded and nutrients get leached out easily. Another light application of a balanced fertilizer would be helpful right now.

Growth is rampant right now with even a few stalks showing up in the earliest things especially among the dwarfs and Pacificas and very early TB’s especially several varieties from Barry Blyth. Barry has been conscientiously breeding for very early flower TB’s since several areas of Australia get very hot as the spring progresses there.

Leaf spot does make an appearance in damp mild spring weather. It is bacterial and no commonly available spray is of much use against it. Just live with it. Or you can cut back the diseased leaves. But the leaf spot will stop as the weather gets hotter and drier and the new growth will “outgrow” the diseased leaves.

Soft rot seems to be less and less of a problem than it has been in years past. Not sure why since we have had some pretty wet springs in the last few years. But strong growing plants seem to have less of an inclination to rot. If some does show up especially amongst some prime varieties, thoroughly clean out the affected area. The apply a small amount of chlorine bleach straight or dust with a chlorine cleanser (like Comet) to the area. The sun and chlorine will disinfect the rot. 🍄 Joe

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Refreshments

Come hungry! Brenda and Larissa are doing a St Paddy’s Day spread of corned beef!

AIS Iris Ballot

The 2011 Symposium Ballot and instructions were posted this week on the AIS website. To get to it, click on About Irises, then Awards & Surveys, then Tall Bearded Symposium. Here’s the direct link: http://irises.org/About_Irises/Awards_Surveys/TB_Symposium.html

The RVP Tally sheet is there as well.

Voting can be accomplished in a variety of ways:

- ☉ Mail or email your RVP the list of irises you are voting for.
- ☉ Download the list from the website, print it, mark it and mail to your RVP.
- ☉ Affiliate presidents, or designated person in the club, should print the Ballot and take it to a meeting prior to September 1 so that AIS members without internet access have the opportunity to vote.

Members may vote for up to 25 varieties. No write-in votes will be tabulated. Your RVP must receive all ballots by September 1.

In Memorium

Rick Ernst

Please pass along the following sad news about the death of Rick Ernst to your local groups. See the forwarded email below, with the announcement from Will Plotner which we received in our email box this afternoon.

We returned home at noon from an overnight business trip to Sacramento. The sad news reached us about 3 p.m. The incomplete and unverified information we received after hearing the news was that it took place overnight, was very sudden and was heart related.

As I learn more verifiable information, I will keep you informed.

Of course, things like this are always very shocking and sobering. We all understand the pain and loss being experienced by his family, friends and the iris world. Rick was 57 years old!

Our condolences go out to the entire Ernst/Cooley family. The iris world has lost an important "iris adventurer and champion."

Sadly,

Jeanne Plank

The following link is to a good article written by Rick about the rise and fall of Cooleys: <http://ourtownlive.com/ourtown/?p=941>

Domingo Rodriguez

At our last meeting we voted to make Domingo an "honorary member. We now receive the news of his death. The following is from the CBRIS newsletter

Our long-time friend and fellow club member, Domingo Rodriguez, 92 years young, passed away on the evening of Monday, February 21. He was born in 1918. Domingo requested that he did not want to receive further medical care, other than the pacemaker, when his body began to fail.

There was a service for Domingo on Monday, February 28th, at Hillcrest Memorial Park Mortuary chapel, in Bakersfield, California at 1:00 P.M. Following the service, his casket was be carried to the adjacent gravesite, a short walk from the chapel, where a military service will be conducted. The Hillcrest Memorial Park Mortuary is located at 9101 Kern Canyon Rd., Bakersfield. His wife is also buried there.

For many years Domingo lived down the street from Georgina Clark on Dwight Avenue in San Jose. He was affectionately known as "Rod" to his neighbors and as "Grandpa" to the many children in the area. Last year his declining health required him to move in with his niece, Cindy Alexander. She cared for Domingo during the last year of his life. Cindy's address is 9650 E. Shaw Ave., Clovis, CA 93619 to send cards of condolence.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that friends send contributions in Domingo's memory to the Clara B. Rees Iris Society, an organization that he helped to establish and was

an active member until recently. Domingo was always willing to talk to you about iris. He was still helping out at the iris rhizome sales at Almaden Nursery two years ago. Every year on his birthday, he would bring a birthday cake to share with club members. He loved to cook and brought many delicious dishes to our picnics and Christmas parties over the years.

Donations in Domingo's memory may be sent to CBRIS, Mary Collins, Treasurer, P.O. Box 610906, San Jose, CA 95118. Philippa Alvis, Marilyn Boro and Mikey Lango

Dr. Charles Jenkins

Dr. Charles Jenkins passed away the morning of March 7th

"I need to let you know that Charles passed away this morning at 4:00am. Just got a call from his wife, Doris, and she said he had been in ICU for a couple of days. They are planning on having a memorial service on March 26th."

He was a long time member of MBIS when he lived in Salinas and served as vice president for several terms.

Artistic Division

All are encouraged to enter our artistic section of the show. Please remember that advance registration is required. You may call or email Lisa at herbtalk@earthlink.net to register. We will have sign-ups at the March meeting. Entries will be accepted until about a week before the show. This is a part of the show the public loves, so considering entering! The 2011 competition will be in the following categories:

Section A—NEWBEES: A freestyle design for the novices in the group. Must not have won any Artistic blue ribbons.

Section B—TEA FOR TWO: A design using two containers. Must have synergistic relationship.

Section C—SHORT STUFF: A design no bigger than 12 inches tall, wide or deep.

Section D—NEW HORIZONS: A horizontal design featuring width rather than height.

Section E—KONBANWA: A design in the Asian style either traditional or modern.

Section F—SHAKE IT, DON'T BREAK IT: A design using a glass container.

Section G—THREE STRIKES: A design for the guys of the club utilizing any and all parts of up to 3 Irises.

Section H—PARTY TIME: A design for the youth of the group which features a party atmosphere.

Two very important rules—the greenery portion of the design may be done at home. The flower portion of the design **must** be done at the show. additional rules for this section will be posted in the April newsletter.



NOT a REBLOOMER Month!

Irises are now blooming. It is March, so there is no Rebloomer drawing. You can still choose to bring iris!



DOOR PRIZES IRISES



1. **ALL SMILES**, M. Sutton, S. yellow; F. white, yellow shoulders and edges, RE
2. **BEAUTY BECOMES HER**, Black, Ruffled clear yellow
3. **BOUNDLESS**, M. Sutton, S. yellow; F. white w/violet band
4. **FUSION**, M. Sutton, S. yellow; F. plum red; gold sunburst
5. **HERE IN SILENCE**, Kerr, Amoena: S. white, F. silvery blue
6. **HOLLYWOOD STAR**, Ghio, Deep pink self
7. **ICONIC**, Ghio, Ruffled deep red self
8. **LIP SMACKIN' GOOD**, Burseen, Orange,violet lines on F. Horned
9. **MAHOGANY MAGIC**, T. Johnson, S. yellow; F. mahogany
10. **MILES AHEAD**, Schreiner, S. white; F. white, marbled with blue
11. **MOCHADOODLE**, L. Johnson, S. mocha; F. lavender w/mocha band
12. **ONE MORE NIGHT**, Duncan, Velvety purple black bicolor
13. **PAGEANT'S GOWN**, L. Painter, S. lavender; F.deep violet. RE
14. **RECKLESS ABANDON**, Keppel, S. cream; F. maroon black, cream sunburst
15. **SAMMIES JAMMIES**, Burseen, Orange, violet lines on F.
16. **SHARP DRESSED MAN**, T. Johnson, Neglecta: S. purple; F. purple black, red beards
17. **SINGLE MALT**, Baumunk, S. gold; F. brown, yellow hafts
18. **SMART MONEY**, Ghio, Gold, tan L&S on F.
19. **SUNSET STORM**, Richardson, S. lavender buff; F. golden buff
20. **TUNNEL VISION**, Keppel, Black mulberry plicata over cream



Joseph J. Ghio, Editor
1201 Bay Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

