

February, 2026

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

Program

Soil & Dirt

Joe Truskot, Presentor

Refreshments

Potluck

Regular Meeting

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

Program

Composting

Richard Dyc, Presentor

Refreshments

St. Patrick's potluck

Regular Meeting

Friday, April 17..... 7:30 P.M.

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

Potluck

February Meeting

Get down and dirty!

Learn about soil and dirt.

Our Speaker is Joe Truskot from Garden Radio.

February Birthdays

Craig Tarr Feb 2

Catt Porter Feb 6

Karin Tarr Feb 8

Rilely Probst Feb 11

Gail Christen Feb 20



Velvet Valentine, Tasco, 2015

M. Lango

From The Prez

AS I STOOD OUTSIDE ON MY BIRTHDAY on the second of February in Idaho in freezing temperatures, I did see my shadow. If you believe that a large rodent can predict the weather, then we are due for six more weeks of winter. Although in the Bay Area this really does not have much impact.

Despite the winter storms that have been pummeling much of the central and eastern U.S., this season has been rather mild in the Sunshine State. I still have peppers in the garden still producing and the weeds are off to a fantastic start. Much of the garden that Karin and I attend has fallen into life support status, and gophers reign supreme. The year 2025 was a difficult one for the two of us, and we hope to recoup some of that lost time this year. We have another grandchild due in June that we are looking forward to see and I am constantly amazed and reminded how much work (and money) it is to raise a child.

Our year is set to be a busy one. We will be hosting the 2027 Spring regional, and although over a year away, many parts of the event need to be locked into place to make it successful. The hardest part of a great regional is timing the bloom. With the very mild winter so far, I hope that the date we picked will

coincide with nature. The gardens we have lined up for the show are stellar and need volunteers to make them shine when the time arrives. (weed pulling) More on that later.

We will be having a board meeting before the regular meeting this month. If you have any topic that you believe needs to be addressed, please let me know in an e-mail/ phone call/snail mail before the meeting. I do not want board meetings to push into our social time, which is the reason why we have meetings in the first place. Jane Jordan has requested we tidy up our standing rules, which is something I have neglected in the past, but needs to be done. This and any ideas that benefit the society will be considered.

Diane Sampson and Carol Casey have considered many venues for the summer picnic. Harvey

West and Delaveaga parks have been two that have made it into the final decision round. We have used Harvey West upon many occasions and are familiar with its amenities and issues. Delaveaga has the Forty Thieves picnic area which, according to Rosa Radicchi would be perfect for us. Diane has reserved both sites and hopefully we can get a short presentation from our picnic committee before we all vote on the best one. If you have never visited Delaveaga Park you should check it out. Very accessible, archery range, disc golf, golf course and hiking trails amongst the redwoods. Dogs are welcome except in some areas but are not allowed in the picnic spots.

The spring regional this year is hosted by the High Desert Iris Society. May 15, 16 and 17th. Information and links can be found at aisregion14.org.

See you at the meeting! 🌸🌸 *Craig*



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



Boundless, M. Sutton, 2009S

M. Lango



Edge of the World, M. Sutton, 2010

M. Lango

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 may be 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* and any who drops by will leave with an iris print.



Original artwork—painting by Sharon Medler

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. This show will be part of the county wide Ripple Effect event.

Event Details:

- ▶ Date to Hang Art: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:00 AM-noon.
- ▶ Date to take down: Sunday, April 26, 4–5 PM
- ▶ Date of Iris Show: Saturday, April 25, 1–6 and Sunday, April 26, 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

Accepting acrylics, oil, watercolor, pastel, photography, printmaking works. Framed art should have hanging wire installed, but if you have works on paper you can use push pins (or clip and pins) for hanging. Sale of artwork is between the artist and buyer. The artist or buyer may choose to donate to MBIS or London Nelson Community Center if they wish.

To be part of the show, please RSVP by March 29, 2026 to Diane Sampson via text message at 831-205-1444 or dianesampson@baymoon.com. The Monterey Bay Iris Society and London Nelson Community Center are not liable for loss or damage.

CULTURE TIPS

Lf 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 Mcabee 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



1. Angel Falls, Black



2. Ballerina's Tutu, Sampson



3. Batgirl, Keppel, BB



4. Beautiful Mind, Johnson



5. Bouncing Blue Betty, Black



6. Boxing Ring, Johnson



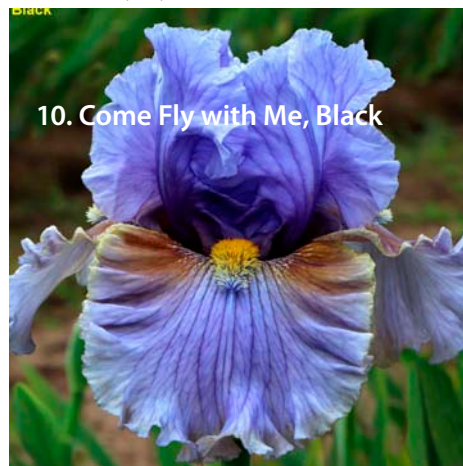
7. Butterfly Eye, Black



8. Causing a Commotion, Johnson



9. Clear and Crisp, Johnson



10. Come Fly with Me, Black



11. Eternal Dawn, Johnson



12. Falcon Heart, Johnson



13. For Dessert, Keppel



14. Full Power, Keppel



15. Getting Some Sun, Black



16. Gift Wrapping, Keppel



17. Harvest Glow, Sutton



18. Heard a Rumor, Johnson



19. In Good Company, Johnson



20. Ironic Twist, Miller



21. Just Breathe, Sutton



22. Left an Imprint, Johnson



23. Love in the Dark, Johnson



24. Love You More, Johnson



25. Loved One, Johnson



26. Magic is Happening, Black



27. Magic Stitch, Johnson



28. Mak Attack, Sutton



29. Never Ending Story, Johnson



30. Next Level, Mego



31. Power, Johnson



32. She Will Be Loved, Johnson



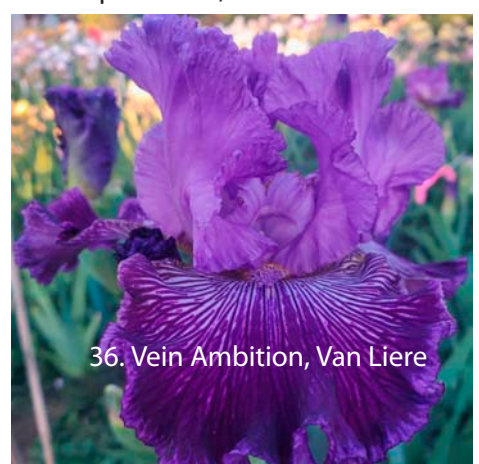
33. Stripes Are In, Black



34. Suggestion, Johnson



35. Time Bomb, Miller



36. Vein Ambition, Van Liere



Good Morning Beautiful, Stanton, 2015

E. Laborde



Centennial Celebration, Ford, 2019

M. Lango

DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. ANGEL FALLS, Black
2. BALLERINA'S TUTU, Sampson
3. BATGIRL, Keppel, BB
4. BEAUTIFUL MIND, Johnson
5. BOUNCING BLUE BETTY, Black
6. BOXING RING, Johnson
7. BUTTERFLY EYE, Black
8. CAUSING A COMMOTION, Johnson
9. CLEAR AND CRISP, Johnson
10. COME FLY WITH ME, Black
11. ETERNAL DAWN, Johnson
12. FALCON HEART, Johnson
13. FOR DESSERT, Keppel
14. FULL POWER, Keppel
15. GETTING SOME SUN, Black
16. GIFT WRAPPING, Keppel
17. HARVEST GLOW, Sutton
18. HEARD A RUMOR, Johnson
19. IN GOOD COMPANY, Johnson
20. IRONIC TWIST, Miller
21. JUST BREATHE, Sutton
22. LEFT AN IMPRINT, Johnson
23. LOVE IN THE DARK, Johnson
24. LOVE YOU MORE, Johnson
25. LOVED ONE, Johnson
26. MAGIC IS HAPPENING, Black
27. MAGIC STITCH, Johnson
28. MAK ATTACK, Sutton
29. NEVER ENDING STORY, Johnson
30. NEXT LEVEL, Mego
31. POWER, Johnson
32. SHE WILL BE LOVED, Johnson
33. STRIPES ARE IN, Black
34. SUGGESTION, Johnson
35. TIME BOMB, Miller
36. VEIN AMBITION, Van Liere

Re-Bloomers

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

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, Lloyd Clark, 1007 Wright Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.