

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

43RD YEAR NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2017

Officers 2017:

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Jeff Davis

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Kitty Loberg

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Diana Ford

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Rudy Ciuca

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Anna Marie Hermansen

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Directors thru 12/18:

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Photography

Marlene Horn

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Kitty Loberg

2017 Assistant Show Chairman

Jeff Davis

2017 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Alleah Haley

2017 Summer Rhizome Sale Chm.

Need volunteer

2017 Heirloom Expo Sales Chm.

Betty Ford

SPECIAL MEETING AT LBAGC ON MONDAY, August 14, 7:00 PM TO PLAN RHIZOME SALES TO THE PUBLIC.



Saturday, August 5, 10:00 AM – Picnic/Iris Auction-Raffle

Our annual picnic/iris auction/raffle will be at the C&L Vineyard of Rudy Ciuca and Joe Lawrence in Sonoma. Set up starts at 10 a.m.; we'll eat around noon. Bring a dish to pass with serving spoon, your table service

and napkins. SRIS will furnish Costco rotisserie chicken and Joe Lawrence, iced tea. Bring any 2015 and 2016 introductions you can donate to the auction, and 2013 and 2014 introductions or really good irises to donate to the raffle. Club irises will be available for bid, as well as the Society's allotment of this spring's Regional guest irises. Study the lists in this Newsletter and use your notes from the July 2017 program by Marlene Horn along with photos in the Iris Wiki (www.irises.org) to plan your bids and raffle wishes. Treasurer Kitty Loberg will record your winning bids and raffle ticket purchases so bring your checkbook or cash.

Location: 1595 Denmark Street, Sonoma (). Consider carpooling so all members can attend.

Directions:

From north Santa Rosa: Take Highway 12 to Sonoma. At T-intersection (stop light), turn left onto W. Napa Street. Drive through town past the plaza onto E. Napa Street and continue about a mile. Turn right onto 8th Street East. Proceed almost a mile and turn left onto Denmark Street. The driveway for 1595 is on the right just before the mailbox labelled "Ciuca-Lawrence".

From south Santa Rosa and Petaluma: Take Highway 101 to Highway 116 towards Sonoma. This is Lakeville Highway. Take Lakeville Highway eastbound just over 1 mile and turn left onto Frates Road. Continue onto Adobe Road, drive approx. 3 miles, veer left onto Stage Gulch Road to Sonoma. At stop light turn left onto Arnold Drive (Hwy. 116) and proceed just over 1 mile. Turn right onto Leveroni Road; cross Broadway onto Napa Road, cross 8th Street East, and turn left onto Denmark Street. 1595 Denmark is about ½ mile on the left just past mailbox labelled "Ciuca-Lawrence".

From Marin County: Take Highway 101 northbound onto Highway 37 eastbound. Drive approx. 7 ½ miles on 37; turn left onto Highway 121 at Infineon Raceway. Highway 121 is Arnold Drive. Take Arnold Drive approximately 5 miles and turn right onto Leveroni Road; at Broadway go straight (becomes Napa Road), cross 8th Street East, and turn left onto Denmark Street. 1595 Denmark is about ½ mile on the left just past mailbox labelled "Ciuca-Lawrence".

Gardening Tips for August

Anna Cadd

1. Now is the busiest time of year in our gardens. Time to dig irises, clean and prepare them for sales or exchanges; weed; amend the soil and plant new purchases. It seems that there is not enough time in 24 hours. Or maybe we are just getting older, more tired, a little more in pain? Lucky are those who have family members to help; but help is not always available, and the younger generation doesn't seem to like hard physical work. I find myself dreaming of a big, new iris garden, but then reality kicks in - I can barely roll from bed onto swollen ankles and to the closest painkiller shelf. We may have to content ourselves visiting others' gardens and enjoying them as much as we can.
2. Complaints aside, we still have fun; because irises are not just a brief bloom season but include meetings with iris friends, email contacts, reading iris books and going to meetings and conventions. If you haven't gone to an AIS National Convention, go to the one in 2018! It will be in New Orleans and promises to be the best ever! There will be side tours to see wild irises in nature, meetings of all iris Sections' enthusiasts and wonderful Cajun food! I don't know a lot about life in Louisiana, but it will be exciting to learn about it. And it can't be very expensive – about \$220.00 registration fee and advance-purchase round trip airfare is less than \$500.00. Okay, the hotel will tip the scale; but rooms can be shared to reduce the cost. So start to plan ahead! Region 14 member, Virginia Messick attended 50 National Conventions. The record was broken this year by 92-year-old Virginia Keyser – it was her 52nd Convention!
3. I should describe how to dig and separate irises, but I've done it so many times that I'm not up to writing it again. Just an important note: write the name of iris with a permanent marker. A regular Sharpie® is okay, but I discovered that writing on TBs is much easier with big markers with chiseled tips. Also big Marks-A-Lot® is a good choice; they don't "plug" so easily. Write only on the middle leaf and not over two leaves! Preferably PRINT, as names of new irises are hard to decipher without registration books. Store the irises loose in paper bags or in baskets in shade.

From the President's Desk

Do you ever get the feeling life seems to spin faster as we get older? I just blinked my eyes and another month roared by. I thought after I retired I would have plenty of time to get my garden looking like I planned it ten years ago. Then I started working on my house, thinking I could get those projects done that I planned 20 years ago. Then I got a part time job, thinking I just need a little extra money to complete some of my garden and home projects. Wow, that was over a year ago. I'm just getting started. Where did all that time go?

Jeff Davis

This Month

Saturday August 5 – Potluck Picnic, Iris Auction and Raffle, C & L Vineyard, home of Rudy Ciuca and Joe Lawrence, 1595 Denmark St., Sonoma.

Monday August 14, 7:00 PM – Meeting to plan Rhizome Sale and Heirloom Expo Sale.

Saturday August 26, 9-3 – Rhizome Sale, LBAGC.

2017 Iris Events and Important SRIS Dates

Tuesday thru Thursday, September 5-7 – 7th Annual Heirloom Expo, Sonoma Co. Fairgrounds. SRIS will have a booth.

Monday, September 11 – Anna Cadd, "Iris Culture". Free seminar for new members.

Monday, October 9 – Speaker and Topic TBA.

Friday and Saturday October 27 and 28 – Region 14 Fall Meeting "Going Beardless" Ramada Plaza Hotel, 685 Manzanita Ct., Chico, CA. Guest Speaker Chad Harris, Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm, Washougal, WA. Includes reblooming iris show. Registration \$70 until October 10.

Saturday November 4, 12-5 PM – Holiday Potluck/Come Dressed as an Iris Costume Party, LBAGC.



2017 Board Meetings - Board Members and Officers, please mark your calendars:

Monday, July 10, 6:00 PM
Monday, September 11, 6:00 PM
Monday, November 13, 6:00 PM
Monday, December 11, 6:00 PM

2017 Plant Sale Dates

Saturday & Sunday, August 19 & 20, 10-5 - Iris Classes at 10 and 2 & Open Gardens at **Russian River Rose Company**, 1685 Magnolia Dr., Healdsburg 707-433-7455. Roses & irises for sale; free iris raffle each hour. \$2.00 donation.

Occidental Arts and Ecology Center Nursery, 15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental.

Saturday & Sunday, August 12-13, 19-20 – 10 – 5, Fall Plant Sale

<https://oaec.org/events/plant-sales> .

Nursery open Saturdays & Sundays thru October, 10 – 5 (closed April 14-15) – vegetables, flowers, herbs, drought tolerant plants, habitat and pollinator plants.

Willowside School, 5299 Hall Rd., Santa Rosa (corner of Willowside and Hall Rds.)

Saturdays August 19, Sept. 9, Sept. 30, October 21, November 11 – 9 AM – 2 PM. Low water & drought tolerant perennials, natives: \$4/ 1 gallon pot. Japanese maples 3-5' tall: \$25 - \$45/tree. No veggies. Call 707-569-4724 with questions.

Sonoma Co. Jail Plant Nursery & Teaching Garden, 2254 Ordinance Rd., Santa Rosa.

Saturdays September 9 & October 7 – 9 AM – Noon. Checks or cash only. Native & drought tolerant shrubs, perennials, succulents, fruit & ornamental trees, veggies. Master Gardeners on site to help you select plants and answer questions. Info and plant list at www.scoe/jailindustries or call Rick Stern 707-525-8310 or email jailind@mcn.org .

Milo Baker Chapter, California Native Plant Society, Santa Rosa Vet's Memorial Building, 1351 Baker, Ave., Santa Rosa. **Saturday, October 13 – 9 AM – 1 PM.** Native shrubs, perennials, bulbs, seeds. www.milobaker.cnps.org **Graton Community Club**, 8996 Graton Rd., Graton at the corner of Graton Rd. & Edison St.

Fall flower show Friday October 13 and Saturday October 14 – features lunch including homemade dessert for \$10 11-2 both days. Handcrafted quilts and tea towels; raffle, live music. 707-829-5314 / www.gratoncommunity.club.org .

Windsor Garden Club, Windsor Town Green @ McClellan & Market St., Windsor. **Sunday, October 22 – 10 AM – 1 PM** (succulent- topped pumpkin sale).

Club Iris Dig

Anna Cadd, Jean Sharp, Kitty Loberg

SRIS dug its door prize and auction irises grown at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center on Thursday, July 27. On Friday, July 28 President Jeff Davis emailed members: "Thank you all for your help at the dig yesterday. You made it easy to get everything done smooth and all the raffle bags done in record time. Teamwork. Good job. Well done. See you at the picnic. Jeff".

SRIS members, who dug irises, trimmed, labelled, and divided them into the bags for door prizes, replanting, auction and raffles were: Jim Begley, Cheryl Bryan, Anna Cadd, Rudy Ciuca, Jeff Davis, Diana Ford, Don Ford, Anna Marie Hermansen, Marlene Horn, Joe Lawrence, Kitty Loberg, Delores McKey, Linnea Polo and Jean Sharp. If you didn't participate, you missed great fun, friendship, and great doughnuts! Anna

The dig went well Jim was there first digging, then Don and Diana (he looks great, by the way) took over, and Cheryl Bryan wielded her spade. Jim and I worked on separating and trimming – at warp speed I might add – but could hardly keep up with the labelers. Anyway, our part of the process was done by 9:30. The member and plant-back rhizomes part took until 11:30. Not as streamlined as when

Betty Ford organized it, but fine. I stayed to fertilize the two rows of beardless with Miracid® with the hose-end sprayer – definitely preferred method over bucket application. All in all, the rhizomes looked good, some wetter than others – a couple had rot – Marlene Horn said too much water – yes, maybe, but they were bone dry a month ago when we weeded. They certainly looked better than the ones Jeff picked up from the Regional. We got ~ 16 2016's and the rest 2015's – about 100. Jean

Members met at the Display garden on Thursday to dig, mark, and sort irises. Some had nice increases, some had few increases. Members who had been recipients of door prize rhizomes, and the show trophy winners, all had rhizomes set aside for them in bags. Remaining 2016 varieties had one reserved for replanting at the Center. The remaining 2016 and 2015 varieties are slated to go to our Auction on August 5th. Additionally, there will be many rhizomes that came to SRIS from the Region 14 Spring Regional as well. This is a huge opportunity to members to get some of the best newer irises!

All of those bagged irises for members will be brought to the Auction on August 5th for members to pick up. Please come to the picnic and auction, get your iris(es), enjoy our picnic, and look through all the irises for any additional you'd like to add to your gardens, all at terrific prices lower than you'll find anywhere else..... Kitty

From the Editor – **Many thanks** for contributions to this issue: **Anna Cadd, Rudy Ciuca, Jeff Davis, Diana Ford, Joe Lawrence; Kitty Loberg, Mikey Lango** of Clara B. Rees IS, **Jean Sharp,** and **Susan Wiseman.** *Alleah*

Iris and Iridaceae Plants in Hawaii

Anna Cadd

I spent one week in mid-July on the island of Maui in Hawaii with my sister, brother-in-law and a friend. It was a total blast; as we rented a car and drove all over the island, enjoying the beautiful views, flowers and birds in abundance and taking over 2000 photos *each!* We had, in total, eight leis made from orchids, which we left with tears at the resort. Of course I was interested in irises and plants from the family *Iridaceae* and was trying to spot them. Northern California, Nevada and Hawaii belong to AIS Region 14. I heard about someone living on the Big Island who had an iris garden, but I wasn't able to find this person. So I searched the internet intensively to find iris enthusiasts who are trying to explain why tall bearded iris can't be grown successfully in Hawaii. Conventional wisdom says that bearded iris won't bloom in Hawaii, because it doesn't get cold enough during the winter.

Schreiners Iris Garden posts this disclaimer online: "Bearded Iris and Beardless Iris both do well in temperate climates. Irises require a period of winter dormancy to ensure good bloom in the spring. For this reason we do not recommend planting Iris in southern states, such as Hawaii, Florida and in Puerto Rico. We will not ship irises to these states."<https://www.schreinersgardens.com/residents-of-hawaii-florida-and-puerto-rico>).

So, back to Hawaii. Tall bearded irises need chill hours; and unlike tulips, it doesn't work to dig them up in the fall and refrigerate them because they often won't don't bloom until the second year after planting. I think bearded irises might prosper at higher elevations but not in Honolulu or Maui. I'm wondering if they might grow and bloom in Volcano in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, since there is snow and it is cooler.

Some people are die-hard iris enthusiasts. They dream about putting in solar electric panels, building a cold frame and keeping irises in pots, and then refrigerate them in the cold-frame tent every winter, for however many days irises need chill hours. That could work, but isn't it easier to move to California? Probably there is also something about day length to get bearded irises to flower. At an elevation of 1000 feet some old purple irises were reported to bloom together with Japanese irises. But they were old varieties.

Still, I have reason to be optimistic about irises in Hawaii. The hope is in rebloomers. It seems that some of them do not need to go through a cool cycle to rebloom. Some people refer to these as continuous blooming. *Brother Carl, Immortality, Rosalie Figge, Anxious, Again and Again, Autumn Encore* and several others seem to bloom whenever the rhizome gets to a certain size. So maybe planting reblooming irises will be the answer for Hawaii? No one knows for sure and until I move there as a heavy duty iris lover and start to experiment with potting plants, different elevations and rebloomers – we will never know for sure what is the problem with growing irises in Hawaii! Look for the list of rebloomers at <http://www.irisregion4.com/rebloom.htm> .

Actually that is not completely true. Not all irises will grow in Hawaii, but there are actually quite a few that like the tropics. Hawaii's growing zones, even at higher altitudes, are still primarily 10-12 or 13, depending on which source you go by.

Some of the Irises are water loving (wetland, marsh, ponds) like *Iris ensata variegata, Iris versicolor* and Louisiana irises. Others like moisture but don't need wet ground all the time like Japanese irises (*Iris ensata*). They can be accommodated in gardens. There are also iris-like plants which belong to family Iridaceae. Interestingly, almost all Iridaceae found in Hawaii are originally from different parts of the world, mostly from South Africa. And so more interesting is that almost all of them are growing in the SRIS display garden, thanks to Cheryl Bryan. Why did I even go to Hawaii, if I can see them for free at the LBAGC in Santa Rosa?

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/big-island/1687806-tropical-fruit-inspection-live-garden-2.html#ixzz4oQUqgbXJ>

Sign seen in passing: Life is a journey. Enjoy the ride.

Iridaceae species growing in Hawaii, a refresher course for Iridaceae
Anna Cadd

Belamcanda chinensis - Iris domestica (Hiogi, blackberry-lily, leopard flower) - *Iris domestica*, commonly known as leopard lily, blackberry lily, and leopard flower, is an ornamental plant in the Iridaceae family.

Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora is a garden hybrid of *C. aurea* and *C. pottsii*, first bred 1880 in France by Victor Lemoine. This hybrid is known to gardeners as "Montbretia."

Dietes bicolor (Iris) - a clump-forming rhizomatous perennial plant with long sword-like pale-green leaves, growing from multiple fans at the base of the clump.

Dietes grandiflora (Large wild iris) is a rhizomatous perennial plant with long, rigid, sword-like green leaves belonging to the Iridaceae family. Large Wild Iris is a larger plant, which can be distinguished by larger flowers which have dark spots at the base of the outer tepals, and last for three days.

Dietes iridioides (African iris, fortnight lily, Morea iris) - Fortnight lily (often called African iris in Florida), was formerly classified in the genus *Moraea*, and is still called Morea iris by some gardeners. *D. iridioides* has white flowers marked with yellow and violet, with six free tepals that are not joined into a tube at their bases. These flowers last only one day.

Freesia laxa (False freesia) is a small cormous flowering plant from the eastern + southern Africa from Kenya to northeastern South Africa. It is grown in gardens as an ornamental plant

Freesia sp. (Freesia) - a genus of herbaceous perennial flowering plants, first described as a genus in 1866 and named after German botanist and doctor Friedrich Freese It is native to the eastern side of southern Africa, from Kenya south to South Africa.

***Freesia x hybrida* (Common freesia, florist's freesia)** - The plants commonly known as "freesias", with fragrant funnel-shaped flowers, are cultivated hybrids of a number of *Freesia* species. Some other species are also grown as ornamental plants.

***Gladiolus dalenii* (Gladiolus)** is one of the most widely distributed species of gladiolus, ranging from eastern South Africa and Madagascar throughout tropical Africa and into western Arabia.

***Gladiolus sp.* (Gladiolus)** - a genus of perennial cormous flowering plants in the iris family. It is sometimes called the "sword lily", but is usually called by its generic name. The genus occurs in Asia, Mediterranean Europe, South Africa, and tropical Africa.

***Iris x hollandica* (Dutch iris)** - *Iris x hollandica*, commonly known as the Dutch iris, is a hybrid iris developed from species native to Spain and North Africa. Two varieties of *Iris xiphium* from Spain and from France were crossed with *Iris tingitana*.

***Neomarica caerulea* (Walking iris, twelve apostles)** - *Neomarica* (walking iris, apostle's iris or apostle plant – names also used for the related genus *Trimezia*) is a genus of plants in family Iridaceae, first described in 1928. It is native to Mexico, Central and South America, and Trinidad and Tobago

***Neomarica gracilis* (Walking iris, apostle plant)** - The flowers emerge from what appears to be just another leaf, but is really a flower stalk structured to look like the other leaves. After pollination, the new plantlet appears where the flower emerged and the stalk continues to grow longer. The weight of the growing plantlet causes the stalk to bend toward the ground, allowing the new plantlet to root away from its parent. This is how it obtained the common name of "Walking Iris". The other common name "Apostle Plant" comes from the belief that the plant will not flower until the individual has at least 12 leaves, the number of Jesus' apostles.

***Neomarica longifolia* (Yellow walking iris)** - Yellow iris blooms with brown markings are borne on tall stems practically all year, where protected from frost. Upright sword-like foliage of medium green grows to 30". Produces young plants on spent bloom stems and at the ends of mature foliage.

***Neomarica northiana* (Walking iris)** - Similar to *Neomarica gracilis*.

***Sisyrinchium acre* (Mauu laili, mauu houla ili)**

Mau'u lā'ili flowers in early spring. The small flowers appear at the end of tall stems in clusters and are short-lived

***Sisyrinchium exile* (Sisyrinchium)** - synonym of *Sisyrinchium rosulatum*. Herbaceous, annual or short-lived perennial, yellowish green to medium or dark olive green when dry.

***Trimezia martinicensis* (Martinique trimezia)** - a species of bulbous plant in the family Iridaceae. Originally from South America and the West Indies, it is now widely naturalized throughout the tropics. Common names include Martinique trimezia, yellow walking iris and forenoon yellow flag.

***Watsonia borbonica* (Watsonia)** - the Cape bugle-lily, is a species of plant in the family Iridaceae that is native to South Africa. This magnificent bulbous plant with tall spikes of rose-pink, trumpet-shaped flowers makes a picturesque display, flowering for up to 4 or 5 weeks - a beautiful garden subject that needs little maintenance.

***Watsonia meriana* var. *bulbillifera* (Bulbil watsonia)** - Native to southern Africa (i.e. western Cape Province in South Africa). An upright and long-lived herb, usually growing 3-6 feet tall, but occasionally reaching up to 8 feet in height. This plant grows each year from underground "bulbs" (corms), and then dies back after flowering.

Partially based on:

<http://www.starrenvironmental.com/images/family/?q=Iridaceae> and various other websites

Hibiscus, the State Flower of Hawaii

Hawaiian hibiscus (*Hibiscus brackenridgei*) is the state flower of Hawaii. Hawaiian hibiscus is a moderately popular ornamental flower there. Hawaiian hibiscus shrubs bear blooms almost every day, but the blossoms last only for a day even when on the bush.



Rounding Up Herbicides – Glyphosate Chemical Listed as Carcinogen

Anna Cadd

On July 19, 2017 the Santa Rosa Press Democrat published a front-page article about the use of the popular weed killer Roundup and its main ingredient, glyphosate. Effective July 7, 2017 glyphosate is listed as "known to the State of California to cause cancer". This decision is over the objection of its manufacturer, Monsanto, which contends it is safe when used appropriately. Several cities in California are now considering use of different alternatives to Roundup. These herbicides are, unfortunately, not as effective and cost prohibitive. Several cities banned Roundup completely.

Scrutiny of glyphosate-based herbicides (there were about 750 of them as of 2010 according to Wikipedia) has been on the rise for years, but it spiked with Californian's decision to list it as a cancer-causing agent under the state's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, better known as Proposition 65. There are confusing reports about the cancer scare from different world agencies, including World Health Organization's International Agency for Cancer Research and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency amongst others.

One of the most vocal organizations opposing Monsanto and its products is "Food Democracy Now!" It is a grassroots movement and non-governmental organization based in Iowa, whose stated aim is to build a sustainable food system that protects our natural environment, sustains farmers and nourishes families. "Food Democracy Now!" members organize both through online campaigns and in person actions across the country. The movement was founded in 2007 by Dave Murphy, a native Iowan, and Lisa Stokke.

Below is an excerpt from their report:

"In our new groundbreaking report, *Glyphosate: Unsafe on Any Plate*, we found alarming levels of glyphosate in common foods such as Cheerios, Doritos, Stacy's Pita Chips, Oreos and more -- *the same glyphosate that's the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup* — the most heavily used weed killer in food and agricultural production in human history.

"The report shows that glyphosate can lead to potentially devastating health effects such as an increased risk for cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Parkinson's, leaky gut, irritable bowel syndrome, ADD, serious reproductive and neurological problems and kidney and liver diseases. *Alarmingly, previous independent research has found that people who are already chronically ill showed significantly higher glyphosate residue in their urine than healthy people.*

"These alarming glyphosate residues in popular American foods have given us grounds to demand a federal investigation from the FDA into the likely harmful effects of glyphosate as well as demanding that they investigate the relationships between the regulators and the regulated corporations like

Monsanto, DuPont and Dow Chemical, which too often minimize or cover up the harm to the public that are being exposed to an increasing number of toxic chemicals in our food.

“Chemicals are destroying our environment and finding their way onto our plates because Big Food and companies like Monsanto are the ones paying for the studies that claim they’re safe. This is why the work we do is so critical”.

I think that a decision about use of glyphosate-based herbicides in our gardens needs to be made on the personal level. But it is good to be educated about both sides of the issue.

You can read a copy of the quoted report "Glyphosate: Unsafe on Any Plate" at <https://www.organicconsumers.org/news/glyphosate-unsafe-any-plate> .

LOL

Susan Wiseman

LOL is a term generally understood to mean "laugh out loud". Ironically if you shorten "little old lady", it becomes LOL also. I have several LOL friends who make me LOL on a regular basis.

I've spent a lot of time with my 70-year-old neighbor Connie and my Kansas iris-mentor's widow Delois this season and often it reminds me of living in California - running errands, doing chores, and working in the garden at my mom Alleah Haley's. ... I thought I'd share a gem from working at Delois Johnson's today.

I was weeding one of LOL's rose beds and she came out to see how things were coming along. She had some concerns about her sprinklers and drip system, so I took a break so she could point out her areas of concern and we could identify broken and worn out parts I could replace when my other project was complete. Along the way I was snapping off spent rose blooms with my fingers (as I'm known to do).

LOL – “You do that very differently than I do” (meaning grooming roses).

Me – ‘I'm sure you take it down to a "five-leaf" facing outward with pruners.’

LOL – “That's right.”

Me – “My mother used to get after me for pulling the heads off hers, but the roses continued to produce beautiful flowers and I'll come back with my pruners to clean them up.”

LOL – “They have been beautiful this year. And I guess we wouldn't be talking about it if I were taking care of them. Just keep doing what you're doing.”



Keeping In Touch & Change to Roster

Member **Debby Hertz** lives in Oregon. Debby is healing from back surgery but she and husband Art hope to attend our August picnic/auction. **Debby** has a new email address: dlhertz@gmail.com.

Happy Birthday August Babies

Jean Sharp 8/3

Gilda De Niro 8/5

Alleah Haley 8/28

August Wedding Anniversaries

Lynn and Rick Williams 8/2

Barb and Chris Baruth 8/5

Barbara and Ross BeVier 8/26

February through October of each year meetings of the Santa Rosa Iris Society are held on the second Monday of each month at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa, California. The Program starts at 7:00 p.m. and the business meeting follows after the break. Come early and visit. The doors open about 6:00 p.m. for set up and coffee making. The deadline for all submissions for the **September 2017** issue of this Newsletter is **August 20, 2017**. E-mail copy to: alleah.haley@gmail.com.

Iris Donations Lists Needed

Anna Marie Hermansen and Alleah Haley will be making the photo labels for the paper barrel bags that are used to sell irises from at the Society's summer rhizome sales. This takes time – it takes hours of careful computer work to cut and paste iris descriptions and select and size the photos from the Iris Wiki. If you plan to donate rhizomes to the rhizome sale at the Center on Saturday, August 26 or to the rhizome sale at the Heirloom Expo at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds September 5-7, please make a list of the varieties you'll be digging. Send the list to Anna Marie at amrmah@ix.netcom.com and Alleah at alleah.haley@gmail.com as soon as you can. If you don't have email, mail it. Their addresses are on the membership list included in the June 2017 SRIS Newsletter. If you "think" you might have enough increase to donate but aren't sure, include it on your list anyway. They can't make the labels at the last minute. Your list should include: variety name, hybridizer, year of introduction, and type of iris (TB, SDB, etc.).

If you're donating 2015 or 2016 introductions to the SRIS members-only auction to be held on Saturday, August 5 at C&L Vineyard in Sonoma, please send the names of those varieties to Kitty Loberg at iris.loberg@comcast.net. She needs a list to record bids at the auction.

Irises Available at the August 5 SRIS Auction

Irises donated by a member are marked "memb". Those from the SRIS Display Garden are coded "club".

| Year | Variety | Hybridizer | Source |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 2015 | A Grape Fit | Schreiner | club |
| 2016 | All by Design | Ghio | club |
| 2015 | Ancient Airs | Schreiner | club |
| 2016 | Beautiful People | Ghio | club |
| 2015 | Belle Fille | Smith, Marky | club |
| 2016 | Black Cherry Sorbet | Harris MTB | club |
| 2016 | Black Lipstick | Keppel | club |
| 2016 | Blind Ambition | Keppel | club |
| 2016 | Blissful | Black, P SDB | club |
| 2016 | Blushing Grapes | Miller, L | club |
| 2016 | Bold Awakening | Tasco AB | club |
| 2015 | Bold Pattern | Sutton, M | club |
| 2016 | Brazen Gold | Black, P IB | club |
| 2016 | Breathtaking | Black, P. SDB | club |
| 2015 | Bud to Blossom | Lauer | club |
| 2016 | But Darling | Schreiner | club |
| 2015 | Cameo Keepsake | Miller, L SDB | club |
| 2016 | Canadian Brass | Black, P | club |
| 2016 | Candy Basket | Harris MTB | club |
| 2015 | Canine Keepsake | unknown | memb |
| 2015 | Century Bound | Schreiner | club |
| Year | Variety | Hybridizer | Source |
| 2016 | Coconut Snow | Painter, J | club |
| 2015 | Cozy Cotton | Sutton, M | club |
| 2016 | Cybergrape | Schreiner | club |
| 2015 | Down to the Wire | Ghio | club |
| 2016 | Enraptured | Schreiner | memb |
| 2015 | Exit Strategy | Filardi, B | club |
| 2015 | Fire Danger | Keppel | memb |
| 2015 | Flamboyant Peach | Painter, J | club |
| 2016 | Flip | Schreiner | memb |
| 2015 | Free as the Wind | Tasco AB | club |

| | | | |
|------|----------------------|------------------|------|
| 2015 | Free Will | Lauer | club |
| 2015 | Get Back | Lauer | club |
| 2015 | Get Back | Lauer | memb |
| 2016 | Ghirardelli Square | Keppel | club |
| 2016 | Give it Away | Lauer | club |
| 2016 | Glow Plug | Sutton, B | memb |
| 2015 | Gold Reward | Aitken SDB | club |
| 2016 | Got The Picture | Ghio | club |
| 2015 | Great Escape | Johnson, T IB | club |
| 2015 | Havitur Way | Annand SDB | club |
| 2014 | Heaven's Door | Annand | club |
| 2015 | High Desert | Keppel | club |
| 2016 | Idle Rich | Keppel | club |
| 2016 | Infidel | Smith, Marky | club |
| 2016 | Irresistible Charm | Tasco | club |
| 2016 | It's Our Time | Lauer | memb |
| 2016 | Jupiter's Rings | Black | memb |
| 2015 | Just A Touch | Sutton, M | club |
| 2016 | Know It All | Black | memb |
| 2015 | Lavender Lemon Cake | | |
| | | Sutton, M | club |
| 2015 | Lavender Lemon Cake | | |
| | | Sutton, M | memb |
| 2015 | Lemon Jade | Painter, J | club |
| 2015 | Little Love Song | Johnson, T SDB | club |
| 2016 | Luminaire | Aitken SDB | club |
| 2015 | Mafic Mirror | Ghio | memb |
| 2016 | Menehuene | Smith, Marky SDB | club |
| 2016 | Middle Ground | Sutton, G BB | club |
| 2016 | Mystic Image | Tasco | club |
| 2015 | Pattern Play | Sutton, M | memb |
| 2015 | Pure Majestic | Annand | club |
| 2016 | Purple Panache | Schreiner | club |
| 2015 | Queen for a Day | Filardi, B | club |
| 2015 | Rainbow Sunset | Johnson, T | club |
| 2016 | Raspberry Lemonade | Sutton, M | club |
| 2016 | Rings True | Schreiner | club |
| 2015 | Ruby Red Dress | Painter, L | club |
| 2015 | Shine On Me Sunshine | | |
| | | Johnson, T | club |
| 2016 | Sicilian Orange | Sutton, M BB | club |
| 2015 | Soft Curves | Johnson, T | memb |
| 2016 | Spice Rack | Mego | club |
| 2015 | Splendid Spring | Painter, L | memb |
| 2015 | Sweet Child of Mine | Lauer | memb |
| 2016 | Swivel Hips | Johnson, T | club |
| 2016 | Syncopated Rhythm | Markham, S MTB | club |
| 2015 | Tasty | Black, P SDB | club |
| 2015 | Tickle My Fancy | Black, P | club |
| 2015 | Tickle My Fancy | Black, P | memb |
| 2015 | Venus Blush | Black, P BB | club |
| 2015 | Voulez-Vous | Johnson, T flat | club |
| 2015 | Watercolor Print | Johnson, T | club |
| 2015 | Western Edge | Mego, A | memb |
| 2015 | What a Beauty | Ghio | club |

Below are the irises we received from Region 14 that are available for the sale/auction on August 5th along with our club irises. If there is no number in the Number (**No.**) column, the number available is presumed to be 1.

| No. | Variety | Hybridizer | Year |
|-----|---------------------|------------|------|
| | Absolute Crush | Schreiner | 2015 |
| | Angie Ringtone | Price | 2016 |
| | Araruna | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Baby Boomer | Burseen | 2015 |
| 2 | Barbaro | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Bet the Farm | Schreiner | 2015 |
| 2 | Black Cherry Sorbet | Harris MTB | 2016 |

| | | | |
|------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 2 | Black Lipstick | Keppel | 2016 |
| | Blaze Valley | Van Hook | 2015 |
| | Blue for John | Price | 2016 |
| 2 | Bob's Pride | Annand | 2015 |
| | Bold Pattern | Sutton, M | 2015 |
| 2 | Broken Border | Tyson BB | 2016 |
| | Bubbling Mirth | Filardi | 2015 |
| 2 | Bud to Blossom | Lauer | 2015 |
| 2 | Candy Basket | Harris MTB | 2016 |
| 3 | Caramel 'n Chocolate | Painter, J | 2015 |
| | Celtic Tartan | Keppel | 2015 |
| | Cozy Cotton | Sutton, M | 2015 |
| | Dadgumit | Annand | 2015 |
| 3 | Dare to Return | Price | 2016 |
| | Decked Out | Burseen | 2015 |
| 3 | Deep Secret | Lauer IB | 2015 |
| | Exit Strategy | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Fire Danger | Keppel | 2015 |
| 3 | Flash Mob | Keppel | 2016 |
| | For Veronica | Schreiner | 2015 |
| | Foreign Agent | Keppel | 2016 |
| 2 | Free Will | Lauer | 2016 |
| | Front of the Line | Ghio | 2016 |
| | Gentle Soul | Ghio | 2015 |
| 2 | Get Back | Lauer | 2015 |
| | Ghirardelli Square | Keppel | 2016 |
| | Give it Away | Lauer | 2016 |
| | Gossett's Gamble | Deaton | 2015 |
| 2 | High Desert | Keppel | 2015 |
| | It's Our Time | Lauer | 2016 |
| | Liege Lord | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Lilacs for Linda | Price | 2016 |
| 2 | Litany of Magic | Annand | 2015 |
| 2 | Magic Warrior | Annand | 2015 |
| 2 | Marrying Kind | Keppel | 2015 |
| 2 | Not Broke this Time | Tyson | 2015 |
| | Path to Heaven | Ghio | 2016 |
| | Pink for Feye | Price | 2015 |
| | Pink Perception | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Pure Magestic | Annand | 2015 |
| | Quackery | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Quintessa | Painter, J | 2015 |
| 2 | Reenie | Annand | 2015 |
| | Ribbons and Lace | Bauer, Cynthia | 2015 |
| | Ruby Red Dress | Painter, L | 2015 |
| | So Unusual | Filardi | 2014 |
| | Splendid Spring | Painter, L. | 2015 |
| | Star Turn | Ghio | 2014 |
| | Sugar Dumpling | Filardi | 2015 |
| 2 | Swedish Lullaby | Keppel | 2015 |
| | Sweet Child of Mine | Lauer | 2015 |
| | Tiff | Lauer | 2014 |
| | Toad | Price | 2015 |
| No. | Variety | Hybridizer | Year |
| | Turtle | Price | 2015 |
| | User Friendly | Burseen | 2015 |
| 2 | Vibrato | Painter, L. | 2015 |
| 3 | Voyager | Filardi | 2015 |
| | Waves of Joy | Tasco | 2015 |

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Board Meeting, July 10, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

The minutes for the May Board Meeting were approved.

There was a motion to nominate Kitty Loberg to be Treasurer for the remainder of 2017.

The bank account has been changed over so that more than one person can take care of club business.

Jeff Davis read the email for the affiliate dues for 2017. There was a discussion and a determination was made that Jeff would ask Joe what was normally paid to AIS. This is different from the amount paid to the Luther Burbank Center.

Tuesday July 19th the regional iris will be dug. Jeff will go down and meet someone to pick up our share.

It was noted that iris were not ordered yet this year. A committee was formed of Diana Ford, Jean Sharp, Jim Begley and Kitty Loberg to do this work. They agreed to meet at Jim's house on Thursday afternoon. Bill Tatham also joined the group.

Kitty agreed to order Beardless iris again this year.

It was agreed to dig the Club iris on July 27th at 8:00am. The picnic/auction is on August 5.

Alleah will be gone for the dig but she will make sure there are markers and rags for marking iris.

Betty Ford will be gone for this dig so Linnea and Kitty will work on setting up door prize bags.

A request was made to hurry and send out a list of iris you plan to dig and donate to the rhizome sale.

Please mark your iris with type (TB), name, year of introduction and RE if it's a rebloomer and SA if it's a space age.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:03.

Marlene Horn gave a slideshow presentation of all the club iris available at the auction this year. Marlene works very hard pulling this all together and getting over to the garden to take shots as the iris open. Then if she can't catch them blooming she gathers shots from the internet in an attempt to get a clear and realistic picture of their color and form. Often the pictures in catalogues undergo a certain amount of artful exaggeration. This work is done so that we may see what they actually look like.

The raffle came right after the presentation.

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Members' Meeting, July 10, 2017

The general business meeting was called to order at 9:00 p.m.

Kitty was approved as Treasurer for the rest of 2017. She gave a treasurer's report.

The dig for Thursday July 27th at 8:00 a.m. was announced.

There was a big thank you to Jean, Jim and Jeff for the cleaning, organizing, and rebuilding done inside the shed.

August 5th is the Picnic/Auction at Joe and Rudy's house. We will eat at noon. All are encouraged to come earlier. Set up is at 10:00 a.m. Bring a potluck item to share with all, the chicken will be provided and Joe will make up some iced tea. Be sure to bring your own plates, napkins and silverware.

There will be an August meeting on the 14th at 7:00 p.m. to plan the rhizome sale and Heirloom Expo.

The rhizome sale will be at the clubhouse August 26th. Please send a list of iris you will be bringing so that pictures and descriptions may be printed out for the bags. The Heirloom Expo will be September 5 – 7.

Meeting adjourned.

Diana Ford, Secretary

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Door Prize Winners for July

Black Cherry Sorbet – Steve Albert

Breathtaking – Barb Baruth

Cozy Cotton – Alexa Pagonas

Cybergrape – Cheryl Bryan

Front of the Line – Marlene Freetly

Get Back – Marlene Horn

Havitur Way – Dawn Wright

High Desert – Delores McKey

Irresistible Charm – Alice Kemper
Mango Meltdown – Darlene Anderson
Mystic Image – Betty Ford
Outer Rings – Jim Begley
Over Drinks – Path to Heaven
Path to Heaven – Diana Ford
Pure Majestic – Jeff Davis
Puzzled – Krystle Coffman
Swivel Hips – Bill Tatham
Table for Two – Anna Marie Hermansen
Under My Spell – Bob Wright
Venus Blush – Marlene Horn
Waves of Joy – Linnea Polo
Winter's Smile – Alleah Haley

2017 Fall Regional Speaker – Chad Harris

Chad Harris of Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm in Washougal, Washington has been growing many different species of irises at his magnificent estate along the Columbia River for over 35 years. He is respected in the iris world as a Master Judge with the American Iris Society and for his work with *Iris ensata* of which several of his introductions hold national awards. He also enjoys working with the Asian water species *Iris laevigata*. Currently he and a handful of hybridizers worldwide are using *Iris ensata* to create a new iris hybrid "Pseudata" that is longer blooming and more tolerant of cultural needs.

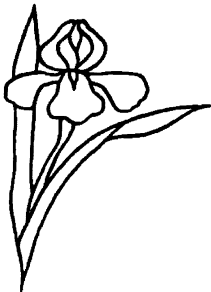
SRIS members were very fortunate to have Chad give our Society the program "Beyond the Bloom" at our August, 2015 meeting. His talk was an introduction to the many different types of irises including the water-loving irises of Asia and their use in the garden. Do come to this fall's Regional meeting at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Chico to hear more from this renowned iris hybridizer, judge, and landscape wizard. See registration form in this issue.

Iris Culture – from *Fleur de Lis*, the Clara B. Rees Iris Society Newsletter, September, 2010

August is the month to finish planting your bearded irises. If your soil is heavy, add some compost, bone meal and oyster shell to the soil before planting. Also, add a balanced fertilizer such as 10-10-10. Keep weeds away from the plants. You may sprinkle some pre emergent on the area around your iris to prevent weeds growing from seeds. Be sure to label your newly planted iris with markers and draw a map in case some of the markers are lost. You will be glad that you have the label and the map in the spring when you have a winning specimen for the Spring Show. Water the replanted irises 2X/week until you see new fan leaves growing out of the center. This can take four to six weeks. After that you can water once every 10 days or so until the winter rains take over your job.

Santa Rosa Iris Society
Alleah Haley, Newsletter Editor
208 Eucalyptus Ave.
Cotati, CA 94931

Name and Address Correction requested



The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

43^d YEAR NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2017

President:
Jeff Davis

Vice President:
Anna Cadd

Newsletter Editor:
Alleah Haley

Meetings & Membership

The Santa Rosa Iris Society meets the second Monday of each month February through October at 7:00 p.m. at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa, California. In November instead of having a regular meeting, we have our annual holiday potluck dinner and dress up as an iris name costume party.

Membership dues are \$15.00 per year. Send payment to: Santa Rosa Iris Society c/o Betty Ford, 1383 E. Napa St., Sonoma, CA 95476. Membership offers regular meetings, iris door prizes, special programs, use of our library, a monthly newsletter, annual iris show and rhizome sale, and fellowship with other iris lovers.

September Newsletter Deadline – August 20th