

February, 2009

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

## 2009 Calendar

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

### Regular Meeting

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

### Program

TBA

### Refreshments

Megan & Marie

### Regular Meeting

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

### Program

TBA

### Refreshments

Brenda and Larissa

### Regular Meeting

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

### Program

Mini Show

### Refreshments

Diane S

### Annual Iris Show

Capitola Mall..... May 2 to May 3

### Set up

Friday.....9:00 P.M.

### Show

Saturday.....9:00 a.m.–8:00 P.M.

Sunday.....9:00 a.m.–6:00 P.M.

## LAST CALL

Dues are due. If you don't renew, this is your last Newsletter. Single dues are \$10 Two or more at same address \$15. Please pay at the meeting or send to our treasurer Charley Kearns; P.O. Box 2361, Los Gatos, CA 95031.,

## Newsletter

Deadline for March is an early one, Friday February 28th.



Wedding Night, Ghio, 2009

## From The Prez

**L**AST MONTH'S PROPOSAL of (quite achievable) resolutions for 2009 are working out well! Here's the update"

- Elena Laborde has reserved the Green Valley Grill for the MBIS 2010 Holiday Party. Working that far ahead must be the ultimate memory aid! Thanks Elena.
- Jesse Bush and Karen Valentine have volunteered as our official Digital Projector Tinkerers, with the goal to improve the color fidelity of projected images. Yes we (or they) can!
- We still need a go-getter to arrange publicity our Annual Iris Show in April and Sale in August.
- The MBIS's support of AIS-14, according to the Region's Standing Rules, is a voluntary contribution of \$2 per member, increasing (but still voluntary) to \$3 per member in July of 2009. We'll discuss this matter with our board and report at the February meeting.
- We're already working to ensure enjoyable and informative monthly meetings Wayne Craft's January presentation on beekeeping showed us a fascinating aspect of gardening. Thanks again, Wayne! We'll continue that commitment at our February meeting, which starts at 7:30. We'll start convening as usual at 7:00 p.m., Friday, January 17th!

Regarding regional finances, I proposed last March that the region consider distributing the Bulletin in digital form. This change would allow greater use of color and reduce and eventually eliminate printing and mailing costs (which now represent about 45% of the region's expenses). In January, the regional board approved the distribution of digital versions of the most recent two issues of the Bulletin, to invite comments from members. I will advise you via e-mail when those issues are available online for download.

Finally, I am pleased to report that, thanks to Charley Kearns' always-valuable management, the MBIS has applied for continued affiliation with AIS in 2009. As a part of that process, Charley has updated our membership roster, which I will e-mail to members. I'll bring a few hard copies to our February meeting for those who do have access to e-mail.

We're still waiting to learn the status of our Application for IRS Section 501 (c) (3) Group Tax Exemption, which I submitted July 1, 2007! Not a speedy process! Perhaps the IRS has other priorities these days. ❀❀ Tom



## Obituary

Captain Manley C. Osborne U.S. Navy retired, died 16th of January, 2009. Manley, a MBIS member and hybridizer of many irises we grow in our gardens, Sky Hooks, Snow Shoes, Trick or Treat, Special Feature, Twice Thrilling and many others. He also judged most of our MBIS spring shows. Manley was born in Covington, KY, in 1918, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1940, and the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. He earned a Master of Science degree at the University of Pennsylvania. During World War II. Manley served in the Pacific on board the carriers Saratoga and Lexington, earning stars for 15 major battles, also the Silver Star and Purple Heart. During the Korean War he commanded the destroyer, Twining, and earned the Bronze Star.

Other duties included director of Ammunition at the Naval Bureau of Ordnance, duty on the Joint Staff in Tokyo, Executive Officer of the U.S. Naval Ordnance Missile Test Facility at White Sands, Commander of minesweepers in the Pacific, and Bureau of Naval Weapons Representative in Sunnyvale overseeing the development of the Polaris missile at Lockheed, Westinghouse, and other companies. He retired from active Navy duty in 1964 and became the Aerospace corporation Sunnyvale resident manager. He retired finally in 1985 and vigorously pursued his main hobby of hybridizing iris, for which he received major awards from the American Iris Society. Captain Osborne is survived by his wife Toshiko, sons Bryan of La Honda, Lee of Heber City, UT, and daughter Ann of Fremont, all by his deceased wife, Betty, and two grandchildren. At his request, there will be no ceremonies and his ashes will be scattered at sea. Excerpted from San Jose Mercury News by Charley Kearns

## CULTURE TIPS

**W**E HAD 8 DAYS OF RECORD or near record warm days in January, causing plants to begin breaking out of dormancy early. Normal winter/spring routines also need to be moved up. Your irises should be weeded and cleaned up of dead and diseased leaves by. Trees, shrubs and roses should be pruned as well. My roses started budding out by mid January this year. But I still dormant sprayed them in the warm weather. Also I sprayed the irises with systemic insecticide and Rally to get the aphids which had taken up residence deep in the iris leaves.

February is the month to fertilize. This must be done to get the maximum performance from your irises in the spring. Use a balanced fertilizer like 10-10-10 or triple 12 or whatever you find cheap since prices have taken a jump from last year due to the spike in oil prices during this past year. The ideal time to fertilize just before a rainfall, however the soil is cool and damp now so that usually you don't have to water it in.

Simply sprinkle the fertilizer around your irises (about ½ cup per clump) and then scratch it in and that usually does the job.

The gopher saga continues: My gophers went to college and know how to unset my traps without being caught. My aggressive one who got 17 clumps of my reselect seedling and munched on several more, showed who was in charge when he left part of a rhizome in an unset trap. That's it—it is WAR. I baited his run with generous amounts of rat poison, and I have lost no irises since.

A couple more were working on my reselect Pacificas, but less aggressively. I fed them the poison, but one continued his munching and he pushed the poison bag where he took down a clump. WAR on him! Got poison grain and generously baited his run. So far, nothing more has been taken down.

So if traps don't work—try these poisons; they are readily available at garden stores. Be sure to keep the run connected and bait both sides. When you close up the hole, make sure dirt does not fill in the run. ❀❀ Joe

## Joe's 2009 Introductions

**BE ORIGINAL**, 33 inches, EML.

Original indeed is this beauty from our banded line of breeding. The tightly held standards are luscious rich apricot deepening at the midrib. The semi-flaring falls are white with a wide orchid band. This is a unique combination of coloring and pattern all topped off with tangerine beards, 8-10 buds, good branching, and wavy ruffling.

**EDIFICE**, 36 inches, M.

The name was selected to denote the solid structure and form of this creation. Tall, strong, well branched stalks carry these wide Ghio-formed blooms. The standards are orchid and the falls pinkish orchid deepening to an orchid edge. Tangerine beards in bubble ruffling and wide purple based foliage.

**EXPECT WONDERS**, 34 inches, EML.

The ruffly domed standards are creamy white with a pronounced burnt apricot halo around the petal edges. The falls are cream with golden shoulders spilling near the red beards. The petal edges are dotted with red-purple to an almost solid distal edge. An advancement in the Line and Speckle line. Light ruffling, red beards, 4 way branching with 11-14 buds.

**FIXATION**, 30 inches, EM.

Another exciting advance in the line and speckle line. A shorter tall with strong vigor, branching and 8 buds. Standards are buttercup yellow deepening to the red-orange midrib. The falls are brilliant glowing orange with light purple lines and dotting at the petal edges. Wavy ruffling and tangerine beards.

**HOPELESS ROMANTIC**, 36 inches, ML.

The coloring is yummy and the form spectacular! The firm standards are light pink with a deeper pink midrib. The textured falls are light pink with a deeper pink heart. Overlapping hafts to near horizontal falls carry a serrated edge and deep bubble ruffling; tangerine beards to a white tip. Wide show branching. Photographs don't do justice to this iris.

**LATTE**, 32 inches, ML.

The first of the new bleeding pattern to be released. The standards are latte (root beer-apricot blend) with a hairline brown halo which softly bleeds down toward the midrib. The falls are black maroon with rusty beards. Well branched and vigorous grower.

**MY BELOVED**, 36 inches, L.

A name inspired by Beethoven for its lyrical all around beauty. Pure sparkling white self, intensified by the green midrib and white beards tinted to tangerine deep in the heart of the bloom. Wonderful wide show branching carry the magnificent blossoms heavy fringed in deep bubble ruffling. Perfect near horizontal form make it difficult to photograph.

**ROUND OF APPLAUSE**, 36 inches, ML.

This gorgeous iris will get more than just a round of applause, but sustained applause when you view this primo creation. The tightly help domed standards are pure white. White overlapping falls, wide lobelia blue band and tangerine red beards make this a true red, white and blue iris! Pleated accordion ruffling at the upper part of the falls with the rest of the petals dancing in deep bubble ruffling. Great show branching!

**STAR APPEAL**, 38 inches, EM.

Continuing the efforts to extend the "Ovation" pink coloring. A complete self—standards, style arms, falls—are a deep, deep "Ovation" pink. Accordion pleating at the haft area, serrated and light ruffling complete the blossom. Tall and well branched make this iris stand out.

**WEDDING NIGHT**, 32 inches, EM.

A different application of the plicata pattern. The tightly held standards are solid purple-black. The falls are snow white ground lined and dotted overall with purple black to a near solid band of deep purple black. Self black beards with petal edges serrated and light ruffling. Well branched with seven buds.



Be Original



Latte



My Beloved



Edifice



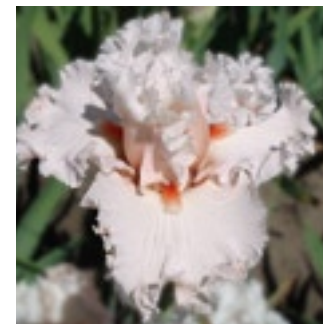
Wedding Night



Fixation



Expect Wonders



Hopeless Romantic



Round of Applause



Star Appeal

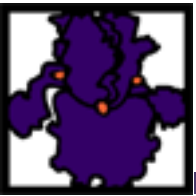
**Photos on the Web**

Go to <http://montereybayiris.org/gallery/ghio09.shtml> for larger photos of the iris. In prior issues of our newsletter Fixation and Expect Wonders ran with their names reversed.



## REBLOOMERS

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



## DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. **BETA GNU**, Kasperek, Deep violet purple w/white streaks, Spec-X
2. **BEV**, G Richardson, Bronzy red self
3. **CLAIM JUMPER**, M. Sutton, S. yellow; F. red brown w/yellow sunburst
4. **CRETE**, T. Johnson, S. purple; F. black, purple edge; red beards
5. **FINE WINE**, Schreiner, Huge wine
6. **GENEALOGY**, T. Johnson, S. white, cream midribs; F. honey yellow
7. **GITANO**, Keppel, S. peach, F. purple, pink sunburst around red beards
8. **ICELANDIC SEA**, L. Johnson, Deep blue violet amoena
9. **JACOB**, F. Kerr, Blue violet w/red beards
10. **MAGICAL**, J. Ghio, Very ruffled light pink; vigorous
11. **MEERKAT MANOR**, Kasperek, S. rose; F. red purple; white streaks overall, BB
12. **NOUVEAU RICHE**, Keppel, S. brassy yellow; F. gold
13. **PIANOFORTE**, J. Ghio, Cherry with nice stems
14. **RAVEN GIRL**, Schreiner, Great formed black
15. **RED HANDED**, J. Ghio, Mahogany with blue blaze in F.
16. **WEDDING BELLE**, Keppel, Rich apricot cream; deeper heart
17. **CRASH COURSE**, P. Black, Blue w/blend tan edging on F
18. **DELEON**, F. Kerr, Sky blue self
19. **GENTLEWOMAN**, M. Smith, Peachy pink glaciata
20. **GLOBAL WARMER**, Burseen, Huge pink w/red beards



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## 2009 AIS Convention

The 2009 AIS Convention will be held in Kansas City, Missouri May 11-16, 2009. You need to reserve your room by April 10th to be part of the group discount. For the registration form and more information see the Convention website, [http://www.kciris.org/AIS\\_Convention.html](http://www.kciris.org/AIS_Convention.html).

