



MONTEREY BAY NEWS

www.montereybayiris.org

January, 2012

Next meeting Friday, 21, 2012
 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



Fixing the squares at the Native Sons Hall

2012 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, January 20 7:30 P.M.

Program

Beyond Organic, Jim Neve

Refreshments

Ann, Rosanna & Shirley

Regular Meeting

Friday, February 17 7:30 P.M.

TBA

Refreshments

Karen and Joan

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 16 7:30 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments

Brenda & Larissa

Regular Meeting

Friday, April 20 7:30 P.M.

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

Art, Pat & Barbara H.

Regional

Aptos Seacliff Inn April 27 to 29

Registration

Friday, May 27 4-6 P.M.

Garden Tour and Dinner

Saturday 9:00 a.m.-10:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Friday, May 18 7:30 P.M.

Pizza Potluck

From The Prez

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Our holiday party was a grand success. We discovered a new location (Bruno's Barbeque—"The Original California BBQ") and tried our hands at new activity (the White Elephant Gift Exchange).

We thank Jim & Irene Cummins for recommending this place, Elena Laborde for arranging the occasion, Lisa Ayala for proposed the exchange, Joe Ghio for conducting the exchange smoothly, and all our members for bringing a fine collection of generous gifts.

Without a formal opinion survey, it sure seemed like everyone had a tasty meal, a enjoyable gift exchange and a happy time overall. As always, good company makes a good event!

Our January meeting will be at the Native Sons Hall, as usual. As announced at the party, however, we will discuss other locations for our future meetings. Your ideas are welcome.

One possibility is the Horticultural Building at the UCSC Arboretum. We'll try that for a future meeting. Among its benefits is the opportunity for MBIS members to discover the Arboretum, which is a major horticultural resource. (Discovery will be easier when the days are longer!).

One item of business for this meeting will be the MBIS's annual contribution to Cabrillo's College's scholarship fund, earmarked for the Horticultural Department. We will convene as usual at 7:00, and hold a brief business meeting at 7:30. Our program for the evening is in development. Looks for an Iris Alert before our meeting date, January 20th.

Happy New Year! . ❁❁ Tom



CULTURE TIPS

WE'VE HAD A VERY DRY DECEMBER after some very wet storms in October. Only remember one other year when it was this dry and warm in December. The upside is that I was able to get on my knees and clean up the irises without getting all dirty and muddy. As of now the irises look good. There has been some cold evenings that "burned back" leaves and froze any bloom-stalks. This is a good thing. Irises and lots of plants perform better come spring with a good winter chilling. Hopefully this happens this year especially since we are hosting the Spring Region 14 Convention this year.

The things to be sure to get done this month is clean our dead leaves and cut back diseased and brown tipped leaves. Get those weeks out before the rains return and turn the soil to goopy mess. Cleaning up your beds will have the irises ready for the most important fertilization for your irises: the application of a balanced fertilizer, like 10-10-10, triple 12, etc., in early February as the new growth begins. Yes, new growth is only about a month away!

If significant rains don't happen and you have loose, sandy soil, consider giving your irises some water. Also if you find aphids hiding in the folds of your leaves, an application of a system insecticide will solve the problem quickly. Also if you dormant spray your fruit trees and roses, do your irises at the same time. It helps control the fungus spores overwintering. ❁❁ Joe

REBLOOMERS

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

Beyond Organic

Jim Neve of Soil Solutions will give this month's program, "Combining Biology and Organic Fertilizers to Grow Healthy Plants." Neve will describe how organic and synthetic fertilizers contribute to the ecology, human health, and plant growth and vigor. He also will explain the importance of The Soil FoodWeb, and discuss compost tea and naturally occurring insecticides and fungicides. Neve is a Plant Care Specialist, Certified Soil FoodWeb Advisor, and Certified Arborist. Guests are welcome.

Iris Search

Lisa Ayala is looking for Louisiana Iris, "Cooabelle". If you have this Iris to sell or share, please contact Lisa at (408) 244-7200 or email her at herbtalk@earthlink.net

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S F Spring Flower Show

March 21-25, 2012, San Mateo

Members interested in volunteering for a shift at the American Iris Society booth are encouraged to call Carolyn Craft at 408-266-0945. Volunteering gets you free admission. Call right away as volunteer positions fill up fast.

DUES ARE DUE

MBIS Dues for 2012 are due. Members not renewing will be dropped from the roster. We don't want to lose anyone, so please remember to renew. Pay at the January meeting or mail to Charley Kearns, P. O. Box 2361, Los Gatos, CA 95031.

Dues for a single membership are \$10; two or more at the same address \$15. Add \$5 if you want the newsletter mailed to you, otherwise you can download it from the MBIS website.

EVENTS FOR 2012

Regular meetings are on the third Friday of the month.

Date	Event	Activity	Location	Time
January 20	Meeting	to be announced	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
February 17	Meeting	to be announced	TBA	7:30 P.M.
March 16	Meeting	to be announced	TBA	7:30 P.M.
April 20	Meeting	Mini-show	TBA	7:30 P.M.
April 27 to 29	Spring Regional		Aptos Seacliff Inn	TBA
May 20	Meeting	Pizza Potluck	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
June 23	Meeting	to be announced	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
June 15	The Garden Faire	Iris Promotion & Sale	Skypark, Scotts Valley	9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.
July 21	Summer Picnic	More Irises	Harvey West Park	11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.
August 2	Iris Dig for Sale	Prepare for Sale	Joe's Ranch	9:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.
August 4	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Deer Park Center	9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.
August 11	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Aptos Farmer's Mkt	9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.
August 17	Meeting	to be announced	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
September 29	Meeting	Beardless Iris	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
October 19	Meeting	Pacific Coast Iris	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
November 16	Meeting	to be announced	Native Sons Hall	7:30 P.M.
December 21	Holiday Party	Celebration	Bruno's BBQ or ???	6:00 P.M.

Judges' Training

All members of Region 14 are invited to attend the judges' training that will be held in conjunction with the Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society's potluck lunch January 2012. Jean Richter, secretary and cultivar preservation chair of the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS), will give a one-hour training on judging historic iris in shows. The event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 28, 2012 at the Lake Merritt boathouse (just down the street from the Lakeside Park Garden Center on Bellevue Avenue in Oakland). Doors will open at 11:00 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon. The judge's training will be held at 1:30 p.m. Please bring your own plates, silverware and cup. The Society will provide napkins, hot drinks, rolls, and a ham. Check the Region 14 web site <http://www.aisregion14.org> for the latest information on this event, or contact Jean Richter at (510) 864-7962 or jeanrichter@berkeley.edu

Small Gardens & Raised Beds

Sunday, February 5, 10 am to 1 pm at the Louise Cain Gatehouse, UCSC Farm. This workshop is tailored to gardeners with small plots or raised beds. Learn how to plan your garden for maximum production, including succession planting and crop rotation. Bring a sketch of your garden to plan what, when, and where to plant for spring, summer, and into fall. Wear warm clothes. \$20 for Friends of the Farm & Garden members; \$30 general public, \$5 UCSC students with valid student ID, payable the day of the workshop—no pre-registration necessary.

Treasures of Henry Cowell SP

Join Deanna Giuliano to visit one of our local treasures: Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. We will see our local endemic *Arctostaphylos silvicola* and *Ribes divaricatum* in its special habitat of the sandhills, and then meander through some of the controlled burn area to discover what is sprouting, on our way to the observation deck for a stunning view of Santa Cruz and the Monterey Bay. Our loop back will take us up Eagle creek where we will see some special plants. Hike is moderately strenuous (deep sand!) and about 4.5 to 5 miles round trip.

Trip is from 10 am to 2 pm, on Sunday January 29. Bring water, layers, sunscreen, hat and a lunch. Meet at Juvenile Hall parking lot off Graham Hill Road. Carpooling is encouraged, but not CNPS sponsored. Contact Deanna Giuliano for any questions at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or call 831 335-4902. Heavy rain cancels.

Monterey Bay Rose Society

Pruning Clinics:

10 A.M. to noon, Jan 21, ProBuild Garden Center 235 River St., Santa Cruz

10 A.M. to noon, Jan 28, Alladin Nursery, 2905 Freedom Blvd, Watsonville,



DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. **ANCIENT CHARM**, Kerr, S apricot; F maroon; gray band
2. **AUREOLES**, Filardi, Cream, red beards
3. **BEHAVIN BAD**, Burseen, S white; F purple black, red beards
4. **BLUED INDIGO**, G Richardson, Deep blue violet
5. **CHOCOLATTE**, L. Painter, Chocolate brown plicata
6. **CINQUE TERRE**, Schreiners, Henna, deeper band around falls
7. **DAZZLE**, Ghio, S apricot pink; F blackish purple; wide pink rim
8. **DRIFTING**, Schreiners, Amoena; S white; F hyacinth blue
9. **EASTER CANDY**, Keppel, S. light yellow; F pale lavender blue
10. **ENGAGEMENT RING**, Ghio, S gold; F white; rosy orchid band
11. **GHOST WRITER**, Keppel, Oyster; pink undertones
12. **GILDED CLOUD**, Kerr, S white; S white; F light yellow; white spot
13. **GREAT BALLS OF FIRE**, Aiken, Orange, white spot in F; red beards
14. **LOVING YOU**, L. Painter, S pink; F orchid lavender
15. **MIMOSA**, M. Sutton, Orange S. darker
16. **POLAR MIST**, T. Johnson, White, violet tint; beards soft tangerine
17. **REVISION**, Keppel, White, blue band on F; large yellow beards
18. **SAFARI SUNRISE**, Keppel, Rose and amber blend, IB
19. **SAILOR'S WARNING**, Burseen, Orange, purple stripes on F
20. **SPECTACLE**, Ghio, S orange; F black maroon; orange lacy edge



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