

The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

43RD YEAR NUMBER 5

Officers 2017:

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Jeff Davis

Vice President

Anna Cadd

Treasurer

Joe Lawrence

Secretary

Diana Ford

Past President

Rudy Ciuca

Historian

Anna Cadd

Membership Secretary

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Alleah Haley

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Anna Marie Hermansen

Kitty Loberg

Directors thru 12/18:

Kathy McCallum

Delores McKey

Jean Sharp

Standing Committees:

Attendance

Marlene Horn

Display Garden Chairmen

Jim Begley

Jean Sharp

Door Prize Coordinator

Rudy Ciuca

Hospitality

Diana and Don Ford

LBAGC Representatives

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Anna Cadd

Alleah Haley (alternate)

Logistics Coordinator

Jim Begley

Photography

Marlene Horn

2017 Show Chairman

Kitty Loberg

2017 Assistant Show Chairman

Jeff Davis

2017 Potted Iris Sale Chairman

Alleah Haley

2017 Summer Rhizome Sales Chm.

Need volunteer

MAY 2017

MONDAY, MAY 8, 7:00 PM

CHERYL BRYAN – IRIDS (OTHER MEMBERS OF THE IRIS FAMILY IRIDACEAE)



Iridaceae is a family of plants in order Asparagales, taking its name from the **Irises**, meaning **rainbow**, referring to its many colors. There are 66 accepted genera with a total of ca. 2244 species worldwide.

Members of this family are **perennial plants**, with a **bulb**, **corm** or **rhizome**. The plants grow erect, and have leaves that are generally grass-like, with a sharp central fold. The family name is based on the genus ***Iris***, the largest and best known genus in Europe. The genus ***Iris*** dates from 1753, when it was coined by Swedish botanist, **Carl Linnaeus**. The family is currently divided into four subfamilies but the results from DNA analysis suggest that several more should be recognized. (Ref.: Wikipedia search 5-4-17 on "Iridaceae".)

Cheryl will talk about the Family Iris in the SRIS Display Garden - what we have and where we could go.

Don't forget the Board Meeting at 6:00 PM. All Welcome!

Gardening Tips for May

Lois O'Brien (from the May 2005 SRIS Newsletter. Lois stressed water conservation; we should continue this despite our wet winter.)

My quote for the month is an unexpected one from Nelson Eddy, the singer-actor. He said, "From the earth we are formed and into the earth we return- In between, we garden."

[] WEED

Any gardening advice is offered to this background music which we all know by heart. Never mind that it's the "same old-same old" tune. Just take a deep breath and DO IT! My favorite is "Pull or hoe, Before they go—ALL TO SEED!" Check your plants in pots too.

[] DEAD HEAD OLD BLOSSOMS

Keep your plants clean by removing the old bloom stalks and spent blossoms. This will reduce the hiding places for insects to settle into the crevices of leaf spathes and damage the remaining flower buds. Spring flowering bulbs can be lightly fertilized at this time. Check directions on the bulb fertilizer package.

[] FERTILIZE

Apply nitrogen fertilizer to container plants to keep them healthy. Check with Ross BeVier for a recommendation on type of fertilizer and N-P-K formulation. Top-dress potted plants with one inch of compost or fresh soil before adding the complete fertilizer.

[] CONTROL SNAILS AND SLUGS

Keep after the snails and slugs that you missed earlier. They can damage a prized bloom and chew holes in the leaves. Check around the bottom rims of potted plants, a favorite hiding place. You know the stale beer and tuna can routine.... If you use a bait containing mesurool or metaldehyde, try changing the brand so that pests don't build up a tolerance for one single brand.

[] MULCH

To conserve water and also control weeds, spread a two to three inch layer of organic material beneath plants. Keep mulch away from base of plants, especially your iris, or you will invite rot.

[] PINCH

To encourage branching on azaleas, fuchsias, geraniums, and marguerites, pinch out the growing tips of new shoots. Also pinch out the top two leaves and flower buds on nursery transplants of marigolds, petunias, and zinnias.

[] ADD COMPANION PLANTS

Try some non-thirsty easy-care companion plants like coreopsis, dianthus, gaillardia, Mexican primrose, penstemon, the many sages, or yarrow. Plant dahlias now for later garden color, but be aware that they take a bit more water. I think they are worth it!

[] PLANT VEGETABLES

If you can spare the water, plant a few warm season vegetables. For example: bush beans, fava beans, patio tomatoes, and peppers. With our great Farmers Markets in Santa Rosa and Sebastopol, we can sample some of the antique varieties of tomatoes and unusual lettuces. It is also nice, however, to have a few to pick – warm and flavorful – from your own garden.

[] WATER

Use it wisely, making sure it goes a long way. California gardeners learn about conserving water by putting saucers under their potted plants to collect the excess. We prevent wasteful run-off around trees and shrubs by building soil basins. In heavy or compacted soils, holes may be drilled around the drip line for water to reach the growing roots.

[] ENJOY THE FLOWERS

This is the time to share the joy of gardening with our friends. It's time to check out the shows and conventions and do a little garden-hopping in our own club. It's also time to pick up a few pointers and compare varieties of our favorite flower, and – in the best sense of the word – it's time to "smell the flowers"!

From the President's Desk

Spring is a two-edged sword. We wait in anticipation all winter for it and when it comes it seems we have to rush around trying to enjoy all the work we have done in our gardens before it all goes away in a flash into summer. The Iris Season is short and peaks (hopefully) with our annual Iris Show and Sale. I look forward each year to our show and it always seems like there is doubt that there will be anything to bring from our gardens, but then we see all the bloom stalks brought in and staged that day and it is a beautiful sight. This year we have added a Flower Arrangement Section, which adds a new dimension for all of us to participate in. So, add your creative ideas. Spring is here. Enjoy it.

Jeff Davis

This Month

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).

2017 Iris Events and Important SRIS Dates

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 51 of Winter 2017 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, 15-5 PM – Holiday Potluck/Come Dressed as an Iris Name Costume Party, LBAGC. We’ll eat at 2:00 PM.

2017 Board Meetings - Board Members and Officers, please mark your calendars:

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

2017 Plant Sale Dates

Sonoma Co. Jail Plant Nursery & Teaching Garden, 2254 Ordinance Rd., Santa Rosa.

Saturday May 6, September 9, October 7 – 9 AM – Noon. Checks or cash only. Native & drought tolerant shrubs, perennials, succulents, fruit & ornamental trees, veggies. Master Gardeners on site to help you select plants and answer questions. Info and plant list at www.scoe/jailindustries or call Rick Stern 707-525-8310 or email jailind@mcn.org.

Occidental Arts and Ecology Center Nursery, 15290 Coleman Valley Rd., Occidental.

Saturday & Sunday, August 12-13, 19-20 – 10 – 5, Fall Plant Sale

<https://aoaec.org/events/plantsales>.

Nursery open Saturdays & Sundays, April – October, 10 – 5 (closed April 14-15) – vegetables, flowers, herbs, drought tolerant plants, habitat and pollinator plants.

Santa Rosa Junior College

Sunday, May 7 (Day Under the Oaks) – 10 AM – 4 PM

Lark Hall Greenhouse, same building as the Planetarium. Cash, check, and credit cards accepted.

Willowside School, 5299 Hall Rd., Santa Rosa (corner of Willowside and Hall Rds.)

Saturdays May 13, June 3, June 24, August 19, Sept. 9. Sept. 30, October 21, November 11 – 9 AM – 2 PM. Low water & drought tolerant perennials, natives: \$4/ 1 gallon pot. Japanese maples 3-5' tall: \$25 - \$45/tree. No veggies. Call 707-569-4724 with questions.

Windsor Garden Club, Windsor Town Green @ McClellan & Market St., Windsor. **Sunday, October 22 – 10 AM – 1 PM** (succulent- topped pumpkin sale).

Graton Community Club, 8996 Graton Rd., Graton at the corner of Graton Rd. & Edison St.

Fall flower show Friday October 13 and Saturday October 14 – features lunch including homemade dessert for \$10 11-2 both days. Handcrafted quilts and tea towels; raffle, live music. 707-829-5314 / www.gratoncommunity.club.org.

American Fuchsia Society – Sebastopol Branch, Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Veteran’s Bldg., 282 High St., Sebastopol. **Saturday, July 29 – 9 AM – 1 PM.** Hanging plants, upright plants. For info contact Gerri Crane 415-892-5808; Facebook Sebastopol Fuchsia Friends.

Milo Baker Chapter, California Native Plant Society, Santa Rosa Vet's Memorial Building, 1351 Baker, Ave., Santa Rosa. **Saturday, October 13 – 9 AM – 1 PM.** Native shrubs, perennials, bulbs, seeds. www.milobaker.cnps.org .

and ... at **Russian River Rose Company**, 1685 Magnolia Dr., Healdsburg – 707-433-7455

Garden and Nursery open every weekend in May, 10-5 with events:

May 6 & 7 Peak Rose Bloom Extravaganza

May 13 Prelude to Mothers' Day

May 14 Mothers' Day Open Garden

May 20 & 21 Deluxe Gourmet Perfume Rose Harvest Tours

Some events request donations. Go to www.russian-river-rose.com.

From the Editor – **Many thanks** for contributions to this issue: **Barb Baruth, Anna Cadd, Jeff Davis, Betty Ford, Diana Ford, Nancy Fortner, Joe Lawrence, Kitty Loberg, Jean Sharp, Jan Tolmasoff** of Russian River Rose Co., and **Susan Wiseman.** *Alleah*

2017 SRIS Show: "An Iris for All Seasons"

Kitty Loberg, Show Chairman

It's this 1st weekend in May!

Last minute tips to prepare for the show:

1. In the garden, starting a week before, stake all stalks you may be considering, with a rock, a brick, or a stake. Don't let stalks lean side-ways in the garden.
2. Water the garden if needed. Dry plants don't grow the best stalks.
3. Put out snail bait if you have signs of snails.
4. Make a list of irises you're bringing. Prevents guessing on the morning of the show.
5. Prepare method to transport. E.g. large bottles in a bucket or egg crate (plastic for lite weight).
6. Always transport beardless in container with water.
7. Plan materials and accessories for Artistic Design class/sections. Gather into box or tub. **Try doing a design this year! Most of us are beginners!**
8. Make or check your grooming kit (min. scissors, clippers, Q-tips, pen); pre-fill out tags with you entry # and name.
9. Bring spare extra stalks for making props in vases.
10. Get rest, get up very early to cut stalks. Plan to arrive with plenty of time to prepare your entries. 7:00a.m. – 9:30a.m. Don't arrive late.
11. If you're bringing food for hospitality, prepare the day before.
12. Volunteer to clerk at the show to learn how entries are judged.
13. We're a club, we're here to learn from each other and help each other. Experienced exhibitors are more than glad to explain to others 'how to do it'.

Volunteer list for the Show:

Friday - Setup begins 2:00 p.m. at Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center. Tables, including tables for Artistic Design, and Plant sales, will be set up. Bring potted plants for plant sale.

Cheryl, Anna Marie, Jeff, Jim, Kitty and Steve. Come if you can help!

Saturday – Show prep/entries begins at 7:00a.m. Jeff Davis will open doors.

Classification & Placement – Betty... need additional helpers.

Clerks for Judging - Anna Marie, Cheryl, Diana, and Betty. We need a couple more. (3 Judges panels)

Hospitality-Alleah for donuts in the morning.

Luncheon - Diana, Alleah, Rudy, Gilda, Marlene, Kitty. If others can bring a salad, it would be appreciated. Show workers join with our judges for our luncheon potluck. Food is needed both days.

Plant Sales –**Sat.**: Joe, Alice, Alleah and Gilda. Alleah is chairing the plant sales.

Sun.: Joe, Alleah, Mary, Alexa

Welcome Desk - We need volunteers for the welcome desk!

Helpers, wherever needed - Delores, Anna Marie, Kitty

Tear Down and Cleanup – Alleah, Jean, Joe, Jim, Kitty & Steve. Others welcome to help, please!

Come join us, enjoy the beauty of the irises, and the spirit of friendship among our members!

Display Garden Update

Jean Sharp

The display garden is looking great and blooming beautifully. Jim Begley has sprayed twice for leaf spot and I was able to weed the spurge in the club bed before it reseeded. The Dykes bed has good bloom after the fall division. With the warm weather approaching, the garden should be impressive at the time of our Show.

The Road to Becoming a Hybridizer

Kitty Loberg

Each season, we find ourselves with not enough time to see lots of gardens. Yet, have you ever regretted seeing another garden? Or do you regret that you didn't see a garden?

This year, Diana Ford invited me to come see her seedlings, and so I went. I had seen her garden last year with just a couple rows of seedlings. This year, she has thousands, and I discovered they're not "just like the others". Over many years, I've visited quite a few hybridizer's gardens, and I know how many of the well-known hybridizers plant literally fields of seedlings to find just a couple of special different seedlings.

Diana is a fast learner with hybridizing. I found a couple in her garden that jumped off the page at me! And I've gone back to her garden a couple of times because I want to see things that were not open on my first visit. I think future years are just going to give us more beauties that may be worthy of introduction. Job well done, Diana!

Go visit Diana's garden! You won't regret it.

Below are some pictures Kitty took.



Seedling with over-
lapping falls What a beauty!

And here's a photo Jeff Davis took in Diana and Don's garden:



The Iris Learning Corner – *Iris tectorum*

Anna Cadd

Iris tectorum is a 15" tall species of the crested iris group featuring large, 6" across, beardless, white, bright lilac-purple, lavender-blue, bluish-violet, purple-blue, blue-lilac or sky blue flowers with falls which are crested white. Foliage is arranged in fans of narrow, lance-shaped, ribbed, glossy, upright leaves that can become somewhat floppy. It grows on forest margins, on sunny banks, in meadows, in damp places and beside water. It can also be found growing along roadsides and on steep hillsides in China. Found at an altitude of 1,600–11,500 feet above sea level.

This iris can spread rapidly in the garden. Commonly called roof iris because it has in the past been grown on thatched roofs in both Japan and China. It is susceptible to a virus which discolors the leaves badly, infected plants should be removed and destroyed. Seed will be virus-free and can be collected for future planting. They are also subject to slugs. It has average water needs during the growing season.

Because of its preference for sheltered, sunny areas, this iris can solve a planting problem in areas of the garden where there is limited air circulation. It also may be effective when planted in the rock garden or in large drifts at the front of the perennial border. The ribbed leaves add texture to the garden.

Source:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=d580>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iris_tectorum





Keeping In Touch

Barb Baruth emailed an update on her son Alex on April 22, 2017:

“Just a quick note to let you know that Alex continues to do well. He has been back in his apartment for several weeks and is becoming much more independent. When he saw Dr. Eapen a few weeks ago, she said that she was pleased with his progress and that he only needs to see her on a monthly basis. He doesn't have to take Valcyte anymore, the "big gun" antiviral that made him feel sick. He's been put on Acyclovir, another antiviral that he tolerates quite well. He also is taking an antibiotic, an antifungal, and a drug to help prevent transplant rejection. His last bone marrow biopsy showed that his blood cells are 100% donor, which is excellent. Still no signs of Graft vs. Host Disease! His immune system is still vulnerable so he can't eat at restaurants, go to stores at times when there are many people, be around potted plants (germs in the soil), etc. He gets tired easily and needs lots of rest, but he continues to improve. We are very happy.”

Barb welcomes cards and emails to:

Barb Baruth

1900 E. Newton Ave.

Shorewood, WI 53211

barb.baruth@gmail.com

On April 14 **Nancy Fortner** emailed: “I plan to renew my membership - will try to get check in the mail soon. Please keep the newsletter coming-I love reading it cover to cover.

“Alan & I are having a challenging spring. One of our long-time employees who did deliveries for us relocated and left us. Alan filled in until we found a replacement, who we trained for a week, then sent him out on his own. 4 days later he quit. I was filling in for Alan while he was out on the road and I started having severe shoulder issues, enough to send me to physical therapy. Alan took over then he started having rotator cuff pain. We hired a new employee who's out on his first day alone. Fingers crossed! 2 weeks ago I fell and broke my [non-dominant] wrist. After 10 days they decided it wasn't healing right and I had surgery this past Friday to try and pin it together.

“I am overwhelmed with work and frustration at not being able to drive or tend my garden. I only have a few iris these days but I have a beautiful collection of plants including natives, succulents, lots of unusual perennials, shrubs, etc. I was planning to have a neighborhood plant sale in early May. I have a lot of plants that I would gladly exchange for a little weeding help.

“Am also looking for referrals on who we might hire relatively cheaply to help us with things like weed-wacking, fixing irrigation lines, fixing a fence, misc. handyman help, helping Alan deal with failing poly greenhouse roof, etc. We are just south of Sebastopol.”

Nancy Fortner's contact info is:

5335 Denver Lane

Sebastopol, CA 95472

kgqueen@yahoo.com

Happy Birthday May Babies

Steve Albert 5/26

Don Ford 5/7

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 **June 2017** issue of this Newsletter is **May 20, 2017**. E-mail copy to:*

alleah.haley@gmail.com.

2017 Iris Bloom Season in Southwest Kansas

Susan Wiseman (formerly Elizabeth Cooke, your editor's daughter)

It began on April 15 with a large clump of Paul Black's 2015 SDB 'Circus Clown'. Within a few days it was joined by 'Leave the Light On' (IB, R. Probst 2013), 'Celestial Explosion', Cadds' 2003 'Black Mercury', and prolific rebloomer 'Harvest of Memories' by Zurbrigg. After a few colder days 'Edge of the World' (Michael Sutton 2011), 'Beyond Borders' (Tasco 2012), 'Sheer Excitement' (BB, Tasco 2011), and 'Modern Drama' (Kerr 2012) showed their pretty faces. This afternoon (April 24th) I photographed the most recent to open, including 'Spice Trader' (John Painter 2010), 'Fatal Attraction', 'Splatter Matters', 'Teamwork' (Keppel 2001), 'Dawn Eternal' (Schreiner 2013), 'All My Loving' (Barbara BeVier 2012), 'Skating Party', and the Dykes Medal-winner MTB 'Dividing Line'. We have a potted 'Winged Angel' (IB, Tasco 2003) blooming in another section of the yard. My nearest local iris society in Dodge City, Kansas, 3 ½ hours away, is planning their iris show for May 7th or 14th, and I should be close to full bloom, so perhaps I'll be able to enter a few stalks this year. Wish me luck!

As of the morning of April 28, I have 38 varieties in bloom and three that have finished. "Peak Bloom" is nearly here! Got rain and colder temps expected for a few days, so time will tell.

Well, time did tell! Freezing rain began at 2 p.m. on Friday April 28 and snow began at 2 a.m. on Saturday, all with 40 mph winds. It snowed 5-8" on both Saturday and Sunday. Ice formed 3" in diameter on fully leafed-out trees; branches broke and took down power lines. The power went out at 11 p.m. on Saturday and stayed out for 48 hours. Only 2 power poles were left standing in the 9 miles to the nearest town – the others broke off between 6' and the groundline due to wind and ice on the power lines. We had 3' snow drifts up to the windows on our house.

We sheltered our elderly neighbor lady for three nights (we had a propane heater and blankets); barbecued and played cards. Once the road was plowed we drove the hour to the closest Wal-Mart and bought a camp stove and began cooking the meat contents of our freezer; my husband Ray shoveled paths to our and the neighbor's front door. Ray bought a chain saw at the local hardware store (cash and checks only; they used battery-powered headlamps to guide shoppers to merchandise) and cleared limbs from our and the neighbor's yard. The power came back on about 11 p.m. Monday; and the neighbors, Ray, and I continued clearing downed tree limbs from yards and the alleys so the garbage trucks could pick up once the crews were released from road clearance work. I spent Thursday May 4 cleaning up limbs and planting shrubs for my Kansas iris mentor's widow (Marvin Johnson passed away last November). The Boot Hill Iris Society Show was postponed to May 14, but we'll be in Dallas at my daughter Brhianon's junior college graduation. My iris bloom survived remarkably well, sheltered by the snow.

Wow! What an iris season!

Minutes of Santa Rosa Iris Society Members Meeting, April 10, 2017

There was a short meeting before the presentation by Ross and Jim.

Attending were: Kitty Loberg, Cheryl Bryan, Marlene Horn, Jim Begley, Ross BeVier, Diane Guffy, Linnea Polo, Jean Sharp, Alexa and Mary Pagonas, Gilda De Niro. Mary True, Juanita and Bob Breckwoldt Jr., Marlene Freetly, Betty Ford, Anna Marie Hermansen, Alleah Haley, Joe Lawrence, Alice Kemper, Diana Ford, Anna Cadd and Jeff Davis.

Anna Cadd announced that Siberian Iris are blooming.

Kitty Loberg brought in and distributed programs and show tags for our show in April. Jeff and Anna explained how to fill out the tags. They explained what the Division, Section, Group and Class are.

Where it asks for variety, fill in the name of the Iris. Put your exhibitor number on the tag and your name and address. Anna cautioned people to read the exhibition rules. On that Saturday (6th of May) we can get into the building at 7 a.m. There will be access the day before to drop off potted plants.

Anna will pick up the new award plaque.

Kitty has been working on publicity. She sent information to 6 publications and has more to do. Setup starts 2:00 on Friday. Alleah will chair the plant sale. She asked for more volunteers and explained where more people are needed.

Jeff showed us the new signs and banners.

Jim and Ross gave an excellent program, both informative and amusing. It also counted as a judges training and had a test.

After a quick break we did the raffle and resumed the meeting.

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report was read.

A garden tour was discussed, but no decision was made.

After our show Cobb School will be doing a show. Joe asked who might be interested in helping. Joe and Rudy and Jim have been helping the 4th graders learn how to do a show.

Meeting adjourned.

Diana Ford, SRIS Secretary

Door Prize Winners for April

Free as the Wind – Steve Albert

Get Back – Jeff Davis

Ghirardelli Square – Kitty Loberg

Give it Away – Ross BeVier

Gold Reward – Betty Ford

Heaven's Door – Gilda De Niro

High Desert – Jim Begley

Lavender Lemon Cake – Linnea Polo

Pure Majestic – Marlene Freetly

Puzzled - Anna Marie Hermansen

Shine on me Sunshine – Alleah Haley

Sweet Child of Mine – Marlene Horn

Waves of Joy – Anna Cadd

Iris Coaster in Container – Diana Ford

Iris Oval Candy Dish – Alice Kemper

Set of Porcelain Mixing Bowls with Irises – Mary True

Door Prizes for March

Joe Lawrence, with help from Diana Ford

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.

BANANA DAIQUIRI (Sutton, George, 2016) **TB** 37 E-M-L. S. butter yellow, slight white veining, edges lighter; F. white around beards blending to pale lavender to a 1½" soft butterscotch edge; beards orange; ruffled; serrated; pronounced spicy fragrance.

BEE MY HONEY (Schreiner, 2016) **TB 39** ML. S. deep yellow ground, heavy ruby red sanding and edging; F. deep yellow ground, ruby red sanding and edging; beards gold.

BLACK CHERRY SORBET (Harris, 2016) **MTB 22"** E. S. black cherry-red; F. orchid ground heavily veined black cherry-red; beards bright lemon yellow; slight spicy fragrance

BLISSFUL (Black, P, 2016) **SDB 15.5"** E-L. S. clear mid yellow; F. white, wide blended mid yellow band; beard hairs based white, tangerine, wide; glaciata; slight musky fragrance.

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

BRAZEN GOLD (Black, P, 2016) **IB 23** M. S. mid-dark yellow; F. mid-dark gold, darker gold haft veins; beards dark gold; slight sweet fragrance.

BUT DARLING (Schreiner, 2016) **TB 46"** ML. S. apricot; F. deep violet, ¼" lavender periphery; beards violet.

CANDY BASKET (Harris, 2016) **MTB 22"** VE. S. warm caramel, slight violet cast; F. off white ground heavily veined black cherry-red, faint golden rim; beards bright lemon-yellow; slight spicy fragrance.

COCONUT SNOW (Painter, John, 2016) **TB 34-35"** E. White self; beards yellow in throat, white end; sweet fragrance.

FLASH OF BRILLIANCE (Mego, 2016) **TB 33"** M. S. white, yellow midribs and veining; F. plum-purple, yellow around beards, lighter plum edge; beards orange; ruffled; slight spicy fragrance.

GOT THE PICTURE (Ghio, 2016) **TB 30"** ML. S. rosy blue-lilac; F. rosy blue-lilac, more silvery as bloom matures; beards tangerine, tips blue.

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

IRRESISTIBLE CHARM (Tasco, 2016) **TB 37** ML. S. peach; F. black-plum purple, bright clean white sunburst around beard; beards capsicum red; lightly ruffled; slight sweet fragrance.

IT'S OUR TIME (Lauer, 2016) **TB 34** M-L. S. spanish orange, pink at midrib; F. cream center, apricot shoulders and amber-yellow rim; beards mandarin-red; ruffled; slight sweet fragrance.

KYLA ROSE (Sutton, Mike, 2016) **TB 38** M-L-VL. S. and style arms pink; F. white, pink shoulders and edge; beards tangerine-pink; ruffled; laced; pronounced sweet fragrance.

LOOKING GLASS (Painter, Lesley, 2016) **TB 41"** M-L. S. pink-white, deeper pink in heart; style arms pink-white; F. pink-white, deeper pink shoulders; beards white, tips coral.

LUMINAIRE (Aitken, 2016) **SDB 9"** ML. S. and style arms red-black; F. red-black, white zonal spot with red-black rays/veins; beards white.

NINJA WARRIOR (Miller, L., 2016) **TB 27"** M. S. smoky pink blending to dark orchid ribs; F. black, purple lines by beard; beard hairs based purple, tips sienna-tangerine; slight sweet fragrance.

POPPED WHITE (Schreiner, 2016) **TB 41"** M-L. White self; beards orange

PURPLE PANACHE (Schreiner, 2016) **TB 37"** M. S. medium plum-purple; F. darker violet; beards orange.

RASPBERRY LEMONADE (Sutton, Mike, 2016) **TB 35"** E-M-L. S. primrose yellow, edges darker; style arms primrose yellow; F. pale cream, primrose yellow shoulders and veining, red-purple marbling ½ down petal, ¼" aureolin rim at edge; beards orange in throat, yellow orange in middle, yellow ends; ruffled; serrated; pronounced spicy fragrance.

What is a Rhizome?

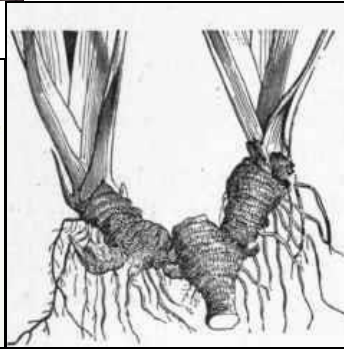
Anna Cadd

During iris sales, mostly "bare root " sales, but also during potted plant sales, people often struggle with the terminology of what is on the bottom of the iris plant. Of course, we know that this is a rhizome.

A true bulb, such as a hyacinth or narcissus, is a swollen underground stem with a bud inside. In addition, a number of bulblike plant parts are often grouped under "bulbs." Corms such as crocus or gladiolus are similar but have the bud on top. They make new corms that replace the original one each year. A tuber, such as tuberous begonia, is swollen part of an underground stem with buds along the

sides. Some plants, such as dahlia and ranunculus, have tuberous roots. All of these are food storage organs and are convenient for the gardener since they can be safely kept until ready to plant.”

A rhizome, such as an iris, is an underground stem; new plants sprout along its length. Rhizomes are horizontal stems that grow underground, usually near the surface. Although they resemble roots, they have scale-like leaves (see diagram) and axillary buds (embryonic shoots) at each node (part of a stem with one or two leaves and buds). Adventitious roots (roots arising at unusual places such as from stems) are produced along the length of the rhizome, especially from the lower surface. In addition to the small, scale-like leaves, full-sized functioning leaves also form. Rhizomes vary from relatively thick and fleshy food-storage organs such as in irises to slender structures in some ferns and many perennial grasses.



From "Bulbs and Friends" in *365 Days In The Garden Calendar* by Workman Publishing.
Introductory Plant Biology by Kingsley R. Stern, 1994 edition, Wm. C. Brown Communications, Dubuque, Iowa.

For the Love of Iris

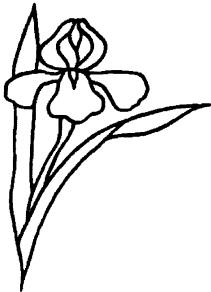
Judy Tapio, submitted by Kitty Loberg

We till, we plant, we fertilize.
We lime, we weed, we fungicide.
We ward off bugs and voles and more.
We order our kids to play next door.
We lose some tags and break some stalks.
We cry when we find signs of rot.
We pray through rain, through wind, through hail.
We wait, we beg, we must prevail.
When finally we see those blooms.
Our hearts will leap, we act like loons!
Some blooms delight, while others amaze.
Many we find have got the wrong names!

Once they're through, we search for more.
We pick new ones to come to our door!
We've got it bad, we're hooked of course,
But there are habits that are so much worse!
Some tell us that iris grow easily,
But we know so much differently.
A few days of beauty that makes us all smile,
Makes all that work seem so worthwhile!

Santa Rosa Iris Society
Alleah Haley, Newsletter Editor
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Name and Address Correction requested



The Newsletter of

The Santa Rosa Iris Society

43^d YEAR NUMBER 5

MAY 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.

June Newsletter Deadline – May 20th