



MONTEREY BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

www.montereybayiris.org

August, 2009

Next meeting Friday, 21, 2009
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz



Jim and Elana help customers with their iris choices

From The Prez

OUR ANNUAL PICNIC was a fine affair, as expected. The company was excellent, the food was a real treat, and the auction was a lot of fun as the bidders secured great bargains and contributed generously to the MBIS treasury. Many thanks to Joe Ghio for his auctioneering, Charley Kearns record keeping and everyone who attended for bring good food and good cheer to the occasion.

Congratulations and a big Thank You! to all those who produced our successful 2009 Annual Rhizome Sale, Part One. The sale at Deer Park Shopping Center went smoothly and enjoyably for all concerned. Look for a full report of the sale elsewhere in this issue of Bay News.

The Rhizome Sales Team included Jim and Irene Cummins and their daughter, Teresa (who were in the thick of the event all morning), Joe Ghio and Elena Laborde (who encouraged buyers to buy even more), Charley Kearns (who tracked the sales with growing enthusiasm), Sheryl McEwan (who provided tables even though she was working elsewhere), Ann Pike (who photographed the proceedings and helped buyers), Rosa Radicchi (who was delightful all morning), Joan Scanlon (who counted irises fair & square), Fred Valentine (who held it all together) and Brenda Wood (who cajoled the Sentinel into providing a fine announcement). I'm sure missed someone!

Everyone on the Team provided solid information and helpful advice to the buyers, all of whom went away happy with additions to their gardens.

2009 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, August 21, 7:30 P.M.

AIS Convention, Carl Baro

Refreshments

Cindy and Barbara

Regular Meeting

Friday, September 18 7:30 P.M.

Tall Beardless

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Regular Meeting

Friday, October 16 7:30 P.M.

PCIs

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Regular Meeting

Friday, November 20 7:30 P.M.

Program TBA

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Annual Holiday Dinner

Green Valley Grill

Friday December 18 6:00 p.m

Volunteers needed for Refreshments! Please contact Karen by phone, email, or at the picnic if you can help out! As you can see, we don't have providers for the Fall's refreshments

Newsletter

Deadline for August is August 28th. Please have all submissions in by the deadline.

Part Two of our sale, August 8th at the Aptos Farmers Market, was quite successful. After virtually selling out our inventory during Part One, the Team scrambled to dig and label more rhizomes to meet the market demand at Part Two. Their efforts produced a substantial inventory for the buyers at the Market, so much so that the last hour of the morning focused on “bargain bags” of rhizomes. No one wanted to deal with left-overs!

The bottom line, based on a preliminary accounting, was another \$1,000+ of income for the MBIS. We’ll receive a summary of our fund-raising efforts at our August meeting, but current indications are that we are in great shape.

We also made several new friends (and potential new members) for the MBIS and—through a combination of enthusiasm and attractive prices—undoubtedly inspired several people to enjoy irises in their gardens.

Thanks to the Rhizome Sales Team for Part Two: Head Honcho Fred Valentine, plus Joe Ghio, Joanne Duffield, Tom Karwin, Art Lindstrom, Ann Pike, Cindy Schuette and Brenda Wood. Regular stalwarts, Jim Cummins, Charley Kearns and Sheryl McEwan all had other obligations for that day but still worked in the background to make tables available for the sale. Thanks to all!

Meanwhile, we are planning for our August meeting, which will feature a digital slide presentation by Carl Boro of the Clara B. Rees Iris Society, who will show digital photos from the 2009 National AIS Conference in Kansas. We understand that his presentation reflects careful editing of a very large number of images. Editing is at the heart of creativity, so we anticipate a top-notch program.

I’ll see you at the meeting on Friday, August 21st. 🌸 Tom

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.

Board of Directors 2008

President

Tom Karwin gardemomg@karwin.com 426-5981

Past President

Diane Sampson debsampson@baymoon.com 728-1339

Vice President

Sheryl McEwan sherylmcewan@pacbell.net 212-5861

Treasurer/ Show Chair

Charley Kearns kcf@gte.net 408-353-4567

Secretary

Jim Cummins jcummins@pacbell.net 438-1369

Brenda Wood woodbrenda@aol.com 724-5415

Hospitality & Refreshments

Karen Valentine heart711@earthlink.net 650-879-1262

Librarian

Brenda Wood woodbrenda@aol.com 724-5415

Newsletter Editor

Joe Ghio ghiobayview@surfnetUSA.com 423-3656

Webmaster

Ann Pike baynews@baymoon.com 426-8855

1 Year Board

Larissa Daniel larissa_paniza@hotmail.com 724-9162

Marie Devery Deveryinc@aol.com 722-1886

Brenda Wood woodbrenda@aol.com 724-5415

2 Year Board

Jessie Bush jessiebush@sbcglobal.net 420-1018

Rosa Raddichi radicchi@aol.com 460-0545

Fred Valentine heart711@earthlink.net 650-879-1262

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.

Bloomers

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

New Member

We have a new member, Joanne Daffield of Soquel. Many of us got to meet and enjoy her company and help at our iris sale at the Aptos Farmer's Market. Welcome and Thanks!

Photo Contest

Correction of Error in the Region 14 Bulletin, p. 20.

Entries in the AIS Region 14 Photography Contest must be submitted to Eric Hansen no later than October 1, 2009. Since that page only mentions the photography contest and has no further information, if you are interested contact Eric at ylhansen@gmail.com or 916-6527555.

Award Winners

Congratulations to Region 14 hybridizers for the following medals, Richard Tasco, Dykes Memorial Medal, Golden Panther, Anna and David Cadd, John C. Wister Medal, Italian Ice, Riley Probst, Williamson-White Medal, Somewhat Quirky and Robert and Janet Canning, Sydney B. Mitchell Medal, Mendocino Blue.

Annual Picnic

The 2008 picnic was held on July 18. We gathered under our favorite shady oak tree. Members brought a delicious dishes again. During the picnic, Elena Laborde and Barbara Wiles worked the group, collecting \$150 in raffle ticket sales. Good job!

Joe Ghio again auctioned exciting new introductions. The bidding was spirited and competitive. Jim Cummins and Art Lindstrom were runners. Fred Valentine and Charley Kearns tallied the bids. \$566 was collected from the auction, totaling \$716 for raffle and auction. There were 18 bidders. Marie Devrey spent the most again this year. Thanks to all for your support and may you enjoy gorgeous blooms and win many blue ribbons next year.

Cultivars bringing the highest bid were—Magical \$18; Wedding Belle \$18; Gypsy Lord \$13; Gitano \$12; Paul Black \$12. After the raffle tickets were drawn, members chose a liberal amount of freebies. A good time was had by all, and the club made some money.

Deer Park Sales Results

Sales at the Deer Park sale were \$2,752 this year. Up from \$1,193 last year. We are hoping for a good sale at the Farmer's Market on August 8. A report of both sales will appear in the September newsletter.





ANNUAL IRIS SALE DEER PARK









JULY PICNIC, 2009

