



Fleur de Lis

Clara B. Rees Iris Society

December 2021
Vol. 64 Issue 4

No regular meeting this month

Holiday Party

December 5, 2021

The Blue Pheasant

22100 Stevens Creek Blvd.

Cupertino, CA

6:30 P.M.

Dues

**Sep 1, 2021-
Aug 31, 2022**

Adults - \$15.00

**Carol Dahout
CBRIS President
Contact Information
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**CBRIS
www.cbris.org**

**Region 14
www.aisregion14.org**

**American Iris Society
www.irises.org**

December

Holiday Party!

For those of you who have signed up, get ready to party! The date is Sunday, December 5th at 6:30 pm. It will be held at:

The Blue Pheasant Restaurant
22100 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Cupertino, CA

We will have the downstairs room all to ourselves. I understand there is a ramp inside the restaurant for those of you that have trouble with stairs. Dinner will be served at 7:30 P.M. There is a no host bar.

As in years past, we will have a secret Santa gift exchange. If you would like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift. It will be our first in person meeting of the year and I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

– Carol Dahout, CBRIS President

AIS National Convention 2022

AIS National Convention will be April 11-16 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Reservations are being accepted. Please see <http://aisregion23.com/2022-national-convention/> for more information.

There will be six convention gardens to visit.

The optional tour will be on Tuesday, April 12 to White Sands Missile Range and historic Old Mesilla.

For hotel reservations contact: The Hotel Encanto, 705 South Telshor Blvd
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011; Phone: 866-383-0443

Dahout's Digs

December 2021

Ken and Jane Reiter

Ken and Jane are settling into their new home! Their new address is:

3947 Pine Valley Way
Corona, CA 92883

We are very grateful to them for donating so many of their rhizomes and potted tall bearded iris. Thanks to Carolyn and Wayne Craft for picking up the rhizomes. We were able to sell them to our customer email base and made \$260.00. Thanks also to Mary Collins who was able to pick up the potted iris. They were sold to CBRIS members and our customers and we made an additional \$322.50.



Three Creeks Trail

Mary, Nancy and I met with the San Jose City Parks people at Three Creeks Trail Iris Garden, at the corner of Willow and Bird, in Willow Glen to map out a monthly plan for the coming year to bring the iris garden back to where it should be. The next volunteer day will be December 11th from 8:45 am – 12:00 pm. I would like several members to be there to meet with the volunteers to show them how to clear the debris from around the iris and give them some iris cultivation background. We will be there to educate, not do the actual work ourselves. Please let me know if you are interested in helping.

I hope you all have a happy, healthy, Holiday Season and a Happy New Year 2022!

– Carol Dahout, CBRIS President

Hopefully, in person meetings will resume soon.



Minutes

CBRIS Meeting, November 5, 2021

President Carol Dahout called the meeting to order at 7:34. There were 25 members on the call.

Program

Trang Bui gave a presentation on Pacific Coast Irises:

There are eleven species of Pacific Coast irises of which the most common is *I. Douglasiana*.

All the species cross-breed easily. PCIs grow along the Pacific coast from central California to Washington. PCIs were first collected in Monterey, California by David Douglas in 1833. Native Americans used them as food, medicine, and a source of fiber.

Trang showed pictures of the species that may have been found by David Douglas and then showed hybrids from the last 90 years. Early hybridizers (1936-1947) worked on extending bloom time and growing range, trying to optimize durability and resilience. They preferred a natural look and did not prioritize color or patterning. Mid-century hybridizers (1956-1968) worked to brighten colors and broaden falls. More recent hybrids have bigger falls, more ruffling, and greater diversity in colors and patterns. The Mitchell Award, named after Sydney B. Mitchell, is given every year by the AIS for the best PCI.

PCIs can be planted either in the early spring or mid-autumn. They require partial shade. They should be planted in a hole the size of a one-gallon pot filled with a 2:1 mixture of soil to compost. They should be watered every one to two weeks and fertilized in late winter or early spring with a good perennial fertilizer.

PCIs are good for border planting, rock gardens, and dry creeks or can be naturalized in woodland gardens with partial to full shade. They bloom from January to May. Trang also offered suggestions for companion plants, giving pacificcoastirises.org as a resource.

Gary Knipe answered questions on growing PCIs. He said it is better to plant potted PCIs in the spring but bare-root ones should be planted now. PCIs planted in deep shade will grow but not bloom. He said don't hold back water in the fall but they expect dryness in the summer. Too much water in summer will harm them.

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(Minutes continued)

Business Meeting

Carol thanked Ken and Jane Reiter for their donation of potted iris which the club has sold for \$260.

Dues are past due. Send check to Mary!

Our Holiday Party is on December 5 at 6:30 at the Blue Pheasant. The cost is \$25, send checks to Carol. Bring proof of vaccination. There will be a Secret Santa exchange - suggested \$20 range.

The Three Creeks Garden people are interested in bringing the iris garden into health. Carol sent them month to month instructions. We need to meet with them to decide what they will do and what we will do. Mary said that it needs to be clear that we will educate them but not be unpaid labor. They need to recruit volunteers.

Jeff Bennett said that the Mount Diablo and Sidney B. Mitchell iris societies are working on the Spring 2022 Regional meeting which will be April 30 - May 1. There will be a show.

Concern was expressed that proof of vaccination will NOT be required at the AIS National meeting in Las Cruces in 2022.

Door Prizes were awarded using Mark's Wheel of Fortune.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:34.

Respectfully written and submitted, Andrea Clague, CBRIS Secretary



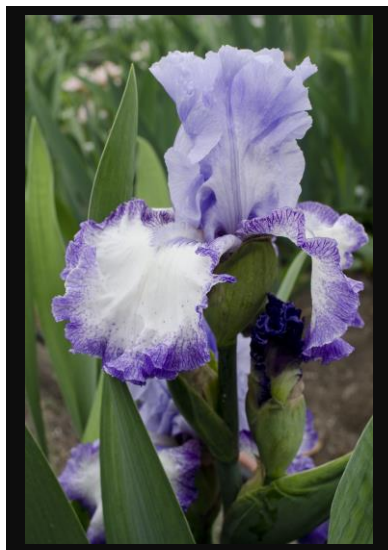
Clara B Rees Iris Society Treasurer's Report

Ending balance, October 31, 2021	\$19,458.24
Revenue: Dues	120.00
Christmas party	25.00
Rhizome sales	260.00
Two-gallon pot sales	337.50
Ending balance, November 30, 2021	\$20,200.74

December Birthdays

Jessica Van den Beukel	4
Jim Laflin	5
Nancy Mirabella	9
Jack Alvis	10
Philippa Alvis	22
Marilyn Lang	24
Stephanie Changaris	27





'Serenade to Music'

Have you seen Bryce Williamson's newest registered iris 'Serenade to Music'? It is a tall bearded that bloomed the first few days of April this last season. You may purchase it through Mike Sutton's Iris Garden.

A very nice plicata bloom, Bryce!

Culture

This can be a quiet time of the year for an iris garden UNLESS:

1. Beardless – Get them into the ground soon.
2. Weeds – Best to keep them out of the iris beds.
3. Leaves falling – Keep them away from the iris rhizomes.
4. Rebloomers – Enjoy them in the garden; cut and bring in if temperatures drop to freezing.
5. Fertilizer – Apply to rebloomers after stalks are spent.
6. Future – Check catalogs and on-line for must needed new irises!

Iris Events

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

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

2022 Fall Regional: To be announced

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

2023 Spring Regional: May 10-12, Yosemite area, possibly Pines Resort, Bass Lake; visiting Kanarowski Gardens and Laura Gonzalez garden

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



Blooming now in Fleur De Lis Garden and Helen Bliven's garden

