

January, 2024

Next meeting Friday 19, 2024
Eating Starts 7:00 P.M.
Meeting 7:30 P.M.
Place Aptos Grange,
2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos

HAPPY HAPPY!



Brenda steals a bird house

From The Prez

THE NEW YEAR IS FINALLY UPON US and our society is thriving. We have had several good years of sales, new members and great potlucks. I hope this trend continues. We have renewed the contract for the Aptos Grange and we have pushed our time of entry up to 6PM. This will hopefully alleviate the standing around time waiting for the door to open. We will still start our meeting at the regular time of 7PM.

We have discussed getting some judges training into our calendar for our meetings and I am looking into having a few judges training sessions that would start at 6PM and last an hour. This would be a great service to our current judges as well as those wanting to be a judge in the future. Whether or not you plan on being a judge or not, the training helps to understand the rules and regulations of the standards and classification of the American Iris Society pertaining to what it takes to be a great plant and flower. More on this later.

December was a really great month and the annual Christmas birdhouse exchange was a huge success. Kathy Hartman did a stellar job of putting it together....again. Her time and energy are well spent on this event and I hear many positive comments about it from the members. We have such a good party because of all the rhizome donators, garden diggers and sales workers that make our sales awesome. I thank you all!

2024 Calendar

Monthly meetings are held on the third Friday at the Aptos Grange unless otherwise stated

Regular Meeting

Friday, January 19.....7:00P.M.

Program

"You too can grow Arilbreds"

Jeff Bennet

Refreshments

Potluck sides/Chili

Regular Meeting

Friday, February 16.....7:00P.M.

Program

The origin of MBIS/50th anniversary

Joe Ghio

Refreshments

Potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 15.....7:00P.M.

Program

Mini Show

Joe Ghio

Refreshments

St. Patrick's potluck

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>Vickie Hinkley</i>	<i>Jan 14</i>
<i>Mary Helen Chrisman</i>	<i>Jan 17</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>

I am sad to report that a longtime member of the iris world, Philippa Alvis, passed away just prior to her 95 birthday on December 21st, 2023. I met her when I joined MBIS and she spoke to me about the basics of garden etiquette, the intricacies of Region 14 politics and the reasons to be a member of the American Iris Society. It was all new to me when I first joined and her early counsel provided some basic knowledge of what lay ahead. I will miss her not only at our regular meetings, but also at the Regionals and Nationals that she was so fond of. Peace be with you Philipa.

See you at the meeting! 🌸🌸 *Craig*

DUES ARE LATE

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 January meeting, or send your renewal to our treasurer, Diane Sampson, 7 Cutter Cove, Watsonville, CA. 95076, Phone: 831-206-1444. Memberships that are not renewed will be dropped.

Philippa Alvis

December 22, 1928 – December 21, 2023

Last month, the December birthdays were posted in the newsletter and Philippa's was one of them. She would have been 95 years old on December 22. Sadly, she passed away on December 21, a young 94. She had been enjoying her stay in New York with her daughter, Joanne, making wreaths and swag decorations for Christmas, planting succulents for her daughter to give as gifts, and going to West Point for their Christmas musical performance. As always, Philippa was enjoying life to the fullest until a massive stroke swiftly took her out.

Philippa wore many hats in her long life. She was a teacher, wife, mother, Santa Clara Master Gardener, AIS judge, past CBRIS president (1993-1995), member of Clara B. Rees and Monterey Bay Iris Societies, Western Horticulture Society, the Camellia Society, the Rose Society and probably others. Perhaps most significant of all, she was a student—always curious, always learning, always excited about the next growing season, the next holiday and the next shopping adventure! A true gardener, she always looked forward to tomorrow and fully expected to be here. Her contribution to Clara B. (and MBIS) cannot be overestimated. She was always willing to take on any task and was an excellent recruiter, as it was impossible to say no to her! She kept us on our toes and let us know when we violated the bylaws or forgot to mention an important point.

Philippa will be greatly missed. RIP Philippa.

*Respectfully submitted,
Carol Dahout, CBRIS President*

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Jim Cummins jcummins@pacbell.net 831 438-1369

Show Co-Chairs

Kelly Frawley kelly.frawley@yahoo.com 626-321-2322

Lisa Caras lisac@igneous.com 831-419-3799

Newsletter

Joe Ghio ghiobayview@att.net 831 423-3656

Ann Pike avpike@cruzio.com 831 426-8855

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Joanne Abel

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Contacts

Hospitality & Refreshments

Shirley Trio shirleytrio@gmail.com 209 551-6323

Birthday List



CULTURE TIPS

AS SEEMS TO BE THE USUAL CASE LATELY, we had plentiful rain early which gets the weeds germinating early. It is better and easier to hoe and remove them when the soil is drier. The irises are dried up as much as they will be for the season. New growth begins showing up in early February. Prior to this growth spurt remove the dead and sick foliage and then fertilize as the new growth begins in February. We fertilize with a balanced fertilizer like 10-10-10 or triple 12, whichever is cheaper. Costco often has similar fertilizer available at this time of the year.

Spread handfuls around your irises and raked in lightly. The wet soil and rain will work it into the soil and the irises will thrive. Interestingly, rust on the irises used to be a major problem here on the Coast. With the climate changes we are experiencing now, it isn't much of a problem anymore. If a variety is likely to "get" the rust, it pretty much disappear as the climate "heats" up as the weather "warms" up. 🌸 Joe



Gents are acknowledged for service and play in the spotlight

EVENTS FOR 2024

Regular meetings are on the third Friday of the month.

Date	Event	Activity	Location	Time
January 19	Meeting	"You too can grow Arilbreds", Jeff Bennet	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
February 16	Meeting	The origin of MBIS/50 th anniversary, Joe Ghio	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
March 15	Meeting	Mini show, Joe Ghio	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
April 12	Iris Show	Set-up	London Nelson	7:00 P.M.
April 13	Iris Show	Iris Promotion	London Nelson	1-6:00 P.M.
April 14	Iris Show	Iris Promotion	London Nelson	NOON-6:00 P.M.
April 19	Meeting	Show Wrap	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
April 19, 20	Spring Regional		Sacramento	
May 17	Meeting	Show Awards/Pizza	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
June 21	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
June 26-29	AIS National Convention		Portland, OR	
July 20	Summer Picnic	More Irises	Cummins'	11:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.
August 3	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Deer Park	9:00 A.M.-NOON
August 10	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Cabrillo Mkt	8:00 A.M.NOON
August 17	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Cabrillo Mkt	8:00 A.M.NOON
August 16	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
September 20	Meeting	Beardless Iris?	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
October 18	Meeting	Pacific Coast Iris	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
November 15	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
December 20	Holiday Party	Celebration	Pasatiempo	5:00 P.M.



The wonderful holiday dinner!

HOLIDAY PARTY 2023

This Year's annual Christmas celebration! Great company and food.
Thanks to Kathy a great time was had by all.



Linda has the bird house now



Now the bird house has new home



Karin and Elaine go for the same hat



1. ALL STITCHED UP, Johnson



2. AMERICA'S TOP MODEL, Black



3. AMETHYST ANGEL, Johnson



4. AS YOU WISH, Johnson



5. BAD HABITS, Johnson



6. BIG AS THE MOON, Schreiner



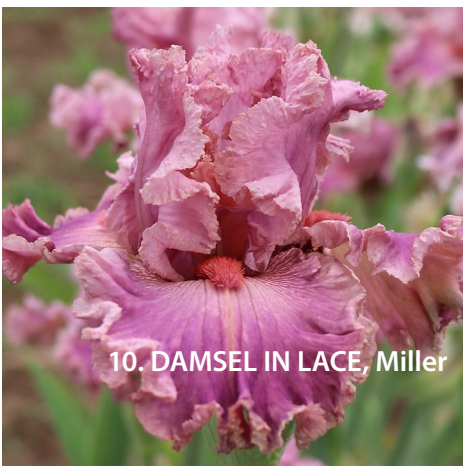
7. BOYSENBERRY DRIZZLE, Black



8. BY YOUR SIDE, Sutton



9. COLORFAST, Keppel



10. DAMEL IN LACE, Miller



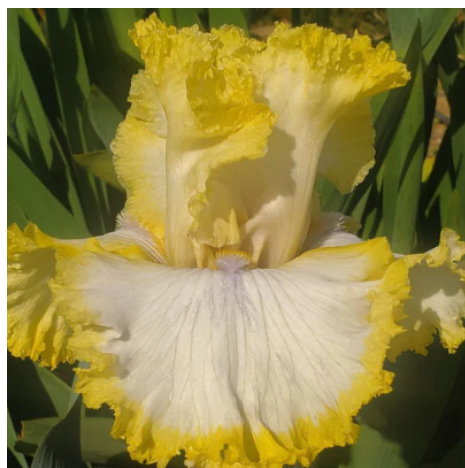
11. EASTER CANDY
Keppel, 2011



12. EMBELLISHED
Keppel



13. EVENING STROLL, Johnson



14. FIZZED OUT, Sutton



15. GALA GLOW, Keppel



16. HAND CRAFTED, Ghio



17. HEAD OF THE CLASS, Johnson



18. LAST WORD, Johnson



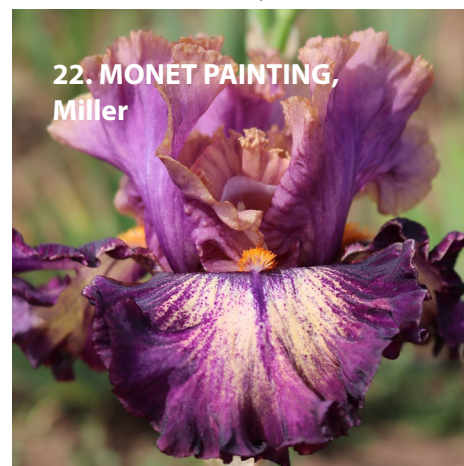
19. LET ME BE THERE, Johnson



20. MAMA QUEL, Sutton



21. MIGHTY POWER, Sutton



22. MONET PAINTING,
Miller



23. ON THE COVER,
Johnson



24. POWER BALLAD,
Sutton



25. RAINBOWS & SUNSHINE, Ghio



26. SATAN'S TANGO, Black



27. SIMPLE MAGIC, Johnson, 2022



28. SOMEBODY SPECIAL, Keppel



29. THIS IS CRAZY, Johnson



30. YOU GROW GIRL, Schreiner

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.

DOOR PRIZES IRISES

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. ALL STITCHED UP, Johnson | 16. HAND CRAFTED, Ghio |
| 2. AMERICA'S TOP MODEL, Black | 17. HEAD OF THE CLASS, Johnson |
| 3. AMETHYST ANGEL, Johnson | 18. LAST WORD, Johnson |
| 4. AS YOU WISH, Johnson | 19. LET ME BE THERE, Johnson |
| 5. BAD HABITS, Johnson | 20. MAMA QUEL, Sutton |
| 6. BIG AS THE MOON, Schreiner | 21. MIGHTY POWER, Sutton |
| 7. BOYSENBERRY DRIZZLE, Black | 22. MONET PAINTING, Miller |
| 8. BY YOUR SIDE, Sutton | 23. ON THE COVER, Johnson |
| 9. COLORFAST, Keppel | 24. POWER BALLAD, Sutton |
| 10. DAMSEL IN LACE, Miller | 25. RAINBOWS AND SUNSHINE, Ghio |
| 11. EASTER CANDY, Keppel, 2011 | 26. SATAN'S TANGO, Black |
| 12. EMBELLISHED, Keppel | 27. SIMPLE MAGIC, Johnson, 2022 |
| 13. EVENING STROLL, Johnson | 28. SOMEBODY SPECIAL, Keppel |
| 14. FIZZED OUT, Sutton | 29. THIS IS CRAZY, Johnson |
| 15. GALA GLOW, Keppel | 30. YOU GROW GIRL, Schreiner |