

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

44th YEAR NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2018

Officers 2018:

President

Jeff Davis

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Kitty Loberg

Secretary

Diana Ford

Past President

Rudy Ciuca

Historian

Anna Cadd

Membership Secretary

Alleah Haley

Librarian

Need volunteer

Newsletter Editor

Alleah Haley

Directors thru 12/19:

Betty Ford

Anna Marie Hermansen

Directors thru 12/18:

Kathy McCallum

Delores McKey

Alleah Haley

Standing Committees:

Attendance

Need volunteer

Display Garden Chairmen

Jeff Davis

Jean Sharp

Door Prize Coordinator

Need volunteer

Hospitality

Diana and Don Ford

LBAGC Representatives

Jeff Davis

Anna Cadd

Alleah Haley (Alternate)

Logistics Coordinator

Jim Begley

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

SRIS BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 6:00 PM at
LUTHER BURBANK ART & GARDEN
CENTER

On Monday, January 8 the Santa Rosa Iris Society officers, directors, and all interested members will gather at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, our regular meeting place, to work on the budget for the club for 2018. Treasurer Kitty Loberg has prepared a draft budget, so come with suggestions for any needed revisions.



This will be an excellent opportunity for you to have direct input into the workings of our society. Please join us, give a ride to a club friend who might not otherwise be able to come, bring a snack to share, and spend a couple hours with your fellow irisarians working on this year's budget.

Gardening Tips for January

based on "January Gardening Chores", www.greenway.com/months, the website of Karen & Mike Garofalo, Red Bluff, CA, USDA Zone 9.

Take a slow walk through your garden and note needed tasks.

Prune deciduous trees and shrubs.

Add compost, ashes, soil supplements, and fertilizer to vegetable and flower gardens; fertilize under trees and shrubs. The soil is usually too wet and cold for much garden digging.

Take cuttings from dormant figs, grapes, and other shrubs.

Spray dormant fruit and other trees.

Weed the winter garden and mow where needed.

Fix wood and metal fences. Check for and repair any leaks in sheds.

Fix any leaking roofs or rain gutters

Place cold sensitive potted plants in protected areas outdoors or indoors.

Keep tools and equipment out of the rain and moisture. Sharpen and oil garden tools.

Protect tender plants from frost.

Indoor activities: sort seeds, plan, read, write, etc. Read gardening, botany, and agricultural books. Browse seed and garden catalogs. Start a garden journal. Plan garden improvements for the New Year.

Care for indoor plants.

Water plants as needed.

From the President's Desk

Now that the holidays are but a distant memory we can look ahead to the new year. It's always full of hope for a better future. Better gardens, better friendships, better health. We don't ask for much. Happiness is enough. We make our resolutions, knowing most won't be fulfilled, but setting goals is the important part. Something to achieve that contributes to our happiness. Getting out in the garden for exercise on a crisp morning, longing to see those first iris stalks coming up that we strained to plant last fall. Our strength is in finding what's important to us and achieving those realistic goals, however large or small. *Jeff Davis*

This Month

Monday, January 8, 6:00 p.m. – SRIS Board Meeting, LBAGC – 2018 budget. All welcome.

Saturday, January 20, 1:30-2:30 p.m. – Judges' Training "Judging Historic Irises at a Show" by Jean Richter. Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. Held in conjunction with Sydney B. Mitchell IS winter potluck.

2018 Iris Events and Important SRIS Dates

Monday, February 12 – TBA

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 \$45 on or before Jan. 31 and must be made by March 31.

Monday April 9 – Speakers TBA, "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/ Potted Iris Sale, LBAGC. Theme TBA.

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; visits to the Kanarowskis' Mariposa Iris Garden & garden of Gary & Gail Collings in Oakhurst.

Monday May 14 – TBA.

Monday June 11 – Speaker(s) TBA. Report on Spring Iris Conventions. Show awards presented.

Monday July 9 – Speaker TBA, "Club Irises available at the August Picnic/Auction".

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

Saturday or Sunday in early August – Potluck Picnic, Iris Auction & Raffle. Details TBA.

Monday August 13 – no meeting.

Late August or September – Rhizome sale. Date, time, and location TBA

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

Monday, September 10 – TBA.

Monday, October 8 – TBA.

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



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

Monday, January 8, 6:00 PM

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

Rose Pruning Classes

Saturdays, January 20 & 27; (heavy rain either day postpones to February 3), 9-3. Russian River Rose Co., 1685 Magnolia Dr., Healdsburg. \$35, pre-registration needed. Call 707-433-7455. Bring hooded jacket, boots, warm socks, work gloves, pruners, clipboard, sack lunch. Warm drinks & muffins provided. Rose propagation workshop 3-4 p.m. 10% discount on all plants.

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: **Barb Baruth, Juanita Breckwoldt, Anna Cadd; Jeff Davis; Diana Ford, Anna Marie Hermansen, Keren Pratz** of McKinney, Texas, **Steve Schreiner, and Jean Sharp.** *Alleah*

Gardening is a kind of self-prescribed preventative medicine, good for all ills. Sheryl London

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.

The Man behind the Dykes Medal

Anna Cadd

In mid-summer, when irises have finished blooming and excitement is over for regular irisarians and gardeners, anticipation begins for iris judges and hybridizers. This is the time of year, when AIS judges vote the AIS awards ballot and to the best of their ability choose the best of the best, with one iris receiving the Dykes Medal.

This is one of the highest awards decided by American Iris Society judges. It is awarded by the British Iris Society in honor of William Rickatson Dykes to the best Iris developed by an American hybridizer. The candidates are chosen from the AIS medal winners that have been bred by American (US & Canadian) hybridizers. The medal winners are the best irises in their class. So this is the best of the best. The British Iris Society also presents Dykes Medals to irises originated in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and previously France.

The winner of the 2017 American Dykes medal was Montmartre (Keith Keppel, 2007).



Below is a history of Dykes and why the highest award in the iris world was named for him.

William Rickatson Dykes (November 4, 1877 – December 1, 1925) was an amateur botanist who became an expert in the field of iris breeding and wrote several influential books on the subject. He was also interested in tulips, amaryllis, and other plants.

Early Life and Education

W.R. Dykes was born on November 4, 1877 at Bayswater in London, the second son of Alfred Dykes. He was a good student and a talented athlete who attended City of London School and then Wadham College, Oxford. In 1900, he obtained an M.A. in classics. Later he received Licence-ès-lettres [an arts degree] from the University of Paris (Sorbonne). Between 1903 and 1919, Dykes was a schoolmaster at Charterhouse School in Godalming, about 30 miles from London. He taught Greek and Latin and occasionally football.

Botanical Work

While studying at Oxford, Dykes met Sir Michael Foster, who instilled in him a passion for studying irises. After he moved to Godalming, he created a large garden to grow irises. When Foster died in 1907, Dykes received the loan of a large collection of Foster's notes for a comprehensive study of irises that he had been unable to complete before his death. Dykes took over this study and completed it, a process that formed the basis for his first book, *Irises* (1909), and a volume in the series *Present-Day Gardening*. It was a small book, which focuses on the decorative uses of the iris as a garden plant but also contains plenty of scientific information.

By 1910, Dykes was interviewed by *Garden Life* magazine as an expert amateur and recognized authority on iris cultivation. In his own garden he had developed an extensive collection embracing most known species.

In 1911, Dykes travelled to the South of France in search of irises that he had read about. There he discovered *Iris spuria* var. *maritima*. It was later published in his 1913 book *The Genus Iris*. During this period, he also worked with retired mining engineer and English plant breeder Arthur J. Bliss (1862–1931) to breed several iris hybrids.

Dykes undertook a formal study of the iris genus at the botanical library at Kew Gardens Herbarium. He also examined hundreds of iris species specimens at other collections, including the British Museum, Oxford Botanical Garden, Cambridge Botanic Garden, Edinburgh Botanic Garden, Berlin Botanical Garden, Vienna Hofmuseum and the Jardin des Plantes in Paris. In 1913 he published his second book, *The Genus Iris*, in which he created the first classification of irises according to Linnaeus' botanical system. In 1924, he was awarded the Veitch Memorial Medal in recognition of the importance of this book in the field of horticulture. Although a landmark in its day, it is now considered out-of-date taxonomically. Iris classification was improved by American botanist George H.M. Lawrence (in 1953), then by Russian botanist George Rodionenko (in 1961) and British botanist Brian Mathew (in 1981).

The Genus Iris had 48 full-color plates made from watercolors by F.H. Round and painted from plants in Dykes' own garden. Dykes knew Round because he was an assistant drawing master at Charterhouse. Round later commented that, during iris season, Dykes would show up "in his dressing gown" at five in the morning with an iris in hand, expecting the painting to be made immediately while the bloom was still fresh. He said that the drawings for Dykes "were easy and comfortable to do."



Watercolor of *Iris nepalensis* by F.H. Round for William Rickatson Dykes, *The Genus Iris*, 1913 (plate 39).

In April 1913, Dykes took a trip to the Dalmatian coast, visiting Sarajevo, Clissa, Mostar and Bosnia. He walked and climbed to collect specimens of irises, which he had heard about from other collectors and sources.

In 1914, he published his third book on irises, *Handbook of Garden Irises*. It contains a large amount of information on iris species. That same year, he was interviewed by *Country Life* magazine on the subject of irises, discussing such species as *Iris xiphoides* (the English iris), Junos, and *Iris reticulata*.

In November 1919, he became a fellow of the Linnean Society of London. The following year, he was appointed to the Secretaryship of the Royal Horticultural Society, a position he devoted himself to until 1925. As a result of this appointment, it became necessary for him to leave Godalming and live nearer to London. He made arrangements for nearly all of his collection of irises to be moved to Percy Murrell's Nursery at Orpington in Kent. He retained only a few rhizomes each of some seedlings, planting them on a small plot of ground at the John Innes Research Station at Merton, Surrey. During this period, he raised several hybrid iris seedlings of which 'Amber' (pale yellow, 1924); 'Moonlight' (yellowish-white) and 'Wedgewood' (medium blue) are the best known. He also carried on correspondence with many botanists and gardeners, including the American Grace Sturtevant.

In 1924, Dykes married Katherine (née Kaye), who also made a name for herself as an iris hybridizer and painter. They had their own garden at Sutton Green near Guildford, where he planted over 30,000 tulip bulbs.

In 1925, Dykes translated from the French Louis Lorette's book on pruning fruit trees, *La Taille Lorette*. That same year, Dykes was killed only a week after receiving the Victoria Medal of Honor from the Royal Horticultural Society. On November 27, 1925, his car skidded on a slippery road and he crashed into a truck. The impact ejected him from his vehicle and he was so severely injured that he died a few days later on December 1, 1925.

Posthumous Honors

In June 1926, at a meeting of the British Iris Society, it was resolved to award a medal to the hybridizer of the outstanding iris variety of each year in memory of Mr. Dykes. The Dykes Medal was first presented in 1927 to William Mohr for his 'San Francisco' hybrid. Since then, it has become highly coveted by all iris hybridizers. The British Iris Society now presents separate Dykes Medals in Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand. It was previously awarded in France as well beginning in 1928, but it stopped in 1938 due to the outbreak of World War II and never started up afterwards.

Katherine Dykes carried on her husband's plant breeding work; and in 1926 she named a yellow iris (the first true yellow) 'W. R. Dykes' in his honor. It was sold by Orpington Nurseries and was used by other iris breeders to create new hybrids. In 1930, she produced the iris 'Gudrun' (a white), which went on to win the British Dykes Medal in 1931. She died in Raynes Park on May 25, 1933 after a train accident.

In June 1926, Marion Cran wrote in the Dykes memorial issue of the *Annual of the Iris Society*, "He was to be seen at all the shows, the small fortnightly shows at Vincent Square and the great summer and autumn shows at Chelsea and Holland Park. His broad, burly frame moved in a leisurely way among the exhibits. He might be smiling just broadly like a merry schoolboy, or cross as Good Friday's bun just as the moment might take him; for he was a man of strong personality who made no attempt to

disguise his emotions. Unknown to most people, he suffered from Asperger syndrome”.

Two posthumous publications by Dykes came out in 1930. Dykes' *Notes on Tulip Species* included 54 color plates of paintings by Katherine Dykes. *Dykes on Irises* (edited by G. Dillistone) was a reprint of Dykes' contributions to various journals and periodicals during the last 20 years of his life.

In 1932, Otto Stapf from Kew Gardens found a hybrid between *Iris chrysographes* and *Iris delavayi* in Dykes' garden and named it *Iris dykesii* in his honor. The name did not stick as the iris was subsequently reclassified as a synonym of *Iris chrysographes* (Dykes), which Dykes had originally published in *Gardeners Chronicles* in 1911. In 1935, Alexei Vedenski named a tulip *Tulipa dykesiana* in *Flora of USSR*; this too has since been reclassified, in this case as a synonym of *Tulipa kolpakowskiana*.

References

https://wikivisually.com/wiki/William_Rickatson_Dykes

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

Happiness is a habit. Cultivate it. *Elbert Hubbard*
The Iris Learning Corner - *Iris unguicularis*
Anna Cadd

Infrequently I walk under my grapefruit tree. This is because I am not supposed to eat grapefruit, because of medicine I am taking. This is weird as I can have oranges, lemons and tangerines! But this year my grapefruits are beautiful, so I went there and under the tree is “a blue sea of winter”- blooming iris – *Iris unguicularis*!

Iris unguicularis (syn. *I. stylosa*) is a rhizomatous flowering plant in the genus *Iris*, native to Greece, Turkey, Western Syria, and Tunisia. The variety common in our gardens comes from seeds collected in Alger, Tunisia. It grows 12 inches tall with grassy evergreen leaves, producing pale lilac or purple flowers with a central band of yellow on the falls. The flowers appear in winter and early spring. They are fragrant, with pronounced perianth tubes up to 8” long. The perianth tube connects the style arms with the ovary, which is located underground

This plant is widely cultivated in different regions, and numerous cultivars have been selected for garden use, including a slightly more tender white form 'Alba', and a dwarf variety *I. unguicularis* subsp. *cretensis*. The cultivar 'Mary Barnard' has earned the Royal Horticulture Society's Award of Garden Merit.





Photos by Anna Cadd on March 1, 2014

The Iris Encyclopedia lists several *Iris unguicularis* varieties:

'**Unguicularis Alba**' (Collected by Rev. Edwyn Arkwright before 1888).

Iris unguicularis* subsp. *angustifolia (Boiss. & Heldr.,) Greuter, in *Bocconea* 25: 101 (2012).

'**Atroviolaceae**' *Iris unguicularis*. "Falls dark purple, intense color" *Iris unguicularis* Poir.

'**Syriaca**'. (Collected, Aaron P. Davis and Stephen L. Jury, 1990). As *Iris unguicularis* subsp. *carica* variety *syriaca*

'**Grandiflora**' "Falls deep purple; flowers large." *The Iris Year Book 1991* p.82. *Iris unguicularis* Poir.

'**Unguicularis Lilacina**'. (A. Montague and Company, 1927). Series Unguiculares,

'**Unguicularis Marginata**'. (Dammann and Company, 1901). Series Unguiculares,

'**Unguicularis Speciosa**'. (C. G. Van Tubergen, 1900). Series Unguiculares; Color Code-B3D; falls deep violet blue: $2n=38$. Van Tubergen 1900. Dykes (1921) noted that there may be two plants circulating under the name *I. speciosa*, but he believes but the plant he calls *speciosa* is distinct from Algerian *unguicularis* by having "curious bosses or swellings at the base of the segments of the flower." *Iris unguicularis*, subsp. *carica* variety *angustifolia* (Boiss. & Heldr.) Davis & Jury. (*Iris unguicularis* Poir.).

'**Unguicularis Violacea**'. (Samuel Stillman Berry, 1927). Unguicularis;

And there is a connection to Mr. Dykes, who grew *Iris unguicularis* in his garden and introduced one variety:

'**Unguicularis Peacock**' (William Rickatson Dykes, 1924). (SPX). Series Unguiculares; R8M; "This is said to be derived from a batch of seedlings raised from a cross between a dwarf variant from Cephalonia [an island in western Greece] and a taller one with larger leaves from Crete. The soft violet falls are described as being prettily marked with a feathered zone of gold, yellow and white, while there are occasional tinges of rosy violet and splashes of a darker shade. Given an Award of Merit in 1924 when shown by W. R. Dykes." (*Iris unguicularis* forma Cephalonia X Lazica).

There is also another connection with this iris to former Santa Rosa Iris Society member, Colin Rigby from Cotati. He introduced a named variety of *Iris unguicularis*, named after his wife, Teresa Rigby:

'**Teressa**' (Colin Rigby, R. 1998) Seedling #UNG-12. SPEC (unguicularis), 10" (25 cm). Midseason bloom. Standards smooth medium purple, midrib darker; style arms lighter purple; falls medium purple, darker area below small bright yellow signal, haft with some thin white lines. *I. unguicularis* X 'Mary Barnard'. Iris Gallery 1998.



Sources:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iris_unguicularis
<http://wiki.irises.org/Main/Spx/SpxUnguicularisPeacock>
<http://wiki.irises.org/Spec/SpecU>
<http://wiki.irises.org/Spec/SpecTeressa>



Keeping In Touch

Received from **Steve Schreiner** on December 5: "It wrenches my stomach to think of the people devastated by the loss of their homes from forest fires. Few things could be worse than that. I don't think I know the BeViers but I remember meeting Kitty Loberg. And Jean Sharp I remember best because she picked me up when I first went to Santa Rosa [to be guest speaker at the 2009 Spring Regional that SRIS hosted].

"I sent a check last month as a contribution to the fund for the people who lost their homes. But my contribution, and my sympathy fall far short of really making any difference and I feel badly for that.

"The community of the Santa Rosa Iris Society will help enormously, I'm sure, with love and support.

"It all seems like such a terrible, unbelievable nightmare. And the suddenness of it reminds me how one day all of us up here could be in the same boat after the big earthquake hits. They say there's a 40% chance it'll hit by 2050.

"Please extend my best to Jean and Kitty, Delores McKey, and the BeViers.

"Thanks, Steve

In a subsequent December 8 email **Steve Schreiner** commented "Thanks for the November newsletter, and the addresses of the people who lost their homes. The story of Mason Williams rescuing his grandmother [**Delores McKey**] is about as gripping as it can get."

Barb Baruth sent in her 2018 dues on December 16 with the following note: "If all goes well, Chris and I will drive out to CA in Jan. – and will stay for a few months. See you at an upcoming meeting!"

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 hope to attend our February, 2018 meeting. Do plan to attend to say "goodbye."



Notice: Change to Roster

Patricia Franz has a new email address. It is:
patriciafranz99@gmail.com

In Memoriam

We were notified that newer member **Jonnie Russell** passed away in November before Thanksgiving from myasthenia gravis, a condition similar to ALS. She joined SRIS at our August rhizome sale at LBAGC. Jonnie suffered a breathing attack while gardening, was taken to the hospital, but never recovered. Jonnie was a consummate gardener and our Club will miss her expertise.

Happy Birthday January Babies

Doug Dolezal 1/3

Bill Tatham 1/9

Dawn Wright 1/16

Bob Wright 1/18

Patricia Franz 1/22

Linnea Polo 1/28

Jim Begley 1/29

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

Judges' Training on January 20, 2018

"Judging Historic Irises at a Show" will be offered in Oakland in conjunction with the Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society annual potluck on January 20, 2018. Historic iris aficionado and AIS Garden/Exhibition judge Jean Richter will give the one-hour training.

Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

Lunch at 12:00 noon - bring a dish to share

Training at 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Location: Lake Merritt Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. In Lakeside Park at Lake Merritt. \$5 entry fee upon entering the park.

Bring your own table service and serving spoon. Distance guests bring appetizers, salads, desserts or beverages to feed 10. Locals will bring hot dishes and the Society will provide napkins, hot drinks, rolls, and the main dish. Come for the potluck or just the training. Contact Jean Richter 510-864-7962 for driving directions and info.

New Year's Resolutions

adapted from the original credo of Al-Anon, a support group for family and friends of active and recovering alcoholics, reprinted in *Dear Abby*, Press Democrat, Jan. 1, 2018 and in the January 2013 issue of this Newsletter.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will live through THIS DAY ONLY. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all of my problems at once.

I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will be happy, I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away and fill it with sunshine.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will accept what is. I will face reality, I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those I cannot.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort, thought, and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will be kind and courteous to those who cross my path, and I'll not speak ill of others. I will improve my appearance, speak softly, and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today, I will refrain from improving anybody but myself.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll quit. If I'm overweight, I will eat healthfully – if only for today. And not only that, I will get off the couch and take a brisk walk, even if it's only around the block.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will gather the courage to do what is right and take responsibility for my own actions.

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Board Meeting, December 11, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m.

The October meeting was canceled due to the fire. The September minutes were approved.

The Treasurer's report included a notice that \$200.00 was destroyed in the October fire that destroyed Kitty Loberg's home. We will find out if we can donate \$1,000.00 to the region for our 5 club members who lost their homes. We would have to run it through the region because of our standing rules.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Old business: Six trophies were also destroyed when Kitty's home burned. Anna Cadd will head a committee to determine how to deal with this before our spring show.

We need a new person to do attendance. For now, Diana Ford will just add that to the secretary duties. Librarian duties have been added in as well. Alleah Haley has taken on membership along with newsletter editor. Diana Ford will make up a committee to order iris.

Present at this meeting: Anna Cadd, Diana Ford, Jeff Davis, Anna Marie Hermansen, Delores McKey, Jean Sharp, Cheryl Bryan, Steve Albert, Kitty Loberg, Alleah Haley, Betty Ford and Bob Wright.

Items for general meeting in February:

Theme for Spring Show

Trophies, keeper awards, certificates

Committee chairs

Signs and Bench in Garden

Clean out cabinets

Chairman of Dean Linscott award

Standing Rules Change - we have changed the meeting times and a matter of trophies. Jeff will send out the Standing Rules electronically so people may look at them before the meeting.

Programs:

A number of ideas were discussed for this year's programs. Alleah has arranged for Jeff Cox to speak at the March meeting. Jeff writes a gardening column for the Press Democrat and has written books on gardening. Jeff's presentation will be titled 'A Spiritual Garden'.

Kitty will try to contact Marky Smith, Rick Tasco, Lee Walker or Phil Edinger for possible presentations.

Tentative lineup includes: February – Arrangements for the show (or an iris program), March – Jeff Cox, April – Show prep, May – open, June awards and report on national convention, July – Iris pictures for auction, August – Picnic function, September and October both open, November – Dress like an Iris potluck.

There was a positive discussion about members' garden tours, bus or carpool trips to Napa Gardens, an outing to include a lunch to Kate Frey's garden and Diana and Don's place. Jeff has agreed to be the chairman of fun stuff like this.

2017 Fall Rebloom

Anna Marie Hermansen reported on January 1: 'Mariposa Autumn', Tasco 1999, has been reblooming just about all December in my Santa Rosa garden and is still blooming as of this writing. This lightly ruffled iris has standards that are rosy violet with white showing in the center. The falls have a white ground with a rosy violet band. Its beards are white at the base, hairs tipped violet at the end, and tipped gold in throat. It is a cross between 'Jesse's Song' and 'Earl of Essex'.

Juanita Breckwoldt noted that rebloom was sparse this year but included:

'Echo Location' (Betty Wilkerson 2007, TB) – pale yellow with brown haft markings and brown on bottom of falls when fresh. Beards white, tipped yellow.

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

'Orange Harvest' (Bennett Jones 1988, TB) – bright orange with red beards.

'Pure as Gold' (Bill Maryott 1993, TB) – heavily ruffled deep gold; deeper beards. "It was gorgeous."

Alleah Haley reported rebloom on:

'Anxious' (Hager 1992), 'Bonus Mama' (Hager 1990, TB), 'Brown Lasso' (Niswonger 1975, Dykes 1981, BB), 'Forever Blue' (Chapman 1997, SDB), 'Traffic' (L. Lauer 2004, TB), 'and 'Wine Time,' (Messick 1981, TB).

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 _____

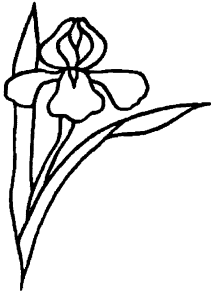
ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ for () SINGLE () DUAL

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

If "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 1

JANUARY 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.

February Newsletter Deadline – January 20th