

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

### Program

Composting  
 Richard Dye, Presentor

### Refreshments

potluck

### Regular Meeting

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

### Program

Mini Show

### Refreshments

Potluck

### Annual Iris Show

Louden Nelson.....April 25 to April 26

### Set up

Friday, April 24..... 5:00 P.M.

### Show

Saturday ..... 1-6:00 P.M.

Sunday..... 10:00 a.m.-5:00 P.M.

### Regular Meeting

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

Pizza Potluck.



Double scoops of Honey Scoop, G. sutton, 1996

W. Crabbs

## From The Prez

**W**INTER SEEMS TO BE OVER FOR US in the Monterey Bay area. It never did get cold enough to freeze my pepper plants from last year. My iris and dragon fruit have been sending out growth for over a month now. I am hoping that bloom will be cooperative and coincide with our show, but the weather seems to be much more capricious than it was a decade ago.

The Region 14 Spring show is May 15-17th, and the AIS National is May 18-23rd. If you plan to attend both, you will most likely be exhausted by the time you return home. Region 14 page: <https://aisregion14.org/events/spring-regional/>

AIS page: <https://wiki.irises.org/pub/Main/Info2026AISConvention/Registration%20Form%20FINAL%2010-16-25.pdf>

Region 14 has a Spring bulletin coming out! (Volume 70, Issue 1) In it is an article about the Monterey Bay Iris Society with some beautiful photo's of irises, our past president and a couple of gardens. Thank You Diane, for providing the pictures for this article. Michele Swarts is the latest bulletin editor and I thank her for taking on that task. She is very new at this job and this is her second issue after C J Gueldner retired. The bulletin is a bi-annual Spring and Fall publication that keeps abreast of the current events and gives information on the regional topics that make up the iris world as a whole and keep us connected to the American Iris Society. Visit the Region 14 journal page here

## March Birthdays

*Tom Karwin, March 19*

*Linda Hood, March 24*

*Ann Pike, March 27*

<https://aisregion14.org/bulletin/> I suggest pairing the reading with a nice aperitif since parts of it are quite dry.

Kathy Hartman has retired from organizing the Xmas party. Her energy and passion provided MBIS with a very nice venue, very decent food and decorations, which made the events special. Sharon Medler is charged this year with pinning down the Back Nine for our annual Xmas party. As of this writing, it seems she has secured this venue... unsurprisingly, costs have gone up. Questions or comments may be directed to me regarding this, as Sharon is fleeing the country to go to the Land Down Under for inspiration with her artistic endeavors. If you are not familiar with her work, then visit her amazing page here: <https://www.sharonmedler.com/>

As this year will have a board meeting before all regular meetings, all are invited to attend. If you have a topic that needs to go to the board, I request that you email me with the gist of it and we shall try to fit it in. I will attempt to keep board meetings from interfering with our socializing and mealtime.

See you at the meeting. 🌸🌸 Craig!

## **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 at 5:00pm. On Saturday, April 25th, the room will be open for participants to start staging their iris at 7:00am. Staging must be finished by 9:45, with judging starting at 10:00. We look forward to the results of the judging, a lunch on site with the judges and volunteers and enjoying the beautiful entries. 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.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **Iris Garden Tour**

The annual home tour and luncheon that Lloyd and Jo are planning has been rescheduled for Sunday, May 3rd from 11am to 4 pm. Volunteers are appreciated.



## **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



### **Cabrillo Plant Sale**

Cabrillo College has their plant sale Saturday, April 11, 9-1 PM; flyer page 9.

### **Novelty Iris Society**

Save the date for the Novelty Iris Society annual meeting! The Novelty Iris Society (NIS) is a section of the AIS that was formed by a group of iris enthusiasts who love the unusual forms and color combinations of space-age, flat and broken color irises, as well as irises with variegated foliage. The meeting will be held via Zoom on Saturday, March 21, at 10:00 a.m. Pacific time. After a brief business meeting, there will be a program by NIS northwest director Tammie Clark: "Chasing the Novelty Iris Rainbow"! Please join us, you don't have to be a NIS member to attend. To sign up for the meeting, please go to this link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Ffk-BKlQrfia8aZ\\_5nP57Q](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Ffk-BKlQrfia8aZ_5nP57Q)

## 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](mailto:dianesampson@baymoon.com). The Monterey Bay Iris Society and London Nelson Community Center are not liable for loss or damage.

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## AIS Region 14 Spring Bulletin

The Spring 2026 Region 14 bulletin. It can be accessed online via: <https://aisregion14.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/R14-Spring-2026-Bulletin.pdf>

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## March Dinner & Meeting

For March we will have our normal potluck dinner. Please bring Spring related dishes. We will also have the birthday cake!

Please come to the meeting willing sign up to help at the upcoming show. We have clerks but need staff greeting the public. Then, after the signup, we will have a special speaker, Richard Dye discussing Composting.



Sharon Medler showing her iris art painting at meeting  
photo M. Lango

## CULTURE TIPS

**W**E HAD PLENTIFUL RAIN early this year and now the weather has turned warm. Likely you still have some weeds in your iris plantings. If your plantings still have plentiful weeds and with the ground now drying out, be sure to water.

That early rain worked the fertilizer in the ground and gave the irises the nutrients they need to perform well. But, if you fertilized the irises as the new growth began in early February, the rains likely leached away some of the benefits of that fertilizing, so it would be well to give them another light application now. Apply it as you have before and work it into the soil, and water it in.

With the weather conditions being what it has been it is difficult to predict when "peak" bloom will be. Normally here on the coast it is end of April to the beginning of May for TB's. Having growing irises for 70 years I have seen how "best" bloom has become more variable and less distinct as to timing. For example spurias definitely didn't start blooming until well after the TB's were pretty well done. Now I find they can begin blooming pretty much at the same time the TB's are in bloom. The "normal" is in flux as changing weather have its affect on plants, irises being no exception. 🌸 Joe

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## DUES ARE DUE

Single dues are \$10 Two or more at the same address, \$15. Make the check out to Monterey Bay Iris Society. Please pay at the meeting or send to our treasurer, Lloyd Clark, 1007 Wright Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.



1. Accent on Color, Black



2. Atlantic Blue, Black



3. Athena's Robe, Black



4. Ballerina's Tutu, Sampson



5. Batgirl, Keppel, BB



6. Beautiful Mind, Johnson



7. Beyond Fabulous, Black



8. Boxing Ring, Johnson



9. Brown Nose, Black



10. Butterfly Eye, Black



11. Challenge Accepted, Johnson



12. Delicioso, Johnson



13. Feel the Magic, Black



14. Full Power, Keppel



15. Just Breathe, Sutton



16. Getting Some Sun, Black



17. High Wire Act, Johnson



18. Jealous Rage, Johnson



19. Love in the Dark, Johnson



20. Love You More, Johnson



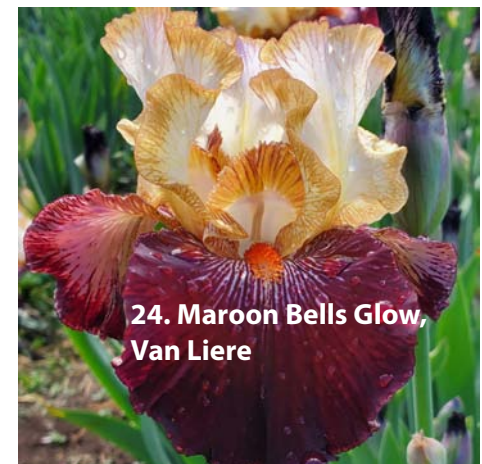
21. Loved One, Johnson



22. Magic Stitch,  
Johnson



23. Mak Attack,  
Mego



24. Maroon Bells Glow,  
Van Liere



25. Next Level, Mego



26. Pistols at Dawn, Miller



27. Power, Johnson



28. Runner Girl, Sutton



29. Shemozzle, Johnson



30. Spicy Secret, Johnson



31. Sudden Outburst, Johnson



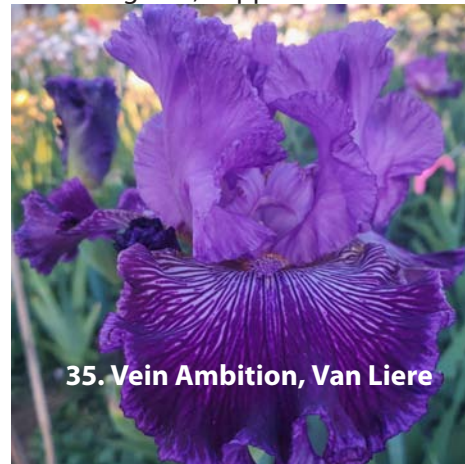
32. Swirling Surf, Keppel



33. Thankful, Sutton



34. Topography, Johnson



35. Vein Ambition, Van Liere



36. Wave of Passion, Johnson

© Stephane Boiv



Molokini, M. Sutton, 2016,

M. Lango

## DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. ACCENT ON COLOR, Black
2. ATLANTIC BLUE, Black
3. ATHENA'S ROBE, Black
4. BALLERINA'S TUTU, Sampson
5. BATGIRL, Keppel, BB
6. BEAUTIFUL MIND, Johnson
7. BEYOND FABULOUS, Black
8. BOXING RING, Johnson
9. BROWN NOSE, Black
10. BUTTERFLY EYE, Black
11. CHALLENGE ACCEPTED, Johnson
12. DELICIOSO, Johnson
13. FEEL THE MAGIC, Black
14. FULL POWER, Keppel
15. JUST BREATHE, Sutton
16. GETTING SOME SUN, Black
17. HIGH WIRE ACT, Johnson
18. JEALOUS RAGE, Johnson
19. LOVE IN THE DARK, Johnson
20. LOVE YOU MORE, Johnson
21. LOVED ONE, Johnson
22. MAGIC STITCH, Johnson
23. MAK ATTACK, Mego
24. MAROON BELLS GLOW, Van Liere
25. NEXT LEVEL, Mego
26. PISTOLS AT DAWN, Miller
27. POWER, Johnson
28. RUNNER GIRL, Sutton
29. SHEMOZZLE, Johnson
30. SPICY SECREt, Johnson
31. SUDDEN OUTBURST, Johnson
32. SWIRLING SURF, Keppel
33. THANKFUL, Sutton
34. TOPOGRAPHY, Johnson
35. VEIN AMBITION, Van Liere
36. WAVE OF PASSION, Johnson



Good Morning Beautiful, Stanton, 2015

W. Crabbs

## Not A Rebloomer Month!

Irises are now blooming. It is March, so there is no Rebloomer drawing. You can still choose to bring iris!



Spring Elegance, Tasco, 2018

W. Crabbs



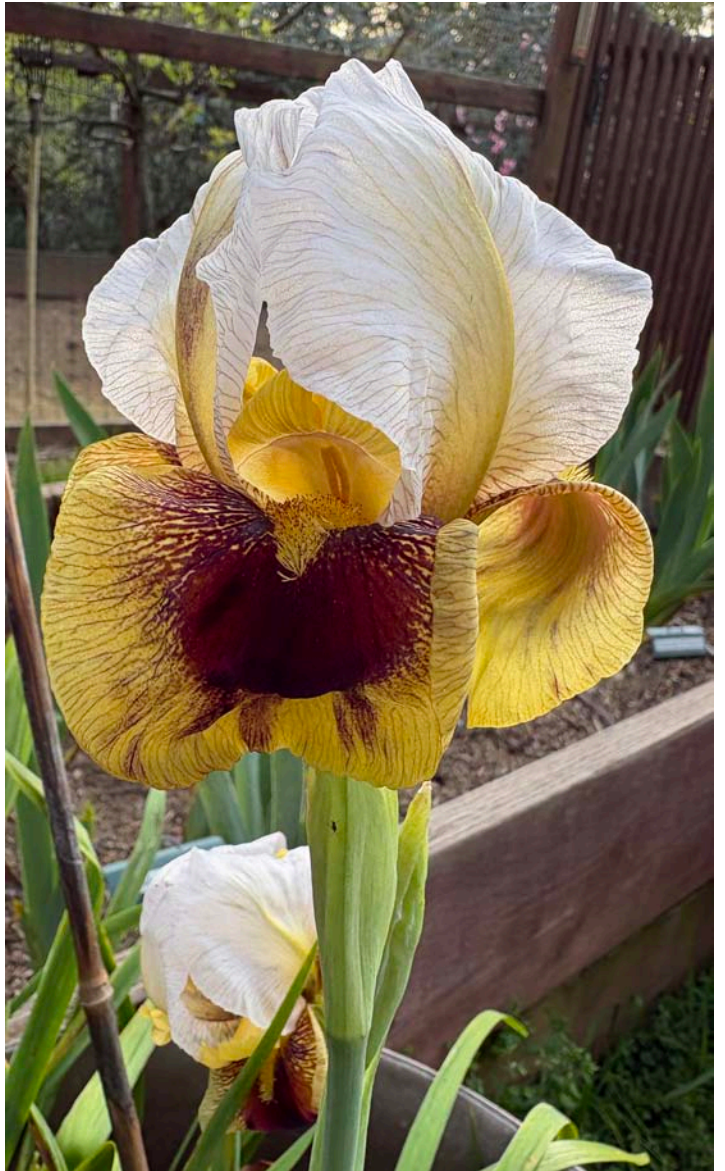
Early Sunrise, Cummins, seedling, RE, SA

R. Probst



Autumn Jewel, Black, 2020

W. Crabbs



Noble Warrior, Tasco, 2006

W. Crabbs

## **MBIS Outstanding Service Award**

### **Purpose:**

Both AIS and Region-14 honor members who make a strong impact. On 2/20/2026, the MBIS Board approved a similar award to recognize members who strengthen our community through exceptional service, support, and volunteer spirit.

### **Nomination Process:**

1. Eligibility: All MBIS members are eligible. Nominations are open to the general membership each year and must be submitted no later than Nov 1.
2. Submission: Nomination(s) should outline the nominee's activities and achievements for the year ending
3. Review & Approval: All nominations to be submitted to any Board member and then reviewed by the entire Board
4. Winner(s) to be announced/awarded at the MBIS Holiday party OR the January meeting

### **Criteria for Recognition:**

Nominees to have demonstrated achievements in at least one of the following areas:

- Major contribution to a club event
- Ongoing service that benefits the entire membership
- Creating an atmosphere of friendship and mentorship
- Exceptional volunteerism that is above and beyond

While these categories serve as guidelines, the award is not restricted solely to these achievements, allowing for flexibility in recognizing diverse forms of excellence.

### **Award Presentation:**

1. Timing: The award will be presented annually at the December Holiday Party or the January meeting
2. Nature of the Award: The award should be purposeful, serving as appreciation from the MBIS membership

### **Conclusion:**

The Outstanding Service Award stands as a testament to the dedication, spirit, and commitment of our members. Through this recognition, we celebrate those who make MBIS a thriving and inclusive community year after year.

# MBIS ARTIST EVENT

## A CELEBRATION OF IRIS-INSPIRED ART

THE MONTEREY BAY IRIS SOCIETY INVITES ARTISTS TO SHOWCASE WORK  
INSPIRED BY THE BEAUTY OF IRIS FLOWERS!



## CALL FOR ART

### ACCEPTED MEDIA:

ACRYLIC • OIL • WATERCOLOR • PASTEL • PHOTOGRAPHY • PRINTS  
FRAMED ARTWORK MUST HAVE HANGING WIRE INSTALLED.  
WATERCOLOR PAPER PIECES MAY BE DISPLAYED WITH PUSH PINS  
(WITH ARTIST PERMISSION).



**JUL 17**

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Drop Off & Installation:

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

9:00 a.m. – Noon

#### Art Pick-Up:

Thursday, April 30, 2026

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.



### LOCATION

**London Nelson  
Community Center – Hallway**

301 Center Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

### ♥ SALES INFORMATION

All sales will be handled directly between the artist and buyer.  
Donations to MBIS and the London Nelson Community Center are  
welcome at the discretion of the artist or buyer.

### **i** ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Monterey Bay Iris Society and the London Nelson Community Center are  
not liable for loss or damage.

 **Website:** [montereybayiris.org](http://montereybayiris.org)

 **RSVP / Contact:** Diane Sampson – 831-206-1444

## Hold Harmless Agreement for Art Display at London Nelson Community Center

The London Nelson Community Center, in collaboration with the Monterey Bay Iris Society, is excited to showcase local artwork. However, as with any event where artwork is displayed, it's essential to address potential concerns regarding the safety and return of the pieces. To ensure clarity and set expectations, we've established a Hold Harmless Agreement that protects both the artists and the organizers.

### Key Points of the Hold Harmless Agreement

1. **Liability Disclaimer:**

The London Nelson Community Center and the Monterey Bay Iris Society, nor any employees or members of these organizations, nor any workers or helpers for the art display, are **not liable** for any damage or loss of art while displayed at the event. Artists should understand and accept that their artwork is displayed at their own risk.

2. **Security Measures:**

We take the utmost care in handling and displaying all artwork. There will always be a **person at the front door** of the London Nelson Community Center, ensuring the security of the exhibit. However, as with any public event, some risks are inevitable.

3. **Due Diligence in Returning Art:**

Every effort will be made to **return artwork to the artist in its original condition** once the display period has ended. To facilitate this process, artists must ensure their pieces are clearly labeled on the back.

4. **Unclaimed Artwork:**

In the event that artwork is unclaimed or the artist is unavailable, proper procedures will be followed to ensure the piece is safely returned. Having the label on the back of the art allows us to accurately identify and return unclaimed works.

### Agreement and Signatures

By participating in this art display, the undersigned artist acknowledges and agrees to the terms outlined in this Hold Harmless Agreement. This includes accepting the risks associated with displaying artwork and agreeing not to hold the London Nelson Community Center or the Monterey Bay Iris Society liable for any loss or damage.

**Artist Name:**

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**Artist Signature:**

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**Date:**

**Phone:**

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# CABRILLO 2026 HORTICULTURE



## PLANT SALE & SPRING FESTIVAL

WATER-WISE PERENNIALS + SHRUBS  
NATIVE PLANTS • ANNUALS & COLOR

ORGANIC VEGGIE STARTS & MORE!  
HOUSEPLANTS, SUCCULENTS

POTTERY • JEWELRY  
BOTANICAL ART • BOOKS

SATURDAY APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>  
9 AM - 1 PM