

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

44th YEAR NUMBER 6

JUNE 2018

Officers 2018:

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Jeff Davis

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Kitty Loberg

Secretary

Diana Ford

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Rudy Ciuca

Historian

Anna Cadd

Membership Secretary

Alleah Haley

Librarian

Need volunteer

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Alleah Haley

Directors thru 12/19:

Betty Ford

Anna Marie Hermansen

Directors thru 12/18:

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Alleah Haley

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Photography

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Kitty Loberg

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Jeff Davis

2018 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Need volunteer

2018 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Need volunteer



MONDAY, JUNE 11, 7:00 PM
JEFF DAVIS & ANNA CADD
– 2018 AIS REGION 14 AND
NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

For our program this month we will have two very interesting PowerPoint presentations. Jeff Davis will cover the Region 14 Spring Meeting in Mariposa on May 11-13, 2018. And Anna Cadd

will present coverage of the AIS National/ Society for Louisiana Irises Joint Convention held in the New Orleans area from April 8-14. Come early and enjoy snacks before the programs.

The Mariposa meeting was well represented by SRIS members – 11 of us were among the total attendance of 78 irisarians. Only three SRIS members attended the New Orleans Convention; but Alleah had four other members of her family there, so it was quite an SRIS party! There wasn't even one bearded iris seen in Louisiana (bearded irises don't like to grow in the tropics); but to the delight of the organizers, 278 irisarians attended! Come and enjoy the pictures/discussion of these two big springtime events.

Following the program, awards will be presented to winners of the Santa Rosa Iris Society's April 28 – 29, 2018 Show.

Pictured is the 2017 winner of the Mary Swords DeBaillon Medal for best Louisiana iris, as voted by AIS judges, 'My Friend Dick' (Butler, 2000). 35" tall, mid-season bloom; currant red; bold golden yellow signal.

Gardening Tips for June

Anna Cadd

1. Usually at this time of year, I think "Uff. Thank God bloom season is over. I am suffering from iris overload!" But not this year. Due to unusually cool and rainy spring weather, we still have irises blooming here and there. I planted some irises in January and February and they are in full bloom now. Not blue ribbon stalks, but they are going to survive and grow just fine and win me a lot of blue ribbons next year! (Just kidding; I promised myself not to enter a lot of irises in our 2019 show but to let everyone else have a chance to win!). So I am enjoying them as I can, time

permitting. You too can spend a few moments sitting and admiring your flowers, as they dance in the breeze!

2. When the fun is over, it's time for real work. June is when we cut off the spent bloom stalks from the top of the parent rhizomes. Sometimes I get lazy and, passing by, I break off the stalk at the base without using clippers. I've made an observation, not a scientific one and not proven, that old varieties are resistant to breaking the stalks off at the base, so they need to be cut; while on newer varieties you can break out the stalks easily. Older varieties also tend to set bee pods more often, probably because they have more fragrance and nectar, so bees are going after the food and the plant holds onto the bloom stalks to let the bee pods develop their seeds. But this is only a theory. Maybe a topic for scientific investigation?
3. Remove any leaves that are withered or brown. Such iris leaves have a lot brown leaf spots, a fungal disease. These are the "spring leaves" now at the base of the clump; they got infected when it was warm and wet in spring. The "summer leaves" are tough and there isn't a lot of moisture in the air or soil, so they are healthy green throughout the summer. Please, don't let anybody cut the green leaves back. They are the "factories" for next year's bloom! And try to weed your beds to perfection! Do it before the weeds release their seeds, so every year you will have less seeds and weeds. That's the theory, anyway.
4. Apply a good application of fertilizer. On heavy clay soil use 10-10-10 fertilizer, on sandy soil 15-15-15 is fine. Purity Chemical* sells them in 50 lb. bags for about \$ 30.00. Sounds like a lot of fertilizer, but you will be surprised how much you will use! Sprinkle the fertilizer around the clumps and hoe it in. Plants can only use what is around the roots!
5. Apply a pre-emergent weed killer. For me, Preen works well. It is expensive (\$28.00 for 16 lb.), but it sure beats weeding on your knees and struggling in the sun. My garden is almost completely weed-free!
6. Very important: water the fertilizer and Preen into the soil really well. Good watering with a garden hose is sufficient, but you may wish to water every 3-5 days really good during June and the first half of July. This is the time when the fertilizer breaks down from nitrates to nitrites and can be absorbed to build big rhizomes. Watering by hose is okay. but overhead sprinkling is also good. The best method is to install a drip system and be worry free! It also conserves water!
7. If you took a lot of good photographs, consider entering some of them in the AIS Photo Contest. The details of how to enter are on the AIS website. You can also upload them to the iris wiki. There is information on the wiki about how to do it, or just contact Bob Pries and he will upload them for you. Your picture will stay there forever!

*Purity Chemical has closed its store in Santa Rosa. See *Iris Fertilizers* elsewhere in this issue.

P resident's Message

I was looking at my pictures from the last couple of months, reminding myself of the wonderful iris season it has been. It was great to see how many members participated in each activity. It came together in a flurry. Our show, the garden tours, the Region 14 Spring Meeting. Thanks those who opened their gardens for us to enjoy: Rudy Ciuca and Joe Lawrence, Betty Ford, Jim Begley, Anna Cadd, and Diana Ford. Diana and her family prepared an excellent lunch for us all and we had the extra bonus of visiting Kate Frey's wonderful garden in Hopland. What a great weekend that was. It was also my first Spring Regional in awhile, and I really enjoyed the journey to Mariposa and seeing the Kanarowskis' and Collings' gardens. We had 11 members who made it. This is what being in a club is all about. The camaraderie!

Jeff Davis

This Month

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 – Alleah Haley, PowerPoint presentation from Doug Kanarowski “Something for Everyone – the Iris Gardener, Hybridizer and Businessman”.

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

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

Tuesday thru Thursday, September 11-13 – 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, July 9, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 10, 6:00 PM

Monday, November 12, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 10, 6:00 PM

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Iris Fertilizer

Alleah Haley

For several years, SRIS has been telling people that Purity Chemical is *the* place to purchase iris fertilizer, especially Simplot's 6-24-24 but also 15-15-15. Well, Purity Chemical closed their store on Maxwell Court near downtown Santa Rosa on December 1, 2017. This was because the North Bay fires significantly reduced their customer base at that store.

Their only local store (I don't know if they're elsewhere) is at 1411 Grove St. in Healdsburg (707-433-3582). I give the phone # because I had to call to find the store. It's tucked behind a tan warehouse that's physically located on Grove St. Driving north on Grove, go past all the odd 1400's and make a U-turn and drive back down the street (alley) behind the 1400 odds. At the end of the block on the right is Purity Chemical with 1411 in large letters (but not visible from Grove Street proper). Or just phone them when you get in the area.

But if you want to shop local and to save money, 15-15-15 and 6-24-24 are also available at LeBallister's, Seed and Fertilizer, 1250 Sebastopol Rd., Santa Rosa; phone 707-526-6733. It's on the south side of Sebastopol Rd. east of Stony Point Rd. Their price for 15-15-15 is \$19.00 + tax for a 50# bag and for 6-24-24 is \$21.95 + tax, less than Purity Chemical's prices.

There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: Music and cats. Albert Schweitzer

Happy Birthday June Babies

Vivian Estrada 6/15

Melanie Webster 6/17

Kitty Loberg 6/24

Barbara BeVier 6/26

Jeff Davis 6/29

June Wedding Anniversary

Diana and Don Ford 6/28

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 July issue of this Newsletter is June 20. Email copy to: alleah.haley@gmail.com.*

The Iris Learning Corner – Louisiana Irises

Anna Cadd and Alleah Haley

In the iris world there are bearded irises (subsection Eupogon – with beard) and beardless irises (Subsection Apogon – without beard). In the latter group belong the spuria, Louisiana (LA), Japanese, Siberian, Pacific Coast native, beardless species and beardless species-hybrid irises.

Louisiana irises belong to the series Hexagonae of the genus *Iris*. They are composed of five species, most of which are indigenous to a limited area of south Louisiana and the Gulf Coast marsh areas between Texas and Florida and up the Mississippi River to Iowa. Two species, *Iris brevicaulis* and *I. fulva*, extend the range northward up the Mississippi Valley. *Iris hexagona* inhabits the southern Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, but by far, the greatest concentration is in the state of Louisiana, hence the name Louisiana Irises.

*Iris hexagona** is native Coast and the Gulf of Florida). Its flowers are purple, or white.

*Photo by Rodney



to the southeastern U.S. adjacent to the Atlantic Mexico (South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and 4 – 4 ¾” across; lilac, medium blue, deep violet-

Barton, North American Native Iris.

Iris fulva (photo here from Iris City Gardens, an iris nursery in Tennessee), is native to southern Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, and Ohio. Flowers are 1 - 4 ½” across, in shades of red or chrome yellow. This species cannot grow in dense shade or brackish (salty) water.

Iris brevicaulis is native Arkansas, Missouri, in moist upland ½ - 4 ½” wide, and it is

the Louisiana irises. It comes in shades of blue dwarf species – stalks are thick and short, 10 - zag pattern, and it blooms down in the foliage. the correct specific epithet remains in question. This species has contributed least of the five Louisiana iris species to modern hybrids.



to southern Louisiana, Ohio, and Indiana. Found locations, its flowers are 3 the latest blooming of all and rarely white, and is a 14” tall, growing in a zig Also known as *Iris foliosa*,



Iris giganteaerulea is the tallest and largest Louisiana iris with flowers 5 ¼ - 6” wide and stalks up to 7’ tall. Flowers are blue to purple to blue-purple or white (white more common than in other Louisiana species). It is found in Louisiana coastal areas to 100 miles inland and nearby southeast Texas. It grows in full or partial sun and tolerates brackish water. Alleah and her family saw it growing along the edge of the swamp, along with naturalized *Iris pseudacorus*, during an airboat tour they took out of Lafitte, Louisiana this spring.

Iris nelsonii has flowers beige brown or yellow (west of New Orleans “Abbeville Reds” and “Abbeville Yellows” *I. nelsonii* is believed to



that are 4 ½ - 5” across, bright red to purple, rarely brown. Found only in Louisiana south of Abbeville and south of Lafayette). This species includes the

discovered by W.B. MacMillan about 1938. be a naturally-developed species, a hybrid

involving primarily *I. fulva* and *I. giganticaerulea*. Natural hybrids involving dwarf blue *I. brevicaulis* are also known in areas where these irises have grown for some time close together in one small area.

Modern Louisiana iris hybrids range in color from white through all the lavenders, blues and violet to deepest purple. There are also pink rose, red, bronze and yellows, as well as bitones, bicolors and freckled specimens.

They can be grown almost anywhere in the United States and even into Canada provided a few easy requirements for cultivation are met. The blooms are usually very wide petaled and open, showing brightly colored style arms and sharp signal-crests. Some of the most spectacular iris flowers are in plants of this group.

In addition to the species themselves, advanced generation Louisiana iris hybrids were seen by attendees of the AIS/Society for Louisiana Irises combined convention in New Orleans this spring.

Winner of the President's Cup (the best in-Region origination) at the convention was Joseph Musacchia's 2017 LA introduction 'Acadian Sky' (left; photo by Jean Richter of Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society). Winner of the Franklin Cook Cup (the best out-of-region origination) at the convention was Hooker Nichols' (2011) LA 'Watermelon Wizard' (right; Jean Richter photo).



Louisiana irises can grow in the garden under a wide variety of soil and garden conditions. Wet, soggy soil is the best and the shallow edge of a lake or pond is the most natural spot for Louisiana irises.

California hybridizers known for their Louisiana iris introductions include:

- Ben Hager of Stockton, noted for his dark LA 'Full Eclipse' (1978) and 'Mary Dunn' (1974; winner of the DeBaillon Award in 1977)
- Mary Dunn of North Highlands (many LAs including 'Bajazzo' (1980, DeBaillon Medal 1992), 'Bayou Mystique' (1989, DeBaillon Medal 1998), 'Extraordinaire' (1992, winner of the DeBaillon Medal in 2002)).
- Wayland Rudkin of Sacramento ('Ginny's Choice', 2005, winner of the DeBaillon Medal in 2012)
- Joe Ghio of Santa Cruz (16 LA introductions including 'Elusive Butterfly' in 1984).



References

Caillet, M., J. F. Campbell, K. Vaughn, and D. Vercher, eds. 2000. *The Louisiana Iris: The Taming of a Native American Wildflower*, 2nd Ed. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press.

<https://www.louisianairis.com/louisiana.native.iris.htm>

<http://www.louisianas.org>

<http://wiki.irises.org> (various species).

AIS Region 14 Nomination Comm. Report

John Pesek, Chairman, Nomination Committee

This October AIS Region 14 will elect a new Regional Vice President to serve from January 1, 2019 through the end of 2021. As we set about finding qualified candidates for the position, several of the suggested candidates declined for various reasons. Two of the qualified candidates, Jean Richter and Riley Probst, said they would take on the responsibility of RVP and were interviewed during the 2018 Region 14 Spring Regional. Both candidates interviewed very well, answering questions and giving their vision of the future for Region 14.

By secret ballot the Region 14 Nomination Committee chose Jean Richter as our choice to lead Region 14 for the next three years. The Committee also recommends Alleah Haley for Assistant Regional Vice President.

The voting for RVP and ARVP will take place during the Region 14 Fall Regional in Reno on October, 19 & 20, 2018.



Jean Richter, Nomination Committee choice for new RVP. October 2018 photo by Anna Cadd.

He was a Hero

Lynn Williams

I don't know of many 18 year old men, who I can call a hero, but my great nephew certainly was. On Saturday, May 12th, Jared Anthony Gardner of Clovis, California, was swept away as a result of rescuing a woman in the group of seven friends who had gone hiking on the San Joaquin River Gorge Trail. In the group of friends, there were three men and four women. At the end of the trail, they stopped to dip their feet in the San Joaquin River, which was only 18" deep, at the deepest, when unbeknownst to them, 30,000 cubic feet of water was released from the power plant 20 miles upstream. In less than 60 seconds, the water rose from 18" to over 65". Jared and his older brother, Trent, and the other man in the group each helped a woman to shore, when Jared saw that the last woman was being swept downstream. He went in after her and pushed her to shore, saving her life. But Jared was swept downstream as a consequence. Trent ran along shore, trying to find a way to help his brother, but couldn't keep up.

Just three weeks before his scheduled high school graduation, Jared was lost to us and it took Search and Rescue, the Sheriff's Department, and several volunteers six days to find his body. The area where he drowned was very rugged and they sent up drones and helicopters to try to find him, to no avail. He was found on Friday, May 18th in a crevice under a large rock.

He was a very well-liked young man and almost 2,000 people attended his funeral service held at Clovis Community College on May 29th. He was very smart, had a wonderful sense of humor, and was a great big brother to his younger brother and younger sisters. He went out of his way to make people feel welcomed, no matter where he was or what he was doing. I will truly miss him, as will most everyone who knew him.

You may send condolences to **Lynn and Rick Williams** at:

25415 Salmon Place

Willits, CA 95490

laughinglynn2@gmail.com



Keeping In Touch

Former SRIS member **Frank Foster** has been corresponding, looking for his iris introductions, listed here:

Border Bearded: 'California Girl', 'Cotati', 'Sky Drifter',

Intermediate Bearded: 'Bama Baby', 'Sunshine Boy', 'Toro Blanco'

Miniature Tall Bearded: 'Scattered Showers',

Standard Dwarf Bearded: 'Diamonds And Rust',

Tall Bearded: 'Age Of Aquarius', 'Alabama Bound', 'Autumn Aspen', 'Beaches', 'Bess Cheever', 'Bodega Bay', 'Cinnamon Kisses', 'Colorado Melody', 'Colorado Night', 'Cripple Creek Gold', 'Denver Delight', 'Dixie Virginia', 'Fever', 'Frost Fire', 'House Of Orange', 'Ice Palace', 'Indiana Jones', 'Indigo Mood', 'J. Arthur Nelson', 'Lisbon Antigua', 'Luther Burbank', 'Midnight Pacific', 'Miss Hospitality', 'Mondo Cane', 'Myra Elizabeth', 'New York City', 'Optimese', 'Pikes Peak', 'Rocky Mountain High', 'Rocky Mountain Music', 'Sounds Of Silence', 'Spokane Splendor', 'Street Of Dreams', 'Sunset Boulevard', 'Verona Wiekhorst', 'Vic Briody', 'Wine Festival'.

He's also looking for 'Santa Rosa' (Sydney B. Mitchell, 1943, TB) for HIPS.

Frank last emailed June 3, 2018. His original typing is reproduced to maintain flavor)

THOUGHT I WOULD DROP A LETTER OF INQUIRY TO SEE IF ANYONE IN SR AREA MAY HAVE TURNED UP ANY OF MY OLDIES. DID I EVER MENTION THAT ALLEN AMEND IN FRESNO WAS GROWING VARIETY SANTA ROSA (LAST LETTER I HAD FROM WAS ABOUT 1992, JUST BEFORE MOVING FROM SANTA ROSA. AS FAR AS I KNOW ALLEN IS STILL ALIVE, AT LEAST I HAVE NOT SEEN OBIT IN AIS BULLETIN. I MENTIONED (I THINK) TO JIM BEGLEY ABOUT WRITING ALLEN AMEND. I WILL DO SAME, BUT WILL HAVE TO CALL KEITH KEPPEL FOR ADDRESS. THE LOCAL IRIS SOCIETY. OTIS [Oregon Trail Iris Society] JUST HOSTED REG. 13 MEETING. ABOUT [134 registered attendees, over 100 on the bus tour]. I DID NOT TRY TO GO, LUGGING A WALKER THRU A GARDEN, UGH! ABOUT 8 OF THE COLORADO VISITORS CAME BY ON FRIDAY, AFTER MORNING TOURS TO CELEBRATE MY BIRTHDAY AND PAUL CHEEVER'S.

BEST TO ALL. IS JACKIE NORTON STILL ACTIVE MEMBER? TELL HER HELLO FROM ME.
FRANK

If anyone can supply Frank with any of his irises or knows about Allen Amend or Jackie Norton, Frank may be reached at:

370 Church St. SE, 11B

Salem, OR 97301

frankfosterjr@gmail.com

Beverly Stevens Passing

Former SRIS member Beverly Stevens has died. The following was printed in the May 2018 Shasta Iris Society Newsletter

"I am sad to notify you that one of our members has passed, Beverly Stevens. There will be a Celebration of Life gathering for Beverly Stevens on Sunday June 10 at the Frontier Senior Center in Anderson. She passed away on April 6. There will be a potluck meal served. Bringing a dish is optional. She is survived by her husband Jerry.

Jerry's contact information:

5835 Missouri Lane

Anderson, CA 96007

Email: jb1stevens@att.net

From the Editor – Many thanks for contributions to this issue: **Anna Cadd; Jeff Davis; Lee Dickey** of Shasta Iris Society, **Frank Foster, Anna Marie Hermansen, John Pesek, Susan Schouten** of Oregon Trail Iris Society, and **Lynn Williams**.
Alleah

Gratitude turns what you have into enough. Joanna Gaines of the TV show “Fixer Upper”

Awards at 2018 Region 14 Spring Meeting

Knopf Cup for best seedling by a Region 14 hybridizer – 01-20-1 by Bill Tyson

Out of Region Award for best seedling or named variety by a hybridizer out of Region 14. If named, introduced within the last 5 years – ‘Luxuriant’ (TB, 2016) by Paul Black

Cotillion Cup for best current (2018) introduction by a Region 14 hybridizer – ‘Sky Beat’ (TB) by Robert Annand

Clara B. Rees Cup for best introduction by a Region 14 hybridizer prior to 2018 – ‘Baby Duck’ (TB, 2016) by Doug Kanarowski

Jim Gibson Cup for best plicata, fancy plicata, luminata, broken color iris, or visual plicata – Blushing Grapes (TB, 2016) by Lynda Miller

Melrose Award for best beardless blooming in convention gardens – Judy, Judy, Judy (Siberian, 2010) by Robert Hollingworth

Hager-DuBose Memorial Cup for best bearded other than tall – Gesundheit (MTB, 2012) by Chuck Bunnell

Fraud Alert

Michael Parish – Cotati Chief of Police

Received via Nixle.com on May 13, 2018

BANK SCAM ALERT: The Cotati Police Department is currently investigating the following scam. Do Not Trust Calls from your Bank that you did not initiate.

A scammer, having already obtained your login information via a data breach or other means, impersonates a representative from your financial institution. The scammer calls or texts you claiming that suspicious activity has been detected on your account, and says he/she will send you an access code so you can text back or repeat over the phone to verify your identity. The scammer will then sign on to online banking with your login information, which prompts the access code to be sent to your mobile device. If you provide him/her with the code, you may be giving him the keys to access your account and perform fraudulent transactions, such as sending money to the scammer.

What you can do

- Know that Banks will only send you a code when prompted by an action that you have initiated, such as signing on to online banking or sending money. Also when you contact your banker by phone, she/he may send you a code to verify your identity. Never text your access code to anyone.
- Scammers often initiate small transfers to downplay the fact that the access code is for money movement. If you receive a code to authorize any amount of money (even \$.01) to be transferred or another action you did not initiate, do not enter the code in your bank’s app or share it with anyone, even if they claim to be from your bank.
- If you are uncomfortable with a request received via phone call or text that you did not initiate, do not respond and hang up.

Door Prizes for June

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.

ALOHA SPIRIT (Ghio, 2017). 33" ML. Orchid with pink tones that turns more silvery in the center self; beards tangerine, violet tipped.

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

BANANA DAIQUIRI (G. Sutton, 2016). 37" EML. S. warm soft butter yellow; F. white blending into a pale lavender which blends into a butterscotch edge; beards orange; spicy fragrance.

BLACK LIPSTICK (Keppel, 2016). 35" EM. S. black-purple; F. black; beards solid dark blue.

BLAME IT ON RIO (M. Sutton, 2016). 37" EM. S. cantaloupe; F. white bleeding to red-violet, plum band, tan edge; beards orange.

BOLD AWAKENING (Tasco, 2016). **AB** 33" EML. S. magenta rose veined darker; F. brick red veined darker, slight orange glow around oval shaped dark burgundy-black signal; beard hairs based maize, squirrel brown.

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

CLOSE TO MY HEART (Ghio, 2017). 40" L. S. white with a pink cast; F. pinkish white; tangerine, white tipped beards.

COCONUT SNOW (J. Painter, 2016). 35" EM. Ruffled pure white self; white beards are yellow to gold toward throat.

COOL DUDE (P. Black, 2017). **SDB** 12" EM. Patterned white with purple; gold and white beards.

COOL OPERATOR (M. Sutton, 2016). 37" EML. S. pure white; F. white, marbled blue-violet at edge; beards yellow.

DEEPER MEANING (T. Johnson, 2017). 30" EM. S. light peach to buff; F. deep purple to black with a lavender rim; beards bright lemon-yellow.

DRESS TO IMPRESS (Ghio, 2017). 38" EM. S. pale pink with deeper pink midribs; F. orchid-lavender-pink; beards tangerine with white tips.

FLASH OF BRILLIANCE (Anton Mego, 2016). 33" M. S. white, flushed Dresden yellow at midribs and veining; F. plum-purple, yellow blaze around beards, lighter plum-purple edge; beards yellow-orange.

FLAUNTRESS (B. Blyth, 2016/17). 35" VE-M. S. gold; F. white, ¼" gold edge, reverse gold; beards mustard-gold; purple based foliage; sweet fragrance.

FUNDAY MONDAY (Schreiner, 2017). S. creamy buff with orchid rose veining; F. orchid violet with rose edging; beards yellow with white blaze.

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

INFIDEL (M. Smith, 2016). 32" M. S. apricot orange, slightly pinker at midrib; F. velvet black, slightly toned red-purple at shoulders, beards surrounded by spray of apricot orange darts; beards smoked Arabian red.

KYLA ROSE (M. Sutton, 2016). 38" M-VL. S. pink; F. white, pink shoulders & edge; beards tangerine-pink.

LOOKING GLASS (L. Painter, 2016). 44" ML. Tall pinkish white self with a deeper pink shade in the heart of the flower; beards white with pink coral tips.

MARRY THE NIGHT (T. Johnson, 2017). 32" E. S. purple; F. white, edged purple; beards yellow.

MENEHUNE (M. Smith, 2016). **SDB** 12" EM. S. deep red toned black; F. velvet burnt umber-black, red wire edge, small surround of pure yellow feathers at beards; beards yellow-orange.

MIXED SIGNALS (Kerr, 2016). 33" EM. S. pale lavender with tan border; F. dark purple lightening to a mix of violet-blue and white veined damson; beards solid cadmium-yellow to cadmium orange.

MORE PLEASE (B. Blyth, 2016/17). 34" EM. S. pastel lilac, heavily infused peach-tan; F. rose-tan, pastel-lilac edge; beards tangerine, tips white.

MORNING WORLD (Schreiner, 2017). 40" ML. hyacinth lavender self.

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

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

RESTLESS SPIRIT (Keppel, 2017). 36" EM. S. veronica violet shaded dove grey toward edge; F. blended ecru to rosy beige; beards burnt sienna, with just a faint cast of lavender at the end.
RINGS TRUE (Schreiner, 2016). 37" M. S. white and rimmed with pale lavender; F. white with a defined blue purple rim; beards white.
RISE LIKE A PHOENIX (P. Black, 2017). 46" ML. S. gold; F. red black; beards dark marigold.
SPRING CELEBRATION (M. Sutton, 2017). 43" M-VL. S. yellow; F. ruby red; beards yellow.
TROPICAL TREASURE (L. Painter, 2016). 36" EML. S. peach-apricot, slight rose tinted midrib; F. orchid-mauve; beard white, hairs tipped coral.

Father's Day

Father's Day is a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood and the influence of fathers in society. It has been celebrated in Europe on March 19 (St. Joseph's Day) since the Middle Ages, although many European countries have adopted the US tradition of celebrating it on the 3rd Sunday of June.

Anna Jarvis was responsible for the celebration of Mother's Day, starting in Grafton, West Virginia. On July 5, 1908 Grace Golden Clayton of nearby Fairmont, West Virginia was mourning the loss of her father in the December 1907 Monongah Mining Disaster which killed 361 men, 250 of them fathers, and left a thousand children fatherless; and had her minister honor the lost fathers in his sermon.

Various efforts were made through the years to establish a Father's Day. Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, raised with 5 other siblings by a single father, got clergymen to honor fathers on June 19, 1910 and by 1938 her efforts were supported by the New York Associated Men's Wear Retailers trying to replicate the commercial success of Mother's Day. Although a bill to establish Father's Day was introduced in Congress in 1913, it wasn't until 1972 that it was made a permanent national holiday by President Richard Nixon.

A Food Tour of the AIS Convention

Anna Cadd

As you probably know, I attended the 2018 National AIS Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. I am always interested in local matters and especially cuisine. I have read a lot about Creole food, okra, crawfish, Cajun seafood and their spicy and unusual dishes. Well, spending the week in Louisiana was probably an easy way to get my curiosity satisfied.

My food tour started with the first breakfast in the \$180 a night Hilton Hotel's restaurant. A good, regular bacon and eggs American-style breakfast was only available to Hilton Club members or for an outrageous \$\$ price. Regular diners got sugary cereal, milk, cream cheese and sugary jam on sugary rolls. My diet doesn't allow such fare.

So I waited for the convention lunches which were supposed to be "local cuisine". Surprise – all the meals contained beans and seasoned rice! No matter what was served, there was beans and rice. Even the banquets included – guess what – B. & R! So when finally dishes with crawfish were offered – I couldn't wait! What we got was cooked beans and rice, covered with some sort of red sauce and supposedly crawfish, tiny bites of unidentified meat, without any distinctive taste. Only by faith could you think you were having crawfish.

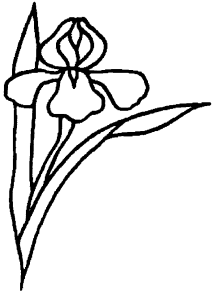
The closest to local cuisine were dinners I had in the French Quarter. I had coconut shrimp (don't ask me about the price!) and at the restaurant at the Zoo I paid for alligator meatballs. They were meatballs, all right, but the source of meat was unclear and only the price was right! Just to let you know, alligator tastes like chicken! I sure didn't gain a lot of weight in Louisiana. Maybe I have exaggerated a little, but you get my drift: if you don't like beans and spiced rice, don't go to Louisiana! The food just wasn't to my Polish taste.

But this takes me back to crawfish. Did you know that in Europe and Madagascar there is a brand new species of them, named *Procambarus virginalis* or marbled crawfish. The first mention of this animal is from the report of a German aquarium lover, who described them as "Texas crawfish". This one animal was much bigger than other crawfish and produced hundreds of eggs. Soon the hobbyist was giving them to everybody and they were laying eggs like crazy. In 2003 scientists confirmed that the marbled crawfish were making clones of themselves (reproducing without sex) and they started showing up in lakes and rivers all over the Europe and Madagascar. In December, 2013 they were declared a new species. There was probably a single mutation in this crawfish in 1995. The offspring are all genetically identical to one another and are female. The mutation made it possible for the creature to clone itself and lay eggs without males and without a sexual act. They can thrive in different environments, are extremely adaptable to various conditions, and now are found as millions of individuals.

Only 1 in 10,000 species include cloning females. There are advantages to being a clone. They produce only fertile females and don't need sex to reproduce. But if any pathogen is encountered attacking one individual, all the clones may die. So asexual populations can't sustain themselves for a long time. But looking at and investigating a brand new species in a matter of twenty years is the excitement of biological research. The marbled crayfish has not traveled yet to the USA, so maybe I ate small tiny bits of chicken and paid for crawfish?

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Name and Address Correction requested



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The Santa Rosa Iris Society

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JUNE 2018

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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.

July Newsletter Deadline – June 20th