



MONTEREY BAY NEWS

www.montereybayiris.org

February, 2025

Next meeting Friday 21, 2025
 Eating Starts 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Aptos Grange,
 2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society



Chocolate Halo, Kerr, 2011

Photo Lloyd Clark

From The Prez

A HEARTFELT APPRECIATION CRAIG TARR! As we step into 2025, we want to take a moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Craig Tarr, who has served as our club president for the past nine years. Craig's leadership, dedication, and passion have shaped our club in ways that will be felt for years to come. From inspiring growth to fostering a strong sense of community, his contributions have been invaluable. Craig, we can't thank you enough for your tireless efforts!

We want to thank everyone who continues to support the club, from our board members to our volunteers and everyone who contributes in any way. You are the reason we can keep growing, creating, and making a difference. Let's celebrate the 50 years of the Monterey Bay Iris Society and look forward to many more years of a blossoming community with flowers, food, friendship, and fun.

With 2025 here, we're entering a new chapter full of growth, new beginnings, and the simple joys of gardening. There's an infectious sense of excitement as we look forward to what the year will bring. We're especially looking forward

2025 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

Friday, February 21 7:00 P.M.

Program

The Crysanthemum

Jane Jordan

Refreshments

Potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 21 7:00 P.M.

Program—Arboretum: conservation of native plants

Lucy Ferneyhough

Refreshments

St. Patrick's potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, April 18 7:00 P.M.

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

Pot luck

Annual Iris Show

London Nelson April 26 to April 27
 Set up

Friday, April 25 7:00 P.M.
 Show

Saturday 1–6:00 P.M.

Sunday 10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

February Birthdays

Craig Tarr *Feb 2*

Catt Porter *Feb 6*

Karin Tarr *Feb 8*

Rilely Probst *Feb 11*

Gail Christen *Feb 20*

to exploring new partnerships, such as with the London Nelson Community Center, which may become a fantastic resource for connecting with the artistic community in the area. Cabrillo College and UCSC are other resources, and even local nurseries and the County Fairgrounds can be great venues for reaching out. Aladdin Nursery, and the County Fairgrounds, for example, have requested that we present a demonstration on how to grow irises! These kinds of outreach will help keep our club growing.

As always, our members are at the heart of everything we do. We're planning work parties where members can lend a hand to those with large gardens—those who generously donate irises for our sales. These work parties will not only help our community thrive, but they'll be a great way for members to bond and enjoy the outdoors together. We encourage you to get involved and bring your green thumbs to the table!. 🌱 Warmly, Diane Sampson

CULTURE TIPS

If you find ants in your iris plantings, you probably have aphids hidden away in the leaf folds of your irises. Squeeze them as you clean up the plantings and/or use a systemic insecticide since other methods won't help much since those pest are protected in the leaf folds from organic methods. Gophers also seem to come out of hibernation and it is best to go after them as soon as the show up. They seem to get smarter with age. We have tried many methods but the McCabe trap seems to be the most effective. A trivia note: The inventor lived in Los Gatos and put it on the market in 1920s.

It seems odd but we have three or four iris seed germinated so far this year. We certainly had plentiful rain this year, however here on the coast we've had little frost that amounted to much. Some cold is necessary to stimulate germination. 🌱 Joe

SAVE THE DATES

DATE FOR OUR 2025 SPRING SHOW

The date of our spring show, will be April 26 and 27, with set up Friday evening April 25. Please mark your calendars accordingly. Details will be forthcoming in the next couple of months.

Celebrating 50 Years of Growth and Beauty!

Join us on April 20th, 1pm to 4 pm for the Monterey Bay Iris Society 50 year anniversary celebration given by Jo Chisholm and Lloyd Clark. We will gather from 1pm to 4 pm. RSVP: Jo Chisholm, JoChisholm0700@gmail.com, 408-209-5708. More information on page three.

Iris Themed Art Show

There will be an iris art show to be hung on the walls of the hall outside the show room at London Nelson. The show will be hung on Saturday March 29 and come down on Sunday April 27, the last day of our annual iris show.

Board of Directors 2025

President

Diane Sampson dianesampson@baymoon.com 831 206-1444

Past President

Craig Tarr cht2325@yahoo.com 408 425-7207

Vice President

Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089

Treasurer

Larissa Daniel Larissadaniel@sbcglobal.net 831 724-9162

Secretary

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Jim Cummins jcummins@pacbell.net 831 438-1369

Newsletter

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1 Year Board

Joanne Abel

Elena Laborde

Linda Lomperis

2 Year Board

Jo Chisholm

Rosa Radicchi

Kathy Wood

Contacts

Hospitality & Refreshments

Anna Helms anna93950@yahoo.com

Birthday List

Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089



Velvet Valentine, Tasco, 2015

M. Lango

Celebrating 50 Years of Growth and Beauty!

Sunday, April 20 —Yes! Easter!

15750 Adams Ridge Road, Los Gatos, CA. 95033

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Join us as we mark a monumental milestone in the history of our beloved Monterey Bay Iris Society—50 years of nurturing nature, community, and irises grown by Joe Ghio! From humble beginnings to blossoming into a vibrant group of passionate gardeners, we've come together to share knowledge, cultivate beautiful gardens, and create lasting friendships.

We invite all Iris Society Members, Region 14 past and present, plus guests to come celebrate this amazing event with us! Jo Chisholm has a wonderful venue at her home with a view of the Monterey Bay, and about 1000 irises at this time.

Jo Chisholm and her partner Lloyd Clark are the amazing hosts, and they invite all Region 14 plus hybridizers for a lovely celebration event. We are requesting an informal \$10 donation for interested folks who are not members of Monterey Bay Iris Society.

Expect fun activities, a garden tour, a delicious spread, and a heartfelt ceremony with awards to honor the club's history, growth, and future. Let's gather to reminisce, reconnect, and look ahead to the next 50 years of flourishing together!

RSVP: JoChisholm0700@gmail.com , 408-209-5708 (in case you get lost on the Santa Cruz mountain roads on the way!)



Centennial Celebration, Ford, 2019

E. Laborde

Monterey Bay Iris Society Art Display

Call for Iris-Themed Artwork

The Monterey Bay Iris Society is thrilled to announce an upcoming art display featuring the beauty of irises during the month of April! We've reserved 150 linear feet of wall space in the London Nelson Community Center hallway to showcase iris-themed art, and we need your help to fill the hallway space with vibrant works inspired by this stunning flower.

Event Details:

- ◆ Date to Hang Art: Saturday, March 29, 2025, at 9:00 AM-noon.
- ◆ Date to take down: Sunday, April 27, 4-5 PM
- ◆ Date of Iris Show: Saturday, April 26, 1-6 and Sunday, April 27, 2025, 10 AM-5 PM.
- ◆ Sale of Art will take place directly from the artist. No commission required to MBIS.
- ◆ Location: London Nelson Community Center Hallway, 301 Center Street, Santa Cruz, 95060

We are looking for any form of wall art that can be safely hung, such as: Framed paintings, prints, photography, and other pieces of framed art.



Iris painting by Sharon Medler



1. ATTENTION SEEKER, Johnson



2. BLIND LUCK, BURSEEN, 2022



3. CANDY COATED, Burseen, 2022



4. CASUAL COMFORT, Sutton, 2023



5. CHARMING OAKIE, Burseen, 2023



6. CHRISTENING, Johnson



7. CORAL JEWEL, Miller, 2023



8. CRASH BANG, Black



9. DARE TO BE DIFFERENT, Johnson, 2022



10. FOUND A LOVE,
Johnson



11. GONE VIRAL, JOHNSON, 2023



12. LIGHT IN THE DARK,
Sutton



13. LIGHT SWITCH, Mego, 2023



14. LOVELY LIVVY, Johnson, 2023



15. MIGHTY POWER, Sutton, 2023



16. MINDBLOWING, Johnson, 2020



17. OBJECT OF AFFECTION, Sutton, 2023



18. ON THE COVER, Johnson, 2023



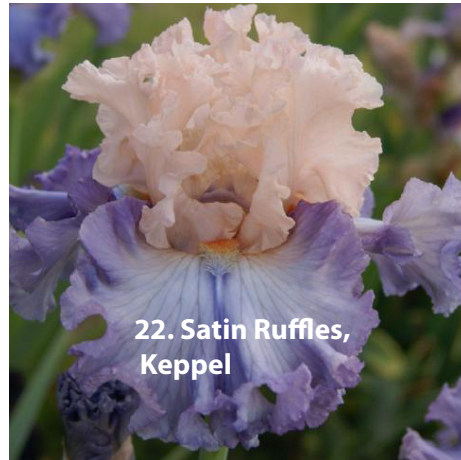
19. PLOT TWIST, Johnson



20. POWER BALLAD, Sutton, 2023



21. RED FROG FLYING, Skaggs



22. Satin Ruffles, Keppel



23 Suspicious Minds, Johnson



24. This is Crazy, Johnson, 2023



25. UNDER PRESSURE, Johnson, 2023



26. VICTORIAN QUEEN, Tasco



27. VOCALISE, Johnson



28. WATCHING YOU, Johnson



29. WE ARE MAGIC, Johnson



30. ZERO GRAVITY, Johnson, 2023

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

1. Attention Seeker, Johnson
2. Blind Luck, Burseen, 2022
3. CandyCoated, Burseen, 2022
4. Casual Comfort, Sutton, 2023
5. Charming Oakie, Burseen, 2023
6. Christening, Johnson
7. Coral Jewel, Miller, 2023
8. Crash Bang, Black
9. Dare to be Different, Johnson, 2022
10. Found a Love, Johnson
11. Gone Viral, Johnson, 2023
12. Light in the Dark, Sutton
13. Light Switch, Mego, 2023
14. Lovely Livvy, Johnson, 2023
15. Mighty Power, Sutton, 2023

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 Canyon Road, Watsonville, CA, 95076. Phone 724-9162. Memberships that are not renewed will be dropped.

16. Mindblowing, Johnson, 2020
17. Object of Affection, Sutton, 2023
18. On the Cover, Johnson, 2023
19. Plot Twist, Johnson
20. Power Ballad, Sutton, 2023
21. Red Frog Flying, Skaggs
22. Satin Ruffles, Keppel
23. Suspicious Minds, Johnson
24. This is Crazy, Johnson, 2023
25. Under Pressure, Johnson, 2023
26. Victorian Queen, Tasco
27. Vocalise, Johnson
28. Watching You, Johnson
29. We Are Magic, Johnson
30. Zero Gravity, Johnson, 2023

How to recruit younger members for an aging iris club?

ChatGPT said:

Recruiting younger members for an aging iris club requires creativity, outreach, and making the club appealing to new generations. Here are some strategies to attract younger members:

Update Marketing and Outreach

- ◆ **Social Media Presence:** Use platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok to share beautiful photos of irises, gardening tips, and club activities.
- ◆ **Website Revamp:** Ensure your website is visually appealing, mobile-friendly, and easy to navigate, with clear details about joining and events.
- ◆ **Engaging Content:** Create short videos, blogs, or posts about iris care, interesting facts, or stories related to the flower.

Host Youth-Oriented Events

- ◆ **Workshops for Beginners:** Offer classes on growing and caring for irises, targeting younger gardeners or families.
- ◆ **Interactive Activities:** Organize iris-themed art competitions, photo contests, or DIY gardening sessions for kids and young adults.
- ◆ **Social Events:** Host casual meet-ups or outdoor garden tours with refreshments to make participation more accessible and enjoyable.

Collaborate with Schools and Universities

- ◆ **Gardening Projects:** Partner with local schools to create iris gardens or involve students in horticultural projects.
- ◆ **Internships or Volunteer Opportunities:** Offer chances for students to learn about gardening and contribute to club activities.

Modernize Club Operations

- ◆ **Flexible Membership Options:** Offer discounted rates for younger members or family memberships.
- ◆ **Digital Meetings:** Include virtual participation for those who may not attend in person.
- ◆ **Highlight Diversity:** Showcase the diversity of club members and how gardening connects generations.

Connect to Broader Trends

- ◆ **Eco-Friendly Practices:** Promote sustainable gardening and the environmental benefits of planting irises.
- ◆ **Tie to Popular Themes:** Align with trends like pollinator gardens, native plants, or floral design.

Leverage Partnerships

- ◆ **Work with local nurseries, garden centers, and community organizations** to cross-promote events and attract new members.

Celebrate the Culture of Irises

- ◆ **Share the history, art, symbolism, and cultural significance of irises** to create a deeper connection with potential members.