



The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

48th YEAR NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 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



February 14th - 6:30 and 7:30 PM on Zoom

***Note the time changes due to prior obligations from our presenters ***

Business Meeting - 6:30 on zoom will be prior to the General Meeting so that we don't extend too late into the evening.

General Meeting - Presentation on Moraea iris. In order to accommodate the presenters, this part of the meeting will begin at 7:30 PM with check-in at 7:15. See pictures and more information about this presentation on the next page.



February President's Message Anna Cadd

Here we are again, wondering about SRIS activities during the pandemic, but full of hope and good expectations. At the beginning of the year, I took over the president's duties for our club from Jeff Davis. At the January board meeting, we decided to continue with our plans to have the Iris Show and plant sale, to have garden tours and to visit our gardens, to have excellent speakers and Judge's trainings. It will be a busy but exciting season, even if we need to work around some difficulties. I am looking forward to working on behalf of SRIS as enthusiastically as I can, but I will need help from all of our members. We always rise to the occasion, and I am sure that our friendships will flourish amid iris fields and gardens of blooming irises and spring and summer flowers! Please, be safe and I can't wait to see you all in person again. Happy gardening!

Moraea, the “Peacock Iris” of South Africa -

Moraea is a genus of about 220 species, more than half of them native to the Cape province. They are distant relatives of Iris, and look a bit like beardless irises. Their spectacular range of contrasting colors and patterns have earned them the nickname “Peacock Iris” in South Africa. The ones that grow in the Cape area are summer-dormant and grow from corms. They’re easy to grow in California, but are little-known here. – Mike Mace

Mike Mace and Garry Knipe, two local breeders of Moraea, will discuss the most colorful species, how to grow them, and will share pictures of the huge range of hybrids that they have developed from these interesting flowers. Michael Mace has been growing them for about 20 years, after being smitten by a photo in a gardening book. Garry Knipe, who we all know from his Pacific Coast Iris hybridizing, started his own Moraea hybridizing program after meeting Michael. He has found that the Moraea are a nice complement to his PCI beds.



Genus: Moraea
Family: Iridaceae
Life Cycle: Annual
Corm
Perennial

Photos by Garry Knipe

Gardening tips for February..... Anna Cadd

1. Welcome to a new year of wonders: discoveries of new, unusual irises; saying “hello” to old, proven, excellent iris varieties; welcome to a spring garden, full of snapdragons and daisies; fluttering butterflies; and smells of wet soil in the warm breeze. As I am writing this at the end of January, there is beautiful sunshine outside, still wet soil, and hundreds of unusual birds. But “this is the chosen spot on Earth,” as Luther Burbank famously said. Welcome to the new year of existence of the Santa Rosa Iris Society!
2. But, to bring you back to earth, there is a most horrendous task - weeding! This winter it is easy for weeds to grow “like weeds.” There is no way around it: pull them when they are still small, hula-hoe the smaller ones, and hand pick the seedlings. You have a year of continuous work ahead, unless you have a great husband-gardener, 8 kids, enthusiastic for work, high school students dying to work for money or you make a smart decision, say “the hell with the weeds,” and you go to Hawaii, pandemic allowing. I will tell you a secret: after you are done with weeding, spray or spread some pre-emergent weed preventer on the flower beds, but not in the vegetable garden, where you wisely used weed cloth, and saved yourself a lot of time!
3. California is called the “Golden State” for a variety of reasons: gold was discovered here, we have lovely golden sunsets, and our state flower is the Golden Poppy. But perhaps I could add another reason. Wherever you look, there are fields full of gold blooming *Oxalis pes-caprae*, called Bermuda-buttercup, African wood-sorrel, or “goat’s foot sourgrass.” This plant is actually a really beautiful, but obnoxious, weed. It spreads by underground bulblets. Healdsburg must be the world capital of *Oxalis*!
4. And lastly, do very little for the irises. They are still dormant, and every distraction can be fatal, as the small wounds from pulled dead leaves can be the port of entry for insects and diseases. Pay attention that they have good drainage and are not sitting in the water, just in case of rain. 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 in 2-3 week intervals. Before we notice, spring will be here!!!



Oxalis pictures courtesy of Anna Cadd



Did you know?

The February calendar in 2022 will not repeat itself in our lifetime, as it happens only once in 823 years. This February will have 4 Sundays, 4 Mondays, 4 Tuesdays, 4 Wednesdays, 4 Thursdays, 4 Fridays and 4 Saturdays! So enjoy the happy days!!

2022 SRIS Dates

Monday, February 14: 6:30 on Zoom

Monday, March 14: Zoom

Monday, April 4: Noon at LBA&GC- show prep
(note the change of date from April 11)

Saturday-Sunday, May 7-8: Show at LBA&GC
with set-up on Friday, May 6



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL *Annual Dues*

Membership in the Santa Rosa Iris Society is on an annual basis from January thru December. **Renewals are due January 1st of each year.** The current dues are: Single Membership - \$15.00 & Dual Membership - \$25.00

If you have not yet sent in your renewal, please do so ASAP to Anna Cadd.



Keeping in Touch

from Richard Berenter, San Rafael - January 6

I'm jumping for joy. Only the second year I've attempted hybridizing PCI's and wasn't sure if seeds were mature/ fertile, and today I noticed for first time lots of emerging blades! Of course, the really hard part is getting them to survive transplantation, but I have an idea to avoid the catastrophic loss from 2018 when only my one seedling out of 14 made it through. It's a relief and fantastic that I now have something positive to remember the Jan. 6 date. It's just so sad and tragic to think about what transpired in my birthplace last year, especially since I remember going to the west steps of the capital building on the Fourth of July to watch the symphony the last three years I lived in Maryland. Hopefully, many others are also seeing good signs of our future gardens!

from Alleah Haley, Central North Carolina - January 19

Unlike last year when it was very warm with no snow, we're having a real winter this year. It turned cold about a week ago, and I didn't have a heavy-enough work coat to work outside. I finally found and purchased a men's camouflage hunting jacket on deep discount at a local sports store. I wanted to be visible working on my daughter Heather's seven-acre farm, so I picked up a fluorescent orange stocking cap to wear also. I think hunting season is over but maybe the cap will protect me if her neighbors decide to do some target practice. Heather and I weeded for nearly four hours at 33 degrees on Saturday, January 15.

Saturday night and Sunday it snowed about two inches; then that became sleet and then freezing rain. The North Carolina Dept. of Transportation and city road crews had "brined" interstate and state highways and primary municipal streets. Starting up to two days before predicted measurable snow, a 23% solution of salt (sodium chloride) in water is sprayed onto roads from nozzles spaced about a foot apart on booms mounted on the backs of trucks. This lowers the freezing point of the surface from 32 to about 18 °F. Alas, I live in the county and nothing was applied and no

snow plowing was done on the road in my little subdivision after it snowed on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Monday, January 17 was MLK holiday, and none of the residents on my road had ventured forth as of about noon. That afternoon the snow and ice melted off my road, but snow remained on the lawns and rooftops. My house faces north, so I was left with nearly two inches of ice on my concrete front walk and driveway. Monday evening Heather shopped for deicer for me to use, but all the local stores were sold out. The weather service is predicting rain followed by snow and temps down to 20 degrees starting Wednesday, January 19 so I may be homebound and skating to get the newspaper and to the mailbox for awhile.



Photo taken of Alleah's home on January 16

More Keeping In Touch

From Barb Baruth - January 20th



For the last several years, my husband and I have been in Milwaukee, taking care of our son who had to undergo a second bone marrow transplant. He is still recovering, but is doing well enough that we decided that we could return to Santa Rosa. In early January we drove from Milwaukee to Santa Rosa, taking a southern route to avoid the winter Rockies. On the way, we visited the Padre Island National Seashore along the Texas Gulf Coast and also spent time in Sedona, Arizona, doing some hiking. It was a long trip to take in this Covid Omicron era, but we each had had vaccinations, including boosters, and we took precautions to avoid getting sick. We had an ice chest with us and took quite a bit of food along in our van, so we only had to go grocery shopping two times, even though it was a nine-day trip. We brought a toaster along and ate breakfast and dinner in our hotel rooms, which, of course, are all now equipped with refrigerators, microwaves and coffee makers. We skipped lunch but snacked in the van and we only stopped along the road for combined gas and bathroom breaks, and our lovely outdoor time on the beach and on the hiking trails. We were fortunate that we did not get sick, although perhaps we did and were symptomless. At times I was quite concerned, since most people in the grocery stores and gas station convenience stores were not wearing masks, not even the clerks. In Texarkana, I walked into a small restroom with two stalls, both occupied, and a mother and three young daughters waiting. No one was wearing a mask except me. Most of the hotel clerks were unmasked and most check-in desks did not have see-through panels in place. Overall, though, it was a great trip. I am very happy to be back in Santa Rosa and hope that the pandemic will soon be over so that I can see my SRIS friends in person.



Pictures from Sedona, Arizona

Virtual Door Prize Drawing for February -

Door prize process - This may change as we evolve over how we meet in the future:

Please email with your top **5** choices, in order of preference, by noon **February 10th**. If your choices have already been selected, a random item from the list will be substituted. Let me know if you would rather receive no prize than a substitution. If door prize rhizomes need to be mailed, due to your distance from Santa Rosa, you must be willing to pay the postage.

BEAUTIFUL EDGING (Tasco/2020) 36" ML; S. cold white; F. cold white with campanula violet rim; B. tangerine

CABANA (Ghio/2020) 34" E,M,L; medium orange self; B. tangerine

CARAMEL CHOCOLATE SUNDAE - BB (Black/2019) 26" E-M; S. mid auburn flushed darker with khaki edge; F. dark red-brown, mid gold around beard veined re-brown; B. mid marigold

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION (Ford/2019) 35" E; S. white brushed with med. yellow at midribs and yellow veining; F. dark maroon with pale edge and dark wire, maroon lines and yellow flash around beards; B. yellow tipped orange

COME TO LIFE (Johnson/2020) 35" E; S. cream flushed with peach in center; F. rich cantaloupe; B. red-orange

CONSPIRACY THEORY - ABM (Black/2020) 21" M; S. mid two pale lilac; F. rosy tan to ecru with big red brown signals; B. yellow-orange

HEADSHOT (Johnson/2020) 33" M; S. bright canary yellow; F. same with wide black cherry band; B. orange

HEAT OF THE MOMENT (Johnson/2020) 34" M; oxblood red self; B. orange

LAVENDER FIZZ (Sutton/2020) 36" M; S. pale lavender; F. pale lavender with veining; B. subtle jasper red

LOADS OF LOVE (Black/2020) 30" E-M; S. light pink blended paler to buff edges; F. mid cantaloupe; B. orange

MONARCH FALLS (Dash/2020) 35" M; S. gold; F. maroon veining to maroon with burlywood edging; B. orange

OFF THE SHOULDER (Schreiner/2019) 35", L; S. white; F. red-purple, white zonal spot and edges; B. blue

OUTSIDE THE LINES (Duncan/2020) 38" M - L; S. amber yellow leaning towards salmon, lighter centers, few textured veins up midrib; F. light pink-orange ground, heavily veined red-purple, darker around beard, amber yellow rim; beards bright plush red

PLAY ACTING (Ghio/2020) 36" M-L; S. orchid, pink at base; F. orchid, silvery around beard, blue flash below beard, pink shoulder; B. tangerine, ends blue

POETRY IN BLOOM (A. Cadd/2021) 42" VE; S. lt. creamy yellow, darker at base, delicate light-brown lines; F. white base, reddish purple plicata, 3 distinctive dk. purple lines in center and small lines on falls, darker purple at end of falls, densely dotted between lines; B. white, tipped yellow

RODEO COWBOY (Johnson/2020) 36" E; S. yellow; F. rust red with light lemon edge and surrounded by a deeper yellow band; B. yellow-orange

SHOCKAHOLIC (Johnson/2020) 30" E; S. light pink overlaid light orange; F. rich deep burnt orange; B. tangerine

SUPERCHARGED (Ghio/2019) 33" LM; S. brassy gold; F. hot maroon-red w. tan-violet thin edge; B. brass

WEALTH (Keppel/2020) 36" EM; S. quince yellow with base light slate violet; F. dark golden yellow; B. dark golden

WILD SURPRISE (Johnson/2020) 36" M; S. deep golden yellow; F. white violet wash and yellow blended rim; B. orange tipped white



Beautiful Edging



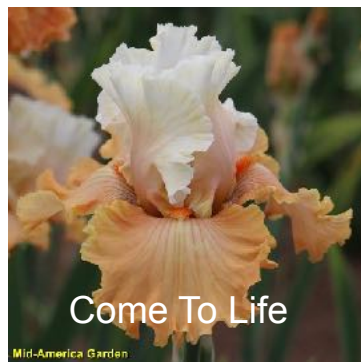
Cabana



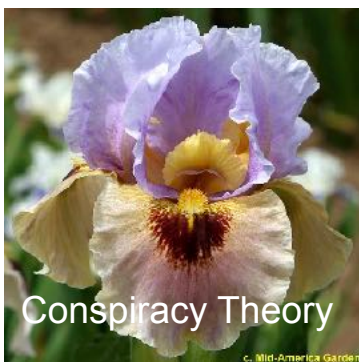
Caramel Chocolate Sundae



Centennial Celebration



Come To Life



Conspiracy Theory



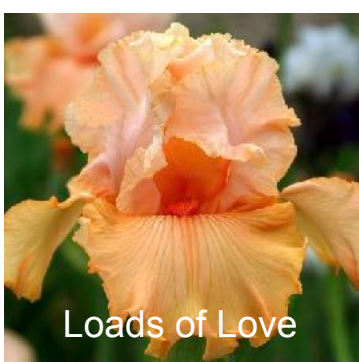
Headshot



Heat of the Moment



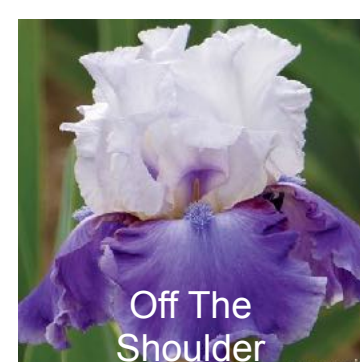
Lavender Fizz



Loads of Love



Monarch Falls



Off The Shoulder



Outside the Lines



Playacting



Poetry in Bloom



Rodeo Cowboy



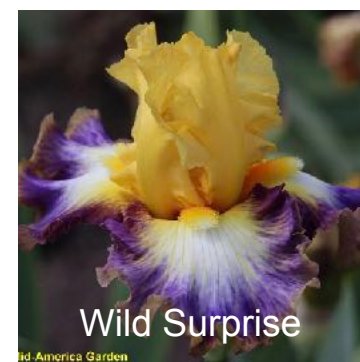
Shockaholic



Supercharged



Wealth



Wild Surprise

Something to Look Forward To.....

2022 Spring Regional, April 29, 30, May 1: to be hosted by SBMIS and MDIS at the Dry Creek Garden, Union City.

2022 Fall Regional : October: Chico

2023 Spring Regional, May 10-12: in the Yosemite area, possibly Pines Resort at Bass Lake; visiting Kanarowski Gardens and the gardens of Laura Gonzalez

AIS National 2022 Convention April 11 - 16 in Las Cruces, New Mexico

AIS National 2023 Convention April 10 - 15 in Dallas, Texas

AIS National 2024 Convention June 17 - 22 in Portland, Oregon



2022 AIS Convention - Iris Enchantment

The [Special 2022 Convention Issue](#) (PDF version) of News & Notes from early October announced:

- Registration is open and can be done online at <https://ais-2022.square.site/>
- Several special events are on the schedule
- The Silent Auction request by Eva Barry eva13barry@gmail.com
- Video from the 6 host gardens and more about the Convention

You can learn more about all these on the [2022 AIS Convention website](#). Note there is a website technical issue which will be resolved in the next day or two. In the meantime, all the above links



Thanks to the following people for contributions to the newsletter ...
Anna Cadd, Mikey Lango, Barb Baruth, and Alleah Haley

March Newsletter Deadline - February 20th

Minutes - January 10th, SRIS Zoom meeting - 5 PM Anna Marie Hermansen

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by President Anna Cadd. She welcomed those present - Kathy Mc Callum, Jeff Davis, Kristin Herrera, Linnea Polo, Kitty Loberg, Loretta Figueroa, Lynn Williams, Anna Marie Hermansen, Janine Grothe, Steve Albert, and Diana Ford.



Minutes from December were approved. Some members still haven't paid. An email will be sent as a reminder to remit dues as soon as possible.

We discussed upcoming meetings, and the probable need to do Zoom meetings again, due to the easily spread Omicron variant and county guidelines. Diana had contacted Paul Black, who was reluctant to come in February, but maybe he can do a zoom. A new possibility arose for the February 14th meeting. CBRIS had a zoom presentation on *Moraea iris*. The colors are elegant and this would be something new for us to hear about. Diana will make a contact about this program. A motion was made to have the February and March meetings via zoom at 12:00 noon. It was seconded and passed. The meeting for April will need to be moved, possibly a week sooner since some members will be attending the National Convention in New Mexico which runs from April 11 - 16. Anna will check with the center to see if that date is available for us to use. We would meet in person at noon, unless plans change due to COVID.

In June, we plan to have a program and pictures from the AIS National Convention in New Mexico, since members will be attending.

The display garden looks great since it has been weeded and the beardless iris cut.

Jeff still has a few calendars from AIS left for purchase. They are \$5 + shipping (about \$1-\$2). Contact him if interested.

Pending approval from our regional judges training chair, SRIS plans on having garden judges training on May 3rd, from 10am - 1pm. There will be 2 classes, each 1 1/2 hrs. Kitty will give one on bearded iris and Anna will give the other on beardless. That will give judges 3 hours of garden training, which has been hard to get during the pandemic. We plan to limit the size of the classes, primarily to SRIS members. If there may be space, the classes might be opened up to others outside SRIS.

Treasurers report given. Jeff attended a maintenance meeting at LBA&GC today. They have 3 major projects that they want to undertake - (1) parking lot - \$25,000, (2) new roof - \$30,000, and (3) painting the building - \$15,000. There are also some minor projects they'd like to do. They received a donation from the SR Garden Club of \$100,000.00 and from the Rose Society of \$100,000.00. The Stitchers donated \$5,000 toward new counters in the kitchen. After much discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed to donate \$5,000 to the general fund of LBA&GC. Jeff and Anna are the current representatives of our club to the center, but an alternate is needed. The center meets the 3rd Tuesday at 1:00 in January, March, May, September, and November. Let Anna know if you can volunteer.

The 2022 budget was presented. Program/speaker expenses were amended to \$1,000, purchase of club iris to \$1,000, and printing for rhizome sales to \$300. To eliminate one rental fee, it was suggested that the November event, Come Dressed as the Name of an Iris, be moved to our regular daytime meeting date rather than a Saturday or Sunday. The budget needs to be approved by the General Membership at our February meeting.

The show on May 7-8 was discussed. Kitty and Anna will help Jeff with the proposed program that needs to be sent to AIS for approval. Anna will work on the Artistic Section of the show. For the show, we need to have registration books up to date, so we will need to order those for about the past 3 years.

We discussed how to handle door prizes if we start having in-person meetings again. In the past with in-person meetings, you could only receive a door prize if you attended the meeting. The past few years we have kept it flexible, so we will be doing that again. We will do February and March as we have the past 2 years, but may change it as we deem necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Updated info about The Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center:

Most of you know the LBA&GC held no functions the first year of the pandemic, and limited functions in 2021. According to their financial reports, this led to an income loss in 2020 of about \$11,000.00, and that was after receiving donations totaling over \$10,000.00 that year. The LBA&GC also has a Maintenance Committee which has prepared a report and prioritized what they think are priority items needed for the Center. They are:

- Regrading and striping of parking lot. The current status of the parking lot is non compliant with City standards and there is the potential for tagging of the issue.
- Exterior painting of the building
- Roof
- Landscaping
- Cracked sink, not leaking
- Painting of sign
- Kitchen counters, new sink and faucet

2022

Winter Webinar Series By

The American Iris Society



Start Time: 5:30 p.m. Pacific, 8:30 p.m. Eastern

Duration: 1 to 2 hours

Via: ZOOM

Info: AISwebinars@gmail.com

DETAILS

1. An email invitation to register online will be sent to all AIS members a week before each event. Once you register you will be sent the webinar's link.
2. All webinars will be FREE of charge to all members of AIS, AIS sections, and local iris clubs.
3. Not an AIS member but want to attend? Email us.

Wednesday, February 2nd By **Patrick Spence**

Iris ensata – The Japanese Iris

We will look at the past, present, and future of the imperial iris. *Iris ensata* has been hybridized in Japan for over 600 years. From feudal times and the Shoguns' own hybridizers, to modern day and the newest hybrids, we will discuss the variety of forms and patterns available, along with culture and care requirements of these exceptional irises. This is a 2 hour program.

About the Presenter :

Patrick Spence is a past president of the Society for Japanese Irises, operates Cascadia Iris Gardens in King County, Washington, and maintains a large important collection of beardless irises, including Japanese irises.

Wednesday, February 9th By **Doug Chyz**

Growing Iris in Containers

Iris have been grown in containers, or pots if you prefer, for a very long time. You can grow iris in containers and get great bloom, and now even exhibit and have them judged in an AIS Iris Show. This webinar may just stimulate you to try out a new option for growing iris. We'll cover the: will they bloom, why grow them in containers, types and sizes of containers, the soil, care of container iris, hardiness zone concerns, pros and cons, and exhibiting container iris.

About the Presenter :

Doug Chyz has been growing and enjoying iris in beds and in containers for over 20 years. He has been a member of the AIS since 1998, has been President of the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society, Region 4 RVP, and is currently an AIS Director and Co-chair of the Public Relation and Marketing Committee. Doug has experience growing various types of irises in containers, and considers himself a "seat of the pants" gardener, so you might find some of his practices interesting.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IN THE
SANTA ROSA IRIS SOCIETY

Membership in the Santa Rosa Iris Society is on an annual basis from January thru December.

Renewals are due January 1st of each year. The current dues are:

Single Membership - \$15.00 and Dual Membership - \$25.00

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

Anna Cadd
329 North Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE (H) _____ (C) _____

e-MAIL ADDRESS _____

BIRTHDAY (excluding year) _____

AMS MEMBER: YES _____ NO _____

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

ALL NEWSLETTERS WILL BE E-MAILED, UNLESS YOU HAVE NO ACCESS TO A COMPUTER. Then, it will be snail-mailed to the address above.

President:
Anna Cadd

Vice President:
Diana Ford

Newsletter Editor:
Anna Marie Hermansen

Meetings & Membership

The Santa Rosa Iris Society meets the second Monday of each month February through October at 12:00 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 offers regular meetings, iris door prizes, special programs, use of our library, a monthly newsletter, an annual iris show and rhizome sale, and fellowship with other iris lovers. For more information, contact Anna Cadd.