



January, 2018

Next meeting Friday 19, 2018
 Doors open 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Simpkins Swim Center
 979 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

From The Prez

OUR NEW YEAR IS STARTING and I can only hope for a bigger and better year. Our Iris Society 2017 list of accomplishments is long, and the past year was a huge success. This was only because of the dedicated people that we have in our group; backed by their knowledge, expertise and effort. I cannot thank you all enough for making my job enjoyable and virtually hassle free.

As president, I make an effort to attend the regional and national AIS events and expand my proficiency in growing, showing and educating others on this hobby/addiction. I will continue to do this in 2018. Scheduled this year for Karin and I are two Regionals, the National and the Aril Trek. We cannot wait for Spring and plan on visiting New Orleans and Las Cruces. I have also started Judge's Training and hope to add several hours to my handbook this year.

We now have three new board members and have retained the MBIS officers for another term. A big thank you to the new board members; Karin Tarr, Catt Porter and Kathy Wood. I would like to recognize my VP, Barbara Hanson, for our speaker slate at selected meetings. I appreciate the variety and enjoy learning new things.

And a few words on the Christmas party held at the California Grill in Watsonville. What an event! Forty six people showed up and the venue was not only large, but secluded and quiet. Quite frankly, we have gotten too large for Michaels on Main or smaller places now. Kathy Hartman once again spearheaded this gala and it was just a wonderful time with the gift exchange the highlight. There were so many bird houses, that next year I plan on bringing a bird as a gift.

And please remember that I am open to ideas, complaints and concerns during my term. If you absolutely need to contact me, please call. E-mail will work, but I do not check it everyday. Karin is a backup phone number and Charley Kearns uses it often... .

And finally this month, I would like to recognize the newsletter goddess, Ann Pike. This publication is just fantastic, and her time and effort really turn out a superior product. 🌸🌸 *Craig*

DUES ARE DUE

Single dues are \$10 Two or more at the same address, \$15. Add \$10 if you want the newsletter by mail. Please pay at the meeting or send to our treasurer, Larissa Daniel, 520 San Miguel Rd., Watsonville CA. Phone: 831 724-9162.

Reminder

January with its cold fog and wind is just the right time for of a bowl of chili. There will be turkey chili and regular chili—not too hot with chili powder, but with enough side dishes to spice it up for even the spiciest palate. There will be lots of rice and plenty of corn bread, Italian bread and salad to round everything out. We can then settle down and enjoy a great as usual presentation of glorious blooms from Riley.

2018 Calendar

Monthly meetings are held in Simpkins Swim Center unless otherwise stated.

Regular Meeting

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

Program

Glorious Bloom, presented by Riley

Refreshments

Shirley & Riley Chili Feed

Regular Meeting

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

Program

TBA

Refreshments

Potluck, meat and cake provided, members bring sides

Regular Meeting

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

Program

TBA

Refreshments

Brenda & Larissa, St. Patrick's Feast

January Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| <i>Rosa Radicchi</i> | <i>Jan 1</i> |
| <i>Barbara Hanson</i> | <i>Jan 3</i> |
| <i>Larissa Daniel</i> | <i>Jan 8</i> |
| <i>Irene Cummins</i> | <i>Jan 10</i> |
| <i>Jack Scanlon</i> | <i>Jan 13</i> |
| <i>Mikey Lango</i> | <i>Jan 17</i> |
| <i>Wayne Craft</i> | <i>Jan 18</i> |
| <i>Kathy Hartman</i> | <i>Jan 20</i> |
| <i>Jeff Helms</i> | <i>Jan 30</i> |





CHRISTMAS PARTY 2017

This Year's annual Christmas celebration! new/old location at the California Grill in Watsonville, great company and food. Thanks to Kathy a great time was had by all. Fun and games with the annual gift exchange.



Board of Directors 2016

President

Craig Tarr cht2325@yahoo.com 408 425-7207

Past President/Vice President

Barbara Hanson barbara@barbaraltc.com 831 335-4949

Treasurer

Larissa Daniel Larissa_paniza@hotmail.com 831 724-9162

Secretary

Brenda Wood woodbrenda@aol.com 831 724-5415

Jim Cummins jcummins@pacbell.net 831 438-1369

Show Chair

Charley Kearns kcf@verizon.net 408 315-1520

Newsletter

Joe Ghio ghiobayview@att.net 831 423-3656

Ann Pike avpike@cruzio.com 831 426-8855

1 Year Board

Riley Probst
Rosa Radicchi
Joan Scanlon

2 Year Board

Catt Porter
Karin Tarr
Kathy Wood

Contacts

Hospitality & Refreshments

Shirley Trio shirleytrio@gmail.com 209 551-6323

Birthday List

Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089





Re-Bloomers

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

Internet Postings

Most growers have a website and/or web postings of their listings and introductions. Google their names or business names to be directed to their sites.

EVENTS FOR 2018

Regular meetings are on the third Friday of the month.

Date	Event	Activity	Location	Time
January 19	Meeting	Slides by Riley	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
February 16	Meeting	Panel of Iris Experts	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
March 16	Meeting	to be announced	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
April 20	Meeting	Mini-show	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
April 27	Iris Show	Set-up	Louden Nelson	7:00 P.M.
April 28	Iris Show	Iris Promotion	Louden Nelson	1-6:00 P.M.
April 29	Iris Show	Iris Promotion	Louden Nelson	NOON-6:00 P.M.
May 18	Meeting	Show Wrap/Pizza	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
June 15	Meeting	to be announced	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30P.M.
June 16	The SV Faire	Iris Promotion & Sale	Skypark, SV	9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
July 21	Summer Picnic	More Irises	Harvey West	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	9:00 A.M.-NOON.
August 11	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Cabrillo Mkt	8:00 A.M.NOON
August 17	Meeting	to be announced	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
September 21	Meeting	Beardless Iris	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
October 19	Meeting	Pacific Coast Iris	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
November 16	Meeting	to be announced	Simpkins Swim Center	7:30 P.M.
December 21	Holiday Party	Celebration	California Grill?	6:00 P.M.



THE GIFT EXCHANGE

White elephant exchange with even a white elephant. There was the give and take of birdhouse and a variety of other iris and not iris odd and interesting things.





JOY!

*And thanks to Brenda,
Shirley and Joan for what
they do in service
to MBIS!*



JOY!

JOY!





DOOR PRIZES IRISES



1. **ADRIATIC NOBLE**, Keppel, Ruffled purple self
2. **BLACK MIRROR**, Schreiners, One of the best blacks
3. **BLUE ME AWAY**, L. Painter, Very ruffled mid blue
4. **COLOR FLING**, L. Painter, S. gold; F. orchid, buff edges
5. **DARK STORM**, Tasco, Fancy violet plicata
6. **ELECTRIC**, Sutton, Gold; ruby red veined edges of F
7. **EXPRESS YOURSELF**, Schreiners, S gold & heliotrope; F light purple & brown blend
8. **FIRST PRIZE**, Tasco, Pink, violet blot on F
9. **FRAMED**, Sutton, S. primrose, F white; double rim of red-violet
10. **I LIKE PRETTY THINGS**, P. Black, Milky lilac; very bubbled & laced
11. **INTO THE WILD**, Sutton, S. yellow, flilac-purple; rim deeper purple
12. **IVORY CASTLE**, Blyth, 15, Cream & white blend
13. **LATE HOURS**, Schreiners, S velvet purple, F black; red beards
14. **MOOD RING**, Keppel, S blackish sienna; F violet; green-gold band
15. **OPTIC OVERLOAD**, Tasco, S buff yellow, F violet; lined darker
16. **ROCKET FUEL**, Sutton, Orange; greyed red blended band on edge of F
17. **RUSTIC CHARM**, L. Painter, Two tone peach; deep mahogany shoulders
18. **SHERBET BOMB**, Blyth, 15, S champagne-lilac; F rose pink over lemon
19. **STAR MAKER**, S white, F white; lined & brushed lavender violet; pink heart
20. **TRIPLE TAKE**, Schreiners, S white, violet tint, F white; dark to plum band

CULTURE TIPS

BETWEEN MID-DECEMBER to the end of January, bearded irises, in fact all types of irises, are as dormant as they will ever get in our area. It is also a more critical time to get the maximum performance come spring. Clean out your irises of weeds and dead and diseased leaves now. Early February is the most important time to give your plants what they need as they begin their new growth as they awake from their winter somber. FERTILIZE them in early February as the new growth begins. Use a balanced fertilizer such as 10-10-10, triple 12, whatever is cheapest. Fifty lbs. bags go for about \$50 at CPS farm supply in Watsonville.

In your clean beds, sprinkle a generous handful around each clump. Rough it in with a fork-hoe. Usually the soil is wet enough that nothing more needs to be done with the wet soil and rain that we are likely to get. If your soil is dry and/or it doesn't rain, you will have to water it in. In the cool winter, it takes about three weeks for fertilizer to show its affect as the growth speeds up its growth cycle.

If you have sandy soil or it rains heavily leaching out much of the fertilizer, another light application should be applied at the beginning of March. Give all types of irises fertilizer in February. Pacificas appreciate some as well but about half the amount you give to other types of irises.

Last year we had one of the wettest years on record but this year we're have one of the driest of record so far. A couple very wet and windy days is predicting for January 8-9 which we need badly. The replanted Pacificas are struggling since

I haven't been able to give them the water they needed. To date not one seed has germinated doubtlessly due to the very hot and dry weather we had in November and December. I had tomatoes plants that are alive today; however the ranch tomato/squash plants are dead. Many plants, including irises, need some winter cold to preform at max levels come spring.

This year changed pre-emergent because pearlwort and its relations (which surprisingly are members of the carnation family) are taking over the garden. The new pre-emergent used is FREEHAND. I can report that so far the beds are free of all weeds (except where I missed the application, another proof it works). The proof of the pudding will be in the spring that the irises perform normally. The pre-emergent I used the last few years was RONSTAR which worked fine until recently. This is normal since what happens is that the weeds Ronstar misses, lacking competition from other weeds, begin taking over.

Another unintended experiment was the use of Roundup at the ranch. I applied it more aggressively amongst the iris rows because I knew I would be limited of what I could do with the surgeries scheduled in December. There annual bluegrass is the main problem. I got most of it with the Roundup but came very close to the iris plants in many cases. Now spring will tell the story. Deformed blooms means the plant was hit and effected. The plants will ultimately grow out of it. On the bright-side, we are just two months from bloom on the early blooming specie—dwarf bearded and Pacificas. 🌸 Joe