



MONTEREY BAY NEWS

www.montereybayiris.org

March, 2010

Next meeting Friday, 19, 2008
Doors open 7:00 P.M.
Meeting 7:30 P.M.
Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

2010 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 19.....7:30 P.M.

Program

Arranging Iris, Matt Zemny

Refreshments

Brenda & Larissa

Regular Meeting

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

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

Pat Lindstrom & Charley

Annual Iris Show

Capitola Mall.....May 1 to May 2

Set up

Friday, April 30.....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 217:30 P.M.

Pizza Potluck

Come to the meeting with a hearty appetite!

Brenda & Larissa are planning their annual March, St Paddy's special treats of Corned Beef! Yumm!



An award winning arrangement from the Iris Show

From The Prez

It's AIS national convention time, and iris people who travel are already thinking about packing their bags. Here's a look ahead:

AIS 2010 National Convention

Madison, Wisconsin May 31-June 5 2010

For information, visit the AIS Website: www.irises.org/2010convention.htm; the organizers, the Madison Area Iris Society, has all the details: www.madisoniris.org/Convention/Welcome.htm

AIS 2011 National Convention

The following year's get-together will be in 'Iris-istible' Victoria, British Columbia, May 29 to June 3, 2011. If you haven't been out of the county enough, this event provides a fine excuse to see a bit of the nearby world and help our Canadian friends dig out of their financial hole of the 2010 Winter Olympics! The inside scoop for travelers is that the U.S. Department of State will increase passport fees by 35% in mid-March of this year, so now is the time to apply for your passport.

For basic calendar information, visit the AIS Website: www.irises.org/conventions.htm. For the "real deal," visit the website of the enthusiastic hosts of AIS Region 16: sites.google.com/site/aisregion16/2011-ais-national-convention

We will convene our own monthly "convention" on Friday, March 19th.



Our discussion will include plans for the AIS-14 booth at the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show later this month. For general information on the Big Show, visit www.sfgardenshow.com.

We will of course advance planning for our own show, May 1st and 2nd.

This month's program topic focuses on preparation for the Artistic Division competition at our Iris Show: arranging irises and other flowers, with Matt Zemny as our guest speaker. Matt gave an interesting and informative talk on this topic for us last year, drawing on his experience as a teacher at Soquel High. I know I gained a much better understanding of creative flower arranging principles from his presentation.

We need MBIS members to bring in cut flowers and foliage suitable for floral arrangements, so check your garden for irises in bloom and good candidates. This is a chance for you display your successes in year-round gardening!

As always, the doors will open at 7:00 and we will begin our meeting at 7:30. There's always plenty of business to discuss, but we'll get through it quickly and move on to our program and ever-popular refreshments. ❀ Tom

CULTURE TIPS

SOUNDS LIKE A BROKEN RECORD, but once again we have had heavy rains in February. If you fertilized (as you should have) last month, much of its benefits have either been washed away or leached out. Once the rains ended, it would be wise to give them another light application of a balanced fertilizer.

Growth is rampant with buds fattening in the bloom points of the earliest things (dwarf bearded and Pacificas). By the end of the month they will be beginning to flower in profusion. The peak bloom on the Pacificas is about April 5 for many years here in Santa Cruz. The very early TB's will also begin showing bloom in early April. Several of Barry Blyth's creations like Let's Romp are super early blooms. They often send up stalks in February. Technically they aren't rebloomers, just very early bloomers since they generally won't bloom again in April/May.

Leaf spot shows up when the rapid growth occurs and it rains a lot. It is bacterial and very little you can do about it. You can trim back the effect leaves to help garden appearance. As the weather warms, the new growth will "push out" the diseased leaves by the newer growth. Aphids also make a resurgence now. Since many "hide" folds of the leaves, it is difficult to "get" to them. However, systemics specific to aphids will get them and your irises will be happier for it.

Wet weather and warmth can promote soft rot. As soon as you see it, clean out the affect area completely and let the sun dry it out. Also applying bleach straight to the affected area or sprinkle a chlorine bleach to the same area is very helpful. ❀ Joe

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Judging Floral Arrangements

Anna Cadd will be presenting a program on judging floral arrangements at the Clara B. Rees Iris Society meeting, April 2, 2010. All are welcome. You do NOT have to be working on a Judge's credential to attend. However, 1 hour of JT credit will be given if you are in the program.

The program will be held at the First Baptist Community Church, 17765 Daves Avenue, Los Gatos at 7 p.m.

Clara B Rees Iris Society would like to have a head count of attendees so that Anna will know how many handouts and /or tests to prepare. Please notify the contact person Philippa Alvis, pandjalvis@verizon.net or 408-395-2144 if you are able to attend.

Directions to the meeting location may be obtained through Mapquest on Google or other web search.

Or follow these directions if you are familiar with the Los Gatos area: From Santa Cruz: Traveling north on Highway 17 (880), exit at Lark Avenue. At the end of the exit, turn left onto Lark Ave. crossing back over the freeway. Continue on Lark Ave. to Winchester and turn left onto Winchester.

Turn right onto Daves Ave. Continue on Daves Ave. about 2 ½ blocks. You will see a large elementary school on the left and the church on the right. Turn into the driveway that goes between the main church building and the Church Office Building.(which looks like a house). Park behind the office building. We meet in the lower level Community Room of the Church Office Building. Enter through the sliding glass doors from the parking lot.

AIS Fund Raiser!

For every order completed thru the www.bloominbucks.com link, the American Iris Society will receive 25% of the total order. If you do not understand the fund raising connection with Brent & Becky's Bulbs go to the AIS website at www.irises.org for further information.

NOT a REBLOOMER Month!

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

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 roughly a week before the show. This is a part of the show the public loves, so considering entering! The 2010 competition will be in the following categories:

Section A—Going in Circles: This design must incorporate a circle or circular shape into the design, other than the container. Complementary accessories are allowed.

Section B—Chiquitita: A design to enhance the use of smaller flowers, this design is limited to no larger than 12 inches high, wide and deep.

Section C—Konichiwa: A design in the traditional or modern Japanese style. Accessories complementary to the design style may be used.

Section D—Reach for the Stars: A traditional vertical design with emphasis on height.

Section E—Box Car Bertha: A freestyle design which incorporates the use of a box.

Section F—Drive My Car: A design for only the guys of the club, this design incorporates any car-type theme.

Section G—Peter Cottontail: A design open to the youth of the club which incorporates any Easter type theme, whether formal or whimsical.

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.

March Meeting Presenter

Matt Zemny was the ROP Floral Design instructor at Soquel High for 33 years. His Floral class provided realistic, hands-on training to high school age students as well as adults. Students learn to create beautiful arrangements and flowers to wear. As an incentive to perfect their skills, students were actually paid to sell their work through the student managed flower show located on campus. Floral designs produced included all styles of arrangements for holidays and corsages for proms. The quality of work was so high that students were frequently asked to prepare all of the floral work for weddings.

Matt's presentation on floral design will include audience participation by creating your own Easter arrangement. Some materials will be available, but to be truly successful, it would be appreciated if members could help by bring flowers and other materials. As Easter is a Spring holiday, brightly colored flowers are needed. Iris would be great, but other flowers are good also.

Things to bring include

Flowers: Iris, Ranunculus, Daisies, Carnations, Heather, Larkspur, Bells of Ireland, other big flowers, or spikes of tiny flowers. Best to cut flowers early in the morning when they are hydrated and immediately place in water for a few hours before using.

Foliages include: large leaves like Flax, medium leaves like Camellia, and tiny leaves like Asparagus ferns. Also place in water.

Accessories: The color and placement of flowers can suggest the Easter theme of the design, but to really get the message across, props are needed. Things like colored plastic eggs or bunnies. Accessories can be used within the arrangement or set beside it. Be creative!

Container: can be a simple pastel bowl, a ceramic in the shape of a rabbit, or even an Easter basket, but remember it needs to be able to hold sufficient water for the flowers.

Cutting Tool: a sharp, straight edge blade knife is the best tool to cut flowers. Pruning shears will work—hook type is best, but scissors type work also. Regular scissors are OK.

Bring what you can. Don't worry if it doesn't all seem to go together, you can always trade with others. Matt will also have some materials that will help to finish your design.

Last Call For Dues

MBIS membership 2010 dues due. Members not renewing will be dropped from the roster. We don't want to lose anyone, so please remember to renew. Single dues are \$10, two or more at the same address \$15. Please pay at the November meeting, or send your renewal \$\$ to our treasurer, Charley Kearns, P. O. Box 2361, Los Gatos, CA 95031..



DOOR PRIZES IRISES



1. **BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY**, Kerr, Pink, blue violet band on F. BB.
2. **BRILLIANT IDEA**, Keppel, White, washed blue band on F.; wide yellow beards.
3. **CODE BLUE**, Aiken, Light blue self w/red beards.
4. **DEEP CURRENTS**, T. Johnson, White ground, red purple plicating.
5. **ENCHANTED MELODY**, Schreiner, Very lacy orchid.
6. **FASHION MAGIC**, J. Painter, S. mauve pink; F. fuchsia violet.
7. **FLORENCE HILL**, Burseen, S. peach buff; F. violet blue; feathered violet flounces.
8. **HOLIDAY ROMANCE**, Kerr, S. white pink infusion; F. dark pink.
9. **HOO DOO**, T. Johnson, S. mid violet; F. black purple.
10. **JUST A KISS AWAY**, Baumunk, Very lacy light yellow.
11. **LATTE**, Ghio, S. latte; F. sooty black maroon.
12. **MY BELOVED**, Ghio, Beautifully formed white; coral beards.
13. **NESSUM DORMA**, Kerr, S. pinkish apricot; F. white, apricot band.
14. **OCEAN POP**, Lauer, S. white; F. cornflower blue.
15. **ORANGELO**, M. Sutton, S. orange; F. white, amber rim; RE.
16. **RASPBERRY SWIRL**, M. Sutton, S. orange; F. Dark purple; lighter rim.
17. **ROCK & ROLL GIRL**, Lauer, Pink; orange horns.
18. **STUD BOOK STUFFER**, Burseen, Bitone cornflower blue; red beards.
19. **THINK ABOUT IT**, Lauer, Violet bicolor w/white rim on all petals.
20. **WEDDING NIGHT**, Ghio, Black purple fancy plicata.



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