



The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

48th YEAR NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2022

Officers 2022:

President

Anna Cadd

Vice President

Diana Ford

Treasurer

Kitty Loberg

Secretary

Anna Marie Hermansen

Past President

Jeff Davis

Historian

Anna Cadd

Membership Secretary

Anna Cadd

Librarian

Need volunteer

Newsletter Editor

Anna Marie Hermansen

Assistant Editor

Kathy McCallum

Directors thru 12/22:

Linnea Polo

Steve Albert

Kathy McCallum

Directors thru 12/23:

Betty Ford

Jeff Davis

Standing Committees:

Attendance

Diana Ford

Display Garden Chairmen

Jeff Davis

Door Prize Coordinator

Anna Marie Hermansen

Hospitality

Diana and Don Ford

LBAGC Representatives

Jeff Davis

Anna Cadd

Alternate - Need Volunteer

Photography

Need Volunteer

2022 Show Chairman

Jeff Davis

2022 Assistant Show Chairman

Need Volunteer

2022 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Need Volunteer

2022 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Need Volunteer



August 8th - LBA&GC - picnic / auction: 10am

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• August President's Message *Anna Cadd*

• Time again! The digging of the Club irises will be on Friday, August 5, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the LBA&GC Display Garden. Please bring small rags, scissors, pens, Sharpie wide tip marking pens, small brushes for cleaning and marking the irises. We will also need digging shovels and forks. Door prizes will be distributed. You will be responsible for collecting your door prizes during the dig, at the picnic/auction or having a designated person pick them up for you. They will not be shipped and may be auctioned!

• Our picnic in August will be on our regular meeting date, Monday, August 8, from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, at LBA&GC. We will have the auction inside. We will eat at 12:00 PM, followed by the Auction/ Raffle. There will be pictures of the auction irises on the screen inside the center. Please come earlier to help arrange the irises on tables.

• The Club will provide some deli sandwiches, pizza and maybe chicken. Please bring a salad, side dish, fruit or desert to share. **If you haven't already contacted me, please respond at caddsirir@comcast.net if you are planning to attend.**

• Our iris Rhizome Sale will be on Saturday, September 3, 2022 from 8:00 AM- 3:00 PM, probably in the parking lot, but possibly inside, depending on weather. We will discuss the details later. If you need some help with digging your irises before the sale, please, let us know.

Gardening tips for August Anna Cadd



1. Now is our busiest time in the garden. Time to dig up irises, clean and prepare them for sales or exchanges, weed the beds, amend the soil and plant your new purchases. It sounds like 24 hours is not enough time in a day, but maybe this is because we all are getting a little older, a little more tired, or a little more in pain. Lucky are those who have family members to help, but this are not always the case, and the new generation is not very happy with hard physical work. I am still thinking about a new, big iris garden, and then reality kicks in, when I barely can roll myself out of bed on swollen ankles to head to the closest painkiller shelf. Sounds like what's left is to visit other people's gardens and enjoy them as much as we can.
2. When digging and separating your iris, write the name of each dug iris with a permanent marker. A regular Sharpie is okay, but I discovered that writing on TB's is much easier with big markers with chiseled tips. Also, big Marks-A-Lot is a good choice since they don't clog up so easily. Write only on the middle leaf and don't span over two leaves. Just write the name on one! Write the name starting closest to the rhizome out towards the tip of the leaf. Preferably PRINT, as the new irises are hard to decipher without registration books.
3. Store the irises loose in paper bags or in baskets out of the sun. Plant them soon, but if it is really hot, postpone planting until it is cooler. The surface of the soil can easily reach 160* F during the day, so imagine yourself sitting there and baking in the merciless sun!
4. Okay, one more time. We all know about digging, so in short: lift the whole clump out, shake off the excess soil, break the rhizomes apart, make a clean, cosmetic cut at the end of the rhizomes with clippers or knife, cut the leaves in a fan (longer, if they need to be re-clipped for the future sales) and write the name with a permanent marker on the inside of the middle of one leaf.
5. If you don't feel like digging the whole clump, sometimes you can thin it by carefully cutting out the old divisions at the center of the clump and leaving new growth in the ground. In case of very old and compacted clumps, the process may actually be easier if you dig up the entire clump, remove the old "spent" rhizomes, trim the foliage of the new rhizomes and replant them.
6. About planting the new irises, I may write some advice in the September Newsletter!



Something to Look Forward To.....

2022 Fall Regional : October 7 - 8: to be hosted by Leo T. Clark and Shasta Iris Societies - at the Doubletree by Hilton, Chico

2023 Spring Regional, May 12 - 14: hosted by Yosemite Iris Society in Oakhurst, CA
visiting Kanarowski Gardens and Gonzalez Iris Garden, Ahwahnee, CA

2022 SRIS Dates

Friday, August 5: 8am - finish - digging club iris for door prizes and auction

Monday, August 8: 11am at LBA&GC - picnic and auction

Saturday, September 3: 8am - 3pm - Rhizome sale at LBAGC

Monday, September 12: TBA

Monday, October 10: TBA



Heather Haley
Alleah Haley

Keeping in Touch - Update

Nancy Fortner, as of July 18 -

This is Brouhaha, happily reblooming July 18. What a treat!
(I don't think it's even listed as RE.)



Clara Brown, from July 11 -

Clara is looking for the iris listed below, so if have a rhizome to spare, please give her a call:

Titan's Glory, Night Crossing, Infrared, Downstream, Crimson King,
Snow Queen, Deep Currents, and Big Flirt.

Do you know what month the most people are born in?

It's August! August has the number one ranking in average number of births. About 21 million Americans, or nine percent of the population, have birthdays in August. July and September follow closely behind, with 8.8 percent of birthdays, and February is last, with 7 percent.

Some of the winners from our show presented with keeper gifts at the July meeting:



Diana Ford
Best Seedling Specimen



Marlene Horn
Best Space Age Iris



Anna Cadd
Best Broken Color/Novelty



Jeff Davis
Best Artistic Design and
Best Plicata/Emma Cook Pattern

From AIS News and Notes - July 26, 2022

Reblooming Irises - Extending the Iris Season

With the end of the regular iris bloom season, rebloomers come into their own. Wherever you are, there are some irises that may rebloom for you.

To find them, here are some resources:

The [Reblooming Iris Society](#)'s updated website has a number of resources to check out. Their Facebook group, [Reblooming Iris Lovers](#), is where to find photos of what's reblooming now. For example, rebloomers in Canada are already in bloom.

The Iris Encyclopedia has a [Reblooming Irises](#) page listing many reblooming irises. For more details on all irises rebloom properties, see the [2022 Cumulative Checklist of Reblooming Irises](#). More than 4200 rebloomers with states, countries, and USDA zones where their rebloom has been reported.

The **World of Irises** blog contains several posts dealing with reblooming and hybridizing for rebloom. [Searching the blog for rebloom](#) will show many of them.

For a few laughs!

Remember having these?

1. A big giant TV that weighed about 500 pounds!
2. Having to set the TV to channel 3 to watch movies.
3. One of these ice trays in your freezer and the refrigerator freezer you had to defrost.



4. A list of phone numbers on a sheet of paper tucked away in some drawer.
5. Two sets of keys for one single car.

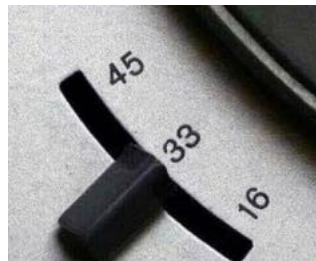
..... And remember when gas was this low?

or cars this reasonable?

Long ago in a land far far away!



or what this was attached to?



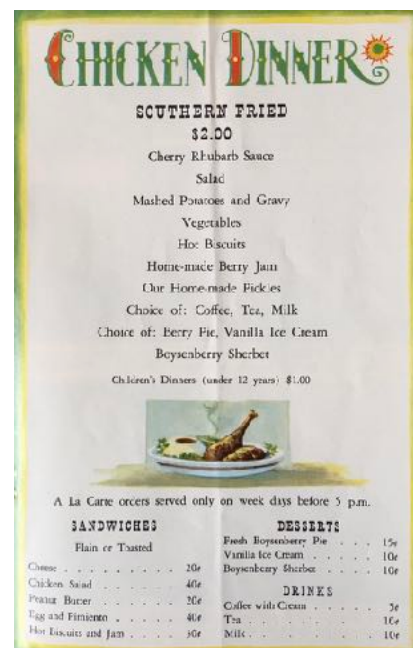
A Short Note About Fertilizers..... by Anna Cadd

We all know that irises need to be fertilized three times a year with balanced fertilizer. The type of fertilizer depends on the type of soil; sandy soils require higher amount of ingredients. Chemical fertilizers usually have numbers like 6-24-24 or 15-15-15 or whatever mix you require. They indicate the proportions of nitrogen, phosphate and potash contained.

I would like you to be alert when buying fertilizers. On the East Coast, along the Atlantic seaboard and around the Great Lakes, where environmentalists have convinced authorities that phosphates are polluting the waters, suppliers have been completely removing phosphates from the mix. The problem is they've been doing this without any warning to the customers. So, you go to buy your regular brand of fertilizer. The bag looks just the same, but if you look closely at the mix, it will read 6-0-26 or 10-0-10 or whatever. The results for your plantings can be disastrous. The fertilizer needs to be balanced, as the element which is in the shortest supply will determine the amount of other ingredients which plants can absorb. So far this situation is mostly located on the East Coast, but it is only a matter of time before it reaches California.

There is a lot of talk about the pollution of Lake Tahoe and the Delta. There are two sides to this story. From one side, on the global scale, polluting the environment is a criminal issue, and we need to be good stewards for the sake of Earth's future. If we will not join the fight, soon there will be nothing left to fight about. From the other side, we irisians are trying to be responsible, and home gardeners are not causing the problem, until you have 200 acres of irises. So I will leave you today with these thoughts to ponder, and if you want me to write more detailed information on this subject in the future, just let me know.

From the late 50's We will never see those prices again!



I found this menu going through some old momentos from the past.... Anna Marie

Two Common Tomato Problems

I just came home from the garden with a handful of tomatoes and they all have this same problem. At this time of year, two problems common to tomatoes frustrate home gardeners. One is blossom end rot and the other is fruit cracking. Both are caused by an inconsistent amount of water: not enough or too much, or more frequently, too little and then a deluge, either by rain or overwatering. Is this happening to you too?

Unlike diseases that infect other parts of the plant, blossom end rot and cracking are especially frustrating because they affect the payoff: the fruit. Here are the specifics on each, and what you can do about them.

1. Blossom End Rot

What it is: If your tomatoes have blossom end rot, you'll know it. Ripe or unripe, the fruit will be black, water soaked, and sunken at the end where the flower was. The rot makes the fruit inedible.

What causes it: Although tomatoes are susceptible to many diseases, blossom end rot is not a disease. It's a condition caused by a calcium deficiency. Once the condition occurs, fungus or bacteria cause the rotting. This deficiency occurs due to too much or not enough water, cool, rainy weather with high humidity or an imbalance of nutrients in the soil, especially the lack of calcium.

Prevention: Look for blossom end rot-resistant cultivars. Have your soil tested to make sure the pH and nutrient levels are where they need to be for successful tomato growing. Avoid using ammonia-based nitrogen fertilizers which compete with calcium uptake. Epsom salts can also compete with calcium uptake.

What to do: Be consistent with watering; if the weather has been dry, be sure to irrigate your plants before they become stressed. Don't soak them and then let the soil get too dried out. Mulch plants to conserve soil moisture. Promptly remove any fruit showing symptoms.



2. Fruit Cracking

What it is: The skin of the tomato splits, exposing the inside of the fruit, which is then invaded by bacteria and fungus. The cracks be radial, starting at the stem end, or in concentric circles around the tomato. It can occur in green or red tomatoes. In fact, the longer a tomato remains on the vine the greater the chance of it cracking.

What causes it: A period of drought when the fruit is ripening, followed by an abundance of water (either by rain or irrigation). The rapid growth expands the interior of the fruit, splitting the skin. Excessively high temperatures can also cause cracking.

Prevention: When choosing seeds or plants, look for crack-resistant varieties. Plant in raised beds or areas with good drainage and no standing water. Don't let ripe tomatoes stay on the vine for too long.

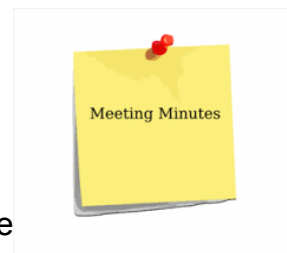
What to do: As with blossom end rot, consistent watering and mulch, i.e., not allowing plants to dry out, helps prevent the fruit from cracking. Tomatoes with cracks can be harvested and eaten as long as no rot has set in. Fruit with cracks will deteriorate quickly, so use ASAP. Black streaks, fuzz, oozing or a sour smell indicate rot, and the tomato should be thrown away.

By Therese Ciesinski, GardenSMART , Article URL:

https://www.GardenSMART.com/?p=articles&title=Two_Common_Tomato_Problems

Minutes - July 11th, Noon at LBA&GC... Anna Marie Hermansen

Members present: Anna Cadd, Diana Ford, Jeff Davis, Linnea Polo, Cheryl Bryan, Rudy Ciuca, Joe Lawrence, Kathy McCallum, Clara Brown, Marlene Horn, and Anna Marie Hermansen.



The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Anna Cadd. She welcomed new member Clara Brown.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved. Treasurer's report was emailed to members by the treasurer. Members approved the purchase of a holodiscus tree to replace the dead cherry tree at the corner of our garden. Cheryl Bryan will order one and take care of it at her home until the weather is favorable for planting at the center.

Anna made a presentation of pictures from show prep to pictures from the show, including displays, exhibits, judges, iris on display, and a few of our volunteers.

Jeff Davis, show chairman, presented some of the keeper awards to members who were present. The plaque for Cheryl was not yet ready and will be presented at a later time. Some discussion ensued regarding amending and clarifying various parts of the show program for next year. A committee will work on the specifics and will try to take into consideration all suggestions members have.

Our picnic/auction will be held in lieu of our August meeting. We will have it on our meeting date, August 8th, at the center. Suggestions were made for what main food item the club could provide like chicken from Costco and sub sandwiches. Members can bring side dishes including salads, chips, fruit, and desserts. Set up for the food and auction will begin from 10:00 - 11:00, with lunch at 12:00 noon. The auction will begin after lunch.

Digging for the auction iris and door prize iris will be Friday, August 5th, starting at 8:00 am. at the center. Our iris sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 3rd from 9:00 - 3:00 at the center. Digging for those iris will occur before then.

We will also need to help digging at Jim Begley's, Linnea Polo's, and Kathy McCallum's. The club will reimburse Linnea if she has outside help digging.

Anna will be doing an Artistic Division judges training workshop at the Fall Regional to be held in Chico, October 7-8. AIS is considering that all judges be required to take training and be able to judge Artistic Divisions offered at shows.

Door prize iris were selected. Meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Thanks to the following people for contributions to the newsletter ...

Nancy Fortner, Clara Brown, and Anna Cadd

September Newsletter Deadline - August 20th