

October, 2007

Next meeting Friday, 19, 2007
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

2007 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, October 19..... 7:30 p.m.

Program..... Pacific Coast Iris

Refreshments

Rosa and Charley

Regular Meeting

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

Program..... TBA

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Annual Holiday Dinner

Green Valley Grill

Friday December 216:00 p.m

October

This month we turn our attention to the Pacificas. This is the month to dig and replant them. It is best to do this after the weather cools, and before the rains start: mid-October to mid-November. These are more temperamental in replanting. Be sure to keep their roots wet after digging, and well watered when replanting. It is a good practice for all types of irises to put a tablespoonful of bone meal in each hole. You will reap the rewards later in better growth and bloom color.



Joe's new PCIs dressed up for Halloween.

Ghio photo

From The Prez

OUR PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER 19th will be on Pacific Coast Irises, with Joe Ghio as our top-notch speaker. We're nearing the season for dividing PCIs, so we can look forward to expert guidance from Joe.

I've recently become involved with the newly formed California Native Garden Foundation. Check out their web site: <http://www.cngf.org/index.htm>. We might wish to encourage that new group to promote PCIs in the course of encouraging California's gardeners to plant natives. Just a thought!

We will also have a report from our nominating committee with candidates for board and officer positions for 2008. See the related information elsewhere in this issue. We'll invite additional nominations from the floor and vote on the candidates during our November meeting. Many thanks to Diane and Larissa for their effective contributions to the nomination process and thanks also to those members who are ready and willing to provide leadership to the MBIS!

As a reminder, the American Iris Society Region 14 Fall Regional will be held in Turlock, California on October 19th-20th, 2007. On the first day of the regional, October 19th, there will be a Regional Board Meeting at the Holiday Inn Express, meeting room. The evening will begin with registration at 6-7:00 P.M. and the meeting from 7-9:00 P.M. It would be good if the MBIS could be represented



at the Regional Board Meeting because the discussion is likely to include plans for the societies within the region to help generate the funds needed for Region 14's operations. I cannot attend this meeting due to prior commitments. If you are planning to attend the Fall Regional and would be willing to represent the MBIS at the Regional Board Meeting on October 19th, please let me know! 🌸🌸 Tom

CULTURE TIPS

OUR WEATHER DOESN'T FOLLOW THE SCRIPT it should. Normally we have very hot weather by now, but here at the beginning of October we're have cool weather and even some rain. As the soil cools, here comes the winter weeds. You can control them by hand weeding and the use of mulches. But, I caution the use of the latter in the winter. While they do help in suppressing weeds, they also hold water which is not to the liking of bearded irises in particular.

Pre-emergents are the other answer. But you need to remember they are just that: pre-emergents. They must be applied before the weeds germinate. Ideally you have clean beds and just before a significant rain you apply it and the rain works it in. If it doesn't rain, you have to water it in. Just leaving it unwatered on the top of the soil will break down its effectiveness. Various brands are available at garden centers and even sometimes at Costco. Pre-emergents are weed specific, so read the label to see that the brand gets the majority of weeds that trouble you.

After mid-October until early November is the best time to replant Pacificas. Be sure the new white roots are showing before setting them in. If none show, put the rhizomes in a bucket of water. New roots should appear in 7 to 10 days. Replant them at that time.

Also all other replanting should be done by now. Well established bearded irises need little to no more water at this time of the year. Beardless need to be watered regularly until the winter rains take over.

If you made crosses or collected seed, this is the month to plant them. If you have just a few crosses, you can plant them in a gallon pot—one cross per pot and be sure it is labelled. Potted seed needs to be watered regularly. Seed will begin germinating in February.

Snails seem to have a resurgence about now. Snail bait is effect or simply step on them! 🌸🌸 Joe

DUES ARE DUE

Single dues are \$10 Two or more at same address \$15. Please pay at the meeting or send to our treasurer, Rosa Radicchi; 730 Modesto Ave; Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Board of Directors 2007

President

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Nominating Committee

This is the month we start the process of getting our set of officers for 2008.

Diane Sampson, appointed as committee chair, and with the assistance of her committee members, will present the following slate to be voted on at the meeting. Further nominations may be made from the floor and the election is held at the November meeting. The new officers are installed in December.

The slate the committee is presenting: Tom Karwin, President. The president-writes letters in newsletter, coordinates affiliation, and chairs the meetings. Past President, Diane Sampson, servers in an advisory capacity. Vice President, Sheryl McEwen, chairs meeting in the absence of the president; Treasurer and Show Chair (two different positions), Charley Kearns; Secretary, Jim Cummins; Artistic Show Chair, Diane Harrison; Librarian, Brenda Wood; Hospitality, Irene Cummins; Newsletter, Joe Ghio; Webmaster, Ann Pike; 2 Year Board, Larissa Daniel, Brenda Wood, and Marie Devery; 1 Year Board, Irene Cummins, Diane Harrison, and Carolyn Craft.



Door Prizes

A selection of Pacifica irises will be given as door prizes this month. If you have surplus to share, bring them.

REBLOOMERS

Bring your reblooming irises now through March for show and tell. Drawing for first choice of door prize for those showing.



HALLOWEEN TREAT OR TRICK



Iris now know as Halloween Trick



*NOTE!!!
Deadline for November is Friday November 2th.
No late material accepted.*



Joseph J. Ghio, Editor
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