

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

43RD YEAR NUMBER 3

MARCH 2017

Officers 2017:

President

Jeff Davis

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Joe Lawrence

Secretary

Diana Ford

Past President

Rudy Ciuca

Historian

Anna Cadd

Membership Secretary

Betty Ford

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Juanita Breckwoldt

Newsletter Editor

Alleah Haley

Directors thru 12/17:

Anna Marie Hermansen

Kitty Loberg

Directors thru 12/18:

Kathy McCallum

Delores McKey

Jean Sharp

Standing Committees:

Attendance

Marlene Horn

Display Garden Chairmen

Jim Begley

Jean Sharp

Door Prize Coordinator

Rudy Ciuca

Hospitality

Diana and Don Ford

LBAGC Representatives

Jeff Davis

Anna Cadd

Alleah Haley (alternate)

Logistics Coordinator

Jim Begley

Photography

Marlene Horn

2017 Show Chairman

Kitty Loberg

2017 Assistant Show Chairman

Jeff Davis

2016 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Need volunteer

2016 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Need volunteer

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 7:00 PM

ANNA CADD – ENTERING THE ARTISTIC DIVISION IN AN IRIS SHOW



We have added a new section to our May show this year, an Artistic Design section. Anna Cadd is doing a program for March on how to enter an artistic design, and we encourage everyone to try entering a class (Novice, Amateur, Advanced, Open to All, Youth). The classes are all listed in the show schedule and are printed elsewhere in this Newsletter. Do some creative thinking and begin to plan now! It helps to think about a particular design (class) several days in advance, as you may need to collect accessories or dig out unusual containers to use in your exhibit. Sometimes doing a “trial run” helps with the preparation of the design you'll enter on show day. We all know how easy Anna makes it look to do arrangements. So let's try something easy to begin with, and see how fun it can be!

Kitty Loberg, Show Chairman

Officers, Board Members, and other interested folks: We'll have a Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m. immediately before the program. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Gardening Tips for March

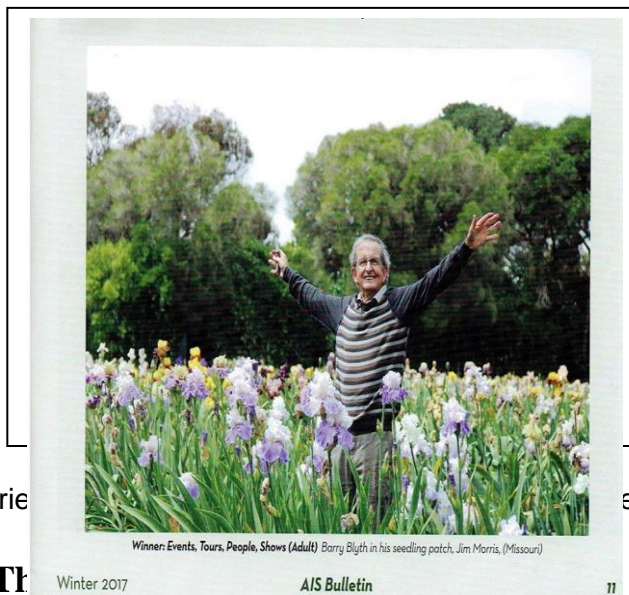
Anna Cadd

1. It is only two months until we will live in the garden - Iris Paradise. This is hard to believe right now, with Lake Tahoe covered by 18 feet of snow; water agencies relieving dams; and rain, rain, rain. Healdsburg got almost 60 inches this year; and you can see it in overgrown China Lily narcissus leaves, muddy iris beds and the strange, rotten potato smell here and there. In some years this can be a major problem that can almost wipe out a planting if allowed to spread without remedial action. The pathogen is *Erwinia carotovora* (yes, it affects carrots) and affects all bearded irises. It presents as a soft, foul-smelling rhizome rot followed by wilting and dying of the leaf fans. It is prevalent in wet springs with high temperatures. If you smell this, get busy cleaning it out! Use a spoon and scrape the infected tissue out. The wounds in the rhizomes need to be exposed to the sun. Then powder the wound with a chlorine-based cleanser such as Comet®.

Instead of the cleanser some people douse the rhizomes in place with Dial® antibacterial soap (contains triclosan). Ref.:

http://www.irises.org/About_Irises/Cultural%20Information/Pests_Diseases.html

2. There are other devils in Iris Paradise - weeds! We can't let them overgrow our plants, so we spend countless days on our knees, pulling them out and praying under our breath, that they will not start growing behind our backs again! To help the prayers, after hoeing and hand-weeding the beds we can use pre-emergent weed killers. I use Preen® Garden Weed Preventer to control weeds and help yield a neat, professional landscape. Preen® keeps weed seeds from sprouting by sealing the top 2 inches of soil. Preen has always been the easy and effective way to prevent weeds, it eliminates them before they ever begin to grow. It is safe for use around over 200 established flowers, vegetables, trees and shrubs. One application prevents weeds up to 3 months and it is water soluble. For Preen® products go to: <http://www.homedepot.com/p/Preen-16-lb-Garden-Weed-Preventer-Drum-2463800X/203008474> . Costco also sells Preen® in early spring.
3. There are small devil helpers in the garden Paradise – bugs! Aphids can sit in on the base of iris leaves and on buds, sucking the juices from the plant. Caterpillars can chew on leaves. There are big, fat, grayish caterpillars under the roots of weeds, eating who knows what. And then there are beetles, mostly green, but they can be in different colors, eating the petals of irises, mostly these which we selected to enter in the show. And don't forget snails and slugs! Yowsa! Visions of these creepers can give you nightmares!
4. Now it is time for angels in our Paradise. Keep the population of lady bugs on hand, as they eat a lot of aphids. You can buy them in garden centers and release them at night. Pour some beer in a tuna can for snails and drink some yourself. That may help to put you in an accepting mood about the critters that you can't chase from the petals or stems or leaves. Chemical sprays, organic soaps or water wash may help, but do we have the time? Please, enjoy your time in the garden, because as Claude Monet said: "I must have flowers, always, and always." Nobody can take from you the joys of the spring garden.



Winner, Events, Tours, People, Shows (Adult) Barry Blyth in his seedling patch, Jim Morris, (Missouri)

This is happiness! Barry Blyth, iris hybridizer from Australia, in his seedling patch!

From the President's Desk

My mind is full of the vision of all the flowers I will see in the next few months. It's almost overwhelming to even try to take it all in and imprint it into my brain to recall later. That's the beauty of being human. We get to remember people and places in our lives. That's why I joined to be a member of this club. So many great memories of members, past and present, and events we've shared together. And this year is no exception. Memories will be made in our gardens and our en. Enjoy your iris season.

Jeff Davis

Th

Winter 2017

AIS Bulletin

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Monday, March 13 – Anna Caud, Entering the Artistic Division in an Iris Show”.

2017 Iris Events and Important SRIS Dates

Monday April 10 – Jim Begley & Ross BeVier, “Preparing Your Irises for the Show”. Members will hold a mini-show. 1 hr. judges training credit.

Friday–Sunday, April 21-23 – Region 14 Spring Meeting “Iris Express”, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5321 Date Ave., Sacramento. Frannie’s and Horton’s Iris Gardens; guest speaker and judges trainer Dell Perry, Plano Texas.

Saturday and Sunday, May 6-7 (open 1-5 Sat., 10-5 Sun.) – SRIS Iris Show “An Iris for All Seasons” / Potted Iris Sale, LBAGC.

Monday May 8 – Cheryl Bryan, “Irids” (iris family plants).

Monday – Saturday, May 23-27, 2017 – AIS National Convention “Rhythm of the Prairie”. Convention Hotel: Des Moines, Iowa, Marriott. Six gardens incl. Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. For info go to www.irises.org, Member Services, Conventions/Activities. Registration form & hotel info on page 51 of Winter 2017 AIS Bulletin. Registration \$275 on or before March 15.

Monday June 12 – Kitty Loberg & Anna Cadd, Report on 2017 Region 14 Spring Meeting. Show awards presented.

Monday July 10 – Marlene Horn, “Club Irises available at the August Picnic/Auction”.

Late July – Digging door prize and auction irises. Exact date, time, and location TBA.

Saturday August 5 – Potluck Picnic, Iris Auction and Raffle, C&L Vineyard, Sonoma.

Monday August 14 – No meeting.

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

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 – Rick Tasco, “My Iris Hybridizing Program”.

Saturday November 4, 15-5 PM – Holiday Potluck/Come Dressed as an Iris Name Costume Party, LBAGC. We’ll eat at 2:00 PM.

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

Monday, March 13, 6:00 PM

Monday, May 8, 6:00 PM

Monday, July 10, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 11, 6:00 PM

Monday, November 13, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 11, 6:00 PM

DUES NOTICE – LAST CALL

Your Newsletter mailing label gives the expiration date of your SRIS dues. If it reads “12/16”, please write a check payable to Santa Rosa Iris Society for \$15/person and mail it to membership secretary Betty Ford. **Electronic Newsletter recipients: check your expiration date on the membership list emailed/mailed to you last month.** Use the renewal form in this issue.

Other Events of Garden Interest

Saturday & Sunday, April 1 & 2 – Sonoma County Orchid Society Spring Show “Orchids in Wonderland”, Veteran’s Memorial Bldg., 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa (across from the Fairgrounds). Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; admission \$8.00.

Saturday, April 22 – Santa Rosa Garden Club Plant Sale & “indoor garage sale”, 9-2, LBAGC.

From the Editor – **Many thanks** for contributions to this issue: **Richard Berenter, Juanita Breckwoldt, Anna Cadd, Jeff Davis, Barbara Foley, Betty Ford, Diana Ford, Anna Marie Hermansen, Joe Lawrence, Kitty Loberg, Jean Sharp, Shirley Trio Probst, Mary True, and Susan Wiseman**

Alleah

"An Iris for All Seasons"

Kitty Loberg

In just two months, we will be having our 2017 show, on Saturday May 6 and Sunday May 7. We have chosen our theme: "An Iris for All Seasons", and we've made a few changes to our schedule. We've added or changed the following perpetual trophies to be more inclusive of all kinds of color categories in irises:

Best Bicolor or Bitone Specimen... Previously it was just Bicolor; but there are many types of Bitones and Bicolors, Reverse Bitones and Reverse Bicolors, Variegatas, Amoenas, and Neglectas so we've expanded this category to cover as many irises as possible with two colors.

Best Plicata or Emma Cook Pattern Specimen... Previously it was just Plicata. Many of us think of a plicata as an iris with a base color, surrounded by a band. In reality, plicatas required stippling, dotting, or stitching, and a true band was properly called the Emma Cook pattern... so, we're including both to catch all similar irises.

Best Broken Color or Novelty Specimen... This is a new category, where I'm attempting to catch the other unusual irises, non selfs, non two colors, non plicatas, but ones that are very unusual and distinct. We want the public to be able to see that hybridizers in recent years have been introducing flat irises, irises with broken colors, irises with multiple petals, irises with variegated foliage, etc.

We're added an Artistic Design Division for our show this year (see other article), we've also added Division 4, which will be for Educational exhibits. If you would like to provide a display of something related to iris culture, diagrams to explain something about irises, or posters about classroom iris projects... we'd love to have you set up this kind of exhibit!

If you are a new member to SRIS, and if you have any questions about entering our show (it is a lot of fun, and very rewarding!), please come to our April meeting where our program will be about 'how to enter an Iris show'. It is not that hard, most of entering a show is learning how to: a) pick the best stalks from your garden, b) transport stalks to the show, c) groom an iris stalk, and d) plan enough time to come and be prepared (that might mean getting up at 5 a.m. to cut stalks from your garden).

Those who won trophies last year should bring them to one of our next club meetings, March or April, so that they're on hand for the Court of Honor at our May Show.

2017 SRIS Show Division 5 – Artistic Design
Anna Cadd

I am excited that we will have the Artistic Division at our iris show this year, but sad that I will miss it because I will be at the spuria convention. See the program for this Division elsewhere in this Newsletter. Please read it carefully and plan to enter the class(es) corresponding to your skill level and choice. You can enter up to seven arrangements.

At our March meeting I will make some sample arrangements, following the principles on pages 221-230 of the AIS *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*. You can read them to see what our two judges will look for. But mostly I will try to teach you how to easily make a beautiful arrangement worthy of a blue ribbon. Flower arranging is easy and fun and everyone can do it. Please, give it a try!

The Iris Learning Corner – *Iris lazica*
Anna Cadd

If you went to the SRIS display garden in early March, you probably noticed only one small, blue blooming iris in the beardless iris beds – *Iris lazica* (Lazistan iris). It is a species of flowering plant in the family Iridaceae, native to the Black Sea Coast of Turkey and southern Georgia, and also cultivated as an ornamental plant. Growing to 12 inches tall, it is a beardless rhizomatous iris with broad evergreen leaves, producing stemless flowers which are shorter in stature than the foliage, and which appear in late winter or early spring. The flower color is typically pale lilac. Exceptionally for an iris in its group, this species prefers moist conditions and will tolerate some shade. I have had this iris in my garden for several years, neglected, seldom watered; but it always delights me with a full bloom of flowers in March. *Iris lazica* has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit.

Reference: Partly based on: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iris_lazica .



The Lent Lily

In ecclesiastical circles the daffodil is sometimes known as the "Lent Lily", and tradition says that the flower will open on Ash Wednesday and die on Easter Day – a tradition immortalized in A.E. Housman's (1859-1936) poem "The Lent Lily":

'Tis spring; come out to ramble
The hilly brakes around,
For under thorn and bramble
About the hollow ground
The primroses are found.

And there's the windflower chilly
With all the winds at play,
And there's the Lenten lily
That has not long to stay
And dies on Easter day.

And since till girls go maying
You find the primrose still,
And find the windflower playing
With every wind at will,
But not the daffodil,
Bring baskets now, and sally
Upon the spring's array,
And bear from hill and valley
The daffodil away
That dies on Easter day.

March through early April is the time for daffodils in Northern California. Two outstanding displays are in the Sierras, at Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys (on Hwy. 4 past Angel's Camp) and Daffodil Hill in

Volcano (up Hwy. 88 past lone). Here are particulars:

- Ironstone Vineyards, 1849 6 Mile Rd., Murphys, CA. 300,000 daffodils on 14 acres. Their “Spring Daffodil Show” is Sat. and Sun. March 18 & 19. Call 209-728-1251.
- Daffodil Hill, 18310 Rams Horn Grade, Volcano, CA. 300,000 – 400,000 daffodils on six acres. Opens Friday, March 17, 2017 and goes through early April. Open Mon. – Sat. 10-4, weather permitting. 209-296-7048.

What a fitting tribute to Easter (April 16 this year), the awakening of spring, beautiful gardens and the sight of flamboyant golden trumpets in this wonderful time of resurrection after winter.

Display Garden Update

Jean Sharp

A big shout out to two of our members who braved this unpredictable weather and went above and beyond this week. Our president Jeff Davis hooked up the Dykes planting to the irrigation system and spent several hours over two days weeding pathways in the garden. Anna Cadd weeded for two days after seeing bittercress going rampant after the last warm spell. She weeded the beds and lightly fertilized and applied Preen® to all but the Dykes planting before the rain on Saturday and Sunday, March 4 and 5. Perfect timing and again, many thanks.



Keeping In Touch

Mary True reminded your editor that **Barbara Foley** is having intense treatments for colon cancer, but that Barbara has “a strong, positive attitude”. A biopsy following colon cancer surgery last year showed cancer cells remaining in just one of many samples, so Barbara began 12 chemotherapy treatments in October. At present, she has 5 remaining treatments into April. This ordeal is especially challenging since her brother died of colon cancer three years ago. And with all this, Barbara continues to work full time! She welcomes calls and/or cards to:

Barbara Foley
PO Box 4851
Petaluma, CA 94955
bfoley2010@gmail.com



Notice: Changes to Roster

Please note the following new member and help her feel welcome to our Club:

Annie Danberg
114 Spring Grove Ave.
San Rafael, CA 94901
annie@artdance.com

Annie is the wife of another newer member, Richard Berenter.

Delores McKey has changed her preferred email address to: deloresmckey@att.net.

Happy Birthday March Babies

Michael V. Howard 3/3
Lynn Williams 3/31

March Wedding Anniversary

Debby & Art Hertz 3/31

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 April 2017 issue of this Newsletter is March 20, 2017. E-mail copy to: alleah.haley@gmail.com.*



Another Way to Control Gophers

Region 14 Bulletin Editor **Shirley Trio Probst** emailed on February 24: “We forgot to go to the gopher lecture. We did need it but now since our whole place is covered with water they are all gone. As they came up, the cats got them. We found several heads. Yuck.”

2017 Dean Linscott Award Presented

This year’s Santa Rosa Iris Society Dean Linscott Achievement Award was presented at the February 13 meeting to long time Display Garden chairman Jean Sharp.

Jean joined SRIS in 1988 and has been a member ever since, except for 1991-1993 when she worked fulltime for the US Postal Service. She began growing irises in response to acquiring a Schreiners’ catalog and joined SRIS after hearing David Cadd promoting our iris show on KSRO. She attended the show, joined, and became heavily involved in shows, sales, and hosting regional conventions. She served as SRIS secretary for about ten years. Jean and Anna Cadd have together made floral arrangements to decorate our shows for many years, and in 2009 she began chairing our Display Garden committee. She cared for the master planting of the 300-or-so guest irises there for the 2009 Region 14 Spring Meeting, which guest speaker Steve Schreiner called the “perfect iris display garden.” Through the years, she has often served as auctioneer for our members-only summer iris auction.

Jean joins Dean Linscott (2004), Jim Begley (2010), Bob and Juanita Breckwoldt (2011), David and Anna Cadd (2012), Betty Ford (2014), Alleah Haley (2015), and Rudy Ciuca and Joe Lawrence (2016) as recipients of the Award.

The Dean Linscott Award is named for Dr. William “Dean” Linscott, who from 1964 through approximately 1999 taught immunology and conducted research at the UC Medical School in San Francisco. In retirement, he was a member of the Santa Rosa Iris Society for five years. Dean organized and spearheaded the iris test garden at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, where he conducted careful research on soil amendments to find the best for growing irises. Dean and his wife Anita Engberg, an artist, were consummate gardeners – their home garden on Grange Road in Santa Rosa was wonderful, with the irises grown to perfection. Dean and Anita landscaped the grounds at the LBAGC and the pair served as its volunteer gardeners. Dean Linscott died in Santa Rosa on March 24, 2004 of cancer. He was 73.

Do not squander time for that’s the stuff life is made of. Benjamin Franklin

Rebloom Report

Jim Begley told compiler **Anna Marie Hermansen** that his best rebloom this year was from the two Ghio irises below. Descriptions are based on the Iris Wiki; all are tall bearded except as noted. RE = rebloomer as registered with AIS.

Mary Frances (Gaulter, 1973). Ruffled light blue-orchid with white center on F.; white beard tipped yellow. Dykes 1979.

Betty Ford (Kerr, 2014). S. white; F. same with medium blue edge; beards red.

Double Platinum (Ghio, 2012). RE. S. light pink; F. deeper pink; beards tangerine.

Chartered Course (Kerr, 2005). RE. S. light blue-lavender; F. red-purple, brown haft markings; beard hairs tipped red orange.

Glacier Fire (Kerr, 2012). S. white, blue on edge; F. white with 1/2" violet blue edge shading to hyacinth blue on inside edge; beards orange.

Platinum Jubilee (Ghio, 2013). RE. S. blue-violet, pink at base; F. same, pinker toward heart; beards tangerine.

On February 26 **Juanita Breckwoldt** reported that she had only a spike of Juicy Fruit (Byers, 1980, RE) in bloom.

Diana Ford sent in a "Hopland Rebloom Report". She commented: "The extremely hot summer in Hopland made it hard for rebloomers to put up stalks. However once the rains hit they made up for lost time. Traffic (L. Lauer, 2004, RE – blue on white plicata) even took the summer off. Early rebloomers included":

Juicy Fruit (as above) - S. yellowish apricot; F. apricot with yellow edge; beards orange

Autumn Breeze (M. Sutton, 2012, RE) –S. white; F. white marbled blue; beards yellow.

Rosalie Figge (Jane McKnew, 1993, RE) – S. violet; F. darker, white spray pattern around beards.

Clarence (Zurbrigg, 1991, RE)

My Generation (L. Lauer, 2009, RE)

Summer Olympics (R.G. Smith, 1980, RE)

Renascent (Hager, 2005, RE)

Concertina (G. Sutton, 2000, IB RE)

Chocolate Halo (Kerr, 2012)

Gettysburg Sunset (Joan Roberts, 2013, RE)

Cozy Cotton (M. Sutton, 2015, RE)

Living on the Edge (L. Lauer, 2009)

Boundless (M. Sutton, 2010, RE)

Diana continued; "Chocolate Halo, Traffic, Boundless, Concertina and Juicy Fruit flowered repeatedly. Many [of my] seedlings that were offspring of Traffic and Living on the Edge bloomed throughout. The freezing rain ruined a number of stalks, but a few bloomed through all but the 20's including some seedlings, Autumn Breeze and Traffic." Wonderful report, Diana!

Alleah Haley reported on fall and winter rebloom in Cotati. Traffic (a gift from **Diana Ford**), Victoria Falls (Schreiner, 1977, RE, Dykes 1984), and Mesmerizer (Byers, 1991, RE, Dykes 2002) rebloomed through most of November; Mesmerizer with four 'show quality' stalks of 5-7 blooms each and every flower had huge spoons at the ends of the beards (much better than any spring bloom for her). Crimson King (Barr, 1893, IB RE) and Bonus Mama (Hager, 1990, RE – a gift from **Vivian Estrada**) rebloomed in November and December and Bonus Mama was at it again in early March. Forever Blue (Chapman, 1997, SDB RE – a gift from **Juanita Breckwoldt**), and Peggy Sue (L. Lauer, 2006, RE) bloomed in late November and early December, and Petal Pushers (J. Painter, 2007) put up a nice stalk that, unfortunately, froze in late December. Her daughter, **Heather Haley**, who lives in central North Carolina, emailed pictures of Temporal Anomaly (Tasco, 2007) and Peggy Sue (RE - see above) in bloom on March 1 and 3, respectively.

Newer member **Richard Berenter**, who lives in San Rafael, emailed about unexpected rebloom on January 11, reporting three irises, Drinks at Sunset (B. Blyth, 2002/03), Edith Wolford (Hager, 1986), and Copatonic (B. Blyth, 1994/95) all trying to bloom and in danger of freezing or with stunted stalks. Dr. Berenter wondered if he might have done something wrong with respect to the soil he used, fertilizer amount/type or something independent such an unseasonably prolonged warm fall. He also wondered if the Blyth irises, developed in Australia, "might be reverting to the Aussie season and that's why they are setting blooms now." Alleah assured Dr. Berenter that his three blooming irises were all listed as reported rebloomers in "The 2012 Cumulative Checklist of Rebloomers", a publication of the Rebloomers section of AIS, and that many of Barry Blyth's irises not registered as rebloomers

also appear in the checklist. Alleah and **Ross BeVier** commented that Dr. Berenter appears to be “doing everything right” and “taking care of his soil.” **Ross** continued “It’s a shame to lose bloomstalks to freeze but that’s the nature of the area in which we live and the timing of frosts. Many times Bill Maryott’s ‘Pure as Gold’ would push up a bloomstalk in January and attempt a bloom during a rain or hailstorm. It only confirms the strength of the gene to rebloom, even though it loses the stalk.”

This and That, in no Particular Order

Anna Cadd

- It is March, when we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. Patrick was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Much of what is known about St. Patrick comes from the *Declaration*, which was allegedly written by Patrick himself. It is believed that he was born into a wealthy family in Roman Britain. According to the *Declaration*, at the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland, where he spent six years working as a shepherd, and during this time he “found God”. According to tradition, he escaped, returned to his family, became a priest, and then Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. Patrick’s efforts against the druids were eventually turned into an allegory in which he drove snakes out of Ireland (Ireland never had any snakes).

Tradition holds that he died on March 17 (hence, the date for St. Patrick’s Day). Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick; and he became Ireland’s patron saint.

There are a lot of Irish-themed Irises: Irish Brogue, Irish Butter, Irish Cream, Irish Eyes, Irish Gold, Irish Jig, Irish Linen, Irish Luck, Irish Lullaby, Irish Rose, Irish Spring, Irish Treasure, Irish Whiskey, Shamrock Pride, St Patrick’s Gold. Do you know them?

- A NOID is a plant of unknown variety. NOID is short for “No ID – no identification”. In our case, this refers to any unnamed irises in our gardens. If you have any NOID irises, you can submit their photos to <https://garden.org/thread/view/48446/Show-us-your-NOIDs/> which is a forum on the National Gardening Association website. Other people might just know what they are! (Well, as much as possible from a photo). You must first create a username and login before you can reply to this or any other thread on the site.
- If you are planting iris or other plants in a big pot, you can fill the bottom portion with crushed plastic water bottles without lids. Lay them sideways and cover the layer with newspaper or fabric to prevent soil from sinking down and surrounding the bottles. Cover with potting soil. The layer of bottles will fill with any excess water that comes into the pot, and the iris’ roots can grow down into that layer, thereby keeping the water where it does good and routing it away from the rhizome where it can cause rot. And it reduces the amount of potting soil needed. This handy tip comes from Kristee West’s January 14, 2017 presentation on “Growing Iris in Containers”, Tucson Area Iris Society Newsletter, February 2017.
- The Spuria Iris Society will hold its National Convention in the Burbank, California area May 5-6, 2017; and I am planning to attend. Extended Stay America Hotel Burbank is the convention hotel. See <http://www.spuriairisociety.org> . A day each will be spent in The Huntington Library and Gardens and Descanso Gardens where the guest spurias are planted. Hybridizer Lee Walker will give an in-garden spuria iris talk, there will be judges’ trainings, and Nancy Nies, the granddaughter of Eric Nies, will give a program of family photos and mementos. All events will take place in the gardens.

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Meeting, February 13, 2017

Called to order at 8:25 after a great presentation on gophers by Adam Schmidt.

Attending: Cheryl Bryan, Jean Sharp, Mary and Alexis Paganas, Kitty Loberg, Steve Albert, Jeff Davis, Anna Cadd, Betty Ford, Diana Ford, Rudy Ciuca, Joe Lawrence, Alice Kemper, Alleah Haley, Mary Truly, Marlene Freetly, Anna-Marie Hermansen and Barb Barruth.

January Minutes approved.

The Budget was presented. There was a discussion about a keeper award for the Spring Show, since it would be a new budget item. This did not pass and the Budget was approved as presented.

Jeff gave a presentation on signs for the garden and it was agreed to go ahead with ordering to have new banners and sandwich signs available for this year's show.

There was a discussion of a permanent sign for the garden. This was continued to do further study.

Kitty reported on the LBC meeting regarding new rental rates, since this might affect this year's budget. It was decided to go ahead without changing the budget and make an adjustment if needed later.

Kitty reported on the Spring Show. She went over some changes to the program, including the addition of the Artistic Division. Discussed needed ribbons and changes to awards. She passed around the volunteer signup.

Jeff made an announcement about the Spring Regional in Sacramento, encouraging everyone to attend.

LBC Representatives are Jeff Davis and Anna Cadd. Alleah Haley will be an Alternate Representative.

There was a discussion about a work party. Jeff will arrange this with email.

A motion was passed to donate \$50 to UC Davis in honor of Virginia Howard. Her family requested UC Davis for donations.

Diana Ford, SRIS Secretary

Door Prize Winners for February

Bet the Farm – Steve Albert

Black Lipstick – Alleah Haley

Blind Ambition – Betty Ford

Blushing Grapes – Diana Ford

Bob's Pride – Mary True

Celtic Tartan – Kitty Loberg

Espionage – Alice Kemper

Even Flow – Cheryl Bryan

Fanta – Rudy Ciuca

Fire Danger – Jeff Davis

Free as the Wind – Anna Cadd

Funfetti – Anna Marie Hermansen

Ghirardelli Square – Marlene Freetly

Gold Reward – Jean Sharp

Heaven's Door – Mary Pagonas

Just a Touch – Joe Lawrence

Lemon Jade – Barb Baruth

Little Love Song – Alexis Pagonas

Door Prizes for March

Joe Lawrence

Please look over this list and familiarize yourself with the choices. All are TBs unless otherwise noted. When your name is chosen, please call out your name (not "me!"), which helps us keep track of the winners. We will try to pass out a list at the meeting so you can cross out selections as they are chosen. This should speed up the drawing.

ANCIENT AIRS (Schreiner, 2015). 44" L. S. light red; F. darker red; beards yellow.

BET THE FARM (Schreiner, 2015). 35" M. S. silver white; F. blue-purple; beards mustard yellow; ruffled; pronounced sweet fragrance.

BLUSHING GRAPES (L. Miller, 2016). 34" E-M. S. medium purple; F. coral ground, purple border; beards tangerine; slight musky fragrance.

BOLD PATTERN (M. Sutton, 2015). 35" M-L. S. yellow; F. violet, grey-red shoulders and rim., 1/4" Chinese yellow band is edged with a ruby red wire rim; beards yellow; ruffled; slight sweet fragrance.

CELTIC TARTAN (Keppel, 2015). 36" EM. Ruffled rosy purple, straw and buff luminata; golden orange beards.

FANTA (M. Smith, 2014). **IB** 24" EM-ML. S. orange, centers paler; F. orange shoulders, lighter gold centers, lightly ruffled; beards large, fuzzy, vermilion in throat, cream yellow ends; glaciata; pronounced musky fragrance.

FIRE DANGER (Keppel, 2015). 33" M. S. purple-red, pale yellow ground at base; F. bright yellow ground, heavily marked purple-red in wide band, fine inner dotting and center line; beards based white to violet, tips rust-tan; plicata.

GET BACK (L. Lauer, 2015). 35" M. S. white; F. aster violet darken towards rim, then lighten at edge, brown shoulders lighten to peach-beige toward beard; beards orange in throat, yellow at end; ruffled; pronounced sweet fragrance.

HIGH DESERT (Keppel, 2015). 40" M. Variegata-plicata: S. chrome lemon; F. yellow to cream, narrow red-purple edge.

INFIDEL (M. Smith, 2016). 33" ML. S. apricot orange, pinker at midrib; F. velvet black, red-purple at shoulders, beards surrounded by spray of apricot orange darts; beards red, large, fuzzy; ruffled; pronounced spicy fragrance.

LAVENDER LEMON CAKE (M. Sutton, 2015). 33" M-L. S. yellow; F. blue, yellow shoulders, golden brown 1/4" rim.

MIXED SIGNALS (Keppel, 2016). 31" EM. S. pale lavender, 3/8" to 3/4" tan border, finely veined blue; F. dark purple lightens to a mix of violet-blue and white veined plum, yellow flash below beard; beards yellow to orange.

OH CANADA (T. Johnson, 2015). **SDB** 13" E. S. light blue; F. blue wash, central maroon spot with white rays radiating from beard; beards yellow in throat, ends blue with white tips; slight fragrance.

PURE MAJESTIC (Annand, 2015). 34" E. S. white ground, outer bands of lavender around white centers; F. white, purple speckling becomes solid on edges, hafts speckled and veined; beards white tipped lavender at end.

PUZZLED (T. Johnson, 2015). 37" M-L. S. buttery peach, orange texture veins. F. maroon wash over lavender ground, lighter toward edges; beards dark orange.

RAINBOW SUNSET (T. Johnson, 2015). 36" L. Centers of chalice standards yellow gold, banded white and then gold on outer edges. F. lavender blue, paler around light orange beards. Old gold bands present on both sides of falls

SHINE ON ME SUNSHINE (T. Johnson, 2015). 34" M. Peach-orange self; beards tangerine; sweet fragrance.

SWEET CHILD OF MINE (L. Lauer, 2015). 32" M. S. apricot; F. plum-purple, apricot shoulders extend around beard; beards orange; ruffled; pronounced sweet fragrance.

TICKLE MY FANCY (Black, 2015). 38" L. S. white, dark purple plicata bands; F. yellow, narrow red plum plicata bands. White luminata type patches are lined dark violet blue around burnt orange beards

WATERCOLOR PRINT (T. Johnson, 2015). 33" L. S. white, tinted violet, gold rims; F. mid violet bands with paler bands inside; vivid yellow beards

WAVES OF JOY (Tasco, 2015). 39" ML. S. yellow, violet veins; F. violet, yellow rim, bronze shoulders; beard hairs based white, yellow tips, violet tipped hairs at very end; moderately ruffled; light purple-based foliage; pron. sweet fragrance.

WINGMAN (Schreiner, 2015). 40" E-M. S. light purple; F. darker purple-violet, petal edges light purple; beards light yellow; pronounced sweet fragrance.

Spring Regional, April 21-23, 2017, Co-sponsored by Sacramento & Sierra Foothills Iris Societies
"Iris Express" is the theme, a takeoff, no doubt, on the renowned Pony Express, and the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Date Ave. in Sacramento is the convention hotel. The guest speaker and judges trainer is Dell Perry from Plano, Texas. About 160 guest irises have been planted and we will be carpooling to view them in two Sacramento- area commercial gardens. One is Horton Iris Garden in Loomis, the other is relatively new Frannie's Iris Garden in Elk Grove, designed for iris viewing in mind. Ruth Ostroff has graciously opened her garden in Rio Linda as an optional tour garden. To sign up for the Regional, use the form in the February SRIS Newsletter or go to <http://www.aisregion14.org> .

DIVISION 5 - ARTISTIC DESIGN

ARTISTIC CLASSES

CLASS 1 - NOVICE

One who has never won a blue ribbon in a flower show.

Section A. "Early Days" - Using an old-fashion container featuring irises with common garden flowers in the design.

Section B. "From Forest to Shore" – The arrangement with the use of wood in the design.

Section C. "Standing Tall" - A creative vertical arrangement, with unusual combination of container and plant material.

CLASS II - AMATEUR

One who has won one but not more than 10 blue ribbons in a flower show.

Section D. "Winning of the West" - Arranger's interpretation, appropriate accessories are required.

Section E. "Summer Potpourri" - Basket design, featuring irises with other flowers and foliage.

Section F. "Double Delight" – The arrangement, using two containers in the design; if they are set separate, both are fully functional designs.

CLASS III - ADVANCED

One who has won ten or more blue ribbons in a flower show.

Section G. "Bold and Beautiful" - Background is required; can't be taller than 48".

Section H. "Color Contrast" – The arrangement, using wood or branches in design; featuring irises in different, contrasting colors.

Section I. "High Rise" - A vertical arrangement; can't be taller than 48".

CLASS IV - OPEN TO ALL

Section M. "Russian River Morning" - An arrangement, featuring blue irises (including blue bi-colors and blue blends). A spreading, horizontal arrangement suggesting the flow of the river. Accessories are permitted as tied to the theme.

Section N. "Stretch Design" - A creative design in 2 units, one smaller than the other, having a connective which extends between the two units. Smaller unit is placed so as to appear to have been pulled away from the larger unit.

CLASS V - PLACE SETTINGS - OPEN TO ALL.

Can be exhibited on a 24" X 30" base.

Section O. "A Spring Luncheon" - Arranger's choice of design.

Section P. "Elegant Dinner Serving" - Candles may be used.

CLASS VI - YOUTH

Section Q. "Reaching High" - A vertical arrangement with fresh plant material and iris.

Section R. "A Day for Someone Special" - Using roses in design with Iris and Foliage.

ARTISTIC DESIGN RULES and AWARDS

1. One or more iris blooms must be used in each design and should be the dominant flower(s) in the design. Foliage is the choice of designer.
2. Accessories are permitted as long as the accessory is subordinate; no artificial plant material may be used.
3. When a background is called for, the arrangement will not be judged if the background is absent.
4. Exhibitors may enter only in their respective class, plus class IV and V.
5. Exhibitors may enter only one exhibit per section.
6. The DESIGN MUST be made by the exhibitor, but the plant material need NOT have been grown by the exhibitor.
7. Plants on the California Garden Clubs, Inc. conservation list may not be used, except in educational displays.
8. Exhibitors under age 19 may enter adult classes (I, II, III) or the youth class (VI) but not both. Youth may enter 'Open to All' classes.
9. Judging will be done according to the National Council of State Garden Clubs' Objectives.
10. AWARDS:
By class ... One 1st, one 2nd, one 3rd, and one honorable mention per class if merited.
Best Design of Show (adult) ... Large purple rosette and certificate, must have won a blue ribbon.
Artistic Sweepstakes (adult) ... Large purple rosette and certificate for most blue ribbons (2 or more) .
Best Design of Show (youth) ... Small purple rosette and certificate, must have won a blue ribbon.
Artistic Sweepstakes (youth) ... Small purple rosette and certificate for most blue ribbons (2 or more).

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IN THE
SANTA ROSA IRIS SOCIETY

Membership in the Santa Rosa Iris Society is on an annual basis from January through December. Renewals are due January 1st of each year. The current dues are:

Single Membership \$15.00 Dual Membership \$30.00

Please make your check payable to the **Santa Rosa Iris Society** and mail it with this form to the Membership Secretary:

BETTY FORD
1383 EAST NAPA STREET
SONOMA, CA 95476

NAME(s) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

e-MAIL ADDRESS _____

BIRTHDAY _____

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AND SPOUSE'S NAME _____

AIS MEMBER: YES _____ NO _____

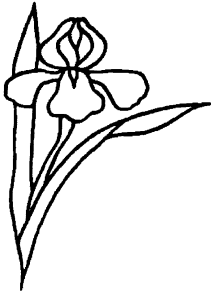
ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ for () SINGLE () DUAL

I would like my Newsletter by email: YES _____ NO _____

If not by email, you will receive your Newsletter by snail mail.

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 3

MARCH 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.

April Newsletter Deadline – March 20th