

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

42ND YEAR NUMBER 3

MARCH 2016

Officers 2016:

President

Rudy Ciuca

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Joe Lawrence

Secretary

Diana Ford

Past President

Alleah Haley

Historian

Anna Cadd

Membership Secretary

Betty Ford

Librarian

Juanita Breckwoldt

Newsletter Editor

Alleah Haley

Directors thru 12/16:

Jim Begley

Marlene Freetly

Kathy McCallum

Directors thru 12/17:

Anna Marie Hermansen

Kitty Loberg

Standing Committees:

Attendance

Marlene Horn

Display Garden Chairmen

Jim Begley

Jeff Davis

Door Prize Coordinator

Rudy Ciuca

Hospitality

Diana and Don Ford

LBAGC Representatives

Rudy Ciuca

Anna Cadd

Joe Lawrence, alternate

Logistics Coordinator

Jim Begley

Photography

Marlene Horn

2016 Show Chairman

Anna Marie Hermansen

2016 Assistant Show Chairman

Alleah Haley

2016 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Marlene Horn

2016 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Betty Ford -Heirloom Expo

Alleah Haley -Farmers' Mkt.

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 7:00 PM

ADAM SCHMIDT, NORCAL
GOPHER TRAPPING, "GETTING
THE GOPHERS"



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Adam Schmidt, a young Sonoma County native who studied environmental conservation at Santa Rosa Junior College, was trained by Greg Crawford, "The Gopher Guy", and then started his own gopher trapping business. He uses non-toxic trapping methods to remove gophers, moles and voles to avoid soil contamination. Then he feeds animals removed from properties to wild animals such as foxes, coyotes, and raptors. Adam says: "Gophers are a sign of what we've done to our environment. ... They are a food source for predators."

Come hear Adam Schmidt talk about his love of working outdoors, meeting the owners of this county's beautiful homes and properties, and the basics of a successful trapping program.

Board and other interested members – don't forget we have a Board Meeting at 6:00 pm before Adam's talk where we'll discuss plans for this spring including our Members' Garden Tour in April.

Gardening Tips for March

Anna Cadd

1. So spring has finally arrived, an early spring in California. As I look at piles of snow in the eastern part of the U.S. on television while here it is 85 degrees outside and my air conditioner is blowing full blast, I don't know whether to sing with joy or cry with despair. I've already mowed my grass twice and it has grown back to knee high. Weeds are trying to reach the top of the roof and my poor irises are choking under them. Where has all the time gone? This winter was supposed to be an El Niña, but it is already very dry. They promised more rain; but promises, promises Oh! I stand corrected. It's actually raining a little again to the joyful song of weeds!
2. Everyone knows how addicted I am to strawberries. Unfortunately, strawberries from the big farms are fed via drip systems with chemicals, which protect fruit longevity and make the fruit taste like wood. Apropos: strawberries (*Fragaria x ananassa*) are not really berries! Berries are "the fleshy fruit produced from a single ovary". Strawberries are known as

“accessory fruits”, where the flesh surrounding the seeds is derived from the receptacle in which the ovaries are found. When fully developed, these parts have merged into one single fruit. But it doesn't matter to me. When I planted them in my garden, slugs ate the fruits in the green stage. So I will try something new: I will use a wood pallet, raised up on bricks with weed cloth underneath, topped with layers of straw and good soil, and plant strawberries into the pallet slots. I hope this will work!

3. Recently I discovered Swiss chard (*Beta vulgaris* subsp. *vulgaris*), kale (*Brassica oleracea*) and spinach (*Spinacia oleracea*). This fancy food can be very expensive on the grocery shelves, as five colorful leaves can cost almost \$3.00. But they are very easy to grow from seeds in a sunny location in the garden, have wonderful colors even in a flower bed and are very tasty! They can also be grown in big pots. Before planting seeds in the pot, put on the bottom a raw, uncracked egg. This is a wonderful, slow-release fertilizer.
4. Let's not forget that we are iris growers! The first priority is to pull weeds from our iris beds. Then fertilize with a balanced fertilizer. 10-10-10 is best; but I will try to put on 16-16-16 this year, as my plants are still very small; and I would like for them to bloom a little later. Spring is in full swing in February! So weed first, then fertilize. Then apply pre-emergent weed killer to stop the new weeds from sprouting. Watch for bacterial soft rot (see the February 2016 SRIS Newsletter). Spray with fungicide at least twice to prevent leaf spot caused by the fungus *Mycosphaerella macrospora* (formerly named *Didymellina macrospora*). Fungicide used for roses will work on irises also. Check the beds for proper labels, and record your varieties to your books and databases. And begin thinking about our iris show! It is hard to believe that it is only two months away!

From the President's Desk

Here we are in the month of February and we continue to appreciate the rain. We had a short period of time when we had no rain and feared the drought may be back, but the rain did return again. Some people think that our heaviest rainfall will occur in March and April. Woh! If this is true the window of opportunity for our spring show may be adversely impacted. The early warm weather will bring about early blooming of roses and irises.

As I mentioned at our last meeting, Joe and I went to the Cobb School and took part in two fourth grade classes. Because of the summer fires in the Cobb area, we did not provide rhizomes for the children last fall. Since the area was riddled with fire debris and burned homes, we delivered fifty potted irises, one for each of the students in the two classes along with enough for last year's classes. It was a great day working with the 4th graders. The photos here are from our Cobb event. Since there is such an issue about children's privacy, we took a photo of one class where we did not show the children's faces.





Joe and 4th grade teacher Cindy Leonard with Cobb School awards.

Joe and I were unable to participate in the club garden weeding day on February 11. A special thanks to all of you who did the duty. We have a great bunch of people who always step up to the plate. I also want to thank you for the Dean Linscott Achievement Award presented to Joe and me at the last meeting. I must say that I was overwhelmed with pride; but as you all probably figured out, I do not do well in that kind of setting. I have difficulty in being the center of attention unless I am in a confrontational mode.

Rudy Ciuca

This Month

Monday, March 14 – Adam Schmidt of NorCal Gopher Trapping, “Getting the Gophers”.

2016 Iris Events and Important Dates

Monday April 11 – Jim Begley, Ross BeVier, and Jeff Davis, Preparing Your Irises for the Show. Members will hold a mini-show.

Saturday and Sunday, April 22, 23 (whole days) – SRIS members Garden Tour. *Tentative date.*

Friday–Sunday, April 29 – May 1 – Region 14 Spring Meeting “Iris on the Hill”, Beverly Heritage Hotel, 1820 Barber Lane, Milpitas, California. Vans to Nola’s Iris Garden. Guest Speaker Steve Schreiner; 2 judges’ training sessions.

Saturday and Sunday, May 7-8 (open 1-5 Sat., 10-5 Sun.) – SRIS Iris Show “Around the World with Iris”/ Potted Iris Sale, LBAGC.

Monday May 9 – Master Gardener Toni Gattone, “Adaptive Gardening”.

Monday – Saturday, May 23-28, 2016 – AIS National Convention, Newark, New Jersey. Hotel: Newark Liberty Intl. Airport Marriott Hotel. Includes Presby Memorial Iris Gardens. Info at www.irises.org; go to Member Services, then Conventions/Activities. Registration form & hotel info on page 53 of Fall 2015 AIS Bulletin. Registration \$299 til Feb. 29/\$310 thereafter.

Monday June 13 – Kitty Loberg, Report on 2016 Reg. 14 Spring Meeting. Show awards presented.

Monday July 11 – 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 7 - Potluck Picnic, Iris Auction and Raffle, C&L Vineyard, Sonoma.

Tuesday thru Thursday, September 6-8, 11 AM – 8 PM – 6th Annual Heirloom Expo, Sonoma Co. Fairgrounds. SRIS will have a booth.

Monday, September 12 – Anna Cadd, How to Plant & Grow Irises. Seminar for new members.

Saturday September 10 & 17, 8:30 – 1:00 PM – SRIS Rhizome Sale, Santa Rosa Community Farmers Market at the Vet’s Building, Santa Rosa.

Monday, October 10 – Kitty Loberg, Beardless including Pacific Coast Irises.

Saturday November 5, 12-5 PM – Holiday Potluck/Come Dressed as an Iris Costume Party, LBAGC. Doors open at 12, we’ll eat at 2:00.



2016 Board Meetings - Board Members and Officers, please mark your calendars:

Monday, March 14, 6:00 PM

Monday, May 9, 6:00 PM

Monday, July 11, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 12, 6:00 PM

Monday, November 14, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 12, 6:00 PM

Other Events of Garden Interest

Friday – Sunday, February 26-28 – Pacific Orchid Exposition, Ft. Mason, San Francisco. Largest orchid show in the U.S. See www.orchidsanfrancisco.org or call 650-548-6700. Hours Fri. and Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5. Admission \$15/\$12 senior; \$1 less if you order tickets online.

March 16-20, 2016 – San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, San Mateo Event Center. www.sfgardenshow.com. Wed.-Sat. 10-7; Sun. 10-6. \$17.50 online before Feb. 28; \$22 at the door. AIS R14 will have a booth; contact Carolyn Craft (408-266-0945 or theladygardens@aol.com) to volunteer for free admission.

Saturday & Sunday, April 2 & 3 – Sonoma County Orchid Society Show “Orchids in Art”, Veteran’s Memorial Bldg., 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa (across from the Fairgrounds). Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; admission \$8.00.

Saturday, April 23 – Santa Rosa Garden Club Plant Sale, LBAGC.

DUES NOTICE

Your Newsletter mailing label gives the expiration date of your SRIS dues. If it reads “12/15”, please write a check payable to Santa Rosa Iris Society for \$15/person and mail it to membership secretary Betty Ford. **Electronic Newsletter recipients: check your expiration date on the membership list printed in the October 2015 Newsletter unless you know you’ve paid for 2016.** Use the renewal form in this issue.

From the Editor – **Many thanks** for contributions to this issue: **Barb Baruth, Anna Cadd, Rudy Ciuca, Betty Ford, Diana Ford, Anna Marie Hermansen, and Joe Lawrence.**

Alleah

2016 Dean Linscott Award Presented

This year’s Santa Rosa Iris Society Dean Linscott Achievement Award was presented at the February 8 meeting to new SRIS President Rudy Ciuca and long-time (since 2007) SRIS Treasurer Joe Lawrence.

Rudy joined SRIS in 2003 and Joe, the following year. Their contributions to the society include growing hundreds of potted irises each year for the sale at the spring iris show, Rudy’s serving several terms as Vice President and Joe as Treasurer, Rudy donating much of the food and cooking for the show’s judges’ and workers’ luncheon and for donating, preparing the meat, and organizing the food for the Society’s November holiday party, and Joe and Rudy for hosting our August picnic and iris auction/raffle at their C&L Vineyard venue. Their garden has been on tour at two Region 14 Spring meetings, and for several years they have organized the door prize iris planting at our Display Garden at LBAGC. They head the Society’s “Classroom Iris Project” outreach to school children in our area. For several years Joe has been making the labels for the potted irises for sale, for bags of irises we sell at rhizome sales, and all the labels for the irises at the Display Garden. They are responsible for the Dykes Medal collection at the Display Garden.

Rudy and Joe join Dean Linscott (2004), Jim Begley (2010), Bob and Juanita Breckwoldt (2011), David and Anna Cadd (2012), Betty Ford (2014), and Alleah Haley (2015) as recipients of the Award.

The Dean Linscott Award is named for Dr. William “Dean” Linscott, who from 1964 through approximately 1999 taught immunology and conducted research at the UC Medical School in San Francisco. In retirement, he was a member of the Santa Rosa Iris Society for five years. Dean organized and spearheaded the iris test garden at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, where

he conducted careful research on soil amendments to find the best for growing irises. Dean and his wife Anita Engberg, an artist, were consummate gardeners – their home garden on Grange Road in Santa Rosa was wonderful, with the irises grown to perfection. Dean and Anita landscaped the grounds at the LBAGC and the pair served as its volunteer gardeners. Dean Linscott died in Santa Rosa on March 24, 2004 of cancer. He was 73.

The Brief History of Standard Dwarfs

Anna Cadd

Spring is just around the corner and the first irises will bloom shortly. Most assuredly they will be SDBs. What do we know about them?

Standard Dwarf Bearded irises (SDBs) are some of the most useful garden plants, ranging in height from 20 cm (8 inches) to 41 cm (16 inches). They begin their bloom as the MDBs are ending, still quite early in the iris season. They are best displayed in clumps where they give the effect of a "cushion" of individual blooms. The colors are nearly unlimited since the SDBs show all the different "spot patterns" of the miniatures, as well as the plicatas and pinks seen in TBs.

Behind this definition is an exciting story of the creation and development of a family of wonderful garden plants unknown in nature, beginning with several curious hybridizers collaborating on an experiment and culminating in what would become an enormously successful class of irises, second in popularity only to the tall bearded.

It all started in the 1930s with Robert Schreiner seeking out seeds of the dwarf bearded species *Iris pumila*, native to Eastern Europe. It was one of the iris species originally listed by Linnaeus, and was described in W. R. Dykes' *The Genus Iris*. It is a truly diminutive iris, virtually stemless, with the tip of the blooms often only 10 or 15 cm above the ground. Its range of colors is delightful: yellow, cream, pure white, violet, purple, and blue, almost always with a darker spot on the falls. Schreiner initiated communication with plant enthusiasts in Eastern Europe, and was eventually able to import some seeds of this promising species.



Iris pumila

The story of standard dwarf bearded irises is relatively new. The history started when in 1951 Paul Cook introduced the first modern 40 chromosome SDBs. He developed a new 8 to 16 in. class of bearded irises by crossing tall bearded irises with *I. pumila*, a species no more than 6 in. tall.

To solve the problem of *I. pumila* blooming much earlier than the TBs, Paul Cook of Indiana traded pollen by mail with Geddes Douglas of Tennessee, his cohort in this endeavor. *Iris pumila* was blooming in Indiana around the same time as tall bearded irises were blooming in Tennessee. [Incidentally, the Cook-Douglas Medal, honoring these two pioneers, is the highest AIS award strictly for SDBs.]

The results of these crosses delighted them both. The stems grew about 30 cm in height, only slightly larger than the garden dwarfs of the time. There were two buds at the top of the stem, and often a third on a short branch. The flower form was perky and modern by the standards of the time, and the colors were bright and varied wonderfully. And, most extraordinarily, these new hybrids were fully fertile and could be bred with one another for as many generations as the hybridizer desired. These were the first of a new type of iris, now called SDBs. Paul Cook introduced the first three to the world in 1951: the clear yellow 'Baria', blue 'Fairy Flax', and white and green 'Green Spot', which achieved much popularity among iris enthusiasts. I may still have 'Green Spot'.

By the mid-1950s there were a lot of controversies about iris classifications; and finally the newly established Median Iris Society decided that MDBs were "dwarfs", SDBs, IBs and MTBs were "medians" and TBs were Tall. So the standard dwarf bearded are de facto "medians", even if the name includes the word "dwarf".

SDBs started to be very popular and there were a lot of introductions from crosses between them. It was easier to simply cross the existing SDBs with each other than to cross *I. pumila* X TB, and the results were usually better too.

The influence of the SDBs extended beyond their own class. Today, most IBs come from crossing SDBs with TBs, and most MDBs derive from SDBs as well. They bloom about a month earlier than TBs in most climates, greatly extending the iris season. Furthermore, their size makes them more versatile in garden design than their larger cousins.

The TBs used were tetraploids having 4 sets of chromosomes with 12 chromosomes per set. *I. pumila* is tetraploid, but with 8 chromosomes per set. The resulting SDBs were also tetraploids; however with 2 sets having 12 chromosomes each and 2 sets having 8 chromosomes each.

Paul Cook was inspired to make *the I. pumila* x TB cross to bring a bluer hue into his TB line. That did not happen at all. However, Paul Cook was smart enough to work with what nature gave him - the new classification SDBs. Maybe future hybridizers might take a lesson from this fortuitous development.

Loosely based on various websites and:

<http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/Sdb/WebHome>

<http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com/2015/07/standard-dwarf-bearded-irises-success.html>



Notice: Changes to Roster

Please welcome the following new member and help her feel welcome to our club:

Yarda Hansen

PO Box 1845

Loomis, CA 95650

ylhansen@gmail.com



Keeping In Touch

As first reported in our November 2015 Newsletter, **Barb Baruth's** oldest son Alex, 31, is living with them while being treated for aplastic anemia, a serious rare condition that occurs when the body stops producing enough new blood cells, resulting in fatigue, a risk of infections, and uncontrolled bleeding. Alex has a fungal lung infection and goes to the hospital every other day for blood counts, transfusions, and doctors' appointments. By the latter part of Januar, 2016 a donor had been located and Alex was preparing to have a bone marrow transplant hoping for improvement. Transplant recovery, however, is a long process, fraught with potential problems.

By February 15, 2016 Alex had decided to postpone the bone marrow transplant. His blood counts

have improved slightly. Although his red blood cell count isn't anywhere near normal, he hasn't had to have an rbc transfusion since January 31^t and may be able to hold out a couple weeks. The length of time between platelet transfusions is expanding, and his white blood cell count is giving him a minimal immune system. He feels pretty good, has visited a friend and even done a little shopping.

Barb emailed on Feb. 22: "We are happy about this current turn of events and hope that Alex won't have to have the bone marrow transplant after all. Thanks so much for your love and support. ...I wish I could be out in CA with you ... perhaps I'll make a quick trip out soon. Say 'hi' to the folks in the SRIS for me."

Barb welcomes notes and emails to:

Barb Baruth

1900 E. Newton Ave.

Shorewood, WI 53211

barb.baruth@gmail.com

Happy Birthday March Babies

Michael Howard 3/3

Lynn Williams 3/31

March Wedding Anniversary

Debbie and Art Hertz 3/26

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 April 2016 issue of this Newsletter is March 20, 2016. E-mail copy to:*

alleah.haley@gmail.com.

Today's California Gold

Anna Cadd

Historically, California was famous for its gold, mined in the Sierra. But we still call California the "Golden State" and for good reason: in February and March in Sonoma County a prominent landscape feature is knee-deep yellow mustard in our fields and vineyards. When someone sees this landscape for the first time, it is overwhelming. But even seeing it year after year, it is still mesmerizing. It's mustard (*Brassica* and *Sinapsis* spp.) growing wild or planted by vineyard managers. It thrives just until vine buds break, when it is turned under to mulch and provide valuable nutrients including phosphorus to the emerging grape plants. Both white mustard (*Sinapsis alba*) and oriental mustard (*Brassica juncea*) are doing great in dry environments.

According to legend, Franciscan missionaries first spread the mustard seed while landscaping church properties throughout California. They carried mustard seeds in a sack slung over their backs and each sack had a small hole in it, so as they walked the seeds would scatter.

Mustard growth helps suppress nematode populations (microscopic worms that can damage vines), because mustard contains high levels of biofumigants. Some vineyards have created their own varieties that are specifically bred to have high levels of glucosinolate compounds, or are "extra spicy," with pungent odor and sharp taste to further deter nematodes. The worms don't like the glucosinolates in the mustards and soil. Glucosinolates break down to isothiocyanide, which can act as a soil fumigant

and weed suppressant. So mustard cover crops can be used before a vineyard is established to avoid having to use chemical fumigants. It also can be used in iris beds before planting.

But there are other yellow and gold springtime treasures – daffodils (*Narcissus* from the plant family Amaryllidaceae). Planted in groups in gardens, parks and alongside highways, they are a salute to spring, wet weather and bashful sunshine. And let's not forget the acacia trees from the family *Fabaceae*, which cause some people respiratory problems, but are gorgeous in their full glory. Now if someone asks about the gold in California – you can tell them that our plants represent our gold!

Based on different websites including:

<http://www.winesandvines.com/template.cfm?section=features&content=47782>

<http://www.sonomacounty.com/articles/magic-mustard-vineyards#sthash.LyAmdvd5.dpuf>

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Meeting, February 8, 2016

At 7:00 p.m. Anna Cadd presented an amazing program about three hybridizers: Barry Blyth, Keith Keppel and Joe Ghio. She showed the parent plants and many surprising and amazing offspring. There were many beautiful and unusual colors. She carefully kept to the 40 minutes allowed for the program. Many of us would have enjoyed watching it for twice as long.

General Meeting called to order 8:00 p.m. Minutes from January meeting approved.

Treasurers' report read and approved.

2016 Proposed budget approved.

Board Actions and Commitments:

- a. Sales Chairman for Show
Action: Marlene Horn will chair (May 7-8)
 - b. Show Chair and Theme
Action: Anna Marie agreed to chair; Jean Sharp will do the arrangements; theme will be "Around the World with Iris"
 - c. Chair for Rhizome sale at Heirloom Expo
Action: Betty Ford agreed to chair Sept 6-8
 - d. Chair for Farmers Market
Action: Alleah Haley agreed to chair (10th and 17th of September 8:30 – 1:00, Vets Building)
4. Jeff Davis not present to report on flea market; discuss next meeting.
 5. Alleah Haley has reserved all dates for activities
 6. Jean Sharp did the flowers for Gen Mattos' Memorial
 7. Region 14 Scholarship Application
Action Joe Lawrence to send a letter to Phyllis and Peggy Ruud with corrections
 8. There will be a memorial for Betty Coyle on February 27, at Wood Street Chapel Fortuna, CA.
 9. LBA&GC Meeting on Jan 14, 2016. Rudy and Joe attended, good meeting, there was an overbooking issue to resolve
 10. Discussion of Beardless Iris.
Action: Kitty will do an October program on beardless to include PCI.
Kitty will contact Terry Aitken, Leonine and Chad Harris to spend the \$300 for Beardless purchase.
Bill Tatham will water Japanese iris weekly to keep them going
 11. Date for member garden tours.

Action: Jim and Diana will make a recommendation next meeting

12. Potluck date is reserved November 5, 2016.

Doors open 12 noon, eat at 2:00.

13. Round Robin:

Work party set for Thursday Feb 11, 9:00 a.m.

to weed the Display Garden at LBA&GC.

Fred Kerr received the AIS Hybridizer's Medal.

Alleah announced she will be going out of town and Feb. 20 is the deadline to get information in the newsletter.

Juanita stated there are a number of older publications in the library that might be disposed of. A suggestion was made to send a list to the historical section of AIS to see if some might be needed there.

Anna Cadd suggested that every 3 months she could write a scientific article for the newsletter and that it could be discussed at the meeting for 15 minutes. This was agreed to.

At the end of the meeting Betty Ford and Alleah Haley presented the Dean Linscott Award to Joe Lawrence and Rudi Ciuca for their outstanding service. There was much cheering.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Diana Ford, Secretary

Door Prize Winners for February

A GRAPE FIT – Bill Tatham

AMBER RAINBOW – Jan Wax

BELLE FILLE – Betty Ford

BETTER TOGETHER – Jean Sharp

CAMEO KEEPSAKE – Alice Kemper

CENTURY BOUND – Anne Marie Hermansen

COMMANDING PRESENCE – Chris Bing

ESCAPE FROM BOREDOM – Joe Lawrence

HEAVENLY HOST – Cheryl Bryan

LAVENDAR LEMON CAKE – Linnea Polo

MARDI GRAS BALL – Anna Cadd

ONE LAST KISS – Anna Cadd

OUTCAST – Diana Ford

PASSION FOR FASHION – Steve Albert

RAGTOP DAY – Alleah Haley

SPENDID SPRING – Kitty Loberg

TRIPLE DIP – Marlene Horn

VIBRATO – Jim Begley

WATERCOLOR PRINT – Rudy Ciuca

Door Prizes for March

Rudy Ciuca

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.

AMERICAN ORIGINAL (Tasco, 2014) 41" E-M. S. yellow-white center and edges, heavily washed dark burgundy; F. yellow-white with very wide edges washed and dotted burgundy, cold white centers; beards white hairs tipped red-brown; moderately ruffled; purple based foliage; pronounced citrus fragrance.

ANCIENT AIRS (Schreiner, 2015) 44" L. S. watermelon; F. dark red. Yellow styles, heart, and rim of falls.

ANGELS ABOUND (Kerr, 2014) 38" M. Luscious white with ruffling and shearing at edge; pinkish yellow hafts; red beard tipped white.

ARRIVEDERCI (Keppel, 2014) 37" ML. S. pale peach; F. light warm lavender blend, slight lobella-blue central flush, pale peach by beard; beards near orange-vermilion, lavender-white at ends.

BET THE FARM (Schreiner, 2015) 35" M. Near black and white amoena; S. white; F. purple with lighter edge and undersides; ruffled; 10 buds.

BETTY FORD (Kerr, 2014) 38" M. S. white; F. white to very light blue, strong medium blue edge; beards red; slight sweet fragrance.

BLACKWATER (Schreiner, 2014) 38" M. S. grey-purple; F. black; beards black.

BOLD PATTERN (M. Sutton, 2015) 35". S. mimosa, ruffled with midribs flushed green; F. violet, veined paler with greyed red shoulders and receded rim. F. have a 1/4" Chinese yellow band and ruby red wire rim.

BORDER SKIRMISH (Ghio, 2014) **BB** 26" EM. S. orange; F. orange base washed red to an almost solid red edge; beards tangerine.

CORAL SUNRISE (Lynda Miller, 2014) **MTB** 19" EM. Coral self; beards dark coral.

DARK ICON (Kerr, 2014) 36" M. S. blue-violet w/ tan edge; F. velvety dark red; beards orange.

GOING BIG TIME (Ghio, 2014) 35" L. S. white, hint of orchid at distal edge; F. deep royal purple edge bleeds into white starburst, hint of pink in heart of bloom; beards tangerine.

GOLDEN SNITCH (Robert Skaggs, 2014) 40" M. S. light bronze with purple infusions; F. light gold; beards bold gold, large; slight sweet fragrance.

MIDNIGHT ROSE (L. Painter, 2014) 36" L. S. light mauve-pink; F. black-plum; beards old gold, hairs based purple, old gold tips; slight sweet musky fragrance.

ONE STEP BEYOND (Tasco, 2014) 34" M. S. oxblood to brick red, light bronze lower midrib; F. velvety jet black veined yellow; beards orange, with black hairs at end; lightly ruffled; purple based foliage; slight spicy fragrance.

PATTERN PLAY (M. Sutton, 2015) 34". Ruffled and serrated yellow standards. Pale blue violet falls, mottled darker violet, plum shoulders, 1/2" chrome yellow rim with plum wire; orange beards.

PUZZLED (T. Johnson, 2015) 37" M-L. S. buttery peach with orange texture veins; F. light lavender ground, lighter toward edges, washed maroon, very wide and ruffled; beards dark orange.

READY FOR MY CLOSEUP (Black, 2014) 35" E-M. S. rose-cranberry blend; F. orange-garnet red, red-violet blaze with orange-garnet red center stripe, cream sanded veins across haft; beards burnt orange; slight sweet fragrance; heavily ruffled and laced.

VOULEZ-VOUS (T. Johnson, 2015) 34" M-L. Six consistently flat falls are lavender with a darker maroon wash and darker texture veins; no standards; buffy peach styles.

WINGMAN (Schreiner, 2015) 45" L. Blue-purple neglecta, with large flowers; sharp contrast in tone, between the standards and falls. The falls' lavender border same as standards.

Rebloom (and Early Bloom) Report

Betty Ford emailed on January 31: "I have [just cut and brought inside] the most gorgeous and perfectly formed stalk of 'Spring Awakening' (Kerr, 2013). Surely the Best of Show if entered. Couldn't let the rain destroy it."

Diana Ford emailed on Feb. 19:

Blooming now in Hopland:

Autumn Explosion (Tasco, 2013) TB RE

Edge of the World (M. Sutton, 2011) TB RE

Living on the Edge (Lauer, 2009) TB RE

Cold Creek (M. Sutton, 2011) TB RE

October Splendor (Sides, 1997) BB RE Concertina (G. Sutton, 2000) IB RE

Dancing Lilacs (Markham, 2002) MTB

Spring Awakening (Kerr, 2013) TB

South Padre Island (Magee, 2006) TB

Hemstiched (Hager, 1990) TB RE

Precious Halo (Kerr, 2012) BB RE

Forever Blue (Chapman, 1997) SDB RE
Cat's Eye (Black, 2002) SDB
Dime Lime (Strohman, 2007) SDB
Ambitious One (Black, 2013) SDB
April Fanfare (Black, 2014) SDB
First Sensation (Tasco, 2003) SDB
Pink Fawn (Weiler, 1993) SDB RE
Rust Never Sleeps (Lauer, 2012) IB RE

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 _____

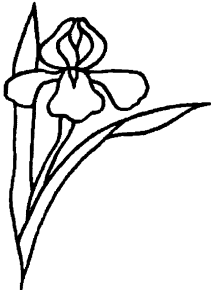
AIS MEMBER: YES _____ NO _____

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

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

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

42ND YEAR NUMBER 3

MARCH 2016

President:
Rudy Ciuca

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, scheduled this year on Saturday November 5 from 12:00-5:00 p.m.

Membership dues are \$15.00 per year. Send payment to: Santa Rosa Iris Society c/o Betty Ford, 1383 E. Napa St., Sonoma, CA 95476. 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. For more information call Anna Marie Hermansen ,Betty Ford, or Juanita Breckwoldt .

April Newsletter Deadline – March 20th