



BAY NEWS

www.montereybayiris.org

July, 2025

Annual Picnic Saturday, 19, 2025

Harvey West Park 11 A.M.

Auction

Potluck

Pick up Door Prize iris

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

JULY 19, PICNIC AT USUAL SPOT UNDER THE BIG OAK



Picnic back when the picnic was in the park. This is the tree where we have the picnic.

From The Prez

WITH GARDENING I FIND THAT THE BEST LAID PLANS are the plans that can vanish in an instant if left ignored or unattended. What a spring it's been! I'm thrilled (and still a little amazed) to say I had the chance to attend both a Regional and a National Iris Convention in the same season! As someone who just retired last year, I finally have the time to dive deep into the world of irises—and I couldn't be more grateful.

In May, I headed to beautiful Santa Rosa for the Region 14 Spring Regional. Over 100 iris lovers came together to enjoy the stunning gardens of Anna Cadd, Ellen Johnson, and Diana and Don Ford. The Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center served as the central venue, and some lovely guest irises were planted there. It's such a treat to have a space where both seasoned iris enthusiasts and the general public can appreciate the blooms. The gardens were clearly well cared for by the local club, and the weather couldn't have been better. Sunshine, peak bloom, and wonderful company—what more could you ask for?

Then in June, it was off to Billings, Montana for the AIS National Convention. Let me tell you—this trip far exceeded my expectations! 450 people and so many famous iris folks attended! Each day we toured at least two gardens, for a total of seven over the course of the event. Many of them had more than 1,000 different cultivars—an absolute feast for the eyes. I found myself jotting down

2025 Calendar

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

Annual July Picnic

Saturday, July 19.... 11:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

Harvey West Park

Potluck and Auction

Annual Sale

Sale.... Deer Park Shopping Center

Saturday, August 2nd. 9 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

Sale.... Cabrillo/Aptos Farmer Mkt

Saturday, August 9th.. 8 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

Saturday, August 16th 8 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Friday, August 15,..... 7:30 P.M.

TBA

Potluck Refreshments

Bring good recent door prize iris to the picnic! .

The better the iris the better the raffle!

If you have iris for the August sales and need help digging them please contact Diane for an email sent out for help.

July Birthdays

Barbara Wiles July 2

Fred Valentine July 11

names, snapping endless photos, and dreaming of new additions to my own garden. The hospitality was warm, and the passion for irises was infectious.

Both events reminded me just how joyful and enriching iris gardening can be. It's not just about the blooms (though those are spectacular)—it's about the people, the stories, the sharing, and the sense of community that grows right alongside the flowers.

If you've ever thought about attending a Regional or National event, I wholeheartedly encourage it. It's a chance to connect, learn, and fall even more in love with these incredible plants. I came home inspired, sun-kissed, and full of gratitude for this new chapter of retirement, where the irises are always blooming and the friends are always welcoming.

This fall, a regional gathering will take place in Los Gatos... be sure to watch your email for particulars about this event!

See you in the garden! Warmly, 🌸 *Diane*

Culture Tips

THE SUMMER MONTHS are time to dig and replant your irises. But in our climate you can continue to replant into the early fall.

This is the time to cut out or snap out the spent stalks and clean out any weeds that compete with the iris rhizomes for nutrients. If you want a neater garden, clean out the dead leaves and cut off diseased parts of leaves.

All incoming new rhizomes—and even those you are replanting—should be dipped in a bleach drench made up of 1 part bleach to 9 parts water. Submerge at least to well above the “bulb” base of the rhizome. Leave in the solution for 10–15 minutes. Then, some suggest to clean them off in clear water. I have found this isn't really necessary, but, this part is: The rhizomes **MUST** be completely dry when you replant them. The chlorine must be completely evaporated or your new spring growth will be all wrinkled and the bloom not normal.

Keep your newly replanted irises wet enough. A deep watering will last about a week. Keep your newly replanted irises watered until the rhizome show four full new leaves, then you can cut back to less frequent watering. If you plant late, the fall rains should do the job.

A comment on the bane of iris growing—and over 200 specie—is mustard seed fungus. It was rarely a problem in our mild climate but it now is the number one disease we face. That is why dipping is so important. It kills any spores on the plant, but does help little if you have it in the garden since mustard seed is soil borne. It makes its appearance in late spring into the summer. It shows as a creamy rot at the base of the fan and has no smell. Small spores—the size of mustard seeds—show in the rot.

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Immediately dig the plant, clean out the infected area and dip in the bleach solution. I found it best not to replant these rhizomes for a couple of weeks so you can be sure the rhizome is “clean”.

Since the fungus spores can be viable for years, remove the soil where the plant was growing and get rid of it. Replanting a “clean” rhizome in the same soil, exposes it to getting the fungus. Always get rid of any showing any signs of the telltale white webbing. Also dusting the resulting hole with a chlorine cleanser (Comet) before refilling is helpful 🌸 *Joe*

New Members

We have several new member we would like to welcome. Please welcome Tamara and Matthew Johnson, Catherine Marlowe, Heidi Nash, and Cynthia Williams. We hope to see them at the picnic and at future meetings.

Picnic, Raffle and Auction

Area B Harvey West Park, Santa Cruz

July 19th, 2025, 11:00 a. m.

Area B is in the center of the picnic area under the big oak tree.

Door Prizes This is the time to pick up the door prize irises you won during the year and also the iris for the show workers. If you can't make the picnic, have someone pick them up for you or they will be auctioned off. Repeat! All iris not claimed will be auctioned!

Directions to Park Coming toward Santa Cruz on Hwy 17 or Hwy 1, follow the signs to Half Moon Bay. At the first light turn northwest on Hwy 9 towards Felton. Turn left at the first possible turn, left again at the stop sign on Limekiln Ln.; it turns into Coral St.; follow it to the end. Turn right on Evergreen and go **straight ahead** to the park. Look for the picnic tables under the big oak tree, and for the MBIS banner on the left of the road.

Food and Beverages Bring a dish to share with 10–20 others (salad, veggies, main dish or dessert) and what ever you would like to drink.

What Else to Bring Your own plate, utensils, and glass. A table cloth if you want to cover the table. Paper bags for your new irises. A hat if you like, chair to be more comfortable, **money** or checkbook to pay for incredible iris bargains, and last, but not least bring iris! Bring increases of last year's door prizes and any other newer varieties. **You don't need to cut the fans.** Please write the names with a **permanent marker** on the **lower part** of the **middle leaf**.

Raffle/Auction We will be having our usual raffle/auction this year. There will be quite an amazing collection of irises available. The auction will included 2023 & 2024 introductions will contain Mid-America TB intros, Keppel, and other surprises. Bring your checkbook!

Show Bonus Iris

If you helped out at the show, you are due to receive an iris from this year's picnic picks. Each helper will come away with an iris. Before the auction and lawn raffle starts all the show helpers will be allowed to go out and have a first pick of their choice of the lawn iris. If you are not able to be at the picnic, please ask someone to choose for you and bring you that iris.



Table of iris for the auction

Picnic Memos

We are back this year to our old Harvey West Park site for our Picnic. It is the middle picnic area opposite the baseball field and rest rooms on Coral Street.

If you can not attend the picnic be sure to ask someone to pick up the iris you won during the year's meetings. Unclaimed iris are put into the auction.

Door Prize Iris

There are a few items that didn't increase well, overbloomed, or had other problems due to weather or gophers, so some substitutions will be necessary this year.

Dividing Iris

Information on dividing iris is located on our website under the menu heading of growing iris. Then if you are reading the section on "transplanting," you will find directions to divide your iris.

<https://montereybayiris.org/growing-bearded-iris/>

Iris Up for Auction!

The iris on the last pages are the many of the iris being auctioned. The auction will also have some other surprises you just will not want to miss. But, here on these pages you have a sample of some of what the picnic will have in the way of iris!

MBIS Annual Iris Sale

When Saturday, August 2nd, 2025
Where Deer Park Shopping Center, courtyard
in front of the Red Apple Café

Set up Time 7:30 a.m. We need help for the set up. We hope you will help us sell during the morning. If you are bringing your iris direct to the sale, please cut the fans to about 6-8", cut roots to 2" or 6", **print the name clearly on the middle leaf with a permanent marker**, and write the color if possible. If you bring varieties other than TBs, please mark IB (intermediate), BB (border), SDB, (standard dwarf), MDB (miniature dwarf, MTB (miniature tall).

Sale Time 9:00– to noon (or sell out).
If you cannot get to Deer Park early, please drop your donation iris at the home of a member who will be there for set up.
Please bring brown grocery bags if you have any, comfortable shoes, and lots of friends to buy our iris.

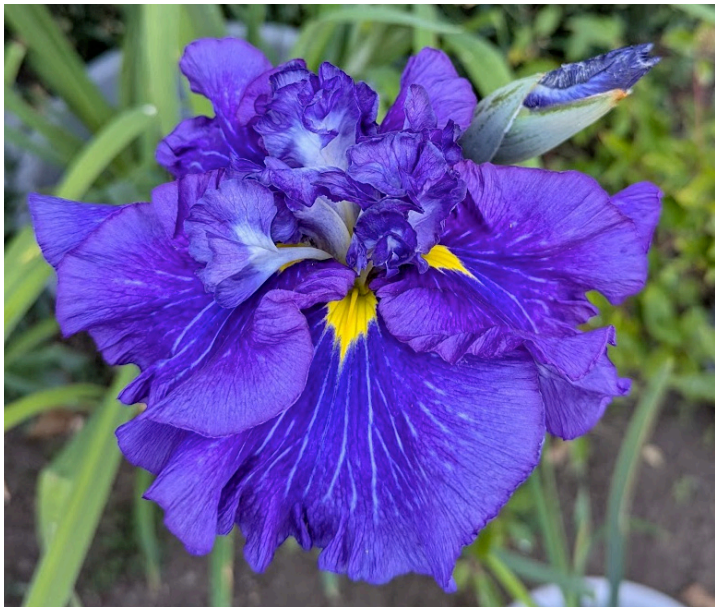
MBIS 2nd & 3rd Iris Sales

When Saturday, August 9th & 16th, 2025
Where Aptos Farmers's Market
Cabrillo College

Set up Time 7:30 a.m. We need help for the set up. We hope you will help us sell during the morning. We will need additional iris for this sale, so if you have iris get them to Jim and Irene's or any member that can bring them to the sale.

Sale Time 8:00– to noon (or sell out).

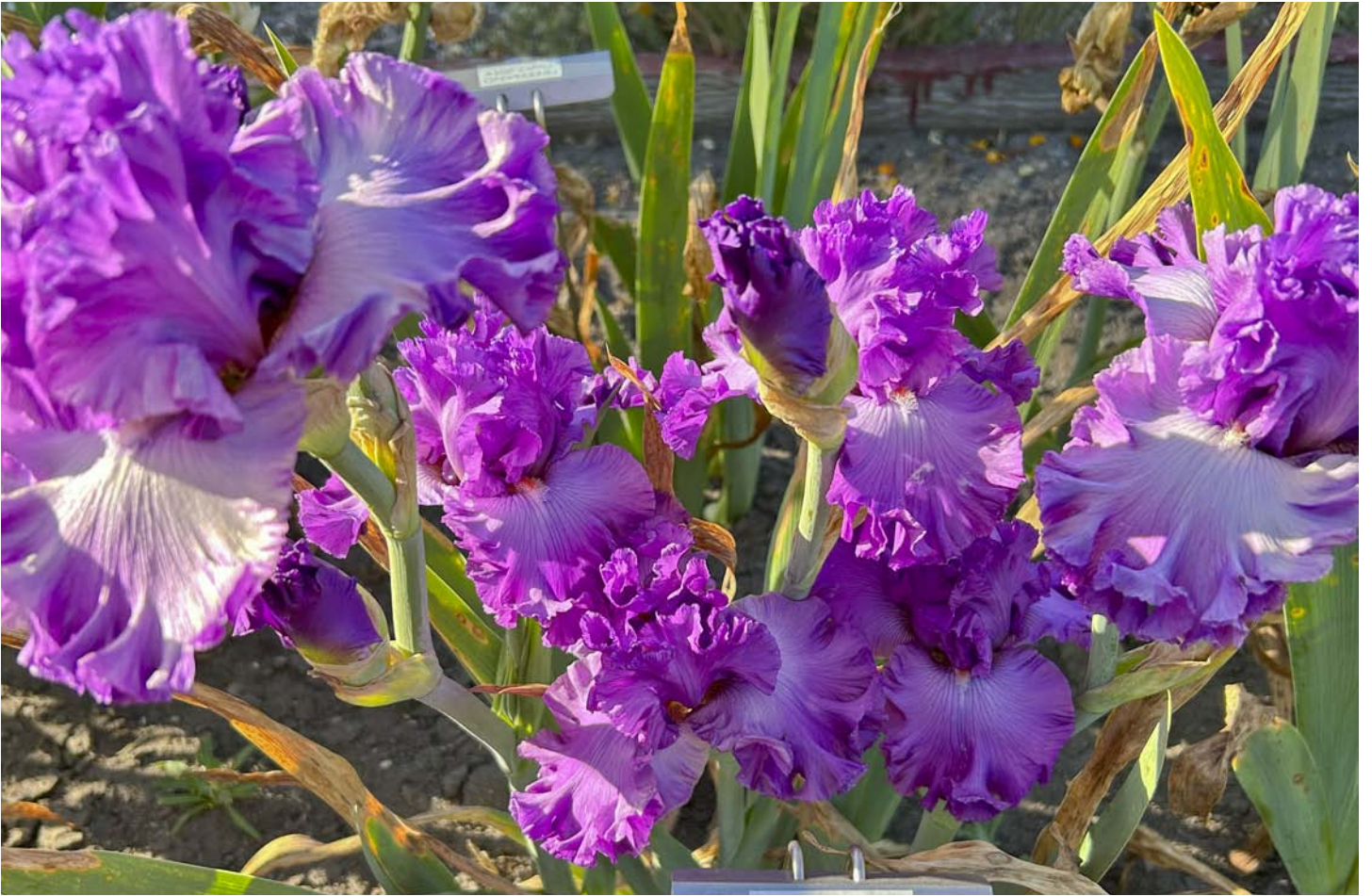




JANE'S JAPANESE IRIS BLOOMS

top left: Columbia Deep Water, Harris, 2013
top right: Blue Spritz, Delmez, 1996
center right: Tessa Dark Eyes, Aitken, 1995
bottom right: Pink Playmate, Harris, 2018
bottom left: Dark Spell, Aitken, 2020
all photos by Jane Jordan





Powerhouse, Ghio, 2019

Photo J. Cummins



Double Shot, G. Sutton, 1999

Photo J. Chisholm



Jubilance, Keppel, 2020

Photo J. Cummins



1. Ahh May Zing, Burseen, 2023



2. Amazon Sunset, Keppel



3. Apricot Cheese Danish, Skaggs



4. Attention Seeker, Johnson



5. Blind Luck, Burseen, 2022



6. Bonnie's Pleasure, Tasco



7. Born To Party, John, 2023



8. Bountiful Bloom, Black



9. Can't Be Denied, Johnson



10. Can't Stop Loving You,
Johnson, 2023



11. Candy Coated,
Burseen, 2022

CANDY COATED



12. Canterbury Belle, Keppel



13. Casual Comfort, Sutton 2023



14. Charming Oakie, Burseen, 2023



15. Christening, Johnson



16. Clever Girl, Miller



17. Coal Tar, Keppel, 2022



18. Coloring Book, Black



19. Coral Jewel, Miller, 2023



20. Crash Bang, Black



21. Dare To Be Different, Johnson, 2022



22. Dare the Devil, Burseen, 2023



23. Desert Chaparral, Keppel



24. Edging Ahead,
Johnson



25. Fizzed Out Sutton, 2023



26. Flip a Coin, Johnson, 2023



27. Follow My Lead, Johnson, 2023



28. For the Ages, Johnson



29. Found a Love, Johnson



30. Gone Viral, Johnson, 2023



31. Hot Granny, Stout



32. I'll Be The One, Johnson



33. Indiscriminate, Black



34. Just Between Us,
Johnson, 2023



35. Leading Role,
Johnson



36. Light in the Dark, Sutton



37. Light Switch, Mego 2023



38. Like A Dream, Johnson



39. Lovely Livy, Johnson, 2023



40. Luxurious Folks, Cummins



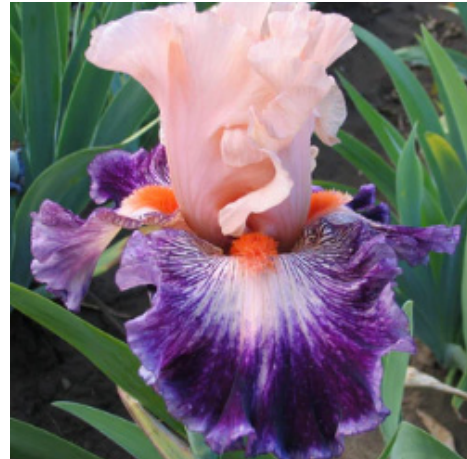
41. Major News, Johnson



42. Make Up Your Mind, Black



43. Mark My Words, Johnson



44. Memories of Home, Mego



45. Mighty Power, Sutton, 2023



46. Mindblowing,
Johnson, 2020



47. Monet Painting, Miller, 2023



48. Mooneetoon, Burseen, 2022



49. Moving On, Keppel



50. Nebraska Dawn, Burseen, 2022



51. Night After Night, Black



52. Object of Affection, Sutton, 2023



53. On Angel Wings, Johnson



54. On The Cover, Johnson, 2023



55. One In A Million, Johnson, 2023, flat



56. Pinch Me Pink, Tasco



57. Plot Twist, Johnson



58. Power Ballad, Sutton 2023



59. Red Frog Flyin,
Skaggs



60. Ripples In Time,
Black



61. Romany Rogue, Remare



62. Running In Circles, Johnson, 2023



63. Satin Ruffles, Keppel



64. She's a Peach, Sutton



65. Smack Attack, Stout, 2019



66. So Happy Together, Black



67. Spirit of Adventure, Cummins



68. Steady Date, Keppel



69. Streaking Skies, Tasco



70. Suspicious Minds, Johnson



71. Take My Hand, Johnson



72. This is Crazy, Johnson, 2023



73. Under Pressure, Johnson, 2023



74. Upscale, Keppel



75. Victorian Queen, Tasco



76. Vocalise, Johnson



77. Watching You, Johnson



78. We Are Magic, Johnson



79. Wild About You, Black



80. Wintercrest, Keppel



81. Yummylicious, Black



82. Zero Gravity, Johnson, 2023