

March, 2012

Next meeting Friday 16, 2012
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Native Sons Hall
 239 High Street, Santa Cruz

2012 Calendar

Monthly meetings are held in Native Sons Hall unless otherwise stated

Regular Meeting

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

Program

Regional Planning

Refreshments

Brenda & Larissa

Regular Meeting

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

Program

Regional Planning

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

Attention!!!

Come to meeting hungry. This is the month to feast on Corn Beef & fixens!

We need to know your TShirt & Pin order

You need to register for the Regional or at least make your intention to attend or volunteer known!



Beauty Within, Ghio 2012 Introduction

From The Prez

OUR MARCH MEETING will be at the Native Sons Hall again. We had an enjoyable and productive meeting at the UCSC Arboretum last month, but did not decide to consider holding future meetings there. In addition to nostalgia for the familiar Native Sons Hall, we found disappointing acoustics at the Arboretum. (It's possible that our room arrangement was "sideways;" I have attended several meetings there without noticing poor acoustics.)

Nevertheless, we remain open to suggestions for other meeting rooms, to gain kitchen access and avoid the need to fuss with the carpet tiles.

Our March meeting will focus primarily on discussing the Spring Regional (April 27–29), which will be this year's major occasion for AIS Region 14. We all should recognize the good work of the planning group, which is covering the many aspects of planning this event, with Jim and Irene Cummins setting the pace and organizing the participation of many MBIS members.



I encourage all MBIS members to register for the 2012 Spring Regional. It will be a fine occasion, and a great bargain because as a local member you need not have the cost of lodging. Register before April 1st for the best price, and register as early as you can so that the planning committee could plan a good experience for everyone.

We also will discuss ideas for either refining our scholarship for a Cabrillo Horticulture student or making another kind of donation in support of the genus Iris. Ideas welcome!

Lastly, if we have time during the March meeting, we will also view an AIS slide presentation of 2011 introductions.

We will convene as usual at 7:00, and have a progress report for the Spring Regional at 7:30. I'll see you there! . ❀❀❀ *Tom*

CULTURE TIPS

LAST YEAR WE WERE EXPERIENCING quite a rainy year. This year after a rainy start in October, we have been having one of our drier years of record. Actually dry years portend to one of our better bloom seasons. Plants perform at peak performance under stress. They feel the need to perpetrate themselves and tend to grow and bloom better. The best bloom I have ever had were the ultra dry years of 1976-77.

If you fertilized in early February, we had just the right amounts of rain to work the nutrients into the root zone of the rhizomes rather than to be leached out. The results is the rapid growth that is occurring now is lush and robust. If you have sandy soil, some water will be needed.

Drier weather also means fewer disease problems but pests, especially aphids, thrive in this weather. Again an application of a systemic insecticide will pretty much solve the problem for about 4 weeks when the pests can make a reappearance. Another application then will get you through bloom-time.

The early bloom dwarfs and Pacificas begin blooming by the end of March heralding the bloom season. ❀❀❀ *Joe*

Regional Update

Once again the regional committee met at the Cummins' and couldn't eat all the food that was there. We adjusted the budget as we are already at our original estimate of attendees, Ann brought the patches and Brenda brought a shirt sample which were all greeted well. We are short of help in various areas and are asking for volunteers, We would also like for you to get your registration in as soon as possible so we know how many members are planning on attending. If we don't hear from you, _____!

Thanks, *Jim and Irene*

NOT a REBLOOMER Month!

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

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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.



Sight for Sore Eyes, Ghio, 2012

MORE OF JOE'S 2012 IRIS INTROS



Winning Hand, Ghio, 2012



Superhero, Ghio, 2012



Magnanimous, Ghio, 2012



Glimpse, Ghio, 2012



DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. ACTION PACKED, P. Black, S. buff, webbed deeper; F purple black
2. BROAD MINDED, M. Sutton, S primrose; F violet-blue
3. BLACKBIRD LANDING, Burseen, S blue; F black; gold beards
4. CATWALK QUEEN, T. Johnson, S yellow; F lilac, gold band
5. DRAGON KING, Tasco, Magenta mauve; darker veining
6. ENJOYMENT, Ghio, Alabaster pink; bubbly
7. FATHERLAND, Schreiners, Neglecta; S lilac; F plum purple
8. GLAD, Schreiners, Blue-violet pronounced red beards
9. GO WEST, Duncan, Cream; purple L & S on falls
10. GUARDIAN LIGHT, Kerr, White, wide deep blue band on F
11. IMPERTINENT, Filardi, Tan plicata, BB
12. MAD WORLD, J. Painter, Indian red; orchid sunburst on F
13. PALACE BEAUTY, Kerr, White ground; blue plicating
14. SAILOR'S WARNING, Burseen, Orange, purple stripes on F
15. SATIN AND LACE, P. Black, Orange-peach
16. SPECTATOR, Keppel, S prune; F Cream; plum band, IB
17. SURE ENOUGH, Burseen, White & gold; purple texture veins
18. TEXAS TRADITION, Burseen, S light blue; F velvety plum, red beards
19. TRICK OF LIGHT, Filardi, Rosy violet
20. UNINHIBITED, Ghio, S orange; F maroon, orange sunburst



Joseph J. Ghio, Editor
1201 Bay Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

