

January, 2026

Next meeting Friday 16, 2026
 Eating Starts 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Aptos Grange,
 2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos

2026 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting

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

Program

It's a wrap—holiday party/2025 + 2026 show items

Refreshments

Potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, February 20..... 7:00 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments

Potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 20.....7:00 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments

St. Patrick's potluck



Double Shot, G. Sutton, 1999

W. Crabbs

From The Prez

I WOULD LIKE TO START THE NEW YEAR with a huge “Thank You” to Kathy Hartman! Her efforts every year in organizing our Christmas party have consistently provided our society with a fantastic venue, excellent food, and a great time. The White Elephant gift exchange was a bit chaotic, and I have received several suggestions on how to improve and speed up the process. This and many other topics will be covered in the coming months.

My next “Thank You” is to the dynamic duo of Jo and Lloyd. Their generous nature and well-stocked wine cellar have made for many great events at Casa Chisholm in the Santa Cruz mountains. Jo’s garden should be on everyone’s bucket list of places to see. It features many of Joe Ghio’s “children” and also has a fantastic view of Monterey Bay. Getting there is also an adventure, but it is well worth it!

And I would like to thank Diane Sampson for her dedication and energy that she applied when taking the helm of the society. She has gotten the '27 Spring Regional started and is the main person responsible with the rental and issues regarding the Aptos Grange. She also has a beautiful garden that should be on your bucket list.

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>Mary Helen Chrisman</i>	<i>Jan 11</i>
<i>Mikey Lango</i>	<i>Jan 11</i>
<i>Wayne Craft</i>	<i>Jan 18</i>
<i>Kathy Hartman</i>	<i>Jan 20</i>
<i>Marsha Ifland</i>	<i>Jan 20</i>
<i>Jeff Helms</i>	<i>Jan 30</i>

As a society, we are a bit over a year from hosting the Spring regional. This will be the focus of much of the year as there is much to do in preparation and planning. Admittedly, I am not very knowledgeable on this matter and am relying on those in the know to get me up to speed. We will start off with a 6 PM board meeting before our monthly general meeting on January 16th.

Topics will include the Monterey Bay 2027 Spring regional, 2026 American Iris Society convention found at aisconvention.org, and the Region 14 Spring regional.

If any member has an issue that they would like to present to the society at the meeting please let me know prior to the actual meeting. Especially if the topic takes longer than 3 minutes. I need to add new topics to my agenda to avoid losing valuable socializing and eating time every third Friday of the month. For any other issues I am available before 9 PM by phone most days except Thursdays which is dedicated to my grandchild.

And lastly: I would like to Posthumously like to thank Linda Stremel who passed in 2025. A longtime AIS/CBRIS/MBIS member and judge, she helped guide and encourage me into taking all the training to become an AIS judge. It was worth the time spent. I think of her every time I see an iris, because I now judge every iris I see.

See you at the meeting 🌸🌸 *Craig*



photo by W Crabbs

Board of Directors 2026

President

Craig Tarr cht2325@yahoo.com 408 425-7207

Past President

Diane Sampson dianasampson@baymoon.com 831 206-1444

Vice President

Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089

Treasurer

Lloyd Clark Lloyd.clark@comcast.nett 408-406-8584

Secretary

Brenda Wood woodbrenda@aol.com 831 724-5415

Jim Cummins jcummins@pacbell.net 831 438-3360

Show Chair

John Skinner jks@cruzio.com 831 359-8624

Newsletter

Joe Ghio ghiobayview@att.net 831 423-3656

Ann Pike avpike@cruzio.com 831 426-8855

1 Year Board

Jo Chisholm

Rosa Radicchi

Kathy Wood

2 Year Board

Carl Harris

Jane Jordan

Sharon Medler

Contacts

Hospitality & Refreshments

Anna Helms anna93950@yahoo.com

Membership

Jo Chisholm jochisholm0700@gmail.com 408-209-5708

Birthday List

Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089

Regional Convention:

If you've been looking for new ways to deepen your iris knowledge, why not consider attending the upcoming AIS Region 14 Spring Regional Meeting in Reno, NV? This year's theme is East Meets West, and it promises to be a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, explore gardens, and immerse yourself in the world of irises.

The convention runs from Friday, May 15th to Sunday, May 17th, with many events taking place at the Silver Legacy Hotel We're thrilled to announce that the guest speaker will be Lori Rhodes, iris hybridizer of Crafton Hills Iris Farm.

Registration is \$125, which includes access to the Friday night board meeting, Saturday's box lunch, judges training, two self guided garden tours and the Saturday evening banquet. For additional information see the schedule and registration forms at the back of the newsletter.

**Mark Your Calendars!
MBIS Iris Show: April 25–26**

We're also gearing up for our annual Iris Show, which will be held at the London Nelson Community Center on April 25–26. This is one of the highlights of our year and a wonderful opportunity to share our love of irises with the broader community. The show is free and open to the public—so please invite your friends, neighbors, and family to join us!

Setup will take place on Friday, April 24th. On Saturday, April 25th, we'll welcome judges and prepare for an exciting day of showcasing over 200 iris specimens. We'll also be serving lunch to all volunteers helping with the event. The show continues on Sunday, which maybe a good opportunity for more Iris outreach.

Additionally, again this year we are having the iris art show on the London Nelson hall way. The artwork will be up from the first of April to the end of our show. Then as an extra added attraction the Printmakers at the Tannery will hold a iris printmaking demo Saturday from 2 to 4:30 in the afternoon as part of the County wide *Ripple Effect*.

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

EVENTS FOR 2026

Regular meetings are on the third Friday of the month.

Date	Event	Activity	Location	Time
January 16	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
February 20	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
March 20	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
April 17	Meeting	Mini Show, Joe Ghio & panel	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
April 1–30	Iris Art Show	Iris Art Show	London Nelson	TBA
April 24	Iris Show	Set-up	London Nelson	5:00 P.M.
April 25	Iris Show	Iris entry staging	London Nelson	7:00 A.M.–10:00
April 25	Iris Show	Iris display open to public	London Nelson	1–6:00 P.M.
April 26	Iris Show	Iris display open to public	London Nelson	10AM–5:00 P.M.
May 15–17	Spring Regional		Reno, NV	
May 15	Meeting	Show Wrap & Awards/Pizza	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
May 18–23	AIS National Convention		NJ, NY	
June 9	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00P.M.
July 18	Summer Picnic	More Irises	Harvey West Park	11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.
August 8	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Deer Park	9:00 A.M.–NOON.
August 15	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Cabrillo Mkt	8:00 A.M.NOON
August 22	Iris Sale	Fund-raiser	Cabrillo Mkt	8:00 A.M.NOON
August 21	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
September 18	Meeting	Beardless Iris?	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
October 16	Meeting	Pacific Coast Iris	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
November 20	Meeting	to be announced	Aptos Grange	7:00 P.M.
December 18?	Holiday Party	Celebration	Pasatiempo	5:00 P.M.



2025 HOLIDAY PARTY





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 (along with your payment for the holiday party) or send to our treasurer, Lloyd Clark, 1007 Wright Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

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.



1. Angel Falls, Black



2. Atlantic Blue, Black



3. Beautiful Mind, Johnson



4. Beyond Fabulous, Black



5. Boom Box, Black



6. Bouncing Blue Betty, Black



7. Boxing Ring, Johnson



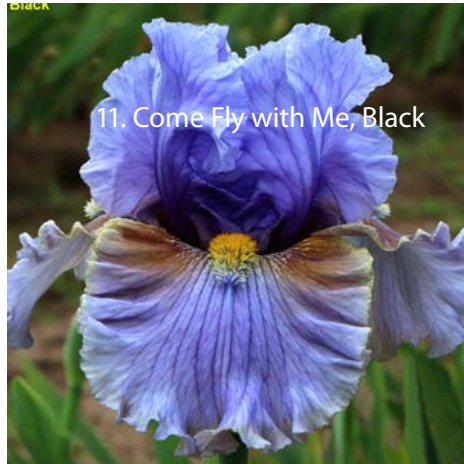
8. Brown Nose, Black



9. Butterfly Eye, Black



10. Challenge Accepted, Johnson



11. Come Fly with Me, Black



12. Della's Destiny, Geditz



13. Falcon Heart, Johnson



14. Feel the Magic, Black



15. Goddess of the Rainbow, Miller



16. Ground Rules, Keppel



17. Harvest Glow, Sutton



18. Heard a Rumor, Johnson



19. High Wire Act, Johnson



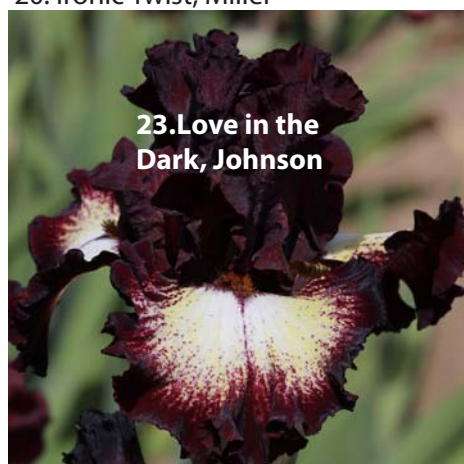
20. Ironic Twist, Miller



21. Jealous Rage, Johnson



22. Just Breathe,
Sutton



23. Love in the
Dark, Johnson



24. Love You More,
Johnson



25. Mak Attack, Sutton



26. Never Ending Story, Johnson



27. On Arrival, Johnson



28. Peach Berry Jumble, Black



29. Sudden Outburst, Johnson



30. Suggestion, Johnson



31. Sunday's Best Dress, Sutton



32. SWIRLING SURF, KEPPEL

DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. ANGEL FALLS, Black
2. ATLANTIC BLUE, Black
3. BEAUTIFUL MIND, Johnson,
4. BEYOND FABULOUS, Black
5. BOOM BOX, Black
6. BOUNCING BLUE BETTY, Black
7. BOXING RING, Johnson
8. BROWN NOSE, Black

9. BUTTERFLY EYE, Black
10. CHALLENGE ACCEPTED, Johnson
11. COME FLY WITH ME, Black
12. DELLA'S DESTINY, Geditz
13. FALCON HEART, Johnson
14. FEEL THE MAGIC, Black
15. GODDESS OF THE RAINBOW, Miller

16. GROUND RULES, Keppel
17. HARVEST GLOW, Sutton
18. HEARD A RUMOR, Johnson
19. HIGH WIRE ACT, Johnson
20. IRONIC TWIST, Miller
21. JEALOUS RAGE, Johnson
22. JUST BREATHE, Sutton
23. LOVE IN THE DARK, Johnson
24. LOVE YOU MORE, Johnson
25. MAK ATTACK, Sutton
26. NEVER ENDING STORY, Johnson
27. ON ARRIVAL, Johnson
28. PEACH BERRY JUMBLE, Black
29. SUDDEN OUTBURST, Johnson
30. SUGGESTION, Johnson
31. SUNDAY'S BEST DRESS, Sutton
32. SWIRLING SURF, Keppel



May 15-17, 2026 at the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino, Reno NV

This venue is entirely smoke-free except in the casino. Amenities include a complimentary self-parking garage, free airport shuttle, valet parking, gym, pool, spa, and five restaurants. Indoor walkways to the El Dorado and Circus Circus provide additional dining options.

Friday Events

- Iris Show: Entries are accepted from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in the Silver Baron Rooms.
- Attendees are invited to enjoy dinner on their own.
- The General Business Meeting will be held in the Silver Baron Ballroom at 7:00PM.

Saturday Events

- Two guest garden tours, including a box lunch for participants.
- Judges Training session.
- Buffet banquet in the Silver Baron Ballroom, featuring dinner speaker Lori Rhodes, iris hybridizer, Crafton Hills Iris Farm.
- Silent auction and live iris auction.

Sunday Events

- Judges Training
- Optional garden tours

USE THIS LINK TO REGISTER YOUR SPECIALLY PRICED ACCOMMODATIONS ONLINE

BEFORE APRIL 15, 2026: <https://book.passkey.com/go/SRAIS6>

2026 SPRING REGIONAL MEETING

AIS REGION 14

REGISTRATION FORM

May 15-17, 2026 at the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino, Reno NV

DEDICATED LINK FOR ONLINE ROOM RESERVATIONS FOR THIS EVENT

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SRAIS6>

(Cutoff date for special pricing on room reservations and reduced resort fee is April 15, 2026)

Registration includes Friday Iris show, entries accepted 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm, general business meeting.

Saturday includes a judges training, a box lunch, self-guided tour of 2 guest gardens, buffet banquet dinner followed by our guest speaker Hybridizer Lori Rhodes, silent auction, and live iris auction.

Sunday: judges training, optional local garden tours and sight seeing

Registrant 1 First name: _____ Last name: _____

Registrant 2 First name: _____ Last name: _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email (for confirmation) _____ Local Iris Society _____

Will you attend Judges Training? Box Lunch: _____ Vegetarian choice _____ GF choice _____

Registration fee if postmarked before April 15, 2026: \$125 Number of person/s _____ Total \$ _____

Registration fee if postmarked after April 15, 2026: \$140 Number of person/s _____ Total \$ _____

Registrations postmarked after May 1, 2026 will be accepted at the discretion of the Registrar.

Please make check payable to High Desert Iris Society (HDIS). Mail the check and your registration form to: HDIS c/o Michele Swarts, 300 Shady Valley Road, Sparks NV 89441