

June 2008

Next meeting Friday, 20, 2008
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

2008 Calendar

Regular Meeting

Friday, June 20 7:30 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments

Ann P, Pat and Art

Smart Gardening Faire

Sky Park, Scotts Valley June 21rd
 Saturday 9:00 A.M.–6:00 P.M.

Annual July Picnic

Saturday, July 19.... 11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.
 Harvey West Park
 Potluck and Auction

Annual Sale

Dig Joe's Ranch
 Thursday, July 31st 9 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Sale.... Deer Park Shopping Center
 Saturday, August 3.... 9 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

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

TBA

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Regular Meeting

Friday, September 19 7:30 P.M.

Tall Beardless

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Newsletter Deadline!!!

*June deadline is an early one. Please
 get submissions in by Friday June 27th.
 Newsletter will be printed July 2nd.*

MBIS Photo Contest

<http://www.irises.org/photocontestmain.htm>



Japanese Iris, Temple Bells in a field of Rose Geraniums

From The Prez

OUR SOCIETY IS ONE BUSY ORGANIZATION!

We are just past the 2008 edition of our successful Annual Iris Show and we're preparing for the 2008 edition of our successful participation in the annual Smart Gardening Faire.

The Faire happens the day after our monthly general meeting on June 21st, so that meeting will present a convenient opportunity to coordinate our preparations for the Faire.

The Faire presents an excellent occasion for meeting local gardeners, encouraging their interest in growing irises in their home gardens and sharing our knowledge and enthusiasm for irises.

It is also a great chance to recruit new members to the Monterey Bay Iris Society and sell potted irises and rhizomes so we could add a few dollars to our funds.

Last but not least, the Faire offers an enjoyable experience for all avid gardeners. The event's focus for 2008 is "water-smart gardening," making it a very timely resource as California faces drought conditions. Visit smartgardening.org for up-to-date information on the Faire's expert speakers, eager exhibitors, musical entertainment and healthful food choices.

Another page of this issue of Bay News has specific information on how you can add to the success of the MBIS booth at the Faire, either by donating your extra



iris plants or rhizomes or spending a bit of time with friends at the MBIS booth. We need your help!

Your ideal schedule for this month includes our General Meeting on Friday, June 20th and two pleasant hours on Saturday, June 21st in the MBIS booth (the time flies!) plus a log as you choose to explore the wonderful happenings at Faire. 🌸 *Tom*



Young iris fan admires blooms at the Iris Show

CULTURE TIPS

WE JUST COMPLETED ONE of the best bloom seasons in memory. Bloom was abundant, good color, and timely. If you haven't done so already, cut or snap out spent bloomstalks, dig out those pesky summer weeds that make the appearance now. Give them some water to get the rhizomes sized up, but cut off water for at least two weeks before you plan to dig. This helps the rhizomes to firm up, last better, and establish more easily.

If you are into reblooms, give them a light application of a balanced fertilizer and water regularly to make the rebloom better. Remember in our Coastal climates many varieties "re-bloom" that don't elsewhere. A rebloomer is defined as an iris that blooms at its normal time in the spring and then again some other time during the year. In our area we get sequential bloom. Some varieties like Comfortable bloom in April-May then send up a second set of stalks 4 to 6 weeks later. They probably won't bloom again the rest of the year and probably won't show this habit in other climates.

I made the usual trek to Oregon this year since it is the center of the iris world. But compared to years past, bloom was late and a forest of stalks were evident and early bloomers were out (something usual not seen in the past "normal" years).

If you have "baby" seedlings, get them set out ASAP to maximize the chance of bloom in the spring. We replant our reselect seedlings by the end of the month. This more likely assures plentiful spring bloom and frees up time for other jobs that have to be done the rest of the summer. 🌸 *Joe*

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Bay Area Iris Society member photographs iris at our show

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!



New member Patricia Florez photographs show iris



Lisa's Best Artistic Design winner, Corralitos



Smart Gardening Faire

Saturday, June 21 9am-5pm
Skypark in Scotts Valley

Come join MBIS as we host a booth at the Monterey Bay Master Gardeners Smart Gardening Fair—a day of free gardening information.

One very important thing, MBIS needs your time to help sell the irises and greet the public! Also we need surplus iris plants, either rhizomes or in pots! We do need people digging and labeling the rhizomes from their own yard, so we can offer a few plants to the public at this big gardening event. So far, Diane Sampson and Jim and Irene Cummins have volunteered to bring plants, but we need more.

Everyone, please bring photos of the varieties, so people will know what color they are buying.

At the Monterey Bay Iris Society booth, we will have a tent for shade and chairs to sit in. We'll have our iris banner, iris catalogs, iris literature and iris plants to sell. At the booth itself we need help selling the plants, and chatting with the attendees until 5 PM. We are sure to have lots of interest and fun at our booth!

Schedule

8 a.m.-10 a.m. set up Brenda and Diane
10 a.m.-12 a.m. need volunteers
12 p.m.-2 p.m. need volunteers
2 p.m.-4 p.m. and takedown need volunteers

If you can help, call Brenda Wood 831-724-5415 and tell her the best hours for you to be there.

Bloomers

There is no rebloomer drawing this month! Rebloomer drawing starts again in August and goes until February.

New Members

We have new members that joined during and after the May show. Our new members are, Nicki Clark, Patricia Florez and Adele Tuiolosega of Santa Cruz, Onnie Killefer of Aptos, Barbara Hanson of Felton, and Fred, Karen and Casey Valentine of Pescadero. We hope to be able to meet and get to know you all! Welcome!



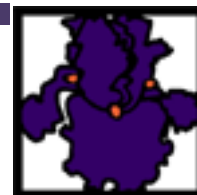
Arrangements are a big crowd draw again this year



DOOR PRIZES

This is our last group of the year. Pick up your winnings for the year at our Summer Picnic on July 19.

1. CASCADIAN RHYTHM, Schreiner, Amoena: S. white; F. blue
2. CLEAR CHOICE, T Johnson, Pink glaciata (crystal-like pink)
3. COME GO WITH ME, L Lauer, Peach, yellow and orange blend
4. COMFORTABLE, J. Ghio, Pink w/rosewood rim on falls; show winner
5. AUTUMN SUNRISE, G Spoon, Pink, white zonal around tangerine beards; Rebloomer
6. BOILERMAKER, L. Miller, S. butter yellow; F. Red black; white lines around bronze beards
7. EMILIO, Richardson, Creamy blue-white; blue beards
8. FOLLOW THE DREAM, Kerr, Peach, lighter in center of falls
9. GRAIN EXCHANGE, Ragle, Old gold ground; red brown dotting; plicata
10. GRAPE PARFAIT, M Lauer, Amethyst violet luminata plicata
11. KING OF LIGHT, Baumunk, Ochre gold self
12. LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN, C Sutton, C Sutton
13. ORANGE TITAN, Aitken, S. orange; F. white, orange band
14. ORCHID DOVE, D Spoon, Orchid pink; lighter edges
15. QUEEN ELEANOR OF AQUITAINE, Baumunk, Blue violet luminata
16. RITE OF PASSAGE, J. Ghio, Pastel pearly pink; very bubbly
17. SECRET RECIPE, J. Ghio, Mulberry luminata plicata
18. SPOT STARTER, Schreiner, Dark purple; white zonal in falls
19. RAGING TIDE, Keppel, Mid-blue with deeper Olympiad centers to falls
20. VERSAILLES, Keppel, S. white; F. blue; red beards



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