

April, 2026

Next meeting Friday 17, 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, April 17 7:30 P.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.

TBA

Potluck.

Regular Meeting

Friday June 19 7:30 P.M.

Award Presentation Show wrap up

Pizza Potluck.

April Birthdays

Karen Valentine, April 2

Joanne Able April 4

Maria Hasbun April 4

Diane Sampson, April 8

Anna Helms April 10



Red Zone, Ghio, 2018

S. Taniguchi

From The Prez

THE FIRST BLOOMS HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED in the garden. One of my seedlings pushed out a mediocre stalk and a bloom that resembles the famous ‘Tea Leaves’ that Elena proudly brings every year to show in the rebloomer section of our meetings. My hybridizing skills need improvement and this unglorious seedling will soon join hundreds of others in the scrap heap. The one thing that the hybridizing process has taught me is that a medal-worthy introduction takes many hours of work and I am just not at that point yet. My hat goes off to many of our members who have persevered in this endeavour and introduced an iris of their own. Riley Probst is introducing new iris by Diane Sampson and Jim Cummins from his Fluer De Lis garden this year. Diane’s ‘Ballerina’s Tutu’ and Jim’s ‘Sails at Sunset’ both received an Exhibition Certificate in 2025. This certificate is awarded to iris entered in the seedling division of a AIS sanctioned show. Congratulations to both of you!

Our mini show is this month, and for many of our members, it is the time to show off the beauty of what we have worked so hard to accomplish in the garden. In addition to having the harsh eye of a judge review your growing skill, attention to mounting and showing off your stalks and blooms, we will also go over the single bloom entry requirements and rules. This section of the show allows attendees the chance to see many blooms that do not make it to the main event. Countless times, we have all snapped off beautiful flowers from

the stalk in transport and now they still can be entered for viewing. Wayne Crabbs set up the single blossom display several years ago, and it is a lovely addition to our main event.

Due to having the mini show as the main event, we will only have a quick board meeting to go over one or two important items. All are welcome to the board meeting and any topic that you wish the board to address should be relayed to me before the meeting so that I can include it on the agenda.

Enjoy your gardens! 🌸🌸🌸 Craig!

SAVE THE DATES

Iris Garden Tours

Sherry Austin and Diane Sampson are holding open gardens on Saturday April 18, the morning after the April meeting, from 10 in the morning to 12, noon. Sherry's house is 720 Olsen Road, Soquel, 95073 and Diane's house is 7 Cutter Cove, Watsonville, 95076. You should be able to see both gardens if you start early! Both gardens will have snacks, but it is not a big food event for either garden.

Diane will have several artists who want to see her garden, so will have additional dates of Tuesday, April 21 and Tuesday April 28, 10am-12 noon for those who may not be able to attend Saturday, April 18.

Jo's Open Garden

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. Special guests are attending. The address is 15750 Adams Ridge, Los Gatos, CA 95033. RSVP. 408-209-5708. Thanks

CBRIS Meeting Invite

Clara B. Rees Iris Society invites you to join them at their meeting on May 1st at the Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose. Doors open at 7PM. Meeting starts at 7:30PM.

They are honored to announce that Bonnie Nichols, President of the American Iris Society, will be our speaker at the May meeting. She will present a program titled "Ladies in Iris: Women Hybridizers." More about this on page 7.

CBRIS Iris Show

Clara B Rees Iris Society Show "Iris Splendor"
Sunday, April 19, 2026 Open to the Public 12:00 PM to 5 PM

Joan Pisani Community Center, 19655 Allendale Ave, Saratoga, CA

Entries will be received between 8AM and 10 AM on Sunday April 19.

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

CULTURE TIPS

HERE WE ARE ON APRIL 15 and the Pacificas are finally just about peak bloom. Two weeks late. Normal peak is the beginning of April. Then bearded started weeks ago. We have a week of rain then a week of sun. Go figure.

Try to get weeds out of your plantings so the irises can thrive better. Bloom should be good this year though it will be late. If no more rain is predicted for the foreseeable future, then keep your hoses handy since they need water in the week before the show to have the blooms achieve maximum growth.

We encourage you to enter what you have—the show will be April 25–26, two weeks earlier than last year and right on track for the peak bloom. Check the show schedule for show classes and requirements. There has been some changes. 🌸🌸🌸 Joe



2026 SPRING SHOW

Our Spring Show will again be held at the London Nelson Community Center This year on April 25 & 26. Set-up will be Friday evening, April 24 at 5:00 p.m. **The doors will be open Saturday, April 25 at 7:00am so exhibitors can start staging their entries.**

We need volunteers for set-up, as well as all of the Saturday and Sunday shifts to be on hand to distribute literature and answer guest's questions. We especially need help with Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning shifts. The sign up list will be at the April meeting. The sign up list that was passed around at the March meeting, will be at the April meeting also. If you didn't sign in March, it would be appreciated if you could sign in April. If you can't make the April meeting or forgot to sign, show up anyway and we will give you a job that you will really enjoy. All members are encouraged to volunteer as much time as possible during our show. Participation goes a long way in making our show a success and introducing the public to our club. It's great fun! Remember, you receive a recent introduction iris for participating in the show.

Trophies

Members who won awards last year please bring your trophies & bases to the meeting. Cleaned and polished is always a good thing. We need them for our April show later this month to award the new winners! Thank you. If you need to make other arrangements, please contact Kathy Wood, cell 831-234-9817.

Iris Art Show

The Iris Art show is up on the hall wall of London Nelson. Be sure to admire the works when you come to the show. And tell your friends about this great show. One section of the wall shows iris watercolors all painted by Yan Salinda Zheng, a Santa Clara Arts Council member. By submitting over a dozen watercolors she helped make this show a success.

If you have art in the show, thank you for taking part! The date to take work down is Thursday, April 30, 4 to 5:30 pm. To make other arrangements, contact Diane Sampson via text message at 831-206-1444 or email dianesampson@baymoon.com.

Iris and Ink

As part of this year's Santa Cruz Counties "Ripple Effect Events," the Printmakers at the Tannery will be doing an Iris and Ink demo from 2 pm to 5 pm in the lunch room across from our show. The demo is free and attendees will print a card to take home featuring one of the three iris shown in the image below. The middle iris is Swerti so if anyone has that in bloom, please bring it to the show. Wedding Night also if you have that in bloom.



Show Tips

Our show is April 25 & 26. Adapted from the Santa Rosa Iris Society Newsletter here is a list "to do" things and tips for the Show.

- ◁ In the garden, starting a week before, stake all stalks you may be considering, Don't let stalks lean sideways in the garden.
- ◁ Water the garden if needed. Dry plants don't grow the best show stalks.
- ◁ Put out snail bait if you have signs of snails.
- ◁ The day before, make a list of irises you're bringing. Prevents guessing on the morning of the show.
- ◁ Prepare method to transport.
- ◁ Always transport in a container with water.
- ◁ Pre-fill out tags with your address and name.
- ◁ Bring spent stalks for making props in tubes
- ◁ Plan materials and accessories for Artistic Design classes/ sections. Try doing a design this year! Most of us are beginners!
- ◁ Make or check your grooming kit (min. scissors, clippers, Q-tips, pen).
- ◁ Rest up! Get up very early, the morning of the show, to cut stalks. Plan to arrive with plenty of time to prepare your entries between 7:00 and 9:30 a.m. Don't arrive late.
- ◁ We're a club. We're here to learn from each other and help each other. Experienced exhibitors are more than happy to explain to others "how to do it."



1. Accent on Color



2. Athena's Robe



3. Ballerina's Tutu



4. Batgirl, Keppel, BB



5. Beautiful Mind, Johnson



6. Bouncing Blue Betty, Black



7. Box of Sunshine, Black



8. Boxing Ring, Johnson



9. Brown Nose, Black



10. Butterfly Eye, Black



11. Calypso Joe, Black



12. Falcon Heart, Black



13. Getting Some Sun, Black



14. Gift Wrappings, Keppel



15. High Wire Act, Johnson



16. In Good Company, Johnson



17. Jealous Rage, Johnson



18. Joint Session, Keppel



19. Just Breathe, Sutton



20. Left An Imprint, Johnson



21. Love You More, Johnson



22. Loved One,
Johnson



23. Magic Stitch,
Johnson



24. Mak Attack, Sutton



25. Maroon Bells Glow, Van Liere



26. Never Ending Story, Johnson



27. Next Level, Mego



28. Oh Far Out, Johnson



29. Power, Johnson



30. Runner Girl, Sutton



31. She Will Be Loved, Johnson



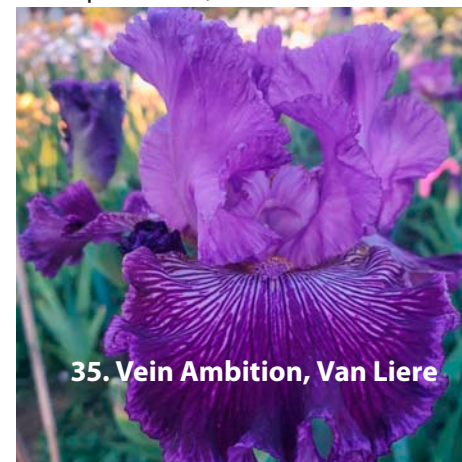
32. Stripes Are In, Black



33. Suggestion, Johnson



34. Swirling Surf, Keppel



35. Vein Ambition, Van Liere



36. Witches Stitches, Black

Important information on this page! Please Read!

Read and note. Also it is a good idea to bring a copy of this page so you have what you need for the Mini Show.

Note that the Mini Show this year includes Single Blossom.

Mini Show

This month's program is the mini show and this year a "Single Blossom" will be included in our Mini-show. Single Blossom is the easiest, least-stress category. Sometimes however the rules and regs for this category can seem like a mystery, so the mini show will be the opportunity to know the rules for showing. Bring your best iris stalks and blooms to enter and be there early to stage your irises. Doors will open at 6:00pm. Joe will point out whether the entry is staged properly and give suggestions on improvement. Everyone is encouraged to enter. We are asking that no more than two blossoms and two bloom stalks per category are entered by each person.

Categories for the MINI-SHOW are:

1. Tall bearded—Novice (never won more than three blue ribbons in a regular show before)
2. Tall Bearded—Advanced (all who aren't novices)
3. Bearded, other than Tall
4. Beardless, any type
5. Seedlings, any type
6. Single Blossom

The judge will choose the winners in each category. The winners will have the first choice of the door prizes.

CBRIS Meeting Invite

Clara B. Rees Iris Society invites you to join us at our meeting on May 1st at the Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave, San Jose. Doors open at 7PM. Meeting starts at 7:30PM.

We are honored to announce that Bonnie Nichols, President of the American Iris Society, will be our speaker at the May meeting. She will present a program titled "Ladies in Iris: Women Hybridizers."

A Texas native, Bonnie developed her passion for irises under her mother's tutelage. In addition to her successful career as a banker, she has served the AIS in numerous roles, including past Treasurer, National Convention Chair, Judges Chair, and Handbook Revision Chair. The American Iris Society awarded Bonnie the Distinguished Service Medal in 2021.

Bonnie and her husband, Hooker, are well-known hybridizers who own and operate Hillcrest Iris and Daylily Gardens in Dallas, Texas. Additionally, Bonnie has a special interest in novelty irises and founded the Novelty Iris Society.

DOOR PRIZES IRISES

1. ACCENT ON COLOR, Black
2. ATHENA'S ROBE, Black
3. BALLERINA'S TUTU, Sampson
4. BATGIRL, Keppel, BB
5. BEAUTIFUL MIND, Johnson
6. BOUNCING BLUE BETTY, Black
7. BOX OF SUNSHINE, Black
8. BOXING RING, Johnson
9. BROWN NOSE, Black
10. BUTTERFLY EYE, Black
11. CALYPSO JOE, Black
12. FALCON HEART, Black
13. GETTING SOME SUN, Black
14. GIFT WRAPPINGS, Keppel
15. HIGH WIRE ACT, Johnson
16. IN GOOD COMPANY, Johnson
17. JEALOUS RAGE, Johnson
18. JOINT SESSION, Keppel
19. JUST BREATHE, Sutton
20. LEFT AN IMPRINT, Johnson
21. LOVE YOU MORE, Johnson
22. LOVED ONE, Johnson
23. MAGIC STITCH, Johnson
24. MAK ATTACK, Sutton
25. MAROON BELLS GLOW, Van Liere
26. NEVER ENDING STORY, Johnson
27. NEXT LEVEL, Mego
28. OH FAR OUT, Johnson
29. POWER, Johnson
30. RUNNER GIRL, Sutton
31. SHE WILL BE LOVED, Johnson
32. STRIPES ARE IN, Black
33. SUGGESTION, Johnson
34. SWIRLING SURF, Keppel
35. VEIN AMBITION, Van Liere
36. WITCHES STITCHES, Black

Not A Rebloomer Month!

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

APRIL IRIS



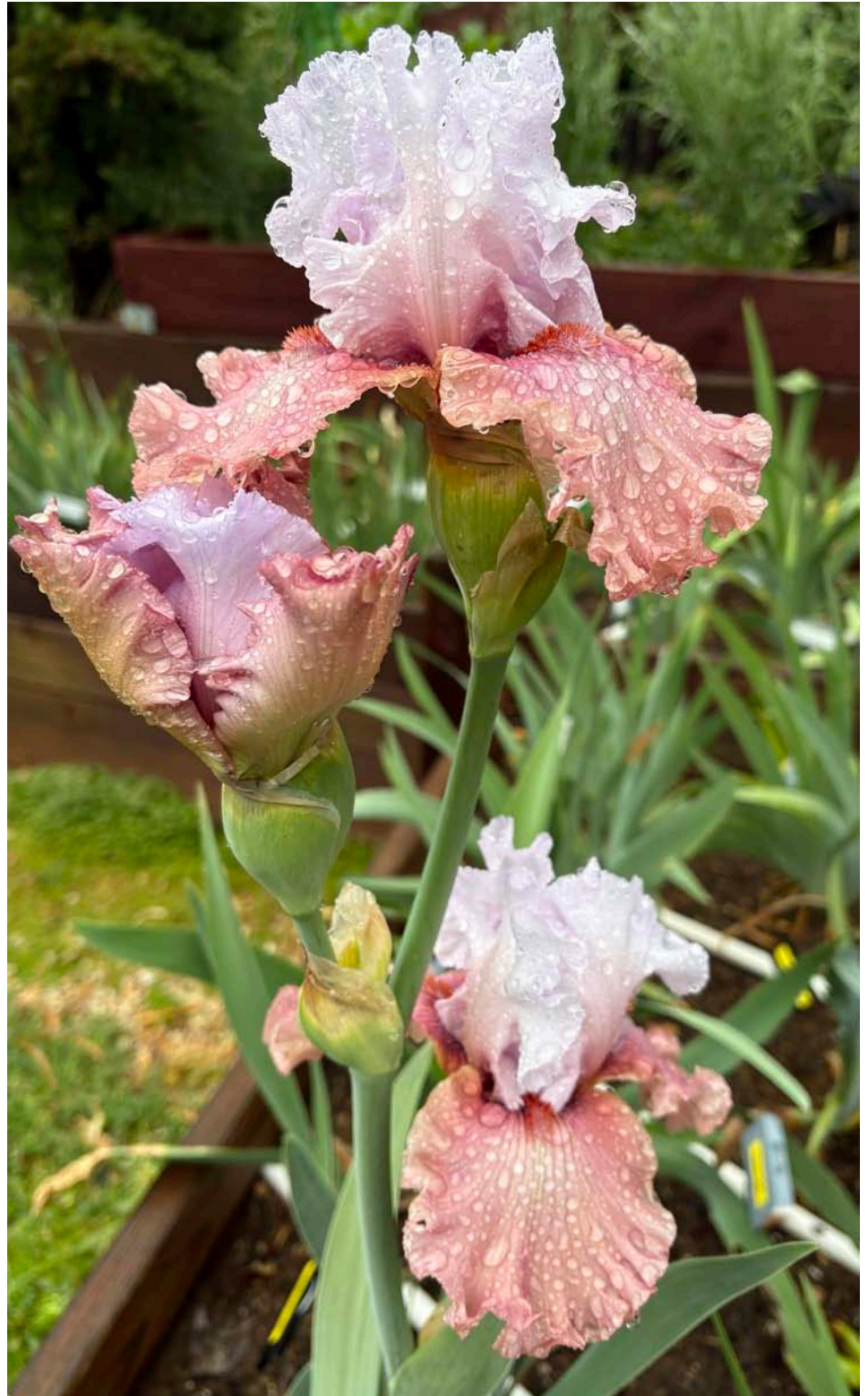
Corralitos Creek, Ghio, 2013 J. Chisholm



Clarification, Ghio, 2009, PCI J. Chisholm



Churning Waves, Ghio, 2021, PC
I J. Chisholm



Love You More, Johnson, 2025

W. Crabbs



Point Lobos, Ghio, 2012

J. Chisholm



Perry Dyer, Black, 2017

J. Chisholm



Poetry in Bloom, Cadd, 2021

J. Chisholm



Sand Dancer, Tasco, 2010, AB

W. Crabbs



seedling, Probst

J. Chisholm



Luxurious Folks, Cummins, 2023

J. Cummins



Feast For The Eyes, Black, 2023

W. Crabbs



Battlestar Atlantis, Aitken, 2008

W. Crabbs



Vermillion Cliffs, Black, 2025, AB W. Crabbs



Pin Striped Suit, Probst, 2020 J. Cummins



Awesome Alex, Burseen, 2003 C. Marlowe



Bossman Bill, Burseen, 2011

J. Chisholm



Auburn Tigris, Mego, 2024

J. Chisholm



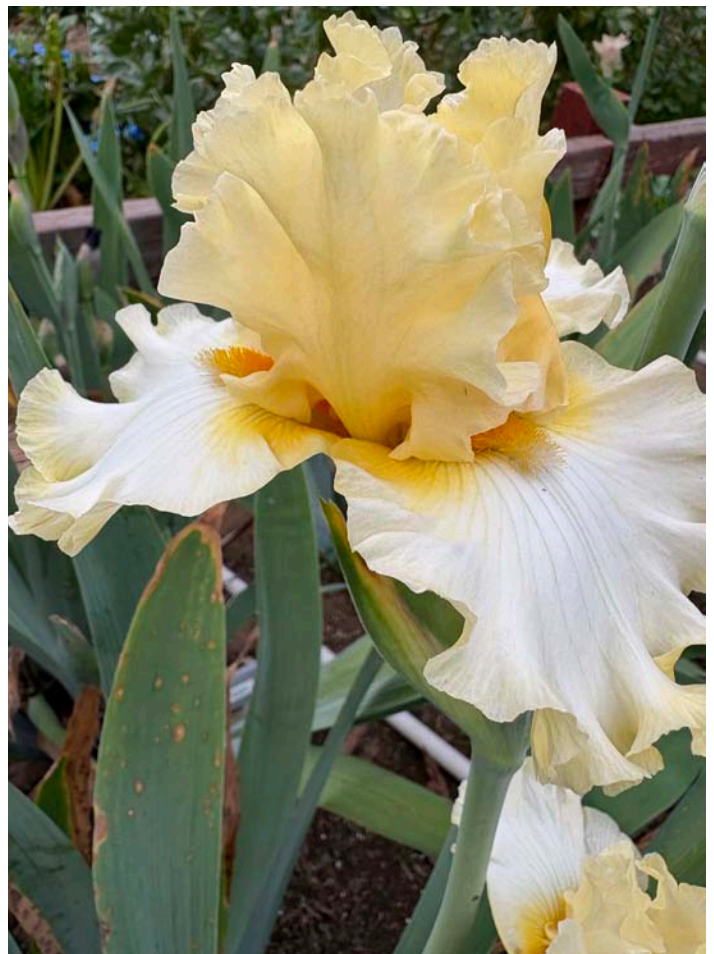
Hakuna Matata, Cadds, 1999, AB

W. Crabbs



Oil Painting, Ghio 2012

J. Chisholm



Diamond Broker, Blyth, 2015

J. Chisholm



Ignite the Light, Johnson, 2021

J. Chisholm