

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

43RD YEAR NUMBER 2

Officers 2017:

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Jeff Davis

Vice President

Treasurer from their February 2017

Fleur de Lis

Joe Lawrence

Secretary

Diana Ford

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Rudy Ciuca

Historian

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Directors thru 12/18:

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Delores McKey

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Standing Committees:

Attendance

Marlene Horn

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Jim Begley

Jean Sharp

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Open

Hospitality

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LBAGC Representatives

Jeff Davis

Anna Cadd

Alternate Need volunteer

Logistics Coordinator

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Photography

Marlene Horn

2017 Show Chairman

Kitty Loberg

2017 Assistant Show Chairman

Need volunteer

2016 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Need volunteer

2016 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Need volunteer

FEBRUARY 2017

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 7:00 PM
ADAM SCHMIDT, NORCAL GOPHER
TRAPPING - GETTING THE
GOPHERS



Our program for this month will be "Getting the Gophers" given by Adam Schmidt.

Recently married, Adam is a lifelong West County resident who has had a gopher-trapping business for 2 1/2 years. Mentored by Gopher Guy Gregg Crawford, Adam's clients include wineries, orchards and private homes in Sonoma, Marin and Mendocino counties. He will provide us with information and some amazing photos to tackle a formidable garden pest.

Jean Sharp

Gardening Tips for January

Anna Cadd

1. It's official! - six more weeks of winter. You know the drill: if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, it predicts six more weeks of winter. Punxsutawney Phil is the pleasantly plump Pennsylvania marmot (marmots are large squirrels in the genus *Marmota*, of which there are 15 species), who claims he is "the only true weather forecasting groundhog". He woke up Thursday morning, February 2, 2017, crawled out of his hole and saw his shadow during Groundhog Day festivities at Gobbler's Knob, a small hill just outside Phil's hometown. Members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club's inner circle revealed Phil's forecast by poem, as is tradition: "It's mighty cold weather, you've been braving," this year's verse read. "Is it more winter or is it spring that you're craving? Since you've been up all night and starting to tattle, I, Punxsutawney Phil, shall not dawdle," the proclamation read. "My faithful followers, I could clearly see a beautiful, perfect shadow of me. Six more weeks of winter, it shall be!" Records dating to 1887 show Phil predicting more winter 102 times while forecasting an early spring just 18 times – including last year. There are no records for the remaining years.
2. So our still winter plants look soggy and miserable, and this will not improve until the rain stops. Daffodils are trying to change this gloom, poking yellow trumpets up between the weeds; but this is not enough. Of course, yellow oxalis is also trying to cheer us up, as are the mustards in vineyards, which help to give California its name, "the Golden State". Isn't it rather sad that we are impatient to rip the oxalis from our garden beds.
3. So get ready: Sharpen your tools, dig out the galoshes, and

collect fertilizers as time is short – we will have irises blooming in two to three months! We will need first to pull the weeds, then gently clean up the old iris leaves. Look for signs of bacterial soft rot, caused by *Erwinia carotovora*. Go to: http://www.irises.org/About_Irises/Cultural%20Information/Pests_Diseases.html to learn more about iris diseases and how to fight them.

4. Did you know that 80-90% of all flowering plants on earth depend on insects and animals for pollination? The cacao tree, the source of chocolate, is pollinated entirely by a tiny fly relative called a midge? Fig trees are pollinated by wasps? Bumble bees are the only bees that use “buzz pollination” to dislodge the pollen? Hover flies are the workhorses of orchards – pollinating a variety of fruit crops? A variety of night-blooming flowers are highly dependent on moths for pollination? Wetlands are an excellent source of conservation and protection for pollinators? At least 185 species of pollinators are considered threatened or extinct? Hummingbirds are found only in the Western Hemisphere? Over 300 species of fruits depend on bats for pollination? As gardeners, we are in a unique position to understand the need for and to take active steps to conserve pollinators. The future of our food supply depends on them.

From the President’s Desk

I’m looking out my window and watching the rain falling, thanking the Rain Gods for bringing life to my garden. This used to be normal, didn’t it? A time to plan for the coming year, getting out all the garden catalogues and travel brochures, planning that trip to the AIS National Convention in Des Moines in May. It never ends. Whether it be for business or pleasure, friends or family, there is always something coming up. Like our first meeting of the year, Monday, February 13th. We get to find out about all those pesky gophers and what to do when we get them. I want to know why they always pick my favorite plants and leave the ones I don’t care about.

Hope you all made it through the recent storms without too many problems. Looking out at the rain now seems so innocent. I am looking forward to seeing you all and enjoying the garden camaraderie at our coming meetings. *Jeff Davis*

What is paradise? A garden. William Lawson

This Month

Monday, February 13 – Adam Schmidt of NorCal Gopher Trapping, “Getting the Gophers”.

2017 Iris Events and Important SRIS Dates

Monday, March 13 – Anna Cadd, “Entering the Artistic Division in an Iris Show”.

Monday April 10 – Jim Begley & Ross BeVier, “Preparing Your Irises for the Show”. Members will hold a mini-show. 1 hr. judges training credit.

Friday–Sunday, April 21-23 – Region 14 Spring Meeting “Iris Express”, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5321 Date Ave., Sacramento. Frannie’s and Horton’s Iris Gardens; guest speaker and judges trainer Dell Perry, Plano Texas.

Saturday and Sunday, May 6-7 (open 1-5 Sat., 10-5 Sun.) – SRIS Iris Show “An Iris for All Seasons” / Potted Iris Sale, LBAGC.

Monday May 8 – Cheryl Bryan, “Irids” (iris family plants).

Monday – Saturday, May 23-27, 2017 – AIS National Convention “Rhythm of the Prairie”. Convention Hotel: Des Moines, Iowa, Marriott. Six gardens incl. Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. For info go to www.irises.org, Member Services, Conventions/Activities. Registration form & hotel info on page 44 of the Fall 2016 AIS Bulletin. Registration \$275 on or before March 15.

Monday June 12 – Kitty Loberg & Anna Cadd, Report on 2017 Region 14 Spring Meeting. Show awards presented.

Monday July 10 – Marlene Horn, “Club Irises available at the August Picnic/Auction”.

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

Saturday August 5 – Potluck Picnic, Iris Auction and Raffle, C&L Vineyard, Sonoma.

Monday August 14 – No meeting.

Saturday August 26, 9-3 – Rhizome sale, LBAGC.

Tuesday thru Thursday, September 5-7 – 7th Annual Heirloom Expo, Sonoma Co. Fairgrounds. SRIS will have a booth.

Monday, September 11 – Anna Cadd, “Iris Culture”. Free seminar for new members.

Monday, October 9 – Rick Tasco, “My Iris Hybridizing Program”

Saturday November 4, 12-5 PM - Holiday Potluck/Come Dressed as an Iris Costume Party, LBAGC. We'll eat at 2:00 PM



Gardens are not made by singing, “Oh, how beautiful,” and sitting in the shade. *Rudyard Kipling 2017*

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

Monday, March 13, 6:00 PM

Monday, May 8, 6:00 PM

Monday, July 10, 6:00 PM

Monday, September 11, 6:00 PM

Monday, November 13, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 11, 6:00 PM

Other Events of Garden Interest

Friday – Sunday, February 24-26 – Pacific Orchid & Garden Exposition “Big Ideas for Small Gardens”. New location: SF County Fair Building, 1199 9th Ave., 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.

Saturday & Sunday, April 1 & 2 – Sonoma County Orchid Society Spring Show “Orchids in Wonderland”, 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 22 – Santa Rosa Garden Club Plant Sale & “indoor garage sale”, 9-2, LBAGC. Tools sharpened by Andy the Tool Sharpening Guy.

Iris Gardening Tips – A Year Preview

Here are iris growing tips given at the January Clara B. Rees Iris Society (San Jose) meeting by Philippa Alvis and Mary Collins. Reprinted with permission, with edits, from that Society’s February, 2017 *Fleur de Lis*.

January

- Pull weeds – **every month of the year** – keep after those weeds.
- Pull off dead leaves.
- Don’t compact wet soil by walking on it; use stepping stones or lay down a board.

February

- Fertilize iris (especially just before a rain so it will be watered in for you). Fertilize with 10-10-10 around the rhizome, not on it, and scratch it into the soil. SRIS uses 6-24-24.
- Manage gophers.

March

- Monitor for aphids and release ladybugs, wipe them off with gloved fingers, or spray off with strong stream of water.
- Leaf spot: Just ignore it*, pull off the affected bits and discard (do not compost), and avoid overhead watering. *If you want a pristine garden, use fungicide.

April

- Stake bloomstalks and insert spreaders where needed to separate the buds for show.
- Enjoy your blooms!
- Visit gardens.
- Check the blooms against the tags and make sure they’re correct.

- Deadhead spent flowers, then spent stalks.

May

- Enter the iris show.
- Turn your focus to beardless iris care.
- Fertilize rebloomers after bloom.
- Order new iris!

June

- Fertilize and water rebloomers (no need to water oncers).

July

- Begin digging and preparing to replant your iris. Inventory supplies, stakes, fertilizer, sources of soil amendments, etc.

August

- SRIS Auction/Raffle!
- Dig your iris and divide them. Don't water TBs for two weeks prior to dig.
- Amend your soil for replanting. Fertilizer, compost, gypsum. Replant.
- Water new plants.
- Replant MDBs and SDBs quickly – don't let them dry out.
- Bleach any rhizomes to be planted or replanted in 9:1 water to bleach solution for 10 minutes; rinse off well, let dry and then plant immediately.

September

- Spread granular Preen® or spray Weed Impede® (pre-emergent herbicides) on beds right after planting for weed control. Clean sprayer immediately or it will destroy your sprayer.
- Continue watering new plantings.

October

- Plant beardless iris.
- Dig and divide beardless iris and keep roots moist until planted.
- Enjoy rebloomer blooms.

November

- Plant PCIs- make sure they have good white roots before planting – keep roots moist.
- Plant bulbous iris.

December

- Tool maintenance.
- Reapply pre-emergent herbicide.

DUES NOTICE

Your Newsletter mailing label gives the expiration date of your SRIS dues. If it reads "12/16", 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 attached separately with this Newsletter.** Use the renewal form in this issue.

From the Editor – **Many thanks** for contributions to this issue: **Barb Baruth, Bob Breckwoldt, Juanita Breckwoldt, Anna Cadd; Jeff Davis; Betty Ford; Diana Ford, Mikey Lango** of Clara B. Rees IS, **Joe Lawrence, Keren Pratz** of McKinney, Texas, and **Jean Sharp.**
Alleah

2017 Spring Regional "Iris Express"

The AIS Region 14 spring meeting will be held April 21 to 23, 2017 in the Sacramento Valley area. This will be hosted by Sacramento and Sierra Foothills Iris Societies. The Crown Plaza Hotel in Sacramento will be the convention hotel. Guest speaker and judges trainer is Dell Perry from Plano, Texas.

About 160 guest irises have been planted for your viewing enjoyment which we will be carpooling to view in two local area commercial gardens. One of which many of you have been to over the years is Horton's Iris Garden in Loomis. The other garden is relatively new, Frannie's Iris Garden in Elk Grove. It has been designed for iris viewing in mind. Ruth Ostroff has graciously opened her garden in Rio Linda as an optional tour garden.

Horton's Iris Garden (7440 King Rd., Loomis) is set on gently rolling hills at the base of the Sierra Foothills. She has the master planting for the event with approximately 160 guest irises. Mary Ann's garden is mostly bearded irises, but it does have a few beardless irises mixed in as well. After viewing the guest gardens you can meander through her many acres of beautiful flowers and approximately 1600 more irises, including many historical ones. You will be treated to lunch in her garden under the mature trees, which offer a beautiful shaded area for your comfort.

Frannie's Iris Garden (8884 Saddlehorn Ct., Elk Grove) is located in the south Sacramento Valley. The owners Russ and Fran Shields moved from the Gilroy area and started their commercial iris garden. They have many newer varieties of tall bearded irises introduced within the last ten years for your enjoyment. Fran has started a bed for all of the Dykes Medal winners, and is in the process of acquiring them all. She recently started enjoying median irises and is adding them to her garden as well. After strolling through her garden and the guest iris beds you can relax under the beautiful gazebo or on the large lawn area for a snack and a cool drink.

Ruth Ostroff 's garden (6121 20th St., Rio Linda) will also be open as an optional garden for any of those interested. She has been growing the Sacramento door prize irises for approximately eight years so there are a lot of newer irises. She has almost a complete planting of Dykes Medal winners. Also in her garden is a large planting of rebloomers and historic iris. A must see! Open both days, Saturday and Sunday.

A registration form for the Convention is included in this Newsletter. Contact the Crowne Plaza Hotel separately for room reservations: 877-504-0054. Use the name "Regional Iris Society" when making your reservation. The room rate of \$109 per night plus tax for double or single is available until April 3, 2017. Includes breakfast. NO PETS.

http://www.aisregion14.org/sp_regional.php

Bumble Bees and 'Bumblebee Deelite'

Anna Cadd

The rusty patched bumble bee (*Bombus affinis*), which can be identified by a rust-colored patch on the back of workers and males but not the larger queens, was once a commonly seen pollinator from the Midwest to the East Coast. Unfortunately, scientists believe that it has disappeared from 87% of its historic range since the 1990s and that its population has declined by a startling 95%. The rusty patched bumble bee is now listed as endangered under the Species at Risk Act in Canada and by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This is the first bee species in history to receive federal protection in the U.S.

Rusty patched bumble bees once occupied grasslands and tallgrass prairies of the Upper Midwest and Northeast, but most grasslands and prairies have been lost, degraded, or fragmented by conversion to other uses including large monoculture farms, cities, and roads. Gone are the diverse habitats of hedgerows and the flowers that grow there, and legume pastures. The rusty patched bumble bee is also threatened by climate change, disease, the spread of pathogens from commercial bees and the widespread use of herbicides and pesticides. Rusty patched bumble bees nest in the ground and may be susceptible to pesticides that persist in agricultural soils, lawns and turf.

Why conserve rusty patched bumble bees?

As pollinators, rusty patched bumble bees contribute to our food security and the healthy functioning of our ecosystems. Bumble bees are keystone species in most ecosystems, necessary not only for native wildflower reproduction, but also for creating seeds and fruits that feed wildlife as diverse as songbirds and grizzly bears.

Bumble bees are among the most important pollinators of crops such as blueberries, cranberries, and clover and almost the only insect pollinators of tomatoes. Bumble bees are more effective pollinators than honey bees for some crops because of their ability to “buzz pollinate.” The economic value of pollination services provided by native insects (mostly bees) is estimated at \$3 billion per year in the United States.

Bee populations—including thousands of species of wild bees—are in crisis across the U.S. and Canada, and the rusty patched bumble bee is one of the most troubling examples.



In 1986 Jack and Glenda Norrick introduced the beautiful miniature tall bearded iris named 'Bumblebee Deelite', pictured upper right (Jack and Glenda Norrick, R. 1985). Seedling #JN-82-1. MTB, 18" (46 cm), Early midseason bloom. Standards yellow; falls maroon, edged yellow; orange beard; tailored. 'Pewee' X 'Ornate Pageant'. Miller's Manor 1986. SRIS grows 'Bumblebee Deelite' in its display garden at LBAGC.



This iris is so beautiful and unusual that it received a lot of awards: an Honorable Mention in 1988; the Williamson-White Award in 1991; the Williamson-White Medal in 1993. Everybody was hoping that it would win the Dykes Medal, but this didn't happen. But history is strange. In 2012 Jack and Glenda Norrick's daughter, Barbara, married Chuck Bunnell, a family friend and student of the Norricks. And as we know, Chuck received the Dykes Medal for 'Dividing Line' (Charles Bunnell, 2005). MTB, Honorable Mention 2007; Ben Hager Cup 2007*; Award of Merit 2009; Ben Hager Cup 2009*; Williamson-White Medal 2011, American Dykes Medal 2014. So Barbara got the thrill of being part of the "Dykes family", not as daughter, but as the wife!

But how did my stream of consciousness get me from bumble bee protection to the Dykes Medal?

*The Ben Hager Cup is awarded to the best median iris seen blooming at the AIS National Convention each year. 'Bumblebee Deelight' won the Cup at the National in Oklahoma City in 2007 and at the National in Kansas City in 2009.

References:

<http://www.ecowatch.com/bumble-bee-extinct-2020825957.html>

<http://wiki.irises.org/bin/view/Mtb/MtbBumblebeeDeelite>

<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endorsement/insects/rppb/factsheetrpb.html>.

Kindness is showing love to someone else. I believe that kindness is the cure to violence and hatred around the world. Lady Gaga



Keeping in Touch

Barb Baruth emailed an update on her son Alex on January 23, 2017:

“Hi everyone,

Today is Day 100 since Alex's bone marrow transplant. Although he's had a cold for the last 10 days or so, he is doing pretty well. He no longer needs to have an IV bag of magnesium every day - he can take magnesium pills instead; last Friday his PICC line was removed. His hair is growing back - he lost much of it from chemo & total body radiation in prep for the transplant. His blood counts - red, white, and platelets, although not normal, have increased greatly and are looking good. His immune system will take a long time to recover and he will be on medications to prevent viral, fungal and bacterial infections for quite a while yet. After a year or two, he will need to have the injections he had as a child - for mumps, measles, etc. Alex is taking a medication to help prevent Graft vs. Host Disease and so far has not had any symptoms; our fingers are crossed that he will be able to avoid GvHD. He is still tired and the doctor says it will be about 9 more months before he feels normal. All in all, though, he is doing much better than we had expected!

Thanks so much for your concern and loving support through this long ordeal.

Love, **Barb**”

1900 E. Newton Ave.
Shorewood, WI 53211

Bob Breckwoldt, son of **Juanita Breckwoldt**, had his left hip replaced on January 24 at Kaiser Hospital in Terra Linda. It was necessitated by severe osteoarthritis. As he was being transported to his room, the replacement popped out and he had to be operated on a 2nd time to put it back in. Even so, he was released the following day and walked into their house using a walker. By February 5th he was down to physical therapy at home once a week and feeling “90% better pain-wise”. Recovery is expected to take three months, but he should be driving in six weeks.

Juanita and Bob welcome cards or calls to:

214 Las Gallinas Ave.
San Rafael, CA 94903-3936

Happy Birthday February Babies

Jeanne Plank 2/2

Anna Marie Hermansen 2/11

Cheryl Bryan 2/12

Kathy McCallum 2/13

Micah Uchiyama 2/15

Nancy Fortner 2/18

Anthony Gee 2/19

Rudy Ciuca 2/21

February Wedding Anniversary

Gloria and Dennis McIntosh 2/24

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 **March 2017** issue of this Newsletter is **February 20, 2017**. E-mail copy to: alleah.haley@gmail.com.*

In Memoriam – Virginia (Ginny) Howard

Virginia Frankos Howard passed away peacefully on January 2, 2017 at the age of 101 in Santa Rosa, CA. She was born in Kranidi, Greece to Theodoros and Eleni Frankos. Ginny was raised in Vallejo but moved to Sonoma County in 1973.

She was an avid gardener; she and her late husband, Gene Howard were in the first Master Gardener class trained by U.C. Davis. She was also involved in the Sonoma County Rose Society and Iris Society.

Virginia is survived by her son, Jerry Howard; daughter in law, Kate; and granddaughter Erin. A viewing was held on January 20th from 4-8 p.m. with a rosary at 6 p.m. at Eggen & Lance Chapel in Santa Rosa. The funeral mass took place the following day on January 21st at St. Rose Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made to: U.C. Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

SRIS Membership Chairman Betty Ford received a lovely note from Ginny's family:

"Dear Santa Rosa Iris Society,

We want to thank you for the newsletter you sent to our mother/grandmother, Ginny Howard. We're sad to report that she passed away January 2nd after a short illness. She died peacefully at the nursing home where she'd been living since last September. We appreciate your friendship throughout the years and we know you have many happy memories of Ginny."

The note continued, inviting SRIS members to attend Ginny's services, including a copy of her obituary from the Press Democrat, and concluded:

'With sincere good wishes for the New Year,

Jerry, Kate and Erin Howard

2375 Jay St.

New Orleans, Louisiana 70122"

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Board Meeting, January 9, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

In attendance: Jeff Davis, Anna Cadd, Kitty Loberg, Steve Albert, Jean Sharp, Alleah Haley, Anna Marie Hermansen, Joe Lawrence, Rudy Ciuca, Cheryl Bryan and Diana Ford.

Minutes approved with one correction. The Theme for the Spring Show is "An Iris for All Seasons"

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Correspondence: Rick Tasco is offering a program on how he does hybridizing. We agreed to this, so his program is on for October.

There was a discussion regarding judges training and the guidelines for Region 14. It was determined that the March program will not be a judges training. This program is for members to understand how to enter the new artistic division.

Old business; we examined and discussed documents for the Artistic Division and other staging considerations.

There was a discussion of signage for the garden. Jean Sharp and the garden committee will present something at the next general meeting.

We went over the proposed budget and added a few additional expenses. We need new sandwich style signs to put on the street to draw people to the show or rhizome sales. Kitty asked that we have these ready in time for the Spring Show. The budget is ready to present at the next general meeting.

The Luther Burbank Center requires two representatives for their board meetings from each participating club. One is the president (Jeff Davis) and a second person. As a rule, our club has also set up one more person to serve as an alternate, for those times when one of the people can't attend. Kitty agreed to step in this time only since Jeff was unable to attend. There still isn't an alternate. We will bring this up at the next meeting to find someone to fill that role.

The Rhizome sale will be here at the Center on August 26th. That way we will have an additional week after to dig more rhizomes for the Heirloom Festival. The "leftovers" will still be fresh enough for the Heirloom sale.

Potluck will be November 4th here at the Center.

The Picnic/Auction will be Saturday August 5.

Adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Diana Ford, SRIS Secretary

How to Get Rid of Household Odors

Based on the Dec. 31, 2016 Press Democrat

Have the holidays left your home stinky? Try using common household items and these tips:

- Pet pee: Starting with the worst, not only the rankest odor but also the hardest to remove. Hard to locate by nose, turn off the lights and run a black light around the room. Any biological material will glow.
- To de-stink, blot the spot with a white paper towel but don't rub. Then apply a mixture of half white vinegar and half water. Let marinate a few moments before using clean towels or paper towels to soak up the liquid. Cover the spot with a towel while it dries.
- If odor remains after it has completely dried, sprinkle baking soda over the spot and work it into the carpet. Let it sit for a few hours and then vacuum it up. Do not try to clean with ammonia. It will only make your pet want to return and do it again.
- Smoke: Did a holiday guest sneak a smoke inside your bathroom? Dampen a dish towel with vinegar and wave it around for a few minutes. Then set small bowls of white vinegar around the room.
- Stale closets: Make sachets with cat litter, or fill mesh bags or clean old pantyhose with activated charcoal, potpourri or cedar chips, then hang them inside the closet.
- Trash cans: Sprinkle ½ box of borax or cat litter in the bottom to cut down on mold and bacteria growth.
- Ovens: It's a no-brainer to clean inside the oven, but did you ever think about what's hiding behind it? Food or grease may be lurking behind or underneath it. If the range is freestanding, try pulling it out to clean the backside and bottom. To freshen the inside, bake citrus rinds at 350 degrees.
- Disposal: Chop up a lemon and drop it into your disposal or sprinkle baking soda over a few ice cubes and run through the unit to clean and freshen this notorious stink zone.
- Dishwasher: Pour baking soda in an open bowl and leave in the closed dishwasher overnight.
- Carpets: Baking soda works great for removing odors. Sprinkle it liberally over your carpet, work it into the fibers with a broom, allow it to sit for several hours – or better, several days, and then vacuum it up.
- Refrigerator or freezer odors: If odors persist after removing all food and cleaning, check the drip pan underneath and wash with baking soda and water. If you have spoiled meat inside your fridge, rinse the area with vinegar, baking soda, or tomato juice. If these measures don't work and you're going away for a few days – or if you're prepared to do without perishables for a few days – fill the shelves with crumpled newspaper or with big shallow pans spread with ground coffee or activated

charcoal. Shut the door and leave it for two or three days.

- Microwave: Mix one cup of water with 2 tablespoons lemon juice or baking soda, put it inside the microwave and bring to a boil for about 5 minutes. Let stand for another 5 minutes. Then wipe the interior dry.
- Stale rooms: Place small bowls of white vinegar around the room and shut the door.
- Bedding: Sprinkle baking soda, borax, or a mixture of spices over your mattress, futon, or bedding and leave overnight. Vacuum in the morning. Or sprinkle baking soda between the mattress and box springs and leave it. For a really musty mattress, sprinkle with cat litter and leave for a week, or wipe it with a sponge dampened with vinegar.
- Toilets: To clean inside the tank, pour a half cup of vinegar inside. Use a scrub brush to wash the sides. Flush, add more vinegar and repeat. Don't forget to wash around the base.
You can make a paste with equal parts of fresh lemon juice and baking soda, mixing until it has the consistency of pancake batter. Using a damp cloth, spread along the bottom of the toilet and let sit for 15 minutes. Then pour vinegar into a spray bottle and spray along the paste. Let it fizzle, then wipe with a rag.

Getting Ready for Weeding

submitted by Anna Cadd. Sent to her by Kitty Loberg eight years ago, but just as timely today

Just in case you are having a rough day, here is a stress management technique recommended in all the latest psychology journals. The funny thing is that it really does work and will make you smile.

1. Picture yourself lying on your belly on a warm rock that hangs out over a crystal clear stream.
2. Picture yourself with both your hands dangling in the cool running water.
3. Birds are sweetly singing in the cool mountain air.
4. No one knows your secret place.
5. You are in total seclusion from that hectic place called the world.
6. The soothing sound of a gentle water fall fills the air with a cascade of serenity.
7. The water is so crystal clear that you can easily make out the face of the person you are holding underwater.

There! You see, it really does work. You're smiling already. Feel free to pass this along if you know others who might benefit from this amazing new stress relieving technique.

Hazard of Typos in Emails

From *Upbeat Times*, September, 2014

An Illinois lady left the snow filled streets of Chicago for a vacation in Florida. Her husband was on a business trip and was planning to meet her there the next day.

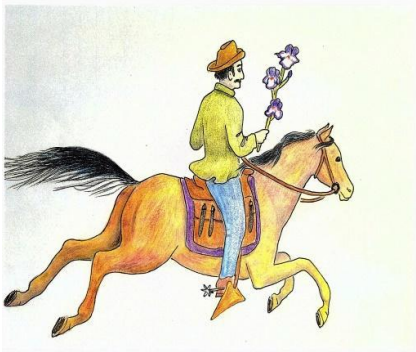
When she reached her hotel, she decided to send her husband a quick email. Unable to find the scrap of paper on which she had written his email address, she did her best to type it from memory.

Unfortunately, she missed one letter and her note was directed instead to an elderly widow whose husband had passed away only the day before. When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream and fell to the floor in a dead faint. At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

DEAREST HONEY: JUST GOT CHECKED IN. EVERYTHING PREPARED FOR YOUR ARRIVAL TOMORROW.

P.S. SURE IS HOT DOWN HERE.

2017 Spring Regional April 21, 22 & 23



“Iris Express”

Co-sponsored by Sacramento Iris Society and Sierra Foothills Iris Society
Guest Speaker – Dell Perry from Plano TX

Conference Hotel
Crowne Plaza 5321 Date Ave, Sacramento, CA 95841
Contact for room reservations at (877) 504-0054

To receive the group rate, use the name Regional Iris Society when making your reservation.
The room rate is available until April 3, 2017.
Hotel room rates are \$109.00+ tax for double or single per night.
Breakfast is included for hotel guests. No pets allowed.

Registrant #1 First Name _____ Last Name _____

Registrant #2 First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail for confirmation _____

Local Iris Society _____

Registration fee if paid by April 1st 2017 \$95.00 x person (s) _____ Total \$ _____

if paid after April 1st 2017 \$105.00 x person (s) _____ Total \$ _____

(No refunds after April 8, 2017)

Registration includes lunch and dinner on Saturday
Please indicate registrant # 1 or #2 for lunch choice

Lunch:

Roast Beef Sandwich _____

Ham Sandwich _____

Turkey Sandwich _____

Veggie Sandwich _____

Dinner Buffet includes: Salad-Green and Caesar, Marinated Grilled Tri-Tip, Marinated Grilled Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Rolls, Carrot Cake.

Please make checks payable to Sierra Foothills Iris Society.

Please send registration to: Yvette Meador, P O Box 332 Applegate, CA 95703

E-mail ymeador@yahoo.com or phone 530 878-0944

Judges Training Sunday April 23rd 9am Horton’s Garden

Will attend Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Iris Show Friday April 21st Crown Plaza Hotel

Will enter Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Iris Entries accepted Friday 3:00-5:30pm Judging at 6:00pm

Meeting Region 14 Board/General meeting Friday, April 21, 2017, 7:00 pm

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____



RHYTHM of the PRAIRIE
 American Iris Society 2017
 May 23 – 27, 2017
 ais2017.wordpress.com



Convention Hotel: Des Moines Marriott (515-245-5500). If calling, ask for the *American Iris Society Event Rate*. Room reservations must be received by May 2, 2017.

ONE REGISTRATION PER FORM

Multiple registrations may be combined in one payment.

****NO REFUND FOR CANCELLATION AFTER APRIL 30, 2017****

AIS Member Full Convention Registration

Includes welcome reception, convention book, two-day 5-garden tour (with lunches), all programs, judges training, awards banquet, & admission to iris auction.

<u>Adult AIS Member</u>			
<u>On or before Jan 31, 2017</u>	\$250.00		
<u>Feb 1 – Mar 15, 2017</u>	275.00		
<u>After Mar 15, 2017</u>	325.00		
<u>Youth AIS Member</u>			
<u>On or before Jan 31, 2017</u>	125.00		
<u>Feb 1 – Mar 15, 2017</u>	150.00		
<u>After Mar 15, 2017</u>	175.00	Amount \$	_____

AIS Member and Non-member Partial Convention Registration

Partial Convention Registrations received after April 30, 2017 will be placed on a space available waiting list.

<u>Welcome Reception</u>			
<u>AIS Member</u>	\$45.00		
<u>Non-Member</u>	55.00	Amount \$	_____
<u>2- Day 5-Garden Tour: <i>Lunches included - No discount for 1-day tour</i></u>			
<u>AIS Member</u>	150.00		
<u>Non-member</u>	200.00	Amount \$	_____
<u>Awards Banquet</u>			
<u>AIS Member</u>	45.00		
<u>Non-member</u>	55.00	Amount \$	_____ Total \$ _____

NAME (to appear on badge) _____ e-mail _____

Mailing Address: _____ ZIP _____ AIS Region _____

Phone: _____ Special Dietary Needs: _____

Awards Banquet Choice: Pork Chicken Vegetarian

Payment method:

Credit Card Payment: Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____/____ CVV ____

Check: make payable to *AIS, Region 21* Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Mail Registration to: **Kristin Jurik, 5658 195th Street, Ames, IA 50010; k.jurik@yahoo.com**

Reservations for the Geek Dinner are not included in the convention registration fees above. Please contact Joanne Prass Jones (joanne@usjoneses.com) or see convention website for more information. Cost is \$35.00.

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 _____

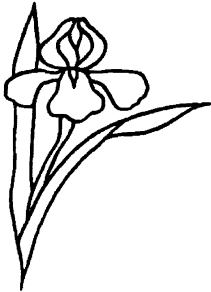
AIS MEMBER: YES _____ NO _____

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

43^d YEAR NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2017

President:
Jeff Davis

Vice President:
Anna Cadd

Newsletter Editor:
Alleah Haley

Meetings & Membership

The Santa Rosa Iris Society meets the second Monday of each month February through October at 7:00 p.m. at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa, California. In November instead of having a regular meeting, we have our annual holiday potluck dinner and dress up as an iris name costume party.

Membership dues are \$15.00 per year. Send payment to: Santa Rosa Iris Society c/o 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.

March Newsletter Deadline – February 20th