MONTEREY BAY IRIS SOCIETY

BAY NEWS

www.montereybayiris.org

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

September, 2026

Next meeting	Friday 18, 2025
Eating Starts	7:00 P.M.
Meeting	7:30 P.M.
Place	Aptos Grange,
2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos	

Aphabetical Order, Ghio, 2019 photo M. Lango

From The Prez

THE FALL REGIONAL IS UPON US on October 9th and 10th. It is in Chico this year and is hosted by the Leo T. Clark and Shasta Iris societies. American Iris Society president Bonnie Nichols is the speaker. The next regional will be our very own 2027 Spring regional, hosted by our club. For those members who have never attended a regional, it will be a very nice time to acquaint yourself with the moving parts of how the local clubs integrate with the region and the national.

Within the American Iris Society, many different clubs will be represented at the event. If you like to specialize in different types of iris or just try something new, there will be many different clubs you can join. Karin and I are members of the Society for Louisiana Irises and also Aril Society International. Each one has its perks and information that can help you expand your knowledge and your garden.

Another plus of attending a regional is the people. Many growers, sellers, hybridizers and hangers-on attend the event. Meeting the people that make up the iris community can increase your awareness of how it all fits together. In the past, I have attended presentations about art, history, hybridizing, hybridizers, soil, chemicals, pests and diseases. All topics that not only relate to iris but can also expand to other species of plants and other interests.

Another advantage of the regionals is the judges' training. Usually at least two classes are offered, and this helps promote getting one from being an iris enthusiast to an iris snob. The whole process takes a couple of years and enables

2026 Calendar

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

Regular Meeting
Friday, September 18 ..... 7:00P.M.
Iris Other than Tall Bearded
Joe Ghio
Refreshments
Potluck

Regular Meeting
Friday, October 16..... 7:00P.M.
Aptos Grange, Aptos, CA
All About Region 14
Dan Williams
Refreshments
Potluck

Bring beardless irises surplus for the Fall door prize drawing. Also any extra bearded irises are welcome for the drawing.

NOTE!
Holiday Party is December the 11th.

September Birthdays

Sharon Medlar	Sept 1
Sonja Weininger	Sept 3
Kaye Beth	Sept 14
Sherry Austin	Sept 16
Wayne Crabbs	Sept 17
Kathy Wood	Sept 21
Christine Dickinson	Sept 29

you to judge shows and evaluate new hybrids for awards and medals. There is zero cost for the training and no fees. Judges are required to vote on the Iris Award ballot every year and judge local shows if requested. I highly recommend it.

We will be having a board meeting before this month's meeting, and don't forget to bring food and drinks. See you all Friday. Craig

In Memoriam

Recently we lost 3 prominent members of the Region 14 community,

Jim Begley passed away on July 8. He was a founding member of the Santa Rosa Iris Society and a member for over 50 years. Jim was well known among Region 14 members. He was an AIS Master Judge and also made a name for himself hybridizing. Among his many introductions, I particularly like 'Panama Hattie' and 'Scarlet Embers' and have them in my garden.

Kitty Loberg also passed away in July. Kitty was a long time member of the Redwood Iris Society, then the Santa Rosa Iris Society. She served 13 years on the Region 14 board, holding positions of Secretary, Treasurer, RVP, Judges' Training Chair. Kitty was well known throughout Region 14.

Helen Bliven passed away July 15. Helen was a long time member of the Clara B. Rees Iris Society, serving as Treasurer and President in 1996-1998 and as Co-President 2001–2002. Helen was a friend of many MBIS members.

Submitted by Charley Kearns

MBIS OSA Deadline

MBIS members, the deadline for submitting your Outstanding Service Award nominations for 2026, is rapidly approaching. We have begun receiving several nominations already and don't want this opportunity to recognize a valued member to slip past the deadline of November 1st. Please submit your nomination to any Board member prior to the deadline. Respectfully, Wayne

CULTURE TIPS

PLANTING BEARDEDS in September and October, you will find the big, tall growth you get from early summer planting won't happen. The growth occurs but it will be much shorter and the increase shows almost immediately. I have found that I get just as much growth and bloom from late planting as from early summer planting.

Board of Directors 2026

President
Craig Tarr cht2325@yahoo.com 408 425-7207

Past President
Diane Sampson dianesampson@baymoon.com 831 206-1444

Vice President
Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089

Treasurer
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Secretary
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Jim Cummins jcummins@pacbell.net 831 438-3360

Show Chair
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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
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Birthday List
Wayne Crabbs wayne@lomaprieta.us 408 353-4089

Be sure you tag your plantings and make a chart of the area with the names of the irises and how many you planted.

Now is also the time to replant your beardless irises—Louisianas, spurias, siberians and any others except for the Pacificas. Wait on the latter to dig and replant them at the earliest mid-October and better yet wait until early November after the weather cools down. Remember these beardless will not tolerated drying out. If you can't replant them immediately, hold them over in buckets of water.

If you haven't watered your Pacificas (like I haven't) start doing so now so they begin developing new growth and roots needed for successful replanting them after mid October or later.

In mid-October, consider planting seeds from any recent crosses or seed collections. If weeds are becoming a problem, apply a pre-emergent herbicide just before rainfall. The rainfall will help work the product into the soil, preventing weed germination. *Joe*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

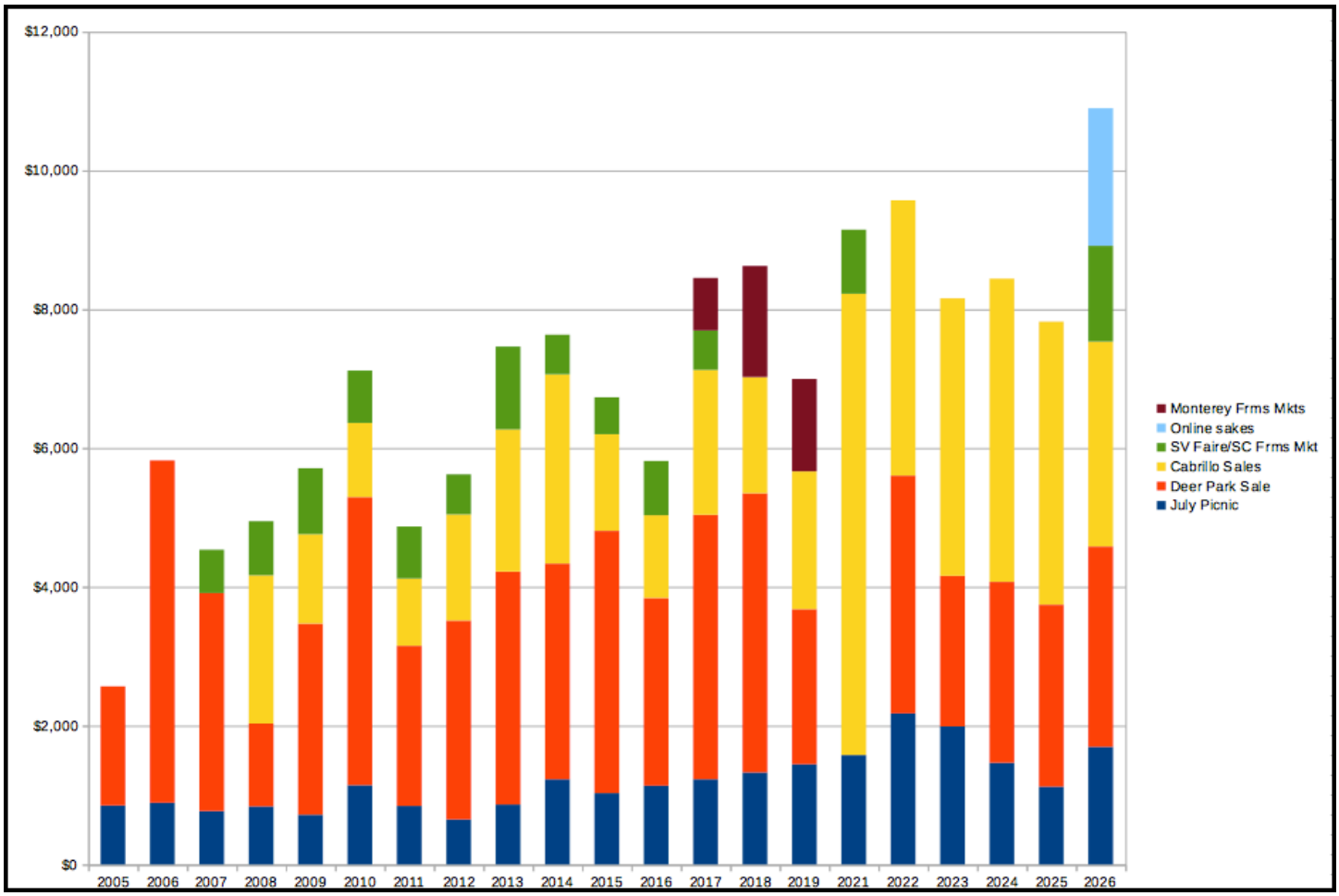
This is the month we start the process of electing the officers to serve our club for 2027. The President appoints a person to chair the Nominating Committee. Then, two more members are nominated from the floor. The three member committee compiles a recommended slate of officers and board members. The recommended slate is announced at the October meeting. Further nominations may be made from the floor at that time. The election is held at the November meeting, with the new officers taking office January 1st.

Door Prizes

Once more members need to bring good recent iris, rebloomers and any and all beardless iris plants to share as door prizes. Bring favorite irises for the drawing. Those beardless iris you won in prior years would be good. It is important to have a good selection of iris both for us and for any new members coming to the meeting! Or, any homeless iris you find you have. The door prizes we have purchased will appear starting with the November meeting. For this September meeting and for the October meeting you will win iris plants taking them home in your hands.
This is a rebloomer month so bring those blooms for a chance to get the first pick of the draw.

New Members

We would like to welcome out new members Ana Cena Hinterman and Katsea Cook and hope to see them at an upcomeing meeting. Be sure to say hi. If you come to the September meeting you will leave with iris! Wecome to the Monterey Bay Iris Society.



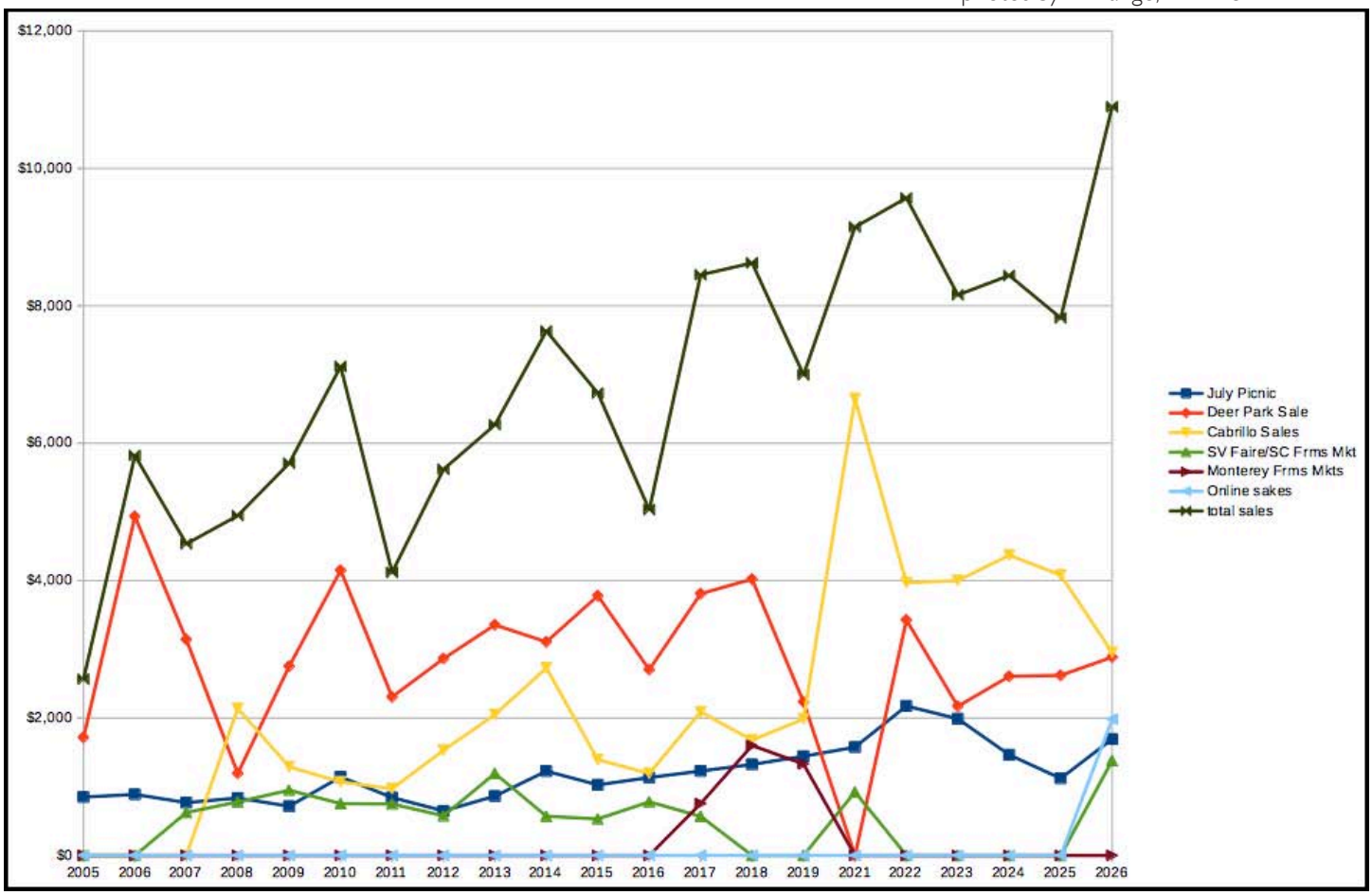
2026 SALES

2026 Rhizome Sales

This year we had the best sales total, and added $10,896to our funds, compared to $7822. last year. Our highest prior revenues ever were 2022 at $9,570; and 2021 revenues were $9,146. Break down of our 2026 revenues: Picnic/ Auction was $ 1,694; Deer Park was $2,886; Cabrillo, $2,954; Santa Cruz Westside Market, $1,380. Perhaps the major reason for this year's sales success and the increase in our sales was Jo's great idea in putting on an inline sale. Our online sales total was $1,982 Shout out for Jo!

Members donated a very generous amount of rhizomes and the sales were well staffed. We want to thank Jo and Lloyd for suppling so many iris; Diane and Jo especially for growing the club irises; and, Jim, for providing the tables for our sales for so many years.

photos by M. Lango, AV Pike



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IRIS SOCIETY

IRIS
SALE

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Dark Spell, Aitken, JI, 2019

A BLOOM OF BEARDLESS IRIS

photos by Jane Jordan

iris top right, Pink Playmate, C. Harris, JI, 2017;
center right, Simple Grace, C. Harris, JI, 2019, photo M. Lango;
bottom right, Tessa Dark Eyes, Aitken, JI, 1995;
bottom right, Enchanted Lake, Payne, JI, 1952

Garry Knipe PCI seedling Photo M. Lango

Miss Otis Regrets, D. Cole, 2018 Photo M. Lango

Fresh Eyes, Ghio, 2012 Photo M. Lango

Da Vinci Code, Ghio, 2010 Photo M. Lango

Bonus Points, Ghio, 2014 Photo M. Lango