MONTEREY BAY IRIS SOCIETY

BAY NEWS

www.montereybayiris.org

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

October, 2026

Next meeting	Friday 16, 2026
Eating Starts	7:00 P.M.
Meeting	7:30 P.M.
Place	Aptos Grange,
2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos	

Bonus Points, Ghio, 2014 photo M. Lango

From The Prez

Fall has now arrived. In the past this heralded very cold weather when I grew up in Santa Cruz. My family moved to the place that I now own just outside of Soquel in 1967. The weather and climate seemed much colder then. During the late fall and winter, we would experience cold snaps, which was the death knell of most outside garden plants and vegetable gardens. Several times I can remember that we went for a week with frozen ground and black ice on the roads. None of this seemed to bother my mothers iris in the garden and they flourished every year despite the icy conditions. As a young lad I was assigned snail and gopher patrol and would dutifully pluck snails off the plants in the morning and put them into a bag to prove that I was actually doing the job. Gophers were trapped and shot in exchange for 50 cents each. At the time this was a massive amount of money and with 2.5 acres of rodents proved quite lucrative.

When I finally left home for college, I took my liking for iris with me and at my first home in 1983 I planted many TBs. I purchased them locally and also from Schreiners catalogue. Most of them arrived with the name printed by hand on the leaves and soon the leaves died and the name of the iris disappeared into history. I sold the home and the NOIDs a decade later. I bought a new place with four acres south of San Jose. Unlike my first home which was almost gopher free, the country gophers were more prosperous but left my iris alone. I did buy new iris to put into the ground and was amazed at the changes in color and form that were available to me. Once again, my new varieties became NOIDs after the first year and I was blissfully ignorant of the different species available and how they were hybridized. Iris were easy growers

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

Regular Meeting
Friday, October 16..... 7:00P.M.
Aptos Grange, Aptos, CA
The Region—Who they are and what the heck do they do???
Dan Williams
Refreshments
Potluck
Regular Meeting
Friday, Noveber 20,..... 7:00P.M.
TBA
Potluck Refreshments

Annual Holiday Dinner
Back Nine Grill & Bar
Inn at Pasatiempo
555 Highway 17, Santa Cruz
Friday December 11 ..... 5:30 P.M
Dinner starts at 6 sharp

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

NOTE!
Holiday Party is December the 11th.

October Birthdays

Heather Walton	Oct 4
Jim Cummins	Oct 8
Linda Lomperis	Oct 10
Carolyn Pierson	Oct 11
Elena Laborde	Oct 25
Joe Ghio	Oct 26

and I knew nothing more than to stick them into the soil and leave them alone. S oon it seemed that I had five year old clumps of iris and would occasionally thin them out when they became invasive and started taking over sections of the garden. I would give them away to the neighbors and soon, like you can see in many cities and towns, that entire blocks all have the same iris in their yards.

Sometime in the late 90s I bought another batch from a long forgotten catalogue and planted them in the shade in a raised bed at my parents home and where I now reside. For some unknown reason I actually wrote the names down of the varieties on a folder which I used for tax returns. Only two stand out in my memory today—'Navajo Blanket' and 'Pink Kitten'.

Occasionally when I visited, I would check on them and notice the rare occurrence of blooms and the poor growth. Never once during the next decade did I water, fertilize or divide them. I just let them be. When I did return with my family when I bought the home I finally decided to actually tend to them. Only a few hardy ones had survived and only 'Pink Kitten' survives today.

By this stage in life I had largely forgotten about iris but had many very large clumps of 'Crimson King' that probably predated my mother, growing everywhere. I personally find nothing attractive about that variety and have since eradicated it from my sight. (Do not let anyone from HIPS in on this confession)

Moving a little bit further in time and one day Karin and I were out and about and dropped by the MBIS spring show—My dear wife seriously told me that we should grow them and promptly joined the society. And now after another decade plus, we have made many new friends and travelled to many places and states that we had never seen before. We have endured the freezing temperature of Des Moines and the terribly hot and humid New Jersey. Hours-long bus rides while talking to Irisarians from all parts of the country and beyond. Good food and terrible food, good bloom and bad bloom. We have met many of the hybridizers and growers and had personal tours of their garden complete with commentary on how they do it and what they are leaning towards in the world of iris. These interactions have helped greatly with my knowledge of iris and how I judge iris today. After becoming a judge I am much more discerning about what I think a great iris should be and the flower is not all that a great iris is. (Although a wise hybridizer whom we all know once told me: "People buy flowers, not plants".

Anyway, I will wrap this rambling monologue of memories up with a small known fact—Artificial Intelligence would have written this entire president's message in one second. It took me over an hour and two cups of coffee. Time well spent I think, although my children would scoff at this wasted time.

See you at the meeting Craig

Board of Directors 2026

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Diane Sampson	dianesampson@baymoon.com	831 206-1444

Vice President

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1 Year Board	2 Year Board
Jo Chisholm	Carl Harris
Rosa Radicchi	Jane Jordan
Kathy Wood	Sharon Medler

Contacts

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Membership

Jo Chisholm	jochisholm0700@gmail.com	408-209-5708

Birthday List

Wayne Crabbs	wayne@lomaprieta.us	408 353-4089

Joe's Party

We will be celebrating Joe's birthday again this year. It will be Saturday, October 24th starting at 1PM until 5. Pasta, salad and lots of other good stuff will be served. Bring whatever you wish to drink and nothing more. Some have asked about gifts. Not necessary, but a card or something fun would be a cheery thing to do! Contact Jo for directions as GPS is a problem. With limited cell coverage here for some, you could get lost as many have. Jo will put directional signs out starting at San Jose Soquel and Summit Road. Look for them.

Parking will be in Jo's neighbors yard, so come through her gate, drop off your guests and park as directed by the arrows.

Jo's address is 15750 Adams Ridge, Los Gatos (Mountains).

Please RSVP: jo @ 408-209-5708. If you find that you can come at the last minute, no problem. Just come. Joe will be so happy to see everyone.

CULTURE TIPS

Up to mid-October we experience some of our nicest and warmest weather of the year. After October 15 to early November is the best time to dig and replant the Pacificas. You will have much greater success as well if your irises are sending out new white roots. Our Pacificas get no water all summer. To get new root development, we begin watering them about the end of August-beginning of September. Those in the Pacific Northwest want their irises shipped early in October.

This is the year of the weed that seems to have taken over just about everything. It is FILAGREE. It is the fine foliage plant that can grow to 15–20 inches tall and cover a surprising small area but there are many plants to cover everything—garden beds, lawns, sidewalk cracks. In my very young days there was a plant here and there and that's it. We called it the scissor plant because seed pods were like a sword. We would pick some, punch a hole in one and put the other sword in that hole and WOW, you now had a sword!

This current version is a new variant of it. With the very early rain we had it germinated early so the plantings, lawn and everywhere is coated with it. On the plus side hoeing it out or if your soil is dry and hard you can scape it off and it dries up quickly. *Joe*

Door Prizes

Once more members need to bring 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 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.

Bring Reblooms

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

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

New Members

We would like to welcome out new members Sue Bezinque of Scotts Valley, Jody Biehl of Santa Cruz and Vickie Culjan of Davenport. We hope to see them at an upcomeing meeting. Be sure to say hi. If you come to the October meeting you will leave with iris! Wecome to the Monterey Bay Iris Society.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

At the September meeting, Craig Tarr appointed Brenda Wood to chair the nominating committee for 2027 officers and directors. Sherry Austin and Jo Chisholm volunteered to serve on the committee. The nominating committee presents a slate of officers and directors to the membership at the October meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor. The slate is then published in the November newsletter. At the November meeting, the slate is voted on. Officers and directors assume office at the January meeting.

Iris at City Hall

Four or five years ago Wayne met with Sherry and Craig at city hall to discuss MBIS adopting an area that potentially was to be reserved for MBIS. Well, the wheels are in motion again, with a more prominent piece of City Hall landscape. Hoping to have your support—maintaining/improving the patch of iris near the front entrance. It is in desperate need of some love and attention. "Promoting the genus iris," a small group of members could handle this. There is a city program that allows groups to adopt certain segments of city parks. That is what is being proposed. If you have questions, please email Wayne.

If CBRIS members can be the caretakers of the irises at FILOLI, then surely, MBIS could handle city hall,

Santa Cruz. See the signed agreement with the city inclosed at the end of the newsletter.

City Flower—The Iris

Friends, Family, Cousins and Neighbors. If you believe as I do, the genus IRIS is more than worthy of being elevated to the official flower of Santa Cruz. Emails, cards/letters declaring your support would be most appreciated. Write your representatives! Respectfully, Wayne

Iris albicans *Garden of Mu*

Origins of Our Bearded Iris

Early references to the iris made mention of its use in medicine or in folk-lore, then in 1576 the Flemish Carolus Clusius, wrote exact descriptions of species iris, including 28 varieties of bearded iris. Caspar Bauhin, 1623, and Linnaeus, 1753, published even more iris descriptions. These books on iris prior to the 1800s described the species of iris that were known at that time and added the new discoveries, all found in the wild or semi-cultivated state.

I. Pallida *Garden of Mu*

Iris albicans, first mentioned in 1802, originated in Yemen or Arabia. Sacred flower of the followers of Mohammed, it was carried back from Mecca by pilgrims and spread throughout the Moslem world from North Africa to Spain. It was placed on the graves of soldiers that died in battle. By 1858 it was in gardens in Copenhagen. From Spain these iris were carried to Americas, which, up to that point had no native bearded iris, and are now found growing semi-wild in parts of Mexico.

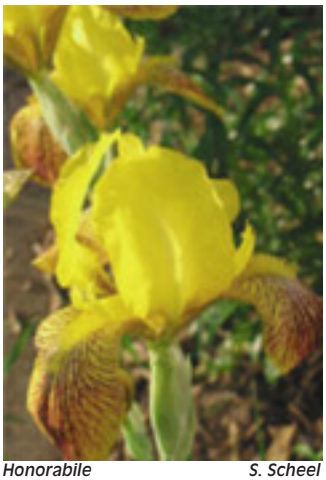
Iris germanica *Garden of Mu*

Iris germanica, the subject of Van Gogh's painting, is the most common of the species iris. Easily naturalized it has been carried and spread like the plague, literally perhaps, considering the custom of putting iris on graves. Grown from ancient times, it is thought to be a native of the Mediterranean. *I. germanica* is so difficult to pollinate that it is often considered sterile, setting seed only in when it has ideal conditions including mild winters; its rhizomes however are difficult to kill and easily spread. Natural hybrids include *I. florentina*, grown in Florence for orris root; *Amas*, from Amasya, Turkey; *Askadensis*, from Russia; *Kharput*, from Harput, Turkey; *Nepalensis*, from Katmandu, Nepal; *Kochii*, similar in form to Nepalensis; and *Sivas*, from Turkey. Other iris closely related to germanica are *I. belouinii* (Morocco,) *I. biliottii* (Turkey,) *I. cypriana* (Cyprus,) *I junonia*, *I. Mesopotamia*, and *I. trojana* (Turkey.)

I. Variegata *Garden of Mu*

Iris florentina *Garden of Mu*

Our modern hybrids come from *I. pallida* (Italy) and *I. variegata* (Hungary). *I pallida* is a tall graceful plant with a flower of a single color, lavender or slightly darker violet color, always sweet smelling and very hardy. One variety, *dalmatica* or *Princess Beatrice* has been prized for at least 300 years. *I. variegata* is short with yellow standards and



Honorabile *S. Scheel*

Swertii *Iris City Gardens*

Queen of May *Iris City Gardens*

Quaker Lady *Iris City Gardens*

Mme. Chereau *Iris City Gardens*

veined brownish purple falls. It is thought that the yellow of *variegata* is the source of the yellow coloring current iris. Hybridization of these two plants occurred naturally or with human assistance. Early hybrids include *Favenscens*, a sterile pale yellow; *Swertii*, the first white, blue edged plicata; and *Samucina*, a purple, rose and gold blend.

1840 in Paris, Jacques Lemon issued a catalog of his iris including *Jacquesiana* (named after Jacques his mentor) and *Honorabile*. Other Lemon irises are *Mme. Chereau* (1844), *Faustine* (1858), and *Celeste* (1858). *Honorabile* (1840) was a garden favorite—legend has it that the pioneers took this iris with them as they traveled west, leaving it along the way so now it is found the Midwest.

John Salter of England became one the first to hand pollinate. His *Gypsy Queen* (1859), bronze and gold with purple striped falls and red based foliage, is now difficult to find, but *Queen of May* (1859) can still be added to your garden.

In the early 1800s William Prince, of New York, published a catalog of iris, importing and selling *I. germanica* and other varieties for 25 cents each. Then in the early 1900s Farr printed a color catalog selling the latest iris hybrids for the outrageously high prices of 50 and 75 cents. His introductions included *Quaker Lady*, *Juniata*, *Mt Penn*, *Wyommissing,* and *Anna Farr*.

Thanks to Mike Unser with the Historic Iris Preservation Society and to Greg MeCullough of Iris City Gardens for giving permission to use their wonderful photographs. Please do not reproduce them without asking them.

If you want to find more information about Historic Iris, be sure to visit the Historic Preservation Society website at http://www.hips-roots.com/. It has more photographs, information and links to sources for these irises. You can also purchase iris from Iris City Gardens, ttp://www.iriscitygardens.com/, Argyle Acres Iris Garden, http://www.argyleacres.com/, and Superstition Iris Garden, http://community.webshots.com/user/rickt103. You can see the iris in bloom by visiting Superstition Iris Gardens in Cathey's Valley. Of course, you can also visit the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens in New Jersey.

Sources

Dykes, Willam Rickatson: *The Genus Iris*; Mathew, Brian: *The Iris*; Price, Molly: *The Iris Book*; Warbuton, Bee, editor: *The World of Iris*

Iris Articles

Last year I went to a Getty exhibition featuring the Van Gogh iris painting and their research on the color of the iris and the paint. It found that the color of the iris in the painting had changed from the time he painted it. To See more about that article and also see more Getty iris, use the following links: https://www.getty.edu/news/irises-at-the-getty/

https://hyperallergic.com/van-gogh-irises-were-never-supposed-to-be-blue/

https://www.getty.edu/exhibitions/ultra-violet-new-light-on-van-goghs-irises/

Brenda also reminded me that years ago after checking out numerous books from the UCSC Library, I wrote a piece on the origins of the iris. I've reprinted that article and included it on these pages. Tom has also written an iris article, see following page.

Iris Pallida 'Variegata' Tom Karwin

The Dalmatian Iris: An Old Garden Favorite

In 1998, while visiting a private garden in Europe, I appreciated an unusual iris with green-and-silver variegated foliage. I learned the plant's name, Iris Pallida 'Variegata', from the garden owner, eventually found rhizomes for my garden, and have been growing them for several years.

This plant produces far fewer offsets than my tall bearded and Pacific Coast irises. After several years, after sharing some plants, I had about 30 plants growing in a border. This year, I lifted the rhizomes, replanted most in clusters to highlight the foliage, and shared 5 through the MBIS sale.

For this article, I explored the internet to learn more about this plant

Overview of the Iris Genus

The American Iris Society's Iris Encyclopedia lists the Iris species and includes an Image Gallery under construction, but still worth exploring: https://wiki.irises.org/Ird/IrdIris#ImageGallery.

Taxonomic Context of Iris pallida

Iris Plant Family: Iridaceae: includes 69 genera and about 2,500 species

Subfamilies: includes two large subfamilies and five small subfamilies

The largest subfamily, Iridoideae, includes five tribes:

The largest tribe, Irideae, includes six sections

The largest section, also called iris, includes 5 genera and 300–319 species

The largest genus, Iris, includes 3 subgenera: bulbous irises, fleshy root irises, and (largest) rhizomatous irises

The rhizomatous subgenus includes Iris pallida

Overview: Iris pallida

> Iris pallida Lam. (Jean Baptiste Lamarck, 1789, S. E. Europe); Section Iris. TB; 12-72" (30-200 cm). Midseason bloom; Color Code-B1M; medium blue self. Distinguished from other bearded irises by the bracts protecting the flower buds being wholly dry, silvery or brown, and papery at the time of flowering. The subspecies pallida has silvery bracts, and the subspecies cengialtii, a dwarfer plant, has brown bracts. Standards and falls are usually the same color, varying in shade from dark blue-purples to light lavender blues.
>
> *— American Iris Society's Iris Encyclopedia*

Short summary: Jean-Baptiste Lamarck (1744-1829) introduced Iris pallida in 1789. The plant's natural habitat is S.E. Europe. According to Wikipedia, the plant is native to Croatia's Dalmatian coast on the Adriatic Sea, east of Italy. The species' common name is Dalmatian iris.

The rhizomes of Iris pallida and two other iris genera, I. germanica and I. florentina, have a complex aroma, described as soft, powdery, earthy, and subtly sweet. Perfumers invest considerable time and effort to extract the scent of iris rhizomes (called orris root), and pair it with the fragrance of other selected plants to produce highly regarded perfumes.

As a side note: some taxonomists regard Iris germanica to be a hybrid of I. pallida and I. variegata, and I. florentina to be a white-flowered variant of I. germanica.

The genus Iris pallida has two subspecies: I. pallida ssp. cengialti (native to Italy and Slovenia) and I. pallida ssp. illyrica, also called ssp. pseudopalllida (native to Croatia).

Focus on Iris pallida 'Variegata'

> 'Pallida Variegata' (E. H. Krelage and Sons, 1900?) TB; Midseason bloom; Color code B1M; This has yellow-edged leaves whereas 'Argentea' has white. Award of Merit, R.H.S. 1896, shown by Guilford; High Commendation, R.H.S. 1916; AA clvii; AAA 138; Sweet fragrance.
>
> *— American Iris Society's Iris Encyclopedia*

Iris pallida 'Variegata" is probably a natural variation of I. pallida.

For the record, one early scientist, Sir Michael Foster (1835-1897), speculated that this cultivar was a natural hybrid of I. pallida and I. variegata, a species noted for its variegated blossoms rather than its foliage. He also accepted the suggestion that "all the bearded irises growing around the Mediterranean basin were after all mere varieties of one form and would be found to cross readily with each other."

Plant geneticists will in time clarify this perception.

Other Irises with Variegated Foliage

While Iris pallida 'Variegata' is uncommon, the AIS Iris Encyclopedia lists six other irises with variegated foliage:

- Striped Britches (Ruby Short, 1977)
- Striped Jade (John Weiler, 1983)
- Hubbub (Alan Emsminger, 1989)
- Striped Moonbeam (Don Shepard, 1990)
- Variegated Wonder (Paul Block, 2012)
- Striptease (Thomas Johnson, 2012)

Online Sources

Three suppliers post two variations: White Flower Farm (whiteflowerfarm.com) and Breck's (brecks.com) offer 'Argentea Variegata' with green-and-silver foliage—like mine; and K. van Bourgondien (dutchbulbs.com) offers 'Variegata Gold', a green-and-gold version.

Tom Karwin

Beardless Iris

Siberians and the Pacific Coast Natives can tolerate light shade but the Spurias, Japanese and Louisianas demand full sun. Louisianas and Japanese require moist conditions during the summer months while the Pacific Coast Natives enjoy a very low humidity and dry soil no matter how hot it may get. All, except Louisianas, should be planted in a permanent spot where they can remain for many years as they resent being disturbed. Louisianas tend to "creep" and therefore, should be tended to every few years. All are heavy feeders and need to be fertilized regularly.

Some spuria are difficult to establish. Basically spuria need water, manure, and mulch to become established. Begin the planting by making sure the soil will allow for good drainage and is enriched. Then make a hole about two inches below the surface. Add fertilizer (14-14-14 is suggested) to this hole. Then put lots of water into this hole. Finally add the rhizome, cover with soil and mulch. Watering this new spuria rhizome from the top of the soil is not sufficient for establishing a clump. Mulch spuria the first year of growth. Saw dust is the best mulch to use. After the clump is established, the mulch may be removed during the blooming season.

Japanese Iris should be planted 2 to 3 inches deep in a depression which will help catch water. Then fill the depression with organic mulch such as peat moss. After planting or division it is essential to not let the JI dry out. Planting the iris in a depression is important because new JI roots grow in above the old roots.

Japanese Irises prefer a rich soil with ample organic matter, which helps in water retention as well as adding nutrients. The soil pH should be slightly acidic, ideally between 5.0 and 6.5. NEVER ADD LIME, as this will raise the pH and eventually kill the plants.

Japanese Irises are heavy feeders. A liberal application of a balanced fertilizer (10/10/10) in the spring and just before bloom is beneficial. Weak plants will be invigorated with a biweekly foliar and drench application of a water soluble acid fertilizer such as Miracid. The preparation of your iris bed with composted manure and peat will be a good start for your JI, but once planted do not fertilize transplants until they have become established. (The same is true for Siberian Irises)

Japanese iris need to be divided every three to four years when the new roots will be coming out right at the soil level. A clump that has formed a solid ring with a bare center needs to be divided. After the plants have been divided, trim the leaves to a height of four to six inches. Replant the divisions in a depression and it is essential to keep the new divisions wet.

At the time of division, the iris should be moved to a new location where Japanese iris have not grown before. Japanese iris in Japan are commonly grown in pots as it is easier to maintain the moisture level needed.

Simple Grace, Harris, 2019, JI — Jane Jordan

Royal Coat, Aiken, 2016, SPU — Jane Jordan

MBIS At Fall Chico Regional

About 100 iris enthusiasts gathered at the Hilton Double Tree Hotel in Chico, California, on Friday and Saturday, October 9–10, for the American Iris Society Fall Regional. The two-day event brought iris lovers together to enjoy an iris show, participate in an auction, and expand their knowledge through judges training.

A highlight of the regional was an informative judges training session presented by Bonnie Nichols, president of the American Iris Society. Her presentation focused on Novelty irises, exploring several fascinating types, including Space Age irises, Broken Color, Flatties, Doubles, and irises with variegated foliage. Participants had an opportunity to learn more about the distinctive characteristics of these unusual irises and what makes each type special.

The iris show offered attendees an opportunity to appreciate the beauty and diversity of these beloved garden flowers, while the auction added excitement and provided an opportunity for iris enthusiasts to collect more irises! Jane Jordan offered Louisiana and Japanese Iris for $5 each, to benefit the Beardless Iris Societies. Riley Probst and Jeff Bennett auctioned Louisiana, Spuria, and new introductions of tall bearded iris.

The Monterey Bay Iris Society was well represented at the regional, with many members making the trip to Chico. Those attending included Jo Chisholm, Lloyd Clark, Brenda Wood, Larissa Daniel, Sheryl McEwan, Jim Cummins, Mikey Lango, Carol Dahout, Jane Jordan, John Honnette, Carolyn Honnette, Bruce Harden, Riley Probst, Jeff Bennett, Sue Bezinique, and Diane Sampson.

Jeff Bennett received an award from the Historic Iris Society, and Riley Probst received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Bonnie Nichols. Events such as the American Iris Society Fall Regional provide valuable opportunities for iris enthusiasts to learn from experienced growers and judges, discover unusual iris varieties, share their enthusiasm, and strengthen friendships within the iris community.

For Monterey Bay Iris Society members, the regional was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the remarkable diversity of irises and bring home new knowledge and inspiration for the gardens and iris shows to come.

Diane Sampson

Memorandum of Agreement between the
City of Santa Cruz and
Monterey Bay Iris Society
Re: Park Adoption - Santa Cruz City Hall Campus

This Memorandum of Agreement is made and entered into on 9/27/2026 by the City of Santa Cruz hereinafter referred to as the "CITY" and Monterey Bay Iris Society hereinafter referred to as "PARK ADOPTER."

WHEREAS the CITY, through its Parks and Recreation Department, maintains the landscaped areas of the Santa Cruz City Hall Campus, including the established iris bed, hereinafter referred to as "LOCATION" and shown in Attachment A.

WHEREAS the CITY, through its Parks and Recreation Department, manages the Adopt a Park Program that allows community groups, schools, organizations, and individuals to partner with the CITY on the installation and/or maintenance of parks, park amenities, landscaping and facilities at city parks or other areas of responsibility by the Parks and Recreation Department.

WHEREAS PARK ADOPTER has submitted a work plan to participate in the Adopt a Park Program to support the care and maintenance of the iris bed and future volunteer projects within the landscaped areas of the LOCATION.

WHEREAS, CITY has reviewed the proposed adoption and determined that the LOCATION is eligible for and consistent with the Adopt a Park Program.

NOW, THEREFORE the parties do mutually agree as follows:

1. MUTUAL GOALS

a) Preservation and protection of LOCATION's landscaped areas, plantings, amenities, and grounds.

b) Collaboration between both parties who will work together to maintain the iris bed and support appropriate volunteer stewardship opportunities throughout the LOCATION.

c) Supporting a welcoming and well-maintained civic landscape for residents, visitors, employees, and the public to enjoy.

d) Maintaining safe volunteer activities, facilities, and operations.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE RELATIONSHIP

a) The CITY will designate a Parks and Recreation Department staff person to function as the CITY'S liaison to PARK ADOPTER for communication purposes.

b) PARK ADOPTER will designate a liaison to the CITY for communication purposes.

3. SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED BY CITY

Administered through the Parks and Recreation Department, the CITY will provide the following:

a) Formally recognize PARK ADOPTER through CityServe.

b) Place a sign recognizing the PARK ADOPTER at the designated location in recognition of the adoption. In all circumstances, the appearance, content, and location of signs is solely determined by the CITY. The types of recognition signs include the following:

   i. Standard sign: CITY provides a standard sign at no cost to the PARK ADOPTER. A standard sign displays the PARK ADOPTER's name along with program information.

   ii. Standard sign with logo: The logo of an organization can be added to a standard sign. The PARK ADOPTER must provide the logo. If PARK ADOPTER is actively using a new logo, PARK ADOPTER may be permitted to update a sign by providing the new logo to CITY.

c) CITY will replace or repair damaged or vandalized recognition signs as needed.

d) CITY will remove recognition signs from sites that are no longer active.

e) CITY staff will provide general direction on approved work activities, site priorities, and any special requirements for volunteer work within the LOCATION.

4. SERVICES TO BE FUNDED BY PARK ADOPTER

a) PARK ADOPTER shall sponsor the cost of volunteer materials, supplies, or improvements associated with its adopted area that are over and above allocated City funds designated for the LOCATION, unless otherwise agreed upon by the CITY in advance.

b) Any proposed purchase, installation, planting, or improvement must receive prior approval from the CITY before work is performed or materials are installed.

5. MODIFICATION

This MOA will be reviewed periodically to determine if modifications need to be made. The CITY may modify this MOA at any time and for any reason, subject to PARK ADOPTER's right to terminate this MOA as set forth in Paragraph 6.

6. TERM/TERMINATION

This MOA shall remain valid and binding on the parties for one (1) year from the date of execution unless terminated earlier as provided for herein, or unless extended by mutual agreement of CITY AND PARK ADOPTER. Any extension shall be confirmed in writing by both parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CITY and PARK ADOPTER reserve the right to terminate the agreement at any time, providing not less than thirty (30) days in advance, written notice.

By their signatures below, the parties herein acknowledge that they have read the terms of this MOA, understand the terms thereof and are fully agreed thereto, and are authorized to execute this MOA on their respective entity's behalf.

Monterey Bay Iris Society

By: Wayne Crabbs

Name: Wayne Crabbs

Title: Vice Pres.

Sherry Austin
Board Member

City of Santa Cruz

By: _____

Name: Tony Elliot

Title: Director

Tony Elliot
Director of Parks and Recreation
831.420.5270

Attachments:

A. Location - Santa Cruz City Hall Campus
B. Work Plan