



Clara B. Rees Iris Society - Fleur de Lis

Nov 2013
Vol 57, Issue 2

Meeting Place

First Baptist Church
17765 Daves Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030

Regular Meeting

7:30 P.M.

Doors Open

7:00 P.M.

Nov 1, 2013



Club Membership Dues

Sep 1, 2013—
Aug 31, 2014

Adults - \$12.00

Contact Information:

Barbara Pesek, President
bpesek@sbcglobal.net

November Program

Like a view through a kaleidoscope, spun from glorious colors and hues, petals layered cross-wise atop petals, the Pacific Coast Iris flowers caught my eye and took my breath away. Wandering down the rows of tables at our Spring Show at Westgate Mall, each jewel of a flower was more beautiful than the last. Some were ruffled and edged, covered with delicate veining reminiscent of stained glass. Others had bright splashes of contrasting colors. All are enchanting hybrids of our native wild iris.

And whose name was on each of these lovely multi-hued stars? Each one that vied for my attention was from Garry Knipe, long-time, award-winning, local hybridizer extraordinaire of Pacific Coast Iris. Attend our November meeting and hear Garry tell us how we can grow these beautiful low maintenance flowers in our own gardens. He promises to bring plenty of photos for us to admire.

—Lynn Stuart, VP & Program Chair

November DPI

CBRIS features Pacific Coast Irises as the door prize iris every November. Carolyn Craft will be picking them up from Joe Ghio for the drawing. If you have not grown them, come to the November meeting and give them a try. You will be amazed.

Board meeting before the regular meeting on Nov 1st

The meeting will be at 6:15 P.M. before the regularly scheduled meeting. As always, the meeting is open to all members. New and old board members please come. The important topic for consideration will be whether or not we will be having a 2014 Spring Flower Show.

Tidbits from Under a Turkey's Wattle

The society has received kudos for producing such a wonderful Fall Regional on October 18th and 19th. I was in awe of our members who made this event so memorable with a seemingly effortless division of labor. Not only did we have tablecloths with table toppers, but a second fresh topper was added right before lunch. Carolyn Craft, the region's fund raising chairperson, laid out a buffet of silent auction items unequaled in past memory. Our reality show-worthy CBRIS bakers provided the desserts for Friday night and morning refreshments on Saturday and the Russie ladies, Robin and Cindy, catered a delectable luncheon repast. The AIS President Jim Morris and his wife Jean were treated like royalty with a multi-night stay in the Craft's delightful bed and breakfast. I wonder if they saw the beautiful chickens? Our members chauffeured them to many famous Bay Area locales during their stay. Am I offering too many rhapsodies of praise for our behind the scenes workers? No, as we also do in November, I'm expressing my gratitude to everyone who worked so hard with chairperson Carol Dahout's leadership to show that CBRIS cares about their guests.

–Barbara Pesek, CBRIS President

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance, October 1, 2013	\$ 12,362.79
Additions:	
Donations	20.00
Dues	108.00
Fall Regional Registrations	<u>3,270.00</u>
Total Additions:	3,398.00
Expenses:	
October meeting program	8.00
Church Hall rental for monthly meetings	100.00
Fall Regional expenses	<u>2708.20</u>
Total Expenses:	2,816.20
Ending balance, October 31, 2013	\$ 12,944.59



–photos by Marilyn Boro



October 4, 2013

Clara B. Rees Meeting Minutes

Vice-President Lynn Stuart, standing in for President Barbara Pesek, opened the meeting at 7:40 pm, a trifle late due to technical difficulties. She was rescued by techno wizard Mark Greene, and it was on with the show!


Our guests, Eva Hyman and Carol Walker were introduced and welcomed.

The program Lynn prepared for us was a power point presentation, "Growing Louisiana Irises" by Ron Killingsworth. One can become a member of the Society for Louisiana Irises for a nominal annual membership fee of \$13. The link can be found on the AIS website. This beardless iris is the official state wildflower of Louisiana. Unfortunately, it is being destroyed by the oil industry and hurricanes as well as increasing population. We learned about the many different species and how they are grown. Unlike tall bearded, these iris like to have wet feet. Carl Boro says you can grow them in pots in a kiddie pool in a mix of compost and top soil. They can also be grown in large pots without holes. The rhizome should be planted below the dirt 1-1/2 – 2", and the rhizome can be cut back if too long. We were advised to soak rhizomes in water for a couple of days before planting.

After this informative program, Lynn wished a happy birthday this month to John and Barbara Pesek, Valda Evans, Peter Marra, Joe Ghio, Helen Bliven and Chad Schroter. The people who brought the wonderful refreshments, Alice Clark, Carolyn Craft, Jean and Pat Hawkins, and Jim and Elaine Laflin, were thanked. We discussed the upcoming Fall Regional and the Community Garden Day at Yamagami's on the 26th. The meeting ended with the door prize raffle and was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
 Carol Dahout, Secretary

November Birthdays



Elaine Laflin	11/2
M'Jeanne Erwin	11/5
Ken Reiter	11/12

November Refreshments

Jane Jordan

Peter Marra

Mikey Lango

Drinks

Jean and Pat Hawkins



Fall into Iris



John Pesek, RVP
—photo by Mikey Lango

A GRAND TIME WAS HAD BY ALL! And if you missed the Fall Regional hosted by Clara B. Rees Iris Society on Friday evening, Oct. 18 and Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013, all I can say is: WE TOLD YOU NOT TO MISS IT!

Over 30 attendees gathered on Friday evening for visiting, exchanging news, welcoming each other with hugs, looking over the amazing collection of items on the Silent Auction tables, checking out the reblooming iris entries that arrived for the show, and munching on a buffet of tasty tidbits and drinks. This socialization on Friday night was a new and welcome twist that CBRIS added to the Regional this year since there is no longer a Board business meeting on Friday. Everybody gave the evening a BIG thumbs up!

Saturday morning saw the arrival of all 75 attendees ---a record number for recent Fall Regionals----who shared another buffet, this time of breakfast goodies, to fortify themselves for the lengthy Region business meeting that followed. Barbara Pesek, CBRIS President, welcomed everyone to the Regional conference and to Los Gatos. John Pesek, Region 14 RVP, presided over the meeting. Meanwhile, Judges Chris Dickinson, Helen Bliven and Barbara Pesek were busy evaluating the reblooming iris in the small show that resulted with top honors going to Riley Probst and Shirley Trio for their entries.

A mid- morning break saw a scramble of attendees to the Silent Auction tables to place their bids on the plethora of offerings---from Christmas baubles, a variety of flower containers, hand quilted accessories, large planter boxes, home décor, iris items galore, clothing, dishware, garden decorative crafts, paintings, to “you-name-it’...and it was there! Many attendees took advantage of the opportunity to do some early Christmas gift shopping!

Carolyn Craft, Region Fund Raising Chair, was circulating through the meeting room selling tickets for the drawings for the many overflowing and festive baskets donated by the several Region societies. These tempting baskets represented a variety of themes from 'Hawaiian Vacation' to 'Soup's On!' and attendees could not resist! They were purchasing drawing tickets by the yard.... one ticket for a dollar, but better yet, 20 tickets for \$10! The winners were delighted with their investments!

John Pesek called members back to the tables for the final business session before lunch. Trophies and awards were given. Bill Maryott won the Dyke’s Medal for ‘That’s All Folks’. Tantalizing aromas from the kitchen seemed to spur the meeting to a close. Members of CBRIS did a quick change of table coverings and decorations while attendees rushed back to Auction Tables and the Basket Display to update bids and place tickets. Each lunch banquet table was enhanced with a large container of planted succulents as a center piece, while every guest received a small terra-cotta pot containing a single succulent to take home. Lunch was a chatty, conversation time to meet new irisarians and talk to friends while enjoying a delicious meal catered by Robin and Cindy Russie, daughters of CBRIS member, Mikey Lango.





Jim Morris and Joe Ghio
 –photo by Mark Greene

Featured speaker and guest of this Regional was Jim Morris, President of the American Iris Society, who took the opportunity to explain the advantages of AIS membership for individuals as well as for Societies. Having the AIS president as guest speaker gave many Regional attendees their first and perhaps only time to meet the head of the organization that they have belonged to for many years. Jim's lovely wife, Jean, who is also an AIS judge, accompanied him on this trip to California to meet the many dedicated irisarians who attended.

John Pesek adjourned the official Fall Regional meeting, reminding attendees of the Judges Training that was to follow. Happy attendees collected their cherished winnings from the various tables as they bid good-bye to each other and promised to re-connect at the Spring Regional in Santa Rosa on the first weekend of May for “A Carnival Carousel of Iris” (May 2 - 4, 2014). Heather and Bernard Pryor of Australia will be featured speakers. There will be four Judges Trainings scheduled for garden and classroom. Two guest gardens to visit and three open gardens will be on tour as well. Don't miss it!



Riley Probst & Shirley Trio
 (husband & wife)
 –photo by Mikey Lango

Jim and Jean Morris presented the Judges Training on Medians for approximately forty people including judges, aspiring judges, and members who wanted to learn more about this large segment of smaller bearded irises. Included was information on background breeding of the various classes, requirements for classification, bloom schedules, importance of proportion, use of the point scale in judging and the difference between garden judging and exhibition judging. Their slides provided excellent examples of their verbal presentation. Jim made a special point of using garden judging notes later when it was time to vote the ballot. The beautiful fall weather made this day and this Regional even more of a wonderful weekend.



Fall Regional luncheon
 –photo by Mark Greene

WE WARNED YOU NOT TO MISS THIS EVENT! (But if you did, dry your tears! You can redeem yourself by signing up for the Spring Regional!)

–Philippa Alvis



Thanks, CBRIS!!

“It takes a village” to put on a Fall Regional, and the members of the Clara B. Rees Iris Society came through to make the 2013 Fall Regional a very successful one! Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and volunteered. When we work together, we are a fierce group.

I would like to thank Mary Collins for having my back and being on my back (in a good way) throughout the planning process and to the end of the meeting. Mary is the ultimate organizer and has boundless energy and kept me focused.

The CBRIS canvas bags were a big hit and I thank Carolyn Craft, Philippa Alvis and Mary for organizing and filling them. Carolyn hunted down bargains, Philippa donated the beautiful scarves and Mary ordered the bags, CBRIS pencils and got the seed packets donated.

The beautiful table coverings were provided by Jane Reiter and the centerpieces and individual succulents were created by Mikey Lango (who came up with the idea), Mary, Carolyn and me. They were carefully nurtured by Mary in her green house with the help of her green thumb and by the time of the event, they looked amazing!

Thanks to our last minute Reblooming Iris Registrar, Marilyn Boro. She placed nine entries, entertained the Maryotts, and took photos, as well. We were one entry short of having an official show.

The lunch was catered by Mikey's talented daughter, Robin Russie, assisted by talented daughter, Cindy Russie, and Carl Boro (no relation to Mikey that I know of). It was delicious and I saw people sneak back for seconds. Elaine Fischer was the runner for refilling the buffet table. Mikey Lango made all of the elegant desserts and helped make the beautiful cake as a tribute to Bill Maryott's 'That's All Folks'. Mikey's granddaughter, Cameron Russie, was our delightful Iris Fairy who delivered prizes to those who correctly answered iris questions.

I would also like to thank all those members, including the Thompson boys who helped set up and/or tear down. Thanks, also to all those who provided the delicious baked goods and fruit for the Friday reception and Saturday morning breakfast. Jane Reiter, Mary Collins, John and Barbara Pesek, Elaine Fischer, Jane Jordan, Rosemary Chivers, Kalpana Shyam, Helen Bliven, Grace Keng, Chris Dickinson, Lynn Stuart, Pat and Jean Hawkins, Mark Greene and Jane Anne Walters. Carl Boro washed all the dishes and silverware that was used as well as had the church's kitchen counters and floor clean and sparkling when we left. Mark Greene and Jean Hawkins stayed after for what seemed like hours, vacuuming every inch of the carpet of the huge church room.

Wayne and Carolyn Craft were the ultimate hosts for AIS president, Jim and Jean Morris. They graciously opened their home, provided meals and took them, along with Riley and Shirley, to visit Joe Ghio and Bill Maryott. Riley Probst and Shirley Trio took Jim and Jean to Sacramento to the James M. Gibson Iris Society meeting, and joined John Pesek on a trip to San Francisco.

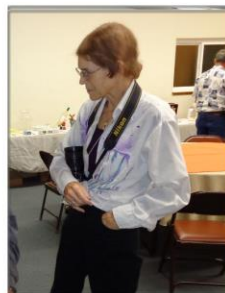
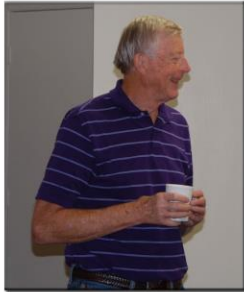
Lastly, I would like to thank everyone who made donations to the silent auction. Beautiful items such as the glass pumpkins from Jane Reiter, the sequined jacket from Philippa and elegant earrings from Kalpana, enticed many to bid. Wonderful items were donated from Mikey Lango, Grace Keng, Riley and Shirley Trio, Jim Cummins, Philippa Alvis, Elaine Fischer, Pat Hawkins and Marilyn Kaplan.

Thanks to all who made “Fall Into Iris” a memorable event!

–Carol Dahout, Fall Regional Chair



Fall Regional 2013



Photos by Marilyn Boro, Mark Greene & Mikey Lango



Newsletter

CBRIS Newsletter is in need of another month like we just had! What great help was given for this newsletter. We have articles written by our new VP, Lynn Stuart, our Regional chair, Carol Dahout, our ever efficient, Philippa Alvis and of course from our President, Barbara Pesek. We all appreciate the great photos submitted by Marilyn Boro and Mark Greene. (There are no photos from the last meeting as your editor has lost her camera so there is the missing SD card. Sorry.)

Keep it up folks! More submissions mean a better newsletter! If anyone would like to contribute, please send articles or photos to Mikey at mdlango@aol.com at least ten days before the next meeting.

Thanks always to Marilyn Boro for her monthly editing and always at the last moment!

—Mikey Lango, CBRIS newsletter Editor

Hands-on Native Iris Dividing and Garden Cleanup

Bring gloves, pruners, water, snack, hat, boots and a container for new plants

10:00 A. M., November 2

Peninsula Conservation Center

3921 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto

650-260-3450

<http://cnps-scv.org>



CBRIS wishes you
a very
Happy Thanksgiving!



Wayne, Jane & John

