

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

44th YEAR NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2018

Officers 2018:

President

Jeff Davis

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Kitty Loberg

Secretary

Diana Ford

Past President

Rudy Ciuca

Historian

Anna Cadd

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Alleah Haley

Librarian

Need volunteer

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Alleah Haley

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Betty Ford

Anna Marie Hermansen

Directors thru 12/18:

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Display Garden Chairmen

Jeff Davis

Jean Sharp

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Hospitality

Diana and Don Ford

LBAGC Representatives

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Anna Cadd

Alleah Haley (Alternate)

Logistics Coordinator

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Photography

Marlene Horn

2018 Show Chairman

Kitty Loberg

2018 Assistant Show Chairman

Jeff Davis

2018 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Need volunteer

2018 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Need volunteer



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 7:00 PM

MELINDA WOLCOTT, "THE MECHANICS OF FLOWER ARRANGING OR HOW WE KEEP THE DESIGNS TOGETHER"

To help us prepare to enter the Artistic Division of the SRIS April 28 and 29 Spring Iris Show[†], our February program will cover the nuts and bolts of designing by two accredited National Garden Club judges who are also members of the Santa Rosa Flower Arrangers Guild.

Melinda Wolcott has been avid gardener her entire life, has lived in England, Italy and Singapore, where her garden interests were heightened. For 12 years she developed and guided garden tours to both England and Italy. She has been a national accredited flower show judge for 18 years, winning major awards in both design and horticulture. She teaches floral design and lectures in design.

Melinda will be aided by Liz Warren, a past president of the Santa Rosa Flower Arrangers Guild and a National Garden Club Master Judge.

[†]The Artistic Division portion of our show schedule is included in this Newsletter

Gardening Tips for February

Anna Cadd

1. It is February already. I don't know if it's just me, but I'm still in a hibernating mood regarding the spring garden. I venture outside and think "This needs to be done; I will prune this; okay - needs spray here, weeding there; oh, look at these daffodils, blooming like crazy; I am ready; I have sooo many plans!" and then a nasty cough bends me over for five minutes, and I don't know where to start. I can't find my good clippers, forgot to buy garden gloves, a friend calls me on my cell phone (she has no garden, but a "lot of experience and advice"), and now it's already time for lunch and then time to get ready to go to work. Retired folks don't have these problems, as they have days and nights to work in the garden and everything gets done in a timely manner. Ah, how I am looking forward to retirement so I can spend my days doing what I LOVE, not what I have to do!
2. Bare root fruit trees, vines and shrubs are in local nurseries and garden outlets now. Check them out. Even if you don't really

need anything in the garden, you never know. There can be a rose bush with an unusual color that would be just perfect in an empty corner by the house, or a new variety of fruit tree, perfect for our conditions, or some shrub with unusual leaves. Pay attention to space and light requirements, because a “happy space” is a happy plant. Buy them now, while the selection is good and plants can be planted right away. Don’t wait for later sales. After sitting too long, “bare-root” plants are tired and have a hard time from the start. And buy good quality plants. You will have them forever, so you want the best!

3. Prune dormant trees, shrubs, roses and crape myrtles. This is the time to shape your garden. Roses can be pruned severely; but with trees, try to take no more than 1/3 off. Don’t top trees. This will produce a large number of dense small branches. The tree needs to be open and airy, so “the butterfly can fly thru and the wind can blow inside”. Check the gardening section of newspapers; there are always plenty of free “how to” seminars put on by clubs and nurseries.
4. Plant late crops of onion and garlic. Also plant sweet pea seed for spring bloom. Radishes, lettuce, chives, parsley and carrots will do well in our mild winter. Resist the urge to plant tomatoes and cucumbers from starts. They hate cold nights and may even die! But primroses in the garden are now a must! They also do great in color bowls and between irises. Have you seen the small pansies in our Display Garden?
5. The most horrendous task is weeding. Our mild winter this year has been easy on weeds, so they “grow like weeds”. There is no other way around it - pull them when they are big, hula-hoe the smaller ones, hand pick the seedlings. You have a year of working ahead, unless you have a great gardener-husband, eight kids who are especially work-brickie, high school students dying to work for money, or you make the smart decision “the hell with the weeds” and you go to Hawaii. I will tell you a secret: after you are done weeding, spray or spread some pre-emergent weed stopper on the flower beds (Preen® works great), but not in the vegetable garden, where you smartly can use weed cloth, and save yourself a lot of time!
6. And finally, do nothing yet for the irises. They are still dormant; and every disturbance can be fatal, as small wounds from pulled dead leaves can be ports of entry for insects and diseases. Be sure that they have good drainage and are not sitting in water. Later, at the end of February, finish weeding, gently pull or cut the dead leaves, fertilize with 5-10-10 or 10-10-10 fertilizer and spray for leaf spot at least twice at 2-3 week intervals. Before we know it, spring will be here!

From the President’s Desk

What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time we were in the midst of winter, enjoying a break from gardening chores and planning for the coming year. This year I am in shorts and a t-shirt trying to catch up with the quickly growing weeds as it feels like spring is already here. A couple of weeks ago I just happened to swing by the garden at LBAGC and recoiled in horror at how the weeds had overtaken the pathways and beds already. Thankfully, Jean Sharp led a small, but enthusiastic, group to weed and spread weed cloth and bark; so now the garden looks great. There just is no rest time when it comes to gardening. But that’s also part of the fun. It’s never dull.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting February 12.

Jeff Davis

This Month

Monday, February 12 – Melinda Wolcott, “The Mechanics of Flower Arranging or How we Keep the Designs Together”.

2018 Iris Events and Important SRIS Dates

Monday, March 12 – Award-winning garden writer Jeff Cox, “The Garden as a Sacred Space.”

Sunday April 8 – Saturday April 14, 2018 – AIS/ Society for Louisiana Irises (SLI) combined National Convention “Fleur-de-Gras”. Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel, 901 Airline Dr., Kenner, LA. For info go to www.irises.org, Member Services, Conventions/Activities. Six gardens. Registration form & hotel info on pages 34-35 of the Fall 2017 AIS Bulletin. Registration \$55/\$65 after March 17 and must be made by March 31.

Monday April 9 – Jim Begley, Ross BeVier, and Jeff Davis, “Preparing Your Irises for the Show”. Includes mock show.

Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29 (open 1-5 Sat., 10-5 Sun.) – SRIS Iris Show “Spring to the Next Century” (the American Iris Society will celebrate 100 years in 2020)/Potted Iris Sale, LBAGC.

Friday, May 4 – tour to gardens of award-winning garden designer Kate Frey (10:30-11:30 a.m.) and Dana and Don Ford, Hopland. Lunch & meeting at the Ford’s, 1310 University Rd. Additional gardens may be toured in May.

Friday May 11 – Sunday May 13, 2018 – Region 14 Spring Meeting “Butterflies in the Mountains”. Bootjack Stompers Hall, Mariposa, CA. Rick Tasco of Superstition Iris Gardens will speak and give 2 hr. garden judging training; visits to the Kanarowskis’ Mariposa Iris Garden & garden of Gary & Gail Collings in Oakhurst.

Monday June 11 – Jeff Davis, Region 14 Spring Meeting near Yosemite/Anna Cadd, AIS National Convention, New Orleans. Show awards presented.

Monday July 9 – Marlene Horn, “Club Irises available at the August Picnic/Auction”.

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

Sunday, August 5, 10 AM– Potluck Picnic, Iris Auction & Raffle, C & L Vineyard, 1595 Denmark St., Sonoma.

Monday August 13 – speaker TBA.

Saturday, September 8, 9-3 – Rhizome sale, LBAGC

Monday, September 10 – Set up booth at Heirloom Expo. Time TBA.

Tuesday thru Thursday, September 11-14 – 8th Annual Heirloom Expo, Sonoma Co. Fairgrounds. SRIS will have a booth.

Monday, October 8 – Glynis Johnson, Enchanting Sweet Peas will speak and sell seed.

Saturday, November 3 – Holiday Potluck/Come Dressed as an Iris Costume Party, LBAGC.



2018 Board Meetings - Board Members and Officers, please mark your calendars:

Monday, March 12, 6:00 PM

Monday, May 14, 6:00 PM

Monday, July 9, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 10, 6:00 PM

Monday, November 12, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 10, 6:00 PM

Other Events of Garden Interest

Friday – Sunday, February 23-25 – Pacific Orchid & Garden Exposition. Fri. and Sat 9-6; Sun. 10-5. Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Largest orchid show in the U.S. See www.orchidsanfrancisco.org or call 650-548-6700. Admission \$10/\$8 senior.

From the Editor – **Many thanks** for contributions to this issue: **Jim Begley, Anna Cadd; Jeff Davis; Cathy Egerer** of HIPS, **Betty Ford, Diana Ford, Anna Marie Hermansen, Jean Sharp,** and **Melinda Wolcott** of the Santa Rosa Flower Arrangers Guild. *Alleah*

DUES NOTICE

Your Newsletter mailing label gives the expiration date of your SRIS dues. If it reads “12/17”, please write a check payable to Santa Rosa Iris Society for \$15/person and mail it to membership secretary Alleah Haley. **Electronic Newsletter recipients: check your expiration date on the membership list printed in the December 2017 Newsletter unless you know you’ve paid for 2018.** Use the renewal form in this issue.

Valentine’s Day Musings

Anna Cadd

3



February is the Valentine's Day month. It is usually connected with red roses, which in commerce recently went from \$9.99 to \$39.99 per dozen. Red roses mean love, together with red plush devils, bears, red heart-printed pajamas and Red Racer beer. Diamonds are not red, but ladies like rubies also. Caddis introduced the "Love Is Pink" iris, just to make an exception. Over 100 iris varieties have been introduced starting with the word "Love". There are probably thousands of love songs. Lovebirds have started to build nests. Love is in the air.

The ancient Romans may be responsible for the name of our modern day of love. Emperor Claudius II executed two men — both named Valentine — on February 14 of different years in the 3rd century A.D. Their martyrdom was honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of St. Valentine's Day. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and, most importantly, romantic man. Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written valentines didn't begin to appear until after 1400. The oldest known valentine still in existence today is a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt. Approximately 150 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas.

Why I am writing this? No reason, really, except – please stop in the middle of the month, hug someone who is lonely, talk to someone who lost their home, stick a small bill in a homeless person's dirty hand, take a friend out for dinner, help weed a garden, and if you can spare some change for diamonds, buy one. One red rose will also do or even a bouquet made from dandelions. But reach out to friends and you will feel richer in heart.

From different web sites

The Iris Learning Corner - Dutch irises, *Iris hollandica*
Anna Cadd

When Melinda Walcott from the Arrangers Guild asked me if I would have any irises to bring for use at our Monday, February 12, 2018 Arrangers Design presentation, I told her "no", because I didn't have bloom then. (I take that back. I have the IB 'Yonkers' (George Sutton, 2013, RE) looking like a big, fat TB with 4 stalks and 6 flowers on each stalk). So I told her to buy Dutch irises. Thank God we can buy them all year round. How many times have they saved our projects?

Dutch iris, also known as *Iris hollandica*, are popular cut flowers because they are dramatic, easy to arrange and long-lasting. Unlike types of irises that grow from thickened underground stems called rhizomes, Dutch irises grow from teardrop-shaped bulbs that are planted in the fall. Dutch iris can be planted about 4 inches deep in full sun or partial shade. This bulbous iris has narrow linear green or silvery leaves.

Dutch irises are ideal for perennial gardens where they will bloom earlier than most other plants. The flowers stand 18 to 24" tall, ideal height for the middle of a border.

Flower colors range from white, pale blue and lemon through deep purple, bronze, rose and gold. The flowers do not have any fragrance. They mainly bloom in March–June in the northern hemisphere, and in September–October in the southern hemisphere.

Like most bulbs, Dutch irises look best when planted in large groups. For an impressive show, plant about a dozen bulbs per square foot. Dutch irises also look great in containers – on their own or mixed with other plants to create a living bouquet. Sturdy stems keep the flowers standing tall and make it easy to admire the delicate beauty of the blossoms.

When growing conditions are ideal (well drained soil and hot, dry summers), Dutch iris will come back to bloom a second year. In practice, most gardeners treat these bulbs as annuals and plant fresh bulbs in the fall. To get the second year season of blooms from bulbs, remove spent iris flowers and as little foliage as possible. Leave the remaining foliage in place until it has withered and yellowed. During the summer months, while the bulbs are dormant, the soil should be kept as dry as possible. In areas with wet summers, Dutch iris may be dug up after they have bloomed and the leaves have withered. Store the bulbs in a dry, dark place and replant them the next fall.



Dutch irises belong to Family: Iridaceae, Tribe: Irideae, Genus: Iris, Subgenus: I. subg. Xiphium, Species: ***I. x hollandica***.

Iris x hollandica, commonly known as the **Dutch iris**, is a hybrid iris developed from species native to Portugal, Spain and North Africa (*Iris tingitana* x *Iris xiphium*). Two varieties of *Iris xiphium* (var. *praecox*) from Spain and (var. *lusitanica*) from Portugal, were crossed with *Iris tingitana* (from North Africa). This was carried out by the Dutch bulb firm 'Van Tubergen' in the 19th century.

Because the bulb could be forced in a greenhouse to flower early, it was popular with florists. Since the 1900s it has been crossed with other species to create various cultivars. After the Second World War, stocks of bulbs were imported to America. They then increased the color range mainly the yellows.

If you have Dutch irises in your garden and don't know the names, try looking at pictures of the most common varieties to arrive at an ID so you can enter them in our show. They are not, however, eligible for Best Specimen of Show. Look at:

<http://wiki.irises.org/Main/Spx/SpxHollandica>
<http://wiki.irises.org/Main/Spx/SpxHollandica2>
<http://wiki.irises.org/Main/Spx/SpxHollandica3>
<http://wiki.irises.org/Main/Spx/SpxHollandica4>



The Dutch iris is one of the world's most popular florist flowers. Their dramatic blossoms and long, straight stems are easy to arrange and last a long time in bouquets. They also combine beautifully with other spring flowers and flowering shrubs. In terms of commerce this is the most important category of iris. In the AIS classification system these are included in the Species and Species X classes and usually are shown at iris shows under these categories. When the system of iris registration began, the American Iris Society registered all iris. But in the 1950s due to the commercial importance of the bulb trade to the Netherlands, the Dutch Royal Bulbgrowers (KAVB) took over the registration of all bulbs. Since iris rhizomes are often incorrectly named "bulbs", there has often been confusion over what has been registered where. The system of registration with the KAVB is very different than that of the AIS. With KAVB, unless a cultivar has been through trials and shows potential for the bulb market, it is not considered for registration. The AIS system is more about recording what is out there and caters to backyard growers, enthusiasts, and collectors whether the plant is likely to become part of the large international marketplace or not. Hybridizers of bulbous irises are encouraged to record their cultivars in the Iris Encyclopedia whether or not they will ever be mass produced and registered by the KAVB, especially if they are likely to be exchanged through the network of Iris enthusiasts that unite the iris societies of the world.

References and further reading:

<https://www.longfield-gardens.com/article/All-About-Dutch-Iris>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iris_x_hollandica

<http://wiki.irises.org/Main/InfoBulbousIris>

<http://wiki.irises.org/Hist/Info1920DutchAndSpanishIrisDykes>

<http://wiki.irises.org/Hist/Info1920TheOriginOfDutchIrisVanTubergen>

Display Garden Update

Jean Sharp

President Jeff Davis gave me a call in late January to inform me of the state of the display garden. I'd driven by on my way to work occasionally and did see a lot of green – California poppies, volunteer pansies, and of course the winter weeds bittercress and groundsel.

We had five yards of pathway mulch delivered, secured the services of our wonderful worker Genaro, and set up a work party for Sunday, January 28. We started work around 8:30 a.m. and by 10:00 a.m. the sun made the garden spot a pleasant place to work. The paths were covered with paper donated by Bob Wright and we had nearly enough mulch for the pathways. The rebloomer bed was cleared of all but a few poppies and a future work party will be planned to finish the center area. Work was finished around 1:00 p.m.

Many thanks to Jeff Davis, Betty Ford, Genaro, Alleah Haley, and Bob Wright for a job well done. All efforts were much appreciated.

Excerpt from our April 28-29 Show Schedule:

DIVISION 5 - ARTISTIC DESIGN

Theme: "Spring to the Next Century"

SECTION I - NOVICE

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

Class A. "Spring Splendor" – An arrangement showing abundant color.

Class B. "All By Myself" - Using one stalk of Iris, foliage is required.

SECTION II - AMATEUR

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

Class C. "Circle of Life" - Arranger's Interpretation

Class D. "Spring Ahead" – Using a clock (but not a watch) in the design.

SECTION III - ADVANCED

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

Class E. "A Wrinkle in Time" – An interpretation of a future dimension of design.

Class F. "Pillar of Strength" - A vertical arrangement.

SECTION IV - OPEN TO ALL

Class G. "Spring to the Next Century" - Use the most modern irises.

Class H. "Iris Fire Survivors" - To honor irises and/or accessories which survived the October 2017 fires. Can include pictures.

SECTION V - PLACE SETTINGS - OPEN TO ALL.

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

Class I. "Spring Breeze" - A luncheon setting giving an 'airy' feeling.

Class J. "Candlelight" - Using candle(s) in a romantic design.

SECTION VI - YOUTH

Eligible to Youth under age 19 only.

Class K. "Pink Lemonade" – An arrangement which includes pink iris(es).

Class L. "River Rock" - Using rock(s) with iris.

ARTISTIC DESIGN RULES

1. Entries will be received from 7:00-9:30 a.m. Judging will start by 10:00 a.m. Exhibitors may work on their design during show setup the day before.
2. **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.
3. Accessories are permitted as long as the accessory is subordinate; no artificial plant material may be used.
4. Exhibitors may enter only one exhibit per class.
5. The DESIGN MUST be made by the exhibitor, but the plant material need NOT have been grown by the exhibitor.
6. Plants on the California Garden Clubs, Inc. conservation list may not be used, except in educational displays.
7. Exhibitors under age 19 may enter adult sections (I, II, III) or the youth section (VI) but not both. Youth may enter the 'Open to All' section.
8. Judging will be done according to the National Council of State Garden Clubs' Objectives.

AWARDS: Ribbons and Certificates

By class ... One 1st, one 2nd, one 3rd, and one honorable mention ribbon 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). 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be counted in case of a tie.

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). 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be counted in case of a tie.

In the depths of winter I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer. Albert Camus, courtesy of Schreiner's Iris Gardens

Keeping In Touch

Jim Begley had an operation on December 15 to correct “hammer toe” on the big toe of his left foot. The surgeon inserted a metal plate. By January 17 he was without pain and wearing a walking boot. The downside of the whole thing is that he must have a 2nd operation this winter/spring to correct the baby toe on the same foot.

Lynn Williams was finally diagnosed with bronchial pneumonia in mid-December after an earlier “diagnosis” of simple bronchitis. She slowly recuperated at home, avoiding the germ hospital; and returned to work part time in mid-January. She reported “Some days are good and some days aren’t so good, no matter what I do or how much I rest” “Doc said expect to cough for at least 2 months and to be patient with feeling weak.”

On January 13 Lynn emailed: “If I can just keep the blanky-blank raccoons out of my potted irises long enough for them to get well established (about once a week I have to replant ones they have dug up and there’s no rhyme nor reason to which ones they dig up), I should have over 68 potted irises for our show this spring. Don’t have any idea how I’ll get them down to Santa Rosa yet, since Rick and I only have sedans, no trucks. I’m open for suggestions.” “Tell everyone I said Hi.”

Juanita Breckwoldt is moving to Oregon to be closer to family. She has a sales agreement for her home in San Rafael and is packing. Bob, Jr. plans to retire in late March. They plan to attend our February, 2018 meeting. Do come and say “goodbye.”

In Memoriam

Longtime SRIS member **Rich Kunde** passed away January 18, 2018 at age 75. His health had been declining for several years.



Rich and his wife Saralee (nee McClelland) created one of Sonoma County’s most alluring vineyards and outdoor event spaces from a boggy, poison oak-infested dumpsite on Slusser Rd. near the county airport west of Windsor. Rich used his considerable gardening skills (he held degrees in horticulture and viticulture from UC Davis) to landscape and farm wine grapes on 265 acres that included Richard’s Grove, Saralee’s Vineyard, and the family home in a converted historic hop barn. Irises were prominently featured in the landscaping there. The Kundes generously donated the use of Richard’s

Grove for several years to SRIS for its August picnic and iris auction and raffle. They sold the property in 2012 to Jackson Family Wines.

Rich was born on the Kunde family ranch which raised Hereford cattle and cabernet sauvignon grapes near Glen Ellen and was settled in 1904 by his grandfather, German immigrant Louis Kunde. He purchased a bankrupt grapevine nursery in 1982 and built Sonoma Grapevines into the largest grapevine nursery in the US, producing high quality cloned varieties of grapevines, up to 14 million per year. Rich worked to establish the 18 American Viticultural Areas in Sonoma County, and with his wife tirelessly promoted 4-H, the Future Farmers of America, the Sonoma County Fair, and the Harvest Fair.

Saralee Kunde passed away four years ago. The Kundes are survived by a son, a daughter, one granddaughter, and several nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Private burial services were held January 21st. A public celebration of Rich's life will be held at 1 p.m. on February 24 at Saralee and Richard's Barn (an agricultural education center) at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Donations may be made to Sonoma County Fair Foundation/ Saralee and Richard's Barn, 1350 Bennett Valley Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95404 or the Youth Ag & Leadership Foundation of Sonoma County, PO Box 1283, Rohnert Park, CA 94927.

Happy Birthday February Babies

Jeanne Plank 2/2

Anna Marie Hermansen 2/11

Cheryl Bryan 2/12

Micah Uchiyama 2/15

Nancy Fortner 2/18

Rudy Ciuca 2/21

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 **March 2018** issue of this Newsletter is **February 20, 2018**. E-mail copy to: alleah.haley@gmail.com.*

Spring Regional Gift Basket

It's almost time again for the Spring Regional. For those societies who would like to donate a raffle basket or display, start thinking now. It saves time and money to pick a theme, let your members know and start collecting a basket and things to put in it. Or start with something nice someone wants to repurpose and build around it. We are also accepting silent auction items.

Carolyn Craft

Region 14 Fundraising Chair

theladygardens@aol.com

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Board Meeting, January 8, 2018

The board met at 6:15 p.m. The meeting was attended by Steve Albert, Kitty Loberg, Anna Marie Hermansen, Bob Wright, Anna Cadd, Jeff Davis, Diana Ford, Deloris McKey, Marlene Freetly, Alleah Haley and Kathy McCallum.

Anna Cadd didn't have the Trophy report since she has been ill with the flu. She will have the report next month.

The board agreed to pay \$50 each for 2 members of Arrangers Guild to demonstrate arranging for our artistic division at the February meeting.

The Sweet Pea lady will present a program called the Enchanting Sweet Pea in October.

For the May meeting we will tour Kate Frey's and Don and Diana Ford's Garden in Hopland. This will be on May 5th or 6th with a luncheon/meeting at Don and Diana's. We are still firming up the date with Kate. Kate Frey is an internationally known garden designer. Her extensive plantings are geared toward peaceful surroundings and a bee friendly environment. She has a book titled the Bee-friendly Garden. Diana Ford has been hybridizing for a few years and has a field with more than 4,000 seedlings and 500 named cultivars (there should be something blooming).

We hope to put more member garden tours together this year. Please contact Jeff if you are interested in hosting a tour.

Anna Cadd will borrow our holders for a flower show with the Santa Rosa Arrangers.

Jeff read a letter from the Treasurer of Region 14 Helen Franklin. She has sent \$2126 checks to each of the 5 members of our club who lost their homes.

At the August meeting we are trying to get Rick Tasco or Doug Kanarowski to speak.

The Picnic will be August 4th or 5th.

We will have our rhizome sale at the clubhouse on September 8 with the Heirloom Festival following on September 11, 12 and 13. Setup on September 10.

Our tentative speaker and event schedule is; February – Arrangers Demonstration, March – Jeff Cox A Spiritual Garden, April – Show Prep Demonstration, April 28 and 29 Spring show and pot sale, May – Garden Tour/Luncheon/meeting, June – report on Regional and National, July – Auction pictures, August – Picnic/Auction, August meeting – Rick or Doug Speaking, September meeting will be prepping for the Heirloom Festival, October – Sweet Pea Lady, November – come dressed as an iris potluck.

The Treasurers report was approved.

We went over the budget line by line and added some money to help Joe and Rudy with the expense of hosting a guest garden and representing our club at the upcoming National.

We discussed making up a work party to help at Joe and Rudy's and one for the club garden.

The theme for the Spring Show is Spring to the Next Century, 100 years of American Iris Society.

Kitty has two judges in place so far.

Jeff reported he is working with Laurel Anderson, who heads up the Sonoma County Schools garden program. We will be doing more with schools in the coming year.

Irisess Wanted (original typing is reproduced to maintain flavor)

On November 3, 2017 former SRIS member **Frank Foster** wrote Jim Begley and Anna Cadd asking for "SOME [of my introductions] THAT I DO NOT HAVE OR CANNOT LOCATE THUS FAR ... ALABAMA BOUND, SCATTERED SHOWERS (mtb) VIOLET ON WHITE PPLICATA AND MOST FRAGRANT, INDIANA JONES (GOLDEN YELLOW), PERSIAN BOY (SMALL ARIL BRED, ACTULLY BRED BY DR. LOOMIS AND I RETRIEVED IT FROM HIS FIELD IN COLORADO, COLOR IS CREAM PALE LAVENDER STANDS. AND RED VIOLET FALLS, ABOUT 8 INCHES TALL AND AGE OF AQUARIUS, TB LIGHT BLUE. ALA. BOUND IS LISTED ON ONLINE CATALOG, AT BLUEBIRD HAVEN IN CALIFORNIA, BUT TOO LATE FOR THIS YEAR. HOPEFULLY SOME OF THE OLDER MEMBRS IN S.R. WILL STILL HAVE SOME OF THESE. FOUND A LISTING FOR WINE FESTIVAL AND CINNAMON KISSES ALSO. I WILL WRITE BACK TO HIPS LOCATOR SOURCE AND SEE WHAT THEY HAVE COME UP WITH. IF ANYONE MIGHT HAVE THESE PLEASE HAVE THEM EMAIL OR WRITE ME (frankfosterjr@gmail.com). ANOTHER NAME I JUST THOUGHT OF IS ICE PALACE ... ALSO PIKES PEAK.... ANOTHER IRIS, NOT MINE, THAT HIPS IS SEEKING IS SANTA ROSA. ALAN AMEND IN FRESNO HAD IT IN 1990 STILL, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO SPARE US AT THAT TIME. IF IT EVER SHOWS UP, I WOULD LIKE IT ALSO."

Frank mentioned that his latest introduction is 'Vic Briody', a violet blue on white TB, selected by Vic just before he died in 2007. "BLOOMS VERY VERY EARLY AND A GREAT GROWER AND WELL BRANCHED WITH 12-13 BUD COUNT." Will Plotner of Wildwood Gardens in Oregon introduced it in

2016. It bloomed at the National in Des Moines last spring and Frank sent some “tiny nubbins” for the 2019 AIS National Convention in California for the guest iris chair to grow out and give to judges for evaluation.

Frank said he lives on the 11th floor of an apartment complex with a 25 foot-long balcony. The complex has a shared community garden, and he is trying to find someone in his area that will give or rent him a small plot to use. “I DO NOT GET AROUND AS MUCH AS I USE TO. HAD TO START USING A WALKER ALL THE TIME, LAST YEAR, VERY BAD BALANCE, BUT NO PAIN!!”

Frank’s address is: 370 Church St. SE, 11B, Salem, OR 97301, Phone 503-585-4036.

And this from HIPS (the Historic Iris Preservation Society)

We’ve had such good luck asking our members about irises that we’re trying again. Charlie Carver, our HIPS ID Chair, is trying to locate these irises by Bennett and Evelyn Jones:

PRIMROSE LANE (E. Jones SDB 1993)

CRYSTAL BAY (B. Jones BB 1966)

ORANGE ENCORE (B. Jones SDB 2003)

ORANGE OUTRAGE (B. Jones SDB)

SPRING BELLS (B. Jones SDB 1995)

YELLOW GIRL (B. Jones SDB 1983)

If you know where any of these may be found, please contact Charlie at:
leftandhorticulture@gmail.com .

Help us spread the word at local iris shows

Is your club holding an iris show this year? We’d like to send HIPS brochures that can be offered to iris show attendees. All that’s needed is a contact person who will receive them and put them out at the show. If you can help, email me at pr@historicism.org and they’ll go in the mail. Help us reach out to iris lovers who may not know about HIPS and all we do.

Don’t forget the databank

If you have a little time this winter and haven’t already done so, please send your list of [historic irises; i.e., introduced before 1988] that you are growing to our HIPS Databank Chair, Lori Lensch-Marcotte. I can’t stress enough how important this information is to HIPS – it’s part of what we use to determine if an iris is in danger of disappearing. That iris you’ve been looking at for years may not be growing in another garden. Eight of the saddest words an iris lover can say are, “I was the last person to grow it...” Don’t let that be you! Lori’s email is databank@historicism.org, and she welcomes inquiries on sending lists by mail.

HIPS membership is growing

A final positive note: our latest HIPS membership count stands at 835, with some expired memberships. We’ll be sending out a renewal reminder to those whose memberships have lapsed, so they can renew before the next issue of ROOTS. Please check your mailing label to see when your membership renews! We’re working on upgrading our membership program online to make this information readily available.

Think Spring!

Cathy Egerer

HIPS President

Rebloom Report

On January 31 **Betty Ford** reported rebloom this fall and winter: ‘Flower Shower’ (Weiler, SDB), and ‘Rust Never Sleeps’ (L. Lauer, IB) have been blooming since October. ‘Autumn Explosion’ (Tasco) was awesome during the fall. The rest of the rebloomers on my list are all Mike Sutton’s introductions. Quite impressive! ‘Autumn Breeze’, ‘Cold Creek’, ‘Color Shift’, ‘Snow Day’, ‘Ridgecrest’ BB, ‘Molokini’ and

'Mammoth Orange' (with bloom stalks coming up now and haven't opened yet). Some are showing frost damage which may have toasted the buds: 'Just A Touch', 'Sparks', 'Cozy Cotton' and 'Orange Breeze'. Later that day **Betty** emailed: "I noticed two that I forgot while I was out in the garden yesterday. 'Arvo', an SDB by Keppel. It is a wonderful little rebloomer. Bloomed itself out a couple of years ago, but I had given some to my daughter, so she replaced it for me. Funny story. I shared it with family because my father, brother and nephew are all named Arvo. When that little iris was introduced in 2006, I told Keith that story, & If I remember correctly he said that Arvo stood for 'tomorrow'. I thanked him anyway for naming an iris after my family. Also 'Edge of Winter', another Sutton iris, is putting up a beautiful stalk with big fat buds. It should be lovely providing it survives any frost."

Door Prizes for February

Anna Marie Hermansen

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.

A NEW BEGINNING (T. Johnson, 2017). 37" ML. S. white with peach pink centers; F. cream and peach in the center with a wide lilac rose band; medium orange beards.

ANTSY (T. Johnson, 2017). **SDB** 14" ML. Brown spot pattern with great blue beards.

BABY DUCK (Kantarowski, 2016). 43" ML. S. light yellow w/pink-peach center, veined deeper; F. peach-orange center with golden-orange edge, veined wine-orange, deep wine dotting on edge; large tangerine beard over white base.

BANANA DAIQUIRI (G. Sutton, 2016). 37" EML. S. butter yellow, lighter at edges w/ white veining; F. white to pale lavender with butterscotch edge.

BLUSHING GRAPES (L. Miller, 2016). 34" EM. S. medium purple, lighter stripes; F. lt. coral-pink, deep purple solid border dotting into center; beard white, tangerine tips; slight musky fragrance.

BOLD AWAKENING (Tasco, 2016). **AB** 33" EML. S. magenta rose veined darker; F. brick red veined darker, orange glow around burgundy-black signal; beards maize tipped squirrel brown.

BREATH TAKING (P. Black, 2016). **SDB** 14" ML. S. silvery mauve; F. light slate blue, pale mauve band; beards burnt orange to dark lilac in middle and end; pronounced sweet fragrance.

CANADIAN BRASS (P. Black, 2016). 33" ML. S. dark gold; F. darker with olive-brown veins; beards dark old gold; slight musky fragrance.

COCONUT SNOW (J. Painter, 2016). 35" EM. Ruffled white self; beards white, yellow in throat.

FOLIES BERGERE (Ghio, 2017). 36" EM. S. orange domed and very bubble ruffled; F. orange with oral cast and striking frilly black fuchsia band.

GARDEN TIME (Schreiner, 2017). 35" M. Yellow self.

GHIRARDELLI SQUARE (Keppel, 2016). 38" EM. S. blended brazil brown and horsechestnut; F. white, purple-chocolate solid plicata edge; beards mustard tan to violet.

GIVE IT AWAY (L. Lauer, 2016). 34" E. S. white, yellow base and rim; F. white lined magenta-rose, thin yellow rim; beards tangerine; pronounced sweet fragrance

IDLE RICH (Keppel, 2016). 36" M. S. chartreuse yellow, center grey aster-violet; F. reed yellow, paler spot at end of beard; beards cadmium.

JELLY BEAN PARADE (Kantarowski, 2014). 33" EM. S. white, tinged pale blue-violet, yellow basal infusion; F. yellow-cream; beard hairs based white, tips marigold; slight spicy fragrance.

PARTY ROCK (T. Johnson, 2016). 42" L. S. deep peach pink tinged violet; F. deep grape with violet wire rims; burnt orange and purple beards.

PINK SUGAR (M. Sutton, 2017). 37" L. S. soft pink; F. bright white with 1" pink rim at the serrated edges; beards bright tangerine.

ROYSTON RUBIES (A. Cordes, 2017). 32" M. S. old mauve; F. dark ruby red; beards mustard-orange, lavender base.

SICILIAN ORANGE (M. Sutton, 2016). **BB** 25" ML. S. bright yellow orange flushed peach-pink; F. ruby red, veined yellow orange, 1/4" yellow orange rim; bright tangerine orange beards.

TROPICAL TREASURE (L. Painter, 2016). 36" EL. S. peach-apricot tinted rose on midribs; F. peach blended orchid-mauve; coral beards.

I have seen women looking at jewelry ads with a misty eye and one hand resting on the heart, and I only know what they're feeling because that's how I read the seed catalogs in January. - Barbara Kingsolver, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*, 2007, submitted by Anna Cadd.

Bumper sticker: *Dogs have owners; cats have staff.*

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:

ALLEAH HALEY
208 EUCALYPTUS AVE.
COTATI, CA 94931

NAME(s) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

e-MAIL ADDRESS _____

BIRTHDAY _____

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AND SPOUSE'S NAME _____

AIS MEMBER: YES _____ NO _____

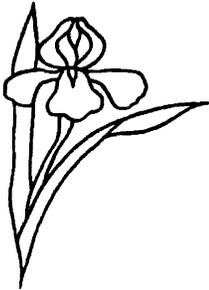
ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ for () SINGLE () DUAL

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

If "NO", Newsletter will be snail-mailed to the physical address above.

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

44th YEAR NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2018

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 Alleah Haley, 208 Eucalyptus Ave., Cotati, CA 94931. 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.

March Newsletter Deadline – February 20th